Lifestyle

MySpace.com offers students new ways to social-

by Laura Eshelman Staff Photographer

Some students turn to Web site communities as a modern way of interacting with friends or meeting new people in the area.

"A lot of my friends have MySpace accounts, and I figured I've known for a long time.' I'd better get on the ball and create one," said Jacob Curtis, undeclared sophomore.

MySpace.com is a free Web site that allows students to create individual profile pages with photos, blogs and general information about themselves.

interests and hobbies.

computer lab, and I thought it was something to occupy my time with," said Michael Vinzani, undeclared sophomore. "I got into making my profile and writing about myself. It was pretty interesting."

The user can permit fellow MySpace.com members to access forum discussions. their profiles and leave comments on the main page or blog entries by adding them to a friend's list. them to join.

my roommate had an account," said Jaime Caldwell, junior maning me e-mails about joining it. I finally got tired of them, so I just

Some use the Web site as a way to keep up with friends.

"It's a fun thing to do to connect with friends that you already have, because you might not know it before joining up," said Jordan Luff, 18. "A lot of people are on it. Even now I'm just finding friends

Others use the site to find people to befriend or date. Mazy McCoy, undeclared freshman, said she went on two dates with another UNCA student she met through the Web site.

"We went on one coffee date, one date to a movie and a jazz per-Members may display anything formance on campus," said from their age and location to their McCoy. "(The Web site) is very well-organized, and very easy to "I was bored and sitting in the meet new people. It's easy to search for them in different categories, such as the way someone looks or their interests.'

MySpace.com users may choose to sign up for a wide variety of groups created by other members to post bulletins or remarks in

Luff is the moderator for the UNCA's MySpace.com group.

"I've noticed several of my People create accounts when friends from Charlotte joined a Myspace.com members invite UNC-Charlotte group," said Luff. "I noticed UNCA didn't have one, "I found MySpace.com because so I decided I'd make one. I invited everybody I knew that went to UNCA or were planning on going. agement student. "She kept send- It's reached about 200 members."



Andres Martin, undeclared sophomore, logs on to MySpace.com, an interactive Web site, to check up on friends and events.

UNCA members often post bulletins about upcoming on-campus events and shows, or various discussion topics on the forums, according to Luff.

having a party without having to call everyone you know," said Laura Louise Wilson, junior psychology student.

Some see the Web site as an opportunity for independent artists.

'It's a good way to have a Web site and show what you're produc-'You can post a bulletin about ing, whether it's music or art," said

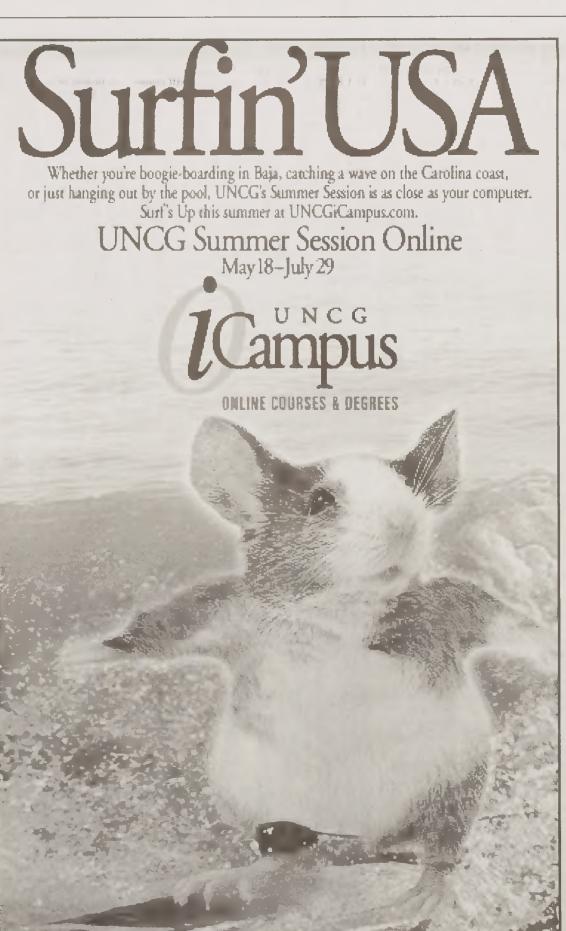
> Other people say they think the Web site is too impersonal.

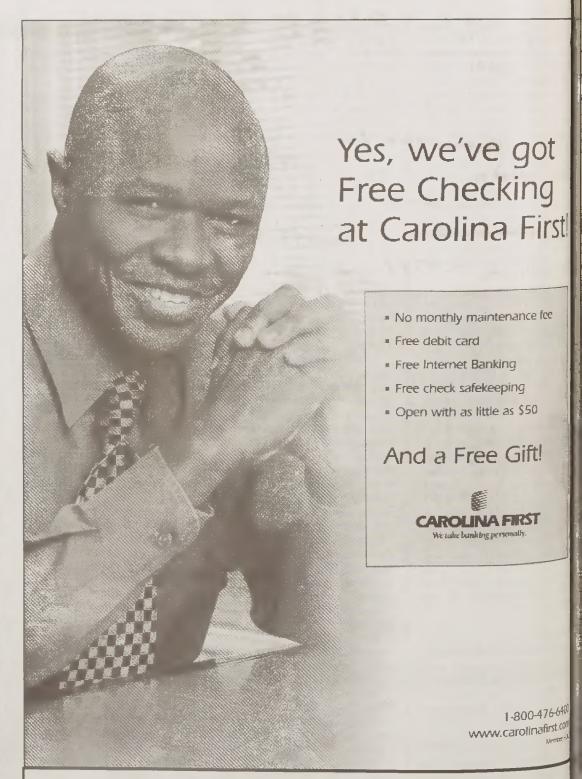
Riana Ackley, sophomore philosophy student, deleted her MySpace.com account.

"I didn't really see a point in just leaving messages for people and having all these fake friends," said Ackley. "I know it can be fun for people, but I think it's really super-

Caldwell said she does not MySpace.com frequently now, expects to use the site more w she studies abroad next semeste

"When I go to Australia, probably use it more to talk to ple back home," she said. " I'd rather just talk to them ont phone or in person."





74 Patton Ave. Asheville, 28801 (828) 253-5505 1871 Hendersonville Rd. Asheville, 28803 (828)274-8099 150 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville, 28787 (828) 645-9393