

The BLUE BANNER

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The News in Brief

By Lisa Gillespie
MANAGING EDITOR

DJ dropped for racist remarks

MSNBC cable network canceled Don Imus' radio show, which has aired since 1971, a week after he referred to the Rutgers women's basketball team as, "nappy-headed hos," after their defeat in the NCAA finals.

CBS has yet to announce if it will discontinue the Imus radio show.

MSNBC originally suspended Imus for two weeks from MSNBC and CBS Radio, but they removed him from the cable TV network after a series of protests called for his firing.

Staples, General Motors Corp. and Procter & Gamble Co. have reportedly pulled advertising from the Imus program.

More than 70 stations aired Imus' show, which has a history of making racist, homophobic and sexist comments. Eight out of 10 of the players on Rutgers are black.

NBC called the comments "deplorable," and the Rutgers team decided not to let the comments slide after reading the transcript, according to the New York Times.

The program's executive producer Bernard McGuirk characterized the women's collegiate basketball championship Tuesday night, between Rutgers and the University of Tennessee, as "the Jigaboos versus the Wannabes."

Duke players acquitted of rape charges

North Carolina's attorney general declared three former Duke University lacrosse players acquitted of sexually assaulting a stripper innocently all charges yesterday.

The attorney general Roy A. Cooper rejected the idea of bringing criminal charges against the accuser, who made a series of different statements about what happened on March 13-14, 2006 at a Duke lacrosse team party where they hired her to dance.

Professor, class tackle cold triple murder case from 1966

By Sara Pardys
STAFF WRITER

UNC Asheville psychology students receive the chance to reopen a 41-year-old cold murder case as part of their class.

"This is kind of a strange semester for the class," said Pamela Laughon, associate professor of psychology who decided to approach her practicum in death penalty class a little differently.

The class, which usually focuses on reviewing and appealing death penalty cases, recently took a trip to

Hendersonville, to visit the crime scene of a triple murder, which took place in July 1966.

While disposing of garbage at a trash dump in Hendersonville, power company workers discovered the bodies of Vernon Shipman, 43, and Charles Glass, 36, of Hendersonville and Louise Davis Shumate, 62, of Asheville.

While Shipman and Glass knew each other, it is unclear whether they knew Shumate, according to Sandra Miller, junior psychology student. Although Shipman and

Glass were known to be gay, no one is certain whether or not they were romantically involved.

Due to film and photographic evidence, authorities do know the two frequently threw lavish parties together, and it is possible that Shumate attended these parties, according to Miller.

"We just learned so many new things about the female victim," Laughon said. "We've spent the whole semester thinking she was a certain person, and in two minutes we learned something entirely different."

This is one of the few bits of information the class uncovered this semester.

"The biggest thing we've been able to do is to say, 'It's not this rumor, it's not that rumor,'" said Sarah Clark, senior psychology student.

Laughon, Miller and Clark all said one of the most rewarding aspects of working on this case is not just finding new information, but using that information to dispel rumors. "(Shumate) was not a drug mule, and she

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Birth control prices on the rise

By Neal Brown
STAFF WRITER

Birth control prices will double, and in some case triple, on college campuses nationwide, upsetting many UNC Asheville students and causing them to switch methods or abandon use all together.

"In the federal government's attempt to make up their deficit, one of the angles they took was to amend the Medicaid Rebate Law," said Linda Pyeritz, registered nurse at Student Health Services.

Pharmaceutical companies were able to sell oral hormones to a variety of health care providers way under their cost because they received a reimbursement from Medicaid, who, in turn, received a reimbursement from the federal government. The amendment to the Medicaid Rebate Law allows the federal government to refuse to reimburse Medicaid, causing Medicaid to stop reimbursing pharmaceutical companies for their monetary losses, making the companies hesitant to sell their products cheaper, according to Pyeritz.

"Now they are saying, 'No, we won't sell these medications at a discounted price,'" Pyeritz said.

In the past, the average cost of birth control on UNC Asheville's campus ranged from about \$7 to \$10, according to Pyeritz.

"We were in the \$7 to \$10 range and we are now in the \$12 to \$15 range," Pyeritz said.

With about 43 to 45 percent of women on campus going to health services for birth control, the rising costs are unnecessary and

could cause people to make reckless choices regarding their sexuality, according to Patrick Kalk, senior drama student.

"The rise in price is unreasonable," Kalk said. "People will still have sex and just not use contraception."

A study done in 2002 by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, an agency responsible for advancing sexual and reproductive health, said for women under 30 years of age, the pill is the most preferred choice of contraception.

"The pill" is the general term for any form of oral contraceptive containing hormones to prevent pregnancy, and if used consistently and correctly, only one in 100 women will become pregnant, making it one of the safest and most effective forms of hormonal birth control available, according to Planned Parenthood.

The rising cost of birth control is not just an issue for women, according to Andy Ritchie, junior political science student.

"This equally affects men and women in different ways, however women will obviously be the most directly impacted," Ritchie said.

While the rise in price is not unreasonable for some, it might be for others, according to Kim Quick, junior environmental studies student who has taken birth control for about seven years.

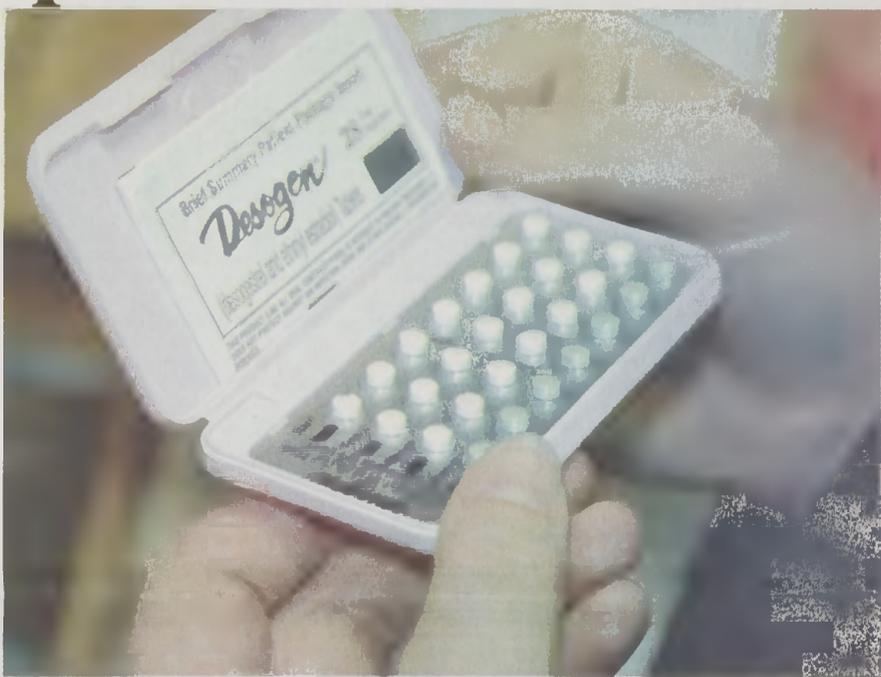
"Luckily, I'm fortunate enough to have a well paying job so I can afford the monthly expense," Quick said. "But, for students on a tight budget, this price increase is

For students on a tight budget, this price increase is unreasonable.

KIM QUICK
Junior Environmental Studies Student

I had to change my birth control, and I did not want to do UNC Asheville's that.

CHRISTY CLEVENGER
Junior Environmental Studies Student



MEGAN WILDMAN - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A student holds a package of Desogen, one of the brands of birth control Student Health Services will replace with a more expensive generic in the next few months. While most forms of birth control offered by Health Services will double or triple in price, the NuvaRing and Ortho Tri-Cyclen will be discontinued.

unreasonable."

Pyeritz said the rise in price does concern her.

"I do not support this at all," Pyeritz said. "Anytime prices go up, it affects college students."

Health Services will stop carrying two types of birth control because of the rise in price: the NuvaRing, a small, flexible ring of hormones that is inserted into the vagina, and any Ortho Tri-Cyclen products.

Though no comprehensive studies have been published on the NuvaRing's effectiveness, Planned Parenthood estimates it is more effective than the pill, with fewer than one out of 100 women becoming pregnant with perfect use, according to a study.

not be able to."

Quick, who used to take Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo, said she tried a new birth control pill, but decided Ortho Tri-Cyclen is the right pill for her.

"If there are no brands similar to Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo, I will probably start getting it from Planned Parenthood," Quick said. "This is going to limit my choices while simultaneously increasing the direct costs to me."

Pharmaceutical companies are able to sell birth control to college health services at a price less than what they would sell to other providers, according to Pyeritz.

While students are angry about

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Campus Commission divvies out funds to student organizations

By Aaron Dahlstrom
STAFF WRITER

The Campus Commission held its annual deliberations last week, with nearly 100 student clubs and organizations requesting the funding that determines their programming for the entire school year.

"UNCA is not just about academics. It is about promoting a good student life," said Erica Little, executive for organizational affairs of the Student Government Association.

Every March, student organizations apply for funding to support their programs. The amount of funding varies per organization and depends largely on the activities the organizations plan, according to Little.

"We have had requests from \$500 to around \$30,000," said Mary Chakales, associate director for student activities and integrated learning. "So we will have our

deliberation and discuss how we can make all of the pieces of the pie work for everybody."

At the deliberations, Campus Commission decides the amount of funding each organization receives. Over 80 organizations applied for funding, according to Chakales.

The money comes from the student activities fee each student pays along with tuition. The fee varies from year to year, she said.

"This year, \$574.50 is what students will pay for student activities," Chakales said. "That includes money that goes to recreation, sustainability, special student programs, homecoming, multicultural programming, cultural and special events and welcome week. Student activity funds pay all that. Part of that is Campus Commission money."

The student activity fee increased from \$373 to \$574 since



TREY BOUVIER - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary Chakales, associate director for student activities and integrated learning, sits with Jon Barnes, senior environmental studies student, and discusses student organization budgets for next year.

2002, nearly a 50 percent increase, according to university statistics.

Not every organization gets the funding its leaders desire. The commission needs a detailed budget presented to them by the time deliberations are held, according to Little.

can't give out extra money."

Some organizations receive large amounts of money.

"I believe the highest we have given out so far is around \$1,900," Little said.

While not all organizations receive the funding they ask for, it usually is enough to perform most events, said Alex Bower, who runs both The Blue Echo radio station and the Multimedia Arts Council.

"We asked for between \$1,000 and \$2,000, and we got like \$1,300, and it was enough to bring all the speakers we wanted," he said. "I know a lot of organizations complain about funding and say they don't have enough money, and I am sure that is probably the case. A lot of organizations need more money than they have. It is distributed pretty well, but there are always going to be people complaining."

Students, faculty and staff members comprise the Campus Commission. Students join the commission by appointment from SGA or by self-nomination, according to Chakales. Current faculty members include Michael Gouge, mass communication lecturer; Chris Herron and Jim McGlenn, education professors; and Gary Ettari, assistant professor in the literature department. The two staff members are Chakales and Patricia Tomberlin, accounting technician in the budget office.

Organizations choose what to spend their funds on, but the event must be open to the entire campus, Chakales said.

"One of the requirements is whatever campus commission money they use, it needs to be for the whole UNCA campus," she

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