

The Carolina Journal

The Student Newspaper of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Charlotte, North Carolina

Newspaper staff says once is not enough

"It's not just fulfilling a campaign promise, it's fulfilling a need for the students," Nancy Davis, editor of the *Carolina Journal* said. She is talking about the newspaper's plans to publish twice a week next semester. The decision involved the approval of the Editorial Board and the newspaper staff and, according to all, a lot of consideration.

"The *Carolina Journal* is publishing 16 or 20 pages regularly and providing a lot of information to the students," Davis said, explaining the decision. "However, publishing only on Tuesday was hurting the University in that students were getting information too late and some too much in advance to remember."

Plans for publishing bi-weekly have been in the making all semester, but it was kept quiet until the Editorial Board, which serves as an advisory committee and decision making body for the *Carolina Journal* made a commitment to go through with the expansion. "It couldn't be done unless we (the board) were all for it," Joyce Wright, arts/features editor, said. "It's going to involve more work, more time and more workers; all of which we had to make sure we were going to have before we decided."

In a recent board meeting, the members unanimously decided to go

bi-weekly, but not to announce it until a staff meeting could be called. "We had to see what the response was going to be from the staff, too," Davis said. "If we didn't have their support, there would never be a chance for this to work out." The staff met on Tuesday, Nov. 14, and agreed with the board the paper should go ahead with the plans.

"It's going to involve a lot of changes in the long run," Davis added. "It'll be something new, but something helpful. Of course, we're going to run into some problems, but we all agree the main concern is ironing out all the problems, so next year's staff can jump right into the process."

Some of the changes include selecting two production editors, splitting the job of news editor, dividing the arts/features editor into two separate editors, adding another graphics editor and some other minor personnel changes. "Right now, it looks like Kathy Espin will be the Thursday edition production editor and Rick Monroe is a possibility for the Monday edition production editorship," Davis revealed.

Tentatively, the schedule for distribution should be on Monday evenings, "about the same time they come out on Tuesday evenings now."



The Carolina Journal Board met recently to approve a recommendation to publish bi-weekly second semester. (photo by Robin Colby)

Davis also said the Thursday edition should come out around noon. "That way, students who don't make it to class on Friday can get hold of the paper before the weekend." Instead of the traditional drop delivery, there should be wire racks located in "key places" on campus. "Hopefully, this will cut out all the mess we're having with papers just lying around. Also, a student knows they can walk into the dorm cafeteria or cross the commuter lounge and there will definitely be a paper."

"I think it's easy to see why we decided to do this," Espin added. "The paper will be more timely ... more relevant. It will be two smaller editions, with special sections featured in each issue. Events that happen on Tuesday or Wednesday will no longer have to be classified as 'old news' ... just about all news will become important."

Many of the editors can't believe they've really committed themselves

to such a task. "It's going to take the rest of the semester and much time over Christmas to make the final arrangements. We'll be facing a tight money situation and more work for less pay, but it's about time we began a new tradition," Kim Burns, who is planning to split her news editor position into two positions, said. "I think that's why we're getting such a good response from the staff. They're really excited about being a part of something new, something progressive."

The *Carolina Journal* staff knows it's not going to be easy. "Sometimes I think about it and I say, 'no way.' Then sometimes I think about it and I can't wait. We've got to have more writers and more photographers. Mainly though," Davis ended, "we've got to have student input. This is something the students can call their own. We're just doubling their access to information, news and views."

Debate for energy minded

Nuclear power. Even on the UNCC campus, it stirs up the blood of many research papers, the basis for many architecture projects and the concern of many engineers.

In an attempt to give the UNCC community an opportunity to discuss the topic openly and professionally, the Dean of Students office is sponsoring a Nuclear Energy Debate on Thursday, Nov. 30, at 12:30 p.m. in the Lucas Room of the Cone University Center.

Two nuclear engineers from Westinghouse Electric Corporation will argue for nuclear power. Dr. Carlos Bell, a UNCC professor in the College of Engineering, and Jess Riley, senior research associate of the Celanese Fibers Company, will argue against nuclear power.

The representatives from Westinghouse are part of a program sponsored by the nuclear giant corporation Campus America. Concerned with the ineffectiveness pro-nuclear speakers were having in presenting the positive points of nuclear power, Westinghouse began sending some of their nuclear engineers to various college campuses. The participants in the pro-

gram are all young — the oldest is 34, the youngest is 23 — recent graduates of the universities themselves. Besides being able to easily relate with students, Westinghouse made sure they had the technical competence to handle the questions on nuclear power.

The hour and a half program will follow a tight schedule. The first 30 minutes will be a formal debate with 10-minute openings and five minute rebuttals for both sides. The Campus America engineer will give the first opening. The next hour will be question-and-answer session with questions from the audience and allowing both sides to respond if necessary. Nancy Davis, editor of the *Carolina Journal* will be the moderator.

A unique program in that it directs itself directly to where the mass of the nuclear critics are: the class campuses. To Westinghouse, however, this wasn't just a clever attempt at establishing public relations people on campuses to quiet campus radicals. Many of their young engineers were frustrated at the media's attack on nuclear power without equal representation from industry.

UNCC Basketball

A special edition of the *Carolina Journal* coming up at UNCC's first home game Wednesday, November 29, in the Coliseum Be There.

Women vs. Methodist 5:45 p.m.
Men vs. University of Mississippi 7:35 p.m.

Reminder

Friday, December 1, is the last day to file for a May degree. Also, it is the last day to drop a course.