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Democrats think 2004 is Revenge of the Nerds

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Cloudy  
High 61° F  
Low 48° F

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# UNC schools, students look to legal downloading

JUSTIN BOULMAY  
Senior Staff Writer

Appalachian State University received a subpoena this week from the recording industry to release the identities of three downloaders.

The subpoena requests the identities of all three users, who will be notified by the university.

University Attorney Dayton T. Cole said the names might not be released to the public if the parties involved choose to settle out of court.

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) announced three weeks ago its intent to subpoena the university along with 25 other schools in the latest round of lawsuits involving file sharing over the Internet.

Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Development Cindy A. Wallace said the subpoena was a shame since the UNC system was looking for alternatives to dilute the problem.

"We've put a lot of good faith effort out on the table and I think we were a bit surprised that this was the approach they took because we were clearly trying to show that we were working toward a solution, and I think the music industry knew that," Wallace said.

The UNC system is currently looking into having students pay to use certain peer-to-peer (P2P) programs.

"It gives the student a legitimate outlet or a legitimate alternative to pursuing it in what is an illegal fashion," Associate Director for Informa-



tion and Technology Services Dr. Douglas B. May said.

Four schools in the UNC system (North Carolina School of the Arts, North Carolina A&T, UNC Wilmington and Western Carolina) are already going through test phases with file sharing programs such as Ruckus, Cdigix, Rhapsody and iTunes, according to a UNC press release.

NC State University and UNC Chapel Hill will start their own pilot experiment in the spring, according to the press release.

Depending on the results of the experiment, P2P programs could eventually be open for student use in all 16 UNC schools.

A program's average cost is approximately \$200,000, Student Government Association (SGA) President Miriam N. Makhoun said.

She said the topic was discussed two weeks ago during a meeting of the Council of Student Body Presidents for

the UNC system.

During that time, Associate Vice President for Legal Affairs David Harrison gave a presentation of the programs being looked at and the pilot experiment.

"Basically, the campus purchases the server, which is around about [\$200,000], and then the individual student can just choose to use the program or not," Makhoun said. "It can be used for courses, and it's completely optional."

Wallace said students would have to pay a nominal fee for the program.

May said Appalachian was technologically ready for the server, but the source of funding for the program and whether students would use it was another matter.

The server's impact on bandwidth, its format and its compatibility with off-campus Internet servers were issues that will need to be investigated as well, May said.

# SGA says 'no way' to poster sale ban

ANNA OAKES  
Staff Writer

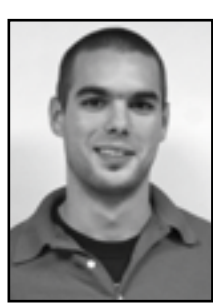
The Student Government Association (SGA) approved a resolution Oct. 12 supporting the preservation of longstanding guidelines regarding third party poster sales at Appalachian State University.

The resolution passed 31-8 after four rounds of debate.

In August, Director of Student Programs Dave L. Robertson requested the removal of several posters from the Beyond the Wall poster sale in Plemmons Student Union. Robertson said the content of these posters were in conflict with

university policy on drugs and alcohol.

Robertson removed posters depicting marijuana, cocaine and violence after SGA Vice President Nick V. Albu e-mailed him to inquire about the poster sale and university policy.



Albu

Appalachian State University

values the importance of freedom of expression" the legislation stated. "The dissemination of ideas that conflict with government and/or university policy is not unlawful and is an essential element of free speech."

"As such, posters, as a vehicle of free expression, should not be censored based on content," the legislation stated.

Before the vote, Robertson spoke before the Senate and defended his actions.

"This is not a free speech issue," Robertson said. "This is an issue of what the student union has a right to sell and a right not to sell."

Educators have a respon-

sibility to create an environment conducive to learning and study, and that includes discouraging the use of illegal drugs and abuse of alcohol, Robertson said.

"What are we communicating through what we sell?" Robertson said.

Robertson suggested that students, faculty and staff form a standing committee that could make decisions regarding university sales, including bookstore sales and the poster sale.

Paul A. Funderburk, president of Appalachian's chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU),

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# Watauga hosts meeting of candidates

JASON SECREST  
Staff Writer

A "meet the candidates" forum hosted by the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce was held in the Boone Town Council Chambers Oct. 6.

Candidates running for Watauga County Commissioner fielded questions regarding issues in Watauga County.

The forum began with each candidate expressing what he thought was the most pressing issue facing Watauga County.

Democratic candidate Winston Kinsey said he felt the most pressing issue was that of law enforcement dealing with methamphetamine labs.

"We have a very bad situation," Kinsey said.

Republican candidate Lewis Phillips said he thought growth was the most pressing issue.

Republican candidate James Coffey agreed that



Lewis (Joe) Phillips (left), Allen Trivette (center) and Billy Ralph Winkler (right) meet the community by answering concerns that the community might have for them.

growth was an issue Watauga County would face in the future. Coffey said growth affects every part of the county and that Watauga County is growing so fast it is hard to keep up.

Democratic candidate Wil-

liam R. "Billy Ralph" Winkler said methamphetamine labs are the biggest problem right now. Winkler said the labs are a big danger and an embarrassment to Watauga County.

"We need to rid ourselves of

this cancer," Winkler said.

Republican candidate Allen Trivette noted the need for affordable housing brought up earlier in the Board of Education segment of the forum. Trivette said it is important to

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# Determined versus ill-prepared



Cailin Lynch and UNC Asheville's Shiyrah Mielke run during the Blue Ridge Open at State Farm Fields last Friday.

# Mardi Gras crowds to pack King Street

CRYSTAL GENES  
Staff Writer

One hundred and ten university clubs and organizations have signed up to participate in one or more of Saturday's Homecoming events.

"Last year I think we only had 95 or 97 organizations participate," Bethany A. LaPlante, Graduate Assistant for Office of Student Programs, said.

Sixty-two clubs, 21 Greek organizations, 16 Resident Student Associations (RSA) and 11 university funded organizations will compete in the float contest, the kazoo band contest, the banner contest, the lip sync contest, the Homecoming king and queen contest or the tailgate bash.

Thirty-five groups participated in the 24-hour Mardi Gras Dance Marathon Oct. 9 and 10.

The service project raised \$15,000 for The Watauga Youth Network and Parent-to-Parent Family Support Network, two local non-profit organizations.

Last year the service project events raised \$8,750. "There's still checks rolling in," Student programs program coordinator Jenny Koehn said. "We nearly doubled it. It was super."

Many organizations participated in the event and more performed or offered services. Appalachian Popular Programming Society (APPS) provided entertainment, the National Pan-Hellenic Council provided most of the food and the Hispanic Student Association provided dance instruction.

"Wellness Peer Educators provided smoothies which, believe me, went over big," Koehn said.

"Then all those dance teams [Appalachian Swingers, Black and Gold Elite Dancers, ASU Cloggers], it was great. I mean it was a difficult event. It's not easy to dance for 24 hours but they were troopers."

Those groups who signed up to be in the parade Saturday morning will compete in either the float or Kazoo Band Contest.

"Two years ago everyone wanted to be in a Kazoo band so we've ordered enough Kazoos so everyone can be in a band," Associate Director of Student Programs P. Brad Vest said.

"It just gets bigger and bigger every year. I think a lot of groups have fun at Homecoming once they start and get involved with it. It's a great community builder."

Sixteen out of 20 residence halls will participate in Homecoming events.

Fifteen out of the 16 participating residence halls will compete in the lip sync contest tomorrow at Duck Pond Field from 6 to 8 p.m. Preliminaries were held yesterday.

Numerous clubs and organizations will have tents set up on Duck Pond Field for the Mardi Gras Tailgate Bash Saturday from 12 to 2:30 p.m.

Seventy-seven clubs nominated Homecoming queens and 72 clubs nominated kings. Those elected to Homecoming court will be introduced at tomorrow night's pep rally.