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Campus News

Freshman elections

The Student Government Association is now organizing elections for the position of Freshman Senator. Applications for the three positions were taken from August 28th until September 6th.

Polling will be held on September 11th and 12th from 9 am to 5 pm in the Highsmith Center, Robinson Hall and Carmichael Hall. All students with a total of 29 hours or less are eligible to vote.

Patent info stolen

Thirteen universities are trying to figure out who spent June and July snatching microfilm from their libraries. The microfilm contains patent information from the past two decades.

The FBI announced Aug. 24 it has joined the hunt for the thieves who apparently took almost 3,000 reels of microfilm. The microfilm, valued at \$200,000, contains no classified material. The information is available to the public at 60 of the biggest public libraries.

The thefts were discovered at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the universities of New Mexico, Texas, Idaho, Utah, Michigan, New Hampshire, as well as Ohio State, Texas, A&M, Rice University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

100th birthday

The YMCA of Asheville and Buncombe County is celebrating its 100th birthday. The public is invited to join the celebration, which features live music, games for youth and adults, door prizes, food, a hot-air balloon and more Saturday at the Community Services Branch YMCA located at 201 Beaverdam Road in North Asheville.

Colleges investigated

About 20 of the nation's most prestigious campuses are being investigated by the U.S. Dept. of Justice, which suspects them of illegally agreeing to fix the prices they charge students, federal sources said in mid-August.

Officials from 23 schools meet each spring to discuss applicants, how much to charge them and how much aid to offer them. The Justice Dept. said it is now investigating those, and other schools, suspecting the annual meeting amounts to price fixing.

The schools contend the meetings are necessary to avoid bidding wars for top students.

If found guilty of price fixing, the schools could be subject to heavy fines, the Justice Dept. said.

Schools under scrutiny include Colby, Bowdoin, Amherst, Williams, Tufts, Harvard, Wesleyan and the University of Chicago.

From press releases, CPS and staff reports

Weekend Weather

The extended forecast for Friday through Saturday calls for partly cloudy skies Friday, becoming fair on Saturday and Sunday.

Temperatures will gradually warm up through the weekend.

Highs Friday in the 70s warming to the 80s Saturday and Sunday.

Lows will drop into the 60s throughout the period.

For 24-hour weather information, call the UNCA meteorology department's weatherline at 251-6435.

Jim Owen
Atmospheric Sciences

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Maas: Lead in water has perilous effects

by Pam Guthrie

Staff Writer

Lead contamination in public water systems is a problem that "overwhelms the health effects of any other water pollutant," says Rick Maas, professor of environmental studies.

Maas, along with Steve Patch, professor of mathematics at UNCA, Michelle Ziegler, a UNCA graduate, and several other environmental studies students, has compiled the largest data base in the country on lead contamination while conducting an in-depth research project on the issue.

Maas says the perilous effects of lead in our water are hard to exaggerate. According to Maas, lead causes irreversible neurological damage at levels considered safe by the Environmental Protection Agency's current standards.

Lower levels of lead affect mental development in infants and children, but the neurological damage is not limited just to the young. Suspicions are

growing that lead contamination is responsible for the onset of Alzheimer's Disease, which affects many in middle age.

The Clean Water Fund of North Carolina granted the money to fund the research project nearly a year ago. "The beauty of this research is that at the same time we are doing our research, we are offering a public service," Maas says.

The research entails testing both a "first draw" water sample, or one that comes immediately from the faucet when the water is turned on, and a "purged" sample, or one taken after the water has run for about a minute.

2300 homes in the state have been tested thus far. Findings reveal that 27 percent had unsafe levels of lead contamination. Purging cleared the lead from the lines to a safe level in 92 percent of those cases.

The other 8 percent can solve their problem by using bottled water or a

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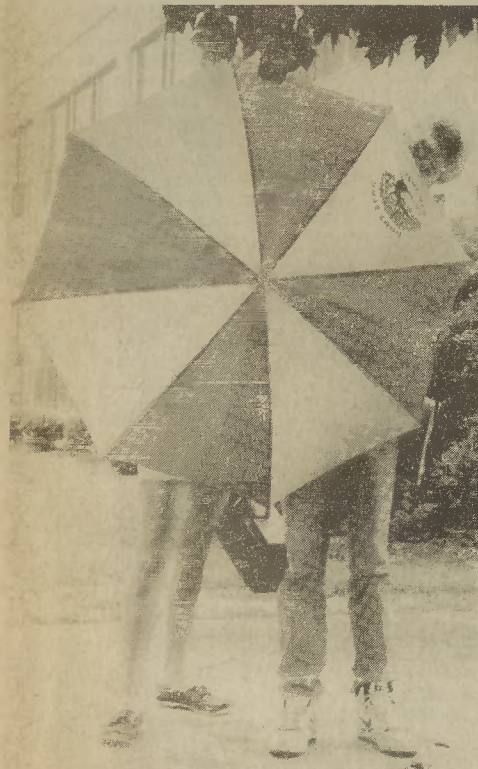


Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Camera shy

Charles Harvey and friend hide from the camera outside Robinson Hall on a rainy day recently.

UNCA asbestos levels pose no threat

by Carrie Trutwin

Staff Writer

According to Jim Efland, director of the physical plant, there is asbestos on the campus of UNCA.

However, Efland says he feels the asbestos levels are too low to pose a threat to students, faculty or staff.

"To our knowledge there is no asbestos on campus that is a danger to anyone," Efland said.

Asked if there is any asbestos in Carmichael Hall, Efland said, "There is asbestos in every building on campus." Efland said the danger from exposure lies in where the asbestos is located.

"It's in the walls and in the ceilings, but people are not exposed to it," he said.

Asbestos, which is fireproof, was used extensively in the 1950's and 1960's as insulation in

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More funds needed to complete buildings

by Vicki McCoy

Assistant News Editor

UNCA needs more money from the North Carolina State Legislature to complete the current building projects on campus, according to University Librarian Mel Blowers and Jim Efland of the physical plant.

Efland said there are four construction projects that have priority on campus right now.

"The completion of the library, the completion of the graduate center, the new sports complex, and an intergenerational center complex are projects that we have started but will

need more money to finish," Efland said.

According to Efland, the addition to D. Hiden Ramsey Library and the UNCA Graduate Center have been funded, but more money is needed to begin work on the intergenerational center and the sports complex.

The intergenerational center will be a conference center complex. "The legislature wanted to build a conference center complex in this end of the state, so they (the legislature) gave us 2.9 million dollars for planning, design and infrastructure," Efland said.

The proposed sports complex, which will have approximately 50,000 square feet of space, will have two racquetball courts, three basketball courts, new locker rooms, an aerobics studio, running track, weight training area, and a health promotions area.

According to Efland, all new building projects are subject to the state legislature's funding.

"We are really dependent on the legislature," Efland said. "We take whatever they help us get."

In 1984, UNCA requested funds to build an addition to D. Hiden Ramsey Library. The state

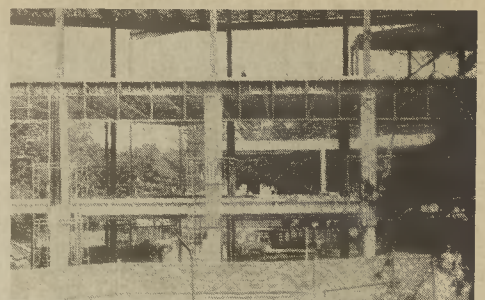


Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Construction continues on the graduate center

legislature appropriated 6.8 million dollars to UNCA for the building fund.

In the March 9, 1989 issue of The Banner, Blowers

said architects found some major problems in parts of the library when construction began. Among

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Music department synthesizes new staff

by Kim Cooley

Staff Writer

The UNCA music department has five new professors this year to offer students more variety of instruction, including Dr. Robert A. Moog, developer of the Moog Synthesizer.

Moog earned a bachelor of science degree in physics from Queens College in 1955 and a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Columbia University in 1957. Later, in 1965, he earned his doctorate in engineering physics from Cornell University.

Moog began R.A. Moog See Music, Page 5



Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Martian landing?

Another masterpiece is put on display outside Owen Hall recently.

START advises freshman class

by LeeAnn Donnelly

Staff Writer

This year, the new Student Transition Advising and Retention Team, or START, aims to provide UNCA freshmen with extensive academic advising in a comfortable environment.

START grew out of the need to keep students coming back to classes after the month-long break between fall and spring semesters. "Ten percent of the last few year's freshmen class left by Christmas," said Caroline Miller, assistant vice-chancellor for enrollment management.

The START program intends to familiarize students with UNCA in a short time period and to keep them enrolled. "We hope to improve retention

and improve academic success through the advising process," said Miller.

Uncontrollable situations, such as family or financial problems, force students to withdraw from school. A range of other problems, such as students not getting in desired courses, or not receiving adequate advising, prompt them to quit. Others felt they just "got off on the wrong foot," said Miller.

Miller said one "historic problem" freshmen face is standing in line at registration, only to find out their chosen classes are closed. "They see the big list (of cancelled classes) and panic sets in," said Miller. Many start adding open classes, usually at the 300 or 400 level, and don't

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