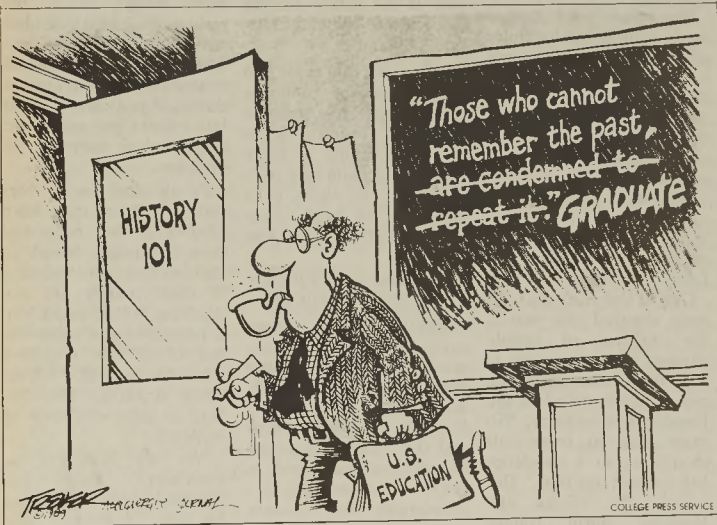


Opinions



From Wendell's Window

Wendell W. Thorne

Sexual intercourse is fun. (I have this on good authority.) With the emergence of AIDS, it can also be very dangerous (same source). I read recently of a man with AIDS who, after biting the hand of a police officer who was feeding him the night stick, was convicted of attempted murder. Apparently, the man had contracted the dreaded disease from a female co-worker in a heated moment in the elevator of their office building. I am not sure who bit who, or, for that matter, if there was any biting going on at all. But, he got it.

I say all this in an effort to urge all of you to take advantage of the celebrated condom machines on campus, prior to getting yourself into anything you cannot then remove yourself from. In short (no pun), anyone who enjoys sex and refuses to take precautions against disease is a fool...

Speaking of Dan Quayle, how about his speedy trip to San Francisco? Apparently he wasn't there long enough to leave the scent from his after shave, let alone his heart. But, allow me to direct you to his comments on ABC's Good Morning America concerning the cave-in of Interstate 880. In true bureaucratic style he said, "But, Joan, let us not forget the many miles of that elevated interstate that did not collapse." Quayle responded this way because the government held back financing that would have bolstered the pylons which support the highway. Oh, sure, they went ahead with the money for the added support on the road surface.

In a related story, I understand that Transportation Secretary Skinner recently had the roof on his house replaced to help keep water from a nearby stream from running into his basement...

But, the feds aren't the only illogical baboons (no letters please, Baboons). We must not overlook the Anderson County (South Carolina) sheriff's office. They have taken the war on drugs to unconstitutional extremes. At a popular drug trafficking spot in that county, members of the sheriff's department are going to be standing by full-time, 24 hours a day, and stopping each and every automobile that passes for a brief, illegal search. A narcotic-sniffing dog will be on hand to do a quick sweep and, if he smells something, the search will be broadened. But, here is the brilliant part of the story: There are plenty of signs a quarter-mile down the road to warn motorists of the delay. Huge, green signs that read, "ATTENTION: NARCOTICS CHECK STATION AHEAD. PREPARE TO STOP." Luckily, all drug pushers in South Carolina cannot read...

I wonder if the signs would be outlawed in Asheville? In case you didn't know, the Asheville city council will convene Tuesday to discuss the proposed sign ordinance. It's a good idea. As noted here recently, billboards hiding scenery that tourists flock here to enjoy is a bit of an irony...

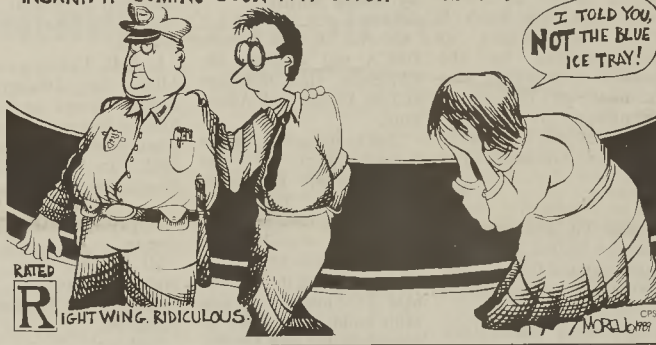
But, there is no greater irony than that which exists here at our beloved UNCA. You may not be aware of the parking problem, and even if you are, you may not know that this little school is over-enrolled, which is at the heart of the problem. The business, registrar and financial aid offices are overburdened and understaffed, and those of us who expect more from these administrative offices are suffering as a result...

Quite obviously, then, many of the problems in the world today stem from the enjoyment of sexual relations. If sex wasn't fun, there would be no need for condoms, there would be fewer AIDS patients, Dan Quayles, paranoid sheriffs, money-hungry businessmen, and numbers-oriented college administrators.

Then, there would be no need for abortion, and all the profilers could go back to sending their money to Jim Bakker. Oh, by the way -- he has a new address...

HONEY, I DRANK THE KIDS...

PROFESSOR BUMBLEBUNS ACCIDENTALLY PUT HIS FROZEN-EMBRYO CHILDREN IN A GLASS OF ICE TEA. NOW HE'S GOING TO JAIL. AN HILARIOUS NEW COMEDY ABOUT PRO-LIFE INSANITY. COMING SOON TO A COURTHOUSE NEAR YOU...



Letters

Continued from page 2

safety of the employees and the neighboring communities in which they lived?

5. What were the actual radiation or toxicity levels of the disposable materials depicted as being buried?

6. Were operating problems reported to the Atomic Energy Commission (later D.O.E.) which maintained a staff at the site?

7. Were waste storage areas monitored and the results reported to the A.E.C. (D.O.E.)?

8. Were some reports generated which were classified according to national security regulations and thus not available to the public?

9. Are the producers opposed to national security regulations?

10. Were some scenes in the film, depicting the manufacture and storage of products, simulated?

11. Has DuPont developed techniques for permanent storage of radioactive wastes by vitrification?

12. How "contaminated" was the turtle shown in the film and how far from the site did it travel?

If I could obtain the answers to these questions,

it might affirm the authenticity of the film in my mind.

Fear is a debilitating emotion which can be generated by innuendo. Knowledge can reduce and even eliminate needless fear. Answers to my questions can lead to knowledge.

Robert E. Fisher
College for Seniors

Security must be increased

Dear Editor,

The likelihood of violent crime occurring on the UNCA campus compares to the likelihood of an activated time bomb exploding. If the university's level of crime protection continues at its current level, the question of rape becomes not one of "if," but rather of "when."

As a third semester female student at UNCA, nightly campus activity has yet to impress me as safe. The university's apparent protective and preventative security measures, or rather the lack of them, seem to

spell impending violence.

During my first semester, my biggest safety fears rested in returning from my job as restaurant hostess to the campus dorms. At 11 or 12 p.m., finding a parking space in the well-lit dorm lots was a rare occurrence. Usually I had no choice but to park in dark and abandoned commuter lots a good distance from the security of my room. I always dreaded the dark, cold, and all-to-quiet walk home.

Now that I live off-campus I encounter the same dread and fear when leaving the library or the Robinson Hall computer lab, both open until midnight. Virtually empty parking lots often lure violence, and I have yet to see a patrolling officer when leaving these areas.

The fact that UNCA doesn't have an enormous case history of crime is not the issue. The recent instances of sexual assault at Appalachian State University in nearby Boone reflects this. Suddenly ASU has gone from a campus with a relaxed atmosphere to that of thousands of scared students wondering who will be next.

The solution? Victim counseling, self-defense

courses and increased security all reflect heightened university awareness, but all too often these after-the-fact measures prove too little, too late. Developing strong programs in these areas before violent crime occurs on campus is unquestionably the best time to do so.

Perhaps the best preventative measure for UNCA, in addition to those mentioned above, is an "escort service" of sorts for unaccompanied students. Perhaps as part of a work-study program, male students could volunteer to be available to escort individuals from the library or walk students home from abandoned parking lots.

Unreasonable? Not in the minds of such state schools as N.C. State and UNC-Chapel Hill. State's "Dial An Escort" provides an instant accompaniment from anywhere on campus. Similarly, fraternity members at UNC-Chapel Hill are available to escort students from the library to their dorm rooms if needed.

Boone's recent surge of sexual assaults has prompted a similar escort program from the library at Appalachian State. Again this program is a vast

improvement, but it is yet another "after-the-fact" measure. An escort program throughout campus won't help soothe the lifelong nightmares of the individuals already assaulted.

UNCA must install protective and preventative services now to prevent the same tragedy in Boone from being repeated here. Without these services, UNCA's "violent crime time bomb" will soon explode.

Kimberly Horstmann
Freshman
Undeclared

Play home games at Justice

Dear Editor,

What exactly is home court advantage? The advantage the home team has due to an enthusiastic crowd. The fear the opposing team has when it steps on the court. If I'm going to a home game I want to stay at home to see it.

This season however the Bulldogs are losing the home court advantage because nine of the 13 home games are in the

Asheville Civic Center. Of the four games in the Justice Center two are with teams outside the conference. The other two games are with conference teams.

Watching a game at the Asheville Civic Center is similar to watching a dog show. The players' prance around the court while the referees judge their ability. Sure, I can scream obscenities at the officials, but how are they going to hear me from half a mile away?

The Civic Center eliminates crowd participation.

At the Justice Center the crowd continuously screams. For one thing there are more students at the games. This makes for a more festive atmosphere for everyone. The opposing team knows when they come to the Justice Center they better be ready to not only battle the Bulldogs, but the crowd as well.

The athletic department along with the administration need to sit down to decide some solutions to the problem.

Joel Perkins
Junior
Mass Communication