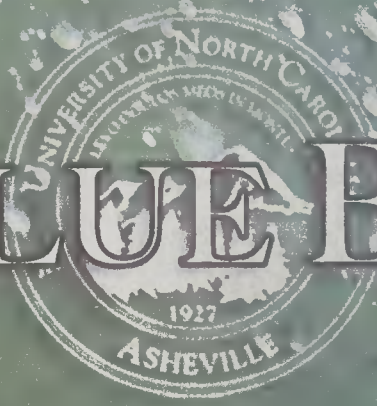


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SGA plans aid for local homeless

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Keith Knox, executive of multicultural affairs in SGA, said he wants to bring a campaign to Asheville that aids the homeless.

"It's a pop-up store," Knox said. "You set these little things up that are like cardboard pieces and you slide blankets and socks through it."

Knox said the structures would be placed in the downtown area and provide the homeless with necessities while still allowing them to keep their pride.

"I know some people who are just so full of pride, even though you may be in a certain situation, you really can't go to a homeless shelter and say, 'Can I get this from you?' so this is a little easier for them," Knox said.

James Whalen, student body president, said SGA plans to combine Think Before You Drink week with their sexual assault prevention campaign this week.

"We're really going to really push that next week and in the weeks following, as pledging your support being the first step on ways that students can

get involved in stopping sexual assault," Whalen said. "We need to really think about what consent means."

SGA worked with SpeakUP and other student organizations on various activities, including a task force meeting and a consensual workshop.

Early voting begins on Thursday and will be open for approximately two weeks. Whalen said he and Eric Boyce are meeting to discuss plans for voting locations for early voting and on Election Day.

Harper Spires said she and Gardner Goodall, co-executives of sustainability, had an informal meeting on Friday with members of the Student Environmental Center and Leigh Whittaker, senior vice president of the UNC Association of Student Governments, on the beginnings of coal divestment campaign in Asheville.

Spires also said she and Goodall are beginning plans for the spring Greenfest.

Sen. Charlie White, chair of the student affairs committee, said the gender neutral bathroom maps will be printed this week.

Disability Week challenges students

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The Office of Academic Accessibility offered students and faculty opportunities to challenge their perspectives around living with disability during Disability Awareness Week last Monday - Friday.

"When you ask people with disabilities what the number one obstacle in their life is, it's the attitudes and perceptions of other people," said **Joshua Kaufman, UNC Asheville's assistant director of disability and learning support.**

"What always surprises me — or that I find interesting or odd — is that in the general population, there's still some stigma attached to disability," Kaufman said. "When we look at the course of the average person's lifetime, about 80 percent of

us will experience disability either personally or in our nuclear family — meaning our parents, our siblings or our children. Eighty percent — that seems pretty mainstream for there still to be a stigma associated with disability."

On Oct. 13, **Regan Brashear,** producer and filmmaker of *Fixed*, presented the award-winning documentary, released last year, exploring the social impact and ethical dimensions of human enhancement technology.

Fixed not only features disability scholars, disabled-rights advocates and artists with disabilities, but also bionics engineers, a futurist and a transhumanist. Each person delivers a perspective based on their own experience with disability.

She said she intended for the film to raise

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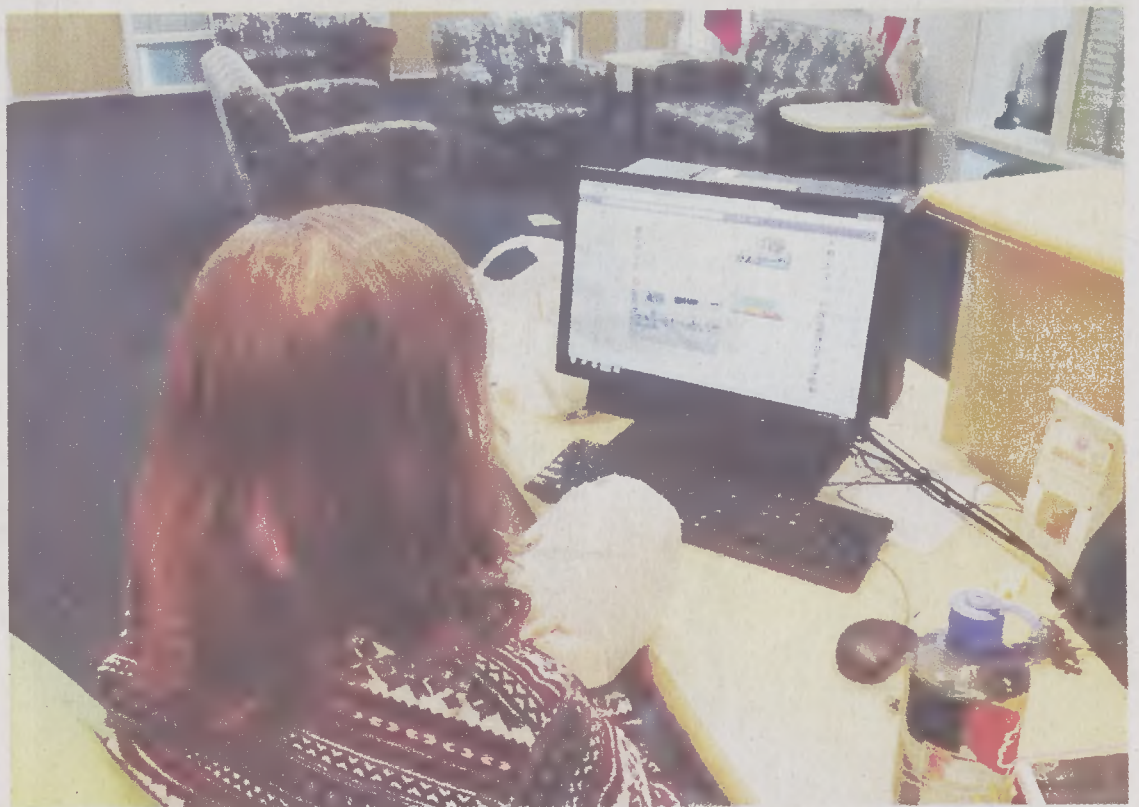


Photo Illustration by Declan Lockheed - Contributor

Students use common platforms such as Facebook to cyberstalk and abuse other students on campus.

Officials combat cyber abuse

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With the increase of social media and cyber abuse reports, UNC Asheville aims to crack down on cyber abuse without infringing upon the rights of the student.

"There are two fundamental issues that we have to balance out. One is freedom of speech and the freedom of expression, and as an administration I would never want to take that away from students," said **Jill Moffitt, assistant vice chancellor of student life.**

Moffitt said she casual-

ly follows popular UNCA Facebook pages, such as UNCA Crushes and Overheard, but there is no official administration presence.

"Yes, I go and look on those sites. Again, I do that for the same reason I would go to Yik Yak, it's really about what are the students saying," she said.

Moffitt said she maintains this presence in order to protect students and because she has received many verbal complaints about abuse.

"It's common. It's happened enough times that I have a procedure. In the past year, we have had four come and make a verbal

complaint directly to me, that I am aware of," she said.

Moffitt said she does not believe the increase of Facebook groups and social media apps increase cyberstalking.

"It definitely increases reporting of cyberstalking. Now we are hyper aware that these exist, and we are hyper aware on how they interface with each other. So I definitely think we see an increase of reports. I don't necessarily think that means we had an increase of behavior. Sexual assaults are underreported. I think cyberstalking was underreported until sites

like this," Moffitt said.

School administration will only intervene with students' posts if they feel there could be serious consequences, Moffitt said.

"It's when they are not helpful. They are discriminatory. They're biased. They're hateful. They disclose a crime. That's when we have to sit there and make that balance. I ask students to behave responsibly on these sites there's a difference about complaining about the food in the café and completely annihilating someone through an anonymous post," Moffitt said.

Jeff Brown, chief in-
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Residence halls help students, officials say

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Living on campus helps new students access resources such as events and programs, according to UNC Asheville officials.

"You're on your own, probably for the first time," said **Alison Heston, a humanities professor at UNCA.** "It's scary and people feel pretty vulnerable, but there are resources in the university and community that are always available, ego aside, willing to avail themselves."

Heston said UNCA students learn to be critical citizens by engaging in college organizations. Clubs and organized events are posted on calendars within residential halls, and Heston said students can use these opportunities to put their critical thinking to use within the university



Photo by June Bunch - Contributor

Students hang in hammocks on the UNCA quad.

community.

"It's welcoming. It's all about meeting people on your hall and having a giant group of students all your age live close by. It does not stay that way as you get older," said **Jack**

Derbyshire, 22, a former UNCA resident assistant.

"You can literally leave your door open and somebody will walk by and say, 'What's up?'" Derbyshire said.

Only in college can someone find such a wide variety of people sharing such similar experiences, Derbyshire said. According to him, RAs give support to the many students in their hall, especially when they are willing to take worthwhile risks.

"There's lots of room for mistakes and you learn tons by making them," Heston said. "If you stick to the dorms and always the people you used to know, you stunt your willingness to grow."

Heston said it takes risks to successfully immerse into the new world of college.

"You need to accept consequences with those risks. Accept that you may be disappointed, that you may be overwhelmed or you may find that you're not very good at this thing you see

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