THE DAILY CLIPS

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An East Carolina University assistant professor who spent 10 years at the University of Alabama followed devastation in Tuscaloosa via text messages and phone calls from friends.

A tornado ripped through the town Wednesday killing at least 36 people. Joshua Aaron began receiving real-time messages from people he knew from his student days, telling him “Tuscaloosa was being hammered by a tornado.”

The university was largely spared but at least two students living in off-campus housing were among the dead.

“That will hit the student population pretty hard,” Aaron said.

The university of more than 30,000 students also announced Thursday that commencement has been moved to August. It also canceled next week's final exams.

Aaron earned his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees at the university. He's now an assistant professor in the Department of Management in the College of Business.

People in Tuscaloosa are accustomed to tornadoes. Warning sirens regularly sound during tornado season from mid-March to mid-May, he said.

“I've seen several, but this one had to be five times the width of anything I've ever seen go through there. I was just shocked by how wide it was.”

Aaron talked to a former neighbor about midnight Wednesday who told Aaron he was joining a search party. “He was going out looking for some of the college kids from a church group that they couldn't get in touch with.”

His neighbor's sister was inside her house when the tornado ripped off the roof. No one was injured.

Areas that saw extensive damage are now unrecognizable to Aaron when he watches the news. “It's all been flattened.”

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McNeill ahead of schedule
By Nathan Summers
The Daily Reflector
Friday, April 29, 2011

Each painful step Ruffin McNeill took on a degenerating hip over the last several years has been a statement in determination.

When McNeill became the new head football coach at East Carolina in January of 2010, he brought with him a noticeable limp. It was evident in his every movement up and down the sidelines on game days, and in the fact he needed a golf cart to make his way through most practice days.

Despite the effort each step required, the coach never stopped moving. On Thursday night, McNeill was in Raleigh, where he fulfilled his final offseason speaking obligation for the Pirate Armada, a weeklong, four-stop tour with the ECU head coach as the main speaker.

Today, McNeill is on the operating table.

Already 100 pounds lighter than he was when the Pirates played Maryland at the Military Bowl on Dec. 29, 2010, McNeill will be moving much faster when his rehabilitation from today's hip-replacement surgery is complete.

The second-year ECU head coach and one-time Pirate defensive back is set to complete a major personal overhaul that began with bariatric surgery in February to facilitate major weight loss and culminates with today's hip procedure at Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

“It's good to see the progress, to actually be able to see it and to see that the work has paid off and the attention to detail has paid off,” McNeill said of his noticeable weight loss.
The final outcome will be a rebirth for McNeill in terms of mobility and weight management.

“I'm excited, and I'm not nervous at all about it,” the coach said Thursday afternoon. “I'm looking forward to going through the surgery and the recovery and rehabilitation to get my health back, and hopefully return pain-free.”

When McNeill looks at himself, he quite literally can appreciate the change already. The 52-year-old Lumberton native has shed almost exactly 100 pounds, now weighing under 300 pounds.

“It was all part of the plan and the preparation, just like we tell our players,” McNeill said of his offseason medical journey to this point, noting that his doctors say he is far ahead of his projected weight loss. “The therapy leading up to the surgery went, I think, as well as it possibly could. I'm really looking forward to the next step.”

Although recovery from today's procedure will likely carry McNeill right into the start of the football team's August preseason camp, the coach said he looks forward to taking steps that aren't so painstaking.

Playing through the pain as much as any of his players, McNeill guided the Pirates to a 6-7 record in his first season, and he even brought with him from his decade as an assistant at Texas Tech a habit of walking onto the field to personally assess injured players from both teams, no matter how great a distance.

Ready to give the old hip one last go at his Raleigh appearance on Thursday night, McNeill said he was excited to spend another night with ECU fans before his next rehab assignment.

“This is a chance we have as coaches to go out on their turf and meet them in their hometown or areas,” he said. “We can visit and share parts of the program with them face-to-face, and shake hands and hug and break bread together. It's an important part of the job.”

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Triangle adds 4,900 jobs in March
BY JOHN MURAWSKI - Staff Writer

The Triangle's jobless rate held steady in March at 7.5 percent, suggesting another stagnant month for area job seekers.

But the flat number concealed some surprisingly good news: The region added nearly 5,000 jobs in March, the biggest single-month jobs gain in more than three years.

The regional jobless rate, coupled with a surge of hiring last month, puts the Triangle's economic recovery well ahead the rest of the state, which posted a jobless rate of 9.7 percent last month.

The metropolitan area that includes Raleigh, Durham and Cary gained 4,900 jobs, for a total of 766,600 people employed, according to economic estimates issued Wednesday by the N.C. Employment Security Commission. Most job gains came in finance, engineering, manufacturing and construction, according to ESC data.

"This is a pretty healthy jump," said James Kleckley, an economist at East Carolina University. "With the 3,800 [jobs gained in February], it certainly means the region is heading in the right direction."

Even as the jobless rate stayed flat and jobs grew, the total number of unemployed job seekers increased by 1.8 percent, to 61,900.

Kleckley said that increase likely reflects growing confidence in the job market, spurring people to resume their job search and swelling the ranks of those who are counted as unemployed.

The Triangle has the lowest jobless rate of large metropolitan areas in the state, below the Asheville region's 7.6 percent and the Charlotte region's 10.1 percent, according to rates seasonally adjusted by ECU's Bureau of Business Research.

Counties in the Triangle have among the lowest jobless rates in the state, with Chatham at 6.5 percent and Orange at 6.3 percent.
The state's most economically distressed counties have jobless rates about twice as high the Triangle. In the east, Edgecombe County is at 14.3 percent while Scotland County is at 15.2 percent.

"The Raleigh metro area has seen the best job growth in the state by far," said Mark Vitner, an economist with Wells Fargo Securities in Charlotte.

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Nichols Lures Away UMass-Dartmouth Dean

By Matt Pilon

Worcester (Mass.) Business Journal Staff Writer

After a nearly year-long search, Nichols College in Dudley has selected as its seventh president, Susan West Engelkemeyer.

Engelkemeyer, who is currently dean of the Charlton College of Business at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, will be the college's second female president.

She will replace Debra M. Townsley, who left Nichols in 2010 after 12 years as president. Gerald Fels, former CEO of Commerce Insurance in Webster, has served as interim president since July 2010.

Engelkemeyer has also served as dean of the business school at Ithaca College in New York and as a faculty member at Babson College in Wellesley.

She holds a doctorate in industrial management from Clemson University in South Carolina, a master's from East Carolina University and a bachelor's from Stephens College in Missouri.

She take her new post at Nichols on Aug. 1.
Editorial: Budget blues
There's a new catch-phrase in town. When Republicans first assumed control of the General Assembly, they spoke of the daunting state budget gap - reckoned in excess of $2 billion - as a challenge that would require them to "put everything on the table." Every day, it seemed, GOP leaders would glance at the public university budget, or the Medicaid budget or the public school budget and say, "Well, we've got to look at it. Everything's on the table, you know."

As it turns out, given the shape of the budget House members will vote on next week, the table looks like it holds the remnants of a nine-course lunch at a day-care center. Everything stayed on, and everything got sliced up.

"It's not draconian," said House Majority Leader Paul "Skip" Stam, Republican from Apex. And then he uttered the new phrase: "It's right-sizing."

Among the victims of right-sizing: Medicaid, federal-state health insurance program for the poor, will take a hit likely in the hundreds of millions, which is bound to reduce services for the 1.5 million people who need it. The public university system stands to lose $413.7 million, costing 3,000 jobs. Teachers' assistants will be dramatically reduced, court personnel will be cut and worthy programs such as the Health and Wellness Trust Fund may be wiped out.

Likely responding to public pressure, the GOP House members did back off from closing historic sites, and they also agreed to keep the Hatteras ferry to Ocracoke Island toll-free. (Island residents would have had to pay to get to and from home under one early proposal.) But other fees in a variety of areas will go up.

No one has a final figure on the public sector jobs to be lost, but it appears to range into the thousands.

But back to the table, the one with, supposedly, everything on it. That's not exactly right. Republicans took off the table consideration of continuing a
one-cent temporary sales tax passed during the height of the Great Recession, to get the state through that immediate crisis. Gov. Beverly Perdue, in her budget proposal, wanted to keep three-fourths of it, which would bring in more than $800 million in revenue, punching a considerable hole in the budget shortfall.

But Republican leaders, House Speaker Thom Tillis being the most adamant, said they would not keep the small levy in the name of cutting taxes, which seems to be the Republican cure for everything from high unemployment to a hang-nail.

What this means is that many state workers, many of them in fairly modest-paying jobs, stand to lose their livelihood and go on unemployment. So where's the logic in putting those capable people on the jobless rolls, where they can receive unemployment benefits at least for awhile while not working?

And the extra 1 percent on the sales tax is one that most people don't notice. Painless? No, but hardly onerous, particularly when keeping it could take the pressure off a severe budget crisis.

Right-sizing? We were better off when everything was still on the table.
New health plan has same thing that brought veto
BY CRAIG JARVIS - Staff writer
RALEIGH–The state Senate on Thursday made another run at getting a
revamped state health plan past the governor, who vetoed an earlier version
over a provision that remains in this bill.

A Senate and House conference committee came up with a bill that still
includes the major sticking point: current state workers selecting the basic
coverage plan would have to pay a premium for the first time. It amounts to
almost $11 a month.

What's different from the bill the governor vetoed is a reduction in the
premium for Medicare-eligible retirees from $16.54 to $10 a month. That
would be paid for by an increase in co-payments for generic drugs from $10
to $12. The governor's proposed budget set the drug co-pay at $15.

The bill also directs the state treasurer to find savings that could be used to
offer a premium-free option by July 2013. Those savings might come from
wellness programs, the Medicare Advantage plans and other alternatives,
according to the legislation.

The Senate approved the conference report on a 31-17 vote. Asked on the
Senate floor what the chances were of the governor signing this bill, Sen.
Tom Apodaca, said he didn't know, even after talking to the governor and
most of her staff.

"I can't honestly tell you any more now than the first time I talked to them,"
said Apodaca, a Republican from Henderson County.

Mark Johnson, a spokesman for Gov. Bev Perdue, issued a noncommittal
response Thursday afternoon: "We're watching the legislation closely and
hoping to reach the best possible result for teachers, state employees and
retirees."
When she vetoed the earlier bill, Perdue said the premium requirement amounted to a pay cut, and pointed out that teachers haven't had a raise in three years.

After the session, Apodaca told reporters that he had been getting inconsistent signals from the Governor's Office for the past two days. "So we're going to pass it out of here and let the House deal with it Monday, see what happens," Apodaca said.

Apodaca said the premium-free option for current state employees in the basic plan wasn't discussed in the conference committee, even though that was a compromise tentatively worked out by the House leadership last week.

The bill the governor vetoed was passed along party lines in a Republican effort to close a projected $515 million gap between receipts and claims. The state health plan covers 663,000 government employees and their dependents, including 160,000 retired workers.

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UNCW studies robots' potential in education of autistic kids
Published: Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 5:38 p.m.

By Jason Gonzales
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Photo by Jeff Janowski
Miniature human-like robots make their appearance at UNCW's Board of Trustees Educational Planning and Programs Committee Thursday with a Tai-Chi performance. Through UNCW's Watson School of Education the Robots with 28 motors & actuators posses varying human-like qualities that can help educate children with Autism.

Blue and green LED lights flickered, and to the beat of Oriental string music, UNCW's Watson fluidly mimicked its small, somewhat lifelike friend on Thursday.

The robot, and its counterpart, made their debut performance before a trustees committee to demonstrate the capabilities of the six $15,000-each robotic additions to UNCW's Watson School of Education.

The robots, purchased through a federal education grant, will soon be used by the newly formed robot and autism research committee to explore how autistic children react to the robots.

"There is a lot of research out there that says children with autistic social disorder bond well with computers," said Jeff Ertzberger, the Watson School of Education director of technology. "Since the robots are social in nature, we are trying to bring a social aspect into that research."
The Nao robots, which were purchased in January from Aldebaran Robotics, are able to perform a variety of everyday tasks, said Richard Chapman, a visiting faculty member from Auburn University helping program the robots.

Chapman said he programmed the robots to play Simon Says, which will be one of the games used when they study how autistic children respond to the robots.

The robots can be programmed to do much more, he said, and are also able to sit, stand, speak and recognize faces.

The hope, he said, is to have the children form a bond with the robots because many autistic children have trouble with face-to-face and social interaction.

"It's social interaction versus an interaction with things," Chapman said. The committee will study whether children are able to learn signs, letters, words and even social interactions from them.

And that's just scratching the surface, Ertzberger said.

"Hopefully someday these robots will be affordable and durable enough for parents and therapists to purchase," he said.

"We are on the forefront of developing things that can someday day be used to help these kids."

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UNCC cheers as dirt turns on new football stadium

By David Perlmutt

Kent Roberts graduated from UNC Charlotte in 1974, when the school was 7,000 students strong and building a sports program.

He missed making the 49er basketball team's run to the NIT championship game in 1976, and then the Final Four a year later.

But nothing would have kept him from coming early and tailgating Thursday before the official groundbreaking of UNCC's new $47 million football stadium complex that will soon start to rise from a series of on-campus intramural fields.

"We were hoping for football 40 years ago, and the day's finally come," said Roberts, of Salisbury. "This is history in the making, a glimpse of what Saturday afternoons are going to be like around here."

Indeed, a tradition was born: The aroma of sizzling bratwurst and ribs filled the air. Beer went down easy and the frat boys from Pi Kappa Alpha led the cheers as about 3,000 fans - students, graduates and supporters of the university - packed in to toast the birth of a football program that was years in the making.
To a round of "Forty... Niners, Forty... Niners," Chancellor Phil Dubois said much of the credit for the football program goes to students and alumni, steadfast in their desire to field a team.

"Starting football was not a decision about 2013. It was a decision about what UNC Charlotte would look like in 2033," Dubois said. "In creating a vision, it is as important to look through binoculars as it is to examine the present through a microscope."

Outgoing student government President Megan Smith said that football will unite UNCC to Charlotte - but the push for it had already united students. Come August 2013, a team will mean that 2001 graduate Chris Locklear won't have to go to work Monday mornings and talk about someone else's football team.

"This stadium and football team is going to transform this campus," Locklear said.

The 15,000-seat stadium, expandable to 40,000, will be part of a complex that will include a field house and two practice fields. A press box - with media seating, a university box and television and radio booths - will be built along the west sideline at the concourse level.

The field house will include coaches offices and meeting rooms, locker rooms and a weight and training room. It also will include an academic center, tiered classroom and hospitality deck.

For head coach Brad Lambert, the rising stadium will be "physical evidence" that his program is taking bloom - and will help recruiting.

"When you start moving dirt and putting things up, people will say it is for real," Lambert said in a brief interview. "It's not talk anymore."

At the end, Isaac Caughran, men's soccer co-captain next season, kicked a 40-yard field goal through a real goalpost, and Lambert and Micah Powers, head of Niner Nation Gold, drove two front-end loaders onto the field.

To cheers of "Lam... bert, Lam... bert," they scooped a slice of turf from the field.
Residents of Tuscaloosa, Ala., survey the damage caused by a strong tornado that ripped through the university town. (By Caroline Summers / Associated Press)

U of Alabama students displaced by tornado that destroyed off-campus homes
By Jenna Johnson
Dozens of University of Alabama students are living in the campus recreation center after a tornado ripped through Tuscaloosa on Wednesday evening and damaged several off-campus apartment buildings.

The college town was one of the areas hardest hit by fierce storms and tornados that swept through the South yesterday, killing at least 200 people in six states, according to the Associated Press.

In Tuscaloosa, at least 15 people have died and parts of midtown were leveled. The tornado did not significantly damage the university campus, although many students living off-campus were affected.
Several students recounted their experiences to the student newspaper, the Crimson White. Two students, who live in a condo complex about a mile and a half from campus, said they were watching the news and tracking the storm.

“[T]hen the door started to shake, the glass in the windows broke and it felt like our ears were going to explode because of the pressure change. We sprinted into the bathroom, and when we emerged, we couldn’t believe what we saw,” student Julia Israel told the Crimson White. “Where we just were, it was gone.”

Early this morning, most of the university and parts of town were without power or cellphone service, according to the campus paper. Students took turns using the rec center’s landline to call parents and friends.

The Crimson White was unable to publish a newspaper today, but you can read its coverage online and follow it on Twitter @TheCrimsonWhite.

Meanwhile, the student government is letting students know of volunteer opportunities and resources through its Twitter account, @uasga.
A tornado moves through Tuscaloosa, Alabama on April 27, 2011. The University of Alabama was spared major damage from the tornado, but has canceled operations today and tomorrow and final exams next week.

**Alabama tornados: University of Alabama cancels final exams, reschedules commencement**

TUSCALOOSA, Alabama - The University of Alabama has suspended operations on campus due to recovery efforts from Wednesday’s tornado that hit Tuscaloosa, according to a statement released today.

According to the statement on the university’s website, final exams have been canceled next week.

Students will have the option of accepting their existing grades as of April 27, 2011, or they can take a final exam at a later date, according to the statement.
For those students who request to take a final exam, faculty will have the option of scheduling the final exam on site when normal operations resume or via distance education means.

This schedule change includes all enrolled students except those in the School of Law and School of Medicine. Their academic calendars vary and they should be in touch with their faculty for confirmation of their exam schedule.

The university is asking faculty to communicate with their students via e-learning or their normal means as facilities are restored.

Commencement exercises scheduled for May 7 have been rescheduled for Aug. 6, when May and August graduates will be recognized.
It's not your imagination: College students really are getting younger. A lot younger. This summer, kids as young as 4 will head for summer programs on college campuses—the latest trend for cash-strapped schools and for parents eager to give Junior an academic push.

While colleges and universities have been offering summer programs to high school students for years, dozens have recently expanded their programs—or developed new ones—for students as young as kindergarten. For grammar schoolers interested in science, pre-teen would-be engineers, and third-grade math whizzes, prices can range anywhere from less than $200 to more than $2,200 per week. And while these programs may offer a stimulating environment for the preternaturally academic, they may not fulfill parents' ultimate expectation: an advantage down the road, when it's time to apply to college for real. "The programs aren't harmful, but it's not clear to me that a kid can't spend the summer reading [and be as well off]," says Jon Reider, director of college counseling at San Francisco University High School and a former admissions officer at Stanford University.

Regardless, in just a few summers, these programs have become wildly popular. Applications doubled for the summer engineering programs for elementary and middle school programs at North Carolina State University, according to a spokeswoman for the school. So far, the Georgia Institute of Technology has received about 550 applications—the highest ever—for the 375 seats it can fill, says associate director of summer programs Chris Thompson. At the University of Virginia, around 1,200 students as young as 9 have applied for around 790 seats this summer.

The programs—and the price tags—vary widely from school to school. Day programs are cheaper than overnight sessions, and art and language programs tend to cost less than those with a science focus. During a week-long science program offered by Boston University and other colleges in the Boston area, sixth- through eighth-grade girls engage in hands-on science and engineering activities like bridge building and developing
computer games, for the relatively low cost of $150. At the University of Pennsylvania, a similar program runs $625. By contrast, spending a week living in the dorms at Brown University and studying science will run families $2,255. The payment includes room and board and more than a dozen classes to choose from, says a Brown spokesman.

And at many schools, costs are rising. At the Georgia Institute of Technology, for example, the cost to attend its day camp program increased 14% this year to $325 a week. "Last year, we barely broke even, and it appears supplies for kids are more expensive now," says Thompson.

As colleges face growing financial pressures and states cut back on aid, raising prices – and adding summer programs like these – become viable options, says Joann DiGennaro, president at the Center for Excellence in Education. Because the summer programs typically use campus space that would otherwise sit empty, and because they tend to employ graduate students or adjunct professors to teach instead of full-time faculty, they are particularly cost-effective for a college. Many summer programs have been launched since the market downturn of 2008, according to the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Colleges offering these programs counter say their aim is primarily academic: they want to enlighten the next generation of college-bound kids. "Money is helpful for the college, but it's also about exposing young people to science," says a spokesman at Brown University. Many new summer programs are focused on science, technology, engineering and math – the number of college students who ultimately pursue a degree in one of those fields has dropped since the early 2000s, while need has only grown – and university reps say they hope the early exposure will spark enough interest with students that they'll pursue this major while in college.

But critics warn parents to manage their expectations. A summer college program during elementary and middle school is more summer camp than college prep, says Reider. In most cases, students who aren't in high school don't earn credits, and colleges don't care: Colleges don't ask for an applicant's coursework prior to ninth grade, says Katherine Cohen, a private admissions counselor and CEO of IvyWise, which provides educational counseling to students. Admissions officers are more focused on grade-point averages, SAT scores and a student's overall academic acumen, says Reider. If anything, experts say, the summer program serves more as an opportunity for the college to market itself to students – yes, even students as young as four – than vice versa.

Still, many advocates say the college camp experience is worth the expense. For many working parents, there's peace of mind in knowing that their child is in a learning environment while they're at work rather than sitting in front of a TV, says Jill Tipograph, founder of Everything Summer, a Westwood, N.J.-based independent consulting firm that advises families with children and teens on summer activities. And the coursework can help students get a head start on classes they'll take in the coming year or years – which may in turn help with those college applications.
That's why 14-year-old Connor Shea hopes to head to college this summer, for the second year in a row. (He's waiting to find out if he's been accepted to a week-long engineering program at the University of Connecticut.) Last year, he studied computer science and statistics at the University of Nevada, Reno. His parents paid about $2,000 for the classes, but they say it's well worth it: "We're doing this to give our son an advantage," says Connor's mother, Lorel Shea.
Sex and the College Dean
On campus, lawyers rule, civility doesn't.
By WILLIAM MCGURN APRIL 26, 2011

Days after a Rutgers University student secretly used a webcam to record his roommate having a sexual encounter with another man, the roommate leapt to his death from the George Washington Bridge. Now the student who did the taping has been indicted on hate-crimes charges.

Rutgers's logic-defying response to this tragic suicide? Ensuring that roommates are more compatible by offering "gender-neutral" dorms that will allow students to share rooms with those of the opposite sex.

After a Saint Mary's College student reported she had been sexually assaulted by a football player at neighboring Notre Dame, a friend of the player texted her that "messing with Notre Dame football is a bad idea." Little more than a week later, she took her own life.

In a place that speaks of itself as the "Notre Dame family," the priest-president has refused to meet with the grieving mother and father, on the grounds that the school's disciplinary process would be "tainted." Meanwhile, the Department of Education is investigating the university's process for the way it responds to reports of sexual assault.
Over at Yale, 16 female students and alumni are claiming under Title IX of the Civil Rights Act that the campus is now a "hostile sexual environment" that denies women the same opportunities as their male counterparts. The evidence appears to be a number of boorish incidents, including Yale frat boys chanting outside women's housing that "No means yes. Yes means anal."

Let's stipulate for the record that in places filled with young people with raging hormones, there will be sexual encounters. Let's stipulate too that by their nature most of these encounters will not be public (leaving aside the University of Southern California student who did it on a rooftop with a woman in full view of fellow students). Throw in booze, and it's not hard to sympathize with university officials stuck sorting out the he-said-she-said.

Before we extend too much sympathy, however, it's worth asking how much our colleges and universities have brought this upon themselves. In days past, the dean responsible for standards of student behavior was a figure of great sport (see "Animal House"). Of course, that was understood to be part of the job: the willingness to be the adult.

Today deans have given way to lawyers. The consequence has been endless gestures to raise "awareness," constant upgrading of procedures, and the proliferation of committees—all designed primarily to limit the institution's civil liability. Thus Rutgers says it is working on making the school "more inclusive." Thus we can expect Notre Dame to announce new procedures once the Education Department issues its findings. Thus too Yale has just announced a new "Advisory Committee on Campus Climate," dominated by . . . lawyers.

In the meantime, the students have picked up on the signals and the potential liability. Gone are the days when a loutish student might be called into the dean's office, threatened with suspension, and find himself saying "I'm sorry." Now when students go in for meetings, they have the family attorney in tow.

What an odd place this is making our campuses. On the one hand, we have more Take Back the Nights, more sensitivity courses, and more performances of the Vagina Monologues than we've ever had. On the other hand, the same people who give us these things keep telling us the problem they are designed to fix is getting worse. Earlier this month at the University of New Hampshire, Vice President Joe Biden announced that this administration's answer will be more Title IX "guidelines."

Some say we're in this mess because of the collapse of traditional sexual morality. Manifestly, when society's most educated members take the view that the only issue in what they see as a purely mechanical act is whether the involved were consenting, you're in for trouble. Nevertheless, the real threat to civility and common decency is this: the substitution of codes and committees for responsible adults exercising humanity and judgment.

For example: How much formal ethics training do you need to know that you don't secretly film someone in a private moment? Do you need a new committee to determine
if women are being denied equal education at a school that has a female-majority student body? Instead of taking direction from lawyers, shouldn't our college authorities decide the right thing to do—and then instruct the lawyers to make that work?

Rutgers, Notre Dame and Yale are probably no worse than the rest. In fact, more will likely join them in the headlines, as deans and presidents surrender what little moral authority they have left to their in-house counsel and off-campus government authorities.

Pity the young men and women who are left to make their way through this minefield on their own.

Write to MainStreet@wsj.com