THE DAILY CLIPS

March 9, 2012

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

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SI: How do you feel about the college football postseason?

Ballard: I have two strong opinions. One is we have to go to a playoff-based system that allows people to win or lose based on what happens on the field. The entire country wants to see a more rational system like we do in virtually all other sports. But for that to work, we need to be honest with the students and limit the number of football games that are being played. I don't think it's fair to the concept of the student-athlete -- if we're really serious about that concept -- to allow them to play 12, 13, 14, 15 games a year. That's just not the reason we have educational institutions. Provided that we could limit that and make it fair across the board, then I think we have to go to a one-plus system or some kind of playoff system. I don't think that's hard to design. I just think it takes some people sitting down and figuring it out.

SI: So would you consider scaling back the regular season?

Ballard: I just think you have to put a limit on it. It probably has to be the regular season. But when you add conference championships and then bowl games and a one-plus to that, you could easily get to 15 or 16 games. We either have to limit the season or have some timeframes that make sense. Student-athletes ought to be preparing for finals, and they ought to be back for classes on Jan. 10. Yes, that is being discussed. I think we have to be very careful with that. It's all about maximizing the chances these students have to be academic successes. Only about two percent of Division I college football players ever make a dime off it [in the pros]. Who are we kidding if we're not protecting the 98 percent here?"

SI: You mean when you were playing baseball at Arizona you didn't want to be voted into the College World Series?
Ballard: When we got to the World Series in 1970, we had to beat a couple of really good teams to get there.

SI: How did you feel about the multiyear scholarship rule?

Ballard: It can't be a way just to get the 25 richest schools another way to get the best athletes. They already have all the advantages.

SI: Can schools outside the power conferences legitimately compete in this environment?

Ballard: You really can't. The TV contracts and the TV distribution scheme have thrown so much out of whack. It leaves most schools -- certainly all the ones in our conference -- out in the cold. Worse than that, it creates an incentive for doing the wrong things. It creates an incentive for us to accept TV contracts that make our student-athletes play on a Tuesday night, travel 3,000 miles, get home at six in the morning. And then we ask them to go to class on a Wednesday. It's the wrong thing to do. That set of incentives, where everybody has to look for the next million dollars just to hope to keep reasonably competitive, that's what's happened to college sports in the last generation that's so wrong.

SI: Do you worry about a split within the FBS to keep people on a level playing field?

Ballard: Certainly, some schools want to do that. Usually, the rich schools are the ones talking the most about that. I don't think that's the right thing to do. I think conferences have to establish some equity in how they distribute resources. There has to be some guidelines on what we can do to get a $20 million TV distribution compared to what it means for our athletes. I think it has to be controlled by people like me and by athletic conferences. We're trying to do that in the new merger. It will take us some time, but that's the goal of the presidents in this new conference that's trying to evolve.

SI: Did the idea of a potentially 24-team conference sound crazy at first?

Ballard: It doesn't sound crazy to me. I think it actually protects us and could create some stability. [Athletic director Terry] Holland here at ECU has been talking about it for three or four years. I think he pestered people long enough so that they finally paid attention to him. Certainly, it was partially caused by the number of schools that conferences above us in the food chain have taken. It's most valuable when we think about regional rivalries and regional competition. We'd like to play eight conference games against eastern and southeastern schools. If we can't get there in this new
conference by keeping it at 16, it does make sense to probably think about 24 or maybe even larger.

**SI: How should a playoff work?**

**Ballard:** I think it probably should be a four-team experiment for maybe three years to see how it works. If there is some attempt to define the best 10 teams or 14 teams or whatever the right number is before the bowl season starts and basically have a bracket, I think everybody would accept that. You can always quibble about the computer rankings or the AP rankings and so on, but if you know what it is going in, there isn't going to be half the controversy that the current system creates.

**SI: How do you feel about the concept of Automatic Qualifying status?**

**Ballard:** I've been opposed to the automatic qualifying status for a long time. If Houston has a great year, they have every right to be considered for a major bowl.

**SI: Some people have asked why continue playing in bowl games? Why not have conferences get together and stage their own games and keep the money?**

**Ballard:** I think you probably need to incorporate the bowl situation [into the postseason] -- if we could develop some rationality to it. Most of the bowls we've been to in my eight years, nobody goes to the bowls. Not many fans at the PapaJohns.com Bowl. I think there were more players than fans. I do think the bowls are part of the tradition of college football and could serve a good purpose if we could limit the number of games we play in a year.
Questions raised on crime study

By Michael Abramowitz
Friday, March 9, 2012

Greenville City Council members Thursday gave mixed reviews to an ECU survey of residents on crime perceptions in the city.

William Bloss, chairman of the School of Criminal Justice at East Carolina University, told the Council that a large majority of Greenville residents have little or no fear of crime in their neighborhoods, and even more are very satisfied with the service provided by their police department.

Councilwoman Rose Glover told Bloss she does not believe the report represents perceptions of crime and fears held by her constituents.

“This report doesn’t say how people as a whole feel about crime,” Glover said. “I don’t want anyone to believe that gangs and armed robberies are not a concern in this city. I know for a fact we have very violent crimes; they happen in my district, so I know.”

Bloss told Glover that his study revealed that burglaries represented the greatest crime fear in her district.

The information was presented in the Community Fear of Crime Study conducted between September-November via phone questionnaire of 386 responding residents from all four Greenville policing districts.
The data showed that, citywide, approximately 92 percent of respondents expressed little or no fear of crime in their respective neighborhoods.

Study participants ranked their greatest crime fears as speeding and reckless driving (37.8 percent), burglary (28.4 percent) and loud parties (21.2) percent.

Councilman Max Joyner Jr. said he had a hard time believing that park and playground safety is the biggest crime concern to Greenville residents.

Bloss assured the council that all parts of the city and all four policing districts were surveyed.

Measures of Greenville police officers’ professionalism and trustworthiness drew an overall 84-93 percent satisfaction rate.

The crime study was commissioned on a recommendation from the Special Task Force on Public Safety. The $11,346 price tag for the study was covered by money from the police department’s criminal asset forfeiture account.

In other City Council business:

The council received a report on active site renovations and future goals of the Eastern North Carolina Regional Science Center, also known as GO-Science.

Executive Director Roger Conner told the council members that the organization is engaged in establishing its program priorities as it designs its master plan and budget for building the new center at 729 Dickinson Avenue.

The central goal of GO-Science is to inspire the development of residents’ proficiencies in science technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

“Your support for GO-Science is sending a signal to the state and nation that science and technology innovation is important to Greenville,” Conner told the council members.

Councilman Dennis Mitchell told Conner that he believes GO-Science will help spur economic growth and development in the city.

“We need to do that quickly,” Mitchell said.

City planner Carl Rees and other city staff presented a comprehensive report and offered recommendations to the council for improving parking conditions and increased accommodations in the downtown district.
There were 11 parking objectives outlined, including a move toward fewer leased spaces, more 2-hour spaces and special tags for downtown employees and residents allowing them to park in timed zones for longer periods.

Some strategies carry substantial costs, Rees said. Other strategies such as installation of more parking meters and increased parking citation fees could be used to generate revenue, Rees said.

The presentation was primarily informational. Staff sought permission to move forward on some strategies to improve parking, but will return to the council at a later date for votes on actions that would require ordinance changes pertaining to expenses, fees and revenue generation.

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Music teacher earns top honor
By Jackie Drake
Friday, March 9, 2012

A music teacher earned Pitt County Schools’ top honor Thursday at an annual celebration of teachers.

Elizabeth “Beth” Ulffers, who introduces music to K-2 students at Wintergreen Primary, is the district’s 2012-13 Teacher of the Year.

“This is a tremendous honor and I hope to represent Pitt County Schools well,” Ulffers said as she accepted her plaque during a luncheon banquet at the Rock Springs Center. “This is truly an incredible, humbling experience.”

Ulffers was honored along with four other finalists at a banquet sponsored by the Pitt County Farm Bureau. The “popping for education” movie theatre theme made teachers the stars of their own red-carpet event.

“We all deserve this honor for what we all do every single day,” Ulffers said to her fellow teachers.

“Teachers, this event is about you ... you are all valued and appreciated,” said Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Delilah Jackson, thanking all 36 candidates and their colleagues from each school in the district.
“This is an exciting day for arts education,” said Ulffers, who noted it’s rare for music teachers to win. “This shows we teach the whole child. Arts education truly prepares students for their future.”

After graduating from East Carolina University, Ulffers pursued a career as a professional pianist, but found her calling in teaching through a part-time job. She has been at Wintergreen for 14 years of her 15-year teaching career. Previously she taught at The Oakwood School and ECU showing basic music skills to elementary education majors. She is a National Board Certified teacher and also was Wintergreen’s teacher of the year in 2000-01 and 2011-12.

“My need to teach music is so strong, it defines who I am,” she said in her portfolio. Her favorite part of teaching music is being able to reach out to every student in the school, even if she only sees them once a week. “It’s exciting to see the growth,” she said.

“Ms. Ulffers covers a wide range of activities in her class and we were able to see her incorporate 21st century skills into music,” Jackson said. “She’s nurturing and she has established relationships, which is key for the learning of our students.”

Ulffers received a 2012 Jetta to drive for a year from Pecheles Automotive Group of Greenville, $500 checks for herself and for her school from the Pitt County Educational Foundation, a laptop from Wal-Mart and Sheetz gas cards among other gifts.

The runner-up for Teacher of the Year is Christine Hodges of Wintergreen Intermediate. This is the second year that the district has recognized a second-place finisher. Hodges received gift cards from Sheetz, Harris Teeter, Fresh Market and Best Buy.

The district also honored employees of the year in various departments.

Officials also took a moment to remember the late school board member Matthew Ward, who died in January and was a member of the Teacher of the Year selection committee. Also recognized was newly appointed school board member Mildred Council who will fill Ward’s 1A seat.

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Editorial: Santorum comment misses mark
Friday, March 9, 2012

Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum opened a debate on the purpose and value of higher education recently when he called President Barack Obama a snob for advocating on behalf of four-year college degrees. The former senator from Pennsylvania claimed the president’s perspective denigrated the importance of community colleges and post-secondary vocational schools.

While that misrepresented the administration’s efforts to promote all higher education, Pitt County stands as a fine example of how all those avenues can help develop a well-rounded workforce that is attractive to businesses. Its diversity of post-secondary options provide students of all interests and ability the opportunity to pursue a career path that will benefit both them and the community in the long run.

Higher education is consistently a topic of debate in presidential elections and Santorum’s speech to a tea party group in Michigan last month assures that will be the case this year should he win the GOP nomination. Seeking to score points with a savage criticism of the president, Santorum ridiculed Obama’s aspiration to see students attend college and earn degrees. The former senator claimed this was evidence of the president’s elitism and snobbery.

Trouble is, Santorum’s punches missed the mark entirely. In his 2009 State of the Union address, the president did endorse students’ pursuit of college degrees and called advancement of those dreams a national priority. However, he offered the same goal for those who choose to attend community colleges or who seek job training through vocational programs. What’s more, the administration has fought to win greater funding for those areas of education.

Pitt County can wholeheartedly endorse that sentiment. Not all students who earn a diploma from local high schools would succeed in a four-year college like East Carolina University immediately after graduation. Some find their path to achievement at Pitt Community College, which offers a wide variety of degree programs that lead to promising careers or four-year colleges. Others, while in public schools, find a program like the Health Sciences Academy the best route to gainful employment.
None of these is evidence of elitism, nor does advocating for these programs make one a snob. Higher education options are what helps make this a central destination for commerce in eastern North Carolina and the envy of the region. Failing to recognize that benefit, or support the academic aspirations of students, is a tremendous mistake.
Ballet Memphis performs Thursday
Friday, March 9, 2012

The Ford Foundation named the Memphis Ballet a “national treasure” for its artistic impact being one of the mid-sized ballet companies in the United States.

East Carolina University and the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series present Ballet Memphis at 8 p.m. Thursday in Wright Auditorium on the school’s campus.

Prior to the one-night performance a “Dinner and Discussion” will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Erwin Building. The dinner is a three-course meal catered by Village Point Market. Shuttle service is provided to take attendees from the dinner to Wright Auditorium. The same shuttle will return patrons to the parking lot post-performance. Doors for dinner open at 6 p.m., remarks will be given at 7:20 and shuttle service is at 7:30 p.m. Cost is $16 per person and does not include the concert ticket. Registration is required.

The evening will include several dances including National Dance Project-funded “S’épanouir” by Jane Comfort, Trey McIntyre’s “In Dreams,” Steven McMahon’s “Being Here With Other People,” and “Curtain of Green” by Julia Adam. “S’épanouir” is about community and strength and is set to music by Whitney Houston’s saxophonist Kirk Whalum. “In Dreams” is a passionate journey set to six of the late Roy Orbision’s most popular songs. “Being Here With Other People” is a work about finding joy and living presently and choreographed to Mozart’s Concerto in D Major for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 61. “Curtain of Green” is an abstract retelling of lost love
based on the short story by Eudora Welty and set to two Philip Glass etudes for piano.

Ballet Memphis has performed in Paris, New York, Houston and Quebec. The company also has performed as part of the Inside/Out Series at Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Mass., Spring to Dance in St. Louis and to full houses at the prestigious Joyce Theater in New York and the John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington. The company was awarded a grant by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to explore possible initiatives for redefining mid-size ballet companies in the nation.

Ballet Memphis is funded in part by the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts. NDP is supported by lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, with additional funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation, and the Boeing Company Charitable Trust.

If you Go!

What: Ballet Memphis
When: 8 p.m. Thursday
Where: Wright Auditorium
Cost: $10-30
Call: 328-4788
Visit: www.ecuarts.com
ArcAttack delivers shocking performance

“To inspire minds ... to take up an interest in science, the arts and their applications, to examine where they intersect, where they are going ...”

Friday, March 9, 2012

A Tesla coil is a high-frequency, air-core transformer that generates electricity. It can also be used to create sound like an early synthesizer. As the creators of the original Singing Tesla coils, the ArcAttack crew uses its high-tech wizardry to generate a truly electrifying performance of sound and light.

During an ArcAttack show, two custom-made Tesla coils emit electrical arcs up to 12 feet. An emcee engages both the crowd and the Tesla coils by walking through a half-million-volt sparks while wearing a thin layer, chain-mail Faraday suit, which prevents him from being electrocuted.

ArcAttack will perform at 7 p.m. today at Wright Auditorium on the East Carolina University campus.

A description of the act on its website says the group hopes “to inspire minds, the young and the old, to take up an interest in science, the arts and their applications, to examine where they intersect, where they are going....” They also hope to have people re-examine the works of past researchers and performers like Nikola Tesla.
Tesla invented the coil named for him around 1891. He used it in experiments in electric lighting, phosphorescence, x-ray generation, high frequency alternating current phenomena, electrotherapy, and the transmission of electrical energy without wires.

The six ArcAttack members play instruments during a show and are accompanied by drum loops and samples to create rock, electronica and indie music with elements of punk, metal and pop. High-powered LED lights flashing bright colors are coordinated with the show.

The Singing Tesla coils were developed by Steve Ward, a veteran Tesla coiler from Illinois. The production developed quickly and after several creations the new ArcAttack instrument was finalized in its current form.

The six members group are Craig Newswanger, John DiPrima, Patrick “Parsec” Brown, Tony Smith, Andrew Mansberger and Joe DiPrima.

Brown is ArcAttack’s emcee and Faraday suit-stunt man. Songwriter and friend Mansberger moved from Seattle and plays guitar and keyboards. Newswanger also is a songwriter and plays guitar.

Joe DiPrima is both the chief engineer and leader of the group. He designed the majority of the Tesla coils with the assistance of his friends. He plays guitar on stage and handles the majority of the booking and correspondence.

Smith plays bass guitar and baritone guitar for ArcAttack. Like the DiPrima brothers and Mansberger, he’s originally from Michigan where he played in several bands. He writes some of the group’s music.

John DiPrima is a student at Columbia College in Chicago working toward a degree in acoustical engineering and live sound reinforcement. He has composed most of ArcAttack’s music and plays drums during shows.

Brown was adopted into the group in Austin. He worked as a carni and has a background in public speaking. He’s a regional representative for Burners Without Borders as well as a certified volunteer project leader with the United Way.

While on stage with ArcAttack, Mansberger often plays the keyboard or other analog synthesizers and sometimes plays the guitar or bass. He writes and co-writes several of the groups songs.
UNC researchers find cancer drug that may help fight HIV

BY JAY PRICE - jprice@newsobserver.com

CHAPEL HILL–Researchers at UNC-Chapel Hill have discovered what could be a vital step toward a cure for HIV.

By giving patients a drug normally used for treating some kinds of lymphoma, they have managed to make dormant, hidden HIV viruses reveal their presence.

That's crucial if scientists want to find a way to target the viruses and completely eliminate them from the body, said Dr. David Margolis, a professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology, and epidemiology who lead the study.

Margolis was speaking by telephone Thursday afternoon from Seattle, just before presenting the findings at a major conference on retroviruses and opportunistic infections.

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. In recent years, patients have been able to hold it at bay with elaborate cocktails of antiretroviral drugs.

Even though these drug regimens can halt the progress of the disease, they can be costly, and they cause side effects.

Also, the virus remains, hiding in certain cells, and can turn active again if patients stop taking the drugs.

Researchers believed that a crucial step toward purging the body of HIV was finding a trigger to luring the virus from its hiding place. That's what the UNC team did, for the first time.
The study worked like this: Six HIV-infected men whose conditions were stable and who were on antiretrovirals were given a single dose of a drug called vorinostat.

Earlier studies by Margolis and others had found that the drug attacks the enzymes that keep HIV hiding in specialized immune system cells that the virus uses to replicate itself.

Within hours, all six patients had a significant increase in detectable forms of HIV in these cells. That showed that the "on-off" switch for the virus had, at least mildly, been flicked on, forcing the virus to show itself.

"This proves for the first time that there are ways to specifically treat viral latency, the first step towards curing HIV infection," said Margolis. "It shows that this class of drugs, HDAC inhibitors, can attack persistent virus. Vorinostat may not be the magic bullet, but this success shows us a new way to test drugs to target latency, and suggests that we can build a path that may lead to a cure."

**What's next?**

The next steps in the research include a fuller exploration of that HDAC inhibitors' effects on the virus, Margolis said, including such things as examining how HIV might respond to multiple doses and other variables.

The findings from that research will determine the next directions for scientists working toward a cure, he said.

The research was done as part of a UNC-led national consortium called the Collaboratory of AIDS Researchers for Eradication, which is funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Margolis is the principal investigator for the consortium, which won a $32 million federal grant last year to search for ways to cure HIV patients by eliminating those hidden remnants of the virus. These reservoirs are bits of HIV genetic material that languish in certain cells within the immune system.

The latest finding burnishes UNC-CH's growing reputation in HIV research. Last year another UNC-CH-led group announced that the antiretroviral drugs used to treat the virus can be a strong barrier to spreading of the disease. That finding was named the biggest scientific breakthrough of 2011 by the journal Science.

The prevention method and the new discovery by Margolis' team could work together. If a way to purge patients of the virus can be found, that and
prevention methods could be used to put HIV in a kind of squeeze play that could sharply reduce the massive cost in dollars and misery that HIV/AIDS exacts on society, Margolis said in an interview last year. The prevention efforts could stop new infections, and a cure could end existing ones. "We need to work from both ends," he said. "Prevention, and then in cases where we aren't able to prevent it, we need tools to eradicate the disease."

Price: 919-829-4526

**HIV/AIDS in North Carolina**

People diagnosed and reported living with HIV, at end of 2010: 25,074
New cases reported in 2010: 1,487
New cases of AIDS reported in 2010: 796
Statewide rate of diagnosed HIV (three-year average 2008-2010): 17.6 per 100,000 people
Counties with highest rates: Edgecombe (41 per 100,000); Mecklenburg (38.1); Durham (33.7); Northampton (31.2); Wilson (29)
Source: N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
More than two-thirds of college presidents surveyed believe recent sports scandals have compromised the reputation of higher education as a whole, and just 13 percent think the presidents of big-time sports schools have control of their programs, a new survey finds.

The survey, of more than 1,000 campus chief executives by the online publication Inside Higher Ed, suggests widespread worry among presidents about problems in college athletics but inspires little confidence they will be able to do much about them.

Three-quarters agreed colleges and universities spend "way too much money" on athletics, but only 15 percent said too much is spent at their own institutions (at public doctoral universities, the category of most big-time sports schools, the figure was 36 percent).

One prominent college president told Inside Higher Ed the survey "confirms the need for major reforms but demonstrates why they are so unlikely to occur."

"As long as the attitude is, 'Things are awful except at my institution,' the status quo will, unfortunately, prevail," said William (Brit) Kirwan, president of the University System of Maryland and co-chair of the Knight Foundation Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Asked how they felt in observing recent sports-related scandals, barely half said they were confident such things could never happen on their own campus. Just under 30 percent said they believed NCAA reform proposals were likely to achieve success, and 25 percent said big-time college athletics couldn't be fixed without some type of government intervention.

An NCAA spokesman had no immediate comment.

Somewhat reassuring was that just 7 percent of presidents reported feeling outside pressure to "look the other way" in response to problems with college athletics. Two-thirds felt their boards of trustees would back them if forced to choose sides in a conflict between the president and athletic director or a top coach, including 83 percent of presidents at public doctoral universities.
The survey was released ahead of the annual meeting this weekend in Los Angeles of the American Council on Education, the leading national group for college presidents, and comes after an especially scandal-plagued year in college athletics. While the sex abuse scandal at Penn State attracted the most attention, schools ranging from Syracuse to Miami to the University of North Carolina saw their reputations besmirched by recruiting, academic and other scandals in their athletic departments.

Among other findings of the survey:

- Just under two-thirds of college presidents said they planned to vote for President Barack Obama in the November presidential election, though only 36 percent said he had "fulfilled the promise that many in higher education had for him four years ago." The proportion supporting the president was higher at traditional not-for-profit universities. At for-profit colleges, which have faced aggressive new regulatory measures from the Obama administration, just 29 percent said they planned to vote for Obama's re-election.

- Overall, just 10 percent felt the Republican presidential candidates have articulated a vision that will help higher education. But among respondents who lead for-profit colleges, the figure was 44 percent.

- Only 8 percent of presidents felt the federal government would offer solutions in the coming years to key problems facing higher education, but 84 percent expected more regulation from Washington. More than three-quarters predict significant cuts in federal funding for both research and student aid.

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Goolsby proposes plan to ease UNCW tuition hikes

By Pressley Baird
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One state senator has a plan to alleviate tuition hikes at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and his recommendations start with funding cuts.

In recent posts on his Facebook page and website, state Sen. Thom Goolsby, R-New Hanover, called for reductions in a handful of programs at UNCW and proposed giving professors higher course loads and eliminating administrative personnel. He's also questioning the cost of Chancellor Gary Miller's installation ceremonies.

Goolsby's suggestions are centered around offsetting higher tuition costs for in-state students. In-state undergraduates will see a 9.3 percent hike, or an extra $527.15, in next year's tuition and fees bill. Out-of-state students face a 4.6 percent increase, an additional $809.50.

State legislators cut $414 million from the UNC-system budget last year, affecting all 16 campuses. UNCW's overall budget was hit with a 15.8 percent, or $16.5 million, cut. That led to a 6.5 percent increase in UNCW's tuition this year, bringing in about $3.9 million. University officials said UNCW will get $6.3 million in new tuition revenue from next year's increase.
Goolsby said he wanted to steer cuts toward nonacademic programs.

"I want to make sure the tens of millions in public dollars and tuition payments we spend each year have a direct impact on the classroom," he said. "Educating students is our core mission."

He serves on the education/higher education committee in the N.C. Senate and said he didn't want to see more tuition hikes.

"I want to see alternatives to tuition increases presented from each university," he said. "Lawmakers, family and faculty members deserve a dialogue with administrators about those tradeoffs."

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is one program that fell under Goolsby's funding cut suggestions. It's comprised of five programs and staffed by 12 people, several of whom are also professors, said Max Allen, chief of staff at UNCW.

Allen said the diversity office supports student academic achievement and gives students an opportunity to experience other cultures. "If you're going to be successful in any particular career, you've got to learn to deal with all societies, all different views and opinions, whether you agree or not," he said.

Allen said administrators typically didn't focus on specific programs when making cuts.

"You have to look at the university as a whole," he said. "We don't necessarily target one entity."

Goolsby also recommended that UNCW use some of the money from the chancellor's installation to prevent tuition hikes.

The ceremonies are planned for late April, and once budgets are finalized, they'll cost about $85,000, Allen said. The university is paying for the installation through private donations, which are typically earmarked for specific purposes and can't be used to alleviate budget concerns.

"That's something we are certainly cognizant of, not using state dollars in a time when state dollars are scarce," Allen said.

Goolsby said his concerns about funding at the school stemmed from a letter to the editor that UNCW physics professor Moorad Alexanian wrote to the News and Observer in October. Alexanian questioned the decision to merge UNCW's physics and physical oceanography department with its geography
and geology department, saying in his letter that faculty didn't get details about how the merger took place.

"I agree with Dr. Alexanian and the other professors and students who question cuts to the classroom first and everything else second," Goolsby said. "Shouldn't things be the other way around?"

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The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine was locked down by the police after the shooting Thursday afternoon.

2 Die and 7 Are Wounded in a Shooting in Pittsburgh

By SABRINA TAVERNISE

A gunman opened fire in the lobby of a psychiatric hospital in Pittsburgh on Thursday, killing one person and wounding seven, including a police officer, officials said. The gunman was also said to have died.

The shooting, at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, part of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, began around 1:40 p.m., when a man carrying two semiautomatic pistols walked through the front door, Mayor Luke Ravenstahl said at a press briefing.

The gunman was not identified. Victims included members of the hospital staff and at least one visitor, hospital officials said. Mr. Ravenstahl said that the authorities could not yet say which gun or guns killed the gunman and the dead victim, who was also not identified. Both were said to be adult men.

“This is a tragic day, a sad day, a senseless day in many ways,” Mr. Ravenstahl said.

Early reports of a second gunman turned out to be false, Mr. Ravenstahl said. The confusion apparently stemmed from reports that there was also
shooting on the second floor, and Mr. Ravenstahl said the police were still trying to determine whether that was true.

“It appears at this point that he acted alone,” Mr. Ravenstahl said of the gunman.

Donald M. Yealy, chief of emergency medicine at the medical center, said two of the victims were in intensive care, two had been released from the hospital, and three were still being treated. In all, at least four would require surgery, he said, but he added that he expected all of the injured to survive.

The police officer who was wounded was just grazed, Mr. Ravenstahl said.

The Associated Press quoted Gregory Brant, a man who was in a waiting room when gunfire erupted. Mr. Brant said he and six other people in the room heard the shots and barricaded themselves inside but did not feel safe because there were doors with windows along adjacent walls.

He said that they felt like “sitting ducks” but that luckily the gunman did not see them. He said the ordeal lasted about 20 minutes.

The hospital’s approximately 300 patients were not evacuated, hospital officials said, and care continued without interruption.

The Western Psychiatric Institute is an academic-based psychiatric care facility that houses the psychology department for the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, according to its Web site.
Illegal Immigrants Get Scholarships While Aid Bill Idles

By KIRK SEMPLE

Among all the numbers that populate Nataly Lopez’s life — including phone digits, addresses, pass codes and friends’ ages — there is one that she never forgets: the cost of a semester’s tuition at Baruch College, where she is a sophomore.

Ms. Lopez, 21, is an illegal immigrant from Ecuador and has struggled to make ends meet, working several jobs to be able to pay for school.

“Two thousand eight hundred and five,” she said. “I know that number because I have to reach it to get to the next semester.”

State proposals that would make government financial aid available for illegal immigrants like Ms. Lopez are pending in Albany. Frustrated with the pace of federal and state legislative action, advocacy groups, with the support of New York City officials, have developed a stopgap solution — for a small number of needy students, at least.

On Thursday, the groups announced the recipients of a new college scholarship specifically for illegal immigrants, the first such program in the state, they said.

The program is financed by foundations and private donors, not public sources. But it has received crucial financing and support from the Fund for Public Advocacy, a nonprofit arm of the office of the city’s public advocate, Bill de Blasio, a likely candidate for mayor in 2013.

“We all have to make up for the madness of our national policies,” Mr. de Blasio, a Democrat, said at a news conference to introduce the 10 recipients, including Ms. Lopez. “As an American and the grandson of immigrants, I’m offended we even have to be standing here having this discussion.”

The first round of scholarships, called Dream Fellowships, was open only to undergraduates in the City University of New York system. The program allocates $2,000 toward a semester’s tuition per recipient. It also places the students in a leadership-development program and provides them with internships at immigrant-advocacy organizations across the city.
Last year, the California Legislature passed a bill allowing illegal immigrant students access to state financial aid. In the absence of similar legislation in other states, advocates have created private scholarships specifically intended for illegal immigrants, though they remain rare.

More than 100 students applied for the fellowships, which are coordinated by the New York Immigration Coalition and receive additional financing from the Korean American Community Foundation, as well as small contributions by several labor unions.

The initial group of fellows immigrated from East and South Asia and Central and South America. In the news conference, they said that the internships were an opportunity to broaden their education, and that the money was a much-needed windfall to help allay tuition.

They spoke of their ambitions to pursue advanced degrees and become highly trained professionals — in the United States. But they also described the stresses of living in legal shadows, juggling jobs and classes while pressing forward toward an uncertain future.

Yohan Garcia, 25, said he dropped out of high school in Mexico and came to the United States nine years ago. While holding various low-wage jobs, including washing dishes, he learned English and enrolled at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. He now attends Hunter College and hopes to become a human rights lawyer or senator.

“I am a dreamer,” he declared.

Ms. Lopez, who immigrated at age 4, said she dropped out of college in 2009 when she could no longer pay for her classes. As the gravity of her legal situation dawned on her — “the realization that I can’t do anything in this country,” Ms. Lopez said — she pitched headlong into depression.

It took her a year to return to college. Now in the last semester of her sophomore year and pursuing a major in the psychology of language, she works full time as a waitress and is also a social media consultant for a Web design company and an English tutor.

“Our stories represent 65,000 students who are in the same position,” she said.
A Smug Education?

By ANDREW DELBANCO

THE Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum recently set off a ruckus when he attacked America’s colleges as “indoctrination mills” from which God-fearing Americans should keep their distance. Calling President Obama a “snob” for urging all Americans to go to college, he joined a long tradition that runs from Andrew Carnegie, who more than a century ago described colleges as places that prepare students for “life upon another planet,” to Newt Gingrich, who has claimed that alumni donations are often used “to subsidize bizarre and destructive visions of reality.”

Mr. Santorum’s remarks have been widely, and justly, rebutted. Yet defenders of college should do more than respond to its critics with reciprocal contempt. We should seize the opportunity for introspection. Why does the anti-college mantra still touch a nerve among so many Americans? Some of the reasons are doubtless ugly (sheer envy) or unfounded (fear of exposing one’s children to moral corruption). But it is also true that our colleges — especially the most selective and prestigious — bear some responsibility for the perception that Mr. Santorum and others have expressed and exploited.
Consider the fact that SAT scores (a big factor in college admissions) correlate closely with family wealth. The total average SAT score of students from families earning more than $100,000 per year is more than 100 points higher than for students in the income range of $50,000 to $60,000. Or consider that a mere 3 percent of students in the top 150 colleges, as defined by The Chronicle of Higher Education, come from families in the bottom income quartile of American society. Only a very dogmatic Social Darwinist would conclude from these facts that intelligence closely tracks how much money one’s parents make. A better explanation is that students from affluent families have many advantages — test-prep tutors, high schools with good college counseling, parents with college savvy and so on.

Yet once the beneficiaries arrive at college, what do they learn about themselves? It’s a good bet that the dean or president will greet them with congratulations for being the best and brightest ever to walk through the gates. A few years ago, the critic and essayist William Deresiewicz, who went to Columbia and taught at Yale, wrote that his Ivy education taught him to believe that those who didn’t attend “an Ivy League or equivalent school” were “beneath” him. The writer Walter Kirn recalled that at Princeton he learned to “rise to almost every challenge ... except, perhaps, the challenge of real self-knowledge.” In my experience, a great many students at top colleges are wonderful young people whose idealism matches their intelligence. Yet the charge that elite college culture encourages smugness and self-satisfaction contains, like Mr. Santorum’s outburst, a germ of truth.

Our oldest and most prestigious colleges are losing touch with the spirit in which they were founded. To the stringent Protestants who founded Harvard, Yale and Princeton, the mark of salvation was not high self-esteem but humbling awareness of one’s lowliness in the eyes of God. With such awareness came the recognition that those whom God favors are granted grace not for any worthiness of their own, but by God’s unmerited mercy — as a gift to be converted into working and living on behalf of others. That lesson should always be part of the curriculum.

In this respect, I agree with Mr. Santorum that our leading colleges could use a little more of their own old-time religion — not in any doctrinal sense, but in the sense of taking seriously the Christian virtues of humility and charity. In secular terms, this means recognizing that people with good prospects owe much to their good fortune — and to fellow citizens less fortunate than themselves.
Benjamin Franklin, who founded the University of Pennsylvania, once defined true education as “an Inclination join’d with an Ability to serve Mankind, one’s Country, Friends, and Family; which Ability ... should indeed be the great Aim and End of all Learning.” We would be well served to keep this public-spirited conception of learning squarely in mind.

Perhaps if our leading colleges encouraged more humility and less hubris, college-bashing would go out of style and we could get on with the urgent business of providing the best education for as many Americans as possible.

*Andrew Delbanco, the director of American studies at Columbia, is the author of the forthcoming book “College: What It Was, Is, and Should Be.”*