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The Blue Banner

"Where there is an open mind, there will always be a frontier." — Kettering

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Photo by Diane Maney

Roy Carroll discusses women, population growth, and the environment at Monday's Great Decisions lecture.

Carroll lectures on problems of population growth

Stacy Libby
Staff Writer

Roy Carroll, interim chancellor, spoke about "Women, Population and Environment" March 18 at the Owen Conference Center. The lecture was a part of the continuing Great Decisions 1991 series.

"I believe and have long believed that the population question is the most basic fundamental issue we have to address," said Carroll. "The world population, now estimated to be 5.3 billion, is increasing by about a quarter of a million everyday. In 1998, we will reach six billion people."

"Population growth is the most serious, most pervasive and most urgent problem we face. The next 10 years and this decade will be critical," he said.

"The choices we make in the next 10 years will decide the speed of population growth for much of the next century. It will decide if the world population triples or

merely doubles before it eventually stops growing. It will decide whether or not the pace of the damage to the environment speeds up or slows down," he said.

"In short, I think the next 10 years will clearly shape the 21st century and may decide the future of the world as habitation for humans," he said.

"The highest priority of the international development community is something called 'sustainable development.' 'Sustainable development' is development that meets the need of the present population without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs," he said.

"The current rate is one billion more people each 11 years. That is a whole extra China added to us. The fastest growth is coming in the poorest countries, those least able to cope with it," he said.

"That means that the numbers of the poor and hungry and illiterate will continue to rise just by

progress."

"The United Nations report said recently, and I quote, 'in the space of just 11 years, the developing world will have to increase by 65 percent its capacity to produce and manage its urban infrastructure services and shelter merely to maintain its present conditions,'" he said.

"The population growth means that many people are locked from birth into that kind of grinding poverty from which there is little hope of escape," he said.

"Their [women's] involvement in any solutions must be substantial and essential. This is not a matter of social justice. It is not a feminist issue. It is common sense," he said.

"Male-dominated development institutions and agencies are finally beginning to recognize the link between women's advancement, economic progress and improved quality of life," he said.

Female households are poorer and have less access to resources

in both industrialized and developing countries, he said. "Not only is the poverty of women generally hidden, but the economic contributions of women are largely overlooked," he said.

"There is a growing awareness that alleviating the poverty of women is linked to economic growth," he said. Women's roles as conservationists and teachers of good conservation habits are equally ignored, he said.

"The vast population growth in poor countries has already made permanent changes in the environment. Two areas of impact that really pose the greatest threat in developing countries are soil degradation and forest [destruction], and global warming. Population plays a key role in both," he said.

"The industrialized countries account for five-sixths of the world's consumption of those chlorofluorocarbons and three-fourths of the fossil fuel used," he said.

Dyslexia society holds conference at UNCA

Davey Ramsey
Staff Writer

The North Carolina branch of The Orton Dyslexia Society held its Fourth Annual Spring Conference Mar. 15-16 in the Humanities Lecture Hall and in room 104 of the Carmichael building at UNCA.

Dyslexia is a series of learning disabilities which causes otherwise normal minds to process information, such as written letters or numbers, differently.

"The Orton Dyslexia Society is the only non-profit scientific and educational international organization exclusively dedicated to the study, prevention and treatment of the problems of the specific language disability known as dyslexia," according to a pamphlet distributed by the organization.

"Most dyslexics are not illiterate, but dyslexia can be a contributor to illiteracy," said Suzanne Elms,

local chairperson for the 1991 Spring Conference and the president of the Asheville Learning Disabilities Association (LDA).

"If we can say to those who are illiterate, you may not have learned to read because you have a different way of learning, they may not be as embarrassed to come forward. If they don't come forward then more than likely their children have inherited it and they're not going to be spotted either."

Dyslexia is difficult to identify. "If you do not know anything about dyslexia, it is hard to recognize," said Elms. "I went through three years with my first child before I knew."

"Children with dyslexia often appear to be lazy," said Elms. They may know the answers to questions, yet refuse to write them down on a test. Also they may read words backwards. For

instance, they may pronounce words such as of as for," said Elms.

Children with dyslexia may have problems with receiving a proper education.

"Teachers are not trained to help dyslexic children," said Elms. "They may have a really brief few hours training on learning disabilities in general, but they don't get enough training."

Today there is a source for help for those cases of dyslexia and other learning disabilities diagnosed in Asheville.

"We have a Learning Disabilities Association in Asheville for support and information," said Elms. "We may do a program meeting and have a speaker come in one month while the next month we may just discuss a topic such as an Individual Education Plan (IEP)."

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Photo by LeeAnn Donnelly

Hemp forum

Joe Ionna talks to a crowd outside Highsmith Center at last Tuesday's hemp rally.

Income tax filing deadline approaches

Renee Rallos
Staff Writer

College students who work must file their taxes by April 15.

"A student can make \$3250 before he is taxed. That is the general assumption," said Pat Harris of H & R Block in Plano, TX.

The 1040 form is the most common form used. "The 1040 is a tax return form," said Harris.

"Generally the only tax laws that affect them (college students) are if they get scholarships or grants. The portion that is not used for tuition and books is taxable. The

portion that is used for tuition and books is not taxable," said Harris.

"We (UNCA) don't make suggestions for anybody whether it be students or permanent employees just because everybody's situation is so different that what may look like an obvious suggestion may turn out to be totally wrong for that individual," said Kathy Hallman, payroll officer for UNCA.

"Basically you can claim one allowance for yourself, one allowance for a spouse that's not working claiming themselves and

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Students participate in research conference

Susan Woody
Staff Writer

Eighteen UNCA students are traveling to the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California, to participate in the Fifth Annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research, said John Stevens, director of the Undergraduate Research Program at UNCA.

The word, "Eureka," describes this year's conference, said a program announcement for the conference, because undergraduates throughout the country will share their discoveries.

The program announcement said Eureka symbolizes a feeling of triumph in achievement, in solving a problem, or in finding an answer.

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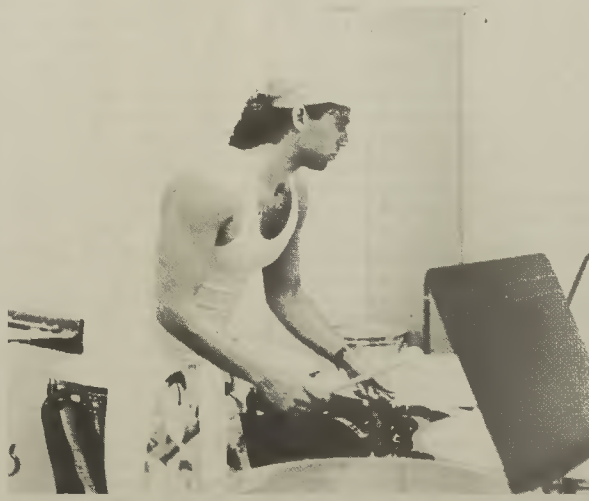


Photo by Miranda Wyatt

David Lee Roth?

Tim Stechman bangs out a tune on the kettle drum.