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 **Mostly Cloudy**  
High 70° F  
Low 58° F

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## Mountaineer Game Time



Mike Rominger | University Photographer

North Carolina's Band of Distinction gears up for the first performance of the season scheduled during Saturday's Mountaineer matchup against Eastern Kentucky University at 2 p.m. in Kidd Brewer Stadium. See the 2004 Football Preview, section B.

## Brantz receives award for teaching in freshman seminar

JENNIFER SCHNEIDER  
Staff Writer

Following 14 years of dedication to the direction of Appalachian State University's Freshman Seminar program, Dr. Rennie W. Brantz was honored with an award in his name.

The Rennie W. Brantz Award for Outstanding Teaching in Freshman Seminar is a \$500 award to be given annually to a Freshman Seminar professor who

envelops exceptional characteristics that help further the program.

"Well, Rennie worked for 14 years here and made this program what it is," Interim Director of Freshman Seminar Dr. Dan Friedman said. "He is the real reason behind the national recognition we have received and the high ranking prestige the program has. I thought there was no better way to honor what he has done to this program than to recognize

those who teach with the same spirit and commitment that he does."

Since last April, much work has gone into finding a major donor and raise enough money to set up an endowment for the award.

Letters were sent out to more than 500 of Brantz's former students asking for donations, and a major donor was found who was willing to match the donations up to \$10,000.

According to Friedman,

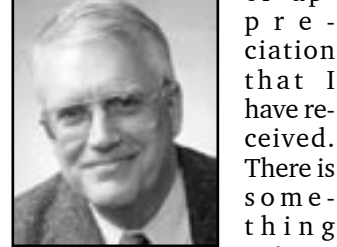
almost \$12,000 has been raised to date for the award.

"I hope the award will inspire faculty to think hard about their teaching and I hope that it will serve as a reminder about the importance of good teaching," Friedman said.

The award was announced at the programs annual New Directions Conference Aug. 18 to the surprise of Brantz.

"It is really so nice, I am

overwhelmed by the outpouring of appreciation that I have received. There is something about knowing



Brantz

ing that you have left a mark," Brantz said. "I feel

that it is so important to recognize good teaching and to really support it and encourage it."

In the years Brantz was involved with the Freshman Seminar program it has grown and changed incredibly.

When it began there were 20 sections offered to about 300 students. Today however, more than 1500 students are involved in the 65

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## ASU community, BOT brought together by dinner

ANNA OAKES  
Staff Writer

Appalachian State University Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock decided to try something new at last Thursday's quarterly trustee dinner.

"Dinner and a Trustee" brought students, faculty, staff and community members together for a night of dining and conversation with Appalachian's Board of Trustees at the McKinney Alumni Center.

"This is truly an experiment," Peacock said. "This gives trustees the opportunity to hear directly from students, staff, faculty and community leaders [in order] to make [this university] more wonderful than it already is."

Attendees enjoyed refreshments and light conversation for about 30 minutes before sitting down to dinner provided by the McKinney Alumni Center staff.

Each trustee sat at a separate table and was joined by representatives from

students, faculty, staff and the community.

"It's lively, it's loud, it's energetic - and that's the way I like it," Peacock said to the gathering near the close of the evening.

"We have a great story to tell, and we're about to tell it," Peacock said.

Student Government Association President Miriam N. Makhoun helped select students to attend the event.

"Dinner and a Trustee is the chancellor's way of facilitating communication between the voting body of trustees and other concerned bodies affiliated with the university," Makhoun said.

Makhoun said this event will most likely take place again.

Most students are not aware of the Board of Trustees or the fact that they make decisions concerning things such as university policies, fees and construction, Makhoun said.

"This is a great chance ...

to put a face on the student body [for the Board of Trustees]," Makhoun said.

Thirteen people compose Appalachian State's Board of Trustees. Eight are elected by the Board of Governors, four are appointed by the governor and the remaining member is the SGA president (currently Makhoun).

The Board of Trustees, along with the Board of Governors and the chancellor, make decisions concerning chancellor selection, budget administration, property and building construction, faculty and administration appointments and promotions, admissions, and student programs and activities, among other things.

The Board of Trustees meet once every quarter, and the Trustee dinner traditionally occurs the night before their meeting. "Dinner and a Trustee" preceded Friday's quarterly meeting.

Senior anthropology major Andrew M. Sinclair was

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Jonathan Williams | The Appalachian

SGA President Miriam N. Makhoun talks to Political Science professor Marvyn Hoffman at "Dinner and a Trustee." Makhoun helped pick students to attend this event.

## ASU misses opportunity for increased construction funds

JUSTIN BOULMAY  
Senior Staff Writer

Appalachian State University was passed over during an allocation of construction funds by the North Carolina General Assembly during a year when the University again suffered reductions in its budget.

Fourteen schools in the UNC school system received direct appropriations from the General Assembly for construction projects related to health facilities. The total amount allocated between all the schools was approximately \$400 million.

According to a report from

the Board of Governors, East Carolina University received \$60 million for construction on their Cardiovascular Diseases Institute. Elizabeth City State University received \$28 million for a pharmacy school.

Other schools received money for similar projects. Appalachian and NC State University were the only two institutions to not receive funds.

"We didn't even know the bill was even being submitted," Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Jane P. Helm said.

Helm also said she was unaware of the process used

to determine which schools received additional funds. Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock said the same, and added he was disappointed he did not get a chance to vie for some of those funds.

"I don't have a problem if I have a chance to compete and I lose, and it's a fair game, but I do have a problem if I don't have a chance to compete, and I have to admit, that was a very disappointing day to me to find out that this institution didn't really have a chance at really making a case for our need," Peacock said.

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John Bethune | The Appalachian

The Chalet Triple Theatres will be knocked down for the expansion of the Wellness Center.

## Chalet Triple Theatres to be torn down in October

Wellness Center to build new workout facility

JASON SECREST  
Staff Writer

As of Oct.1, the Chalet Triple Theatres will close its doors to make way for expansion of Watauga Medical Center's Wellness Center.

"I personally don't like the decision," Chalet manager Stacy Cabe said.

Cabe said rumors that Watauga Medical Center would be tearing down the Chalet and some surrounding apartment buildings had been circulating for a few years.

Cabe said she knew the theatre would eventually be closing when she took the position more than a year ago.

The decision to do away with the theatre was not due to lack of business. Assistant manager Shane Freeman said that since he began working at the Chalet, business had stayed steady and

there had not been a drop off. Cabe said she sees a lot of Appalachian State University students come out to the Chalet.

When the Chalet closes in October, Boone will have only Regal Cinemas showing the newest movies.

Freeman said a lot of movies don't make it to Boone as it is. "I think Boone needs another movie theatre," he said.

Both Cabe and Freeman said there are no plans they know of to replace the Chalet.

Jerry C. Moretz, Vice President of Development and Public Relations of Watauga Medical Center, said the hospital bought the Chalet four years ago, and has now decided to expand the Wellness Center due to its success.

The Wellness Center, located on Boone Heights Drive across the parking lot from the Chalet, replaced the old skating rink and has been popular with the community, with memberships surpassing what was originally planned.

The Wellness Center is for patients, but member-

ships are also available. "The Wellness Center has exceeded all of our expectations," Moretz said.

The new facility will house a six-lane, 25-meter lap pool, a therapeutic pool, extended locker rooms, additional cardiovascular workout machines and two classrooms. The expansion will more than double the square footage of the center.

The pools are something the Wellness Center didn't have but needed, Moretz said.

Many patients at the Wellness Center need a pool for aqua therapy and the therapeutic pool would be beneficial because it will easily be heated and cooled.

Moretz said the community needed a pool in general. Patients and members of the Wellness Center will now have one.

Parking will also increase to a proposed 166 parking spaces as a result of the expansion.

Construction on the 18-month project is scheduled to begin spring of 2005 and slated to be completed summer of 2006.