

# The Banner

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Author Lawrence Graham to speak

Author, attorney, and diversity consultant Lawrence Otis Graham will speak at UNCA at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 20 in the Highsmith Center lounge. His talk was originally scheduled for February 13 but was cancelled because of snow.

A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, Graham is the author of 11 nonfiction books and many stories on race and ethnic relations and diversity. His newest book, "Member of the Club," includes essays on affirmative action and interracial dating. His book, "The Best Companies for Minorities" is the first guide to offer a comprehensive review of the corporate environment—from entry-level and blue-collar jobs to the corporate suite—for all minority groups.

Graham was the subject of an HBO movie about his experiences at the Greenwich (Conn.) Country Club, where he exposed discrimination against minorities, Jews, and women after working undercover as a busboy.

Graham is a corporate attorney in New York, an adjunct assistant professor at Fordham University, and president of the diversity consulting firm Progressive Management Associates, Inc. He has worked at the White House and the Ford Foundation, and is a popular speaker on civil rights and diversity at college campuses.

His talk is co-sponsored by UNCA's African American Student Association, the African American Student Development Office, and Underdog Productions. Admission for the general public is \$5. For information, call 251-6674.

### Creative writing contests

The UNCA Creative Writing Program is sponsoring four contests for students next month. The deadline for all contests is April 15 and the prize for each contest is \$100 and eternal fame. Two copies, one with a name and one without a name should be submitted to Professor of Literature David Hopes in KH 210.

The Wilma Dykeman Prize in Non-Fiction and University Writing is for works up to 20 pages in length of non-fiction, academic, or other university writing. The Thomas Wolfe Prize in Fiction is for works up to 20 pages in length of a short story, novella, or novel excerpt. The Carl Sandburg Prize in Poetry is for up to 10 poems with a total length of no more than ten pages. The Francis Hulme Prize in Playwriting is for one full-length play or two one-act plays.

### Historic Asheville tour

UNCA's North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement will continue its series of behind-the-scenes tours with a tour of historic Asheville on Saturday, March 22 and Saturday, May 3. Harry Weiss, Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County executive director, will lead the day-long program.

The "conference on wheels" will start with a visit to All Soul's Cathedral in Biltmore and will be followed by a walking tour of Biltmore Village. Participants will then depart for a bus tour of the Kenilworth and Chestnut Hill neighborhoods, a walking tour of the Manor cottages, Kimberly Lands and other Asheville sights.

Biltmore Village Historic Mu-

### Students volunteer over spring break

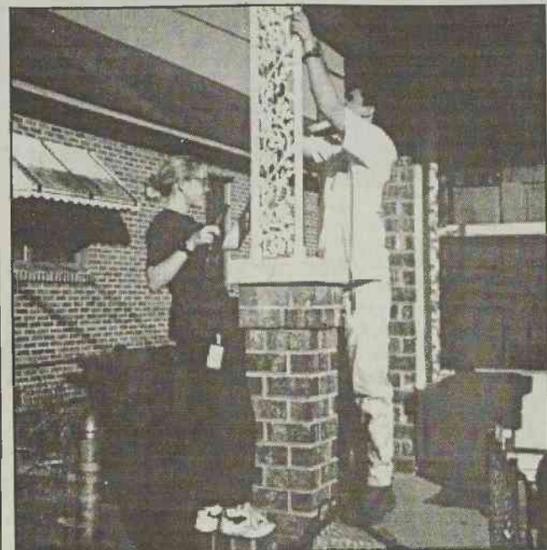


PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA MILLER

Freshmen Wendy Caudill and Landon Holland work to scrape and repaint peeling ironwork while volunteering with Charleston Outreach. See story on page 5.

## Campus officials revoke funds for rave

By Catharine Sutherland  
Staff Writer

Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) fraternity members felt a door slammed in their faces last month when university officials revoked \$1,000 in funds three days prior to a scheduled off-campus rave event. Concerns about university liability led to the last-minute denial of funds, said Nina East, director of student development.

The denial followed what fraternity members considered an official approval of university funding for the event by the vice chancellor for student affairs, Eric Iovacchini, in a lunch meeting on Feb. 11.

"Yav said, 'Sounds great. I say go for it,' and shook on it," said Jay Johnson, a sophomore management major and secretary of KDR. "That was a verbal agreement with five witnesses that would stand up in any court of law."

The debate over whether or not to allocate the money focused on the name of the fraternity event,

called a "rave," as well as its off-campus location at Club Metropolis in downtown Asheville. Both factors posed possible liabilities for the university, said East.

"KDR was never allocated money for a rave," said East, also a member of the campus commission. "They were allocated money for an event to occur within university guidelines and be approved by the university. I could not have been more up front with KDR that they couldn't count on money for this event."

East said she did not realize the potential problems associated with the rave when the fraternity presented its funding request to the campus commission in a hearing on Feb. 3. The commission, a board of students and faculty members that hears funding requests from student organizations and decides how to allocate student money among the applicants, responded favorably to the idea of a rave and agreed to allocate the funds on Feb. 10, said Johnson.

"I had no idea a 'rave' was associ-

## Coach files, drops lawsuit

By Jennifer Thurston  
Managing Editor

The mystery about suspended UNCA head women's basketball coach Ray Ingram has deepened.

On Feb. 26, Ingram's attorney filed a civil lawsuit against UNCA seeking a temporary restraining order to allow him to finish coaching the basketball season, according to court records.

Ingram was suspended with pay from UNCA on Feb. 17 for undisclosed "personnel matters" and the women's basketball team played their final tournament game on Feb. 27, a day after the suit was filed. The suit was dropped on March 14.

Where does the mystery play in? When contacted for this story, Ingram claimed that he knew nothing about the lawsuit. Chancellor Patsy Reed, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Tom Cochran, and Director of Athletics Tom Hunnicutt were named as co-defendants in the lawsuit.

Both Cochran and Hunnicutt said they had no knowledge of the matter and neither had been subpoenaed. UNCA spokeswoman Merianne Epstein also knew nothing of the lawsuit.

Ingram's attorney, Tony E. Rollman, did not return phone calls for this story.

In the lawsuit, Ingram alleged that he had "suffered discriminatory conduct directed towards him and the women's basketball program" and that he was "paid substantially less than the Head Coach of the men's basketball program."

Ingram's salary this year is \$33,043 while Eddie Biedenbach, the men's basketball coach, is paid \$54,900, according to UNCA records.

The lawsuit also stated that Ingram was one of "approximately five" black head women's coaches out of 4,000 women's coaches in the nation and that his suspension from UNCA would draw national media attention.

Cochran denied that racism was

a factor in Ingram's suspension.

The lawsuit also stated that Ingram's professional reputation would be damaged and his opportunities to obtain employment would be diminished if the suspension were upheld. Ingram also alleged that UNCA committed a breach of contract by refusing to allow him to coach and that the suspension was instated "without just cause."

The lawsuit also stated that Ingram was "informed, believes, and therefore alleges that the Defendants, and each of them, will continue to prevent (Ingram) from coaching at the institution for the remainder of the term of the contract." Ingram's contract extends through the 1997-98 school year.

Ingram, after denying knowledge of the lawsuit, declined to comment further about the case or his suspension.

But the mysterious lawsuit remains as a footnote to his story, preserved permanently on microfilm as case number 97-CVD-778.

ated with drugs," said East, stating that the fraternity had defined this type of event as a "dance marathon." When she discussed the name of the event with colleagues in a student development staff meeting on Feb. 18, however, East found unanimous opposition to campus sponsorship of such an event.

"I consulted with my colleagues, which is my obligation, and that's when I found out what a rave really is," East said, referring to some people's interpretation of a rave as a "drug-fest."

"The 100 percent belief of that group was that the university can't associate itself with something advocating substance abuse," said East.

East also consulted the university attorney, Betsy Bunting, from the UNC General Administration in Chapel Hill, to examine the risk management aspect involved.

"The attorney called back and said the risk was astronomical. She said the university cannot be associated with an event of this sort, and that we shouldn't do parties off-campus sponsored by student organizations. That

was her recommendation," said East.

East attributed the high-risk factor to the fact that it would be easy



Ian Jones

for someone to show the university knew or should have known about the danger of what's being called a "rave" and what's construed by the name "rave."

However, KDR members maintained that they planned the rave as an alcohol-free, all-night dance party that would be strictly monitored and would fall within Fraternity Insurance Purchasing Group guidelines or those established by the fraternity's insurance company.

"We agreed to shut down the bar and check IDs at the door, and we would only let in UNCA students. We had a waiver for

people to sign at the door and six-man crews monitoring the floor every hour," said Ian Jones, president of KDR.

The fraternity's goal in holding a rave was to attract "a whole new group of people at a fraternity party," Jones said.

"We figured we could get a bigger crowd and a different crowd if we appealed to the MTV image and the cyber-lingo of today," Johnson said, insisting that drugs were not a factor in the decision to call the party a "rave."

Despite their desire to host a rave, KDR officers said they "were not married to the name" and were willing to change it to win campus support of the event. A large sheet advertising the upcoming party went from "Rave" to "It's Gravy" overnight, a measure Iovacchini considered ineffective.

"The University is not comfortable with an event that could be construed as advocating substance

See RAVE on page 9

## Math professor arrested Pleads not guilty to felony charge

By Jennifer Thurston  
Managing Editor

Associate Professor of Mathematics Steve Patch was arrested on campus on Friday, March 7 following an indictment from the Buncombe County grand jury that charged him with felony manufacture of marijuana.



Steve Patch

Patch was arraigned on Monday, March 17 and pleaded not guilty to the charges. The trial date has been set for March 31, according to court records.

UNCA's drug policy states that Patch could be suspended if the university considers his presence a "clear and immediate danger." If convicted on the charges, Patch would be suspended for at least one semester

and could face termination of his employment.

"I see no evidence that Steve Patch is a danger to the community," said Jim Pitts, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "It would be premature to take action against someone when a legal decision hasn't been made." The policy is clear regarding criminal convictions, Pitts said. "He is a much esteemed professor, very valuable to the students," Pitts said. "I know him professionally and there is a lot to respect. His colleagues think very highly of him."

"The administration has been very fair," said Patch. "They've said they don't consider me a risk to the students and will wait until the legal proceedings work themselves out." Patch declined to comment further about the charges against him.

Patch was arrested as part of a sting operation by the Metropolitan Enforcement Group. Ten other suspects were arrested the same day for marijuana and cocaine charges, according to the *Asheville Citizen-Times*. Patch was charged with

growing marijuana plants on his Barnardsville property last summer but was not indicted by the grand jury until March 3.

Local media organizations were invited to accompany the police on campus to document Patch's arrest.

"It was one of the worst covered stories on TV I've ever seen," said Bill Sabo, associate professor of political science. Sabo called the coverage "perfectly made for TV," and a tactic to scare people. At the same time, Sabo pointed out, a man charged with selling crack cocaine got the briefest mention while Patch's arrest was the lead story.

"Based on what I know about Steve (Patch), I find it difficult to accept the public information that's being floated about this," Sabo said. "Steve is an unimpeachable character. I trust him implicitly. I have tremendous respect for him as a teacher and my advisees have constant praise for him. He is trustworthy and committed to the students and this university."

Lothar Dohse, chairman and asso-

See PATCH on page 12

## Officials increase faculty summer pay

By Chansé Simpson  
Staff Writer

By offering additional upper-level courses and increasing teachers' salaries, UNCA administrators have redesigned summer school this year in an effort to lure more faculty and students back to campus between spring and fall semesters.

Unlike past years, summer school in 1997 will feature a three-week mini-term from May 19 to June 6, which will include 300-level classes in several departments.

Although this idea has worked effectively at other schools, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services Caroline Miller said the ultimate decision of whether or not it will become a permanent part of the curriculum remains to be decided.

"We're hoping that students will find the mini-term attractive," Miller said. "If it doesn't work, I mean if our students don't enroll, then they're telling us something." "May Term" classes, as they are called in the summer schedule, will meet Monday through Fri-

day for two-and-a-half hours each day. Because so much time will be involved in out-of-class work, Miller said, individual students will only be allowed to register for one May Term class per year.

Although these three-week sessions will benefit students who need to complete a single class in a short amount of time, the North Carolina legislature sees broader financial implications in having state institutions offer more courses in the



Caroline Miller

summer months. Miller explained that the UNC General Administration, the administrative body that oversees the 16-unit university system, funded proposals last

summer at select schools to examine ways of improving the use of existing campus facilities in the summer. North Carolina legislators are

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