

The Blue Banner

"Only a dead man's got a reason not to care." -- Elvis Presley

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Construction worker dies in accident on site of new dining hall

Rebekah Stivers
Staff Writer

Construction workers at the new UNCA dining hall declined to comment Monday on the accidental death of a 20-year-old co-worker on Wednesday, Jan. 5.

David Thomas Lingle, of Connelly Springs, was killed instantly when he was pinned by a 20-ton counterweight on a crane at the site.

"He was pronounced dead on the scene of the 8:40 a.m. accident," according to *The News-Herald* of Morganton, NC.

The article reported that Asheville police Detective Judy Romick said Lingle "was standing at the rear of the crane when it was set in motion by its operator" and was pinned to the base of the crane.

"Larry Miller, president of G.E.M. Constructors, Inc. of Marion, the general contracting firm, said Lingle was an employee of subcontractor P.R.Y. Steel Erectors of Hildebran," according to the *Asheville Citizen-Times*.

Miller said the "crane operator had no way of seeing Lingle at the rear of the crane" and that... 'until somebody screamed at him or flagged him, [he's] sure [the operator] didn't even realize [Lingle had been hit]," according to the *Citizen-Times*.

Miller said that Lingle had been employed by the steel company since October. According to *The News-Herald*, he had been an iron worker since his uncle helped to train him for his first job three years ago.

Lingle is survived by his wife, Stacey Marie Shinn Lingle, and two children, two-year-old Nathaniel Lee Shinn Lingle and eight-month-old Alea Marie Lingle, said Ricky Ammons, his uncle.

"None of them are taking it real well," he said. "He was a good boy, didn't cause any trouble. He was just in the wrong place at the wrong time," he told

The News-Herald.

Jennibeth Kennedy, a spokesperson for the NC Department of Labor, said G.E.M. had been inspected one time prior to the incident on Jan. 5.

In May 1989 the company was cited for three "serious" violations and was fined a total of \$670 in penalties. Subcontractor P.R.Y. Steel Erectors was inspected twice before the incident.

In February 1986, the company was cited for one "serious" violation and was fined \$150 in penalties. An inspection in December of that year resulted in no violations.

"The Labor Department computer could not provide the nature of the violations, but the amount of the fines indicated [that] they were relatively minor," according to the *Citizen-Times*.

Kennedy said the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will probably investigate the situation. "Whenever there is a fatality we do investigate it," she said.

Ice storm delays spring orientation, registration

Monisa Fisher
Staff Writer

An ice storm that hit Western North Carolina delayed spring orientation and registration on Dec. 18. Registration was scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, but had to be postponed until noon.

Orientation and registration activities were combined as a result of the postponement.

"The weather did cause us to combine everything and that's not the way registration normally runs," said Kristina Brantley, acting registrar.

Announcements were made on WLOS, WBBO and KISS-FM that registration would begin at noon on Tuesday on a first come, first serve basis.

Registration lines at noon on Tuesday were long because of the first come, first serve basis.

"Everyone came at noon which we expected, but lines were down within an hour and a half," said Brantley.

"I was an orientation leader and things went pretty smoothly. It was a madhouse at first but we got everyone taken care of," said Jeremy Paton, orientation leader and student development leadership assistant.

Due to the weather, the welcome speech by the chancellor and small

group advising were canceled. New students did not meet with small group orientation leaders to receive academic advising.

Advising was done differently than usual. Usually, new students meet in orientation groups and receive advising from professors.

Since new students did not meet in orientation groups, they did not receive advising from professors, but instead from a group of faculty members stationed in Lipinsky Hall on Tuesday.

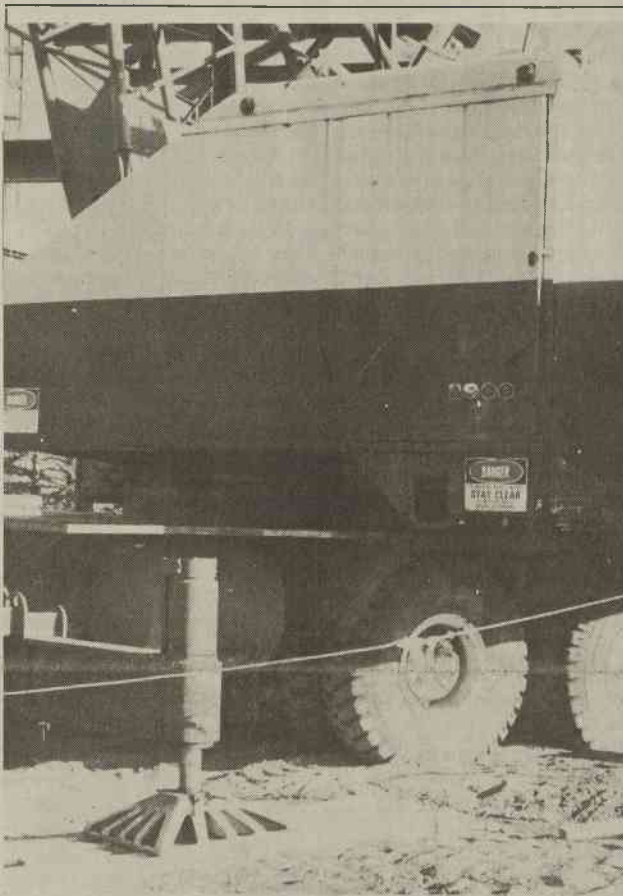
According to Brantley, students will receive academic advisors when they declare a major.

"Because new students were unable to have group meetings with orientation leaders, there could have been some confusion for new students in knowing what to present at registration and knowing how registration works at UNCA," said Brantley.

"I've had to change my schedule three times because I still don't have an academic advisor due to the delay," said Bryan Bradshaw, an incoming sophomore transfer student.

"We want to assure new students that in the future they will have appointment times and registration won't be so overwhelming," said

See "Storm," on page 8



Staff Photo By Russ Reed

David Thomas Lingle, a construction worker at the new dining hall, was accidentally killed while working at this crane on the morning of Jan. 5.

Economics professor joins U.N. mission in South Africa

Robin Burris
Staff Writer

Kofi Konadu Apraku, assistant professor in economics, joined United Nations delegates in South Africa in December.

Apraku was named "a member of a United Nations Observer Mission to South Africa," according to a press release.

Apraku said that the delegation will be observing the election in South Africa, according to the press release.

"It'll be joining other members of the U.N. Delegation to ensure that the proper modalities, structures and appropriate facilities are in place for a free and fair election in South Africa," Apraku said.

"The delegation will work with all political forces, including the government and the various opposition groups, to ensure a peaceful and orderly transition from the current apartheid regime to a pluralistic democracy," said Apraku.

Shirley Browning, chairman of the economics department, received a letter from Apraku this month.

"He has been assigned to the port city of Port Elizabeth in eastern Cape Province," said Browning.

"Our primary objective is to ensure,

monitor, and help enforce the national peace accord signed by the political groups in south Africa to ensure a peaceful, fair election," Apraku said in the letter to Browning.

Apraku has been assigned as a member of the Social Economic Reconstruction and Development Agency.

Its purpose is to identify development projects and set development priorities for a post-apartheid South Africa, said Browning.

"It's been challenging, but I feel safe and secure," said Apraku.

Apraku returned to his homeland of Ghana in 1992 as a candidate in the elections, according to the press release.

"I believe this will be my contribution to a nation that has fought and paid such a great price for freedom," Apraku said in a press release.

"I believe that all South Africans deserve a peaceful and orderly transition and I will do my best to facilitate that.

"I want to make sure other people do not experience what we in Ghana experienced—we were robbed in that election," Apraku said in a press release.

Apraku "endured death threats and break-ins to his home during the campaign," stated the press release.

Apraku has been a professor at UNCA since 1987, according to Browning.

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Weather Report

The weekend forecast calls for cloudy skies with showers on Friday with a high of 56 and low of 38. Saturday will be less cloudy and cooler. High will be 52,

Weather Report courtesy of the National Weather Service
UNCA Atmospheric Science Department offers updated forecasts through the 24 hour weatherline... 251-6435

Feeling Better



Staff Photo By Russ Reed

Bob Swayngim returned to work this semester after suffering a heart attack last semester. Swayngim is an administrative assistant in the UNCA Business Office.

UNCA to host MLK celebration

Georgia attorney to deliver speech

Annamarie Riley
Staff Writer

UNCA's tenth annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration will feature speaker Patricia Russell-McCloud at 7 p.m. Friday, January 28 in Lipinsky Auditorium.

The program is free and open to the public.

Russell-McCloud's talk, "America: A Dream Deferred," is sponsored by the UNCA Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the UNCA African American Student Association and the Social Life Task Force.

"Russell-McCloud has been speaking nationally since the age of eight and has been featured in *Ebony* and *Essence* Magazines," said David Miles, President of the UNCA African American Student Association.

A Howard University Law School graduate, Russell-McCloud served as an attorney with the Federal Communications Commission broadcast complaint bureau, according to Appalachian State



Photo Courtesy of UNCA Office of Public Information

Patricia Russell-McCloud

University's publication, "Harambee."

"Harambee" also says, Russell-McCloud has spoken before groups ranging from the Girl Scouts of America to the Central Intelligence Agency.

A life-long member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Russell-McCloud said, in "Harambee," "Martin Luther King has been important in my life. His courage and vision helped to mold and shape and encourage my journey."

Carolyn Briggs, Coordinator of UNCA's Office of Multicultural Affairs says, "Anyone who comes to hear Patricia will leave feeling motivated, focused and inspired."

Russell-McCloud's delivery, according to a press release, has been described as rooted in a basis

of statistical data and research which gives her listeners more than just correct information.

She has the ability to analyze, identify and address issues, while motivating audiences to make positive differences in colleges, universities, school districts, civic and community organizations, corporations and government in the United States, Great Britain, West Africa and the Caribbean, according to the press release.

"Her presentation, stressing the importance of ethical leadership in our schools, riveted my attention from that first ring of the school bell," said the executive director of the National Association of Elementary School Principals, Samuel G. Sava.