

The Blue Banner

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Electrical fire does minor damage to gym

By Pat Cabe

A small fire in the concession stand of Justice Gym charred the walls and ceiling of the booth, damaged intramural equipment and concession machines and filled the gym with smoke Tuesday morning.

Quick action by the chairman of the physical education program and a student athletic trainer prevented the

fire from spreading to the gym roof, according to campus police officer Larry Layman.

"The fire was detected at approximately 11:50 Tuesday morning," said Layman. "Coach Bob Daughton and Nathan Rickman are to be commended for their actions.

"They prevented the fire from spreading to the exterior of the roof," Layman said.

Gerald Hill, acting captain



(Photos by Jonna McGrath)

ELECTRICAL FIRE: Firemen believe a faulty outlet may have started a fire which burned up a popcorn machine (left). Four fire trucks responded to the call.

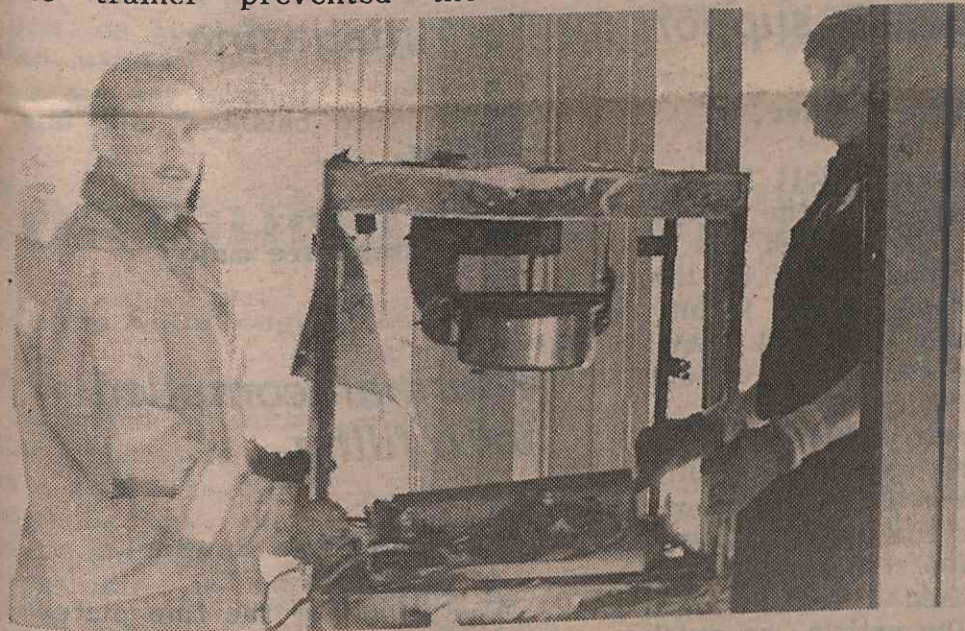
of the Asheville Fire Department, said that Daughton and Rickman had extinguished the blaze before firemen arrived. Four fire trucks responded to the call.

The fire started in an electrical outlet, according to Hill.

Helen Carroll, associate director of athletics, said the small size of the concession booth could have caused the fire.

"It looks like it started in the popcorn machine outlet," said Carroll. "The socket was melted. The concession booth is so narrow, switches can be brushed against and accidentally turned on," she said.

Layman said, "Total real property damage is estimated at \$1500. A couple of popcorn machines and other concession machines were lost. Still, it could have been much worse."



Director selected for Atmospheric Science

By John Coutlakis

The administration has selected a man who once taught at UNCA in the early 1970s as the new director for the atmospheric science department.

Dr. Ray Hoxit will assume the position in July, according to Chancellor David Brown. Hoxit, who taught a basic course in meteorology and climatology at UNCA, was a unanimous choice by the selection committee composed of various faculty members, said Brown.

Last December, the Blue Banner reported that Dr. Laurence Dorr, vice chancellor for academic affairs, had decided to replace Dr. Edward

Brotak as director of the atmospheric science department in order to bring "outside blood" into the program.

At the time, many of Brotak's students saw that decision as a mistake, and Brotak maintained he had done a good job. He attributed much of the growth of the program to his abilities as director.

Last week, Brotak said he believes the administration chose a qualified person.

"Hoxit is a very well qualified candidate," he said. "I've known Ray for six or seven years. He's got all these awards and he's only 43," added Brotak.

The incoming director said he has heard that it is some-

times difficult to move from professional work in a field to teaching and communicating with students. But this is

mainly a problem in large universities where teaching is secondary to research,
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Weekend Weather

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

Thursday: Showers and thunderstorms possible. High in the upper 70s.

Friday: Clearing and cooler. Low in the lower 40s and a high in the upper 60s.

Saturday: Sunny and pleasant. Low in the mid-30s and a high near 70.

Sunday: Continued fair. Low near 40 and a high in the lower 70s.