

Editorials

The Blue Banner



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Appearance is not permission

A Florida jury recently found a man not guilty of rape because they believed the woman "asked for it" due to the provocative way she was dressed. Did you hear about it? Yes, it's true and yes, this is the United States. (By the way, the woman was wearing a "revealing" tank top, a lacy mini-skirt, and no underwear.)

According to the female plaintiff, she did not consent to having sexual intercourse with the man acquitted of the rape charge. Shouldn't that be enough evidence for a jury to make their decision? Wouldn't the fact, also, the two individuals had sexual intercourse while the male held a knife to the woman's back (which the female said he did) convince the jury the woman was not all for it? Apparently not.

Judging from their decision, the jury's reasoning in the case was if a woman does not want to have sex with a male, she should not dress in a manner that might cause him to lose control of himself and want to have sex with the her. Or, another interpretation of the decision is if a woman wants to exercise her supposed freedom of expression and wear what she wants to wear (unless it constitutes obscene dress, which clearly this woman's dress did not), it better not be sexy and attractive because men might not be able to control their bodies and do something for which they cannot be held responsible.

No big deal -- this is just another freedom that women have been denied. The U.S. Supreme Court is on the verge of depriving women the right to an abortion, which is nothing more than depriving women of the right to control their own bodies. Women should be used to this kind of medieval treatment by now.

By their decision, the Florida jury relieved the male of any responsibility for his actions.

What's new?

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, double-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

What is the Graduate Center? I thought we were an undergraduate institution? So why are we building this new facility for graduate students?

Actually our new master of liberal arts graduate program will only take up a small portion of the new building. All together, the Graduate Center is about 65,000 square feet (about the size of the addition to Rhoades Hall). Besides housing the graduate department, it will also house new offices for the

English department, the economics department, the mass communication department and the writing center. However, that's by far not all.

The greatest benefit of the new building is the number of new classrooms. There will be large classrooms, small classrooms and seminar rooms. In addition, it will have lecture hall type classrooms and one small auditorium. This will be a tremendous boost to the university. It will greatly improve the classroom

shortage, not to mention provide the faculty and staff with better work spaces.

What, you may be asking, is it going to look like? The center was designed by the same architect who designed the addition to Rhoades Hall and will look very similar. It will be constructed of the pale brick and will include the tile and column motif from the Rhoades addition. This material selection was made to uniformly finish the quad.

This does promise to be an exciting addition to the

university and should be ready for students at the beginning of the fall semester, 1990.

Look for more detailed information and progress reports in the future from your Student Government Association aesthetics committee.

Kevan Frazier
 Aesthetics Committee



CHAINED RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS



Letters Center omitted in article

Dear Editor,
 As a substance abuse counselor, I was interested in reading the articles in the October 5 Blue Banner which dealt with alcohol awareness. Problem drinking is a serious concern on college campuses, and publications such as yours can do much to educate students and faculty concerning alcohol abuse.

I was distressed, however, to see that the Blue Ridge Center was omitted from the list of treatment and counseling services which are available in this area. The Blue Ridge Center offers prevention and intervention services for substance abusers, their

families, co-dependents and adult children of alcoholics. In addition, we offer non-medical detoxification for alcohol and cocaine abusers. Because we are a community mental health facility, fees are charged on a sliding scale.

Blue Ridge Center Abuse Services is located at 283 Biltmore Ave. Students and faculty who wish to access our services can call our intake counselor at 252-8748.

Carlene Beeman
 Substance Abuse Counselor

To what does Thorne refer?

Dear Editor,
 I have little sympathy for Oliver North; however, I

was disturbed to see him accused of "killing thousands of people" by Wendell Thorne in his Oct. 12 column. Thorne also suggests that the U.S. government declined to prosecute North for murder because his thousands of victims were non-Americans. These are very serious charges. To what, exactly, does Thorne refer?

Joe Quinlan
 Senior Literature

Film raises questions

Dear Editor,
 A few weeks ago, I attended the "premier" presentation of the film "Building Bombs." As a retired DuPont employee

who worked on the Savannah River project, I was left with many questions which were not addressed or left unanswered in the film. In the following paragraphs, I have listed some of these questions.

1. Do the film producers know that DuPont was requested by the United States government to oversee the construction and operation of this facility because DuPont had the best technical expertise for this complex undertaking?

2. Is it known that DuPont agreed to accept this responsibility under a contract calling for a payment of only one dollar per year over costs.

3. Were there any "bombs" or "weapons" produced at this facility?

4. Was there a very great effort made to assure the

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