

FORTY NINER FOCUS

They face barriers most could not handle

By Bill Whittaker

The physically impaired have to overcome barriers most people take easily in stride. Two members of the UNCC community have overcome these barriers and are competent members of the University.

Robin Hoerber is the coordinator of the Women's Studies program. She is also blind. Hoerber is responsible for "all the courses on campus for women, all seminars, all programming and child care."

The attractive, petite, "25 looking 17" year old woman, was born in Teneck, N.J. three and one-half months prematurely, which caused her blindness. Twenty-three years later, Hoerber earned a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from East Carolina University.

At UNCC since May 1978, Hoerber has experienced little difficulty in getting around campus. She has never utilized the services of a seeing eye dog, and only uses a cane on the "outside. Even then," she

stated, "I don't always use the cane. Some people are amazed I can walk down a hall without beating the walls," Hoerber went on to say.

Hoerber finds the people at UNCC to be friendly and helpful by opening doors, etc., but she tries to be independent as possible, without going to extremes. She said, "I try to work to my fullest potential at all times." Hoerber, as a result, does not feel handicapped. "Drive and read print, that's all I can't do."

Hoerber has lived a full life since childhood. She attended a public high school and was brought up as a "regular All-American girl." Her hobbies include swimming, hiking, writing poetry, reading, latchingwork, choir and teaching Sunday School.

On the problems college life presents to the physically impaired student, Hoerber said she would like to see "programs to educate the staff, students and faculty as to the needs and capabilities of han-

dicapped students." The advice Hoerber would give to the students is "they need to realize their limitations and capabilities."

Hoerber was pleased with the activities sponsored during Handicapped Awareness Week, but wishes the activities could be continued throughout the year. She said she would be delighted to speak with faculty members, students and classes, for she "loves public speaking." Hoerber can be reached at the Awareness Resource Center (ARC), 597-2558, to discuss anything dealing with handicapped or impaired persons.

Ted Tawney is a remarkable young man, just the type of person Hoerber is interested in. Tawney, a 26-year old computer science major, is confined to a wheelchair, due to what the "experts" say is cerebral palsy. Tawney, on the other hand, said he is "cured of the illness, it's just the symptoms haven't gone away yet."

The biggest challenge Tawney sees as a student at UNCC is getting around the obstacles presented by the continuous construction. The largest obstacle is

the hill beside the new building, which he cannot climb with his motorized chair. Tawney's detour takes him to the cave under the Cone University Center, into the administrative offices, thence out the front door. A hazard Tawney would like to see corrected is located on the sidewalk from the dorms to the Reese building. There, by the woods, is a large gully that could be a serious fall, if a wheelchair fell into it.

Tawney explained many times he had fallen or lost control of his chair when the belt broke. He recommends a railing be placed on the sidewalk over the gully.

Tawney is able to move freely once on campus however and has no trouble in using the elevators or telephones. He said, "UNCC is easier to get around at than many other schools, because of the lack of hills and the numerous ramps."

The aspect of school

Tawney, a UNCC apartment dweller, likes best is the "friendships of people, the ability to communicate and being around people."

Tawney's time is taken up by studying, talking to lots of people on campus, having a few friends visit him at his apartment and a trip once a month to the flea market at the old airgrounds. The one organization Tawney is a member of is the anti-fraternity, BK.



(Photo by Bob Henderson)
Students were able to experience what a physical impairment can actually be like in a wheelchair race during "Care to be Aware" Week.

Film Festival highlights quality and variety

By Michael Roseman

The theme for UNCC's fourth International Film Festival is "Great Films of the 70's." The festival will start Tuesday, Feb. 20 and continue through Friday, Feb. 23. According to Marian Beane, foreign student advisor, the theme was chosen "to give us a flexibility in the selection of the films.

"There were many foreign films from which to choose," Beane continues, "so this left us some room to make other decisions. We tried to balance between three main factors in selecting the films: (1) quality, (2) variety and (3) audience appeal.

In discussing attendance of the film festival, Beane comments, "We realize that international films appeal to a select few. We

encourage and hope that other people who have not seen any foreign films will attend. We anticipate many of our regular attenders of the film festival as well as we hope to see some new faces."

The language in each of the films is spoken in the tongue of the country which it is about. The language in *The Emmigrants*, for example, is spoken in Swedish. The films have subtitles, however, so the viewers who do not know the language can still follow the film.

In discussing *The Emmigrants*, Beane said, "Swedish films are well-known for being good. People are drawn to them. So in hopes of drawing a crowd, we tried to select a well-known one."

Each film will be (continued on page 8)

Creative arts majors finding changes in curriculum and "mechanics"

By Asby Fulmer

Last year there was a girl who would enter the Commuter Cafeteria on a pogo stick. Everyone in the cafeteria knew, or at least assumed, she was a creative arts major.

That is not to say she was exemplary of all or even many creative arts majors, but as one watched her move unpredictably across the room it was common to think of the creative arts program itself.

Both the direction of the pogo stick and the program seemed to lack definition. It was hard to point to what creative arts majors were doing and accomplishing. Even many students and teachers within the program expressed con-

fusion. Yet this year things have changed with the coming of a new department head and a new program.

When asked about the philosophy accompanying the new program, Jack Beasley, the new chairman of the creative arts department, said there was no new philosophy in the department this year and the change was a change in "mechanics."

The new program was formulated by both teachers and, as Beasley emphatically pointed out, students in the creative arts department. The curriculum outline of the new program clearly expresses a desire for definition to have given birth to a

sense of confidence in that both teachers and students are able to realize what is expected of them.

All variations of the curriculum outline, which includes the possibilities of emphasis in dance, music, theater and the visual arts, have a series of specific creative arts courses for the student to take and a project which allows the element of individuality from the old program to remain. English 101 and English 102 are required and it is strongly suggested electives include some math, foreign languages, science, philosophy and psychology. This curriculum is largely based on the premise a student

should gain "an awareness of the inter-relatedness of all forms of knowledge and of the shared elements of the creative process."

Most everyone is convinced the changes in the creative arts program were good. One wonders why changes of this sort were not made earlier when hearing certain disillusioned former students talking.

When asked about this, Beasley points out he was just this year made chairman of the creative arts department. One is about to become optimistic about the creative arts program at UNCC when it is learned Beasley will be leaving after this year.