

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART Tucker Cooke and his team of art students created this life-size nativity scene on display at the Akzona building in Asheville.

Staff Photo by Sylvia Hawkins

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Assistant to Brown gets big bucks

By Penny Kramp

R. Wayne McDevitt, director of Governor Jim Hunt's western office, will join UNCA in January as the institution's fourth highest paid administrator.

The newly created position of special assistant to Chancellor David Brown will net McDevitt \$41,649 a year.

This is below only Brown's salary of \$65,000; Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Laurence Dorr's salary of \$55,958; and Vice Chancellor of Finance William Pott's salary of \$45,221.

McDevitt will lose his job as manager of the Governor's Western Office when Republican-elect Jim Martin takes over in January.

McDevitt's salary will be paid by university funding, according to McDevitt and not with a state grant as rumored.

"Hunt had nothing to do

with my hiring," said McDevitt.

But Wally Bowen, public information director, said McDevitt's salary will come from an "inner agency transfer of funds."

"Someone retires or quits (in the state system)," Bowen continued, "and a surplus amount of money is built up."

"This is a windfall for UNCA," said Bowen.

The chancellor had been searching for someone to fill such a position for some time, according to Dr. Alfred Canon, director of university relations.

"Shortly after the senate election, Brown asked me in an informal way, to give the university a chance," said McDevitt.

"I had some good job options. Some offered more money, but I wanted to be able to serve the people of Western North Carolina," said McDevitt.

McDevitt is certainly no stranger to the UNCA campus. A native of Marshall, he graduated from UNCA in 1975 with a degree in political science.

"I graduated from Marshall High School on a Friday night and the next Monday morning I began class at UNCA," said McDevitt.

While still at UNCA, McDevitt served as chief of staff for House Speaker Jim Ramsey.

Dr. Gene Rainey, profes-

sor of political science, was one of McDevitt's professors.

"I think very highly of him. He has quite an array of connections in Western North Carolina which will be good for the college," said Rainey.

However, Dr. Jack Wilson, professor of mathematics, does not see the appointment as having an effect either way.

"The administration keeps growing and growing and this just one more," said Wilson.

McDevitt has held the position with the Hunt administration for the past four years.

He sees his new post as a refreshing change.

"Right now I am getting 70 phone calls a day. People think the governor can

Continued on page 11



Staff photo by Penny Kramp

R. WAYNE McDEVITT



LELIA LATTIMORE plucks her harp out during this month's Second Sunday at Four concert. Staff photo by Sylvia Hawkins

New library in the works

By Phil Ross

UNCA hopes to have expanded library facilities by 1989, said University Librarian Mel Blowers.

A library expansion will be a priority for requisition of state funds for the 1985-1987 period, Blowers said.

Dr. Milton Ready, associate professor of history

and director of the Southern Highland Research Center, estimates the project cost at between \$6.9 and \$7.2 million.

Assuming it receives funding, the university will retain an architect by fall of 1985. Construction should begin by 1987 and the anticipated occupancy date is 1989, ac-

ording to Blowers.

The present library facilities, built 20 years ago, no longer afford the space needed for the growth the university anticipates.

"We have massively outgrown [our present facility]," said Chancellor Dr. David Brown. "We need a

Continued on page 12