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Oct 6,
1994

The Blue

BANNER

WEATHER: Variably cloudy
and cool through the weekend.
Chance of showers Sunday
Highs in 60s. Lows in 40s.

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PROMINENT POET WILL MAKE APPEARANCE AT UNCA

Janice Sitton
Staff Writer

Allen Ginsberg, one of the original Beat Generation poets, will hold a reading at Lipsky Auditorium on October 13, 1994 at 7 p.m. The proceeds raised will provide partial funding for the Black Mountain College Museum & Arts Center and for the UNCA Creative Writing Program.

"It is a great opportunity for people to see a legendary and important figure in the American literary scene," said Richard Chess, professor of literature and language.

"I've never had the chance to see a poet who had so much renown," said Anthony Gagnon, editor for the UNCA Arts Magazine. "It is definitely a rare opportunity."

Ginsberg wrote poems during the 1950s and 1960s which dealt with the social and political issues of that time in a very direct way. This new approach shook up the existing poetry world, and inspired a new way of writing, according to Chess.

Ginsberg's first published work, "Howl and Other Poems" came out in 1956. "Howl" was one of the most influential poems during that literary period,

according to Chess. The poem was subjected to censorship trials due to its controversial nature, but was declared legal in 1957 by a San Francisco court.

"Essentially, it is a poem that expresses a certain amount of rage directed at the society, both nationally and internationally," said Chess. "It uses language in a way that perhaps wasn't being used at that particular period."

"Howl" has been translated into over 22 languages, and became "one of the most widely read poems of the century," according to Chess.

Although times have changed, he continues to use poetry and music to inform people of relevant current events and news. Ginsberg's recent travels have taken him into the People's Republic of China, the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and Scandinavia, according to Chess.

He has also worked with different bands, such as The Clash and The Fugs, to reach people through popular music culture, according to Chess.

"He has also been very outspoken in terms of criticizing government policies and going to hot spots around the world to speak up on the side of freedom, of free speech, and of human rights," said Chess.

"I think that Allen Ginsberg has been a prominent voice, and he's certainly been one really powerful force in poetry," said Gagnon. "Even more recently he has been an outspoken voice in a lot of issues. He has always used his art as a way of expressing dissatisfaction or expressing his angst about things in society."

Ginsberg is currently a member of the American Institute of Arts and Letters, and is also a co-founder of the first accredited Buddhist college of the Western world, the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics.

He could also be considered one of the predecessors of the slam poetry movement, according to Chess.

Ginsberg often arranges his poems by using long lines, which he calls "breath units". He believed

there was a connection between the arrangement of the words on a page and the spiritual and



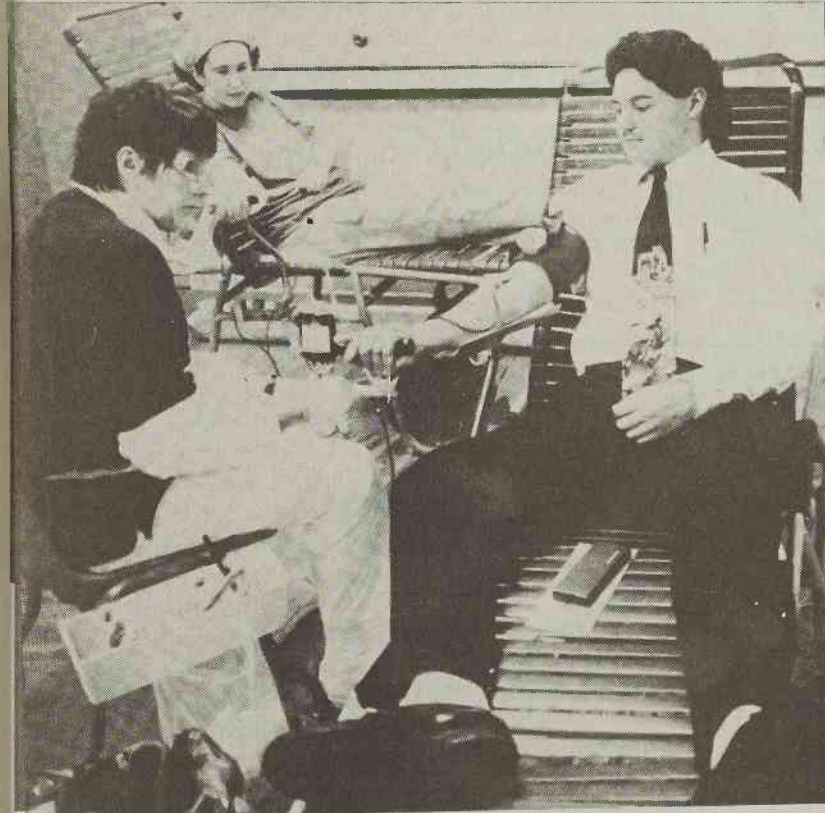
*"The weight of the world
is love
Under the burden
of solitude
Under the burden
of dissatisfaction
the weight,
the weight we carry
is love."*

--Allen Ginsberg

physical experience one has when reading a poem. By reading each line in one breath, a particular

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Blood Drive



The Student Government Association sponsored a blood drive on Oct. 4. Diane Herrick, R.N. collects a blood donation from Seth Sherman. The blood drive was a success, according to Denise Tomlinson, executive for external relations. "Our goal was 85 pints, and we collected 93 pints," she said.

Photo by Rob Jordan

Three-year Grant Supports Biology Study

Dan Clifton
Staff Writer

The National Park Service has given a three-year grant, totaling \$90,000, to a UNCA professor to establish a long term monitoring program for amphibians in the southeastern U.S.

James W. Petranka, assistant professor of biology, is collaborating with Charles Smith at High Point University. They are currently involved in studying amphibian populations in Cumberland Gap National Historic Park, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Other scientists are involved from Austin Peay University and are conducting studies in Mammoth Cave National Park.

"We know that amphibians are declining in spots where there's been habitat disturbances," said Petranka.

"The real question lies in protected habitat where you have virgin forest or old growth forest. Are these populations also in decline?"

According to Petranka, scientists don't agree on whether there is a decline or

not. This study will be the first to document whether populations in protected areas are in a state of long-term decline.

"One problem in trying to determine if these observations reflect a general global decline in amphibians is that scientists lack long-term data on changes in the population sizes of most species of amphibians," said Petranka.

"From Australia to the U.S., we have scientists that are tracking populations, trying to determine if there are any major global problems."

These global tracking groups were put together by the recently organized Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force (DAPTF). There are two major goals of the DAPTF, according to Petranka.

"The first goal is to document and quantify the extent to which environmental alteration from activities such as timber harvesting, wetland drainage, and urban growth has adversely affected amphibians," said Petranka.

"Although many natural amphibian habitats have been fragmented and severely altered by human activities, scientists are only beginning to understand the effects of disturbance and

environmental deterioration on amphibian communities," he said.

The second goal is to determine whether amphibian populations in areas that have not been severely altered by human activity are showing evidence of decline from general deterioration of the Earth's environment, according to Petranka.

"In many places around the world, scientists have witnessed the inexplicable decline of amphibians that live in undisturbed natural habitats," said Petranka.

"For example, the golden toad in Costa Rica is in a virgin forest that has never been cut, yet the toad is disappearing. Also, tiger salamanders are declining in many pristine high elevation lakes in the western U.S."

One of the primary amphibians being studied by Petranka and Smith is the spotted salamander. During the spring when the spotted salamander is breeding, the scientists go out and count egg masses that are laid, which indicates how many females are present, according to Petranka.

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SGA APPOINTMENTS ARE DEBATED

Janice Sitton
Staff Writer

The Parliamentarian of the Student Government Association (SGA) proposed a reformation of the Campus Commission during the SGA senate meeting held September 28, that would allow only senators to serve on that commission. The suggestion was made during the SGA meeting in which the SGA president's appointments to the commission were to be presented.

The Campus Commission is the student organization which allocates the funds for each organization on campus. The funds available to organizations and controlled by the Campus Commission are derived from the total student fees paid each year.

"I think the process [the whole Campus Com-

mission process] could be better, and I don't think that there are many who could argue that the process could not be better," said Ryan DeSear, vice-president of SGA and chair of the senate.

Five students are "jointly named" by the president of SGA and by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, according to the Campus Commission guidelines. However, according to the SGA constitution, the senate must approve all SGA president appointments. The faculty are appointed by the Faculty Senate.

"I think there is some confusion...because the student government constitution says the senate has to approve or confirm all appointments originating from the president, but the campus commission has a different set of guidelines that are

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SENATORS SILENCE CONSTITUENTS

Janice Sitton
Staff Writer

A motion was passed at the Student Government Association [SGA] held September 28, to silence members of the student body [the gallery] who had come to observe and participate in the senate proceedings.

The motion was passed with a vote of six to three, with three members of the senate abstaining.

Matthew Guinn, sophomore senator, made the motion, and although it passed, Ryan DeSear, chair of the senate, was willing to acknowledge any member of the gallery, regardless of the motion.

"It [the motion] has no bearing because the chair runs the meeting and can recognize whoever he or she wants to, according to Robert's Rules of Order," said Gerard Moses, president of SGA.

"I think SGA, as a whole, has always had as a goal, and I think more so than ever, now, a desire to have the students involved in the student government," said Koren Bakkegard, executive for judicial relations.

"I see this as an opportunity to have an active, vital organization, when students are coming to meetings and wanting to be engaged in the same conversations and debates that the senate is engaged in. To have that avenue closed down, I find distressing," she said.

"When they arrange the tables to make room for a gallery, and then they make a motion that that gallery cannot be an active part of that body, then they're wasting their [the senate] time and energy," said Mark Dann, senior.