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The Blue Banner

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Serving the students and faculty of UNCA

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Campus News

'Better behave'

Daytona Beach officials say 1990 may be the last year they welcome students to vacation there during spring break.

City visitors bureau officials say they will send a squad of representatives to a number of campuses in early '90 to warn students to behave well when they head south this spring.

"We want students to party, but we want them to do it responsibly," said Suzanne Smith, director of the city's spring break task force.

Smith said Daytona Beach, one of the last places left that actually welcomes students for spring break, may follow other vacation spots like Miami Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Palm Springs, Calif. and Virginia Beach, Va., in discouraging them from congregating there if things don't change.

Since 1984, seven people have died and 34 injured in falls from Daytona Beach hotel and motel balconies. Last year, the city was largely unable to control the 40,000 students who visited, Smith said.

Students trashed hotels, urinated on lawns, passed out in driveways and disturbed residents with blaring radios and parties, she said.

Protest drinking age

Hoping to reverse a political movement toward prohibition and new drinking age limits, University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh students have staged a series of protests.

Both have ended in mass arrests and have divided the campus.

The higher drinking age at Oshkosh, as at other campuses around the country, effectively has led undergrad students in private apartments to set up bars of their own, often charging classmates money to draw beer from kegs.

To set an example for the school year, local police in September raided a party in the basement of some Oshkosh students' house, confiscating kegs, arresting 80 students and slapping students who lived there with a \$17,000 fine.

In response, Oshkosh students protested first on Oct. 12 and again on Oct. 19 in angry street demonstrations that led to 55 arrests and about \$2,500 in property damage.

15,000 protest cuts

A crowd of about 15,000 students protested further cuts in Massachusetts' higher education budget at the state capitol in Boston Oct. 18.

The upheaval began when Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis announced public campuses would have to endure another round of budget cuts to keep the state from going broke.

Students were angered by Dukakis' call to cut another \$25 million from the state college budgets, meaning that scores of faculty members would be laid off and many course sections canceled.

Massachusetts already has chopped \$14 million out of its public college budget in five cuts during the last two years.

Several college presidents openly said they plan to defy Dukakis' order.

From CPS, press releases and staff reports

Weekend Weather

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

Temperatures will be quite cool throughout the weekend. High temperatures will reach the 40s Friday and rise into the 50s Saturday and Sunday.

Lows will mostly range in the upper 20s to around 30 for the entire weekend.

Jim Owen
Atmospheric Sciences

Firemen respond to false alarm

Kimberly Cooley
Staff Writer

Four Asheville City fire trucks were dispatched to Owen Hall Thursday at 4:40 p.m., according to Captain Jimmy Fox of the Asheville City Fire Department.

According to Fox, someone was burning leaves around the trees that line University Heights near Owen Hall. "There were windows open on the right side of the building and the wind blew the smoke into the building," said Fox.

"We went through every floor but found no source. When we saw the leaves burning and found which way the wind was blowing, we knew that was the source," said Fox.

According to Fox, when smoke was detected in the building, someone pulled the fire alarm. "We didn't have a key to unlock the alarm. That's why the alarm went off for so long even though there was no fire in the building," said Fox.



Hanging around

Photo by Miranda Wyatt

De De Ramsey relaxes in her own way as she reads a newspaper recently.

Van Slyke named security director

by Michael E. Gouge
News Editor

Jeff Van Slyke has officially taken over as director of security and services this week, according to Eric Iovacchini, vice-chancellor for student affairs.

Iovacchini said Van Slyke was chosen over 40 other applicants by a search committee made up of students, faculty and staff members.

"We were looking for someone with experience -- teaching experience and

group leadership experience," he said. Van Slyke was able to express to the committee "a philosophy that fit well with the university," Iovacchini said.

Van Slyke said the first major concern for campus security is to improve communications. As it is now "it's sometimes hard to get response if there's a problem," he said.

He also would like to see a balance between the needs for a public-service type of department and the role of a law enforcement

agency, he said.

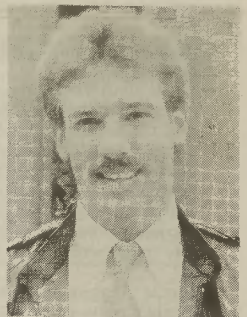
"Campuses are not a popular place for law enforcement. Their main goal is academic excellence. I feel the two go hand-in-hand. I'd like to send the department in the right direction because no institution is safe from crime," he said. "It's crucial to have a balance between law enforcement and administrative service departments."

Van Slyke also said he will strive to improve public relations with the security

department. "I'd like to get some input from students, faculty and staff to find out what their needs are."

"There has to be better communication between myself, as chief, and the university," he said. "I have an open door policy and will welcome comments from the public."

Van Slyke was formerly employed by Auburn university as parking manager. He is an Auburn graduate with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and has formerly worked as



Jeff Van Slyke

a police officer and a corrections officer at a federal prison, he said.

Focus: Security priorities

Drug offenses at UNCA sometimes overlooked

by Benny Smith
Staff Writer

In spite of recent drug arrests on campus, minor drug offenses are not considered a major priority by campus security and may be overlooked in some cases, according to a security staff member.

According to the UNCA Policy and Procedures section in the administrative procedures manual, the possession and use of marijuana where there is no intent to sell is on the list as a "low priority" with security.

The UNCA department of public security and service defines low priority offenses as those that the department has few resources to handle. The department will act

on a low priority offense only as the result of a specific complaint or when the offense is observed by a security officer during his or her routine activities, according to the manual.

Other matters the UNCA department of public security and service defines as low priority are gambling, statutory sex offenses between consenting adults and illegal possession of alcoholic beverages.

On the other hand, the possession of "hard drugs," such as cocaine, without intent to sell is categorized as a routine priority by security. "These are matters that are handled as time is available," according to the Administrative

Procedures Manual.

Other matters listed as routine priority in the manual include moving traffic violations, trespassing, vandalism and violation of general nuisance statutes (such as noise violations).

High priorities are matters in which major crime prevention, patrol and intelligence efforts are regularly allocated, according to the manual.

Nonviolent sex offenses, burglary, larceny, assaults, possession of weapons on campus and manufacture, distribution and sale of controlled substances are included as high priority matters. Driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol on campus is also a high priority matter, See Priorities, Page 10



Photo by Miranda Wyatt

Moving up in the world

Mike Jackson enjoys spending his spare time climbing the side of Robinson Hall.