

Transforming the Gulf



SEE LIFE 10

# The Blue Banner

Player of the Week



SEE SPORTS 7

Volume 44, Issue 11

Serving the University of North Carolina at Asheville since 1982

April 20, 2006

## Facebook raises political issues

By Lisa Gillespie & Jim MacKenzie  
ASSISTANT EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

With the development of new Internet social networking services, like Facebook.com, new issues arise, especially within the last Student Government Association election, dealing with campaigning and constitution bylaws.

"It seems like these rules are created for past elections, when do these rules change for new technologies?" said Mark Gibney, political science professor.

No campaigning of any kind by anyone at a polling site is allowed. People who campaign at a polling site are in violation of election procedure, according to Section Five, No. 10 of the SGA constitution.

"With Internet campaigning, you would have to be looking for it," said Tarik Glenn, former SGA president. "To apply this bylaw the the last election, you would have to have to have two windows up, one for the campaign on Facebook and one up for voting. It's not like the campaign info was a pop-up."

President-elect John Noor said no investigation into dismissing Facebook from student campaigns will be conducted.

"My feeling on Facebook is that it's just like any other medium. It has potential for abuse," Noor said.

Students are allotted 10 days for campaigning, according to the SGA Campaign Rules. A candidate cannot post campaign material around campus or on-line until that time.

Noor said the most likely thing that will happen is that Facebook will be monitored more closely in future elections.

Following recent rumors regarding certain campus candidates and student conduct violations, Campus Police told *The Blue Banner* reporters that these citations are not public record. The officer decides whether to issue a student conduct citation instead of a state citation, according to Melanie Rhodarmer, associate director of housing and residence life.

"This is [a] Campus Police officer's discretion," Rhodarmer said. "Usually, if it is a first time, non-serious violation, and the student is cooperative, they will be issued a student conduct citation. However, if a federal, state or local law has been broken, Campus Police always have the discretion to file a state citation."

The student-conduct citations are confidential for all students, according to Rhodarmer.

"Student Conduct citations are not public record at any time," Rhodarmer said. "Part of the educational component of the conduct process is the opportunity for the student to maintain confidentiality during and after the conduct process."

Facebook has implications dealing with aspects of student life that were never thought of before, according to Pat McClellan, associate vice chancellor of student affairs.

"I hope they (SGA) realize that there are loop holes and other issues that need to be addressed," McClellan said.



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior biology student Emily Sampson collects money for an item she sold at the rummage sale on the quad on Saturday. The proceeds from the sale will be donated for land preservation in Peru. There was also entertainment, speakers and musical acts during EarthFest 2006.

## EarthFest 2006

### UNCA raises money for land preservation

By Jim MacKenzie  
STAFF WRITER

Saving the earth is necessary, but it can be a lot of fun as well. UNCA hosted EarthFest 2006 on the quad Saturday. The event aimed to educate the public about various ecological dilemmas facing the world and raise money for land preservation, with a rummage sale.

"We can have an outstanding quality of life, freedom, economic opportunities and life can be sustained on this planet," said Dee Eggers, assistant professor of environmental studies. "I think it's a question of having the will and the responsibility and the maturity and caring to make it happen."

All of the volunteers worked hard and lost sleep for several days, according to Maggie Ullman, senior environmental science student and chair of the Active Students for a Healthy Environment club, who helped organize the event.

"There's been a lot of support," Ullman said. "There have been a

lot of things bought (at the sale), which is what it's all about. We wanted to preserve some land and have a community event."

All the money raised will be donated for land preservation, according to Liz Wilcox, senior environmental science student and Better Asheville Recycling Coalition member.

"The money we raise will be donated to an international conservation project, which will go to Peru," Wilcox said. "We have a donor, matching us dollar for dollar, who will donate to the Hickory Nut Gorge around Lake Lure."

The club accepted donations of just about anything from the community, according to Wilcox.

Wilcox said the amount of stuff given was overwhelming.

"I think this is great," Wilcox said. "We've made a lot of money. There's a lot of things that can be done with this."

Throughout the day, EarthFest featured entertainment, speakers and various musical acts.

Junior Dave Malutich helped as

" " " "

We can have an outstanding quality of life, freedom, economic opportunities and life can be sustained on this planet.

DEE EGGERS  
assistant professor of environmental studies

an event coordinator.

"The vision for this has been in the works for a year," Malutich said. "It has worked out really well."

Tandy Solomon's non-profit organization, Asheville's Green, helped save one of the largest, undeveloped pieces of land within Asheville's city limits from being developed, according to Solomon.

"It was owned by land developers," Solomon said. "They were going to develop it. We became friendly with them over the course of the last year. They gave us a good deal. They are basically selling it to us for half of what they

could make."

Junior environmental science student Carolyn Fryberger helped Asheville's Green create Geographical Information System maps of the land.

Many different groups operated booths throughout the day. Terri David, of an animal rights group, said that no one is really an environmentalist until they are a vegetarian.

"We believe that the animals are not ours to do as we please with," David said. "Meat production contributes greatly to carbon dioxide emissions."

Deborah Jones said EarthFest was fun, and she learned a few things as well.

"I didn't know that eating meat contributed to global warming," Jones said. "I'm going to at least try to cut down."

Sophomore Matt Machles was one of the many who volunteered to help with EarthFest.

"This makes people aware of things going on in Asheville," Machles said. "You get to help the cause."

## Silt runoff pollutes ponds

By Sarah Fantle  
STAFF WRITER

An increase in the number of students attending UNCA means campus construction will inevitably affect the campus community for some time, however concerns about environmental contamination and student safety become prevalent.

"I noticed silt problems, which were causing the ponds to be bright orange, the color of clay and silt," said James Wood, senior biology and environmental science student. "I talked to the site manager about silt nets and he called me an 'idealistic student,' and told me to get off the property. It is unfortunate that areas on campus the science classes use for research might not be usable much longer."

According to Wood a verbal altercation with a construction worker took place when he came back to the site to take some pictures.

"I talked to some professors about the issue and went back to the area, staying out of the construction site, to take a few pictures," Wood said. "One of the construction workers started yelling obscenities at me, started throwing rocks at me and flipping me the bird. The problem I was trying to reveal was that the crew covered up their old silt net with new construction and decided not to fix it. It was the cheap way out, and they didn't think anyone would notice. Instead everyone had to pay for their neglect."

UNCA carries a very low tolerance for contractors acting inappropriately, according to Baxley.

"After the incident, the construction supervisor was instructed to go back and speak with his employees," Baxley said. "We have kicked off contractors in the past for inappropriate behavior toward students."

It should also be noted that the contractor involved in the confrontation had not been on campus regularly, so it is possible he had not been through the extensive sensitivity training the other workers are required to take regarding rules and regulations on student interactions."

SEE CONSTRUCTION PAGE 2 |

## Professors consider Podcasting lectures

By Paige Reinhold  
STAFF WRITER

UNCA may become more technologically advanced as teachers consider using Podcasts as a teaching aid.

"I think it would be a good idea because people might miss humanities lectures otherwise," said Danielle Burkhardt, junior management student. "They could just listen to it on the computer."

Podcasting is a way of broadcasting mostly audio files on the Internet. Earlier this month, plenary addresses given by speakers at NCUR used Podcast, giving students who were not able to attend an opportunity to listen to them.

Eventually Podcasting could be used to help students catch up on what they have missed in class.

"I have all management classes and I have humanities," Burkhardt

said. "So, for humanities it probably would be useful."

However, for some classes, using Podcasts might not be beneficial, according to Burkhardt.

"I don't know if it would do it for management classes because sometimes there are group activities," Burkhardt said.

Obtaining permission to publish audio files of lectures to the Internet could prove complicated.

"The main thing is to get permission from the speaker ahead of time, to not only record her talk, but to broadcast it to the world via the Web," said Bryan Sinclair, associate university librarian for public services.

Other than acquiring the speaker's permission, getting a lecture Podcast is not that difficult, according to Sinclair.

"Surprisingly, it's a very simple

process," Sinclair said. "There is freeware audio editing software out there that is quite good."

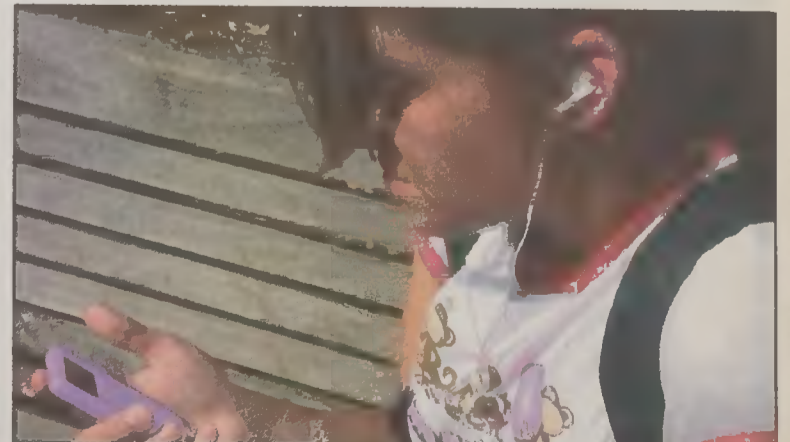
In fact, some might wonder why it has taken so long to garner interest in having lectures Podcast.

"You might be surprised to know that we have had this technology for some time," Sinclair said. "I remember that Chuck Bennett in physics was streaming media over the Internet in 1999."

Some students think that having classes Podcast is a good insurance policy, according to Burkhardt.

"I think it would be convenient if you are going to miss class and it is always better to have a backup," Burkhardt said.

Though some students said they look forward to listening to classes on-line, others said they are



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman Giedre Krulik listens to music on her iPod. Professors are considering Podcasting lectures such as humanities lectures.

convinced it will still take a while before the idea picks up steam.

"I think it will probably take a bit of time at first for people to

even realize that we have it and then get into it," Evans said. "But I think people will want to use it. It's a time saver."