THE DAILY CLIPS

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252-328-6481
Budget cuts deep for ECU
By Jackie Drake
The Daily Reflector
Sunday, July 31, 2011

The 16 percent budget cut leveled on East Carolina University this year caused the loss of more positions on paper than actual people, but administrators said the effects of both are all too real.

With $49 million less in state funding, colleges had to bear the brunt and give back about 7 percent to 8 percent of their budgets. The deans collectively cut about 190 positions for this coming year. While many positions were intentionally left vacant last year in anticipation of cuts as has been done in the past, it was no longer enough and some people had to be let go.

That number is actually fewer than 10, according to Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Rick Niswander, but the effects are far-reaching. With enrollment holding steady or increasing in some areas, losing positions is effectively still a cut, Niswander said.

“In a normal budget year, those are people we would have hired,” Niswander said. This year’s enrollment is expected to be about the same as last year at 27,000 students. Not only will colleges have to offer fewer courses and sections to those students this fall, the community will eventually feel the impact with fewer people living and doing business in Pitt County, and fewer professionals graduating.
The university generally employs more than 5,000 people, though the number varies due to temporary and part-time positions.

“What we've always done is said to the units, ‘you get to make the cuts, you know your business best,’” Niswander said. “We're prohibited from increasing tuition any more this year, so the lion's share had to come from operation of the units.”

Colleges have two main sections of their budgets, personnel and operations.

“At the college level, about 95 percent of the budget is salaries and benefits,” Niswander said.

With most college's operating budgets nearly reduced to the maximum, most of the cuts came from personnel.

“Our budget is people,” said David White, dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science. “You can't cut all operating money, it's going to have to affect personnel.”

While some courses and sections still are being finalized, most deans know that increased class size and decreased offerings are inevitable.

Eight of the positions held vacant in the College of Education were adjunct professors who taught individual courses.

“At eight courses per year per position, that represents 64 fewer sections that we were able to staff than the previous year,” Dean Linda Patriarca said.

The College of Arts and Sciences — the largest college in the university — provides the vast amount of general education courses.

“This hit us hard,” Dean Alan White said. “We've been pushing section sizes to the limit, we're already maxed out on room. There are no more large classrooms. We're going to have reduced frequency of courses. Students will have to be much more careful and plan their course of study a year or two ahead and really talk to their advisers.”

The College of Nursing accepts about 130 new students each year, and instead of two sections of 65, some courses are now one big section, according to Dean Sylvia Brown.

“In clinical areas, accreditation requires a 1-to-10 faculty-student ratio.

“We've always tried to keep it at eight, but we may have to move up to 10,” Brown said.

The College of Allied Health gave up four new positions it would have gotten based on enrollment, according to Dean Stephen Thomas.

“We need faculty to grow,” Thomas said.

Graduate assistantships, summer and distance education courses will be drastically reduced.

The College of Business has one of the largest Masters of Business Administration programs in the state with 1,000 students, many of whom are hired as tutors, research and
lab assistants. Funding has been reduced from $1 million to $300,000, according to Dean of the College of Business Stan Eakins.

“There won't be able to come to school here or will have to work other jobs unrelated to their careers,” Eakins said.

Increased class loads and lack of raises will hamper critical research and make ECU less competitive on the national faculty market. Deans were also concerned for the future of their respective professions and the wider economy.

“It's going to be tough on the entire community,” Eakins said. “It's like having a major business shut down.”

Now is the time to advance the nursing profession by meeting the increasing demand for nurses with bachelor's degrees, Brown said. “We're just holding on. We can't really grow any programs or start any new ones.”

With public schools just as strapped for cash, “the need for teachers is at a lower ebb, but within five years we're going to need 14,000 teachers with the workforce aging out,” Patriarca said. “What we're talking about is a big hiatus where we can't produce enough teachers.”

There are some bright spots.

“The upside is we've learned to be more efficient, and use what we have better and be more strategic about how we spend our money,” David White said.

“We take this as a challenge,” Eakins said. “We realize we have to do the best we can with that we have to provide the best education we can.”

Faculty and staff who have stuck it out are deserving of praise, Niswander said.

“We still have thousands of people who work here who still really care about this university,” he said. “This is a really great place to work. This is their university, and you can't put a price on that.”

Contact Jackie Drake at jdrake@reflector.com or 252-329-9567.
CLIFF HOLLIS, EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Editorial

Great responses

“This," 6-year-old Lucy Mangum of Durham explained to doctors treating her leg wound, "is the first time I've ever been bitten by a shark." Turns out, it was the doctors' first shark bite too. But both the spunky young patient and her ECU medical school doctors in inland Greenville did just fine.

Sharks rarely attack swimmers, but one at an Ocracoke beach laid open Lucy's lower right leg. Her parents got her out of the ocean, and it didn't hurt that Dad is an emergency physician. EMS personnel responded, and then a helicopter whisked Lucy to Pitt Memorial. Doctors there say she will recover well. At a session last week, Lucy's parents recalled some of her one-liners, including "He (the shark) didn't mean to do it" and "I should have kicked him in the nose."

In all seriousness, this incident that could have been tragic is a reminder of the outstanding medical infrastructure our state has built from the ground up. Taxpayers and officials have been doing something right.
Visitors to East Carolina University's Health Science campus are asked to avoid parking in lots marked in red until 2 p.m. and to use Heart Boulevard to access clinics. Motorists are asked to avoid MacGreggor Downs Road.

Drill Tuesday will disrupt campus traffic

By Jennifer Swartz
The Daily Reflector
Monday, August 1, 2011

East Carolina University officials and others on Tuesday will participate in an emergency drill simulating a shooter on campus.

The exercise, set for 9 a.m., will take place on the university's west campus around the Health Sciences building, East Carolina Heart Institute and the Brody School of Medicine.

Run by the Graham-based firm EnviroSafe Consulting and Investigations Inc., the event is designed to test the university's ability to cope with a campus gunman. ECU police, the Greenville Police Department, the Pitt County Sheriff's Office and Greenville Fire-Rescue are set to participate.

The event could attract some attention, university officials said.

“There is the potential for someone driving by to say, ‘What in the world is going on?’” Mary Schulken, director of public affairs, said.

Parking and streets will be restricted in some areas.
Students, faculty, staff and visitors are asked to avoid the Health Sciences building and the parking lot to the north, the Laupus Library parking lot and the overflow parking south of Health Sciences until 2 p.m.

The Brody School of Medicine, the outpatient clinic, East Carolina Heart Institute and Family Medicine Center may be accessed by taking Moye Boulevard to Campus Loop Road or taking Arlington Boulevard to Heart Drive.

Contact Jennifer Swartz at jswartz@reflector.com or 252-329-9565.
Crime study offers suggestions
By Michael Abramowitz
The Daily Reflector
Sunday, July 31, 2011

Greenville residents can achieve more significant reductions in crime if they get up, get out and get involved, a special task force on public safety concluded after a yearlong study.

The recommendation is tops among more than a dozen offered by the 15-member panel that began its study for the City Council in April 2010. A complete report was completed June 24 and turned into the council for consideration in August.

Seven panelists were appointed by City Council members, and eight represent groups involved in public safety. Several discussed their year-long examination during interviews with The Daily Reflector on Tuesday.

They conducted a zone-by-zone analysis of crime statistics and produced 12 recommendations on crime reduction and further guidance on zoning and alcohol issues, youth issues, quality of life and changing perception about of crime.

Co-chairman Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor for environmental health and campus safety at East Carolina University, said the panel's first step was to identify issues and perceptions, then deal with the reality.

Task force member L.K. “Buddy” Zincone, a retired ECU statistician, said discussions about crime in Greenville should begin by acknowledging that crime has declined overall during the past five years.

“I would not argue that the crime situation in Greenville is not serious, but people are saying we're going to Hell in a handbasket and it's not true. The fact is that crime is down in Greenville in every category except rape,” Zincone said.

Zincone agreed that crime statistics might mean something different to people in areas where violent crimes and gang activity are more prevalent, particularly to the parents of murder victims in places like west Greenville, where one-third of all homicides occur and outnumber those in most other areas of the city three-to-one.

“I agree that our youth are angry. The establishment of gangs in Greenville is something different now from years past,” Zincone said.

The panel's report comes in the midst of a spike in violent crime, fueled in part by what police say is an ongoing dispute between members of the Bloods and Crips gangs. They began their work in the wake of a double homicide in downtown Greenville.
Such crime affects everyone, said task force member Dennis Mitchell, former chair of the city redevelopment commission. He warned people that Greenville is not all that big a city.

“It's not that far a distance from where people are being killed to where I live on the other side of town, or to anywhere else in Greenville. What isn't a problem in one area today can become one tomorrow,” Mitchell said.

Successful crime-fighting strategies hinge on connecting people within individual neighborhoods and from one part of town to another, task force members said. Their recommendations aim to facilitate that, Koch said. Tactics require the involvement of people other than city or university police, he said.

“People who have crime are the best people to help solve crime. Issues downtown, for example, should involve Uptown Greenville, the business community and the private clubs and bars. They are empowered to solve their own problems and we need to hold their feet to the fire with our ordinances,” Koch said.

The task force commended the council for passing ordinances requiring training and background checks for nightclub bouncers and establishing minimum distances among clubs and between clubs and residential areas. It recommended tailored strategies for each neighborhood and section of the city, based on individual circumstances, members said.

“Clergy can lead their churches to develop activities for youth on Friday and Saturday nights, for example, when trouble is most explosive,” said task force member Mary Faircloth, pastor of Anderson Chapel AME Church. Faircloth said clergy must bear a greater proportion of the responsibility for bringing people in troubled areas to safer ground.

“There is a mandate among churches to sound the trumpet ... and the clergy has a specific mandate to work together and speak out about getting the church involved in the community,” she said.

Task force member Diane Kulik designed a neighborhood watch information pamphlet for distribution throughout the city, especially in those areas where violent crimes and gang activity can frighten people away from visible action. Police officers can offer assistance and advice on how to safely organize and participate in the program, she said.

She is seeking city support to have the pamphlets distributed with GUC bills, she said. Member Richard Crisp said the policy of involvement must continually expand.

“Our slogan should be: ‘Safety is everybody's business,'” Crisp said. Kulik would like to see expansion of the neighborhood beautification and revitalization projects that some churches have begun in west Greenville and other crime hot spots.
Koch recognized the need to market ideas and opportunities to people in Greenville's communities, but said more must happen.

“The time has come to roll up our sleeves and act,” he said.

“We must all become more engaged and better connected. It's a great preventive measure,” said Fairecloth “ It starts at home with parents being connected to their neighbors, and with projects going on in neighborhoods, schools and wherever we can create a web of engagement. It will bring a sense of unity and well-being to our community. We are our brothers' keepers.”

The Daily Reflector requested an electronic version of the task force report to be published with this report on reflector.com. The city denied the request on Friday.

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or 252-329-9571.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS
Many task force suggestions focused on crime reduction. They include:
• Establish mini police substations in high-crime apartment complexes.
• Establish a police coordinator for the downtown district.
• Police and residents should continue to reach out to forge strong relationships with each other and as residents work to forge strong relationships with police.
• Continue with the installation of cameras and lighting improvements to recognized standards.
• Expand the number of neighborhood watch groups and create a “Neighborhood Institute” to connect groups with each other and the police department.
• East Carolina University students, media and private citizens should collaborate to market crime-prevention techniques, watch programs and youth mentoring programs.
• Encourage increased participation with police in expanding the crime-free rental housing program.
• Establish a non-alcohol entertainment venue at ECU and a mandatory safety training program for students.
• Greenville and Pitt County should adopt a five-year plan to reduce the number of juveniles entering the justice system through expanding community partnerships.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS
The task force analyzed crime statistics from 2005-10. Key findings include:
• The number of homicides citywide was 29. The greatest concentration, 10, occurred in west Greenville, between Dickinson Avenue and West Second Street. Four occurred in the northwest district from Fifth Street to the airport. No other area saw more than 3. Two people were killed in the downtown area.
• Aggravated assaults in west Greenville, while still far outnumbering those of any other part of the city, have trended downward during the past five years, in some sections by as much as 63 percent.
• Burglaries occurred most frequently in the neighborhoods between Dickinson Avenue and Memorial Drive where there were 670, and between Arlington Boulevard/County Home Road and U.S. 264 East, where there were 1,297.

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS**
Appointed by the mayor and City Council
Anne Briley
Tom McCullough
Maury York
Buddy Zincone
Howard Conner
Spence Cosby
Dennis Mitchell

Organization representatives
Bill Koch, ECU
Cecil Hardy, Citizens United Against Violence
Brad Congleton, ECU Student Government Association
Pastors Mary Faircloth and Jay White, Faith community
Tony Cannon, Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce
Richard Crisp, Neighborhood Advisory Board
Diane Kulik, Police Community Relations Committee chairwoman
Federal aviation investigators Friday continued the probe into a plane crash that killed a commercial airline pilot from Winterville.

Joshua Brehm, 42, was at the controls about 3:20 p.m. Thursday when his single-engine 1940 Taylorcraft BL-65 went down in a grassy airstrip at South Oaks Aerodrome in Pitt County, authorities said Friday.

He died of multiple injuries including a cervical spine fracture and a traumatic brain injury, officials with the state medical examiner's office said Friday. The manner of death was accidental, officials said.

Brehm was a captain with Southwest Airlines, sheriff's officials said Friday. He held an airline transport pilot certification, the highest credential offered by the Federal Aviation Administration, spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen said.

He was certified to fly a Boeing 737, as well as a Hawker Beechcraft 1900 — a twin-turbo propeller plane, and the regional jet Bombardier CRJ-200, she said.

The residential landing field at 6554 County Home Road just north of N.C. 102 is part of a luxury residential development in southern Pitt County. No homes or other structures were damaged.

Investigators with the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board spent Friday morning examining the crash site. Midday, the plane was removed from the runway and the area reopened.

“Basically we're just going through the wreckage,” said Bob Gretz, NTSB senior air safety investigator. “The plane is still relatively intact; it did not burn, so we have a lot of good evidence.”

The investigation, expected to take from six months to a year, considers the pilot, the aircraft and environmental factors. A preliminary report is expected within 10 days. So far, nothing appeared out of the ordinary, officials said.

The pilot's plans were not known. Officials said it was possible the pilot went up for a brief pleasure flight.

The NTSB investigates between 1,500-1,600 small-plane crashes annually. Only 10-20 percent are fatal, transportation safety officials said.
The plane was not equipped with a flight-data recorder, but did have GPS. The device was undamaged in the crash, further aiding the investigation, Gretz said. The plane went up about 1:45 p.m. and was coming in on approach when it crashed on the runway, officials said.

Marti Cannon, 43, who lives next door to the airfield, was returning from work Thursday at an interior design shop in Winterville when she heard the crash.

“It was very loud, as a matter of fact it frightened me,” she said. “It sounded like a pallet of construction materials, like when it comes off of a forklift and it hits the ground. It made a ‘boom’ like that. “It's very saddening,” she said. “I know somebody is missing somebody.”

Contact Jennifer Swartz at jswartz@reflector.com or 252-329-9565.
Joshua Craig Brehm, 42, died unexpectedly on Thursday, July 28, 2011, as a result of a plane crash. The funeral arrangements will be private. The family respectfully requests privacy during this most difficult time.

He was captain at Southwest Airlines, where he had worked for the last ten years. Flying was Josh's passion and he spent many happy years with Southwest and in his own planes. He was also a supporter of Young Eagles and Wright Flight, programs that teach children about flying.

Josh is survived by his wife, Laura Gantt; mother, Suzanne Craig of Nova Scotia; sister, Jennifer Guevara also of Nova Scotia; stepmother, Catherine Chapman; sister-in-law, Madeline Gantt; brother-in-law, Samuel Fox Gantt; and his best friend, David Stroup.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to EAA 1423/Young Eagles, 5245 County Home Rd., Winterville, NC 28590 or a charity of one's choice.
Arrangements by Wilkerson Funeral and Crematory.

Published in The Daily Reflector on July 30, 2011
Mr. Charles W. Pollard, 74, died Thursday, July 28, 2011. The funeral service will be conducted Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in the First Pentecostal Holiness Church. Burial will follow in Pinewood Memorial Park.

Mr. Pollard, a native of Edgecombe County, was a lifelong resident of Greenville. A graduate of Greenville High School, he served in the United States Army. He grew up in the Pollard Grocery Store, which he later operated. In 1990 at the age of 53, he graduated from East Carolina University, and for 25 years was employed with ECU, most recently in Radiation Safety. Mr. Pollard had many interests, especially bowling with the Senior Olympics and softball with the Golden Gramps, but one of his favorite past times was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was a member of the First Pentecostal Holiness Church, where he had served as Sunday School teacher, Deacon, and Elder of Prayer.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Freda Blackburn Pollard; daughters, Sheila P. Williams and husband, Chris, of Greenville, and Shannon P. Duvall and husband, Robert, of Mebane; son, Jeffrey Charles Pollard, of Greenville; grandchildren, Graceson Williams, Lilliana Duvall, and Kyleigh Williams; sister, Joy P. Bowers and husband, Richard, of Vanceboro; brothers, Wayne Pollard and wife, Betty, of Greenville; mother in-law, Betty Blackburn, of Sneads Ferry; and brother in-law, Oscar Blackburn, of Greenville.

The family will receive friends tonight from 5 to 7 at Wilkerson Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the STORM Youth Ministry of First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 204 Brinkley Rd., Greenville, NC 27858. Online condolences at www.wilkersonfuneralhome.com.

Published in The Daily Reflector on July 30, 2011
Retired Greenville businessman Taylor Millar has a new job -- volunteering at the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU.

ECU Notes: Volunteers help patients
ECU News Services
Sunday, July 31, 2011

In 2008, Taylor Millar had heart surgery. He was treated so well by cardiothoracic surgeon Dr. Ted Koutlas and the rest of the physicians at the East Carolina Heart Institute at East Carolina University, he wanted to return the favor.

“I just felt like someone had to do something for them,” he said. “I wanted to give back to the medical profession.”

He's getting that chance through the new volunteer program of ECU Physicians, the group medical practice of the Brody School of Medicine at ECU. Millar, a retired Greenville businessman, has been volunteering since the program began June 6. Millar works in the heart institute along with 13 other volunteers.

Martha Dartt, director of nursing services for ECU Physicians, serves as the volunteer coordinator. Sydney Cunningham, the wife of Dr. Paul Cunningham, dean and the senior associate vice chancellor for medical affairs at the Brody School of Medicine, played a role in getting the program started.

“I really thought it was something that was really worthwhile,” Sydney Cunningham said. She volunteers at Pitt County Memorial Hospital with the Service League of Greenville and the PCMH volunteer organization and wanted to bring the same service to ECU.
Patients are often alone and have limited mobility, she said, and can easily get lost in the ever-growing and changing medical center. She knew volunteers could help patients navigate the buildings as well as provide other services.

Volunteers, she said, “really want to be there, and they really want to help.” Dartt is working to expand the program and recruit more volunteers for all ECU Physicians practice sites. The program is not a result of budget cuts, said Dartt, and volunteers are not taking the place of employees.

Volunteers have one mission. “They help make the patient experience better and allow us to go the extra mile for our patients,” she said. Volunteers perform many tasks at the various ECU Physicians' practice sites. They check patients in at the front desk, escort them to different parts of the building, assist in retrieving wheelchairs and perform other clerical duties.

All of these duties, said Millar, are done with a smile. “All the people I work with here are happy. It seems that they were hired because of their personality,” said Millar.

Dr. Nicholas Benson, vice dean and medical director of ECU Physicians, is eager to have more of this energy in the workplace and expand the volunteer program. “The compassion and friendliness that the volunteers bring to our clinics will be a great boost to the outstanding patient care from our providers and nurses,” he said. Millar hopes to continue giving back to the East Carolina Heart Institute.

“Greenville should be proud to have a medical facility like the one we have here,” he said.

For more information about the ECU Physicians volunteer program, contact Dartt at darttm@ecu.edu or 744-1841.

4 grads from program on sustainable tourism

Four ECU students graduated this summer with a degree unlike any other; they were the first to earn the university’s new master of science degree in sustainable tourism, the first program of its kind in the United States.

Established in 2010, the degree program incorporates an interdisciplinary approach to teach students how to protect and enhance the resources of popular tourist areas, while at the same time encouraging tourism and the resulting economic boost to the area. The program reflects a growing concern about how to balance the benefits of tourism with its impact on vacation destinations.

The program draws upon emerging sustainability sciences in various disciplines at ECU. Courses provide study of sustainability through participating faculty in the university's College of Business, the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the College of
Human Ecology, the College of Fine Arts and Communication and the College of Health and Human Performance.

The graduates were Shannon Arnold of Kinston, Stefanie Benjamin of Miami Shores, Fla., Michaelina Antahades of Charlotte, and Whitney Knollenberg of Delton, Mich. The next step for Arnold and Antahades is employment within North Carolina's travel and tourism industry. Benjamin and Knollenberg plan to pursue doctoral degrees in hospitality and tourism management, at the University of South Carolina and Virginia Tech, respectively.

For additional information about the Center for Sustainable Tourism and the master of science program, visit www.sustainableturism.org.

Study: Discrimination, among older lesbians
More than half of lesbians aged 55 and older have been married to a man at some point in their lives. More than 90 percent said their families knew about their lesbian relationships, according to a new study.

ECU researchers reported these findings in their article, “Older Lesbians: Experiences of Aging, Discrimination and Resilience,” published in the Journal of Women and Aging. The work was the largest and most comprehensive research done on this demographic since 1984.

Social work professors Paige Averette, Intae Yoon and Carol L. Jenkins surveyed 456 lesbians 55 years of age or older regarding socio-demographics, social activity, health, sexual identity, family relations, romantic relationships, use of service/help programs, mental health, end of life care, and experience with discrimination.

The research uncovered persistent discrimination and hostility toward lesbians despite improvements in public attitudes since the last national study. Compared to the last study, the group reported slightly higher levels of perceived discrimination in their employment settings due to their sexual orientation.

“More older lesbians have reported being married to men than twenty-five years ago,” Averett, said “which points to the continued pressure that lesbians feel to hide and to the power of heterosexism that continues within our culture.”

The researchers said that older lesbians contend with ageism in their work and social settings, just as many older individuals do. However, members of the study group face additional intolerance and discrimination from family and from the public, while walking down the street and going about their daily lives.

Averett said, “Older lesbians struggle with federal and state policies that disregard their lifetime romantic partnerships, denying them end-of-life decision making as well as access to partners' Social Security and retirement benefits.” This forces them into legal battles with partners' families, hospitals and employers, she said.
Despite the ongoing challenges, study participants showed an increase in positive thinking about their sexual orientation and about aging. While more than 80 percent reported participation in therapy at some point, the researchers said, they consider themselves overall to be in good mental health. More than 90 percent said they were “out” to their family members, and a majority reported having positive relationships with family members who know about their sexual orientation.

The study also showed an increase from the prior study in the duration of lesbian relationships. That number is now similar to the duration of heterosexual marriages. For additional information about the study, contact Paige Averett, assistant professor in the ECU School of Social Work, at 328-4193 or averettp@ecu.edu.
Bill Pratt, teaching instructor, author and assistant director of the Financial Wellness Institute at East Carolina University's College of Business, has taken his presentation about the importance of personal finance nationwide — speaking to officials at other colleges and universities from Florida to Massachusetts.

Pratt recently led a one-day workshop to peer counselors at Valencia College in Orlando, Fla. in concert with the NSLP, a leading nonprofit organization with 25 years of experience in providing integral student financial education and debt management services.

Topics included financial planning and budgeting, managing credit and debt, and presentation skills.

Pratt also has presented his personal finance message to national conferences, including the National Association of College and University Business Officers in Orlando, as well as the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators in Boston.

“Personal finance isn't just for business majors,” Pratt said. “All students should learn how to manage their finances and control spending to avoid major pitfalls down the road.
We need to teach these life skills on more college campuses and help students achieve financial literacy.”

The Financial Wellness Institute at East Carolina University is an outreach unit that helps individuals better understand the complexities of their personal finances, providing skills to help assess financial situations and successfully plan for the future.

The Financial Wellness Institute is available for seminars, articles, consultations and other outreach activities.

Learn more online at http://www.ecu.edu/cs-bus/fwi.cfm.

The College of Business at East Carolina University was founded in 1936 and has been continuously accredited by the AACSB since 1967. The college has more than 3100 undergraduate students, 870 graduate students, 135 faculty members, as well as 30 degrees, majors, and concentrations. The College offers a course in personal finance taken by more than 1,000 students each academic year.
CNN begins filming series at Rose
By Tony Castleberry
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, July 30, 2011

School won't start in Pitt County until next month, but hundreds of local student-athletes already are taking some important tests. One group — football players at J.H. Rose High School — did so Friday with CNN cameras trained on them.

CNN's Emmy-award winning chief medical correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta and crew spent the day at Rose filming the early stages of a documentary the news network is making on concussion prevention. Neurocognitive testing like Rose's players experienced Friday is just one way local doctors, trainers, coaches and administrators hope to help county student-athletes avoid coming back from a concussion too soon.

“(The preseason testing) is a resource that enables a more comprehensive and a more complete return-to-play decision,” said Dr. Sharon Rogers, an assistant professor at East Carolina who has taken the reins of Pitt County's concussion prevention program for high school athletes. “If you think of a return-to-play decision as a pie, the more pieces of that pie you have, the more comprehensive the view of the athlete. So we've added this piece this year.”

In 2008, former Rose football player JaQuan Waller died as a result of second impact syndrome, or suffering a second concussion before the first one was properly healed. Earlier this year, the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act was passed by the North Carolina General Assembly with the goal of increasing concussion awareness statewide.

Gupta, who wasn't available for an interview Friday, and CNN will follow the Rampants throughout the upcoming season to chronicle the team's attempts to identify players who
may be concussed while also paying tribute to Waller's memory and the change his death helped bring.

“They might use 45 seconds of that 45 minutes,” JHR football coach Todd Lipe said after a lengthy on-camera interview with Gupta in the Rampants' weight room. “That's how it goes. ... In one way, I feel real fortunate. They're going to illuminate what's been going on and the steps that we've been taking (and) remind us about JaQuan so that we won't forget.”

Lipe, who was in his first season as Rose's head coach when Waller passed, said any fears he might have had about his players being distracted by television cameras have thus far been unfounded.

In fact, he said, the extra attention may be beneficial.

“(CNN has) been out a couple of times and there hasn't been any lack of focus,” Lipe said. “If anything, the kids kind of take a little bit more pride and I want to use it as a positive thing. I want to use it to shed a positive light on our community.”

Pitt County Athletics Director Ron Butler said Friday he's hoping football and soccer players at all six county high schools will undergo the neurocognitive testing and that basketball players and wrestlers will do the same before their winter seasons. Butler admitted Rogers and company have quite a chore on their hands in implementing the new program, but he's confident the effort from everyone involved is worth it.

“Like everything else (that's new), there are growing pains,” Butler said. “Administering the tests, the logistics of what you do. ... We're trying to work through it. “High school kids don't always tell us the truth and (neurocognitive testing) is a way for us to keep them honest.”

Contact Tony Castleberry at tcastleberry@reflector.com or 252-329-9591.
The Wilmington Star News

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Shaq Hooper (20), who will attend Division II Catawba University in the fall, said academics kept him from going to a bigger school. StarNews file

**Academics a roadblock for athletes**

By Powell Latimer
Powell.Latimer@StarNewsOnline.com

WARSAW | Corn stalks sprout up behind the visitors’ bleachers at James Kenan High School’s Bill Taylor Field. From the home stands, the fields stretch into the distance.

All told, it’s just three miles of farmland to the south and east of the high school. Beyond those fields, a left turn onto Highway 11 will take you all the way to East Carolina University an hour away.

But for most football players at James Kenan, even that journey seems awfully long.

The Tigers have one of the best small-school football programs in coastal North Carolina. They won a state title in 2007 and have a 76-21 record in the past seven years.

But nobody from James Kenan’s football program has matriculated to a Division I program since Sam Aiken went to North Carolina in 1999.

Star defensive end Dontril Hyman was the next-best chance.

The 6-foot-4 rusher committed to an athletic scholarship to East Carolina in the fall of 2010. But Hyman couldn’t meet the minimum academic requirements and
enrolled instead at Hinds Community College in Mississippi. He plans to transfer to ECU in 2013.

“Being a small school, the sheer numbers we can draw from are going to be a lot less than the big schools,” James Kenan head coach Ken Avent said. “But academically, in eastern North Carolina we just struggle for whatever reason.”

James Kenan’s struggles are not unique. Schools across Southeastern North Carolina lack student support programs and lag behind the rest of the state academically. For prospective student-athletes at rural schools, navigating the NCAA eligibility process is a complicated and lonely endeavor.

**Passing the test**

Some of the best football programs in the state are a short drive from Wilmington. Small towns like Wallace, Tabor City, Warsaw and Elizabethtown shut down for Friday night football.

But few of their players ever get the chance to play in college, much less at a high level.

And while attracting college recruiters to smaller, rural high schools is a challenge, academic struggles derail many players with potential.

The NCAA eligibility requirements are a major stumbling block.

All student-athletes hoping to play in college first must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse website, filling out a short but highly detailed survey with a $65 fee.

Then, to determine a student-athlete’s eligibility, colleges rely on a combination of core GPA and standardized test scores. The scale is sliding, meaning a higher GPA can carry a lower test score and vice versa.

But standardized tests aren’t much of a priority for small schools.

Duplin, Pender, Bladen and Columbus counties all reported SAT scores below the state average in 2010. Only Pender County was within 150 points of the average score statewide.

Not only that, but for the past three years, only Bladen County had more than half its students even take the test.

Pender High School graduate Shaq Hooper is a prime example.

The quarterback for the Patriots’ intricate option attack in 2010, Hooper ran a 4.37 40-yard dash at Duke University’s football camp. He rushed for 1,455 yards and helped lead the team to the Class 1AA state title game his senior season.

But he found himself completely baffled the first time he sat down to take the SAT.
“It was mind-boggling,” Hooper said. “It was crazy. I was like, ‘Oh my God, there’s no way I can do this.’”

Hooper said he plans to attend Catawba University in the fall and play football, but said academics held him back from going to a bigger school.

“I should have known more about the clearinghouse and the grades thing earlier in my career,” Hooper said. “If I’d have done that, I probably would be going to a Division I school.”

**Making the grade**

The grades themselves also can be confusing, because for college recruiters, some matter and some don’t.

Knowing that different high schools offer different courses, the NCAA instead takes a core GPA from classes in math, English, history and science.

But often times, students struggle to comprehend the difference between core and regular GPA.

Former Pender football coach Tom Eanes has spent most of his career at small schools, coaching the Patriots for the past seven years before leaving for Ashley High School in Wilmington this year.

Eanes came face-to-face with the struggles of trying to educate student-athletes about the process.

He recalled frequently dealing with athletes who barely passed English, but maintained a solid GPA boosted by elective classes the NCAA doesn’t count.

“They don’t want to know what you do in wood carving, art and weight training,” Eanes said. “They want to know what you do in English, history and math.”

And even those students who try to keep up with the NCAA requirements can be confused by frequent changes.

Since 2000, the NCAA has changed minimum eligibility standards four times. In 2013 they’ll change again, as Division II will require 16 core courses instead of 14.

**Searching for guidance**

School guidance counselors are charged with helping student-athletes stay eligible to play in college. But this area’s rural high schools provide bigger challenges.

Coaches and guidance counselors attribute the lack of student-athletes in college to cultural factors and a general lack of knowledge about the process.

“Some of them don’t even know what it’s like outside the county, and if they’ve gone outside the county, it wasn’t to see a college,” James Kenan guidance counselor Danna Westerbeek said.
“A college campus is not something they’re excited about.”
Smaller schools also have fewer student support services than larger schools.
Westerbeek is one of two counselors at James Kenan, But more like it’s one-and-a-half – Westerbeek’s co-worker is also the career development coordinator.
Schools get federal money for guidance based on the number of students, but the fewer counselors at smaller schools are often stretched thin running other student service programs.
Comparatively, Ashley High School in Wilmington lists four full-time guidance counselors, a guidance secretary and coordinators for career development, special populations, ESL and testing.
Numbers show coastal North Carolina schools, which lack many of the listed programs, are some of the poorest in the state.
Bladen, Columbus and Duplin each identify at least 72 percent of students as needy, and Pender isn’t far behind with 58.6 percent.
Westerbeek, a 16-year veteran of Duplin County Schools, says she works additional hours to tutor students in math and spent parts of her summer supervising summer remedial classes for no pay.
“You can’t look at a child and say, ‘Math’s not my job,’” Westerbeek said. “It’s not about what’s in my responsibility. My responsibility is to get you through school and get you into college.”
And while counselors frequently go above and beyond, there simply aren’t enough hours for 1 1/2 counselors to help all 533 students at James Kenan.
For student-athletes at James Kenan and other small schools, the result is that they have to navigate the process on their own.
Hooper said he sent out tapes and transcripts to “two or three dozen” colleges in an attempt to get noticed, but few ever got back to him.

**Getting out**
The new coach at Pender, Tony Hudson, is an example of what can go right at a small school.
Hudson played at Pender and in college at Wofford. He took a proactive approach to his recruitment, contacting every college that would take his calls. He started in California and worked his way east.
Hudson said that while the process can seem intimidating, it doesn’t have to be.
“It’s actually pretty simple,” Hudson said. “It’s just a matter of knowing to go do it, and having people on you to get it done.”
But Hudson’s case isn’t the norm – both his parents went to college and the expectation was that he would go as well.

Many student-athletes in rural schools are the first people in their families to have a chance to go to college. For those students, Hudson said, the key remains education about the process.

“A lot of the kids coming up think it’s ‘this school writes me, I’m going,’” he said “That’s not how the process works.”

Hudson said it’s important to note that a football scholarship isn’t the only way to play football in college. Financial aid can help, and there are plenty of schools far from home or off the beaten trail.

“I think there’s enough schools for kids to play,” Hudson said. “If they’re willing to do what it takes to go there.”

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Depression afflicts veterinary students
MANHATTAN, Kan., July 30 (UPI) -- Students of veterinary medicine are more likely than human medicine students or undergraduate students to struggle with depression, U.S. researchers say.

Mac Hafen, a therapist and clinical instructor at Kansas State's College of Veterinary Medicine, and colleagues at Kansas State University, the University of Nebraska and East Carolina University, say they took a closer look at depression and anxiety among veterinary medical students.

Although the mental health of human medicine students has been extensively studied, the same extent of study had not been performed with veterinary medicine students, Hafen says.

"We are hoping to predict what contributes to depression levels so that we can intervene and make things run a little bit more smoothly for students themselves," Hafen says in a statement.

Once a semester, the researchers anonymously surveyed veterinary medicine students in various stages of academic study.

During the first year of veterinary school, 32 percent of the veterinary medicine students surveyed showed symptoms of depression, compared to 23 percent of human medicine students who showed symptoms above the clinical cutoff, as evidenced by other studies.

Veterinary students experience higher depression rates as early as the first semester of their first year of study, but the depression rates appear to increase even more during the second and third year of school. However, during the fourth year, depression rates drop down to first-year levels, Hafen says.

The findings are published in the Journal of Veterinary Medicine Education.
Praised teacher program gets ax
BY ROB CHRISTENSEN - Staff Writer

RALEIGH—For the past quarter of a century, North Carolina has offered a great deal to thousands of its brightest high school students: a free ride in college in exchange for teaching four years in Tar Heel classrooms.

As a result of the N.C. Teaching Fellows Program, a cadre of teachers and principals who graduated from the model program now work in 99 counties across the state.

"It's easy to spot them," said Brian Whitson, 35, a chemistry teacher at Salisbury High School, who was a Teaching Fellow. "You see a lot of innovation. A lot of them are able to motivate students in a way other teachers are not."

But that particular teacher pipeline is about to dry up.

The Teaching Fellows Program fell victim to the budget ax. As the legislature sought to deal with a $2.5 billion budget shortfall, it decided to phase out the $13.5 million annual funding for the program. This year's entering college freshman class will be the last to receive scholarships - though two Republican lawmakers suggested funding could be reinstated in future sessions.
The Teaching Fellows Program is one of a number of teacher programs that the legislature, which adjourned Thursday, decided to eliminate, phase out, or drastically cut. Lawmakers:

- Eliminated the N.C. Teacher Academy as of July 1, when it cut all $4.7 million in annual funding from the Morrisville-based program that provides seminars and courses for educators across the state.

- Cut in half the budget for the Cullowhee-based N.C. Center for the Advancement for Teaching, which is designed to reinvigorate career teachers to prevent burnout. The legislature first proposed abolishing the program before cutting funding from $6.1 million to $3 million.

Lawmakers said they were faced with the difficult choice of whether to make budget cuts that would directly affect the classroom or to cut other education programs.

"Our goal was to have a teacher in every classroom and a teacher assistant," said Rep. Bryan Holloway of King, co-chairman of the House committee that oversees education spending, a former high school history teacher and now an education consultant.

"With the economic climate, you have to make tough decisions," he said. "The reason it is not completely wiped off the map is because legislators have a favorable opinion of the teaching fellows. The hope is when we go back in the short session (next May), we could turn things around a bit. I would hope we could do it."

The language in the budget, however, says the program is to be phased out. It cuts $210,000 for the year that began July 1 and $3.4 million for the following year.

Among those troubled by the cuts is Jim Hunt, a four-term Democratic governor, who said North Carolina has been an innovator in teacher education in part because of such programs.

"Over the last 20 years, North Carolina has done more than any other state to increase the effectiveness of teachers in our public schools," Hunt said

"These are all programs that have a great impact on North Carolina moving up among the states in learning and getting scores among the top tier in the nation," said Hunt, who is chairman and founder of the Hunt Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy at UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Finding smart teachers**

Hunt is among those who hope future legislatures will reconsider the decision to phase out the Teaching Fellows Program.
The program was created in 1986 at the urging of Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan, a Democrat, but with backing from other key figures including Hunt and the late Jay Robinson, then superintendent of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system.

There was a concern at the time that not enough of the smartest high school students were entering college teaching programs. The lack of males and minorities going into teaching was also a worry.

The Teaching Fellows Program was a nonprofit that provided full scholarships - then $5,000 per year and now $6,500 - to Tar Heel students who were willing to teach four years in North Carolina schools. Students who don't fulfill their teaching obligation must pay back the scholarship, plus 10 percent interest.

The program is year-round and includes weekly seminars, a weeklong bus trip across the state to better learn Tar Heel culture, public service projects and various enrichment programs. Seventeen campuses participate.

In 2011, the average SAT for those accepted in the program was 200 points above the average North Carolina student who takes the SAT.

Of those fellows who started teaching in 1991, 60 percent are still employed in North Carolina's schools, according to the program.

'It has worked'

Graduates of the program call it a major influence.

Jason Sinquefield wasn't sure what he wanted to do when he was at D.H. Connelly High School in Greenville, although he knew he enjoyed math. Then he heard about the Teaching Fellows Program and won a scholarship to UNC-Chapel Hill.

He is now a math teacher and assistant football coach at Millbrook High School in Raleigh.

"I never thought of education as a career choice until I looked at the Teaching Fellows Program," said Sinquefield, 26. "It kind of defined a way of becoming the best teacher you could be. They identified things that were going to be important."

For Amy Davis, who grew up in rural Cleveland County, going to college was a financial stretch, which is why she viewed the Teaching Fellows as a "hidden treasure." It enabled her to attend Meredith College in Raleigh, after which she taught high school English in Johnston County for five years.

Now 35 and an assistant principal at Wakefield High School, Davis is still active in the program, helping teach workshops and serving on committees that screen applicants. She said it has been a boon for rural school systems.

"It has worked," Davis said. "A lot of teaching fellows are considered anchors in their school systems across the state. They have now been in the profession for 25 years and are still in the classroom."
**The NCAE connection**

Ending the program was difficult for Sen. Jean Preston, a Republican from Emerald Isle, who is not only co-chairwoman of the Senate education appropriations committee but also sits on the board of directors of the Teaching Fellows Program.

"It was a painful to see things (cut) that we worked so hard for, that we thought were successful," said Preston, a retired teacher and principal. "But we had a lot of new members who were not part of what had come before. They ran on change."

Preston said the opposition was mainly driven by an effort to save money, but she said there was also some skepticism - from both conservative freshmen and from the leadership - about the value of the programs and the programs' sponsors.

The Civitas Institute, a conservative think tank in Raleigh that is influential with the new GOP leadership, has pressed for elimination of the Teaching Fellows Program, the center for the advancement of teaching and the teacher academy.

Bob Luebke, a senior policy analyst with the Civitas Institute, said there was some concern in the legislature that the Teaching Fellows Program was administered by the N.C. Public School Forum, a nonprofit group in Raleigh.

"If it was a mere scholarship program, they might have looked at it different," Luebke said.

He called the forum "a recruitment area" for the NCAE and said the organization has strong ties to the teachers group, which is the state affiliate with the National Education Association.

The forum's president and executive director, Jo Ann Norris, was an NCAE leader in the 1980s. Its board of directors includes a range of educators and business people, including executives from companies such as Glaxo SmithKline, Reynolds American and Lenovo.

Luebke said the question about funding the Teaching Fellows should be seen in the wider context of funding for a broad array of programs aimed at helping teachers.

"Should taxpayers be providing all the professional development for teachers?" Luebke asked. "If you look at the array of programs, some of it's overlapping. There are simply too many programs."

Many of the programs, Luebke said, have never been carefully examined to determine their value to taxpayers.

"If they are legitimate functions and if they provide value, then funding will follow," Luebke said. "There will be private organizations that fill the void."
Rep. Hugh Blackwell, a Republican from Valdese, who is co-chairman of the House education appropriations committee, said he never heard of a feud with the NCAE.

"The discussions I was party to were all premised on the idea in a tough budget year, in setting priorities, should these teacher education-type programs be more of a priority than the number of teachers or principals that would be the equivalent," said Blackwell, a Harvard-educated lawyer. "If I had to choose, I would prefer to have teachers, principals, assistant principals and teacher assistants in these classes."

But Blackwell said the teaching fellows debate may not be over.

"Presumably it is something that could be revisited in May if revenues are up," Blackwell said, "although we would lose a year."

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What else was cut?

Here's a look at the other education programs that were cut in this year's budget:

- The N.C. Center for the Advancement for Teaching has provided sabbaticals for teachers for 25 years, allowing them to take courses and seminars to learn new teaching skills. About 66,000 teachers have attended either the main center at Cullowhee or the smaller one at an old Coast Guard station in Ocracoke.

The center receives 90 percent of its funding from the state; the rest from foundations. Its budget has been cut from $8 million to $6.1 million in recent years. Lawmakers this year proposed eliminating it entirely, but after a write-in campaign by teachers, the legislators reconsidered and halved its budget.

Among those who fought to save funding were the five conservative House Democrats who voted for the Republican budget. The Ocracoke facility is in the district of Rep. Tim Spear of Creswell, one of the five.

Linda Suggs, the program's director, said significantly more of the center's participants stay in teaching than teachers overall.

The Civitas Institute, a conservative advocacy group, has questioned whether it's worth the funding and the relevancy of such courses as "Women in Aviation: Pioneers in Courage." It also noted that the state spent $8 million renovating the Ocracoke Coast Guard station.

- The N.C. Teacher Academy, headquartered in Morrisville, offered professional development for teachers including a five-day summer residential program that included a $350 stipend for teachers. Its workshops included mathematics and elementary science, differentiated instruction and instructional technology and literacy.
Its $4.7 million funding ended June 30. Academy director Julia Kron, a former NCAE official, was laid off, as was the rest of the staff.

The Civitas Institute complained that some of the seminars offered at the academy had a political tilt, such as "Urban Sprawl: Its Impact on the Environment" and "Human Impacts in the African Rainforest: What Can We Do?" "Other courses advocate for alternative lifestyles and include sections on women's and gay rights," said an article by Bob Luebke, a senior analyst of the Civitas Institute.

By the numbers

2,000: Typical number of students who apply each year to the Teaching Fellows Program
500: Scholarships available annually
47,611: Students who have applied since the program began
10,799: Scholarships awarded
6,900: Graduates of the program

Source: N.C. Public School Forum
Can UNC play big-time football and preserve its integrity?

BY ANNE BLYTHE - Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL Two images symbolize UNC-Chapel Hill's drive to produce a championship football program:

- Kenan Stadium's new east end zone addition, a $70 million project adding thousands of seats, luxury boxes and plush athletic training and tutoring facilities.

- Butch Davis, the high-profile, high-dollar coach, answering reporters' questions about allegations of NCAA violations, his former associate head coach, a misguided tutor - and his cellphone records.

Davis has departed, fired Wednesday by Chancellor Holden Thorp, who said he could no longer bear the damage to the university's reputation caused by its biggest NCAA troubles in 50 years and other related academic misdeeds.

The east end zone is nearly complete, and this year it will help entertain fans who file into Kenan Stadium to watch what might have been one of Davis' best teams.

But will those fans, for years to come, see a team that contends for championships? Will UNC, stung by agents helping players, an assistant coach helping an agent and an embarrassing case of plagiarism, still seek to play with the big boys of college football?

UNC has struggled to maintain its storied academic reputation and, at the same time, build a modern football program that excites a large enough fan base to fill 63,000 seats and contribute mightily to the big-time costs associated with national championship aspirations.

"I've got an acute sense of the true nature of the tension," Thorp said Thursday. "Nearly every public university, including many, many great public universities, are wrestling with the issues that we're talking about."

The quest for winning football teams can add to the cost of losing. Highly paid coaches must show swift success or be fired; Davis is due a $2.7 million buyout. Seats in expanded stadiums must be sold or other university sports teams feel the pinch.
Thorp likes to say that the university avoids using state tax money to pay for athletics. But that means athletics must pay for itself, adding further to the pressure. The university is still trying to sell naming rights to all sorts of features in the stadium renovation.

Many fans weren't ready to lose Davis.

Fred Pearlman, a 1982 UNC graduate, is disappointed with the chancellor for firing Davis so close to the start of the football season.

"I thought it was terrible," Pearlman said. "The only thing that occurs to me is they wanted to do this after they got most of the ticket sales."

**Passion for a title**

Wade Hargrove understands the frustration. He wants to win, too, but he wants it done the right way.

Hargrove is a Raleigh lawyer and UNC alumnus who took over as chairman of the board of trustees hours before Davis was dismissed. He replaced Bob Winston of Raleigh, a big supporter of Davis.

"There is no less passion today to win a national championship than there was the day before," Hargrove said after Davis was fired. "Let's get on with playing football and playing by the rules."

Though sports talk radio shows and Web chat boards were lit up initially with fans describing Hargrove as the impetus behind the abrupt dismissal, he said the decision was Thorp's.

"This chancellor is committed to the core mission of the university," Hargrove said. "After all is said and done, this is an educational institution, not an entertainment institution."

Hargrove lamented that three hours of his first meeting as board chairman with three new members was spent talking about football - not the $100 million cut in state funding that could result in employee layoffs and the closing of some campus buildings.

"At some point, the sense was we need to just get this chapter behind us and get on to running the university," Hargrove said. "At the end of the day, the chancellor and the administrators have to make sure their job as educators is not being compromised. We just have to be ever vigilant to make sure we're doing the right thing. It's just not easy."
Though some still wrestle with Thorp's decision to dismiss Davis when he did, administrators familiar with UNC fans expect the loyal blue to rally behind the program.

John Montgomery, head of the Educational Foundation, the athletics booster club, better known as the Rams Club, fielded phone calls much of Thursday. Some callers wanted to talk about the dismissal of Davis. More calls were about the announcement that Dick Baddour, athletics director for 14 years and a university employee for 45, was stepping down earlier than he planned.

"The sense I get is that people care about Carolina football," Montgomery said. "They want the program to succeed. I hope everybody will regroup and renew their support for Carolina and help us achieve the kind of success on the football field and in the classroom that Carolina people have long wanted."

Art Pope, whose family contributed $3 million to the construction of the east end zone from the John William Pope Foundation, said he thought UNC could have a big-time football program and success in the classroom.

"I don't think they're mutually exclusive," Pope said.

Former UNC system President Bill Friday, long a critic of big-time athletics, said the university gets pushed by boosters with deep pockets who want championships.

"We've got work to do, and we've got issues to resolve, but the first one has got to be ferreting out where this pressure comes from," Friday said. "Who is generating it? Why is it this win-at-any-cost mentality?"

28 wins, 9 infractions

Big ambition can lead to large numbers.

UNC spent nearly $15 million on its football program in the year ending June 30, 2010, according to a report the school filed with the federal Department of Education. The program produced revenue of $22 million, part of an athletics budget of more than $67 million.

Davis' four teams produced 28 wins, a far better record than the previous coach's. But another number also stands out: allegations of nine major NCAA infractions. A Google search Friday of "UNC football" and "scandal" brought up about 1.27 million results.

Chris Roush, who teaches business journalism at UNC and directs the Carolina Business News Initiative, came to Chapel Hill by way of two
football schools. He did his undergraduate work at Auburn University and his graduate studies at the University of Florida and supports football on campus because the revenue generated by the sport helps pay for other sports.

He was critical of Davis and of university administrators for keeping the coach as long as they did after the NCAA allegations emerged.

"If this had happened to me or any other professor on this campus, if we'd had students on our watch get into trouble, we would not have remained on the faculty," Roush said.

Nevertheless, he said it is possible for a university to try to build a football program that is competitive nationally without compromising a commitment to academic excellence and integrity.

"I do think it's possible because I look at a university like Stanford and see it happening," Roush said.

'More watching'

Jan Boxill, the new faculty chairwoman, is a philosophy professor and director of the UNC-CH Parr Center for Ethics who has long worked alongside many Tar Heels athletes. She has been a public address announcer for the women's basketball and field hockey teams and an academic adviser for the athletics department. She is chairwoman of the 2011 NCAA Scholarly Colloquium and the Education Outreach Program for the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

"There's always going to be a tension, just as the chancellor said," Boxill told reporters after Thorp's news conference Thursday. "It's just going to take more watching and a lot more faculty involvement."

Athletics is an important part of college life, Boxill said. "That's what we have for entertainment," she said.

But she borrowed a metaphor she often heard Baddour use during orientation sessions with new Tar Heels athletes:

"Athletics are your front porch of the university," she said. "So you want it to be clean."

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Thorp hears from alumni over Davis

BY KEN TYSIAC - Staff Writer

The words delivered to chancellor Holden Thorp's email inbox practically jump off the page, revealing a deep fracture among UNC-Chapel Hill alumni and supporters over the firing of football coach Butch Davis on Wednesday.

"You folks are spineless, slimy slugs who have dishonored our whole university," wrote Ben Kushner, a class of 1971 graduate in Alpharetta, Ga. "You did the right thing," wrote Franklin Golden of Durham. "We've been living under a cloud for far too long."

After supporting Davis publicly throughout a 13-month NCAA investigation of the Tar Heels football program, Thorp changed course Wednesday and fired the coach. Thorp said he still is confident that Davis didn't know about the nine major violations alleged against UNC but dismissed Davis because of the damage the investigation is causing to the school's integrity.

The school will pay Davis a buyout of up to $2,703,500.

Alumnus Charles Skinner of Oriental, said he won't set foot on UNC's campus or contribute to the university until Thorp is gone.

"I was very upset," Skinner said in a telephone interview. "If they had wanted to do this, they should have done it 13 months ago. I felt that they have led Butch Davis along. They told him he had their support."

In response to a public records request, UNC on Thursday released to The News & Observer emails to Thorp's university account from July 15 through Thursday. One message Thorp received shortly after UNC forwarded emails to the paper was disturbing enough that university officials sent it to UNC public safety for investigation.

In all, according to UNC spokeswoman Nancy Davis, Thorp received 668 emails - some positive and some negative - between 5 p.m. Wednesday and late Friday afternoon.
A small fraction of those were released to the newspaper, and those were split fairly evenly between fans complaining about Davis' dismissal and those who supported the firing.

**Faculty's role**

Leading up to the firing, though, there were a number of messages expressing dismay over the university's integrity after several recent embarrassments.

Among them was UNC officials' failure to discover apparent plagiarism on a paper submitted by former Tar Heels player Michael McAdoo that was reviewed by the school's honor court.

That misstep struck at the school's academic reputation and was followed by frustrated messages to Thorp.

"I'm extremely disappointed in your support for Butch Davis," Stephen Miura, class of 2005, wrote July 17.

Jay Smith, a history professor who was quoted in a News & Observer story about McAdoo and the honor court system, sent Thorp an email. Smith suggested an independent, faculty-led investigation of the football program and the ways it intersects with the academic side of the university.

"I feel embarrassed, sad and frustratingly powerless at the moment," Smith wrote. "... Many of us are itching to take action. Please empower us!"

Thorp responded that he would love to talk. UNC plans to set up a task force to review the problem.

In a phone interview, Smith said he became worried about whether plagiarism might be almost willfully missed at times as tutors work in the academic support program for athletes.

He wants to know how tutors are recruited, what instructions they are given and what directions athletes receive when they work with tutors.

"All of those questions need to be asked," Smith said. "And it may be that we get perfectly innocent answers, but the investigation needs to take place."

**Divided sentiments**

Meanwhile, the fans are deeply divided as the team gets ready to begin practice Aug. 5.

"PLEASE RESIGN!!!!!!!" Leigh Lipscomb wrote four times in an email to Thorp on Thursday.
Fourteen minutes later, Lawrence Gilbert, professor emeritus of biology, messaged Thorp.

"This courageous decision will ultimately place you among the very best chancellors of the very best state university in the country," Gilbert wrote.

One alumnus, Bob Smith of Tallahassee, Fla., supported Davis at first, then changed his mind. It was clear that Smith's loyalties are to the university first.

"I am behind [Davis] and UNC 110%," Smith wrote Monday, before Davis was fired.

Two days later, after Davis was dismissed, Smith wrote Thorp again.

"I know that this has been a long and stressful situation but I support y'all and The University of North Carolina 110%," Smith wrote.

Smith serves on the board of directors for the Rams Club booster group, raising money for scholarships for athletes. He said he is a longtime supporter and believes in the school.

As opinions remained divided, Smith said the Tar Heels need unity.

"I think this is a time for the UNC family to come together and pull together," he said. "We will get through this. It's just a bump in the road."

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Eight days before football coach Butch Davis was fired, the academic toll of the NCAA investigation at UNC-Chapel Hill had created concern at the highest level of the UNC system.

On July 19, members of the UNC system Board of Governors and chancellors in the system received an email from system president Tom Ross regarding the scandal, which resulted in allegations of nine major NCAA violations by the Tar Heels football program.

Attached to the email were editorials from The News & Observer stating that UNC was paying a dear price for bending to sports boosters' desires for a high-profile football program.

The editorials followed the discovery that UNC officials had failed to detect plagiarism in a term paper turned in by former football player Michael McAdoo.

Ross reminded UNC officials that in January he appointed East Carolina chancellor Steve Ballard to lead a task force reviewing best practices to guarantee academic integrity in the system's athletic programs.
UNC Chancellor Holden Thorp will give a detailed report on the academic portion of the investigation at the Board of Governors meeting in August, Ross wrote.

The meeting is scheduled for Aug. 12.

"In 17 years as a Superior Court judge I learned that one must act based on the evidence and only on the evidence," Ross wrote. "I also learned that one follows the facts where they lead you and it is the facts that dictate the appropriate action."

Efforts to reach Ross for comment Friday were unsuccessful.

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