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Ceremony makes 100 for ECU

The Daily Reflector

Thursday, May 07, 2009

East Carolina University's first Friday night commencement in recent years will be an outdoor event, rain or shine.

With a 20 percent chance of rain, university officials are comfortable staging today's event at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. Also, Minges Coliseum isn't large enough to host the event, university spokesman John Durham said.

The graduation ceremony, ECU's 100th spring commencement, is being held today in an effort to increase attendance at the university-wide ceremony. Durham said officials are predicting 1,000 of the 3,400 students who applied for spring graduation will attend. That's the same as last year's attendance, he said.

The ceremony begins at 6 p.m. with a concert by the ECU Wind Ensemble. The student processional will begin at 6:30 p.m. Graduates should check in at Gate 2 under the south stands of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium no later than 6 p.m. to line up for the processional.

In a continuing effort to address the H1N1 flu outbreak, the university is encouraging people who feel ill or who have flu-like symptoms not to attend the ceremony, Durham said. The university sent the message to the seniors who are slated to graduate.

Departments and colleges will hold individual recognition ceremonies beginning at 8 a.m.

ECU has traditionally held the departmental ceremonies on Friday and the large ceremony on Saturday.


North was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force in 1976 after completing the ROTC program at ECU.

He is now responsible for the command of more than 350 aircraft and 24,000 active-duty and civilian personnel in the eastern United States.

He also oversees the operational readiness of 18 9th Air Force-gained National Guard and Air Force Reserve units comprising the Air Reserve Component. As the Air Component Commander for U.S. Central Command, the general is responsible for developing contingency plans and conducting air operations in a 27-nation area of responsibility covering Central and Southwest Asia and the Horn of Africa.

North has held numerous operational, command and staff positions, and has completed seven overseas tours. His last assignment was the Director for Operations at U.S. Pacific Command.

The general has served two tours on the Joint Staff, including executive assistant to the Joint Staff Director, and Director of Politico-Military Affairs for Asia-Pacific where he was responsible for regional planning and policy for the Asia-Pacific, South Asia and Central Asia regions. He also served as Deputy Director of Joint Matters at Headquarters U.S. Air Force.

North has commanded the 33rd Fighter Squadron at Shaw AFB, S.C.; 35th Operations Group at Misawa Air Base, Japan; 8th Fighter Wing at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea; and the 18th Wing at Kadena Air Base, Japan. He is a command pilot with more than 4,100 flying hours, primarily in the F-4, F-15 and F-16. He flew 54 combat missions during operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch.
Departmental ceremonies

Minges Coliseum
8 a.m. College of Business
11 a.m. College of Allied Health Sciences
2 p.m. College Human Ecology
5 p.m. College of Health and Human Performance
8 p.m. College of Education

Wright Auditorium
8 a.m. Brody School of Medicine
11 a.m. Department of Biology
2 p.m. College of Nursing
5 p.m. College of Technology and Computer Science
8 p.m. School of Communication

Hendrix Theatre
8 a.m. Department of Political Science
11 a.m. School of Art and Design
2 p.m. School of Music
5 p.m. Department of Psychology
8 p.m. Department of English

Fletcher Hall
11 a.m. Department of Sociology
2 p.m. Department of Economics

Willis Building
9 a.m. Planning Program / Department of Geography
11 a.m. The International Studies Program
2 p.m. Honors Program

Mendenhall Great Rooms
3 p.m. Department of History

McGinnis Theatre
12:30 p.m. School of Theatre and Dance

Howell Science Complex
10 a.m. Department of Mathematics (Room 103)

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Editorial: What’s next - Uncertainty lies ahead for new graduates

Friday, May 08, 2009

East Carolina University’s commencement exercises represent a monumental and celebratory moment for thousands of young men and women each year. The completion of a college degree is a remarkable and impressive achievement, a declaration of hard work and persistence that deserves appreciation.

Yet, as the names are called and diplomas collected this weekend in Greenville, an air of uncertainty hovers over the proceedings, one created by a sour economy and a dismal job market for graduates. It is yet another unfortunate consequence of a nationwide recession, and further evidence that the challenging work of recovery demands continued urgency.

East Carolina alumnum Lt. Gen. Gary L. North, commander of the 9th Air Force and U.S. Air Forces Central, will deliver the address for this evening’s commencement at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. The university reports that nearly 3,400 students are registered to graduate this year, with 2,325 undergraduates, joined by more than 1,000 graduate students, and 65 from the Brody School of Medicine.

One year ago, with the state’s unemployment rate at a reasonable 5.8 percent, many of those students walked across the stage secure in the prospect for gainful work. Many already had accepted job offers long before their diplomas arrived, making the transition from full-time student to full-time employee a painless one.

Not so today. According to the N.C. Employment Security Commission, the state’s jobless rate in March stood at 10.8 percent. That represents a slight decrease, but will still leave many of those graduating today facing grim prospects as they hunt for jobs. The local unemployment rate has hovered around the same figure lately, though the numbers from the surrounding region are more dismal.

It is difficult to predict what that means for those donning caps and gowns for their last weekend of college life. Many people are finding temporary refuge in graduate programs to learn more specific skills and become more marketable to potential employers. Others will turn toward a volunteer route, either in the U.S. armed forces or organizations like the Peace Corps. And some will look to government work, where job postings continue to amass despite the recession.

But for most, it will be a time of challenge, despite the achievement of completing an education at a fine institution of higher learning. These young men and women have futures of great promise, but may struggle at the outset because of timing.

For them, and for the many thousands now without work in this economy, recovery will mean a brighter future with stability and certainty. One can hope it will be soon in coming.

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Benefit tour features local gardens, art

‘Art in the Yard’

By Jane Welborn Hudson

Friday, May 08, 2009

The private gardens of 10 Greenville-area homes will be open for self-guided tours from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday to benefit the local Ronald McDonald House. In addition to showcasing nearly a dozen of the city’s most exceptional gardens, this year’s Friends of the Ronald McDonald House “Art in the Yard” also will feature 20 regional artists stationed at tour stops, creating and displaying their work.

The featured gardens vary in landscaping styles and features. The tour includes the gardens of:

Hyman and Stacy Brody, 503 Martinsborough Road.

This garden has a formal entry that lures visitors to the gracious expanse of manicured lawn and several outdoor “rooms” for entertaining. The Friends’ Garden Shop also will be located here, and visitors may get expert advice on roses, herbs, perennials and how bees help gardeners.

Teresa and Jim Morris, 3521 Warwick Drive.

A collection of whimsical statuary is tucked throughout this garden, with its centerpiece New Dawn climbing rose and a greenhouse with a prize-winning collection of orchids.

Lisa Brenner and Bruce Wihelsey, 311 Bremerton Drive.

A maze of boxwoods borders a variety of gardens including a rose garden, perennial bed, cutting garden, herb garden, peonies and a vegetable garden shared with their neighbor.

Mark and Jackie Williams, 3202 Star Hill Farm Road.

An inviting entry garden and reflecting pool is in a formal English setting with a pergola and Knock-out Roses.

Joe and Margo Babb, 2133 Cornerstone Drive, Winterville.

This retired master gardener and artist has created a cottage garden surrounding a patio. The garden features year-round color, standard perennials, hard-scapes, walkways and water features in a small manicured space.

Larry and Sharon Parker, 413 Grappenhall Court, Winterville.

This cottage garden demonstrates how a love of gardening is not sacrificed by space, with a beautiful rose garden, sculptured trees and symmetrical design.

Charles and Martha Baldree, 1967 Cornerstone Drive, Winterville.

Shrubs surround a circular area of Tennessee flagstone designed by the owner of this garden. Cone-shaped hollies, lantana, lilies and hibiscus are featured.

Inez Fridley, 2003 E. Fifth St.

This small and manageable but cozy cottage garden is filled with diverse and interesting plants. A true
friendship garden, it was relocated and replanted after the Hurricane Floyd flooding.

David Hursh, 1903 E. Eighth St. This unique and extraordinary succulent garden features a multitude of rare plants.

Stan and Ann Riggs, 5159 N.C. 33 East (10th Street Extension)

Two well-traveled master gardeners have created many mini-gardens on their countryside home site. The gardens include statuary, yard art, fruit trees and water features.

Area artists will be stationed in each garden, painting in oil, watercolor and acrylics. There also will be mosaics, ceramics, jewelry, folk art, pottery, metal art and quilting. Some art will be available for purchase.

Three adjacent gardens in the Cornerstone neighborhood will feature Danny Lauderdale, Pitt County Extension Agent, speaking about Greenspace, and jewelry designer Valda Belyeu.

In Bedford, visitors will have a chance to see the work of nationally acclaimed watercolorist, Linda Griffin, award-winning folk artist Jayne Nace and animal portraits by Dorothy McLennan. There will also be a Garden Shoppe, with plants donated by Monrovia, bulbs by Terra Celia, seeds from Southview Flower Growers, flower pot bird feeders and many gifts.

In Lyndale, Wetherspoon RoseGrowers will be on hand to answer questions and 15 raffle items valued at more than $1,700 will be on display. Carolyn Sleeper will exhibit her ceramic vases and Dolly Colwell will have children’s table-and-chair sets available.

Two gardens in the University area with feature quilts by Mary Miller, bird houses and feeders from Wild Birds Unlimited, calligraphy by Claudia Dersch and paintings by Marley Ungaro.

In Star Hill Farms, guests will see stained glass, metal garden accessories, jellies and jams by Mapleville Farms, decorative pillows by Betsy Drake and a working bee hive by Pooh.

Plein air painters Ray Sobei, Dodi and John Groesser, Lou Everett, Janet Dixon and Peerless Speller will be creating works on site at the Riggs’ garden, and “The Herb Lady” Dorita Boyd will share herbs and information.

Refreshments will be served in two gardens.

Want to Go?

What: “Art in the Yard” Garden Tour.

When: 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Thursday

Cost: $25

Sponsored by: Friends of the Ronald McDonald House

Proceeds: All proceeds go to the Greenville Ronald McDonald House, a home-away-from-home for seriously ill or injured children seeking medical treatment at University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina’s Children’s Hospital.


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City honors environmentalism with annual awards

By Kathryn Kennedy
The Daily Reflector

Thursday, May 07, 2009

In the news these days, "green" more often refers to money than environmental savvy. But the Greenville's Environmental Advisory Committee is attempting to ensure people don't forget to applaud those caring for the natural world in any number of ways.

"You don't just do things for the environment," Committee Chairman Wayne Caldwell said. "That's what people forget. You really have to look at the (additional) impact ... on people's health and our pocketbooks."

It's the fifth year the committee has given out Environmental Awareness Awards and Caldwell said the pool of nominees keeps growing.

"This year they were so good and we had so many of them, we included an honorable mention," Caldwell said. That recognition went to Myriah Shewchuck, the Greenville Noon Rotary Club and Greenville Pathology.

Primary awards were granted in four divisions: individual, institution, organization or association, and business community.

Jill Twark: Green(way) queen

Twark is the co-creator and executive director of the nonprofit organization Friends of Greenville Greenways (FROGGS), founded in April 2004. FROGGS volunteers, working with East Carolina University service-learning students, have raised community awareness of the need for greenways and parks.

The organization is conducting a capital campaign to raise $30,000 to purchase amenities for the upcoming South Tar River Greenway such as park benches, picnic tables, shelters and trash cans. And that's all in addition to her role as chairwoman for the University Environment Committee.

Caldwell said one of Twark's most memorable nominations was an account of walking across campus with the foreign languages professor. She stopped at trash cans, they told the committee, to pull out cans and bottles that should have been recycled.

"You just don't get that kind of commitment in everybody," he said.

Welcome to ECU! May I take that soda can?

At ECU, they try to grab students early — freshman orientation includes information about the school's recycling and sustainability efforts. It's nothing new. A recycling program has been in place at ECU for more than 15 years, but it keeps growing.

Recycling Coordinator Terry Little said in the past year ECU has increased its efforts by expanding special event recycling programs, which means making sure bins are available for tailgating.

Students aren't the only ones targeted. Staff members are prime paper users, Little said, so getting them to recycle their waste is important. The department also took 40,000 pounds of old and damaged books from Joyner Library that weren't eligible for donation.

Even recycling bins are recycled. The four-member, full-time staff has been snatching up old trash cans to refurbish and paint purple. Add recycling lids, and they're ready for action.

Little said the more waste that can be eliminated the better things are for everyone. And that means collecting everything from bottles and cans to cooking grease or automotive fluids, to scrap wood.
“It's been a slow transition to sustainability,” Little said. “People are starting to realize that, from an economic standpoint, it just makes sense.”

TRUNA: Rethinking their neighborhood area

It's been almost a year since a portion of the Tar River-University Neighborhood Area began producing its own food. The community gardens flanking Stancil Street — one organic and the other farmer's choice — were the primary reason the association was chosen for an award.

Established in the flood plain near the Tar River, planting and harvesting by approximately 20 households has yielded herbs, cucumbers and squash, tomatoes and beans. Residents rent the land from the city and have installed a water system.

Participants are hoping to expand their efforts to add fruit trees and berry bushes, according to organizing resident Brandi Dudley. Under her leadership, they've also created Greenville City Harvest — a group that will visit other areas and communities to help establish gardens of their own.

Cypress Glen: Never too late to form good habits

Cypress Glen started an humble recycling program in 2006, aimed only at collecting paper and newsprint. This past year, it began including plastic, cardboard and aluminum, and educating its residents about those changes. Residents, in turn, got involved in tracking the weight. Marketing Director Laurie Stallings said the community went from recycling 5,000 pounds per month to more than 10,000 pounds.

The retirement community also chose to replace its old heating and cooling system with a more energy-efficient model in December. It means less spent on utilities bills by about 50 percent, Stallings said. But it's less stress on the ecosystem, too.

“We're trying to do everything we can to care for Mother Earth and be good stewards of what we have here,” she said.

Even changing a few light bulbs can make a difference — which Caldwell said Cypress Glenn initiated, too.

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COX
Humber House dedication set

Family, officials in town Friday

The Daily Reflector

Thursday, May 07, 2009

State and local officials will gather in Greenville on Friday to dedicate a Fifth Street landmark restored from eyesore status to its former grandeur.

Jeffrey Crow, deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, and local government officials will dedicate the 1895 Humber House at 10 a.m. The home serves as the Eastern Office of the Office of Archives and History in the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.

The colonial-revival house was built by Robert Lee Humber Sr. and was the birthplace and home of the late Robert Lee Humber Jr., a prominent Greenville attorney, state legislator and the driving force behind establishing the N.C. Museum of Art in Raleigh. It was home to generations of the Humber family.

Dr. J. John Humber, son of Robert Lee Humber Jr., also will speak at Friday's dedication. The event is a free and open to the public.

The Humber family deeded the house to Greenville and Pitt County in 1980 “for governmental activities of the state, the county and the city, designed to increase the cultural level of the several communities in both the arts and history.”

The city leased the property to the state, and it has housed the Archives and History office since 1983. The office serves a 27-county region.

The home fell into a state of poor repair, and the Humber family asked that it be returned to them. In 2003, the city and county donated it back to the Humbers. The family then turned it over to the state.

The structure suffered from peeling paint, rotting wood, structural problems and needed a sprinkler system and upgrades to air conditioning systems.

The General Assembly in 2004 earmarked $565,000 for repairs, and the city and county anteed $50,000 each. The funds from the local governments paid for a copper roof.

The 4,500 square-foot house got a new porch, a new roof over the porch and a facelift inside and out. It also had new plumbing and electrical work done, said Scott Power, regional supervisor of the state Historic Preservation office.

Four archives officials have offices in the building and more people may work there soon, Power said.

The employees work on state and federal projects dealing with historic and culturally significant places.

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UNC may require health insurance

Coverage for all students is goal

BY ERIC FERRERI, Staff Writer

Comment on this story

CHAPEL HILL - The UNC Chapel Hill student had appendicitis and a bigger problem: no health insurance.

She refused to see a surgeon.

"She ended up having a ruptured appendix, which resulted in a hospital stay and complications," recalled Mary Covington, UNC-CH's student health service director. "Because she was afraid of the cost."

Every day, Covington bargains with uninsured students over their treatment, offering care while balancing costs. It is a frustrating situation she thinks can be improved, which is why she is one of several student health leaders backing a UNC system proposal to standardize health insurance and make it mandatory for students.

Covington and others spoke Thursday during a meeting of the UNC system's Board of Governors. The board may vote on the plan in August.

Currently, student health insurance coverage varies broadly across the 16-campus system. Eleven campuses, including N.C. Central University in Durham, get coverage through a UNC consortium and require their students to buy it. But the coverage details, including costs and maximum benefits, vary widely.
And five other campuses, including N.C. State University and UNC-CH, have voluntary insurance programs with relatively high premiums offering higher maximum benefits. At UNC-CH, Covington estimates one in 10 undergraduates -- about 1,800 -- are uninsured. NCSU data were not available.

Nationwide, about 20 percent of college students are uninsured, said Pam Silberman, president of the N.C. Institute of Medicine, an initiative within the Sheps Center for Health Services Research at UNC-CH. In North Carolina, 16 percent of college students were uninsured in 2006-2007, the most recent year for which data are available, Silberman said. The numbers are probably greater now because unemployment has gone up significantly since then, she added.

UNC system leaders have gotten bids for a new, mandatory health insurance package for all 16 campuses. They would slightly increase costs for students at many campuses, decrease premiums for students at UNC-CH, NCSU and five others, and provide for many students a better benefits package, officials say.

For example, students at Elizabeth City State University currently are required to pay $456 a year for health insurance, with a $6,000 maximum benefit. That means the student would pay for medical costs above $6,000. Under the UNC system plan, that student's premium would rise $100 to $200 a year, and the maximum benefit would rise to $100,000.

By contrast, NCSU currently does not require students to have insurance, but offers it for $1,161 with a $100,000 maximum benefit. So NCSU students who buy the coverage now would save about $500 a year through the UNC system plan, which is expected to cost each student $549 to $679 annually.

For board members who deliberated this year over tuition increases as low, in one case, as $71, the proposed changes should not be taken lightly, cautioned Erskine Bowles, the UNC system's president.

"This is like an increase in tuition," Bowles said, because the plan would require some increase in students' health costs at seven public campuses. "The question is whether there will be enough need-based [financial] aid to cover this. We think there will."

Financial aid

At campuses such as NCCU, where insurance is mandated, the premium becomes a piece of the cost of attendance and thus is factored into financial aid decisions, said Charles Bowen, NCCU's student health director. If it weren't mandatory, a lot of students wouldn't buy it, Bowen said.

"Most have very little or no discretionary money," he said.

Health officials also fight a perception problem in persuading students to buy insurance. According to the N.C. State Center for Health Statistics, 22 percent of young adults ages 18 to 24 are obese, 31 percent are smokers, and 22 percent are binge drinkers.

"We want to bust the myth that these are young, healthy adults and nothing happens to them," Covington said.

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Lives of Student and Her Stalker Collide on Wesleyan Campus

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

She was a disciplined, fearless young woman of great promise, a Wesleyan University junior with a passion for women's health issues. He was apparently disturbed, a man with shaky relationships and a malevolence toward Jews, threatening them and others on the campus in Middletown, Conn., in a journal he kept.

The lives of Johanna Justin-Jinich, 21, and Stephen P. Morgan, 29, had intersected briefly — and ominously — two years ago, when both attended a summer course at New York University. He called repeatedly and sent 38 harassing e-mail messages. The university and the police were notified, but he had left town and she declined to press charges.

There was no way to foresee the sudden, nightmarish sequel. Mr. Morgan walked into a campus bookstore about 1 p.m. Wednesday, then toward the Red and Black Cafe, where Ms. Justin-Jinich worked. He was a bearded, menacing figure on the overhead surveillance camera, a dark gun in his right hand swinging at his side, and something else hidden behind him in his left hand.

It was a long-stranded wig and he put it on, the baldish man undergoing a bizarre transformation as he confronted her, raised the gun and opened fire, a point-blank, seven-shot execution, officials said. Ms. Justin-Jinich fell, mortally wounded. The assailant — who the authorities said turned himself in to the police just before 9:15 p.m. Thursday — retreated the way he came in, dropping his wig, long-sleeved shirt and Czech-made CZ-USA 9-millimeter semiautomatic pistol.

Outside, he did not run away immediately. He milled around with students as police cars and an ambulance converged on the tumultuous scene. Checking witnesses, one officer asked for his name and phone number in case the police needed to contact him later, but let him go, The Hartford Courant reported.

It was not until hours later, after Ms. Justin-Jinich had been pronounced dead at Middlesex Hospital and investigators had heard Mr. Morgan's name from the victim's family as a possible suspect, that the police realized that they had stopped him outside the bookstore, the newspaper reported. It was unclear if he had stayed to watch the chaos or could not escape quickly because his car was blocked by emergency vehicles.

In any case, Mr. Morgan apparently just walked away, leaving his car, with Colorado license plates, in the bookstore parking lot, and in it his notebook journal and laptop computer. In the journal, the police later discovered what may have been an even more diabolical plot — to rape and kill Ms. Justin-Jinich and then go on a shooting spree on the Wesleyan campus.

The authorities said that Mr. Morgan turned himself in to the Meriden Police Department without incident on Thursday night, and was then turned over to the Middletown police. He was being held on $10 million bond and
was to appear in Middletown Superior Court on Friday morning, the police said.

Sonia Rodriguez, a clerk at a Cumberland Farms convenience store in Meriden, said Mr. Morgan walked into the store about 9:15 p.m. She said he looked down at a stack of newspapers, saw a photo of himself and asked for a pay phone. Ms. Rodriguez, who said she did not recognize Mr. Morgan, asked if he needed help, and he said he wanted to call the police.

When officers arrived, she said, "they threw him on the ground. I got nervous. I started crying. I was very, very scared."

Mr. Morgan had been the object of a nationwide alert with a $10,000 reward and a manhunt that focused on Middletown, a community of 48,000 in central Connecticut. Investigators said they believed that he had driven to Middletown from Boulder, Colo., arriving a day before the shooting and staying in a local hotel.

As family, friends and the Wesleyan community mourned the slain woman and investigators sought to unveil the motivations and recent movements of the fugitive, the authorities in Middletown warned of a dangerous and possibly armed man on the loose, and urged university officials and Jewish residents of Middletown to take precautions.

Wesleyan, a private liberal arts school with about 3,000 students, went into lockdown. All classes had been finished for the year by Tuesday and students were studying for finals. The campus was all but deserted.

At the behest of Mayor Sebastian Giuliano and Police Chief Lynn M. Baldoni, Congregation Adath Israel, a Conservative Jewish congregation and Middletown's only synagogue, located a block from the bookstore, was closed on Thursday. Its president, Eliot Meadow, said congregants were considering holding Sabbath services at another location or just hiring extra security. The Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford distributed pictures of Mr. Morgan to member organizations and asked them to be vigilant.

As the investigation unfolded, the police focused on the only known point of connection between the victim and the assailant. It was a six-week summer program, in June and July 2007, at New York University, called Sexual Diversity in Society. Pouami Roychowdhury, a graduate student, taught the course, which met for two hours three days a week in a campus building in Greenwich Village.

Ms. Roychowdhury said she barely recalled Mr. Morgan, who did not participate in discussions and eventually dropped out. But she remembered Ms. Justin-Jinich, who was 19 at the time. "She was always participating and she received an A-minus in the class," she said, writing her final paper on lesbian identity in modern society.

The two lived in student housing, but not in the same residence hall, said John Beckman, an N.Y.U. spokesman. On July 17, as the program was nearing its end, Ms. Justin-Jinich notified the university that she had received repeated harassing e-mail messages and phone calls from Mr. Morgan. The school notified the police, and officers spoke with her. The case was referred to detectives.

The police report told of 38 e-mail messages that were "insulting" and "unwanted." It quoted one as saying, "You're going to have a lot more problems down the road if you can't take any criticism, Johanna," using an expletive. But she declined to file charges, and the matter was dropped.
Ms. Justin-Jinich was from Timnath, Colo., a town of 200 southeast of Fort Collins. Because Mr. Morgan has lived in Colorado communities, including Colorado Springs and Boulder, the police were trying to determine if he and Ms. Justin-Jinich knew each other in Colorado.

Amid an outpouring of sympathy and praise for the victim, the portrait of a kind, thoughtful and talented woman began to emerge. Though her family was Jewish, Justin Bours, who shared an apartment with her this semester at Wesleyan, said she regarded herself as an agnostic, and was politically liberal.

She attended a Quaker boarding-preparatory school, the Westtown School. John Baird, headmaster of the school, which was founded by the Quakers in 1799 in rural southeastern Pennsylvania, said Ms. Justin-Jinich enrolled in 2002 and graduated in 2006. She lived in Mexico as part of an exchange program in her junior year. Her mother, Ingrid, also graduated from Westtown, in 1971, as did her uncle Eric, the headmaster said.

"Johanna was respected for her original thinking and willingness to delve deeply into a variety of subjects," Mr. Baird said.

At Wesleyan, where she enrolled in 2006, Ms. Justin-Jinich was described by friends as intellectual and passionate about her studies, pursuing a double major, one in Iberian studies and an interdisciplinary major in history, philosophy and literature. She quoted Nietzsche, Epicurus and Rousseau, and was a fan of the Chilean writer-politician Pablo Neruda and the Spanish poet Rafael Alberti Merello, they said. One friend said her summer plans included an internship in Washington with an organization focusing on women's issues.

"She had planned to pursue a life of helping people, which was true to her personality and character," said Leah Lucid, a close friend who was to have roomed with her next semester.

A day after the shooting, there were large gaps in the background of the assailant, who until February had an address in Swampscott, Mass. His parents, James F. Morgan, 72, and Maureen Morgan, 69, live nearby in Marblehead, Mass.

James Morgan is a retired venture capitalist and graduate of Harvard Business School, who once taught there. In recent years, he has been active in the International Federation for Family Development, which provides education and support for parents.

Hours before Mr. Morgan's surrender, his sister Diana told reporters outside the family home that they did not know where he was or where he might go. She urged him: "Turn yourself in right now to avoid any law enforcement agency, wherever you are, to avoid any further bloodshed. We love you, we will support you in every way, and we don't want anyone else to get hurt."

Greg Morgan, a brother, was quoted by The Associated Press as saying his family was distraught over the shooting, and had not spoken to Stephen for several weeks. He said his brother had not exhibited signs of anti-Semitism in the past.

The police said he did not appear to have a criminal history. Public records indicate that he lived in Fairfax County, Va., in 2000, and was in Honolulu from September 2000 to February 2001. In March 2001, one record showed a military address aboard the Navy guided missile cruiser Lake Erie. But the Navy said it had no record of him.
From 2002 to 2007, he lived in various places in Colorado Springs and Boulder. Justin Flowers, a man who bought a $200,000 home from Mr. Morgan in Colorado Springs in 2005, said Mr. Morgan sold the house because he had broken up with a fiancée about whom he talked constantly.

“He seemed like he had way too much on his mind, a whole lot of pain inside of him,” Mr. Flowers said. He said he never detected anti-Semitism in Mr. Morgan, but added that he refused to sell his house to a Vietnamese family because he “didn’t like Vietnamese people.”

In Colorado Springs, Ed Shvartzman, who rented an apartment to Mr. Morgan, said he was “full of anger, kind of maybe withholding emotion.”

*Reporting was contributed by Al Baker, Marc Beja, Alison Leigh Cowan, Winnie Hu, Serge F. Kovaleski, Trymaine Lee, William K. Rashbaum and Liz Robbins in New York; Lisa W. Foderaro and Nate Schweber in Middletown, Conn.; Ariana Green in Marblehead, Mass.; Martin Forstenzer and Dan Frosch in Colorado; and David Kocieniewski in West Chester, Pa.*
NCAA hands down postseason bans over poor APR scores
By Steve Wieberg, USA TODAY

The NCAA on Wednesday added unprecedented punch to its long-running academic reform effort, hitting three teams — Centenary men's basketball and Chattanooga and Jacksonville State football — with the first postseason bans assessed for scholastic shortcomings.

The programs were cited for a history of poor Academic Progress Rates (APRs), which measure player retention, eligibility and progress toward graduation. Another 174 low-scoring teams at 107 Division I schools drew lighter sanctions ranging from warnings to cuts in scholarship and practice time.

Jacksonville State is appealing its ban; a decision is expected from the NCAA in the next six weeks.

APR REPORTS BY SCHOOL: See the numbers for every school, every team (NCAA.org)

"Think back, as a mode of comparison, (to) when we have recruiting infractions of some kind and we would hold someone from postseason play," NCAA President Myles Brand said. "That's major national news, and it's a big deal. Well, we're doing that on a regular basis starting this year for academic poor performance.

"It is a watershed."

The bans are effective this coming year, though Centenary and Chattanooga have struggled on the court and field and were unlikely postseason candidates. The Gents have averaged just seven wins the past five basketball seasons and never qualified for the NCAA tournament. Chattanooga's football team, which plays in the NCAA's second-tier Championship Subdivision, is coming off a 1-11 season and a coaching change.

Jacksonville State's football prospects are another matter. The Gamecocks return 15 starters from a Championship Subdivision team that was 8-3 and tied for second in the Ohio Valley Conference in 2008. Quarterback Ryan Perrilloux passed and ran for 2,686 yards and 26 touchdowns as a junior and was a second-team all-OVC selection after transferring from LSU.

A school spokesman said there would be no comment on the NCAA's action with the appeal pending.

Chattanooga, in a statement, pointed to improvements in its football APR that nonetheless were not enough to forestall the Mocs' postseason ban. "We regret that our underperformance continues to reflect poorly on the entire UTC community," it said. "In particular, we feel badly for our proud alumni, our new football staff and our student-athletes who are succeeding in the classroom. We pledge to do whatever is necessary to overcome our past results and demonstrate our unwavering commitment to the academic success of all students on our campus.

"We anticipate that it may take two more years to reach the NCAA benchmark; but when we do, we'll have a great story to share."

The postseason bans move the stricken schools within one step of an even more serious penalty: demotion to restricted NCAA membership, making all their teams ineligible for championships and revenue sharing. Without improvement, that could come next year.

Centenary, Chattanooga and Jacksonville State are typical, as critics point out, of the schools and programs that draw
the bulk of APR penalties: low-profile and less moneyed.

Fewer than one in five schools (14 of 73) in the marquee Atlantic Coast, Big East, Big Ten, Big 12, Pacific-10 and Southeastern conferences had a team draw sanctions. Well more than one in three schools (93 of 257) in the rest of Division I were hit.

"It's a perception problem for me. I don't know how the NCAA views it," says Gerald Gurney, senior associate athletics director for academics and student life at Oklahoma, whose 20 men's and women's teams all drew passing academic grades.

"It's very clear that universities that have the resources for academic support, for degree completion, to bring back former students to complete their degrees, are far more able to manage APR challenges than those struggling to meet their budgets, particularly in these economic times."

The NCAA was making no apologies Wednesday.

"The truth of the matter," Brand said, "is that if you're going to participate in high-level intercollegiate athletics, you have to provide for academic opportunities for the students. And that's not inexpensive."

Among the handful of name programs assessed penalties: Mississippi and Minnesota football (each losing three scholarships) and NCAA basketball tournament qualifiers Purdue, Ohio State and Tennessee (each losing one or two). Indiana's and Georgia Tech's basketball programs also lost two scholarships, the Hoosiers' APR plummeting in the wake of an NCAA infractions case and almost complete roster turnover.

Thirty teams at 26 schools — none in the six big-name, big-money conferences — were identified by the NCAA as having chronically low APRs and put on notice that they'll face postseason bans next year if they fail to show improvement. The vast majority, however, figure to dodge that bullet.

Twenty-nine teams were placed in those crosshairs a year ago, and only Centenary, Chattanooga and tentatively Jacksonville State were unable to work their way out.

Temple football escaped, improving its APR enough to escape a ban. It was potentially this year's highest-profile postseason casualty after seeing its four-year score dip in the wake of an influx of academically risky junior college recruits from 2004-06.

"Because it's so public, because there are penalties when you don't measure up ... it has more ramifications than just maybe a public flogging once a year," says athletics director Bill Bradshaw, who helped beef up Temple's academic support staff and make more scholarship money available for summer school. "It really can impact you long range."

The Owls' single-year football APR reached 960, raising its four-year score — which the NCAA uses in its assessments — from 868 a year ago to 891.

The NCAA grades teams athlete by athlete, awarding one APR point per semester for staying at the school and another for maintaining academic eligibility. The association has determined that programs should hit 92.5% of their possible total, an APR of 925 that it says projects a 60% graduation rate.

Teams falling beneath a 925 are subject to initial scholarship cuts. Those falling beneath 900 face a stricter sequence of penalties: a warning the first year, scholarship and practice-time cuts the second year, postseason sanctions the third year and the school's relegation to restricted NCAA membership the fourth year.

To escape, a team must show "meaningful improvement" in its APR, plus meet at least one of three additional criteria: have a projected graduation rate better than that of the school's overall student body, prove a lack of resources or post an APR that's better than the bottom 10% of all teams in that sport.

The NCAA's latest figures show teams in the long-lagging sports of football, men's basketball and baseball making overall improvement, their collective APRs rising in the past four years. Among the 450 teams scoring a perfect 1000 was Kansas men's basketball, coming off the Jayhawks' 2008 national championship.

All eight of the men's and women's Final Four teams this year scored well above 925: Michigan State 988, national champion North Carolina 965, Villanova 978 and Connecticut 958 on the men's side; national champion UConn 991, Stanford 989, Oklahoma 981 and runner-up Louisville 954 on the women's.
Florida's national championship football team posted a 963; runner-up Oklahoma a 952.

Like Temple, San Jose State cited the 5-year-old APR program as a motivator in improving its football team's academic performance. The Spartans were threatened with a postseason ban when their four-year APR fell to 865 last year, but the school says its latest one-year score is 962 and its four-year average is up to 888.

The football team still was docked five scholarships and drew practice-time reductions but was spared anything stiffer. "We have turned the corner," AD Tom Bowen said.

There might be another, more unintended APR impact. Portland State and Delaware State have eliminated their wrestling programs, with officials at both schools telling the web-based Inside Higher Ed that low academic scores weighed in the decisions.

Said Brand, "I expect that to be a very rare occasion."

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