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"Still Life With ... ": UNCA art student Scott Lowery won the \$500 first prize for his pastel abstract entry in the Asheville Art Museum's Annual October Show on Monday. Fifty-three other Western North Carolina artists competed for the honor. Ann Shengold, director of the Knight Gallery of Spirit Square Art Center in Charlotte, judged the 61-work exhibit which remains at the gallery until Nov. 20. The Asheville Art Museum in the lower level of the Asheville Civic Center is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Photo by Pam Walker

Inadequate lighting makes campus frightening

By Ramona Huggins

The North Carolina Crime Commission estimates a rape occurs in the state every three hours and nationwide every six minutes.

"Last year the Asheville-Buncombe Law Enforcement department said 38 rapes were reported," said Cassandra Pavone, director of the Rape Crisis Center of Asheville.

Pavone is concerned with the lighting on the UNCA campus. "I was a student there until last semester and I felt uncomfortable because of the inadequate lighting where I parked."

She said she also felt uncomfortable in the wooded areas of the campus, especially in the area around the library.

"I had someone mention something about presenting a petition to the school board, but I don't know what became of it," said Pavone.

Chancellor William Highsmith said, "We can't put lighting up with a petition. We have to have money. It takes several years for something to pass through the legislative process necessary to get appropriations."

"I'd like to know

where the problems are and we can see what can be done about it."

Pavone said one person reported being approached recently on campus in a violent manner, but she didn't say whether there was sufficient light in the area or not.

Charles J. Carreno, chief of UNCA campus police, explained, "No rapes or muggings have been reported to us, but we have had a fight reported. We've had nothing directly associated with the lighting."

However, he added, "I hope you get your lights."

Pavone said the Asheville City Police Department received reports of six rapes this year. Twenty-two were reported to the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Tom Morrissey is concerned. He says rape is going up at a rate outstripping other crimes.

"We feel that women are becoming more apt to report rapes, so the crime may not be increasing, just the number of reports," Pavone said.

"The Rape Crisis Center is a 24-hour service that can be reached through a hotline,"

said Pavone.

An answering service takes the name and number of the victim. "A counselor then contacts that person," Pavone said.

Editor's Note: The Rape Crisis Center offers information to a rape victim regarding alternatives and options and will support a victim in her decisions. In an emergency, the center provides temporary clothing, food and transportation for a victim.

The Rape Crisis Center also deals in cases of incest and other sexual offenses.