

The Banner

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Students oppose \$2 million athletics budget in survey

By Nancy Hayes
Staff Writer

While a student poll reveals that 43 percent of the UNCA student body oppose the \$2 million budget funding Division I athletics, Chancellor Patsy Reed has made the decision not to study the athletics program now.

"It is not an inherent commitment to Division I as such. It is giving athletics the opportunity to build outside support. Having another study would hurt that outside support," said Reed.

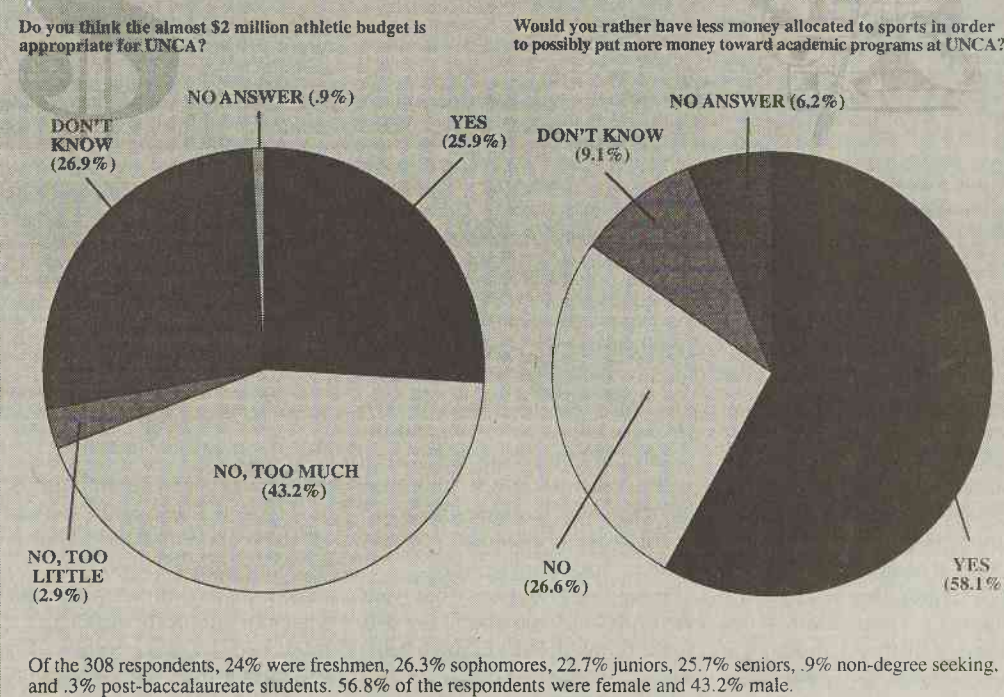
Forty-eight percent of student fees, the highest in the UNC System, are allocated to athletics. Six percent of the UNCA student body participate in university athletics, according to the Office of Institutional Research.

UNCA athletes compete in the Division I-AAA category of the National College Athletic Association (NCAA). This is the same division in which UNC-Chapel Hill competes. The NCAA requirements for a school to compete on this level include scholarships in 14 sports, which cost UNCA approximately \$700,000 for the current school year.

"It's an obvious fact that if you are Division I, you attract better players. It's great for the university to have athletes who are the best at what they do, as well as

HOW DO UNCA STUDENTS FEEL ABOUT ATHLETICS?

308 UNCA students were recently polled at random to find out how they felt about the current athletics budget and Division I status for the university. Here's how they responded:



GRAPHIC BY MICHAEL TAYLOR

being good students. The same is true for the music department or the physics department," said Eddie Biedenbach, men's head basketball coach.

"No, I would not have come to UNCA if it wasn't Division I," said Josh Pittman, senior sociology major and a member of the men's basketball team. "I wanted to suc-

ceed on the highest level, and Division I leads to a greater opportunity to play basketball professionally."

Schools like Mars Hill, Lenoir-Rhyne, and Presbyterian colleges compete at the Division II level which requires a smaller scholarship commitment. Division III, a non-scholarship category, consists primarily of small, private schools

such as Guilford College in Greensboro and Washington and Lee in Lexington, according to Hunnicutt.

"UNCA is a small, liberal arts institution and so should not support a huge athletic goal by pretending to be Division I ma-

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Alcohol wall provides place to share stories

By Veronika Gunter
Staff Writer

UNCA peer education students erected an "Alcohol Wall" on the quad this week to call campus attention to National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, Nov. 3-8. Alcohol abuse is a societal problem evident on UNCA's campus, according to staff and students.

The wall solicits anonymous comments relating the dangers of alcohol abuse, and will serve as a memorial for victims of the negative effects of alcohol abuse, according to Vicki Brunnick, substance abuse counselor, who teaches the peer education class.

"I found my brother passed out at a party," reads one message. "He had alcohol poisoning" and "was sick for three days."

"People like you killed my mom," reads another.

Such negative responses are joined by messages urging students to enjoy alcohol by drinking "responsibly."

Co-sponsored by the peer educators and Underdog Productions, the wall is one of the ways the peer education class students are having experiential learning on high risk programs such as alcohol awareness.

If students choose to drink, they should drink responsibly, without

endangering themselves or others, or breaking laws, Brunnick said.

Binge drinking is the most common type of alcohol abuse, and the greatest problem on college campuses, according to numerous studies, including a 1995 Harvard School of Public Health survey of 17,600 students at 140 colleges and universities of varying sizes across America.

Binge drinking is defined as five drinks in a row for men, often in as short a time as an hour, but, technically, for an evening or event, and four drinks in a row for women in the same time period.

The study estimates binge drinking is the most serious problem on college campuses, with 44% of over-all students engaged in binge drinking during the two weeks prior to the study.

"On average, people drink 10 to 20 drinks in a binge," Brunnick said. This is because once a person drinks a certain amount, they often lose a sense of responsibility regarding how much they are drinking.

A drink is defined as 12 ounces of beer, 12 ounces of wine cooler, four ounces of wine, or one and a half ounces of liquor.

Peer education student Sarah Braswell said the wall is an interesting way of getting information to students.

"It's not obtrusive. It is a subtle

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Humanities faculty to update curriculum

Students propose improvements

By Amanda Thorn
Staff Writer

Humanities faculty have addressed a need for change in the university's core curriculum that may result in new textbooks, expanded course content, and restructuring of the courses.

Many students have also voiced concerns about humanities courses, offering input on what changes should be made.

"I think students should be offered a choice within the program. It gets to a point that humanities is so generalized that you never get into the details," said Jonathan Freeze, junior classics major.

An increased focus on details will occur with a change of textbooks and reading of primary sources, said Peg Downes, humanities chair.

"It won't just be a Jeopardy kind of knowledge. We want to get people to look at the primary source readings," said Downes.

"One option to improve the humanities courses would be to offer students an option at some point in the series to focus on African history and literature, Asian history and literature, or just focus on certain parts of Western civilization," Freeze said.

The humanities department is also taking the world's increasingly global climate into consideration in the course renovations.

"We are very much tied to the international community, and we are looking at ways in which the humanities is tied into the international community," Downes said.

The speed with which the courses discuss world history also needs attention, according to several students.

"I would change how we cover such a broad area of history so fast. We don't

concentrate enough on important issues," said Alison Winzeler, sophomore literature major.

Other students echo this concern.

"I would like to focus on individual issues. It is interesting when you go in depth about the Greeks, the Romans, and the Indians, but when you are flying through the material so fast it is hard to catch anything," said Brad Bucklad, sophomore literature major.

"I wish that humanities classes would not cover so much material in a single class period.

"I wish that we would go more in depth into a time period," said Tiffany Drummond, junior environmental studies major.

The humanities faculty members have decided they would like to create their own

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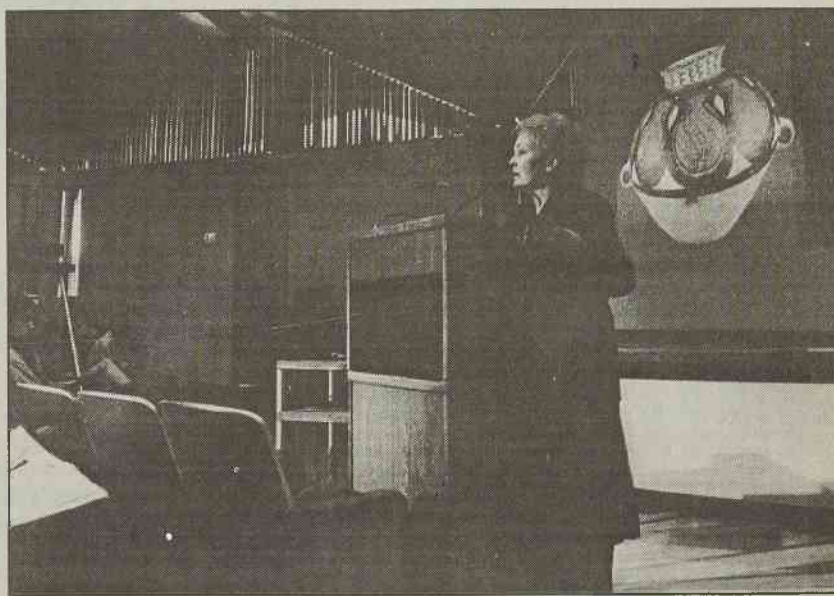


PHOTO BY ROB HAMMONDS

Humanities professor Dorothy Dvosrky-Rohner lectures about Eastern art and architecture in the humanities lecture hall Monday. Many students advocate a more global focus in the humanities curriculum.

Zageir construction disrupts class, tests

By Mandisa Templeton
Staff Writer

Students and faculty in Zageir Hall have found it difficult to concentrate in class recently because of construction on the building's roof. "One day, the noise was so disruptive that I cut short one class," said Gene Rainey, political science pro-

fessor. "I would estimate that we lost 30 minutes of class time."

"It's pretty annoying," said Tracy Beggs, a student in the teacher certification program.

"It gives me a headache every day," said Kari Russell, a math education major.

"It's a pain having to (walk) around it also."

Construction to Zageir Hall's roof was supposed to be completed this

summer, but the school could not find a contractor in time to finish the construction before the Fall semester began.

Ann Weber, a psychology professor, believes the disturbance could have been avoided.

"If the original contract bids had gone out earlier, the work could have been completed over the summer," said Weber.

"But blaming is time-wasting un-

less we learn from this experience and prevent such delays from hurting other people in other buildings in the future."

On the other hand, professors feel the problem probably could not have been avoided.

"Perhaps a summertime job would have been less disruptive, but roofers are very much in demand, and you get them when (they are available)," said Rainey.

Professors complaining about the noise said it has been so loud that it distracts students trying to concentrate.

"The worst part is when there is hammering and banging during a test session," said Weber.

"I'm sure it's difficult for the students to concentrate during a test when there is so much racket overhead."

Weber said she told her students

the class could move if the noise got too loud.

However, no one has asked her to relocate.

Adrian Tatum, a senior political science major, said the construction bothers his class with Dolly Mullen.

Small pieces of plaster from the ceiling fall down during classes be-

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