

## Inside

### IN FOCUS



Akers, Maxwell know there's more to pageants than exterior  
In Focus, Page 4

### OPINION



Second annual 'win a date' a soaring success  
Opinion, Page 10

### ENTERTAINMENT



'Hitch' a ride with the date doctor  
extraordinaire  
Entertainment, Page 6

### SPORTS



Appalachian burns the nets, cruises to anti-climatic 83-61 win  
Sports, Page 9

### ONLINE

◆ Eating Disorder awareness week  
◆ Check us out online at theapp.apstate.edu

### WEATHER

Mostly Cloudy  
High 60° F  
Low 40° F  
Your detailed forecast, Page 2

### INDEX

Classifieds ..... 2  
In Focus ..... 3  
Entertainment ..... 7  
Sports ..... 9  
Opinion ..... 10  
Events ..... 11



Clint Deas gets pumped in the 1st half. Deas led the Mountaineers with 14 rebounds and 3 blocks for the game.

## Do you believe in miracles? ASU wins six straight

CHRIS ZALUSKI  
Staff Writer

The train that is the Appalachian State men's basketball team continues to keep rolling.

In their most recent 60-47 win over the Furman University Paladins last night, the Mountaineers showed opponents that they have more to fear than just their three-point ability.

Making only seven three pointers during the game, ASU relied on a fast paced defense and aggressive rebounding to get them the win.

Appalachian also received help from post players Clint Deas and Derek Thomas, who had a combined 20 rebounds. Deas also had three blocks, all of which came in the first minutes of the game.

Head coach Houston Fancher believes that the win prepares the team for the upcoming Southern Conference Tournament and also gets them ready to play in their final two road games of the year.

"We're really sharing the ball, we're not playing selfish, and we're playing good defense," Fancher said. "We just keep getting better."

In the first half of the game, ASU had to rely on those talents since their early shot attempts were not falling.

Furman took an early lead of 13-3 before the momen-

tum of a Jeremy Clayton block began to turn the game around.

A Corwin Davis three point play gave ASU the lead with 1:19 remaining in the first half.

In an effort to win back some momentum before the halftime break, Furman's George Brozos went to the free throw line to shoot two with 0:00 left on the clock.

The plan backfired in the Paladin's face as the Appalachian fans turned up the volume and made Brozos brick both attempts.

ASU went into the locker room leading 27-23 and didn't look back from there. In the beginning of the second half both teams went back and forth trading baskets. It wasn't until a Noah Brown three-pointer with 9:47 minutes remaining that the Mountaineers began to pull away.

It was, yet again, ASU's ability to play tough defense and get offensive rebounds that led them in the second half surge.

With 1:30 seconds left on the clock, Appalachian's Clayton and Thomas destroyed all hope of a late game Paladin comeback.

Clayton blocked a Furman lay-up off the glass and pushed the ball up the court for a monstrous alley-opp by Thomas.

The Mountaineer's momentum was too much to handle for the Paladins as they won by 13.

In the win, Appalachia's defense caused Furman to shoot only 36 percent from the field, 11 percent less than their season average.

Appalachian also took advantage of free throw attempts as they went 13-19 while the Paladins went 0-3.

Furman head coach Larry Davis believes that these were all factors that contributed to the loss.

"We didn't shoot the ball well enough or rebound densely well enough, especially in the second half, to deserve to win that game," Davis said.

Although it was the tough defensive play that led to the win, Appalachian's top scorer on the night was Noah Brown, with 14, followed by Davis and Thomas, both with 13.

This win secures the Mountaineer's first place standing, as they are currently tied with the University of Chattanooga.

This wins makes it six straight for the Mountaineers.

This momentum is quite impressive for a team who was originally picked to finish fifth in the SoCon pre-season polls and also have no pre-season All-SoCon team members.

ASU's next game is against the Longwood University Lancers Wednesday at home where they will try to continue their win streak to seven games.

## Board of Governors votes for freeze on tuition increases

JUSTIN BOULMAY  
ANNA OAKES  
Senior Staff Writers

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors (BOG) voted Friday to freeze campus-based tuition increases for the 2005-06 academic year.

The vote is the first in years in which the BOG voted not to authorize campus-based tuition increases. The BOG voted in November to not implement board-based tuition increases.

"Obviously we thought [raising tuition] was the right thing to do, and the best thing to do for the university and the students,

but we're part of a system, so if that's what the BOG does, then we'll adjust accordingly," Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Jane P. Helm said.

The decision from the BOG came a month earlier than expected. There was concern the board would try to "slide in" a tuition hike, but the meeting turned in the students' favor, Student Government Association Director of State and National Affairs Gary McCoy said.

"Considering the past few years, with consistent raises in tuition ... the [BOG's] decision comes at a good time," McCoy said.

The Appalachian State University Board of Trustees (BOT)

voted in December 2004 to raise tuition prices by \$300 and fees by \$135, but their proposal had to be approved by the BOG.

"We hear a lot about the economic state in North Carolina, the state budget being out of balance," Helm said. "If we were to take cuts as a result of this, which is not an unusual pattern, we don't have anything to fall back on, for things we need to take care of."

The BOG freeze does not mean tuition may not go up at all. The North Carolina General Assembly retains the authority to move tuition prices up, regardless of what the BOG decides.

Since the 2001-02 academic year, tuition at Appalachian has increased \$599.

## Support for rental textbook system begins to show up

### SGA votes to support keeping the system; will issue ballot referendum during presidential election

ANNA OAKES  
Senior Staff Writer

The Student Government Association Senate unanimously approved two pieces of legislation supporting the textbook rental system at Appalachian State University at the Feb. 8 meeting.

The first bill called for a resolution of support for the textbook rental system at Appalachian. Senators Evan N. Moody, Amanda G. Zeddy, L. Steven Kennedy and Forrest S. Gilliam authored the legislation.

The Senate also passed an enabling act for a student referendum on the textbook rental system. This allows students to vote to maintain or discontinue the textbook rental system during the

SGA presidential elections in March. Moody authored this bill.

"The textbook rental system is part of the reason why Appalachian is very affordable and such a good deal," Zeddy said. Appalachian needs to stay affordable as college becomes more and more expensive, she said.

SGA passed both bills with no debate.

Faculty Senate voted to remove the textbook rental system in December, arguing it restricts a faculty member's choice of textbook and therefore his or her academic freedom.

Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock waived the motion to remove the system, but charged a new University Bookstore Committee with

researching the current system and its alternatives.

Zeddy said she was not surprised there was no debate on the legislation.

"[The two bills] were very well-written and researched," Zeddy said. "The student body overwhelmingly supports the textbook rental system based on the SGA survey [conducted last semester]."

In a survey of almost 300 students last semester, SGA found that only 1.7 percent of respondents want to discontinue the textbook rental system.

"I hope that administrators will listen to the students' voice and not abolish the textbook rental system because faculty has misinformation," Zeddy said.

### Parents Association pulls support behind SGA in unanimous decision by board Feb. 5

ANNA OAKES  
Senior Staff Writer

A mother alligator will hiss or roar to protect her young. The parents of Appalachian State University students will write letters.

The Appalachian Parents Association fully supports the textbook rental system at Appalachian, Terri T. Tyson said. Tyson and her husband Paul, both from Mooresville, are presidents of the Parents Association's Board of Directors.

"It was a unanimous decision on the Board to support student government and their opposition to abolishing the textbook rental system," Tyson said.

The Parents Association has written a letter to the

chancellor and provost voicing their support for the textbook rental system. The letter was mailed yesterday, Tyson said.

"We felt [the textbook rental system] was something that made Appalachian different - special," Tyson said. "It's a big drawing factor for incoming students."

Everyone is worried about the bottom line: costs, she said. For students who pay for their own education, the price of textbooks may make a significant difference.

"I don't think faculty have taken into consideration how this can affect students," Tyson said.

Tyson said she believes many parents will write individual letters to the chancellor and provost as well.

Student Government Association Vice President Nick V. Albu met with members of the Parents Association at the Feb. 5 Board of Directors meeting.

"SGA thought it was common sense to educate the parents of Appalachian on this issue since, financially, it could be a large problem for parents," Albu said.

Jim Perkins, a former SGA senator, and senior risk management and insurance major Matthew D. Whisenant, formerly SGA director of student affairs, secured the meeting with the Parents Association. Perkins' parents, Tom and Peggy, are junior Board members in the Parents Association.

Continued on page 2

## Memoirs of Chinese excursion new summer book

MILLIE TOLLESON  
Intern Writer

Appalachian State University's Summer Reading Committee has chosen "Iron and Silk" by author Mark Salzman as the summer reading book for incoming freshman.

"Iron and Silk" is a memoir that reflects on the two years Salzman spent teach-

ing English to students at Hunan Medical College in Changsha, China, in the early 1980s.

The committee chose "Iron and Silk" because of Salzman's writing style and the ability the book has to facilitate activities in many departments.

"We always try to find a book that a lot of different units across campus can use

and this was definitely a good choice in that regard," Dr. Janice T. Pope said. Pope is co-director of the reading committee and a professor in the department of communication.

Pope also said that Appalachian's exchange program with Fudan University in Shanghai, China, as well as Salzman's openness to a full cultural experience were ad-

ditional factors in choosing the book.

"In this time of a smaller and smaller world, it's a lovely message," Pope said.

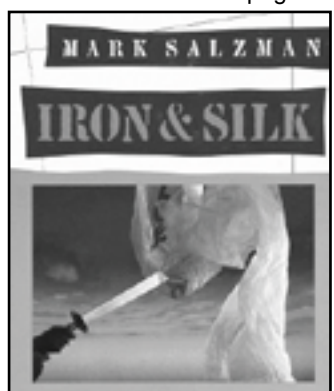
The committee also considered the ability of a freshman to relate to the book.

"We thought the book had a lot of potential to expose students to many areas across campus," co-director of the reading committee

Donelle O. Graham said. "There is a lot of discipline involved in the Chinese lifestyle and in college life as well."

Graham said Salzman will be at Appalachian State University Sept. 8 to speak at convocation, participate in the Hughlene B. Frank Visiting Writing Series and

Continued on page 2



Special to The Appalachian "Iron and Silk" is the new summer reading book