THE DAILY CLIPS

February 2, 2012

News, commentary, and opinion
compiled by East Carolina University News Services:

The Greenville Daily Reflector
The Raleigh News & Observer
    The New York Times
    The Wall Street Journal
    USA Today
    The Charlotte Observer
    The Fayetteville Observer
    The Greensboro News & Record
    Newsweek
    U.S. News & World Report
    Business Week
    Time

East Carolina University News Services
Web site at http://www.ecu.edu/news
252-328-6481
Students, NAACP oppose tuition hikes

BY JANE STANCILL - jstancill@newsobserver.com

CHAPEL HILL–Students at UNC-Chapel Hill joined with the NAACP on Wednesday to demand a halt to proposed tuition increases in the UNC system.

About 50 people gathered around the steps of the South Building that houses administrative offices at the center of campus. Students also were scheduled to meet with UNC system President Tom Ross later Wednesday.

Protests are picking up steam before next week's decision on 2012-13 tuition by the UNC Board of Governors. Tonight, UNC-CH students plan a "teach-in," one of several scheduled at campuses across the state. And on Feb. 10, students will march to the UNC board meeting, where the vote is to take place. Some students from the system's 16 college campuses are traveling by bus to Chapel Hill for the event.

"We cannot be ignored," Zaina Alsous, a UNC-CH junior from Raleigh, said to cheers from the crowd, "because we must always remind them that this is our university!"

The Rev. Curtis Gatewood, a vice president of North Carolina's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said a net reduction of $482 million in state funding to UNC campuses in the past four years is "a recipe to an inferior education." But the answer is not charging students
more, Gatewood said. "This is like allowing bullies to come in and beat up a child's teacher, take the child's books and take the child's lunch money."

UNC leaders say they must increase tuition to help protect the classroom, because state cuts have led to crowding, layoffs and reduced course offerings.

Ross has recommended average in-state undergraduate tuition and fee increases of 8.8 percent systemwide for 2012-13 and 4.2 percent for tuition in 2013-14.

Ross' proposals are for tuition and fee increases of 9.8 percent at N.C. State University and 9.9 percent at UNC-CH - smaller than what those campus leaders requested.

Laura McCready, a UNC-CH sophomore from Charlotte, said university leaders are forcing students to choose between affordability and quality.
"Come on," she told the crowd. "We know that there are better solutions."

McCready described an atmosphere of fear on campus.
"Students are scared that their brothers and sisters will not be able to come here because their families can't afford it," she said. "Students are scared that they're graduating into a job market without jobs and they don't know how they're going to pay off their debt. Students are scared ... that our children won't receive the public benefits that we are receiving."

Stephanie Gaskill, a graduate student at UNC-CH, said anger is rising.
"Students are fed up," she said. "They're sick of degrees that aren't worth the paper they're printed on, because they no longer guarantee them jobs. They don't believe that the value of their education goes up just because the price tag gets bigger."

She called on the UNC board to reject the increases.
"Students are in enough debt already," she said. "Any increase is too much."

Stancill: 919-829-4559
ECU unveils 18 additions
By Nathan Summers
The Daily Reflector
Thursday, February 2, 2012

There were no late surprises and no blockbuster last-minute signings for the East Carolina football team on Wednesday’s National Signing Day.

But more important than that, there were numerous signatures from scholastic and junior college football players who fit the Pirates’ greatest needs heading into the 2012 season.

Head coach Ruffin McNeill accepted letters of intent from 18 athletes from nine different states, including five from North Carolina, three from South Carolina, two from Virginia, two from Florida, two from Mississippi and two from California.

“We went after the top players, not just in the state but around the country,” said McNeill, who also said Wednesday there could still be at least one more addition to the 2012 class. “We hit North Carolina hard again and went into battle with some guys there toward the end, and that’s going to happen.”

With the backbone of his third signing class mostly already set, McNeill did what he promised to do all along, spending the twilight of the recruiting season tailing some prominent national recruits.

Though the effort was largely to no avail — linebacker Jamal Marcus picked Ohio State and running back Jela Duncan opted for Duke, for example — the coach said even those near misses can’t hurt.
“From day one I’ve said we’ll go after the top player,” McNeill said. “We don’t care who’s on him and who’s not on him, we’re going after the top one. We wanted to sign 20 in this class and right now we have 18 that are on the books.”

The class addresses three key areas for the Pirates, adding players to the offensive line, at linebacker and in the secondary.

Leading the effort were O-linemen J.T. Boyd (Fort Mill, S.C./Nation Ford High School), Ryan Revia (Roanoke, Va./Patrick Henry), Jonathan McLaughlin (Mauldin, S.C./Mauldin) and Keifer Neal (Anaheim, Calif./Golden West Community College).

The offense also welcomed three new wide receivers in Jabril Solomon (Hemingway, S.C./Hemingway), Lance Ray (Quincy, Fla./Northwest Miss. Junior College) and Quataye Smyre (Statesville/South Iredell).

But in addition to Duncan, the Pirates also came up short in their courtships with backs like Marty Williams (Clemson) and Michael Pierre (South Florida), and with quarterback Kanler Coker (UNC).

Despite missing on prized recruits like Marcus and Keilin Rayner (Duke), the Pirates piled up six new linebackers in Reece Speight (Wilson/Beddingfield), Dre Scarborough (Beulaville/East Duplin), Gabe Wouillard (Valencia, Calif./Pierce College), Dayon Pratt (Washington, D.C./Coolidge), Quandarius Crump (Lexington/Lexington) and Drayvon Fairley (Red Springs/Red Springs).

In the secondary, ECU landed the five defensive backs on their wish list, including Colby Brown (Augusta, Ga./Highland Community College), Lucas Thompson (Winter Garden, Fla./West Orange), DeShaun Amos (Midlothian, Va./Manchester), Godfrey Thompson (Jackson, Miss./Hinds Community College) and Adonis Armstrong (Clinton, Miss./Hinds Community College).

“We knew we needed to develop starting ability or depth on the offensive line,” McNeill said. “That was a concentration of ours going into the recruiting season. In the secondary, we lost three starters, so we felt we had to renew that area. And going to a 3-4, it’s a linebacker defense, a linebacker-type scheme, and we felt we had to continue to restock and also continue to replenish that spot.”

Contact Nathan Summers at nsummers@reflector.com
ECU signs 18, restocks on defense

BY BRIAN HAINES - Correspondent

GREENVILLE—Addressing needs was the key phrase at East Carolina Wednesday as third-year coach Ruffin McNeill and his staff put a premium on restocking the secondary and adding depth to the linebacker and offensive line positions on National Signing Day.

The Pirates finished 5-7 (3-3 Conference USA) last season and on Wednesday inked six linebackers, five defensive backs, four offensive linemen and three wide receivers as part of an 18-player recruiting class that spanned more than nine states and was ranked the fifth-best in Conference USA by Rivals.com and 11th-best by Scouts.com.

"We knew we had to develop depth at the offensive line. That was a concentration of ours going into the recruiting season," McNeill said. "In the secondary we lost three starters with Derek (Blacknall), Emanuel (Davis) and Bradley (Jacobs) (exhausting their eligibility).

"Also on defense, going to a 3-4, it's a linebacker defense and a linebacker-type scheme and we felt like we had to continue to restock and replenish that spot."

According to Rivals.com, the biggest catch of the day for the Pirates was safety Lucas Thompson, a 6-1, 190-pound freshman from Winter Garden, Fl., who was named an Under Armour All-American. Rivals.com listed Thompson as a three-star recruit and the 17th best safety in the nation.

"The secondary has to be a strong unit and we felt like we had to address that," McNeill said. "Lucas coming aboard was a great addition."

The Pirates also aided the defense by bringing in a crop of linebackers with good size as five of the six LBs are 6-3 or bigger and over 200 pounds.

Of the Wednesday signees, six were JUCO transfers, which deviates from McNeill's repeated stance of not wanting to "microwave the process" at ECU. However, after going 11-14 in his first two seasons the ECU alum said that bringing the JUCO players was the best and fastest way to fill gaps.

Though McNeill was extremely pleased with his class, he did not sign any running backs and did not add a quarterback for the first time in his tenure at ECU. However, the Pirates still have two scholarships left to be awarded.
ECU trustee files for personal bankruptcy
Thursday, February 2, 2012

East Carolina University Trustee Mark Tipton has filed for personal bankruptcy.

The Triangle Business Journal reported on Tuesday that the Raleigh-based developer filed a Chapter 11 petition in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina on Monday.

Tipton could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

The petition lists $66 million in liabilities, including amounts disputed by Tipton, mostly from Whistler Investment Group LLC and other corporate entities that Tipton controlled.

The university will not comment since the issue is personal matter, spokeswoman Mary Schulken said.

Trustees are appointed by the University of North Carolina system Board of Governors. Missing three consecutive trustees meetings is the only reason a member can lose a seat on the board, Schulken said.

Tipton is a 1973 graduate of ECU and received an Outstanding Alumni Award in 1994.
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Erskine Bowles served as chief of staff in Bill Clinton's White House, led the prestigious University of North Carolina system and headed a bipartisan commission that recommended tough choices to reduce the U.S. deficit.

The Charlotte investment banker is being asked to consider public service again — this time by fellow Democrats in his home state who want him to run for governor after incumbent Beverly Perdue shocked many last week by announcing she wouldn't seek re-election.

While two Democrats have already gotten in, other party notables — three current or former congressmen and a previous state treasurer among them — are waiting for Bowles to decide in a race that could have implications for a presidential swing state that is hosting the Democratic convention.

"At lot of people are trying to encourage him to run," said former Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan, who is among those who've spoken with Bowles. "He has not decided either way."

Getting into the gubernatorial race would close a circle for the Bowles family. His father, Hargrove "Skipper" Bowles, ran for governor 40 years ago, only to lose during the 1972 Republican landslide that also sent conservative firebrand Jesse Helms to the U.S. Senate.

Bowles hasn't made any public statements since Perdue's decision. He told The Associated Press In an e-mail Wednesday evening that he will make a decision by the end of the week.

If Bowles gets in, "he absolutely shakes up the race," said Jennifer Duffy, a gubernatorial analyst at The Cook Political Report, a nonpartisan Washington-based newsletter.

If Bowles won the primary, likely Republican nominee Pat McCrory would face a challenger that arguably North Carolina Republicans respect the most. Bowles could bankroll his campaign easily through his fundraising acumen and self-financing.
Bowles can't help but think about his father when he's deciding whether he enjoys being the elder statesman in North Carolina public life more than running for statewide office again.

The elder Bowles told his son to always find ways to serve the public that would add to the proverbial "community woodpile," and Erskine Bowles' efforts in politics have partly come out of a sense of duty. After his father died in 1986, he agreed to become Jordan's finance chairman for his 1988 gubernatorial bid because he said his father would have wanted him to do it.

Bowles has an impressive resume that makes him the most well-known living North Carolina Democrat never to serve in elected office. Bowles ran for the U.S. Senate in both 2002 and 2004, winning the Democratic nomination but losing in the general election — once to Elizabeth Dole and the other time to Richard Burr.

"There are many ways to add to the community woodpile," Bowles said on the night of his 2004 loss. "Elective office will not be my route, but that does not mean you've seen the last of Erskine Bowles."

He wasn't the best campaigner, often struggling to translate his deep understanding of national government to everyday people. Referring to his past failures for elected office, Bowles once quipped: "I have empirical data that I was a terrible politician."

In 2005, he was named the head of the 17-campus UNC system, where he received praise from both sides of the political aisle during his five years at the post. All Republicans in the state Senate endorsed Bowles for the job even before the position was vacant.

Several days after he announced his retirement from UNC, Bowles stood beside President Barack Obama and former Republican Sen. Alan Simpson of Wyoming to head a national commission on how to improve the country's fiscal health. The panel's recommendation of tax increases and spending cuts have been praised by many but have made little progress in a divided Congress.

At age 66, Bowles may prefer keeping the role of elder statesman in the party, spending more time with wife Crandall, their adult children and grandchildren, and serving on several corporate boards, including Facebook. He'd also have to move to Raleigh.

"He's got all of the credentials," said Ferrel Guillory, director of the Program on Public Life at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a former political reporter. "Then it becomes first, what does he want to do
with his life? Does he want to spend the next four to eight years of his life dealing with all of the ins and outs of state government?"

If he were to run, he'd first have to defeat a Democratic field that currently includes Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton and state Rep. Bill Faison, who both had several hundred thousand dollars on hand as of late December. Probably waiting would be McCrory, the former Charlotte mayor who has $2 million in cash and has planned for a year a repeat bid for governor after narrowly losing to Perdue in 2008.

McCrory wouldn't comment this week about Bowles but said all of the current or potential Democratic candidates have enabled a negative culture of state government under Perdue or Democratic predecessor Mike Easley. Democrats who have yet to announce their decisions to run are U.S. Reps. Brad Miller and Mike McIntyre, former Rep. Bob Etheridge and ex-State Treasurer Richard Moore.

Democrats are bringing Bowles a sense of anxiety about saving the Executive Mansion and want to counter the influence of the Legislature, which turned Republican in the House and Senate last year for the first time since 1870. Only two Republicans have been North Carolina governor in more than a century.

"If he determines that his leadership can make the difference ... I think it will be hard for him to walk away from it," said D.G. Martin, who ran for Congress in the mid-1980s with fundraising help from Bowles.

The words of Bowles' father are likely playing a role in any decision.

While not speaking specifically to a gubernatorial bid, Jordan, the former lieutenant governor, recalled: "Erskine has said along the way many times ... 'My daddy would want me to do this.'"
Handout / Jason and Allison Morton with dog Lucky and Allison's 12-point buck, which she saw on a trail cam and killed.

**Leesville Road senior bags her 12-point buck**

BY CORY SMITH - Correspondent

Alison Morton is a straight-A student and Presidential award winner for volunteering. Soon she'll be a student at East Carolina University.

The senior at Leesville Road High School has hunted by herself for three years, but said she had never experienced anything like the 12-point buck she killed the weekend after Thanksgiving.

"It was just so crazy," Morton said. "I thought that another hunter had killed my buck. When I saw him the day after Thanksgiving, it just felt different. I knew I had to get out there for a reason."

After watching the same buck on a trail cam for three months, Morton said she began to wonder if she would ever find her deer in the tree stand deep in the woods of Northern Granville County.

"It started getting kind of discouraging," she said. "We kept seeing him on the trail cam, it was like he was posing almost. But when we went out to go hunting we couldn't find him."
Morton, 18, said she arrived home the day after Thanksgiving and saw the buck she has searched for pop up on the camera. She knew she needed to make her way out to the tree stand she called, "The Killin' Tree."

Morton said she used to go out to the woods with her father, Jason Morton, just to watch and study deer and other animals. Those years of studying deer helped her to finally find her buck.

"I could see a doe through my scope and was just thinking to myself, 'This could be it. My deer could be behind all of them,' " Morton said. "I knew that with a bunch of doe going ahead, that meant there was a bigger buck behind them. Then I started to get really excited and nervous all at the same time. Right once he stepped out, I shot and he did what I call, 'the death kick.'"

"Then I called my dad immediately and told him, 'It's the one on the cam. I think I got him.' "

By this time, it was too dark to find the buck. So Morton and her father, other members of her family, and her beagle, Lucky, went out the next morning to search for her kill.

**The search**

The first sign of the deer was picked up by Alison Morton's cousin, Mason.

"He screamed out, 'I found blood!' " Alison Morton said. "It was literally only the size of a freckle. But without him finding that, I don't know that we would have found my buck."

The spots kept getting bigger until it was clear that the buck had tired. Around that time, Morton said she was caught off guard when Lucky, not usually a tracking dog, made a howling sound and started leading the group.

"My dad's arms were ripped (from searching through the brush) because he was wearing a sleeveless shirt," Morton said. "And we weren't even in the thickest part yet. We had to cross the road into another person's land where the trail got thinner and the briars got thicker.

"We had to rip vines and briars just to take two steps."

After a three-hour search, Morton tracked the wounded deer and had a clear shot. But with a few people leaving the search, Morton wanted to make sure that she wouldn't put others in harm's way.
"My shot was facing the road where some of my family was still sitting," Morton said. "I called my dad and made sure everyone was out of the way. So then, I took the shot and heard a loud grunt and all I said was, 'Yes!'"

The Boone and Crockett score for the 12-point buck was an estimated 142 when the Morton's took the buck to have it sent off. The winner last year in her division of the Dixie Deer Classic was a 147, but second place went to a buck that scored 142.

**Making her father proud**

Morton started going out to the woods with her father before the age of 5, but didn't start truly hunting with him until she was 14.

"I knew this was special for her," Jason Morton said. "So, before we ever got started, I gave her my blaze orange hat and told her, 'This is your deer. You've worked too hard for someone else to find him before you do.'"

The proud father said this moment was a product of his daughter's patience and hard work throughout the years.

"She's passed up a lot of good bucks over the years in hopes that one day they would grow into great bucks," Jason Morton said. "It was almost like, after 30 years, finally passing on the torch to my daughter.”

Morton said it would be an honor to win the women's division of the Dixie Deer Classic next month, but she is content with having a 12-point rack on her wall.

"I'm just glad I have one in the contest," Alison Morton said. "Entering my deer into the contest was not even on my mind when we were searching for him. I've already got the wall picked out in my room where his head will go. "I know what I've done, and I'm proud of that."
City Council members said Tuesday they want new solutions to replace the outgoing Greenville police chief’s downtown policing strategy.

Chief William Anderson sent an email to Mayor Allen Thomas following an incident when police arrested a 20-year-old man who allegedly tried unsuccessfully to fire a gun at another man outside Michelangelo’s pizza shop at the intersection of Fifth and Cotanche streets.

Anderson told Thomas in the email that the downtown area is an “out-of-control powder keg.” He said several recommendations issued in June by the city’s Special Task Force on Crime that would provide additional tools to address the situation were rejected by the council.

The recommendations were not adopted because they were considered “bar busters” by some on the council, Anderson told Thomas.

Thomas responded that the task force’s exclusion of ABC officials from the investigation process was “a mistake and a fatal flaw” in its work and subsequent recommendations.

Councilmen Dennis Mitchell and Max Joyner spent Saturday night downtown to observe activity there.

“I saw the streets blocked off and saw people loitering in the street in a carnival-like environment,” Mitchell said. “It’s very different from the way it was when I was in college here not too long ago.”

Mitchell said he remembers when police used to walk up and down the sidewalks making sure people were moving along, but did not see that happening Saturday. He said he also observed a large number of students coming out of the bars extremely intoxicated on Saturday, many unaware of their surroundings.

“I want to see business owners, the university, police and city representatives come together and find a system for policing that’s good for all and acceptable for the university,” Mitchell said. “A lot of the things the police do are working, but we’re spending a lot of money and can’t continue to do that.”
Joyner said he didn’t know of anything the task force recommended that would have prevented the actions of the man with the gun Saturday.

“I think the Greenville police officers are doing a great job doing what they’re told and implementing the chief’s strategy, but I don’t agree with the strategy,” Joyner said.

“I’d like to get together with bar owners, ALE, ABC, ECU and Greenville police and find solutions.” he said. “We’ve always been pointing fingers at each other and that solution has never worked.”

Councilwoman Rose Glover, who called Anderson’s comments “inflammatory,” said she does not support a large investment in downtown policing.

“While they’ve been standing downtown, I’ve had four other murders committed in west Greenville in my district.” Glover said.

“I want my people to be able to call the police if someone is shooting outside their house and have the police be right there.”

A police official said Wednesday the department would have no comments about Anderson’s email to Thomas.

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or 252-329-9571.
**Peace University redo will accommodate men**

From staff reports

RALEIGH William Peace University, formerly Peace College, will embark on a $6 million renovation plan as the campus prepares for the enrollment of male students.

Projects approved this month by Peace trustees include an upgrade of the Hermann Athletic Center, the student center, bookstore and the president's house.

The renovated athletic center will have a fitness center, weight rooms, a field house, a dance/aerobics studio and locker rooms for both female and male athletes. The changes are part of the university's plan to start three men's sports teams this year.

The student center will include an updated dining hall and coffee shop. The center also will add student game and lounge space, along with student government offices. The bookstore will be moved from Belk Hall to a building that now houses maintenance offices.

The president's residence will be relocated to a downtown property instead of the current home near North Hills.

William Peace, formerly a women's college, is scheduled to enroll men as full-time students this fall.
Christian Torres, 25, had worked at Pomona College for six years and had been a leader in a unionization effort.

Immigrant Worker Firings Unsettle a College Campus

By JENNIFER MEDINA

CLAREMONT, Calif. — The dining hall workers had been at Pomona College for years, some even decades. For a few, it was the only job they had held since moving to the United States.

Then late last year, administrators at the college delivered letters to dozens of the longtime employees asking them to show proof of legal residency, saying that an internal review had turned up problems in their files.

Seventeen workers could not produce documents showing that they were legally able to work in the United States. So on Dec. 2, they lost their jobs.

Now, the campus is deep into a consuming debate over what it means to be a college with liberal ideals, with some students, faculty and alumni accusing the administration and the board of directors of betraying the college’s ideals. The renewed discussion over immigration and low-wage workers has animated class discussions, late-night dorm conversations and furious back and forth on alumni e-mail lists. Some alumni are now refusing to donate to the college, while some students are considering discouraging prospective freshmen from enrolling.

For the last two years, many of the dining hall workers had been organizing to form a union, but the efforts stalled amid negotiations with the
administration. Many on campus believe that the administration began looking into the employees’ work authorizations as a way to thwart the union effort, an accusation the college president, David W. Oxtoby, has repeatedly denied. But that has done little to quell questions and anger among the fired workers and many who support their efforts to unionize.

“We were here for a very long time and there was never a complaint,” said Christian Torres, 25, a cook who had worked at the college for six years. “But now all of the sudden we were suspect, and they didn’t want us to work here anymore.”

Mr. Torres, who still greets dozens of people on campus by first name, had been one of the primary leaders of the effort to create a union until he lost his job in December.

Dr. Oxtoby said the board of trustees received a “specific, credible complaint” from an employee in early 2011 about the college’s hiring policies and moved to investigate the accusations.

For months, officials said, lawyers from the law firm Sidley Austin combed through the university’s records and met with administrators. By the time the investigation was complete, the law firm had identified deficiencies in the files of 84 employees, including dining hall and maintenance workers as well as professors and students working for the college. Each employee received the same letter asking for documents to re-verify their work status.

Of the 17 employees who ultimately lost their jobs, 16 were dining hall workers.

Dr. Oxtoby said that when he heard the results, he “knew immediately this would be an explosive issue.”

“This is a very sensitive issue especially in Southern California, and many of our students and faculty are immigrants themselves or are descendants of immigrants,” he said. Still, he said, he had no doubt that the workers would need to leave the college. “The law is very unforgiving, and unfortunately we have to obey the law even though it really hurt the community.”

The idea that the college had mounted the effort to stop the union drive was the opposite of the truth, he said. “We’ve been trying to improve the relationship with workers for some time, and this has been a big setback,” Dr. Oxtoby said. “Rationally, it would have not made strategic sense.”

Dr. Oxtoby and the college’s trustees repeatedly said there was no choice but to fire the workers. In a letter from the law firm, lawyers for the college said the college would have left itself open to investigation and punishment from
federal immigration authorities had it not fully examined the employment files.

Pomona is part of a consortium of seven colleges whose campuses intertwine here. In December, a day before the Pomona workers were fired, a human resources officer at Scripps College, another member of the consortium, called seven employees there asking them to complete a new work authorization form.

The next day, the Scripps president, Lori Bettison-Varga, sent an e-mail to students and the staff saying that “as soon as the calls came to the attention of the President’s Office, they were halted.” Further, she said that employment forms were stored off campus, and added, “There is no reason for any further questions or actions to be pursued.” A spokeswoman for the college said that the human resources official was not acting on any complaint.

That e-mail only prompted more anger and suspicion among those involved at Pomona, who argued that Scripps showed that the college could have taken less aggressive measures.

While the investigation of the workers’ immigration records has generated the most controversy, it was hardly the first time that students had vocally criticized the administration’s treatment of the people who served their food each day. Months before, students had complained that renewed enforcement of a rule barring dining hall employees from talking to students in the cafeteria during their breaks was a way to stop any union effort.

“We’re told that we are a community, that everyone on campus matters, but that’s really not what we see now,” said Isabel Juarez, a junior who participated in a fast to demand that Dr. Oxtoby meet with workers in November.

Ms. Juarez emigrated to Chicago with her parents from Guatemala when she was a teenager and draws parallels between her parents’ struggles in the United States and the college workers’ troubles. “You contrast this with the way students are treated here, where we really get everything. These are the people who serve us every day and they are just asserting their rights — we would be outraged if we were treated that way.”

Dr. Oxtoby said the college made tremendous efforts to support the workers who lost their jobs. Each was given a severance of two weeks pay for every year of employment, as well as health insurance through June.
Still, it does little to reassure Carmen, 30, who asked that her last name not be used for fear of alerting immigration officials. Carmen had worked at the college for 11 years, using the money she earned to put herself through a public college. But she never looked for another job, fearing that she would not be able to produce the proper documents. For years she made about $8 an hour, but in recent years raises had increased her wages to nearly $17 an hour. She and her husband bought a modest home in nearby Pomona this fall and moved in just two weeks before she was fired.

“I really don’t know what I am going to do,” she said, adding that her options were to look for work that paid in cash or move back to Mexico with her 2-year-old son while her husband, an American citizen, stayed here. “I’m still in shock. This is the only thing I’ve really ever known.”