

# Editorials

## The Blue Banner



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## Stay on campus

Wander on to the UNCA campus on the weekends, and you'll find an old, wild west ghost town.

The parking lots are virtually empty, no students are frolicking on the lawns and the campus is drained of any evidence of living creatures -- big or small.

What's the problem? Nothing to do at UNCA on Saturday and Sunday, or what?

According to an anonymous freshman resident student, the only people who stay on campus during the weekends are the athletes who participate in athletic events and people who do live more than two hours from UNCA.

Other than this select group of students, everybody else is history.

How could we solve this problem? Underdog Productions could offer some interesting events on the weekends to encourage students to stay on campus. However, you can't require Underdog to provide round-the-clock entertainment for the students because their schedule is packed as it is. That's not the solution.

Perhaps the resident students from the various residence halls could get together and plan trips to local pubs, restaurants or movie houses. If that sounds unrealistic given the nature of wait-until-the-weekend-to-get-my-assignments-done unorganized college students, give it a try anyway. It might work.

Maybe resident students could develop a little bit of school spirit and come out to support the athletes at the games on the weekends. How do you think Duke, Carolina, N.C. State and even Western Carolina University became the spirited schools they are today? They had students who were willing to support their athletic teams in good or bad, defeat or victory.

If none of these suggestions provide inspiration for the residents who leave the campus on the weekends (and they can't find any on their own), they might consider talking with other residents and solving this problem among themselves. There has to be a solution; the only problem now is finding one.

## Blue Banner Policies

The Blue Banner is the University of North Carolina at Asheville's student newspaper. We publish each Thursday except during summer sessions, finals week and holiday breaks. Our office is located in Carmichael Hall, 208-A. The telephone numbers are (704) 251-6586 and 251-6591.

Nothing in the editorial or opinion sections necessarily represents the position of the entire newspaper staff, the staff advisor, UNCA's Student Government Association, administration or faculty. Editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters, columns, cartoons and reviews represent only the views of their authors. The editorial board makes the final decision about what The Blue Banner prints. This newspaper represents a public forum for debate at UNCA. The Blue Banner welcomes letters to the editor and articles, and considers them on the basis of interest, space, taste and timeliness. Letters and articles should be typed, doubled-spaced or printed legibly and limited to 300 words.

They should be signed with the writer's name, followed by the year in school, major or other relationship to UNCA. Please include a telephone number to aid in verification. **UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION.** All submitted articles are subject to editing. The Blue Banner regrets it cannot guarantee the return of any articles submitted.

## From the SGA

On Sept. 16, UNCA's Student Government attended a meeting of the University of North Carolina Association of Student Government (ASG) which was held in Chapel Hill at the Institute of Government. Thirteen out of the 16 UNC schools were present with one to four representatives. Representatives from UNCA were Amy Thompson-executive assistant to the president, Kevan Frazier-residential senator, and Gigi Leaks-residential senator.

One of the most important issues discussed at the meeting was a resolution calling for tuition

safeguards. The resolution was passed unanimously by the body and recommends the following six provisions:

1. A report to be given to each meeting of the UNC Board of Governors by the president of the UNC Association of Student Governments to allow for student input at a system-wide level.

2. Student leaders to be invited to appear before House and Senate committees and sub-committees to give input to the legislators.

3. Financial aid grants to be made an automatic percentage of any tuition increase enacted by the general assembly. Twenty

to 25 percent of the revenue raised would be used solely for need-based aid.

4. Any and all funds from the general assembly directed to private colleges and universities to be used only for need-based aid.

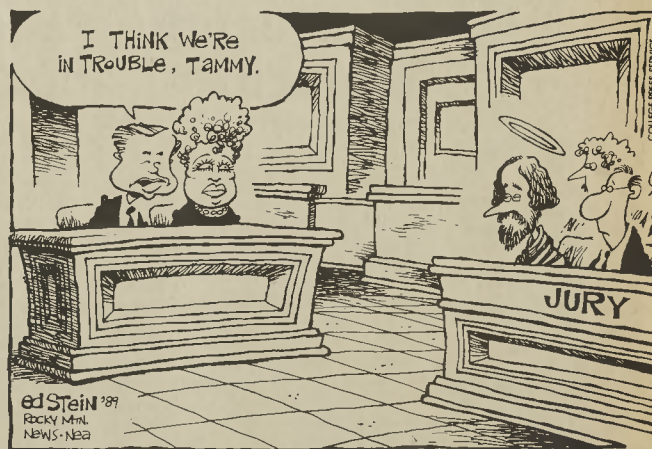
5. Any tuition increases enacted by the general assembly would have to take effect the following calendar year.

6. All student body presidents to establish a financial aid task force at their respective campuses to examine their institution's aid policies and programs and make recommendations to their chancellors. These task forces should be

composed of students and administrators.

UNC-ASG, a sixteen year-old organization, was created in order to allow students to have input into the decisions being made by the board of governors. We are looking forward to a very successful and effective year under the leadership of the newly elected ASG President, Mr. Gene Davis. We will keep you informed of upcoming issues that affect UNCA's student body.

Amy Thompson  
 Executive Assistant  
 to the President



## Letters

### Writers respond to Young

Dear Editor,

Rarely have I seen a person say less with more words except of course for the last time Rob Young used the newspaper to get on his soap box. I don't take issue with Young's waste of valuable newsprint, rather, I take issue with his attempted censorship of every student at UNCA who is interested enough to venture an opinion. It's ironic, but at the same time, Young protests people accusing Jesse Helms of being a censor.

Young negates the value of gathering the man-

street's opinion, a common technique used by professional journalists. I believe students at UNCA should have equal access to The Blue Banner, even if they are not sociologists, legislative analysts, or as "informed" as Young would like them to be. Young rallies to Helms' defense so vigorously and so wordily, perhaps he would be better suited as his press secretary.

Mike Lane  
 T.V. Journalist

Dear Editor,

We would like to address this to Rob Young, who wrote in last week's Blue Banner expressing his irritation that a \$15,000 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant went to artist Andres Serrano,

who produced a photograph entitled "Piss Christ." Rob goes on to show his support for Senator Jesse Helms' proposed legislation that would essentially determine the artistic standards for NEA grant recipients. Rob feels that taxpayer's money is being wasted on "inappropriate" art. We feel Rob has a narrow-minded view of the issue and is inflicting his opinion upon the rest of us, claiming to be the correct opinion for all of us to have.

Who is to determine what is appropriate or inappropriate, offensive or inoffensive? It seems Rob would enjoy such a position of authority. It is a basically universal human right for us to decide for ourselves what to think, not the government's responsibility.

Only a fool would read the first amendment and not find that the right to free thinking helps to bind it together. Let us not deteriorate into a puritanical neo-fascist state (God save us from Goebbelsian mind police!). It may be 1989, but Orwell's "1984" could become a reality.

Rob is proving himself an incredible hypocrite in the classic wasp-conservative republican fashion by calling a particular artist or art form offensive. Do Greek and Roman sculptures offend you, Rob? How about the works of Nagel, Varga or Ingres? Art exists in myriad forms and is entirely subjective. We indulge ourselves in our