

The Blue Banner



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NEWS BRIEFS

by Sarah Schmidt
Staff Reporter

CAMPUS CRIME
Campus police charged a 39-year-old man with one count of providing alcohol to underage people after investigating the sound of an explosion on the Chestnut Ridge property Oct. 30. Five males in the Chestnut Ridge woods said that they caused the explosion by tossing a firecracker into a bonfire, and they also told police that they consumed alcohol and huffed CO₂ canisters. One of the males told campus police that his father provided them with the alcohol. Police later questioned the father, who admitted that he provided his son and the other males with alcohol. The males are 15 and 16 years old.

Campus police charged a 27-year-old Hendersonville man with five misdemeanor counts after pulling him over Oct. 31 for reckless driving and speeding at 80 mph in a 55 mph zone on Broadway Avenue.

Police charged the man with reckless driving, speeding, DUI, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The man agreed to the alcohol-sensor test, which resulted in a 0.16 and 0.14. The legal limit for intoxication in North Carolina is 0.08. Police searched the man's vehicle and found 0.02 ounces of marijuana.

The man said that he was "just having a little fun," according to the police report.

NATIONAL

United States Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist stayed returning to work this week as the underwent radiation and chemotherapy treatment for thyroid cancer, according to Reuters.

"According to my doctors, my plan to return to the office today was too optimistic," said Rehnquist. Justice John Paul Stevens said that Rehnquist will continue to take part in the deciding the cases being argued, based on transcripts of the arguments, according to Reuters.

INTERNATIONAL

China shut down 1,600 of its 1.8 million Internet cafes and ordered them to pay \$12.1 million in fines for allowing minors to access pornography and violent games in the cafes, according to Reuters.

This crackdown on Internet cafes comes as part of a nationwide push for reform against pornography and violence that caused the Chinese government to shut down hundreds of Web sites judged "unlawful," according to Reuters.

"Porn, gambling, violence and similar problems have adversely affected the healthy development of the Internet in China," said Zhang Guojian, deputy director of the Culture Ministry's market department, according to Reuters. Eighteen percent of China's 87 million Internet users are minors, according to Reuters.

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BRIAN DAVIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nicole Caldwell, undeclared freshman, showed her enthusiasm over the Bush's victory during the Nov. 2 election. Many said Kerry's loss will further divide the parties, but others hope the Republican win will unite the country.

Bush wins re-election

by Sean Robinson
Staff Reporter

Mirroring the dichotomous nature of the 2004 presidential election, students on campus Nov. 3 had pointedly different opinions about who should have won the election and what the future holds for America.

Matt Silver, senior psychology major, said he foresees a change in the Bush administration that will try to unify the country and include Democrat concerns in the agenda in the next four years.

"I think that, due to the closeness of the election, the president will take that as a mandate to govern the people accordingly and to take the Democratic side into account," said Silver. "He's going to look at both sides and try to bring the country together."

A Republican-controlled Congress will also aid the Bush administration in passing effective and beneficial legislation, according to Silver.

"I think he's going to get a lot more stuff

done with the Republicans having the Senate and the House of Representatives," said Silver.

Silver said he disagrees with Kerry's stance on gay marriage rights and said he would indeed support a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

"I would definitely not want it to be called marriage," said Silver. "Marriage is a covenant to God between a man and a woman, and that's what it says in the Bible. I believe that totally.

I believe in the separation of church and state, but that's like spitting in God's face."

Jennifer Watson, senior psychology major, said she disagrees and says that Bush infringed on the rights of the American people, and, now reelected, will continue to do so.

"Bush has already taken away so many rights, and I think it's just going to get worse," said Watson.

President Bush should not oppose the rights of any major groups, and opposing those rights goes against the Constitution, according to Watson.

"I think this should be a wake-up call for Democrats. Maybe they need this pressure to get fired up, and maybe next time instead of just being anti-Bush or anti-whomever, maybe they could be pro-issues of importance."

Jennifer Watson
senior psychology major



ANGIE FESPERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Voters braved the rain to cast their votes Nov. 2.

"I think that having a president who is so anti-civil liberties is dangerous, because that's

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Students discuss Korea's future

by Rheannon Yokeley
Staff Reporter

UNCA will host a meeting of the World Affairs Council to discuss "The Future of Korea" in the lower level of The Reuter Center at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8, according to the World Affairs Council Web site.

"The World Affairs Council (WAC) is a national organization," said Linda Cornett, UNCA political science professor and member of the WAC board of directors. "It even has some international affiliates. The council is a civic group devoted to education about international affairs. It is non-partisan."

The discussion will consist of a three-person panel made up of one representative each from the Korean Embassy, Korean Economic Institute and the U.S. State Department or another Washington-based foreign affairs organization.

Speakers will discuss political, economic and security issues in Korea and U.S.-Korean relations, according to the WAC Web site.

"I believe there is a great deal that is under-publicized about positions in North Korea and these speakers will help us understand the realities of what's going on there," said Grace Campbell, UNCA humanities lecturer and member of the WAC board of directors. "The WAC is committed to raising people's awareness in this area about world affairs."

The WAC hosts two speaking series during the year. In the fall, the topic of each discussion varies.

They may choose to stay on a particular topic or touch on several different issue during the series, according to Cornett.

"In the spring, there is a speaker series called the 'Great Decision,'" said Cornett. "The WAC national offices located in Washington D.C.

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ACLU invites students to civil rights discussion

by Matthew Beardsley
Staff Reporter

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is keeping First Amendment issues political on UNCA's campus in the Highsmith University Union Oct. 27.

"We will decide whether or not to approve violation of international law and whether or not to become complicit in war crimes of the United States," said Western North Carolina ACLU member and attorney, Frank Goldsmith.

Goldsmith, one of three panel members at the ACLU forum, attended the event. Attendees filled a small room to standing-room-



MATTHEW BEARDSLEY/STAFF WRITER

Three members of the American Civil Liberties Union formed a panel to discuss First Amendment issues with students.

only to hear presentations of complex legal atrocities.

The ACLU does not technically

affiliate with any political party or candidate, but the meeting focused on attacking the Bush administra-

tion for a list of violations of civil and human rights.

"I think a lot of people have mixed opinions about the ACLU," said Daniel Rowland, undeclared senior. "As I understand it, one reason for this is that the ACLU takes on cases regardless of traditional moral and societal standards, and irrespective of majority public or political opinion. So, by nature, they are a progressive organization."

Personal injury lawyer and ACLU member Bruce Elmor, the first speaker, listed violations of civil liberties and threats to information privacy permitted by the Patriot Act.

The privacy of American citi-

zens is in serious jeopardy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation was granted the right to see any e-mail, track cell phone users with G.P.S. systems and arrest nearly at will by loosely redefining "terrorism," according to Elmore.

"I agree there is a definite need for groups like the ACLU," said Ashley Gray, sophomore sociology and environmental studies major. "I agree with their position against the Patriot Act. I think the ACLU provides valuable resources of lawyers and information that would not be available to students otherwise."

Congress passed the Patriot Act

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