

The Banner

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NEWS BRIEFS

Job Fair

The Western North Carolina Career Consortium will bring together some 1,500 college students and more than 60 prospective employers at an April 16 Job Fair at the Asheville Civic Center.

The event will provide the opportunity for students to distribute their resumes, interview with employers from across the state, and explore potential careers. Participating firms include major financial institutions, school systems, hospitals, industries, government agencies, non-profit or government agencies, non-profit organizations, and retailers. The Job Fair will be open to the general public from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For information, call Philip Weast at the UNCA Career Center at 251-6515 or e-mail weast@unca.edu

Campus greenfest

Students, faculty, and staff will have a chance to help beautify the UNCA campus on Wednesday, April 16. The UNCA Greenfest will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and sign-ups will take place on the quad April 14 and 15. Projects for the greenfest include cleaning up around Mills Hall and putting in new plants around the gym. Pizza, drinks, and t-shirts will be offered to the volunteers. The greenfest is sponsored by SGA and the Physical Plant. For more information, call 251-6587.

Two art exhibits open

The annual UNCA juried student art exhibition will be on view April 11 through April 22 at the University Gallery in Owen Hall. Juror for the exhibit is Ralph Gilbert, an associate professor of art at Georgia State University, who recently completed a commissioned mural for Atlanta's Centennial Park. The exhibit will open with a reception at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11.

Opening the same evening is a show of raku pieces by UNCA student Jacqueline M. Hall. The exhibit will be on view April 11 through April 22 in Owen Hall's Second Floor Gallery.

Corrections

In the April 3 edition of *The Banner*, an article on the North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement failed to define clearly the organization's purpose. The Center is an umbrella organization that sponsors many programs for senior citizens, including The College for Seniors. The College for Seniors is funded entirely from fees paid by the College's students and does not receive state funds, although the Center for Creative Retirement does receive state funding for administrative purposes. Additionally, a course taught by Dr. Ronald Manheimer, "The Journey of Life" was discussed in the article, but is not a College for Seniors course. It is a course for UNCA students in which people of all ages are enrolled. The story also reported that 600 students were enrolled in the College for Seniors. In fact, 594 students were enrolled in the fall session and 500 were enrolled in the spring session.

Also in the April 3 edition, *The Banner* reported the details of a public safety report concerning a dispute between Dazhenna Thomas, the estranged wife of UNCA staff member Anthony Thomas, and a third staff member. *The Banner* failed to distinguish between Anthony Thomas and Dazhenna Thomas in reporting that Dazhenna Thomas was arrested for allegedly hitting the third staff member with her fist.

New club seeks members



PHOTO BY DEL DeLORM

Sophomore Curtis Rickman parries a thrust from sophomore Brian Hunter during the break in the weather Friday. They are both members of the fencing club, a new organization that is currently looking for new members.

Spring festival renamed

By Catharine Sutherland
Staff Writer

Underdog Productions has renamed UNCA's annual spring festival "UNCAMANIA" this year, putting an end to the six-year-old "UNCAMONT" tradition.

The previous festival originated in 1973 at Camp Rockmont in Black Mountain and included alcohol in the celebration.

"After 23 years of 'MONT,' this is the first year of 'MANIA,'" said Jennifer Dinsmore, president of Underdog Productions (UP), the student activities group sponsoring UNCAMANIA on April 17-19.

The festival held the name of Rockmont for 18 years before it moved on campus in 1991, after the drinking age changed and the camp came under new management, said Hoyt Phillips, UP vice president. The name of the spring fling then became UNCAMONT, said Dinsmore.

Along with a new name came a new flavor for the spring festival, according to Robert Straubb, an alumnus who remembers Rockmont. The original event also

involved volleyball, bands, and recreation on the lake, he said, while the new UNCAMONT took on more of a carnival atmosphere with booths and games.

Since the sale of alcohol is illegal on campus, Dinsmore said, UP no longer allows alcohol at the main event of the spring festival, a carnival held from 2 - 6:30 p.m. on the main quad of campus.

The banning of alcohol at the event has been accompanied by the introduction of more child-friendly activities such as face-painting, the giant slide, and bouncy boxing.

"We're trying to cater more toward kids for students and faculty with families," said Dinsmore. "The average age of UNCA students is 27 years old," she said.

Despite this fact, some students feel that the spring festival should remain an adult event, and possibly even return to its off-campus roots.

"I think we should focus on throwing ourselves a party, not the kids," said sophomore Mamie Smith. "I saw more kids there last year than students," she said.

Junior biology major Berni Kaminski felt holding the festival off-campus would provide more of

an escape for students. "I think it should be off-campus because there's already so much stuff on campus. You're on campus so much you just want to get off," she said.

However, students and faculty with children appreciate Dinsmore's family-friendly point of view.

"I would prefer to have something I could take my whole family to," said Peter Wilbur, a literature major with a four-year-old daughter. "It seems like there are plenty of events that are just for students and it would be nice to have something for families," he said.

Peg Downes, a literature professor with four children between the ages of six and 13, also enjoys the carnival nature of the festival.

"If it were just for college students, that would be understandable, but it's very nice to have the festivities that the young kids can get in on," said Downes. "It's a real pleasure for my family. In fact, I've even taken kids from the community up there, too."

The majority of students interviewed expressed satisfaction with

See MANIA on page 8

Two hundred attend 'Take Back the Night'

By Shelley Eller
Staff Writer

On April 3 Women Act in Liberation (WAIL) and the Baha'i Association sponsored "Take Back the Night" at UNCA. Over 200 people attended the event to show support for the empowerment of women to overcome abuse, said one member who attended the event.

"It was pretty amazing," said Christina Murrey, a sophomore majoring in sociology and Spanish. "There was a great turnout. There was a lot of energy—people laughing and crying."

Speakers included Chancellor Patsy Reed; Dolly Jenkins-Mullen; lecturer in political science at UNCA; Keith Bramlett, lecturer in sociology at UNCA; local poet Mendy Knott; and local singers/songwriters Mary Davis and Lynn Rosser.

"At the event I addressed the need

for a broadening of cultural understanding about women's issues," said Mullen. "I stressed the need for men to have an ownership in issues facing women."

"Dolly Mullen's speech was really important," said Megan Murphy, a sophomore whose major is unde-



clared. "A lot of times in feminist organizations, minority women aren't acknowledged. A lot of feminists come from upper and middle

class societies. Mullen's speech acknowledged the need to address women from all facets of life."

Chancellor Reed gave a speech on how the roles of women had changed during her lifetime.

"The Chancellor talked about the advancement of women and how she was happy that a woman was able to be a chancellor of a university," said Eric Horton, a junior literature education major.

There was a considerable male turnout at the event. Sociologist Keith Bramlett spoke about the responsibilities of men to help promote the safety of women. He also spoke about the victimization of women in the United States.

"The Surgeon General reports that battering is the single major cause of injury to American women with over one million women each year seeking medical assistance," said Bramlett during the speech. "Our ideas about masculinity are entirely social, political, and ethical constructions. Masculinity has personal

meaning only because certain acts and choices create it—with devastating consequences for human society."

"Keith Bramlett's speech was very insightful," said Horton. "He redefined masculinity in his speech and voiced his thoughts on how it's okay for a male to be a feminist."

During the event the group had a candlelight walk around the campus in honor of women who have been victims of violence. The group then came back to have an open microphone available where people could share poetry, music, and their personal stories about victimization.

"The candlelit walk and open mic went very well," said Murrey. "It was very powerful. We sang different lyrics to 'I Will Not Be Afraid.' It was really affirming to have that support. People talked about their personal experiences and everyone gathered around the mic in a circle. The open mic lasted for over an hour."

According to Murrey, who is a

member of WAIL, there have been similar events in the past.

"Ideas for marches like this one were first talked about in the 1970s and it has become a national event," said Murrey. "There was a march about three years ago on UNCA's campus, but there was a small turnout."

"Chancellor Reed's speech helped to give the event the recognition it deserved," said Tracey Rizzo, a professor of history and one of the founders of WAIL. "It helped the campus community to see a different side of her. The speeches made the event encouraging and not depressing. All of WAIL's hard work paid off."

According to Joanne Hickey, the director of women's studies at Western Carolina University, there are similar activities on campus to commemorate "Women's History Month."

"In honor of 'Women's History' See NIGHT on page 8

UNCA drama students place second in national competition

By Stephanie Hunter
Staff Writer

A team of 11 UNCA drama students returned to Asheville on Sunday after finishing second among 17 colleges and universities in the national "Tech Olympics," held March 22 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The annual competition is part of the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology's Conference and Stage Expo.

"I think they did an outstanding job considering they really didn't practice. I guess that is a compliment to the department—that they can finish second without practicing," said Rob Bowen, assistant professor in drama who teaches design and technical production.

The UNCA team took first place last year and has finished in second place in three of the four previous years.

"It's a traveling trophy. We had to

give that back. It goes to our rival, Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio which beat us years ago. We beat them, and they took second place last year," said Bowen. "They took it back this year."

Despite the fact that the award is a traveling trophy, the winners also receive a permanent plaque as recognition, said Bowen.

In individual awards, Fred Young finished first as overall best technician, Ariel Ashe finished third, and Bodhi Craig finished 10th in the same event. All three are from Asheville. UNCA has received the best technician award five out of the last six years.

"I was sad because we didn't win overall, but it was still a lot of fun," said Young, a junior majoring in drama with an emphasis in technical theater.

"I had to compete in every event. Not everybody is required to compete in every event, but to be eligible to compete for best technician you have to compete in all the

events," said Young. More than 200 students competed in this year's Tech Olympics.

The drama students studying technical theater had to compete in six events: knot tying, thimble and crosby, lighting a geometric shape, strike and set-up of props, and quick costume change.

To win best overall technician, Young had to receive the lowest combined time from all of these six events.

"It's a way to attach wire or steel cable to itself using cable clips and a wire-rope thimble. It's important for hanging scenery and it's especially important in flying people in harnesses like in 'Peter Pan,'" said Bowen, describing what exactly thimble and crosby is.

In the knot tying competition, the students had to tie three specific types of knots, and in the strike and set-up of props event, the students competed for the quickest time for

See DRAMA on page 8

Mock trial held at courthouse



PHOTO BY BONNER BUTLER

The Constitutional Rights Foundation wrote fictitious cases for the North Carolina State judicial system to use for educational purposes. The 1996-97 official case of the State vs. Mitchell, dealing with a hit-and-run incident, was held at the Buncombe County Courthouse Wednesday, April 2. Above, "Officer Sindell" discusses a fact with the presiding "judge" in the mock trial.