



Tactics of campus police called to question

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Senior economics student Seth Bowman and a friend were walking back from the UNCA Freedom and Liberty festival when campus police stopped them, asked to see identification and then searched for no reason, according to Bowman. "I thought it was pretty ironic that we were walking home from a freedom and liberty festival when I was illegally searched by the police," Bowman said. "They had no reason to search me and I felt that my rights were violated."

Students and campus police discussed similar incidents Wednesday at the "Campus Police: Know Your Rights" forum held in the Highsmith Student Union Grotto from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. The forum was set up by the Facebook group "I got busted by campus police and something just didn't feel right about it," and was put on by UNCA's Student Government Association.

"I've been hearing from students about these kinds of incidents going on, so I just wanted to find out what's going on from the students point of view," said Jansel Garcia, junior music technology student and co-creator of the Facebook group. "I've heard about things like the campus police covering up peep holes, not saying they're at the door when they knock and calling students liars."

UNCA Chief of Police Steve Lewis and Detective Sergeant B.J. Bayne spoke at the forum and spent the majority of their time answering questions from students concerning their rights.

"A lot of the questions we typically get are regarding searches, specifically about when you can be searched," Lewis said. "Campus police can only search a room if they have consent from the resident, probable cause, if they have a search warrant granted by the magistrate or through exigent circumstance, for example if a fire alarm goes off in your room."

Lewis and Bayne stressed that if a student believes their rights have been violated during an encounter with campus police, they should immediately file a complaint.

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Remembering Virginia Tech



TREY BOUVIER - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On April 16, a dozen UNCA students gathered at the flagpole on the Quad for a memorial prayer and moment of silence for the victims of the Virginia Tech Tragedy. The event was just one of many memorials taking place on college campuses all across the country.

UNCA looks back on a tragedy and makes plans for the future

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Thousands of students sporting orange and maroon gathered in various spots across the nation last week to remember and reflect on the tragedy that struck Virginia Tech a year ago.

On April 16, 2007, 32 students lost their lives in an unprecedented act of violence on a college campus. The tragedy left many colleges and universities stunned.

"The hardest thing for this university or any university to handle, are things that deal around people and people's behavior and what they may or may not do. Those are the ones that are the toughest," said Steve Baxley, associate vice chancellor for Campus Operations.

Responding to the tragedy at Virginia Tech and a number of smaller violent events on UNC campuses, University of North Carolina President Erskine Bowles created the Campus Safety Task Force in May. The goal of the group is to ensure the system does everything it can to provide a safe learning environment for students, according to



TREY BOUVIER - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In the wake of VT and other school shootings, UNCA adopted numerous other safety recommendations outlined by a safety task force.

their report issued in November.

The report listed numerous requirements and recommendations regarding campus safety. While the increase in security is necessary, it is impossible to prepare for every possible contingency, according to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Bill Haggard.

"I believe the campus is very

ready for a disaster, even though no campus or organization is ever fully ready for a disaster because you don't know the actual facts of the disaster until it happens," Haggard said. "No two floods are alike; no two earthquakes are alike; no two shootings are alike."

Haggard sits on the Crisis Decision Team, which coordinates

university actions in the event of a disaster. The team focuses on making decisions for those in the field, Haggard said.

"The crisis decision team sits on a level kind of like sitting on the balcony looking down on the event. The actors are the ones actually responding to the crisis," Haggard said.

Dealing with potential threats comes in two stages, according to Baxley.

"One step is prevention, and the other is what you actually do when it happens," Baxley said.

Prevention comes in the form of the Care and Crisis Team, which meets every week with members of the counseling center, campus police, housing and other departments to discuss incidents or individuals causing concern on campus. The small size of the school makes this exchange possible, according to Baxley.

Dealing with Disaster

Once an incident occurs, the university refers to its Emergency Operations Plan, which contains guidelines to help the administration

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FEATURES

Religious holiday celebrated by many

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From *Rugrats* to Charlton Heston, the story of Passover reaches people whether they are Jewish or not.

"Sad to say, yes, Nickelodeon (which aired the *Rugrats* Passover special) was my little bit of fun," said David Howard, sophomore student. "And it was not just the *Rugrats* Passover special; it was also the Weinerville Passover special. It's basically what sparked my interest in the story."

Howard, even though he is not Jewish, said he already knew the story of Passover from attending Sunday school when he was younger.

"It was after I saw how it was celebrated and that it was a different religion, and I said, hey, we're similar, and why don't we do that? Or something on that variation, and I still ask that."

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Clinton campaign makes stop in Asheville

Sen. Hillary Clinton makes her first stop in Western North Carolina today as part of her campaign for the Democratic Party's nomination.

The Asheville Civic Center hosts tonight's event, which is scheduled for 8 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Obama currently leads Clinton 51 to 35.3 percent among North Carolina Democrats, according to polls by RealClearPolitics.com.

After the Pennsylvania primary on Tuesday, North Carolina's 115 delegates comprises the largest prize of the states yet to hold primaries.

North Carolina holds its primary on May 6, but voters can cast their ballots early at one-stop voting locations before May 3. The closest voting station to UNC Asheville is the North Asheville Library located at 1030 Merrimon Ave.

For a complete list of voting times and stations, visit the Buncombe County voting Web site at www.buncombecounty.org.

Course trains students for storm spotting

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A training session on how to classify hail, spot tornadoes and other severe weather systems was available to the public by UNC Asheville's atmospheric science department yesterday.

The two hour SKYWARN storm spotter training course led by Justin Lane, a general forecaster for the National Weather Service Forecast Office of Greenville-Spartanburg, SC was held to inform students and other members of the community about how to determine severe local weather.

"This advanced training is part of a summer course for atmospheric science majors, though it is open to the public. The National Weather Service offers both basic and advanced spotter training courses several times per year," Dr. Christopher Godfrey, an atmospheric science professor said.

After the SKYWARN storm spotting course, participants are qualified to call into the National Weather Service to alert meteorologists and forecasters of severe weather situations not seen on radar.

"Spotter reports are an important element in the warning and verification process," Godfrey said.

Storm chasing is not an activity meteorologists recommend to the average person. Qualified persons have been educated by a professional about the safety precautions needed before chasing a storm.

"There is a lot of information on TV about storm chasing, it's fun to watch on TV, but the drawback is that a lot of people just go out there not knowing what they are doing to try to chase storms and that's not what I want to teach people," Godfrey said.

Sandy LaCorte, a senior atmospheric science student attended a storm chasing program led by Virginia Tech in the great plains last year.

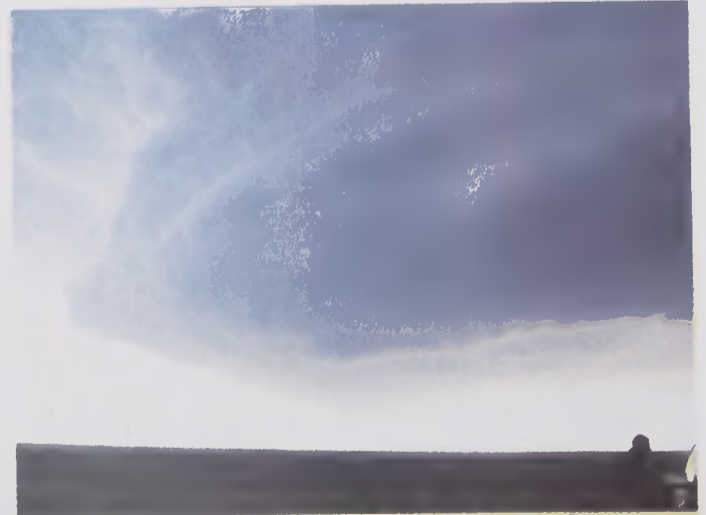
LaCorte, a trained storm spotter, is attending the course led by Justin Lane of the National Weather Service as a course refresher before she goes storm chasing this summer.

"I like being able to take what I have learned and actually participate in storm spotting," LaCorte said.

After taking the SKYWARN storm spotting class LaCorte said she is ready to report severe weather.

"I feel qualified not only because I am atmospheric science major, anyone in the community can do it, they tell you exactly what they are looking for. They do not encourage people to go out and look for storms,

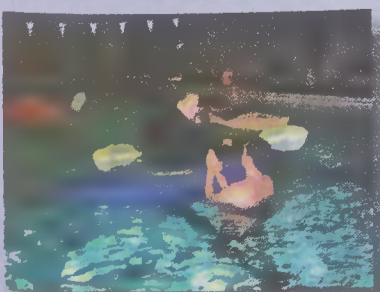
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SANDY LACORTE - CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Virginia Tech senior Adam Smith monitoring a storm in Kansas.

This Week



Sports

UNCA Outdoors makes a splash with kayak training.

Full story on page 5.



Travelogue

Bulgaria's vegetarian options leave something to be desired.

Full story on page 10.

Weather FORECAST BY SANDY LACORTE

	THURSDAY		FRIDAY
	74 50		74 53
	SATURDAY		SUNDAY
	72 52		70 48