

Morality in
medical research
Page 4

Baseball season
beginning
Page 10

Martial Arts
Training
Page 7

The Blue Banner

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

Thursday, Feb. 20, 1986

Board of Governors to retain Thurman

By Julie Ball

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors decided Friday to allow Classics UNCA Professor William S. Thurman to continue teaching while remaining in the race for the 51st House District seat in the North Carolina General Assembly.

"For this semester they decided to take my word that I would not let my candidacy interfere with my duties on campus," said Thurman.

However the Board did not decide Thurman's status for the fall semester or the spring semester should he win in November.

"Nothing has been resolved about the autumn, and nothing has been resolved about what happens upon my election," said Thurman.

He filed his candidacy on Feb. 3 without following the university procedure concerning employees filing for public office.

The procedure involves petitioning the chancellor, getting a recommendation from him, and having the petition approved by the Board of Governors.

Thurman said he was unaware of this procedure until Jan. 31, just days before the filing deadline.

The Committee on Campus Governments met in Chapel Hill to consider Thurman's case. The Committee had two other options.

They could have ruled that Thurman's filing was the equivalent of resigning, or they could have decided Thurman's candidacy caused a conflict of time and granted him a leave of absence without pay.

Chancellor David Brown recommended to the Board that Thurman be allowed to continue in his duties at UNCA since Thurman promised not to campaign during the semester.

Thurman said, "I think the Board of Governors treated my case with unusual fairness."

He also said he did not think the controversy would hurt his candidacy, but he did think that it would prompt the university to clarify its policy concerning employees running for public office.

Dick Robinson, assistant to UNC President Bill Friday, said last Friday that Thurman must file a petition to exempt him from the resignation requirement concerning university employees about the 1986 fall semester.

Thurman said he hopes to devote half of his time to his job in the fall if allowed to stay at UNCA.



(Photo by Jonna McGrath)

DEANNA DAVIS ENJOYS THE SUNSHINE that beamed down between showers Wednesday. Rain may return to the area on Friday, with colder weather expected for the weekend.

Spring enrollment hits all-time high

By Patricia Cabe

Spring enrollment at UNCA has hit an all-time high of 2,711 students, according to Doug McConkey, assistant vice chancellor of enrollment services.

That total represents a 1.2 percent increase over fall enrollment. McConkey said UNCA's total of full-time equivalent (FTE) students--the number that helps determine the school's budgetary allotment--is 1,981, up 2.6 percent over last spring. It is also an all-time spring record.

Although total enrollment at UNCA has been increasing since the late 1970s, the number of minority students enrolling is on the down-

swing.

UNCA's spring enrollment of out-of-state students, numbering 173, represents a 10.4 percent increase over last spring, said McConkey.

McConkey attributed the continuing increases in part to the growing visibility of UNCA's academic tradition. The trend is in part responsible for a \$25 million campus expansion which UNCA launched last fall.

Since 1976, a greater percentage of college-aged students have signed up for classes, but the rate of increase for black students has trailed the total enrollment growth by an ever-larger margin. That's according to a study by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB).

continued on pg. 5

Weekend Weather

The UNCA Atmospheric Science department provides this information to the campus community each week in the Blue Banner.

Thursday: Fair and warm. Highs in the mid-70s.

Friday: Mild with showers and thunderstorms likely. High near 65 and low in the mid-40s.

Saturday: Partly cloudy and much colder. High in the low 40s and low in the upper 20s.

Sunday: Fair but continued cold. High near 40 and low in the mid-20s.