

# THE BLUE BANNER

Serving the students of the University of North Carolina Asheville since 1982

Volume VI, Number XII

Thursday, April 18, 1985



"BOY LANE" HOLLIFIELD cavorts before the camera. Hollifield put on the drag to emcee the UNCA Talent Showcase Saturday night (See related story page 8).

Staff photo by Sylvia Hawkins

## Students implicated in Highrise Fire

By Penny Kramp

The Asheville Magistrate's office issued warrants yesterday for two UNCA students in connection with an April 5 Highrise fire.

The students involved are 6th floor Highrise residents James Barringer, freshman from Bessemer City, and Augustine "Gus" Tucker, sophomore from Asheville.

The magistrate will charge the men with burning a public building, a felony punishable by a fine or up to 30 years in prison.

The UNCA Department of Security and Services said the Jackson County magistrate's office will charge a Cullowhee man, also in-

involved in the incident, at a later date.

Security said preliminary investigations led them to suspect Barringer's involvement.

On April 11 Barringer confessed to security that he took part, along with Tucker and a Cullowhee friend, in setting the fires, according to Dennis Gregory, security officer.

However, Barringer claims he never confessed to initiating the fire. "I didn't do it. I was only a witness," said Barringer.

The fire in question started at approximately 3:30 a.m. April 5 on the 4th floor of the Highrise.

Officials discovered two trashcans on fire. "We had to place one in a bathtub and one outside the build-

ing," said Gregory.

The combined fire and smoke damage caused between \$500 and \$700 damage, according to Gregory.

The heavy smoke forced students to evacuate the building for 45 minutes.

The Student Judicial System will also try the students after the state concludes its prosecution.

"It will probably be in the fall," said Roxanne Smith, assistant public defender.

Trashcan fires and false alarms have plagued the Highrise throughout the semester, but Gregory said he did not know at this time if Barringer and Tucker were responsible for these previous incidents.

## Reading Day pushes exams back

By Joan Sterk

Exam week will always be a hectic time for students and faculty, but this year we have one day reprieve before exams begin.

The reading day, as it is called, is the result of the work of Student Government Association Senators Melissa Beavers, Athena Fox, and Cindy Rogers.

The reading policy causes some minor changes in the exam schedule. The original beginning of exam week, May 7, is now the reading day, pushing the exams scheduled for this day to May 14, the last day of the spring semester.

Commencement will remain as scheduled, 8 p.m. May 17.

The first day of exams is May 8. The exam periods remain the same with the exception of the May 7 to 14 switch.

The SGA Senate discussed possible problems posed by

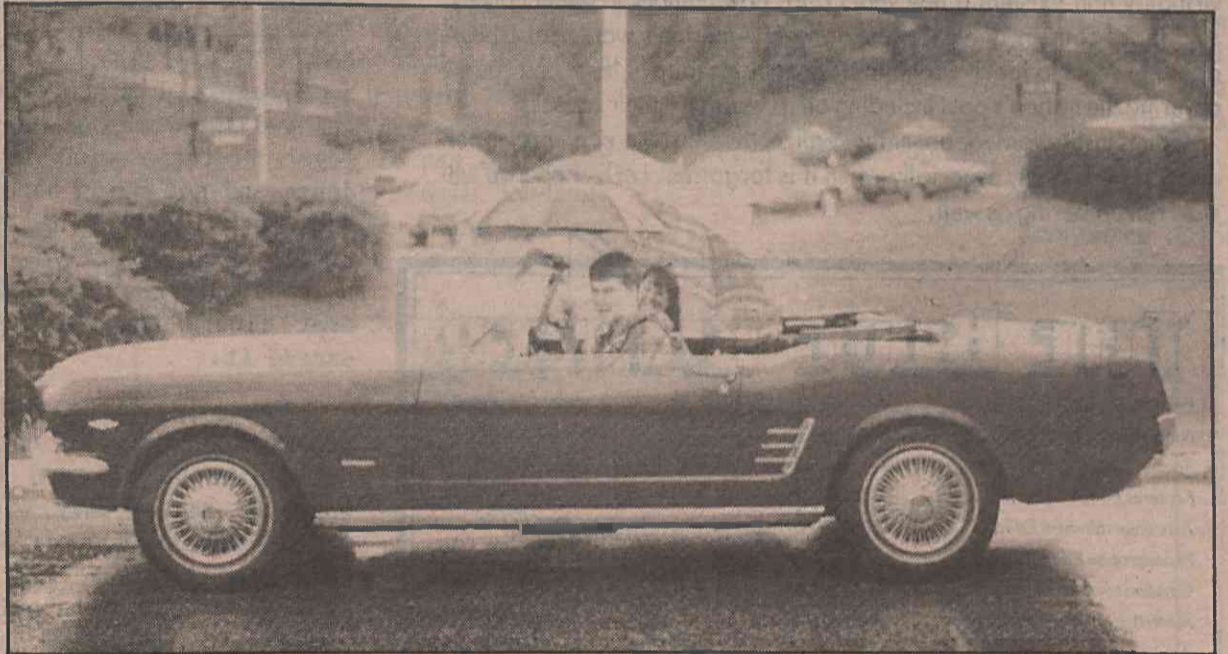
postponing the original exam week starting date to the last day of the semester, but they decided they were small compared to the advantages of a reading day.

"I think we discussed the pros and cons, and the pros outweighed the cons," said Fox.

The policy is effective for this semester only. In the future, exam week will begin on a Monday, allowing a weekend for rest and preparation prior to exams.

Dr. Laurence Dorr, vice chancellor for academic affairs, approved the SGA resolution, making the necessary calendar adjustments before passing it on to the faculty senate.

Dr. Alan Comer, faculty senate chairman, approved the proposal March 10.



RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ON MY CAR: James Davenport and Roxanne Smith got caught in an April downpour last week.

Staff photo by Betsy Phillips

## Senate increases curriculum

By Chris Streppa

Despite objections voiced by one student and several faculty members concerning the increased number of hours, the Faculty Senate voted 13-2 last Thursday in favor of a 52-hour general education curriculum.

Dr. Michael Gillum, professor of literature, ar-

gued in favor of fewer required hours. "I fear we're in danger of beating our students to death with our good intentions," he said.

Chemistry major George Hudson charged the Senate with "trying to make students a mile wide and an inch deep."

The Senate did vote to

eliminate the three credit-hour Critical Thinking requirement from the final package. Their concern centered more on the lack of faculty support for the proposed course than on a need to reduce the total number of general education hours.

The Senate originally  
*continued on page 9*