

The Banner

Resident students oppose mandatory voice mail

By Catharine Sutherland
News Editor

A newly-installed, \$94,000 voice mail system will begin operating in all offices on campus next week. Despite the fact that over half of the resident student population opposed voice mail for students in a Student Government Association

(SGA) senator's survey last fall, administrators and university officials support the future implementation of voice mail in student life.

The main opposition to voice mail lies in the concern that the service will be mandatory for all students, said SGA Senator Alphonso Donaldson.

"All we want is a choice. It's not the cost. It's the notion that whoever's in charge of voice mail

can impose it on the entire student body whether (the students) want it or not," Donaldson said.

However, Bookstore Manager Mike Small, who oversees the phone and voice mail systems, feels that incorporating students in the voice mail network would be beneficial to students, and the campus as a whole.

"We bought a (voice mail) system large enough to include students,

and, to me, it would be a waste of the software and all this computing potential not to include students," said Small.

"The university is not just faculty and staff. That's leaving out the most important element, and that is the students."

While Small claimed the question of whether student voice mail will be mandatory remains "undecided," he urged students to make

their feelings about the issue known now.

The university purchased a system which includes 3,000 voice mail mailboxes, only 600 of which will be used by the university's faculty and staff. The university also published guidelines for the use of voice mail that state "Each student, faculty, and staff member at UNCA will have a voice mail mailbox."

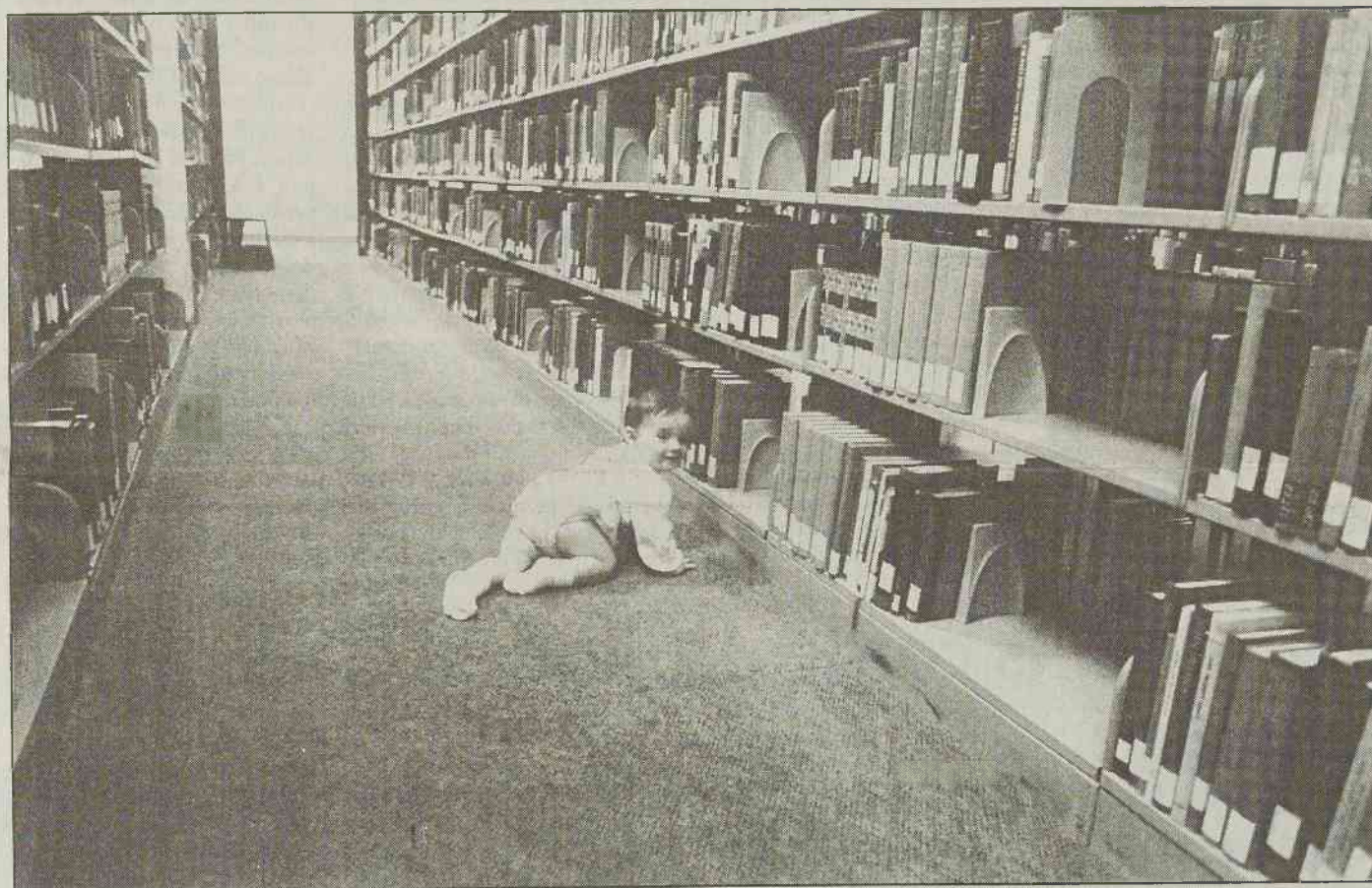
Donaldson surveyed resident stu-

dents about voice mail following the results of a survey conducted by Small last fall, in which 32 percent of resident students (or 302 out of 946) responded, with 83 percent in favor of voice mail. Out of 2,146 commuter students, 161 returned surveys, showing 94 percent in favor of voice mail.

"Students didn't pay a lot of at-

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Senator pushes child care Students, faculty claim need for service



PHOTOS BY SARA HARNDEN

Morgane St. Claire Marshall, daughter of UNCA students David Marshall and Bethany Beasley, is shuttled back and forth between parents during the day as they divide their time between classes and part-time jobs.

By Veronika Gunter
Staff Writer

Many people on campus agree that convenient and affordable child care on or near campus would benefit students, faculty, and staff who work and attend classes at UNCA, but supporters of university-affiliated child care have yet to determine how or if it will happen.

"This is my crusade. I won't give up," said SGA Commuter Senator David Marshall, a senior history, philosophy, and political science major.

Marshall proposed the formation of a committee to study the feasibility of university child care at Wednesday's regular SGA meeting, and asked the body to sus-

pend rules mandating a one-week wait before voting on the measure to speed action, as allowed by SGA's parliamentary rules system.

Marshall and several other students met with Chancellor Patsy Reed on Sept. 25 to discuss the topic.

"There are some great ideas floating around. The committee will look at the ideas and move towards concrete goals," Marshall said. "People want to help, which is good, because the people who need this the most don't have the time to do it."

UNCA's Office of Institutional Research does not track the number of students who are parents, but two-thirds of UNCA students live off-campus and the median student age is 25.

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Chancellor's salary boost to close gap

By Amanda Thorn
Staff Writer

UNCA's chancellor received an almost 6 percent salary increase paid from state allocations for the 1997-98 academic year, nearly 2 percent more than other state employees. The increase was part of an effort to decrease wide disparities among the salaries of chancellors in the University of North Carolina System, said a UNC official.

"In the last years, the individual campuses have had the authority to supplement their chancellors' salaries from private funds. This created wide disparities in the salaries of chancellors," said Joni Worthington, assistant vice-president for communications for the UNC System.

There has been a conscious effort to phase out these private funds, said Worthington.

"We are trying to gradually bring unsupplemented salaries to comparable levels of supplemented salaries. It is also an effort to phase out unsupplemented salaries," said Worthington.

Chancellor Patsy Reed, who earns a salary of \$127,605, is not the lowest paid chancellor in the UNC system. Chancellor Mickey Burnim at Elizabeth City State University receives \$125,770, according to Worthington.

"While my salary remains one of the lowest for chancellors in the state, I consider it to be adequate. My prime motivation for serving as chancellor isn't monetary," Reed said.

The North Carolina General Assembly provided 4 percent of the salary base for raises for 1997-98, said Reed.

"The Board of Governors increased all chancellors' salaries this year, following an extensive study by outside consultants. The Board of Governors approved guidelines that defined eligibility for state employees, and provided the basis for our distribution of these funds," Reed said.

The Board of Governors is the governing body for the university system, and decides UNC policy. The General Administration is the central executive unit that administers policy for the 16 universities under the direction of the president of the system.

"The Board of Governors receives guidance from the outside consultants on appropriate salaries for chancellors. They use national comparisons of other chancellors' salaries, and then make recommendations of what each chancellor should receive," said Worthington. "All chancellors received a salary increase, but it was not an across-the-board increase," Worthington said.

"The overall goal was to provide salaries that are competitive

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Chancellor Patsy Reed

Donation brings four-year engineering program to UNCA

By Mandisa Templeton
Staff Writer

UNCA will soon offer a "unique" engineering program made possible by a \$125,000 donation from the Square D Company, a division of Schneider of North America. The money will go toward the development of a teleconference center that will enable UNCA to offer a four-

year engineering degree through North Carolina State University in the future.

"We are very proud to take a leadership role in helping establish this program in the Asheville area," said Mike Adams, the manager of the Asheville division of the Square D Company, a company that makes on-off switches and buttons.

"It will pay dividends for our company, as well as for the community, since people will have the opportu-

nity to pursue a four-year engineering degree locally."

Currently, most UNCA students pursuing an engineering degree participate in the 2+2 Program, which involves two years attendance at UNCA, followed by two years at NCSU.

The new program will be geared toward UNCA's largest population, non-traditional students.

Since most of these students work full time and attend school part

time, the new four-year program would take more than four years to earn, said Cheryl Alderman, assistant director of the engineering program.

According to Alderman, the new engineering degree will be a 'general' degree covering several different kinds of engineering, but specializing in mechatronics. Mechatronics, a combination of mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering, is a concentra-

tion rarely offered in the United States, and will make the engineering program at UNCA unique, Alderman said.

The first two years of the program will be taught by UNCA professors who currently teach in the 2+2 Program.

The last two years will be taught by professors at NCSU through the use of the new teleconference center, which will be located in Room 011 in Ramsey Library. Currently,

the space is furnished, but unequipped.

Students will be able to get help with their studies, even though their professors will be in Raleigh.

"First, there would be some type of a local monitor who would be their first resource," said Alderman. "Also, the new students are going to have to work together in study groups. That will be one of the best

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