

Warren Wilson Students and RiverLink Combine Forces

By Alex Morris

Warren Wilson College student

W

arren Wilson journalism students are collaborating with RiverLink to get the word out about the organization.

"Now I feel like I know Asheville better than my hometown," Warren Wilson College freshman Laura Dison said after participating in the River District Bus Tour which takes visitors on a monthly tour of Asheville.

Dison is one of nine students in Professor John Bowers' Writing for the Media class.

The two-hour Riverfront bus tour she participated in shows improvements, local history and development projects of the French Broad River.

"I was excited to share newly learned historical aspects and stories about the city," Dison said, "as well as inspired to encourage others in supporting RiverLink's efforts to improve the quality of life in Asheville."

Bowers, also the college's communication director, got the idea of incorporating RiverLink with the class after meeting with the college's Service Learning Program director, Franklin Tate.

Unlike most colleges, community service is one of three major requirements for students enrolled at Warren Wilson. The college also strives to maintain environmental consciousness, which was one of the factors that helped Bowers decide RiverLink was the choice agency.

Bowers said that RiverLink was flexible and had a need for the service his class could offer. Bowers also felt this work gave his students a more authentic context for the writing they would do in the class.

"Students now have something they can put in a portfolio," Tate said, describing the benefits of co-curricular service. "What I really want is for students to be learning some aspect of an academic course through meeting the needs of a community agency."

Bowers and Tate met with two



"We have a small staff and few of our volunteers have had any training as journalists," Blau said, explaining why the class is so beneficial to her organization.

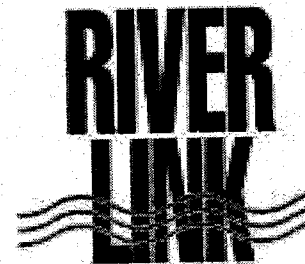
"Volunteers plug the gaps for the areas we can't always get around to," Carson added.

Blau, Carson and Bowers combined forces and determined five writing projects that would benefit both students and RiverLink.

Junior Heather Walls, another student in Bowers' class, worked with Dison to produce a fact sheet with up-to-date information on the bus tour, a news release for local media announcing tours and a story describing the bus tour.

Walls felt that she learned about the more formal aspects of journalism from this project.

"I like knowing that this project is looked at in the real world," Walls said.



"Not only do I want a good grade, but RiverLink is depending on me to do a good job," Gratmans said.

Senior Elizabeth Crenshaw and sophomore Richard Kilcullen created a tribute webpage to Asheville native and author Wilma Dykeman. Her work *The French Broad* came out in 1955. One of several books in her *Rivers of America Series*, *The French Broad* discussed the history of the river and also addressed the topic;

...: "Rome: Republic
...n., Lipinsky Audi-

...e: "Royal Absolut-
Sousa, 11:25 a.m.,
28/251-6808.

...7 p.m., Highsmith

...e Science Program:
R. Karl of NOAA's
m., Folk Art Center
for more informa-
...rpter of the Ameri-
INC Asheville Stu-
...tological Society.

...concert, 7:30 p.m.,
132.

...e: "Modernity and
Seamus McNerney,
Call 828/251-6808.

...e: "Global Citizen-
nities Lecture Hall,

...ase Mean for North
ward Manning Jr., 2
11 828/251-6099.

...e: "Early Christian-
Lipinsky Audito-

...: "Europe in a Glo-
5 a.m., Humanities

Retirement Health
/aintaining Mental
H. Templeton of
iter, free. Call 828/

wn Joy: An Evening
1 p.m., Humanities
10 senior citizens.

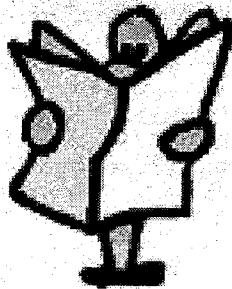
...re: "World War II,
Ted Uldricks, 11:25
11 828/251-6808.

... "Concluding State-
Humanities Lecture

...e Retirement TGIF
ital on the Cycle of
" Professor Michael
Reuter Center, free.

TO FIND INDIE

E. (a) *Biltmore Avenue*—Barley's City Bakery, Corner Kitchen, The Arts Theater, Hannah Flannagan's, *Madway*—Video, Indo's, Mellow *Lexington Avenue*—Downtown Izzy's, Liquid Dragon, Octopus *Market Street*—Vincenzo's; (d) *Haywood Street*—Haywood Park Hotel, Malaprops, Park Library, True Blue Arts, Woolworth Walk; (e) *Tunnel Road*—East Buffet, India Garden, Harvest Restaurant, Ruby's BBQ Shack, Waffle House. (f) *Wall Street*—Early Girl Eatery, Fired-Up! The Laughing Seed; (g) *Elsewhere in downtown*—Asheville Community Theater, Charlotte St Grill (Charlotte St), (Walnut), Havana (Page/Grove Park), Hookah Joe's (Coxe), Kress Emporium, Salsa (Patton Av). [2] MERRIMON Brewing Company, Circle on the Road, Gourmet Perks, Greenlife in Tattoo & Piercing, Noi's Thai Urban Burrito, Vino, Zen Sushi. 3. Asian Grill, The Carreta, Donut, Lenny's Sub Shop, Marco's **EVILLE**. Burgermeister's, The Freaks & Geeks Tattoo Shop, Otter, Orbit Video, Outspoken, End Bakery, Westville Pub. [5] UNCA Cafeteria. [6] **BLACK A**. The Dripolator, My Father's Shed, Green Light Cafe, Spirit of (ian)



Voted #1 Bakery in WNC.

Serving
made-from-scratch
soups, salads,
sandwiches,
fresh baked breads

Warren Wilson...

Cont'd from previous page

"Who Killed the French Broad," referring to the river's environmental degradation due to humans. At the time of the publication, this issue was very controversial, and the chapter almost didn't make it into the book. Dykeman passed away in 2006.

"I had never heard of her before," Kilcullen said.

Now that he's completed his research, however, Kilcullen describes her as "a woman that was ahead of her time."

"She was a really brave woman to do what she did at the time she did it," he said.

Kilcullen and Crenshaw both felt that they benefited from the project.

"It has been a very gratifying experience to help such a great organization that does so much for the community," Crenshaw said.

Sophomores Reem Disu and Logan Brookbank had the task of preparing a press packet containing a RiverKeeper fact sheet, a Volunteer Programs fact sheet, an Economic Development and Conservation act sheet and a news release of two of RiverLink's on-going projects.

Brookbank feels this project has taught her stylistic skills.

"I felt like I learned a lot through this project," she said. "Because I was writing fact sheets and news releases, I had to pick out the most important information and keep it concise."

The students presented their work to Bowers, Blau and Carson on March 28, and all three felt the project was successful.

Bowers said that incorporating co-curricular service into his class required more planning and class time - but it was well worth it.

"The students had immediate buy-in with the project," Bowers said, "working with RiverLink gave them a real purpose and motivation to produce quality materials."

♦♦♦

To view projects please visit <http://www.warren-wilson.edu/~jbowers/riverlinkprojects>. They will soon be included at www.riverlink.org.

Not Skin Deep

Cont'd from page 19

"Vow tattoos" are considered the most popular among tattoo themes. An example of that could be a traditional heart with "MOM" or flowers with a ribbon on which the name of a loved one is inscribed. A theme of this kind exemplifies the significance of tattooing as a way of expressing love and commitment.

An English Literature major in my school named Leo, on one hand, shares that tattooing an image of a medieval castle on his back signifies his deep passion for medieval literature. He explains that he is "an idealist and the castle is an apt representation of his ideals."

R.W.B. Scutt and C. Gotch in "Art, Sex, and the Symbolic: The Mystery of Tattooing" reports that vast majority of male tattooees prefer to have their icon placed on the arm. In their study of tattoos carried by 2,000 members of the Royal Navy, they found 98 percent had received their tattoos on the arm.

A more recent study by Clinton R. Sanders does not give a dramatic change in preference of location: 55 percent of the respondents still received their first tattoo on the arm or hand (71 percent of the males and 19 percent of the females).

Interestingly, while men choose the arm area, women choose the breast, hip, lower abdomen, back, and/or shoulder areas. In general, tattooing arms or legs generates less pain than marking body areas with higher concentration on nerve endings, or parts of the body where the bones are not cushioned with muscle tissue. Since tattoos on women elicit stigma, placement on private parts of the body allows women to maintain a mask of an unsullied feminine identity when in contact with casual associates and strangers.

Men, conversely, display their tattoos prominently as imprint of their masculine identity and as extension of their phallus. Thus the designs like snakes, bloody draggers, skulls, cryptic insignias, grim reapers, and other gory and gothic images, that scream their violent macho impulses.

Apparently, the ritual of tattooing goes beyond the ceremonies of pain and anxiety. More than anything, tattooing for men is an act of daring while it remains a violation of the feminine body for most women.

From its original state of cultural protest, the art of tattoo making is gradually and yet is incontrovertibly transformed into becoming a mainstream fad. And that which used to be deemed as an upheaval against the bourgeois idea of good taste and refinement has now become the very object of desire of the beer wielding and MTV-crazed Generation X, err, Next.

Urban Legend

Cont'd from page 15

Lawson horror is a crime story that has been elevated into a local legend—a tale that gave birth to many tales, good and bad. This, while the cold mystery still bleeds like a fresh wound in

the story—like a true journalist and committed documentarian of life's events, tragic or otherwise. What drove a quiet-living Richard Lawson to murder his family? Domestic violence is a credible angle that could have been explored here; what spawns violence in the house, etcetera. By looking at this perspective, healing could perhaps be attended to with equal sensitivity and sensibility. Otherwise, the Lawson tragedy will just be a scary