Biggest freshman class ever!
BIGGEST FRESHMAN CLASS EVER!
Officials were working overtime to prepare for a record 4,600 or more freshmen for fall semester, pushing total enrollment to around 27,000. ECU is leasing private apartments to house 300 still on a waiting list for dorm rooms.

FACULTY SALARIES RISE 20 PERCENT
By Bethany Bradsher. Faculty salaries have risen 20 percent or more over the past five years, raising the paycheck of a typical full professor to $94,900 in 2007. While the pay hikes are impressive, faculty salaries remain below the national average and are strikingly less than the pay at N.C. State and UNC Chapel Hill.

A FIRM FOUNDATION
By Joe Zed. Roddy Jones ’58, who built Crabtree Valley Mall and many other Raleigh landmarks, believes in building things up, not tearing things down.

CREATING CREATIVITY, MUSICALLY
By Steve Row. Professor Eddie Jacobs has ways of bringing the music out of students, even those who admit coming to class unprepared. In those cases, he often asks the student do one simple thing: Play one note on the keyboard.

LUXURY SUITES IN STADIUM EXPANSION
By Bethany Bradsher. Plans are in the works to add 4,500 seats plus 24 private suites to Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium by enclosing the east end zone. Also in the works are a new women’s softball stadium, a new track and field facility and a new auxiliary gym at Minges Coliseum.

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Orientation
There’s nothing quite as still and expectant as an empty college campus in summer, or so I thought until I turned the corner at the School of Communication building and ran headlong into a throng of parents and teenagers touring the grounds during a new student orientation session. East Carolina will welcome roughly 4,600 new freshmen this fall, a record number. Hundreds of them and their parents have spilled across the mall this summer during eight two-day briefings. A campus already swollen with five years of record enrollment growth is bracing for another wave. Including transfers, officials say the new student population will approach 6,000.

All the new buildings funded by the state’s $3.2 billion higher education bond issue of a few years ago are already full to bursting. The university had to hire about 50 new faculty to accommodate this year’s growth and was forced to convert the ground floor of Umstead Residence Hall on the Main Campus to faculty offices. Total enrollment this fall should be up about 1,000 to stand at roughly 27,000.

Actually, admitting 4,600 freshmen is the last step in a process that began last winter with evaluating nearly 16,000 applications. The Admissions Office says that roughly 1,000 more applicants than last year, with much of that reflecting greater interest from out-of-state residents.

We take at this new crop of students in the cover story in this issue. We also offer a few stories on how growth has changed East Carolina, how the whole college experience has changed since this issue. We also offer a few stories on how growth has changed East Carolina, how the whole college experience has changed since...
The ECU Report

Universities need $6 billion for new buildings

The 16 campuses of the University of North Carolina need roughly $6 billion in capital improvements to respond to an unprecedented and continuing boom in enrollment, according to a long-range construction plan adopted by the Board of Governors. The biggest chunk of that money would go for new classroom buildings to provide seats for the 30,000 additional students expected to enroll in the next four years.

The 2007-13 Capital Improvements Plan provides for some new or renovated buildings at every campus but it directs a lion’s share of spending to those that have experienced the most growth. For East Carolina, the fastest-growing UNC campus over the past five years, the plan calls for $786 million in spending on 34 projects.

ECU’s top bricks-and-mortar priorities are the dental school and the new Family Medicine Center. The General Assembly funded both by including $107.3 million in the new state budget.

Next on ECU’s wish list are two major classroom buildings—a $130 million home for biology and science plus an $84.5 million classroom building to be shared by the colleges of Education and Business. The plan also calls for major renovations to more than a dozen existing buildings around campus.

Both N.C. State and UNC Chapel Hill need more than $1 million for new and renovated buildings. Under the plan, State’s top priorities are a new library at the Centennial Campus, estimated to cost $114 million, and a $214 million complex for the College of Engineering. Expansion of its dental school is Carolina’s top priority, a $99 million project that is being coordinated with ECU.

Next on its list is $169 million for initial development of the Carolina North campus. Classrooms are the top priority at many campuses in the UNC system, including: Appalachian State, $42 million for a new College of Nursing and Health Sciences building; Elizabeth City State, $20 million for a School of Education building; Fayetteville State, $43 million for a general classroom building; N.C. A&T, $27 million for a general classroom building; N.C. Central, $25 million for a School of Nursing building; UNC Asheville, $27 million to replace Carmichael and University Lecture Halls; UNC Greensboro; $48 million for a classroom and office building; UNC Wilmington, $43 million for a health sciences classroom building; and Western Carolina, $40 million for an education classroom building.

Enrollment at North Carolina’s public universities grew by 37,000 in the last six years, to roughly 215,000, and is projected to climb by another 30,000 students by 2012, for an overall 33 percent growth in enrollment over the decade. ECU’s enrollment surged from 2,000 in 2002 to 26,000 last year and is planned to hit 28,500 in 2012, a 38 percent growth in students. Ten years from now, ECU is projected to have an enrollment of 37,000.

State approves $107 million to build dental school, Family Medicine Center

East Carolina “had to put its best foot forward in the General Assembly,” according to Chancellor Steve Ballard, receiving appropriations totaling $107 million to build the new dental school and a new Family Medicine Center for the medical school. With full funding now in place, both projects will begin construction and be ready in about two years.

The $36.8 million appropriated by the General Assembly in early July for the Family Medicine Center will create a new jewel on the Health Sciences Campus. Brody will have three times the space it now rents from Pitt County Memorial Hospital. Legislators also appropriated $69 million to complete construction on the new dental school and earmarked $1.5 million for its initial operating costs.

ECU doctors and medical students treat 52,000 patients a year at the Family Medicine Center, more than twice the number the facility was built for. The new structure will be 117,561 square feet and include a geographic care practice. Architectural drawings show a facility with 33 exam rooms in the clinical area plus 12 other exam rooms for geriatrics.

In addition to the $36.8 million in state funding, East Carolina has set aside $10 million of its own money. BSOM also received a $2.5 million gift from the Monk family in Farmville and a $1 million grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation. Groundbreaking will be this fall, with construction taking two years.

“We are out of teaching space, and this facility will allow us to teach more medical students,” said Dr. Kenneth Strenswog, interim director of the Department of Family Medicine.

———Grenville Daily Reflector

Professor turns Colbert into spider man

Biology professor Jason Bond didn’t want Comedy Central talk show host Stephen Colbert to feel jealous when he was being interviewed for the June 24 show about how he had named a new species of trapdoor spider after classic rocker Neil Young. To be gracious, Bond agreed to name a spider after Colbert, too.

After all, Bond has plenty of naming opportunities. He’s discovered 27 new spider species in the past 10 years, including one he found in rural Alabama in 2007 and named after Young. That spider now officially is known as Myrmekiaphila neilyoungi. It’s body is about half an inch long and its bite is not harmful to humans.

He says he honored Young because he is a well-known peace advocate who supports environmental causes. Many species of spiders, Bond says, are being threatened by pollution and loss of habitat. Besides, Bond is a big Neil Young fan. “I play the guitar a little bit and I like to play his songs. I guess my favorites are ‘Cinnamon in the Sand’ and ‘The Needle and The Damage Done’,”

Previously, Bond honored Nelson Mandela and his wife with spider names. Angelina Jolie also is on his list of people to honor, spiderwise. He received a number of grants from the National Science Foundation in 2005 and 2006 to classify the trapdoor spider species and contribute to the foundation’s Tree of Life project. He described the new genus of trapdoor spider in a paper he co-wrote with Norman I. Platnick, curator at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Bond is both a spider systematist—who studies organisms and how they are classified—and a taxonomist—someone who classifies new species.

Spiders in the trapdoor genus are distinguished on the basis of differences in genitalia, Bond said. He confirmed through DNA tests that each species of spider is distinct within the trapdoor genus. For the one that will be named after him, Colbert told Bond on the TV show that he would like to examine the as-yet-unnamed species and choose one that is the best fit.

Myrmekiaphila neilyoungi
Cunningham returns as dean of Brody School of Medicine

Paul R. G. Cunningham, who taught at the Brody School of Medicine for 21 years before leaving in 2002 to become head of surgery at the State University of New York Upstate Medical Center, is returning to East Carolina as the new dean of the medical school. He also will serve as senior associate vice chancellor for medical affairs. Cunningham is believed to be the first African-American to lead a medical school in North Carolina.

Chancellor Steve Ballard said Cunningham “is a highly accomplished, widely respected physician. He is familiar with the school’s mission and with the health care challenges facing this region and state.” Ballard thanked Phyllis Horne, the dean of the College of Nursing who also directed the medical school during the yearlong search for a new medical dean.

Cunningham said the medical school and the entire Health Sciences Campus have grown since he left. He said the university has all the tools in place to achieve “measurable positive statistics in the health indices for eastern North Carolina.”

A native of Jamaica, Cunningham graduated from the University of the West Indies in 1977. He completed medical school in Jamaica and moved to the United States to do his residency training at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He then practiced in New York, Cunningham moved to the Bertie Medical Center in 1993 and was chief of general surgery from 1993–2002. From 1990–1998 he also served as a major in the Army Reserve Medical Corps.

Walter Pories, a professor and former chair of surgery who recruited Cunningham to the ultrasound division from 1980–1981, called him a role model, someone who is a passionate, thoughtful and highly competent physician,” Pories said. “He has the unusual capacity to pull segments together and unite. I can’t think of anyone who is more fitter in these times and the challenges that we face.”

He said his goals include expanding student enrollment, stabilizing the school’s finances and increasing the diversity of the school’s faculty and administration. He credited his wife, Sydney, with encouraging him to consider and accept the job as dean. They have four children, all of whom live in North Carolina.

Busy hurricane season predicted

After several years with hardly any severe weather, the East Coast likely will see between two and five major storms make landfall between August and September, the National Weather Service said in predicting what it called an above-average hurricane season. The forecast is based on above-normal sea-surface temperatures in the Atlantic as well as lingering La Niña atmospheric conditions.

Some are worried that several years without a major hurricane has killed coastal North Carolina into complacency. A similar lull came to an abrupt end in 1996 when Bertha and Fran devastated eastern North Carolina. The cycle continued with hurricanes Bonnie in 1998 and Dennis and Floyd in 1999. The four Category Four hurricanes that struck in 1999 were the most since records were first kept in 1886. Since then, only Isabel in 2003 caused major damage to the region. Officials say the absence of hurricanes the last few years is a fundamental cause of the drought gripping the region.

Should a hurricane threaten the Carolina coast, East Carolina will follow a natural disaster emergency plan that kicks in when disaster emergency plan that kicks in when the storm is still two to three days away.

Second Century campaign off to energetic beginning

Generous support from alumni and friends has allowed East Carolina to surpass the halfway mark in its goal of raising $200 million. Just six months into the public phase of the Second Century Campaign, officials said more than $105 million has been raised for scholarships, faculty support and new campus facilities.

“We are absolutely ecstatic that we are off to such a good start and excited about what the future holds,” said Mickey Dowdy, vice chancellor for university advancement.

Dowdy pointed to a 120 percent increase in gifts to the East Carolina University Foundation this fiscal year over last as evidence of widespread support for the campaign. He also highlighted a 17 percent increase in gifts to the ECU Educational Foundation, more commonly known as the Pirate Club. Plus, the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation leads the way in raising funds for distinguished professorships, having established seven new ones since the campaign’s inception. This fiscal year alone campaign donations include more than $2.7 million for new professorships.

“We are benefiting from strong volunteer leadership by members of the boards of directors of the university’s Board of Trustees, the three foundations, the Alumni Association and the Board of Visitors,” Dowdy added. “We have seen a 40 percent increase in new members joining the Alumni Association. As we had hoped, the campaign is providing a margin of excellence for ECU as it supports the university’s strategic plan.”

To date, he said the campaign has recorded a 26 percent increase in deferred gifts received and more than 1,400 new first-time gifts to the annual fund.

Dowdy said the impressive totals come on the heels of generous individual, corporate and foundation support last year that funded the creation of the ECU Access Scholarship program, which is now providing full in-state tuition scholarships for 56 financially needy students. Alumni and friends who have not yet contributed to the Second Century Campaign may send in a check using the postage-paid envelope inserted in the magazine.

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THE ECU REPORT
Athletics posts $1 million surplus

Revenue from East Carolina’s appearance in the Hawaii Bowl and an overall increase in football ticket sales helped the athletics department post a $1 million surplus for the fiscal year ended July 31, according to a report to the Board of Trustees. The budget surplus sharply reduces the $1.5 million deficit compiled the previous year, the report indicates.

Football ticket sales of $56.6 million were $270,000 over budget while the actual cost of football operations, at $62.8 million, was slightly more than expected. Total athletics revenues were $256.5 million, or $2.7 million more than budgeted. Total expenditures for the year were $244.2 million, about $1.4 million higher than expected, for an overall surplus of $1.067 million.

East Carolina received $924,200 for its appearance in the December bowl game. After paying all expenses associated with the game, including flying the team and dozens of officials to Hawaii, East Carolina still game, including flying the team and dozens of officials to Hawaii, East Carolina still

The volleyball team is succeeding on the court and in the classroom, winning 16 games and compiling a team GPA of 3.521, the highest in team history. Senior Kelley Wernert, chosen for the 2007 Conference USA All-Academic team, achieved a perfect 4.0 mark spring semester. Every member of the team was on the honor roll; seven of the 12 were either on the Chancellor’s List (4.0 semester GPA) or the Dean’s List (3.5 or higher). “Our team goal since I’ve stepped foot on campus three years ago has always been to have a yearly team GPA above 3.3 and to have everyone above a 3.0 in a green semester,” said head coach Chris Roehrig. “Our team GPA has steadily risen since that day and this was the semester that eventually put us over the top. We shattered our goal this year with the high expectations these athletes have put on themselves.”

The Pirates return 11 letterwinners and welcome five newcomers for the 2008 season, which begins in August.

The men’s basketball program will lose one scholarship next season and will have to cut its weekly practice time from 20 hours to 18 because it failed to meet the NCAA standards for academic progress. The men’s team reported an academic progress rate (APR) of 861, an improvement of 12 points over the previous year but still below the 900 threshold required to avoid NCAA sanctions.

The football team reported a 922 APR and athletic Director Terry Holland said the grades of basketball players have improved in recent years, moving from 2.13 in 2004 to 2.78 in 2007. Holland said that every men’s basketball student-athlete received since the coaching change in 2005 has been eligible every semester in attendance and those who transferred did so in good academic standing. Holland said the team played all of its non-conference schedule last season without missing a class.

By using charter airplanes, the team missed only two days of classes throughout the 16-game conference schedule.

Sixty-two scholarship athletes were honored at this year’s Academic Excellence Awards banquet for posting GPAs of 3.5 or higher, up from 59 last year. Ten of the 59 scholar athletes boasted a GPA of 4.0.

“We made an effort to get our class average up to 3.0 a few years ago has always been to have a yearly team GPA above 3.3 and to have everyone above a 3.0 in a green semester,” said head coach Chris Roehrig. “Our team GPA has steadily risen since that day and this was the semester that eventually put us over the top. We shattered our goal this year with the high expectations these athletes have put on themselves.”

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“Our men’s basketball staff has worked extremely hard to address the factors under their control and the resulting GPA improvement is nothing short of spectacular,” ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard said.

The highest multi-year APR scores at East Carolina were earned by the women’s tennis (1,000), volleyball (994), women’s swimming (988), men’s golf (985) and women’s golf (984). Women’s tennis and volleyball, were cited as being in the top-10 percent nationwide for their respective sports.
EAST CAROLINA TIMELINE

75 YEARS AGO
First master’s Degree Boone Hackett, 25 of Greenville, who taught teaching at Rose Hill High School. returns to enroll in East Carolina’s new master’s degree program and in August 1937 receives the first master’s degree conferred by the college. For her thesis, she writes an essay on more than 600 pages of poetry by North Carolina writers. Fifty years later, the school awards her first Ph.D., in anatomy, to Thomas Curry Jr.

50 YEARS AGO
The Big Yellow House Incident. Forty-seven students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students, mostly guys and their dates, are suspended for 10 days and four other male students.

40 YEARS AGO
Old Austin falls. In the fall of 1968, Austin begins to move. Old Austin, one of the original buildings on campus, to make way for the new Jenkins Fine Arts Center. The demolition begins, and members of the faculty raise $3,800 to preserve the building’s distinctive bell towers or cupolas. But when the crane tries to lift it from the roof, the cupola collapses into pieces. A twice-life-size replica now adorns the campus lawn.

25 YEARS AGO
Archaeologist makes waves. Underwater archaeologist Erica Plouffe Lazure, co-director of ECU’s program in Maritime History and Underwater Research, captures international attention in August 1983 when he recovers the anchor and other artifacts from the Civil War ironclad Monitor, which sank during a storm off the North Carolina coast in 1862.

THE ECU REPORT

Campus construction update
New Wright Fountain: Construction has begun on a new fountain on Wright Circle. The $600,000 project, which will replace the original fountain with an enhanced model, was undertaken when decaying utility lines caused the fountain to begin sinking. The old fountain was removed in early 2007.

Mendenhall renovation delayed: The $38 million renovation of the Mendenhall fountain to begin sinking. The old fountain was removed in early 2007.

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Chancellor’s residence: Trustees have endorsed a plan advanced by its facilities and resources committee to form a commission to study updating or renovating Dail House, the chancellor’s residence. Over the past two years the board has considered and rejected series of proposals to improve the residence. The house hosts many university functions and is essentially the same structure as it was when it was purchased in 1948. Trustees considered a suggestion for buying a larger house near campus but no suitable properties were available. The board also considered buying an adjacent property, demolishing it and building an expansion onto the current chancellor’s residence. Officials dismissed the proposal because it would require the demolition of the entire neighborhood. Resistance to the plan was led by Jeanne Yett, vice chancellor for administration and finance, and said that renovating Mendenhall will take two years, and staff members want to be sure that the outcome will satisfy the community. “We want to be more proactive in looking at the planning for future projects and make sure that we are looking at the distant future,” Setza said.

“Have a number of things going on institutionally that will have an impact on this project.”

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To find out more information about the renovation project, please visit the ECU website at www.ecu.edu.

From a psychological perspective, instead of moral or spiritual value, does forgiveness have a physical value?

The old adage “forget and forgive” could be good advice for the body as well as for the mind and heart, according to Kathleen Row, the chair of the psychology department who studies correlations between a person’s health and the ability to forgive. Row has been studying how forgiveness relates to spirituality, well-being and health for almost a decade. Her findings were reported in a PBS documentary, The Power of Forgiveness, that aired in June. The documentary won the Best Film award at the San Francisco Film Festival.

“One person would like to forgive and they can’t; but they still see it as a value. Religious treat it as a value,” Row said. “From a psychological perspective, instead of moral or spiritual value, does forgiveness have a physical value?”

Row’s research has shown a marked difference in the blood pressure and heart rate recovery levels of those who can more easily forgive compared to those who cannot. “You literally carry it around with you,” Row said. “If you had a heavy sack on your back, your blood pressure would raise to let you be able to carry it around with you. My question is: how is forgiveness mapped onto the body?”

Row has found that older people, in general, are more likely to be forgiving, and that women are more likely to be forgiving than men, although men had shown to be more forgiving when considering specific situations.

For much of her 25-plus year career in psychophysiology, Row studied the mind-body connection of how certain behaviors could be predictors of cardiovascular disease. Her work in the past seven years, she said, validates that forgiveness can yield positive benefits not only for the forgiver, but for the forgiver as well.

—Era Pangie Lazure
and a $7,500 prize. Other faculty members teaching award given at the university. He instruction in the College of Education, for International Education for 16 years. Knoxville where he was director of its Center vice chancellor for international affairs. He Morehead Scholar, and she holds a law Exceptional Children.

Division of the International Council for national president of the Teacher Education College in New Jersey, where she was faculty of years on the, Calumet in Hammond, Ind. Under academic affairs at Purdue University (4.0 GPA in finance) was named Leandersson large first team, while junior golfer District 3 University Division men's at-

UNC Chapel Hill, where she a graduate of Morehead Scholar, and she holds a law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She succeeds Kitty Withington, who resigned to join a law firm in Greenville. James N. Goodhair was named associate vice chancellor for international affairs. He comes from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he was director of its Center for International Education for 16 years. Louis Warren, who teaches curriculum and instruction in the College of Education, won this year’s UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest teaching award given at the university. He received a commemorative bronze medalion and a $5,700 prize. Other faculty members recognized as top teachers were Fred

FINE ARTS
The fall schedule of S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series begins Sept. 19 with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra performing Dvorak’s New World symphony and Elgar’s in the South. Philadanco (the Philadelphia Dance Company), a contemporary dance ensemble, will perform Oct. 23. Begun by Joan Myers Brown in 1970, Philadanco helped found the International Conference of Black Dance Companies and the International Association of Blacks in the Arts. Harvin Hamilton will appear with the ECU Symphony Orchestra at Winter Park Nov. 21. Hamilton has earned three Grammy nominations for their Emrys, a Tony award and three Golden Goblets — in addition to a Pulitzer Prize—for his musical compositions. The King’s Singers will bring their blend of choral skill and showmanship to Greenville on Dec. 11. Equally at ease singing motets by Tallis and Byrd and the music of Lennon and McCartney, the King’s Singers encompass music from medieval, Renaissance, Romantic and contemporary periods.

CHAMBER MUSIC
The Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival opens this year with three offerings on campus. Music director Ana Grgić will team with pianist Robert McDonald and cellist Emanuel Gruber in performances of a Janácek sonata for violin and piano, Beethoven’s Ghost piano trio and Franck’s sonata for violin and piano. The concerts take place in Fletcher Recital Hall the evenings of Sept. 4-5. The Festival’s October program will consist of Mozart’s Piano Concerto for Clarinet and Strings, a Mendelssohn string quartet and a Smetana string quartet. Joining Grgić will be guest violinist Hagai Shaham, violinist Nicholas Canellakis and clarinetist Christopher Gwynn from the ECU faculty. The concerts will take place Oct. 16-17 in Fletcher Recital Hall and Oct. 18 at the History Place in Morehead City.

OPERA
The ECU Opera Theater will present Gilbert and Sullivan’s The Gondoliers Oct. 13, 23, conducted by Daniel Bara, director of choral music activities. Subtitled The Lass That Loved a Sailor, the play includes such G&S songs as I’d Called Little Batterup, We Saw the Ocean Blue and Oh Joy, Oh Native Unforeseen.

THEATER
The ECU/Loessin Playhouse opens the season with of Three / Sing, Great and George and Iris Gerstein’s Pulitzer Prize-winning musical, at McGregor Theater Oct. 2-7. Love is Sweeping the Country and the title song are among the better known Gerstein tunes. The second play of the season will be Missin’s comedy. The imaginary invalid Nov. 20-25.

CHORAL MUSIC
The ECU Chamber Singers, accompanied by the ECU Symphony Orchestra, will present Mozart’s Requiem on All Saints’ Day on Nov. 1. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. The Chamber Singers also will present a concert Oct. 3, and the University Chorus and St. Cecilia Singers will present concert Nov. 16. The Mozart program will be repeated Nov. 10 at the North Carolina Music Educators Association meeting in Winston-Salem.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
Highlights this fall include performances by the ECU Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band on Sept. 25, a concert by the ECU Symphony on Sept. 28, Bantermore on Nov. 6, and a concert by the ECU Chamber Orchestra on Nov. 8. The full orchestra will play Verdi’s overture to The Force of Destiny, Bartok’s violin concerto. Featuring ECU faculty member Melissa Reardon, and Beethoven Symphony No. 5. The Chamber Orchestra will play Britten’s Simple Symphony. Hagay Shaham will perform motor No. 49 and Viviani’s Concerto for Flute with ECU faculty member Christine Gustafson.

FINE/VISUAL ARTS
Do n’t miss a special exhibit Sept. 3-10 which tiles from the Dwight M. Holland Ceramic Teaching Collection, named for the advant of teacher who donated his collection of folk, national and international pottery and contemporary ceramics to ECU in the late 1990s. The annual ECU faculty exhibit is scheduled Oct. 17-Nov. 22, and the annual holiday exhibit is scheduled Dec. 4-6.

OCTUBERFEST
Tom McCaslin is planning a second Octoberfest to highlight the contributions of the lower brass instruments Oct. 29-30. The program includes two concerts that will feature a mixture of solos and chamber pieces performed by ECU students.

WHO’S IN TOWN
John Wustman, considered “dean of American accomplishe,” is to visit as Robert L. Jones Distinguished Professor of Music for the 2008-09 academic year. Wustman became affiliated with Robert Shaw early in his career, and he has appeared in concert halls worldwide. North Carolina native Julianne Baird, a soprano widely known for her skill in interpreting early music, will visit Oct. 27-28. She is best known for her recordings and recordings of Bach and Handel.

...Steve Row
University officials were working overtime to prepare for a record 4,600 or more freshmen about to hit town for fall semester, a number that is straining campus facilities and forcing some unprecedented maneuvers. At the last minute, the university was forced to lease private apartments around Greenville to house 300 freshmen still on a waiting list for dorm rooms. Officials also were rounding up at least 50 additional faculty members and converting the ground floor of one residence hall as their offices. Total enrollment should be around 27,000, up about 1,000 students since this time last year.

With the campus full to bursting, this may be the last semester that East Carolina’s enrollment grows at the heady pace that it has for five years running. A task force appointed by Chancellor Steve Ballard is preparing recommendations for a fall report that many believe will propose raising ECU’s admissions standards as a means of managing enrollment growth.

East Carolina offered seven orientation sessions in 2007 that were attended by roughly 3,900 new freshmen and their parents, according to Admissions Director Anthony Britt. Not all incoming freshmen attend orientation. By the time school started last year, 4,222 freshmen were enrolled. Demand this year prompted the addition of an eighth orientation session, with total attendance of 4,498 new freshmen and their parents. “If we just go by the numbers from orientation, which generally is a good guide, I would say the freshman class would be around 4,700,” Britt says. “But to be conservative, I would say it would be between 4,500 and 4,600 freshmen. Either way, it will be a record.”

While 4,600 freshmen is a big number, it is only about a quarter of the roughly 16,000 high school freshmen who applied for admission, Britt says. His office also evaluated about 3,000 applications from students hoping to transfer to East Carolina from some other college and admitted less than half of them.

East Carolina has no plans at present to build additional residence halls, but an Atlanta company has begun construction on a private dormitory overlooking the Tar River on First Street in downtown Greenville. The building is expected to be ready by next fall semester. Place Properties of Atlanta is developing the four-story, 193-unit building, to be called First Street Place. The company currently owns private dorms serving N.C. State University, UNC Charlotte and UNC Pembroke.

The private apartments that East Carolina is leasing for this fall will have all the same safety features as on-campus dorms. Officials say the unprecedented move will cost $600,000, which should mostly be covered by rents paid by the students. The plan is to move as many of them as possible to campus as dorm rooms become available later in the semester.

Ten years ago, the new freshman class numbered 2,819, with transfer students adding 1,089 to the total enrollment of 18,263. This fall there should be around 6,000 new students for an expected total enrollment of 27,000. “Every indication is we will grow to 36,000 within 10 years or less,” Britt says, citing enrollment targets set for East Carolina by the UNC Board of Governors.

“The bottom line is we are seeing more applicants and better applicants,” Britt says. “They are more well-rounded in terms of extracurricular things and leadership opportunities and an increasing number have college credits when they arrive [from taking community college courses].” The average SAT score of admitted freshman was 1,044.

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last year; it's 1,056 this year.

After talking to hundreds of parents and students during orientation sessions, Bett says he repeatedly hears stories regarding interest in ECU's popularity. "I would say the biggest reason I hear them say is the diversity of academic programs offered and that we offer enough of those classes so students can complete their degree in four years.

"Kids these days want to study something they can get a good job doing after college. The degrees we offer in the health care field are very attractive. We are getting a lot of questions about the new dental school, and I believe that will only add to the interest by incoming students in our health care offerings.

"Second, I hear folks comment all the time about what a beautiful campus we have. They say it looks like a park and they really wanted to look at, with the traditional red brick and the grass and the courtyard buildings and residence halls. Our student at orientation who was interested in studying art, she didn't have any trouble finding the art building because of all the statues and works of art around the building.

"Third, they talk about how warm and welcoming the people are here. They say, 'Third, they talk about how warm and welcoming the people are here. They say, "I just have to be here, I just have to be here."'

The goal of orientation is to acclimate new students to the place they will call home for the next four years, and to introduce them to the mechanisms of academic and social life. Students learn about Banner, OneStop, Blackboard and other technological resources.

They also are introduced to extracurricular activities and organizations at the Student Involvement Fair. Many questions focus on financial matters—including university fees, financial aid, placement tests, and learning about life as a college student. The experience was an eye-opener for incoming freshman James Jeter. "We are learning in life. Students learn about Banner, OneStop, Blackboard and other technological resources.

It's a different atmosphere. If arts and sciences was once the central academic grouping on campus, the years of rapid growth have brought major changes. The university now works to fill in the areas the school has about reached its maximum capacity. "There are no empty classrooms; there are no empty faculty offices. We are full," she says emphatically.

"Because of the enrollment growth, (this summer) we had to hire new faculty members. To accommodate them, we are in the process of creating the floor of Unidad Residence Hall into faculty offices," she says.

"We never have that people do. They say, "I just have to be here, I just have to be here."

At capacity

It's doubtful whether East Carolina can continue growing at the luster rate it has been in recent years. According to Marilyn Sheeran, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, the campus has about reached its physical capacity. "There are no empty classrooms; there are no empty faculty offices. We are full," she says emphatically.

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Things Every Freshman Should Know

By Steve Tuttle

Who knows better about surviving freshman year than the juniors and seniors to whom the shocks of that transition are still fresh in mind? So we asked them in a survey to share their tips and insights with this year’s crop of freshmen. Our thanks go to professor John Howard for offering two of his School of Communication classes as our survey sample. Sixty-one of his students answered our 10 questions. Here are their responses:

Thinking back to my freshman year...

When I left home for college I packed way too many...

Clothes, clothes, clothes. Almost all the students surveyed said they brought too many of everything, including shoes and even toiletries. And don’t even think about bringing winter clothes, three students said.

Other practical tips for lightening the load: Don’t wear high heels to class—3 votes. Don’t wear makeup to class—3. Those who wore makeup often said it came when they stopped going home and not because they thought they had to. Five students said it came when they stopped going home, and started studying. Or as one said, “When I stopped going home, my back and 10 said they had to get a 3.0 to keep the parents off your case. In case you’re wondering, that averages out to a 2.36.

The worst thing that can happen is...

Flanking out, obviously. That’s what nearly half of the students surveyed said. Several others said it was indulging in behaviors often associated with academic problems, like excessive drinking and partying. You can almost feel the pain lingering from the student who wrote: “Getting so drunk and stupid that everyone remembers you as ‘that girl.’”

Looking back, some said the worst thing is “not taking advantage of opportunities” or “taking classes seriously.” Nine others offered this similar advice: Be friendly and patient, be accepting and don’t be judgmental. Agree to the inevitable: “Never care about it because it’s going to happen, so accept it.”

Other ways to avoid looking stupid and their votes:

• Just be yourself—7 votes
• Act mature/smart questions—4
• Get your work done and go to class—4
• Laugh at yourself—3
• Don’t wear high heels to class—3
• Thank before you speak—2
• Get someone else to do it first—2

I finally felt like a real college student when I stopped...

Now this is maturity talking: Thirteen students said, in so many words, that the change came when they stopped partying and started studying. Or as one said, “When I started going to class because I wanted to and not because I thought I had to.”

Others said it takes a 2.5 to keep the parents off your back and 10 said they had to get a 3.0 to keep mom and pop happy. In case you’re wondering, that averages out to a 2.36.

It’s more important to...

• Show up for every class—43 votes
• Turn in every piece of homework—16
• Sit in the front row—2

Hopefully, this solves the deepest mystery of freshman life, which is how to make good grades without really trying.
What’s Greenville Like as a College Town?

By Steve Row

Back to Campus Issue

At the end of Move-In Day, hundreds of new students and their families likely will hop in the car in search of a meal, a mall or maybe a movie. What impressions will they form as they explore Greenville for perhaps the first time? What words of advice would help these new Pirates be welcomed and well fed? We put together this newcomers guide.

With a population now in excess of 70,000, Greenville offers at least one home away from home to nearly every college-aged student—and their parents—expect to find in a college town. But most of the time, it’s only one.

The population center of the eastern third of North Carolina doesn’t have quite the same breadth of attractions or commercial development as Chapel Hill, Raleigh or Greensboro, but the coziness of the community enables new students and their families to more easily discover their new home. May we recommend:

Restaurants: A nice mix of dining choices is one of Greenville’s bright spots. The city has three beef/steak/chophouse-type restaurants (be sure parents pick up the tri tip at these places can raise an eyebrow or two), and a variety of ethnic restaurants. Try Finelli’s for Italian, Lemongrass for Thai, Chico’s for Mexican. Consistently tasty, well-prepared meals (lunch and dinner) and some to-die-for desserts can be found at The Daily Grind.

Other upscale eateries include Christianes at the Hilton and Chef’s 505, but if you want to impress a special friend, or the parents, you might try the Lakeview Room at Brook Valley Country Club, southeast of campus, which has a spectacular view; good food and more reasonable prices.

Despite its proximity to three coastal fishing centers (the Outer Banks, the Crystal Coast and Wilmington), the Greenville area still lacks an upscale restaurant specializing in local Atlantic seafood, although several restaurant menus boast fish and seafood entrees, and Calabash-style seafood restaurants are available.

Greenville has a Dunkin’ Donuts near the medical campus and a Krispy Kreme across the street from the Main Campus. The town has four Starbucks, a Panera Bread, a Bear Rock Café, and a McAllister’s Deli. A good variety of homemade sandwiches and baked goods can be found at Swiss Chalet not far from campus.

Shopping: Greenville has one enclosed mall, now known as Greenville Mall, anchored by JCPenney and Belk and also containing Aeropostale, Gap and American Eagle. It’s located just across the street from the football stadium. The city also has many strip shopping centers plus one Wal-Mart, one Knmart, one Target, one Sears, one Staples, one Office Depot. A handful of upscale retailers can be found (Talbot’s for women and Jos. A. Bank, Steinbeck’s and Cofman’s for men). Several locally owned, trendy and boutique-type shops and stores are not far from campus.

Greenville’s tiny downtown sits at the west end of campus and is dominated, as one might expect, by several bars, restaurants and a few retailers catering to students—University Book Exchange, Tippy Teapot (a comfortable used book store as well as a nice café), the Bicycle Post, the Catalog Connection, for example—but local officials say downtown (promoted as “Uptown Greenville”) is still a work in progress.

Most students likely will head south to the strip malls along Greenville Boulevard to find more of what they want: Rugged Wearhouse, Old Navy, Great Outdoors Provisions Co. and a range of additional clothing stores, such as Ross and TJ Maxx at the lower end to Stein Mart at the middle range.

A new shopping center is under development on the southwest side of town, with an older Sears store to be linked to a newer Kohl’s by several stores and shops. This center could begin to fill out by the time incoming freshmen finish their sophomore year.

Northeast of town, the North Campus Crossing apartment complex is proving to be a magnet for new stores and restaurants.

Entertainment: Blockbuster and Hollywood Video have local stores, as do Circuit City, Best Buy, F.Y.E. and East Coast Music + Video. The Barnes & Noble store contains the W. Walter L. Stasavich Science and Sports park, as well as other more traditional retailers can be found (T. albot’s for women and Jos. A. Bank, Steinbeck’s and Cofman’s for men). Several locally owned, trendy and boutique-type shops and stores are not far from campus.

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Welcome to Greenville

Home of the East Carolina Pirates

East Carolina University
Faculty salaries up 20 percent in five years

By Bethany Bradsher

If money does indeed talk, then East Carolina is sending a clear message to the faculty: “We appreciate you.” Faculty salaries have risen 20 percent or more over the past five years, raising the paycheck of a typical full professor from $43,324 in 2002. “That’s about five years ago, and an instructor made $53,700, $65,200 last year, up from $51,366 five years ago,” said Mark Taggart, who became chair of the Faculty Senate on July 1. “They are asking, ‘What’s my value to the department, to the university?’ We want to say, ‘We have to raise your pay. We value your teaching, your research. One of the few ways we can say that is with a raise.’”

The average pay for other faculty ranks also has pumped up double digits. An associate professor here, on average earned $73,500 in 2007 compared to $60,265 in 2002. “That’s how East Carolina recently managed to hang on to a valuable member of the School of Music faculty,” Sheerer said. “Some of the peer group was,” said Sheerer, who served as education dean for her first eight years at ECU. “You have to keep playing with it. You have to keep your eye on the compression issues that occur for faculty who have been here for some time; and you have to be constantly thinking of creative ways to move money around. Even if pursuing a favorable salary range is a never-ending challenge, East Carolina is enjoying the best climate in years for reaching its stated goal of 80th percentile in salaries. It’s a brighter outlook that can be backed up by policy. You win some and you lose some,” said Sheerer, who served as chair of the Faculty Senate for two years before Taggart took over. “There is always going to be turnover. What I liked to see when I was chair was to make this a very welcoming, open, nourishing environment for faculty.”

While the pay hikes are impressive, faculty salaries remain well below the national average and are strikingly below the pay at N.C., State and UNC Chapel Hill. A stated goal of East Carolina for some time has been to raise faculty salaries to 80 percent of the average of its peer universities.

Rising faculty salaries are made possible by several factors: a priority from legislators as expressed in the state budget and the judicious and creative use of funds by the deans. The focus has not been to increase all salaries across the board, but on a university-wide commitment to working toward competitive salaries across the system with promises backed up by policy.

“Faculty salaries in the performing and creative arts are a lot lower than in science and math,” said Taggart. “We’ve got a ways to go,” Taggart said. “We’re still very below the 80th percentile, and certain disciplines are worse than others. Faculty salaries in the performing and creative arts are a lot lower than in science and math.”

Bowles also created a special fund to offer raises to excellent professors who are being courted by other universities. That’s how East Carolina recently managed to hang on to a valuable member of the School of Music faculty. “Some of the peer group was,” said Sheerer, who served as education dean for her first eight years at ECU. “You have to keep playing with it. You have to keep your eye on the compression issues that occur when faculty have been here for some time; and you have to be constantly thinking of creative ways to move money around. Even if pursuing a favorable salary range is a never-ending challenge, East Carolina is enjoying the best climate in years for reaching its stated goal of 80th percentile in salaries. It’s a brighter outlook that can be backed up by policy. You win some and you lose some,” said Sheerer, who served as chair of the Faculty Senate for two years before Taggart took over. “There is always going to be turnover. What I liked to see when I was chair was to make this a very welcoming, open, nourishing environment for faculty.”

When turnover does occur, competitive salaries—plus the lower cost of living here—put ECU in the running for some of the brightest minds to fill vacancies. Those factors, plus ECU’s designation as a doctoral institution in 1997, have enticed many professors to come to Greenville, even from larger universities with drier pockets. Sheerer tells of a professor in special education who came east after five years at UNC Chapel Hill because ECU offered a larger, more collegial department whose faculty was engaged in various grant projects and outreach programs. He came even though, from a salary standpoint, ECU is still behind the state’s “big two”, UNC-Chapel Hill professors averaged $118,500 and N.C. State’s made $110,800, according to the AAUP report.

Other attractions for new faculty are the quality of certain programs and the administration’s willingness to offer perks that increase job satisfaction. For instance, a professor might be offered a lease from teaching while he does research, or an associate professor in the College of Education might make extra money teaching in the school’s extensive summer programs. Salary is an important factor in the equation, but research and service opportunities also figure in prominently, Sheerer said.

“We are definitely shifting to a research university,” Sheerer said. “Some of the really strong candidates want to know that. The more resources we have, the more we can become known as a multifaceted research university as compared to just a teaching university. Now, I’m not trying to deprecate teaching, but the research piece and the service piece, those pieces are really important. And you need resources to be able to handle them.”

University officials acknowledge that ECU is about middle of the pack in faculty salaries among its peer institutions. Compared to ECU’s average 2007 salary of $94,900, four of ECU’s peer schools average a lower salary for their professors. The other seven peer institutions pay their professors more than ECU, with the highest, University of Nevada-Reno, averaging $116,500.

“Huh? We’ve got a ways to go,” Taggart said. “We’re still very below the 80th percentile, and certain disciplines are worse than others. Faculty salaries in the performing and creative arts are a lot lower than in science and math.”

The N.C. General Assembly showed its support by including $34.6 million in the new state budget to help the campuses deal with enrollment growth. Enrollment in the public colleges is up around 8,000 this year alone. More students require more teachers, which puts pressure on salary budgets. The additional funding means East Carolina and other schools won’t have to be quite so tight with a dollar as hiring decisions this year.
Although it happened 33 years ago, Roddy Jones ’58 remembers the phone call from Leo Jenkins like it was yesterday. The call from the president of East Carolina came shortly after the UNC Board of Governors had pointedly declined to reappoint Jones to the ECU Board of Trustees, which he had chaired the past two years. “Do you know what those b******* did today?” Jenkins shouted into the phone.

Jones hadn’t heard the news but he knew he had irritated university leaders with his strong advocacy for a medical school in Greenville. Bill Friday, who then was president of the nascent UNC system, thought people inside the 16-campus university system should remain neutral in the political debate over a medical school in Greenville. Jones admittedly had become “quite verbose in several newspaper articles” in favor of the medical school.

Jenkins told Jones that the unprecedented move so upset David Whichard, the Greenville Daily Reflector publisher who sat on the Board of Governors, that he had nominated Jones from the floor for another term, to no avail. (“His removal from the board strikes us as a petty act that is not becoming to the University of North Carolina system,” Whichard wrote in an understated editorial the next day.)

Jones tried calming Jenkins down by putting things in perspective. “If getting kicked off the board of trustees is what I have to do to get the medical school here, then that’s a mighty small price to pay,” he said flatly.

Such a personal slight would infuriate some people. Others might have vowed revenge. Not Roddy Jones, a tall, lanky man with a quick smile and a soft laugh who only seems interested in building things up, not tearing things down.
A well-heeled and politically well-connected Raleigh developer who had built Crabtree Valley Mall and many of Raleigh’s finest homes, Roddy Jones knew how to handle tough political situations like this one. He didn’t complain; he made it a point to continue supporting higher education across the state by serving on other school boards, including the one at Shaw University. Active in Democratic politics, he continued writing big campaign contribution checks to politicians who put education at the top of their agendas, particularly that newcomer from Wilson, Jim Hunt.

Two years later Hunt was elected governor from Wilson, Jim Hunt.

In 1988 he was elected board chairman, becoming the first person who was not a graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and the first non-lawyer to preside over public higher education in North Carolina. He served on the board for 18 years.

He says he tried to treat everyone fairly and focused on hearing brusied feelings. “During my term [as chairman] there was a coming together to be more fair across the system because ‘until then’ it was always the bigger got bigger and the smaller got stepped on. I think we brought some parity there.”

To this day he remains diplomatic about East Carolina’s sometimes sensitive relationships with UNC Chapel Hill and N.C. State University. “We have to support the two flagship institutions and we recognized that. But [East Carolina] had so much to offer and the state had so much to gain by building up that campus in Greenville. The Bagleys will continue to get favorable treatment because they are involved in so many things. But things are much more fair now.”

He pauses, looks out the window and considers the tectonic changes that East Carolina has undergone over the past 50 years, and his central role in many of those events. “We have established ourselves and achieved the high end of the results we were after,” he says simply.

Joining the family business

Roddy Jones knew he had a job waiting for him after college if he wanted it. His father and great uncle had created one of Raleigh’s largest construction companies, Davidson and Jones. Founded in 1918, the company had built more than 100 churches and many of the city’s finest homes, including several in the toney Hayes-Barton and Country Club Hills neighborhoods. He did carpentry work for the company most summers and knew how to handle a hammer. His father, Seby Jones, who later was mayor of Raleigh, wanted his son to join the family business.

Jones relished college life and admittedly was something of a party animal. He helped organize the first panty raid at East Carolina, in 1956. “These things sound so silly to the students of today,” he says. “I was a non-lawyer to preside over public higher education in North Carolina. He served on the board for 18 years.

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Roddy Jones knew he had a job waiting for him after college if he wanted it. His father and great uncle had created one of Raleigh’s largest construction companies, Davidson and Jones. Founded in 1918, the company had built more than 100 churches and many of the city’s finest homes, including several in the toney Hayes-Barton and Country Club Hills neighborhoods. He did carpentry work for the company most summers and knew how to handle a hammer. His father, Seby Jones, who later was mayor of Raleigh, wanted his son to join the family business.

Jones relished college life and admittedly was something of a party animal. He helped organize the first panty raid at East Carolina, in 1956. “These things sound so silly to the kids these days,” he says. “A geography major, he also was among a small group of students who organized the first fraternities and sororities on campus.

“Dr. Leo was vice president at that time and Dr. [John] Messick was president, and he was 100 percent against that sort of thing. Dr. Leo told us how to do it [by drafting an innocuous-sounding proposal to the board of trustees that, somewhere down in the fine print, allowed local groups to affiliate with national Greek organizations]. We followed his road map and we got them. We got the board to agree to approve it without the president even knowing it was going to come up.” Months later, he and others founded the Sigma Nu chapter on campus. He served as Intra-Fraternity Council president in 1957, his junior year.

Near the end of senior year, his father said it was time to decide on a career. “Dad asked me if I wanted to get into the business, and I said I didn’t know. Graduation day, he asked, ‘Are you coming into the business or not, I have to know.’ I said I would give it a shot. It was a Sunday. He said, ‘OK, be in the office tomorrow at 7 o’clock. I said wait, I’m going to the beach tomorrow. He said, ‘If you want to give it a shot, be in the office at 7 o’clock.’ And I was.”

He became an apprentice carpenter. “At that time we were about 50-50, still doing a lot of residential and some commercial work, and I cut my teeth building some of Raleigh’s larger homes.”

And then disaster struck. “My dad came down with Guillain-Barre Syndrome after I had been out of college a couple of years. He was at home [recuperating], and out of the business for two years. I had to pick it up. So I got a crash Ph.D. in how to run a construction company.”

Becoming a major player

Davidson and Jones survived, even thrived, under the 20-something Jones. He put a new emphasis on commercial construction and shifted away from the company’s core business of building churches and expensive homes. By the dawn of the 1970s he was ready to take on what then was the biggest construction project in Wake County’s history, Crabtree Valley Mall and its more than one million square feet of stores and a high-rise hotel. He became president of Davidson and Jones in 1973 and stayed in that post for the next 20 years.

He was named a distinguished alumnus in 1972, the same year Crabtree opened. He joined the board of trustees in 1973 and was immediately elected chairman, succeeding Robert Morgan. He has remained active and involved in East Carolina affairs ever since. He chaired the fundraising effort for the football stadium expansion in 1977. He created and continues funding several grants and scholarships, including the annual Robert L. Jones Award for Outstanding Teaching and the Robert L. Jones Distinguished Professorship in the School of Music.

He also assumed his father’s mantle as a pillar of Raleigh’s business and civic communities. He was a founder of Highwoods Properties, a Raleigh real estate development company that went public in 1994 and is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. He served as president of the Carolina chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America. He served on the boards of trustees at Peace College, Shaw
remembers once when competition between Jones, who turned 72 this summer, prominent in progressive Democratic politics. Although the Yorks and the Joneses competed in business, they cooperated in numerous projects. In Raleigh, you’re looking at Roddy Jones.”

“Raleigh. In many ways, when you look at Raleigh, you’re looking at Roddy Jones.”

Going national, coming home
With Roddy Jones pushing hard into commercial real estate development, particularly hotels, Davidson and Jones branched out into several states in the early 1980s, with projects from Ohio to Florida and a branch office in Orlando. But during those boom times many of the company’s most notable projects rose in North Carolina. Jones built Eastland Mall in Charlotte, the Raleigh Civic and Convention Center, the Highwoods office complex in Raleigh, several buildings for IBM in Research Triangle Park and the American Airlines terminal at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Davidson and Jones built the N.C. Biotechnology Center and the N.C. Microelectronics Center, both in RTP. His personal favorite is the Imperial Center in RTP: an office and hotel complex triple the size of the Triangle. In 1984, the Imperial Center and its attached Sheraton hotel still boasts the largest convention facilities in the Triangle.

But then the real estate market abruptly collapsed in the late 1980s, leaving Davidson and Jones with unfulfilled projects and mountains of debt. Rather than seek the safety of bankruptcy, as many developers did, Jones personally visited each creditor to negotiate resolutions, often swapping equity for debt. In a 1992 interview in Business North Carolina magazine, Jones said those debt workout meetings were devastating to him personally. “When you’re home-grown and have to sit across the table from friends you’ve known a long time, or you’ve known them for a long time, it’s a humbling experience. I don’t think the Lord meant for us to have too much pride, so maybe He has a way of lowering our self-esteem sometimes.”

It took more than two years of 12- and 14-hour days to resolve the company’s debt issues, and Jones was looking forward to better times when, in 1993, he suffered a heart attack. His doctor said it was imperative that he reduce the stress in his life, which led Jones to sell the company to the Brown Education Fund. But he refused to sell the Imperial Center and continues to manage that property. He didn’t need the heart attack to let him know it was time to slow down. “You know you’re working longer than you should be when like when the buildings you built are now being torn down. We built the original Civic Center and how it’s been torn down. You build them to stay forever but times change.”

But that’s not the end of the Davidson and Jones story. His son, Robert Davidson Jones ’94, an industrial technology major, came to him a couple of years ago and said he wanted to revive Davidson and Jones and start building houses again. He agreed and gave his son the same advice he got from his father: “My dad taught me early on to never fell in love with a rooftop. There’s a time to build them and a time to sell them. But people are different. When you make a decision, you can’t keep those forever.”

It’s been 50 years since Roddy Jones graduated from East Carolina, and he has remained a true friend of the university ever since. He celebrated the 50th anniversary in 1957 when I was a student there, I was back there last year for the 100th anniversary. I know that school has been good for me all these years and the friendships I made there. I still see a lot of them. And now I’ve been in this business 50 years.”

As he and every good carpenter knows, a good building starts with a firm foundation.
Eddie Jacobs has ways of bringing the music out of students, even those who admit coming to class unprepared. In those cases, Jacobs often asks the student do one simple thing: Play one note on the keyboard. He then asks the student to play a second note, then a third and a fourth note. Then he sets a timer for five minutes and tells the student to compose something based on those four notes.

“Generally works every time,” says Jacobs, associate professor of music composition, theory and electronic music in the ECU School of Music.

A member of the ECU faculty since 1998, Jacobs teaches one of the most difficult courses in any college catalog—a course based almost entirely on student creativity. A course with no single right answer and very few wrong answers.

Although he has his own ideas about composing—his own works carry such titles as Time As A Fly, Ensemblespiel and The Thing With Feathers—he tries not to impose those ideas on his students. “I don’t care what they do stylistically, but the demands they encounter are that this is a process of constant decision-making. As we meet each week and review materials, it’s my job to ask what works, what doesn’t, why it doesn’t. I hope that in the process, they will get rid of the chaff,” he says. “But everything is so subjective.”

Jacobs encounters three broad groups of students in composition classes—those curious to know what it’s like to create, those who think they have something to say, and those who think composition is their life’s path.

Few, if any, come to him having had training or instruction in creating music; younger students generally come into composition with some performance experience, such as a local orchestra, Suzuki instruction or marching band, but not much in the way of thinking creatively about music.

“For me, composition is approached in multiple stages by sifting through one’s creativity. You write down ideas and filter through them to find the best one idea to pursue. You decide, ‘Which ones are good thesis statements?’”

J. Christopher Buddo, director of the School of Music, admires Jacobs’ way of staying current in an ever-changing field as he teaches. “One of the things that I find most fascinating is that Eddie is always keeping abreast of what’s new. He stays on top of things, and that lets him engage students in a way that reaches them where they are.”

Jacobs “always brings a level of quality to his teaching, because he is quite demanding of his students in a way that turns them on, not off,” Buddo adds.

A jazz saxophone player from age 10 through college, Jacobs earned a bachelor’s degree in music composition from the University of Massachusetts in 1984, a master’s from the University of California-Berkeley in 1986 and a doctor of musical arts from Columbia University in 1994.

He taught at Wabash College in Indiana from 1995 to 1998 before coming to ECU. Before Wabash, he also was a part-time or adjunct instructor at Columbia, Manhattan College and Yeshiva College.
In addition to teaching, Jacobs has been active in conducting. He founded the Wabash College Chamber Orchestra and conducted the Wabash Brass Ensemble, Columbia University Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra. He also was a guest conductor with the ECU Symphony Orchestra in 2002. One of his most prominent roles on the ECU campus, however, is founder and director of the New Music @ ECU Festival, which concluded its eighth annual session in the early part of the spring semester.

‘An interest in hearing this stuff’

The festival started almost by accident. Jacobs recalls that then-School of Music dean Brad Fley had “told me on the first day I was here we need to hear your music.” In 1999, a year later, Jacobs put together a program that featured his own music and that of ECU faculty member Mark Richardson, which prompted another faculty member to suggest that perhaps more contemporary music should be available on campus.

In spring 2001, Jacobs asked soprano Christiane Schulenberg to perform Pie in the Sky, a 45-minute “landmark piece” for voice and instruments by Arnold Schoenberg from 1912, and even though it was a Friday afternoon, “the recital hall was packed,” Jacobs says. The performance prompted a standing ovation, and she performed the music a second time that evening. The hall was packed again.

“That made me think that there is an interest here in hearing this stuff,” he says, and the idea of continuing a contemporary music festival-type program took hold.

Not only does the festival expose local audiences to a wide range of contemporary music, but it also exposes music students to contemporary music composers and performers. “Student composers will write an exercise for great artists to review and evaluate and for performances,” he points out.

The 2008 festival, for example, featured Speck hard Musica, a New York-based ensemble that served as Robert L. Jones Distinguished Visiting Professor of Music during the academic year. Also performing were the ECU New Music Camerata with soprano Louise Tepper; pianist Geoffrey Burleson; the ECU Chamber Orchestra; and ECU faculty member and clarinetist Christopher Grymes. Organist Colin Andrews gave a recital to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of composer Olivier Messiaen.

“There’s always a teaching component to the festival,” Buddo says. “His students always have the chance to interact with the composers and performers.”

Jacobs has composed more than 30 pieces of music since 1983, and his work in composition drew national attention in 2005, when he was named a winner of a $15,000 Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He was one of more than 50 composers, artists, architects and writers to receive cash awards for their work.

“It’s a wonderful honor to be recognized alongside so many distinct composers,” Jacobs said at the time. “I’m flattered to be included among such a wonderful group.”

His work continues to get exposure before a larger audience. During the final concert of the 2007-08 Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, for example, artistic director Ara Gregorian included Jacobs’ Time As A Fly, a piece for string quartet that had been completed only a short time before. His composition shared a program with quartets by Brahms and Mendelssohn.

“If you put Brahms and Jacobs next to each other, they complement each other,” Jacobs says. “In fact, I’m greatly influenced by Brahms. I believe that contemporary and older music both sort of inform each other.”

Gregorian is a fan of Jacobs. “I can see the great relationships that students have with him and the amount of respect that they have for him. Eddie is greatly respected by me and all of his colleagues for the quality of his work and for the way that he interacts with the students as well as his colleagues. He is a true leader in the School of Music.”

A teacher first

Jacobs, who was nominated for the ECU Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award in 2004, considers himself a teacher first, then composer, conductor and festival director. And he does not restrict his teaching to ECU classrooms. He goes into local schools to work with fourth through sixth grade students in a “young composers” program.

“The kids make music, and the teachers teach note names, rhythms and values,” he says. “At first, they learn that we’re just playing with sound. But then we do the same thing with percussion instruments, then recorders, then guitars. I act as a secretary, and the students tell me what to cut and paste to create a melody.”

Some of the results are impressive, the same as some of the results he hears in his ECU classrooms.

“What I look forward to the most is going into the classroom. So much of what I teach is based on music with which I am very familiar, and yet every time I teach it, it’s like I’m hearing it for the first time. I enjoy hearing the students hearing the music,” he says.
The football stadium expansion is the centerpiece of a broader sports facilities upgrade plan that will impact virtually every aspect of student life. With the addition of 4,500 seats to Dowdy-Ficklen, the university plans to add 4,500 seats to the stadium, which will increase the stadium’s seating capacity to 48,000. The expansion will be completed by the start of the 2019 season.

The hope is that the expansion, which will cost $800,000, will be completed by the start of the 2019 season. The expansion project began earlier this year, with the work on the top portion of the stadium and the press box and other spaces on the south side.

East Carolina is adding 20 luxury boxes in phase two of the Dowdy-Ficklen expansion—the west end zone will be vacated when boosters move in to one of the planned luxury boxes. East Carolina’s board of governors has approved the use of self-liquidating bonds for the funding. Much of the money will come from the sale of season tickets in the space vacated by the luxury boxes. A scheduled reseating of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium in 2019 will open about 3,000 seats on the north side that we could sell to Pirate Club donors and open up new revenue streams.

While the details of the new horseshoe section remain in flux, Jimmy Bass, senior associate director of athletics for external operations, said that Pirate Club demand for prime seats in other parts of the stadium could also be vacated when boosters move in to one of the planned luxury boxes.

Bass said that end zone luxury boxes at other schools have been well received. "The suites create a premier seating option for those who can contribute the larger gifts we need to be competitive in today's world of big-time intercollegiate athletics," Holland said. Holland has shown that East Carolina must have better football facilities. "We're trying to create for all of our sports world-class facilities so that they'll have a chance to compete on the very best surfaces available," Bass said. Long term, officials are mulling a phase two of the Dowdy-Ficklen expansion to the west end zone seating and luxury suites—the east end zone project is under way, at least underground where a sewer pipe needs to be upgraded. That $800,000 improvement began earlier this year. The hope is that the expansion, which will cost $800,000, will be completed by the start of the 2019 season.

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There have been questions about how good the view will be from luxury suites situated high over the end zone instead of midfield. However, a recent survey of Pirate Club donors indicates the club will have few problems selling as many as 28 boxes, each containing 16 seats. The survey asked respondents to rate their interest in a luxury box. Twenty-two percent of the 2,529 respondents indicated some level of interest in leasing a luxury box. Bass said that end zone luxury boxes at other schools have been well received. "The suites create a premier seating option for those who can contribute the larger gifts we need to be competitive in today's world of big-time intercollegiate athletics," Holland said. Holland has shown that East Carolina must have better football facilities. "We're trying to create for all of our sports world-class facilities so that they'll have a chance to compete on the very best surfaces available," Bass said. Long term, officials are mulling a phase two of the Dowdy-Ficklen expansion—the west end zone project is under way, at least underground where a sewer pipe needs to be upgraded. That $800,000 improvement began earlier this year. The hope is that the expansion, which will cost $800,000, will be completed by the start of the 2019 season.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Homecoming Luncheon
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mendenhall Student Center, Great Room
Start your Homecoming weekend off with a great meal at Mendenhall Student Center. Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Kevin Selz will share future plans for the campus. Parking is available behind Mendenhall.

Bus Tour of Campus
1:00-2:00 p.m., Bus will depart from the Joyner Library clock tower
Join host Jim Westmoreland ‘74, ’77 for a bus tour of ECU’s campus. This tour is the perfect opportunity to see your old residence hall and favorite hangout.

ECU Classroom Experiences
Take alumni back to college days and provide unique learning opportunities. The Alumni Association is proud to offer these ECU Classroom Experiences during Homecoming:

- ECU history professor and author Dr. Gerald J. Prokopowicz will lead a discussion on His thought provoking book, “Did Lincoln Own Slaves?” And Other Frequently Asked Questions About Abraham Lincoln.
- 1:00-2:00 p.m., Joyner Library, 2nd Floor Conference Room
- 2:15 p.m., Mendenhall Student Center, Great Room
- Explore ECU Special Collections and Archives
- 2:15 p.m., Joyner Library

Reception Honoring Reverend Kenneth Hammond ’73, ’83, ’05
4:00 p.m., Ledonia Wright Cultural Center
The Black Alumni Chapter of the East Carolina Alumni Association will host a reception in honor of Rev. Kenneth Hammond, 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient. Hammond is senior pastor at Union Baptist Church, one of the largest congregations in Durham, NC, and a charter member of ECU’s Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Alumni Awards Cocktail Reception
6:00 p.m., Hilton Greenville
Take a moment to congratulate this year’s award recipients before the awards dinner.

ALUMNI TAILGATE 2008
Tailgating is a tradition at ECU and the East Carolina Alumni Association provides the perfect opportunity to leave your grill at home and join our family-friendly Alumni Tailgate two-and-a-half hours prior to kickoff. Enjoy food provided by local restaurants, plenty of cold beverages, a chance to see Pee Dee the Pirate and the ECU Cheerleaders, and win great door prizes under our Tailgate tent. Alumni Tailgate is located outside Gate 1 of Minges Coliseum on the north side of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. The cost is $5 per person for Alumni Association members and $10 per person for non-members; children 10 and under are free.

Not a member of the Alumni Association? Show your Pirate Pride and join today. Go to PirateAlumni.com/join today for details about the many benefits of membership, including Alumni Tailgate, or call us at 800-ECU-GRAD.

Note: Tailgate and kickoff times are subject to change.

HOME ALUMNI TAILGATES

Sept. 6, WVU vs. ECU — Tailgate 2:00-4:00 p.m., kickoff 3:30 p.m., sponsored by O’Charley’s and ARAMARK

Sept. 20, UTEP vs. ECU — Tailgate 10:00-12:00 p.m., kickoff at 12 noon, sponsored by The Honeybaked Ham Co. and Cafe and ARAMARK

Oct. 4, USC vs. ECU — Tailgate 9:30-11:30 a.m., kickoff at 12 noon sponsored by Chicho’s, Fuddruckers and ARAMARK

Oct. 11, ECU vs. Tulane — Tailgate 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., CT, kickoff at 2 p.m., CT

Sept. 20, ECU vs. N.C. State — Tailgate TBA, kickoff TBA

Oct. 11, ECU vs. UVA — Tailgate TBA, kickoff TBA

Nov. 2, ECU vs. UF — Tailgate 5:30-7:30 p.m., kickoff at 8 p.m.

Thank you to our Alumni Tailgate sponsors:

...continued on page 38
Homecoming 2008

WHILE YOU'RE IN TOWN…

Friday, November 7

Volleyball: Southern Miss vs. ECU
7:00 p.m., Williams Arena

Minges Coliseum

Saturday, November 8

1st Annual ECU Army ROTC Pirate Battalion Wounded Warrior 10K and 1 Mile Road Races: Warriors Supporting Warriors
8:30 a.m., Lyndale neighborhood behind Food Lion on Red Barons Road

This race benefits the Fort Bragg Wounded Warrior Program.

Swimming and Diving: College of Charleston, Catawba vs. ECU
8:30 a.m., Einges Natatorium in Minges Aquatic Center

Sunday, November 9

Volleyball: UCF vs. ECU
1:00 p.m., Williams Arena

Minges Coliseum

ON-CAMPUS HOMECOMING DISCOUNTS

Dowdy Student Stores
“Welcome Back” Celebration
Thursday, November 6–Saturday, November 8
Visit the Dowdy Student Store to view various ECU memorabilia and take advantage of our “Show Us Your Ring Sale.” We will open early on Saturday, for pre-parade shopping!

Student Recreation Center free workout
Friday, November 7–Saturday, November 8
Alumni and a guest will be admitted for free at the Student Recreation Center. Stop by the registration desk when entering the Recreation Center. Alumni may bring two additional guests for $5 each.

HOMECOMING REUNIONS

ECTC and ECC Alumni Reunion Dinner Featuring the Collegians
Share memories of East Carolina Teachers College and East Carolina College with former classmates throughout the weekend. A number of other activities are planned during the lively homecoming Parade. We’ll catch up with friends.

Get together for midnight bowling and show at Wright Auditorium. Later, we’ll continue the night at the after hours show at Wright Auditorium. Later, we’ll take your pick of attending the alumni Department of Homecoming ceremonies.

GOLDEN ALUMNI 50TH REUNION
Celebration of the 50th class reunion is a milestone for our 1958 Pirates. Join us as we celebrate, share memories of ECU Teachers College and East Carolina College with former classmates throughout the weekend. A number of other activities are planned during the homecoming Parade. We’ll catch up with friends. A number of other activities are planned during the homecoming Parade. We’ll catch up with friends.
His sound of music

If you enjoyed Jimmy Buffett as concert at East Carolina, or Charlie Daniels, Cheap Trick, the Pointer Sisters, America, Styx, Molly Hatchett or any of the bands that played Minges in the late 1970s and early ’80s, you can thank Hugh Johnson. 

Johnnie Tillmon ('81) opened the SGA entertainment committee that pushed the bands and provided the volunteer labor needed to stage the concerts. For that, process Johnson, an English major from Dunn whose dad owned the local Radio Shack, learned a lot about the entertainment business.

Johnson had so much fun staging the campus concerts that after graduation he moved to the Beaufort area and tried making a living with some local bands, with mixed success. He moved to Nashville in 1986 to take a job as a sound man at clubs on Music Row. That’s where, in 1989, he struck up a friendship with a young guitar player named Vince Gill. An emerging star in country music, Gill was launching a national tour and needed someone to produce the sound at the concerts. He offered Johnson the job.

At that point I sit down with the person on the venue end who is responsible for having everything ready for us when we get there. That’s when I will make all the arrangements for the show. I look at the venue and then make all the arrangements for the show. I think about the audi- ence sit. That’s why I do it. It’s also the most important because the artists vary from one concert hall to the next but the quality of the sound—particularly Gill’s voice—should remain constant in the “front of the house” where the audience sits.

This fall’s tour is a bit different because Gill is performing exclusively acoustically, which requires less equipment and a smaller road crew. The tour got under way when Johnson staged Gill’s big Fourth of July concert at Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the traditional home of the Grand Ole Opry. Then he set up a month without the tours and loading everything back in the trucks, an hour or two breaking down the equipment. Everything must be ready for a sound check at 4 p.m. The show’s usual set-up around 10 o’clock, accompanied by a semi loaded with equipment. Johnson directs a crew of eight unloading the trucks, setting up the sound system, microphones and mixers. Lunch offers an opportunity to check out the local attractions. Early afternoon is a rush because everything must be ready for a sound check by the boxed at 4 p.m. The show’s usually 90 minutes after the show and how to get there. Johnson flies his crew in, and the tour spends a day at a venue. In the middle of the tour, sometimes Johnson flies his crew in and sets up, a day for breaking down the equipment.

How time flies, he says. “I really had no idea that this would lead me down the path I’m on now but it certainly did,” he muses. “I’m certainly grateful that I found a career in what I enjoyed doing the most in college. You know, in this business it’s unusual to work so long for one person so I’m really lucky to have worked all these years for someone who has a family mentality about the people around them.”

Several times over the years people in the crowd have approached him after a show and asked, “Didn’t you go to East Carolina?” He enjoys those visits. “Tell everybody from ECU that Vince Gill is out playing in three towns, come on down to the show and ask for me. I’ll love to talk.”

Two join alumni board

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce the addition of two new board members who have joined the Alumni Association ’67 ’88 ’97 and retired Navy Captain James Newman Jr. ’68 ’74. These Pirates are ready to add their insight, talent and passion for East Carolina to our dedicated, hard-working Board of Directors.

McLewharn was born in Greenville and Women’s Forum. McLewharn has been married to Richard since 1999. She has represented District 9 (Pitt County) in the House of Representatives since 1999.

Myrick now serves as past chair of the board. To learn more about the Alumni Association Board of Directors please visit PirateAlumni.com.
2007

KYLE M. GREER of Greenville was named personal lines specialist for the Jacksonville branch of SAI Group. He is also a lead vocalist with a rock band.

ASHLEY YVONNE HARDY and Christian Michael Lane of Raleigh were married March 30 in Kinston. She teaches at Wake County’s Cedar Fork Elementary School.

ROBERT EDWARD MORGAN II and Jaclyn Kay White were married March 15 in Raleigh.

2006

WILLIAM EDGAR JR., a commercial loan officer at First Carolina State Bank, was the first recipient of the Weldon “Red” Kimball Award, which recognizes exemplary performance. Edgar has seven years of banking experience and works with small and medium-sized businesses. He is treasurer of the Nash-Rocky Mount Rotary Club.

DR. ETHAN LENKER, former superintendent of Jones County schools, was named superintendent of Sampson County schools. A native of Mechanicsburg, Pa., he was in Jones County for 10 years as director of personnel and accountability and a middle school principal before spending three years there as superintendent.

JUSTIN SPRUILL is now a federal air marshal.

LAUREN WHITE opened a franchise of the Wilmington-based women’s boutique Monkee’s in Arlington Village with BRIAN DISHMAN ’95. A New Bern native, she has worked in retail since she was 16.

2005

STACY BOWENS GASKINS is membership services director for the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce. She was married on Leap Day in 2004, worked as executive director of the Hyde Chamber of Commerce, and shadowed Dr. Bill Beery in Pitt County Medical Society’s Intern Program.

JENNIFER MARIE HARRIS and Edmond Elliot Smith were married July 28, 2007, in Winterville, where they reside. She teaches second grade at Snow Hill Primary School.

KAREN ELAINE HARRIS ’05 and Mark Freeman McKittrick were married April 7, 2007, in Winterville, where they reside. She teaches reading recovery at W.H. Robinson Elementary School.

ELIZABETH LILES is associate relations manager for US Cellular’s central N.C. area. She was a learning development instructor, sales manager, and retail wireless consultant. JENNIFER LOCH BEEF and GILBERT THOMAS BUTLEDGE were married May 24 at Rock Springs Center in Greenville. They are traveling nurses and plan to continue their traveling careers after honeymooning in St. Lucia.

2004

JAMES BRYANT BEDDARD and KATHRYN

McMahon, who is married to WWE CEO Linda McMahon ’69, also was honored earlier this year with the Marine achievement award from Promax/BDA, a national association of broadcast professionals working in motion graphics. Linda McMahon was honored by East Carolina last year as one of its 100 most distinguished alumnae.

WWE, based in Stamford, Conn., is an international media conglomerate with a market capitalization of $1.2 billion. The company maintains offices in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, London, Shanghai, Tokyo, Toronto and Sydney. In 2007, WWE performed 308 live events, including 72 international events, entertaining more than 2 million fans.

McMahon is a supporter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America and serves on its National Advisory Council. In 2006, he received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service Award for WWE’s support of deployed service members in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Elixis Gillette ‘07 is representing the United States in the Paralympic Games in Beijing China. Gillette, who has a visual impairment, participated in the Atlanta Paralympics in 2004, where he won a silver medal in the long jump and triple jump for individuals with his classification category. A native of Raleigh, he is training at the U.S. Olympic Committee center in Colorado Springs, CO. He has a web site, www.nostoppinnow.com.

Dustin “Dusty” Field ’94 is a successful entrepreneur who paid his way through college from proceeds of gumball and hot dog machines he placed in downtown bars and who went on to found his own armored cars company, has latched on to a new business venture: a winery. Field, who operates mainly through The Boylan Cos., a commercial real estate firm in Raleigh, launched Tobacco Road Cellars, which is based in Raleigh, produces its wines from grapes grown in California’s Napa Valley, Russian River Valley and Santa Barbara County. It bottles a limited production of specialty Cabernet, Syrah and Pinot Noir for premier steakhouses, bistros and bars and sells directly to the public through its web site, www.tobaccoroadcellars.com. The award-winning Cabernet Sauvignon goes for $75 a bottle. Field co-founded the Boylan Cos., which develops upscale apartment and condo communities in the Triangle.

JANE DANIELS was 87 of Wintermute were married Dec. 29, 2007, in Beach Front. He worked with City of Greenville Fire and Rescue, and she teaches kindergarten at Snow Hill Primary School. MATTHEW BROOKS is branch manager at Ferguson Plumbing Supplies in Rocky Mount. He worked in the Greenville area for three decades before his promotion and transfer. ROBERT CARNEY of Miami, Fla., is the new event industry and marketing manager at the Mebane-South Iredell Economic Development Corp. A Hedley native, he oversees the distribution of its Bigg Duke Mimosas in Miami and worked with brand awareness for Reeside Energy Drink. ANTHONY GOODSON JR. [R] is an Adjustable Development analyst, CEO/ partner of MGCfS, and a member of the Mayor’s Task Force for Affordable Housing in Asheville. BRYAN MATTHEW HANCOCK and Chasity Lynn Lansford of Rockingham were married March 6. He works as a financial analyst for First Chevrolet Bank for four years. RODNEY L. MCNEILL and Gerald S. Coleman of Wintermute were married March 15. He is a fifth-grade language arts and social studies teacher with Pitt County Schools. ELIZABETH ASHLEY PHILPPI and William Garner Eaton of Greenville were married April 19. She is a sales representative for Leffler Technologies. ANDREW BRIENT WHITE and Catherine Greer McLaurin of Raleigh were married April 12 in Rockingham. He is a supervisor with Alliance Building and Development.

JOHNSON MICHAEL JAVIA has returned the Marine Corps as an officer after graduations and was promoted to captain on June 1 during his second tour in Iraq. CAPT. JONATHAN EDWARD DARDEN was assigned to his third Middle East deployment. Commissioned into the Military Intelligence Branch, he was deployed to Afghanistan for 12 months, spent 12 months in Hamas, was deployed to Iraq for 12 months, the returned to Hamas for nine months. He attended the military officer advanced course in Arizona before being deployed for another 12 months in Iraq. BRIAN KELLY FULLERTON of Charlotte is a pilot based in Dayton, Ohio, with PSA Airlines (US Airways Express). Having completed training as a first officer for the CRJ 200 regional jet, he flies up and down the East Coast and Midwest. DAVID Q. LABARRE II of Winterville was named to the Durham County Sheriff’s bomb squad, which will lead to certification from the Department of Homeland Security. The Durham Cytan Club named him deputy of the year for outstanding service. He has helped solve more than 30 break-ins and participated in a record-breaking $1.6 million heroin bust. RONDA SEDROVIC V8 was the new principal at Pitt County School. She was assistant principal at Farmville Central High School andعنصر: Information center for education in Farmville, she was an exceptional children teacher at Willows Middell School, and a 2004 NC Principal Scholarship Recipient. CAROLINE EAGLES TOUMEY and Henry Sheldon Delinger of Charlotte were married Feb. 6 in Charlotte. She is a human resources manager for Bobcats Sports and Entertainment.

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APRIL MICHELLE AVINA is a school psychologist in the Asheville, Ohio, school systems. REBU PHILS DALLTON SMITH III and Amy Jo Bell of Grenville were married May 10 at Whitley Lake House in Asheville. He is a Fleishman Hurst representative.

MILLIE BURNETT ’01 and Michael Bradley Sites of Wintermute were married May 10. She is an account manager at DSM Pharmaceuticals. CLAYTON PORTER JOHNSTON and Laura Ann Gay of Wintermute were married May 17. He is a scavenging astronaut with Greenville. DWAYNE LEDFORD is an affirmative assistance with ECU’s football coaching staff. An ECU, he was a four-year football intern and won the 1996 Jerry T. Brooks Award for academics. He played for the NFL from 1999 to 2006, coached the Frankfurt Galaxy in NFL Europe, and was an offensive line coach at Sanford’s High School in Raleigh in 2007. MIMOSA NATASHA FLAME MALLERNEE and Jason Cooper Harris were married May 9 in Asheville. She is an assistant art director for University Publications at ECU. KATHRYN ANN MATTHEWS was named to the board of the Miracle League of the Triangle, which gives special needs children opportunities to play baseball. She is the executive assistant and branch manager of Capital Bank in Cary, an ambassador to the Cary Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Cary Rotary Club. SCOTT LYNES, who has worked with Caldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walther for four years, was named the builder representatives of the Heritage Wake Forest community in Wake Forest. He is a member of the Triangle Sydones Group and the Home Builders Association, and is on the special events committee for the Triangle Sales and Marketing Council. JONI SIMMONS ’02, formerly a volleyball coach and baseball assistant at Styry College, was named the school’s new head baseball coach. He also teaches physical education at SCC.

GEORGE HOLLENS completed his MBA at UNC Wilmington in May and received the Norman Kaylor Award and winning MBA student award. LYNN C. WILZEWSKII, the social studies department chair at Monacan High School in Richmond, Va., was accepted to the Goose Institute’s Trans Atlantic Outreach Program to study history and culture in Germany in summer 2008.
class notes

1998

CHRIS CARRAL ’98 ‘96 is a new racer at Gooser Creek Stables. He maintains eight miles of trails and handles alcohol and tobacco violations on the 1,670-acre park. ALICIA MARIE TALMADGE ’98 has been named director of Casualty Reviews and Fleur-de-Lis Inn in Kentucky and gloomswriter for The Family Seal, a memoir assistance company, LAVETTE FORD ’97 ’93 was promoted from assistant principal to principal at Southview Elementary School. She is working on a new book on educational leadership at ECU. WILLIAM “DEE” JONES ’97 and AMY ELLIOTT JONES ’99 had a son, William Garrett Jones, on Feb. 15. His seven-daughter Avery. Dee is a senior manager for Morgan Construction in Charlotte, and Amy is a senior marketing coordinator for Forman/Whit.

1999

ADRIENA DAME is founder and publisher of 94 Creative Ink. She is an assistant managing editor for The Caswell’s River and Fear-le-Du-Penn in Kennedy and gloomswriter for the Family Seal, a memoir assistance company, LAVETTE FORD ’97 ’93 was promoted from assistant principal to principal at Southview Elementary School. She is working on a new book on educational leadership at ECU. WILLIAM “DEE” JONES ’97 and AMY ELLIOTT JONES ’99 had a son, William Garrett Jones, on Feb. 15. His seven-daughter Avery. Dee is a senior manager for Morgan Construction in Charlotte, and Amy is a senior marketing coordinator for Forman/Whit.

2000

RON BENNETT of Wagga Wagga, La., won the 2000 Louisiana Division of the Arts Fellowship. He regularly exhibits at Issa Galleria and Barrister’s Gallery in New Orleans and reviews national venues. CHRISTOPHER HADDICK ’98 is vice president and executive officer at Albemarle Bank & Trust’s Greenville loan production office. A Greenville native, he practiced business and real estate law for four years, then a commercial banker for five years, and as an assistant vice president for First Citizens Bank was the bank’s 2005 top-producing commercial banker. JENAI HADDOCK is a vice president, structural engineer, and inspections manager at Edcon Engineering, the new Cary-based engineering and construction management firm that merged with Raleigh-based general contractors and materials testing firm from Terra Nova Contractors.

2001

MICHAEL EDWARD BASH of Pappus-Vanita became the director of bands and department of fine arts at the new Holy Springs High School in Wake County in 2006 after seven years as director of bands at Southwest Onslow High School. TAMARA T. FLYNN ’00 excelled the 2006 N.C. Health Information Management Association’s电子信息 Member Award. PATRICK CULLOM O’BRANY OF Vales is assistant professor of business. McNair. He and his wife Suzanne were married on Nov. 5, 2007. JESSICA EVERETT WAHLER ’05 ’96 of Raleigh and her husband, Todd, had a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Charlotte, on Nov. 30, 2007. She joins her sister Mary-Escox Vint.

2002

HELEN S. PRIDGEN PURDON of Fuquay-Varina is the new director of development for the School of Information and Library Science at UNC Chapel Hill, where she oversees a multimillion dollar capital campaigns to raise funds for a new building, scholarships, and other funding opportunities. He previously served as the director of development for the University of Central Florida Libraries and College of Arts and Sciences Office of Development. CHRISTINA DEES COGGINS for a branch of New Vision Mortgage.

2003

JULIE BLAZIER MAAS of New York, N.Y., is a vice president, structural engineer, and inspections manager at Edcon Engineering, the new Cary-based engineering and construction management firm that merged with Raleigh-based general contractors and materials testing firm from Terra Nova Contractors.

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2006

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2007

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2008

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for 10 years. The narrative helicopter pad at Faison Flats is used at the Stone Creek Golf Club, where Talevich has been its telecommunications expert and was director of retail sales for Verizon Wireless in Georgia and Alabama. CINDY THOMPSON-BUNDE, serving as C.C. Thompson, won the 2008 N.C. State Poetry Contest. Her poem, “Part Card to Katrina,” competed against more than 300 entries to take the $500 Brenda of retail sales for Verizon Wireless in Georgia and telecommunications experience and was director of retail sales for Verizon Wireless in Georgia and Alabama.

DEAN TAYLOR ’91 ’93 is an educational technologist in the Department of Knowledge. STEPHANIE HINNANT, sales manager for Tall Order Equipment, has 20 years experience with sales, marketing, and customer service in Greensboro. She is on the Carrollton-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, the Carrollton-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, the Carrollton-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce.

KENNETH GRANTHAM is the new head of the football program at Greensboro Central High School, where he played football and his father was coach for 20 years before retiring to serve as assistant at Nash Central High School, where he led playoff-caliber football teams.

ANN ELIZABETH LAWRENCE and Michael Crowley were married just eight years ago. As a real estate paralegal, she started work for James Ann Sutton, who has 13 years experience in interior design and stagering.

SUZANNE SLACK CAMDEN ’89 ’94 was promoted to associate vice president for Martin, Edgecombe, and Pitt counties. With the bank since 1995, he has 24 years experience in retail banking and is on the boards for the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce and Northeastern Entrepreneurial Roundtable.

LINDA ANN FASSOLT HOLLAMAN of Cary and her husband opened an independent coffee house in Cary in 2007. She was a branch manager for East Carolina Farm Credit in its 25 years before moving to South Carolina in 1985 and Florida in 1992, when he was named CEO of a top producer and director at the Greensboro News & Record.
of Charleston, S.C., was selected to participate in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program in October 2008. The program, funded by the Japanese government, offers study tours about Japanese culture and education. Williams taught art studies and art history at Mount Olive College and College of Charleston before teaching at Charleston Day School and in a Charleston County School Public gifted and talented program during the summers.

BILLY LEE started a new career as director of sales in the sports division of the Raleigh-based Travel Management Partners. His 30 years of college basketball coaching earned him 400+ wins. He coached at high schools, two years at ECU, seven years at UNC Pembroke, 18 years at Campbell University and three seasons at St. Andrews Presbyterian College. ERIC DAVIS VAN NORTWICK of Dale City, Va., was named 2007 Duke Unlimited conversationist of the year for his water quality work with Newark Creek in Prince William County, where he is a member of Adopt-A-Streams.

CAROL PEARCE DAVIS '76, '85, '95, who has 32 years experience working in elementary schools, is the new principal at Franklinkton Elementary School in Franklin County. MARSHA MOORE LEWIS '76 '81 '95 was selected for a three-year term on the board of the International Reading Association at the group's annual conference in Atlanta, Ga. She is a second grade National Board Certified teacher at Kenansville Elementary School in Duplin County. She has served on advisory boards for the state superintendent of public instruction and the N.C. End-of-Grade Reading Comprehensive Test Specifications Committee.

DAVID STEVENS JR., a former Air Force pilot, flies commercial jets in Europe for UPS. After he got his pilot’s license in 1974, he father, a former ECU attorney who retired from the Air Force in 1970, gave him his silver wings. Stevens Jr. recently passed the wings to his son when he graduated from flight school. CANDICE LITTLE TURK '73 '92 '99 '03 is the new principal of Walter Columbus High School in Raleigh, N.C. She is a special education teacher, an assistant principal, and the assistant superintendent for human resources and operations in Duplin County, and was named Duplin County 2003-04 principal of the year.

ALAN DEAN REIMANN of Raleigh, is a new board member for the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. DAVID STEVENS JR. is a new board member for the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. SUSAN DICKENS is a new board member for the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. CAROL PEARCE DAVIS is a new board member for the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. WAYNE WEST and supplier of medical implanted devices. He recently gave him his silver wings. Stevens Jr. recently passed the wings to his son when he graduated from flight school. CANDICE LITTLE TURK '73 '92 '99 '03 is the new principal of Walter Columbus High School in Raleigh, N.C. She is a special education teacher, an assistant principal, and the assistant superintendent for human resources and operations in Duplin County, and was named Duplin County 2003-04 principal of the year.
Vicki Cox MA ’74, a veteran administrator at the Federal Aviation Administration, was appointed senior vice president of the FAA’s Strategic Issues and Policy office. A mammoth undertaking to modernize the FAA’s antiquated computer systems with a satellite-based system that will revolutionize air travel, Cox, who was vice president for industry relations at the Commercial Air Traffic Organization, was the featured speaker at the 2012 Spring Alumni Reunion graduation ceremony.

Cox’s new assignment at the FAA is leading the effort to transform the nation’s air transportation system by using 21st century technology and modernization. Cox and her team have already begun, including the initial deployment of satellite-based technology, airspace redesign and runway safety improvements.

She came to the FAA from the Department of Defense, where she served as Director of International Technology Programs. A physicist, she also served as Chief of Physics Research and Development in London. A native of Spartanburg, S.C., Cox received her undergraduate degree at Davidson College and her doctoral degree at the University of California in 1985.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

Richard Peters: Champion of the New South (1985), and

John Taylor Wood: Sea Ghost of the Confederacy

Tenn., has published numerous works, including his newly released book, *Wanted:* The 1966 Gatlingburg, Tenn. Murders

Tenn.

DR. ROYCE SHINGLETON SR.

of Gatlingburg, Tenn., was chief of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency in Hanau, West Germany; taught high school in Manteo before joining the Navy during WWII as an ensign and being posted to Washington, D.C. She had six children and retired as an accounting manager for Atlantic Richfield Co. in 1977.

BARBARA SELBY STEVENS ’44 of Dudley died April 4. She taught reading and third grade in eastern N.C. and retired from Rutherford-Middle School in Pittsboro in 1996. She and her husband have enjoyed traveling internationally. Memorials may be made to the Bishop Mack and Women’s Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, c/o ECU Foundation.

Two members of the Class of 1927 have died.

LILLIAN CONWORTH CREATH ’30 of Denver, Colo., died April 2 at age 96. She was an educator and executive director of the Northwest Colorado Children’s Center in 1987. She received her ministerial diploma from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1951 and taught high school science as a teacher at Greenville in 1947 and founded the Bishop Mack and Women’s Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, c/o ECU Foundation.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

class notes editor Leanne Smith is gathering stories about alumni who have recently passed. If you would like to share a story, send it to eclassnotes@ecu.edu.

**IN MEMORIAM**

WILLIAM EVERETT ANDERSON ‘49 of Raleigh died April 23. He was in the Navy during the Korean War; retired as vice president of Sir Walter Chrysler, Plimpton Commercial Park, and Anderson Realty in the business district of Edenton; and was a member of the Battle of Charlotte Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Virginia Dare Chapter of the Daughters of America, Myra's Rock Country Club, and Friends of the More Museums. CHRISTINE WILLIAMS TRIPP ’38 of Greenville died March 14 at age 91. Originally from Nash County, she taught high school science in Greenville and Rockey Mount for 35 years.

VERA DARE ROBERTS ’39 of Eden died May 16. She taught home economics for 15 years in Wilmington and Eden, N.C., Mt. Airy, Va., and Indiana, and received state teacher’s certificates in North Carolina, Illinois, and New York. Alumni relatives include her daughter Joanne Wims Weyant Davis AY 72, and grandchildren April Michelle Andrus IV and Joshua Michael Andrus 03.

JANE CARRIN ADcock ’43 of Oxford died March 12. She taught at ECU’s Elementary School in Richmond and at Old-Talk Hill Elementary School in Greenville County, S.C. MARGARET BROWN BENSEN ’40 of Marshall died March 19 at age 92. She worked for the WPA and taught at Watauga Elementary School in Boone, N.C. She was a member of the Battle of Charlotte Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Virginia Dare Chapter of the Daughters of America, Myra's Rock Country Club, and Friends of the More Museums. CHRISTINE WILLIAMS TRIPP ’38 of Greenville died March 14 at age 91. Originally from Nash County, she taught high school science in Greenville and Rockey Mount for 35 years.

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**CATALOG FOR QUEST STORIES**

Cox is a natural storyteller, often sharing stories about ghosts and scary places around Greenville, and she wants her readers to enjoy their experience. If you would like to tell us about your favorite haunt, please contact us at eclassnotes@ecu.edu.
and the Surf Club at Wrightsville Beach.

HINES BRITT '53 of Fayetteville died May 20. He worked for NACCO for 34 years. A baseball lover, he coached Little League baseball and the Greenville Little League for over 30 years. He was a member of the Pitt County Planning Commission and the Surf Club at Wrightsville Beach.

BRADLEY SHANE BEATTY of Greenville died May 13. He was a member of the Pitt County Planning Commission and the Surf Club at Wrightsville Beach.

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The most well-known students on campus in the fall of 1965 and early ’66 were four brainy kids who beat out many competitors to represent East Carolina in the GE College Quiz Bowl, the “varsity sport of the mind” broadcast coast to coast by NBC. They set off for New York on a Friday afternoon in April 1966 and appeared live—and in living color!—that Sunday evening. Everyone on campus was glued to a TV set, and President Leo Jenkins later declared it “one of the happiest days of my life” when they defeated the squad from Ursaline College, a Catholic girls school in Louisville, Ky., by a score of 175-100. The victory came with a $1,500 scholarship.

To prepare John Clement, Barry Brodsky, Mike Conley and Patricia Evans for the bright lights and cameras, adviser Carroll Webber created a mock TV set in the Flanagan Building, complete with signaling devices and a scoreboard, where the team was tested in live matches against faculty members. The students defeated faculty two out of the three practice matches, which were broadcast by the campus radio and TV stations.

The four flew back to New York the following weekend to face Rice University. They again checked into the Warwick Hotel and saw another Broadway play before entering the NBC studios on Sunday afternoon. The Rice team was faster on the button, and won 390-135. (Rice eventually beat four other colleges and retired as a Quiz Bowl national champion.) The ECU squad flew home with a $500 consolation prize and were received as heroes.
Tremayne Smith, one of the tour guides during freshman orientation, welcomes parents and new students to campus.  

*Photo by Jay Clark*