

EDITORIAL

Special assistant enigma eyed

Since the beginning it has been a mystery to many. Why would UNCA, after going through the rigorous search process, including national advertising and numerous interviews, which yielded our excellent new chancellor, pull this chancellor's special assistant seemingly out of some magic hat with not a clue given to most of the campus that he was even needed?

In choosing an individual to fill this position, why would the university ignore its own consent decree's stipulation that all administrative and faculty positions be advertised on a national level? And why would this newly created, unadvertised position become one of the four or five top-salaried jobs in the UNCA administration?

Trying to answer to these questions over the last couple of months has led to a lot of conjecture on campus; and the situation has created some justifiable dissatisfaction among faculty, staff and concerned students. Something seems blatantly unfair about the whole thing.

But the story is still unfolding.

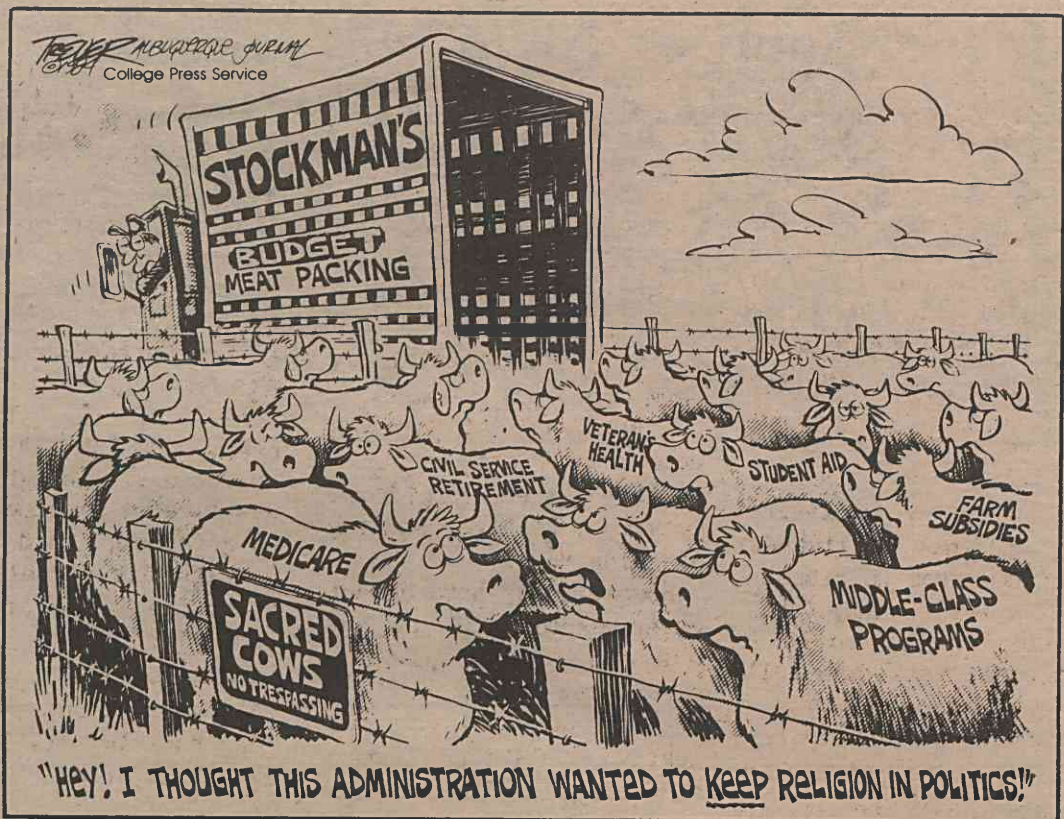
Early in this semester the chancellor announced that the present appointee was merely filling the chancellor's special assistant chair on a temporary basis and that the search was on for a permanent person. But this search has provided its own set of mysteries.

Why, for example, was the position once again not advertised nationally, at least not at the outset? After placing ads in one Charlotte and two local papers, the search committee decided, seemingly as an afterthought, to also place one in the publication this institution most often utilizes when seeking faculty and administration, **The Chronicle of Higher Education**.

A laudable move, this, but not without its own enigmatic elements, for rather than running its usual size ad for an administrative position, one that is fairly large and boxed to stand out, UNCA ran a one-and-a-half inch classified in the Positions Wanted section.

In addition, the ad does not list the attractive salary that comes with the special assistant to the chancellor position. Instead, it lists all the preferred qualifications for applicants for the position, qualifications which seem tailor-made to suit the present occupant.

And so the plot thickens. Will there be a speedy denouement, a retarded denouement, or no denouement at all? So far it all remains a mystery.



IN YOUR OPINION

Improved student/business relations needed

Dear Editor:

I am not from Asheville. I have, however, been a student at UNCA for the last two-and-a-half years. I lived on campus five semesters and am now living in Enka. While I recognize that this does not make me a permanent Asheville resident, I feel that I have become a part of the community.

I do all of my shopping at local businesses and bank at a local bank, NCNB, although my account is in another city. I have come to accept the frequent hassle over writing a check (i.e., identification, local address and phone number, approval of the manager), but recently I was told that my checks would not be accepted. This incident took place at Eckerd's on Merrimon Avenue.

I have been writing checks all over Asheville for as long as I have been here, and I guess it's about time some business refused one of my checks. But it seems odd that the rejection would come at a store that, 1) is frequented by UNCA students, many of them residents, 2) sits across a parking lot from a branch of NCNB, and 3) has accepted at least 50 checks from me in the past, one

as recently as the week before last.

This experience was embarrassing and caused me a great deal of inconvenience. I'm sure I'm not the only student who ever faced this situation, and I know I won't be the last as long as there is no official policy regarding the acceptance of checks written by UNCA students.

With the school's resident population increasing at its present rate, there will soon be many more students from out of town faced with the problem of writing checks which will not be accepted locally. Therefore, it seems to me that some agreement is needed between UNCA and local businesses, at least those near the school, in which students, regardless of their homes, or even their financial institutions, can write checks without worrying if they will be accepted or not.

This problem may seem trivial to many members of the university community, but I can guarantee that it is very important to many others. I think the school, in conjunction with area businesses, should come up with a consistent policy to deal with this issue.

Mike Norris

Evans gives Cagle ringing criticism

Dear Editor:

Being a commuter from Old Fort, I appreciate the significance of the Cagle victory bell. Old Fort community has cattle walking around with bells on to prevent them from getting lost. A victory bell is exactly what the campus needs for "posteriority."

This little victory bell could be the start of something beautiful. In the future, Mr. Cagle could come back every year and ring the bell; and the SGA President could have a little bell around his neck so the Chancellor would always know where he is.

Why, we could get bells for each class and have designated departmental bell-ringers. The university could even offer a course in bell-ringing and the technique of cow-belling. Maybe, Mr.

Cagle could be the instructor.

Over the past two years his shadow government has gained a victory. A victory bell is not needed here, but it would be appropriate to call the bell, "Apathy." The student body is responsible for the election of a President who has accomplished what he started with: "zero." Cagle's student file looks good, but the student body file looks bad.

Commuters gripe or carp quite often, but words without implementation are only words. The student body has the potential to make UNCA the most innovative campus in North Carolina. I challenge each commuter to begin to put his words into action.

Ron Evans
Senior Political Science Major

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The BANNER welcomes letters to the editor and articles, and considers them for publication on the basis of interest, space, tastefulness and timeliness. Letters and articles should be typed double-spaced, or printed legibly. They should be signed with the writer's name, followed by year in school, major, or other relationship to UNCA. Please include a telephone number to aid in verification.

All submitted articles are subject to editing. The BANNER regrets it cannot guarantee the return of any article submitted. Deadline for submissions is Friday noon.