

# THE BLUE BANNER



## Features

Tool thrills crowd with passionate performance  
 ■ see page 4

## Sports

Women's volleyball upsets Liberty in open land (with) plenty of places for people to set up," said Nathan Best, junior computer science major. "It's not safe at all. I think we're lucky that nothing has happened. With Asheville and Western North Carolina growing the way (they are), it's just a matter of time."

## Opinions

Bush and Dole challenge American identity  
 ■ see page 8

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# Arizona shootings concern UNCA students

**Christina Clayton**  
 News Reporter



Police at the University of Arizona leave the building where a failing student murdered three professors before shooting himself.

A senior nursing student killed three professors from the University of Arizona School of Nursing before killing himself Oct. 28. Robert Flores, 41, sent a 22-page letter to the Arizona Daily Star that arrived the day after he shot the three professors and himself, according to CNN.com.

"I guess what it is about is that it is a reckoning," Flores wrote. "A settling of accounts. The university is filled with too many people who are filled with hubris. They feel untouchable."

Flores also complained about his failed marriage, poor health and poor treatment by the nursing school. College transcripts, military evaluations, recommendations from employers and two birthday cards accompanied the letter, according to CNN.com.

Neighbors said Flores was "studious and passionate about becoming a nurse." While "students and faculty remembered Flores as a respectful and strange," according to the *Arizona Daily Wildcat*. Some UNCA students believe that the likelihood of such a tragedy as the one at the University of Arizona experienced happening here is very small.

"I feel safe here. I used to go to

UNC-Charlotte, and I didn't feel safe there," said Jennifer Rich, a senior political science major. "This is a smaller campus. It's a lot more quiet, and it seems more secluded. The people that are here are here to go to school, as opposed to being in the middle of an urban area where there are different types of (people) moving in and out of campus."

Investigator Sergeant Jerry Adams

feels students at UNCA know the laws concerning weapon possession on campus. "We seem to have a good student body that is knowledgeable of the laws and trying their best to do what they came here for, which is to learn," said Adams. "We try to get the word out by doing a lot of lectures, a lot of talks and stuff on safety and crime prevention."

Adams said public safety tries to educate students on the laws. "We try to let students know what the violations are and how seriously we take them," said Adams. "We have zero tolerance for weapons on campus. Anytime we find a weapon, especially a gun or firearm, whether it is a student or visitor, they're going to get charged. We usually have one or two weapon possession

charges a year. It's usually because they don't know what the law is and don't realize they can't have them here." The University of Arizona reported approximately 3,200 students in the same year. "It's just the area," said Emily Stanley, a senior mathematics ma-

ior. "We're not in a huge metropolis with high crime rates." Others are more skeptical. "We're not that safe. Look at the open land (with) plenty of places for people to set up," said Nathan Best, junior computer science major. "It's not safe at all. I think we're lucky that nothing has happened. With Asheville and Western North Carolina growing the way (they are), it's just a matter of time." Last April, the University of Arizona Police Department received a report saying Flores "seemed very depressed and could possibly harm someone," said Chief Anthony Daykin in the *Arizona Daily Wildcat*.

Incidents like the shootings at the University of Arizona are hard to predict. "I don't think it's the kind of thing we can predict," said Maggie Wesner, director of the UNCA counseling center. "I think if individual people are behaving in a suspicious way, it could be spotted early."

To help prevent violence, students should report anything unusual, according to Wesner. "Depending on what the concern is, a student could come to either us or security," said Wesner. "If they're worried about a student because of a statement they made or made a threat, or overheard someone say they had a gun, they should report it."

## New space in Highsmith to better serve students

## Student assaults roommate

**Jessica Hensley**  
 News Reporter

UNCA continues to explore several alternate uses for the newly available space in the student center, scheduled to open in fall 2004. "When we originally designed the building, we wanted it to resemble a town hall or community gathering center," said Eric Iovachini, vice chancellor of student affairs. "Many college/university student centers (have) post offices."

The plan for Highsmith, and more specifically the post office, has been in design for over 10 years.

Prior to the recent proliferation of e-mail, the planning team thought a post office was a logical idea for supplying students and faculty with information, according to Iovachini.

University officials originally planned to include 5,000 mailboxes for residential and commuter students and faculty.

As plans progressed, many commuter students said they preferred to receive their mail at their homes and that they wouldn't necessarily want to check mail on campus, according to Iovachini.

The number of planned mailboxes was then decreased.

The area set aside for the post office is about 8,000 square feet.

Decreasing the number of estimated mailboxes will leave a large amount of extra space, and the university will save money, as the cost of installing mailboxes is high, according to Iovachini.

"The U.S. postal service is not as excited about these little satellite

"I'm glad they have decided not to dedicate all of the space for the post office. I am a commuter student and would rather receive my mail at my house instead of going through all the hassle of changing my address to receive it at UNCA."

**Daniel Rowland**  
 junior music technology major

post offices as they used to be," said Iovachini. "It is hard to get the license, so we're looking at what would be a contract service, which is pretty common in malls and you see them all over town."

University officials say that the space could be used differently. "We thought, is there a better way to utilize that space if we pull the post office out now with the understanding that we will need to do something that will still allow you to get stamps, mail packages, get the postal services you need in a much smaller space, like the size of an office, but not provide the number of mailboxes it would take for residential students who already have mailboxes in their residential halls?" asked Iovachini.

Director of Student Life Kevan Frazier is currently looking for ideas

See HIGHSMITH Page 12



KINGSLEY FAIRBRIDGE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



KINGSLEY FAIRBRIDGE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Work continues on the new Highsmith Center, scheduled to be completed by fall 2004. The new building will house a smaller post office than the original design entailed.

**Michelle Dean**  
 News Reporter

The Asheville police department arrested UNCA student Darrel Butch Holloway Oct. 27 charging him with simple assault against his roommate Christopher Murphy. UNCA public safety officer Bobby Barcarer was the first to respond to the incident in Founders Hall. "I called the Asheville Police Department just in case [Holloway] tried to resist," said Barcarer. "I was the only person on duty that night so I called for backup just as a precaution."

"When I arrived I found Murphy in the public restroom [of Founders Hall] with a bloody face and he stated that Holloway, his roommate, had punched him," wrote Barcarer in an incident report.

Murphy looked stunned, according to Barcarer.

"I radioed for EMS to check Mr. Murphy and then began to look for Mr. Holloway but could not locate him," wrote Barcarer.

"Murphy explained to me that Holloway was mad because he thought Murphy was always messing with his things in the room. Murphy explained that Holloway had called the room and was mad that Murphy had picked up the phone. Holloway said 'I thought I told you not to mess with my things!'"

See ASSAULT Page 12