

The Banner

Volume XIV, Number 9

Proudly serving the UNCA community since 1982

March 30, 1989

Justice pool back in operation

by Michael Gouge

Assistant News Editor

The Justice Gymnasium pool is back in operation after a brief shutdown for repairs.

Jim Efland, facilities planner, said the filtration system for the pool "blew about five holes in it." The pool was closed during spring break because of the filtration system failure.

Efland said replacing the damaged parts of the filtration system will take considerable time and expense. To get the pool back in operation, Efland said a "special repair kit was patched on (the system) to give us time to get a new filtration system in."

The new filtration system would "take about 6-8 weeks to get here," Efland said. "We're getting the prices now.

The whole thing will probably cost fifteen to twenty thousand dollars."

The current filtration system is the original one installed when the gym was constructed in the late '60s, Efland said.

The new filtration system would be installed over the summer. The patching done to repair the system is "only to get us through this period," Efland said.

Due to the age of Justice Gym, several maintenance projects are needed. Efland said the filtration system failure was not a surprise. "We've known we've had this problem, but we haven't had the money" for the repairs.

Dede Allen, assistant athletic director, said the filtration system failure caused little inconvenience for students and faculty who use the pool. The pool "was closed down almost a week until they could patch the leaks in the filtration system," Allen said. During that time, Allen said, life-saving classes that use the pool were given lectures. The pool was closed down near the end of spring break, so students actually suffered very little inconvenience, according to Allen.

Allen said they lack the funding to complete several gym projects. Allen said in one instance emergency funding was granted to improve a hazardous sidewalk.

"We had a deck with a smooth finish that was very slick. We were able to get emergency funding to put a sidewalk finish on it," Allen said. The smooth finish

See GYM, page 12



Staff Photo--Susan Dryman

Chancellor David Brown led a tour of the site of the proposed parking lot beneath the Highrise dormitory on March 27. Brown answered questions from campus

environmentalists, and heard their concerns that the lot would destroy the "buffer zone" between UNCA property and the Botanical Gardens.

Park bench theft costs \$2000

by Melissa Church

Staff Writer

Security reports for the month of February have been published, and one case of "larceny in general" resulted in the loss of \$2000 worth of goods.

"The \$2000 was the theft of two of the new park benches that were still in boxes from behind the physical plant," Dr. Eric Iovachinni, vice chancellor for student affairs, said.

The other cases of larceny consisted of things being stolen out of cars and dorm rooms. This added up to \$975 worth of stolen goods.

A change machine in the Highsmith Center was also broken into. "There is some way that someone got \$150 out of the change machine," Iovachinni said.

This is an unusual case, according to Iovachinni. "Maybe once a year a change machine will get ripped off. This has happened twice in the matter of a month or two. It might have been the same person or persons, we just don't know."

There was only \$10 worth of larceny from motor vehicles in February. According to Iovachinni, this decrease may be due to an arrest made by the Asheville Police Department.

"There was a fairly major arrest made of people who have been breaking into automobiles in the city," Iovachinni said.

Dennis Gregory, Sergeant of

Investigation for UNCA Security, also commented on the arrest. "We had some leads that tied into the same thing that Asheville police had (concerning the arrests), but we just could not prove that the people were guilty. We think that the arrest has solved some of our problem."

Iovachinni also said that robbing the UNCA campus is not that difficult. "Our campus is an open place. If a person wants to steal something, they are going to figure out a way to do it in a short period of time.

"Campuses are a security nightmare. You just cannot shut down the whole school at ten o'clock and do the things that need to be done," Iovachinni said.

There is a way that some stolen goods can be found, according to Gregory. The UNCA security has access to the Police Information Network (PIN). This is a computer network that links all of the police departments in every state to each other and to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in Washington D.C.

"Using the PIN system, you can type in serial numbers of larceny. If your computer from your dorm is stolen, for example, and you have the serial number, we would enter it in to the pin system. Then, anywhere in the nation if someone finds the computer and the serial

See SECURITY, page 12

Petition fights proposed lot

by Scarlet Bell

News Editor

Five hundred students and 100 faculty members have signed petitions urging the UNCA administration to reconsider the construction of a parking lot that would eliminate two-thirds of the "buffer zone" between UNCA property and the Botanical Gardens, according to Gary Miller, professor of environmental studies.

"We feel like we're dealing from a position of strength, not a position of weakness when we advocate that other options be explored and that we do not, in fact, invade the buffer zone," Miller said.

A buffer zone, Miller said, is essential for insuring a

"Botanical Gardens experience," both visually and acoustically, and, once the zone is destroyed, "it is virtually impossible to ever re-resurrect it."

"I view the botanical gardens as a very special sanctuary... We don't usually allow obtrusive invasions into sanctuaries, so I don't think in this particular case we'd allow a bulldozer to go into the buffer zone that is the green space buffer between the campus and the botanical gardens," Miller said.

Another area of concern is the potential "run-off" of motor oil, gasoline, heavy metals, asbestos and litter into the gardens from the proposed 153-space new

parking facility (which will be located below the current Highrise parking lot), according to Miller.

In addition, the area that has been proposed for the new parking lot already serves as a buffer zone for litter absorption between the present parking lot at the Highrise dormitory and the Botanical Gardens, according to Adrian Boros, environmental studies major.

"If you remove two-thirds of the buffer zone, there won't be space for litter absorption," Miller said.

Though Miller said an additional parking facility was "unnecessary" at this time, a suggestion he offered to try to alleviate some of the

parking "pressure" at UNCA is to prohibit freshmen resident students from bringing automobiles their first year.

"My first choice would be to limit dormitory-based freshmen students from bringing cars to campus their first year. That, to me, is sensible; it's done throughout the world, so it's nothing that UNCA would be initiating. It works everywhere else; otherwise everyone else would do away with it," Miller said.

Also, Miller said the recently-constructed parking lot near Mountain Trace Apartments is "rarely ever

See PETITION, page 12

New sewage treatment reviewed

by Tina Moore

Staff Writer

The League of Women Voters and UNCA's Environmental Quality Institute presented a public review of a new sewage treatment process March 21 at the Owen Conference Center.

"The process, which is the only one of its kind approved by the EPA, will cause odorless heating to occur which pasteurizes the sludge. It will do this without killing beneficial soil bacteria," said John Schmidt, sales director

of Carolina N-Viro which presented the process.

The board of directors of the Metropolitan Sewage District viewed the presentation earlier at the request of the Buncombe County board of commissioners and asked that the presentation be made to the public.

The MSD board is currently committed to an \$11 million sludge incinerator being built near UNCA.

Schmidt believes this kiln dust process would be more beneficial to Buncombe

County.

"The process has capital and operating costs below the \$2.5 million start-up cost to Buncombe County for building a sludge incinerator, which the MSD estimates to have a 20-year lifespan," said Schmidt.

"Communities such as Toledo, Ohio; Cayce, South Carolina and Bristol, Tennessee are currently using alkaline stabilization to treat sewage sludge. Greenville, South Carolina, which produces quantities of sewage sludge similar to Asheville's

annual output, has an alkaline stabilization facility under construction," said Schmidt.

Asheville's current facility for disposing of sewage waste is filling up, and options of a new facility or process are under consideration. Some area environmentalists are concerned that toxic fumes would be emitted from the proposed sludge incinerator.

The kiln dust, which is an ingredient in the treatment,

See SEWAGE, page 12