THE DAILY CLIPS

August 22, 2011

News, commentary, and opinion
compiled by the East Carolina University News Bureau from:

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East Carolina University students and football fans can rest — or jump — assured that The Boneyard, Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium's raucous end zone section, is ready once again for the kind of wild cheering and celebrating for which hearty Pirate fans have become famous, school officials said Saturday.

The news was shared by school officials before the annual “Meet the Pirates” preseason stadium party for fans, team members and coaches.

New brackets were used to reinstall the aluminum bleachers during the off-season — after the original ones attached onto the newly constructed zone section — gave way under the weight of jumping fans during the first game of the 2010 season, a nail-biter against the University of Tulsa that the Pirates won.

There were some minor injuries when the bleachers broke loose, but nothing that interrupted the flow of play, and cooperative fans made way for stadium workers to remove the loosened metal boards. After the game, all the stands were removed from the section, which accommodates more than 7,000 people.

Bill Bagnell, ECU associate vice chancellor for operations, oversaw the replacement of the entire section of bleachers and the testing operations that were needed to satisfy school officials that the section was safe for what they knew was in store beginning with the home opener.

“Last year, the anchors that held the bleachers loosened from the concrete, mostly because they weren't long enough and well-set into the concrete. This year, in an abundance of caution, we've replaced the brackets with a different design that is stronger
and we've changed to a different kind of horizontal bolt that is thicker and longer and sealed into the concrete with an epoxy,” Bagnell said.

There will be an additional bolt that connects vertically through the top of each bracket, holding it in place from two directions, Bagnell said. Thousands of the new brackets were added as an extra precaution, he said.

“We've overdesigned them to the point that we don't feel they can be dislodged by students jumping on them,” Bagnell chuckled. “We're confident they're safe. That doesn't mean the students won't be giving their best effort.”

ECU Athletic Director Terry Holland recalled that the fans were not bothered by the removal of the bleachers during the ongoing contest against Tulsa, as long as they didn't have to stop the game.

“To be honest, the students asked us to just leave them out of The Boneyard after they were removed because they rarely sit down there, and we seriously considered that, but we knew that the section would be totally uncomfortable for sitting if it rained, so we decided to replace the bleachers,” Holland said.

The AD said he knows no students would intentionally try to destroy the Boneyard bleachers.

“We love the enthusiasm they show in there,” Holland said.

John Durham, chief of communications for the university, said officials do not feel it necessary to send out requests to the student body asking them to contain their enthusiasm a bit for the sake of the bleachers.

“I'm not sure it would do any good if we did, so it's probably better not to waste the paper or time,” a smiling Durham said.

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or 252-329-9571.
About 5,500 students drop anchor at ECU
By Jackie Drake
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, August 20, 2011

A fleet of trucks and minivans sailed onto campus Friday as East Carolina University Pirates made port for move-in weekend.

About 5,500 students will live in 14 residence halls for the 2011-12 school year. “The fall semester of 2011 looks like a good one,” Associate Provost for Enrollment Services John Fletcher said.

Overall enrollment is expected to be slightly less than last year's 27,783 students, according to Fletcher. Enrollment is not final until a census snapshot of the numbers is taken on the 10th day of class and sent to general administration for review. Classes start Tuesday.

There are 15 residence hall buildings on campus, but one, Slay Hall, is being used as office space. Umstead Hall is split, with offices on the first floor and residences above. Most dorms have between 200 and 600 beds.

Move-in times were staggered across the weekend from Thursday afternoon to Sunday. More than 1,100 students had checked in as of Thursday evening, according to Aaron Lucier, director of housing operations. The biggest day always is Saturday, he said.

“Things seem pretty organized,” freshman Kayla Stocks said. She said she liked her room in Aycock Hall but hadn't met her roommate yet. “I really like the campus, and I could really picture myself going here,” she said of choosing ECU.
“I'm super excited,” said freshman Kris Lassiter as he arrived with his parents at Aycock Hall. “My older brother stayed here when he was a freshman and he really enjoyed it.” Freshman nursing student George Almonte moved into Jones Hall on Thursday. “It's good. I've met my roommate, so far we're settling in, and it seems like we'll get along well,” he said.

A native of Hickory, Almonte wanted to go a little further from home for college. “ECU seemed to be the perfect choice,” he said.

Traditionally, the university houses from 80 percent to 85 percent of the freshman class, according to Lucier. Freshmen are not required to live on campus this year, but that will change next year. A freshman residency requirement shouldn't cause any major problems, according to Lucier.

“It would be a few hundred more students, but it's not like it's going to be thousands more,” he said.

In addition to the usual re-painting and re-carpeting, new fire sprinklers were installed in Clement and Greene halls, and major repairs were made to the steam lines that provide hot water across campus.

“We have two-and-a-half months to get a lot of work done,” Lucier said. Improvements also were made to study spaces in many of the dorms.

“Students are asking for more space to study in addition to their rooms,” Lucier said. Tyler Hall will be open this fall but will go offline in the spring for a full renovation. Not quite full to capacity, the 200 or so students in Tyler can be housed elsewhere, Lucier said. The size will stay the same but the hall's exterior will be updated as well as its bathrooms.

“Students today have a higher expectation of privacy and amenities,” Lucier said. “It will be a fresh new building when students come back.”

Contact Jackie Drake at jdrake@reflector.com or 252-329-9567.
Editorial: Finding new dean looms
Sunday, August 21, 2011

In the same week East Carolina University's new School of Dental Medicine welcomed the inaugural class to campus, it faced a crisis of leadership following the Tuesday resignation of its first dean. A report by the state auditor found that Dr. James Hupp, who began work at East Carolina in November 2008, accumulated thousands in questionable traveling expenses and outside income, leading to the decision.

This represents a regrettable incident for a fledgling institution still sculpting its reputation, especially in this era of financial austerity. As the search for a new dean commences, East Carolina may make no more important decision for the dental school than selecting a leader who can fulfill the program's ambitious aspirations.

The effort to establish a dental school at East Carolina faced fewer obstacles than did the push for a medical school some three decades prior. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill furiously fought against the medical school, fearing it would encroach on its areas of influence, but time has shown that both serve the state and complement each other well. The battle against the dental school was more subdued, mostly because of the innovative vision set forth for the new program.

By using satellite clinics, East Carolina hoped to immediately improve the situation in rural counties, where some lack even one practicing dentist. Hupp, the former dean of the University of Mississippi's dental school, was hired to direct those efforts, working to use millions in state funding to define the administration, operations and curriculum for the new program.

The school welcomed its first 52 students this week, an event that should have confirmed Hupp's successful efforts. Instead, it marked the end of his tenure as a state auditor's report details thousands in questionable travel expenses to resort destinations and foreign countries. Further, Hupp accepted a position as an adjunct professor at UNC's dental school, which he apparently did not disclose as his contract demands.
That is a discouraging setback for East Carolina, coming at what should be a celebratory time. The chancellor and school officials can restore confidence in the new dental school by finding a leader who can help fulfill the promise of the program and who can also uphold the ethical expectations of this critical position.

That stands as East Carolina's most important decision to date, a task for which success will mean the radical improvement of health care across the East.
Editorial: Hospital name discards history
Monday, August 22, 2011

It would be unfair to blindly malign the leadership at University Health Systems of Eastern North Carolina, an organization that has worked to provide accessible, affordable health care to this region for more than a decade. Residents should understand UHS's contention that, given its sizable investment, it can rename its facilities to reflect its expansive influence over medicine here.

However, that does little to lessen the disappointment at UHS's plans to change the name of Pitt County Memorial Hospital to UHS Medical Center, effective Oct. 1. Generations of county residents have taken pride in that name, which honors local residents who died in World War II, and that deserved deference as the corporation advanced its branding strategy.

Pitt County's history is a study in the value and power of community initiative. Located in the center of a region traditionally underserved by state government and ignored by larger cities to the West, places like Pitt County had to achieve for themselves. It was need as much as desire that prompted the creation of a municipal electricity service, for instance, as well as the medical center that served residents.

That fighting spirit would help develop one of the most important hospitals in the state here in Pitt County. This community emerged as a leader in health care, first for developing a premier medical facility and later for the establishment of a School of Medicine at East Carolina University, a triumph that remains an invaluable resource for the region.

Since changing its name in 1949 to reflect local lives lost in the Second World War, Pitt County Memorial Hospital has stood proudly in the center of this community, serving residents' needs. It was that history — that pride that tethered the population to this facility — that made the decision to transfer control of PCMH to UHS in 1998 one of the most difficult in memory. Pitt County was trusting that the corporation would steward that most critical resource in a manner consistent with established high standards.

This decision does not impugn the 13 years that followed, which have seen continued growth for the community and the hospital complex. But this decision does seem to casually discard that storied history by no longer featuring Pitt County in the name. UHS, as the hospital's corporate parent, is entitled to do what it will with the PCMH name, but disregarding that legacy deals a blow to a community that still sees the hospital as its own.
ECU student Josh Wall plays basketball with a camper at Take Off 4-Health camp, a healthy lifestyle camp led by ECU, N.C. State and 4-H.

Camp provides tools for healthy living
By ECU News Services
Sunday, August 21, 2011

When Josh Wall’s campers return home, he’s encouraged they will use what they learned the past three weeks to remain physically fit and active.

Wall, an East Carolina University exercise physiology major from Knightdale, has been a physical activity counselor this summer for Take Off 4-Health, a healthy lifestyle camp for overweight youth ages 12-18 led by ECU, N.C. State University and 4-H.

“My main job is to make sure everybody is having a good time and to make sure everybody is doing everything safely,” said Wall, 22, who graduates in December and plans to apply to ECU’s physical therapy doctoral program.

Goals are for participants to lose weight, build self-esteem, and learn tools for a healthy lifestyle while reducing their risks of developing chronic disease — and to have fun while doing it, said Dr. David Collier, an associate professor of pediatrics at the Brody School of Medicine and director of the ECU Pediatric Healthy Weight Research and Treatment Center.

“We’re focused on taking it home,” Wall said. “We’re trying to give the kids the tools to succeed not only at camp but at home.”

One tool is developing an individualized physical activity plan for each camper with things they like to do, such as basketball, which is one of 14-year-old Gavin Warren’s favorite activities.
In his first year at camp, Warren said he has learned about mindful eating and portion size, and using the “talk test” to make sure he is working at his highest level during exercising.

“This camp is really fun,” said Warren of Greenville, who has enjoyed fishing and crabbing on the Albemarle Sound at the Eastern 4-H Center in Columbia, where camp has been held the past four summers.

Wall has also taught campers about the heart as a muscle, how to monitor their heart rate, how to safely increase their exercise intensity, and how to take their pulse. Recreational activities include swimming, boating, hiking, archery and team sports.

“We are trying to prevent injury,” he said. “Because of the increased weight, there is more stress on the knees and ankles and they have a greater susceptibility to injuries.”

Wall has been at camp since July 24, but preparations began earlier this summer under the direction of Dr. Amy Gross McMillan, associate professor of physical therapy in the College of Allied Health Sciences, who has structured and monitored all physical activities at camp and has trained Wall and all 4-H counselors in concepts of safe physical activity for overweight youth.

“Based on my research findings and my perspective as a physical therapist, I’m concerned about how these kids move because they are at high risk for joint pain and injuries,” said Gross McMillan, who also conducts research and works with pediatric clients in both ECU Physical Therapy labs and clinics.

The camp has been so successful that it is attracting the attention of other groups, such as the national Easter Seals organization, across the country as a model for their programming, Gross McMillan said.

Keyante Mitchell, 14, of Grifton enjoyed a game of pick up basketball with Warren and counselors. It’s his first time at camp, and he has enjoyed going on walks along with learning to stretch and read nutrition labels as part of managing his weight. “At home, I might take 10,000 steps (per day) but here I take about 30,000 steps,” he said.

A little muscle soreness is not uncommon, Wall said, because many of the youth arrived at camp with an average of about 2,000 to 3,000 steps per day. At camp, they are getting up to nine times that amount at upwards of 27,000 steps per day, Wall said.

There’s even a step count competition among the campers to see who can take the most steps each day, led by lifestyle coaches, including five ECU health psychology students Marissa Errickson, Taylor Rush, Alicia Moran, Jessica Tomasula and Jessica Hauf under the direction of Dr. Lesley Lutes, associate professor of psychology at ECU. “They take the step count every night and set an activity goal and nutrition goal for the following day,” Wall said.
Counselors and coaches have seen improvement in overall health, including an average goal of eight to 10 pounds of weight loss for each camper, Wall said.

Interactive and hands-on educational sessions have focused on healthy eating, increased activity, self-esteem and body image. Team-building activities included challenge courses and a climbing wall. And the camp included traditional camp activities such as arts and crafts, ecology, talent shows and campfires.

Other ECU students who have worked at the healthy lifestyle camp include physical activity volunteer Kofi Monney and group therapists Chelsea Westbrook and Danielle Beres working with Dr. Keeley Pratt, a supervisor from ECU’s Medical Family Therapy program in the Department of Child Development & Family Relations.

**ECU researchers to look for shipwrecks**

ECU researchers are collaborating this fall with the UNC Coastal Studies Institute and the citizens of Columbia, N.C., to explore the region’s history and close connection with the state’s coastal waterways.

Initial findings will be presented at an on Oct. 6 public forum to be held in conjunction with the community’s annual Scuppernong River Festival and at an information booth open at the festival on Oct. 8. More detailed results will be shared in a public symposium scheduled for late 2011 and a publication in the works for 2012. A grant application related to the project is also under development.

The researchers will use side-scanning sonar to search for lost shipwrecks in Bulls Bay and the Scuppernong River, while local residents provide a backdrop through their stories of the region’s history. Topics for study include waterway modifications, the evolution of trade networks and the fishing, lumber and naval store industries in the area.

ECU history professor Dr. Nathan Richards, who specializes in nautical archaeology, met with residents in June to begin conversations about the project. Collection of oral histories has begun, including stories of how residents relied on boats from Elizabeth City to bring the mail and goods that were traded for vegetables, fish and crabs. Residents will provide river tours and house students and faculty participating in the research.

The grant application will seek funding for the development of a digital media project, The Scuppernong River Heritage Trail, which could be presented in tandem with the existing Scuppernong River Interpretative Boardwalk, a .75-mile wetlands trail near Columbia.

Richards said the area provides the perfect location for a maritime heritage trail because of the existing infrastructure, the extensive history in the area and the two prominent rivers in the area (the Scuppernong and Alligator Rivers). Columbia is also situated along a major tourism corridor, he said, as a stop along the route to the North Carolina Outer Banks.
For additional information, contact Richards at 258-4264 or richardsn@ecu.edu.

**First-year students win free textbooks**

Eight ECU students will get free textbooks this fall thanks to the Dowdy Student Stores. The on-campus bookstore, which is owned and operated by ECU, will be awarding close to $4,000 to the winners of its annual promotion.

The students — all incoming freshmen — will have their required textbooks for the fall semester provided free of charge. Their names were randomly selected during drawings held at orientation this summer. One textbook drawing was held for each orientation session.

All eight winners are from North Carolina: Chelsea Robbins of Snow Hill, Paige Emig of Spring Hope, Ashley Melvin of Kernersville, Joseph DeFlorio of Newport, Melissa Bujnis of Cary, Erin Connolly of Chapel Hill, Miranda Broyles of Huntersville and John Goodyear of Jacksonville.

Dowdy Student Stores are among the largest contributors to ECU scholarship funds for academic merit, athletic and need-based scholarships. ECU bookstores are located at the Brody School of Medicine and on the east campus in the Wright Building.
AHOSKIE – A long awaited joint partnership has officially arrived.

Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center (RCCHC) and East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine are joining together in an official Groundbreaking Celebration for the new Ahoskie Comprehensive Care Center on Health Center Drive in Ahoskie. The outdoor event, held in conjunction with the Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce, ‘s Business after Hours event, is scheduled for 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2011 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Aug. 23 and will be held behind the current corporate offices of RCCHC at 113 Hertford County High Road in Ahoskie.

Construction is scheduled to begin immediately on this dual-purpose facility in Ahoskie. RCCHC will construct a 40,000 square foot Health Center facility, funded by a $6.2 million federal grant from the Affordable Care Act. Meanwhile, the East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine will construct an approximately 8,000 square foot...
Service Learning Center. That stand-alone center, which will adjoin RCCHC’s Health Center facility, will include 16 dental chairs and be staffed full-time by ECU faculty dentists, residents, and students. ECU will hire additional staff locally. The Ahoskie Service Learning Center is among 10 ECU Service Learning Centers to be located across North Carolina.

“What we’re looking at here in Ahoskie is for this clinic to become not only a model for healthcare in rural areas of this country, but a model for the future of dental education as well,” Dr. Greg Chadwick of the ECU School of Dentistry Medicine, noted. “This marks the first time we’ve co-located a dental school facility and a federally qualified healthcare center (RCCHC) together. We are very excited about our partnership with Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center and look forward to providing quality dental care to residents of Hertford, Bertie, Northampton, Gates and surrounding counties.”

Chadwick continued, “What we’re doing is basically stretching the wires and moving the fourth floor of our school in Greenville out to the rural, underserved areas of the state,” he stated. “. Hopefully this new facility will be ready in March. Of course it will be three years before our first class of seniors will train here, but we will offer a residency program that starts next summer and we’ll be teaching here next summer. This will be a fully functioning general dentistry office with 16 labs, complete with dental assistants and hygienists.”

The new two-story Community Health Center facility will become the home of RCCHC-Ahoskie, medical and corporate offices. There will be space for 48 exam rooms, larger improved laboratories, an in-house pharmacy, plus office space for the corporate offices of RCCHC.

The RCCHC Ahoskie building design has incorporated input from clinical staff, senior leaders, members of the Board of Directors and architects. Patient and staff flow analysis along with five years of patient growth trending have been major factors influencing the design.

Kim Schwartz, Chief Executive Officer for RCCHC, said “The new RCCHC-Ahoskie Community Health Center will improve access to primary care for all people of the Roanoke Chowan area,” stated Kim Schwartz, Chief Executive Officer for RCCHC. “It will complement the many partnerships with other area physicians and healthcare organizations, Roanoke Chowan Hospital, and East Carolina School of Medicine.

Schwartz continued, “The design of the building is intended to enhance RCCHC’s ability to provide a “medical home model” of healthcare for its patients,” Schwartz added. “This means a patient can see a doctor in pediatrics, family practice or internal medicine, have lab work done, and dental care, all in the same building complex. Health education, pharmacy services and behavioral health will also be offered at the new Center.”

“What this means for us is offering healthcare services to potentially 5,000 to 10,000 new patients, more space and at least 15 new full-time positions in addition to up to 60 new
jobs for construction of the facility,” Schwartz noted in an earlier interview. “Additionally, this investment represents an immeasurable amount of tax benefit to our area.”

RCCHC’s new medical center and ECU’s dental facilities will be built on land deeded to RCCHC and the University by Roanoke-Chowan Alliance. That entire property is 27.6 acres and includes the current RCCHC building, Northside Behavioral Health and ViQuest.

For more information on the groundbreaking celebration or the new facilities, contact Gail Miller at RCCHC by calling 252-209-0237, ext. 7112 or e-mail: gmiller@rcchc.org.
Retooled ECU coach McNeill loving life
By Ron Morris
rmorris@thestate.com
GREENVILLE, N.C.

Terry Holland warns you at the outset.

“If you get close enough to him, he’s going to hug you, now,” Holland, East Carolina’s athletics director, says of football coach Ruffin McNeill.

Sure enough, an arm extended for a fist bump is spurned and McNeill bear hugs a visitor to his office. It is not the hug that startles the guest as it is the bounce to McNeill’s step and the pep in his voice. This man obviously loves life.

The 52-year-old McNeill returns for a second season at his alma mater with a new lease on that life. He is 130 pounds lighter since East Carolina lost to Maryland in December in the Military Bowl. He has a new hip. Instead of using a golf cart on the practice field as he did a season ago, McNeill challenges his coaches in wind sprints from station to station.

“You have to back up and look at where he was last season, really struggling to get up and down the field and chasing the refs, coming out of the locker room, sweating profusely, struggling with his hip,” says Dr. William Chapman, McNeill’s gastric bypass surgeon. “The orthopedist couldn’t fix his hip because he was too big. He had been trying to lose weight, but couldn’t.”

The pain from his hip was at times even more unbearable a season ago than watching an East Carolina defense that allowed more points (572) than any team in NCAA history. Standing for an entire game became excruciating to McNeill, almost as painful as standing on a scale and seeing “388” flash before his eyes.

Then McNeill looked in the mirror. He saw a man living a dream that was morphing into a nightmare. His physical disabilities suddenly were preventing McNeill from his life aspirations.

McNeill was reared down the road from Greenville in Lumberton, the son of two educators. All he aspired wanted to do growing up was play ball — football or basketball — and maybe some day follow Dad’s footsteps into coaching.
McNeill was a four-year letterman and two-year captain as a defensive back for East Carolina. He went into coaching, first at Lumberton High School before joining the vagabond coaching circuit that included stops at Clemson, Austin Peay, North Alabama, Appalachian State, UNLV, Fresno State and Texas Tech.

You might remember McNeill as the assistant who served as interim head coach during Texas Tech’s Alamo Bowl victory against Michigan State in January of 2010 after Mike Leach was dismissed. Then East Carolina came calling when Skip Holtz bolted for South Florida.

McNeill’s hiring was a marriage made in the purple-and-gold splashed heaven of Greenville. East Carolina, which plays in Conference USA, long has been considered a stepping-stone job for young coaches en route to bigger challenges. Holland and the athletics department were thrilled to find a coach who wanted to be in Greenville forever.

McNeill, who says he never has been a “Looking Louie”-type guy, made that clear during his search for a new house in Greenville. House after house, his Realtor mentioned its resale value.

“I don’t mean any harm, but I’m not looking for a resale,” McNeill finally told the Realtor. “I’m staying here.”

A 6-7 record was not what McNeill wanted in his first season back, but that was not the worst of it. Even allowing 76 points to Navy, 62 to Rice and 51 to Maryland was not that bad compared to what was happening to McNeill personally.

His expanding physique and deteriorating hip were keeping McNeill from being the husband to his wife, Erlene; the father to his children, Renata and Olivia’ and the mentor to the 100 or so kids who wear East Carolina jerseys in the fall.

McNeill made a decision to do something about it, even if it meant two major surgeries squeezed into a six-month window so he would be fit for practice in August. To undergo hip replacement surgery in April, McNeill needed to lose 100 pounds following his January bariatric surgery.

“He used this to be a role model for an entire community, particularly in eastern North Carolina where diabetes and obesity are very prominent on people’s minds,” Holland says of McNeill, who has followed the surgeries with public service announcements to tell his success story.

“Now I can be a better father, better husband and be a better coach and mentor,” says McNeill, whose goal is to lose 50 more pounds and get to his playing weight of 225. “Now I have more energy. My mind is clearer and I’m able to give them more. The young men, the guys on the team, they know they mean a lot to me and I’ll do anything in the world for them. I played here, I went to school here, now I’m one of them.”
McNeill can talk to his players about residing in Belk Dormitory, where he lived as an East Carolina student. He is as likely to listen to Guns and Roses music with his players as Vince Gil with his assistant coaches.

Nothing gets McNeill more excited than leading his team onto a field with purple smoke billowing into the air and “Purple Haze” by Jimi Hendrix blaring over the public address system. The mere mention of it has McNeill pointing to his forearm to show goose bumps.

Those goose bumps will be out in full when McNeill leads his team out of the tunnel at Bank of America Stadium on Sept. 3 when East Carolina opens the season against South Carolina in Charlotte.

Once to the sideline, no doubt, McNeill will begin searching for people to hug.
School of Social Work offers fall lecture series
Monday, August 22, 2011

East Carolina University's School of Social Work, in partnership with the Division of Continuing Studies, is offering the Fall 2011 Lecture Series.

The series is designed for practicing social workers, other professionals in the human service field, as well as students in the field. The lecture series began in Spring 2008 and has provided individuals to have learning opportunities in a friendly and open environment.

Fall 2011 topics are:
Brain Injury and Behavioral Effects, Sept. 7;
Role of Social Work in Prison/Recidivism Prevention, Oct. 5;
Veterans: Suicide Risk- Identification & Management, Nov. 2;
An Overview of the Evaluation and Treatment of Substance Abuse, Dec. 7.

The lecture series is held at the East Carolina Heart Institute. The fee is $25 per lecture and $80 for the full series. A discounted fee for field instructors and students is $5 per session.

To register for the series, visit http://cpeprograms.ecu.edu/CourseStatus.awp?&course=SW1205 or call 328-9198.
Hundreds of ECU students descended Friday on a new privately-owned student apartment complex aimed at offering luxury-style living in a convenient locale. The Province is a 15.81-acre, 225-unit rental property on Charles Boulevard between 10th and 14th streets near East Carolina University.

Dignitaries, city leaders and others recently turned out for a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The first student activities were planned Saturday.

The Province replaced several buildings, including the Kings Arms Apartments, a 25-year-old complex frequented by police and known for its cheap rent and off-beat tenants. In contrast, the new project, under construction since October by Columbus, Ohio-based developer Edwards Student Housing, is palatial by comparison, property manager Lisa Jackson said.

The fully furnished apartments feature 728-individually leased beds with private bathrooms, in-unit washer and dryers, high-speed Internet, and 40-inch flat-screen televisions with cable that includes HBO.

The development also boasts a heated salt-water swimming pool, sun and party deck and a 5,700-square-foot clubhouse with a workout facility, social activities, a movie theater, poker and pool tables, a game room with PlayStation, Xbox and Wii, and constant free snacks at the cafe.

It's priced a bit higher — about $30-$40 per month more — than other off-campus spots, with rent ranging from $485 per person sharing a four-bedroom to $860 for a one-bedroom, Jackson said. It has a vacancy rate of about 7 percent.
In exchange, the development offers quality furnishings, enough fun to keep people home but close enough to campus, dining and downtown should residents choose to venture out, she said.
No ECU bus service will be offered, but on-site parking is available, officials said.

“You literally can park on the property and never move your car again,” Jackson said during a tour last week.
“It's a parents' dream,” she said. “There's nothing these kids should need or want to make school successful.”

New developments such as The Province have some competition housing off-campus students in Greenville.

This fall, university officials expect an estimated 27,500 ECU students — about 3,900 of whom are freshmen and about 5,100 of whom plan to live on campus, according to John Fletcher, associate provost for enrollment services. Official numbers are expected to be certified by the University of North Carolina system's general administration after the semester begins, university officials said.

That places complexes like The Province vying to house the rest after subtracting the estimated 12,000 students who plan to live in university-contracted off-campus housing.

ECU junior Amber Brandau, 20, a marketing major from Charlotte, said she chose The Province, an off-campus option that does not contract with ECU, after seeing the developers' other properties online.

“I signed up in November; it's been pretty much almost a year,” said Brandau, who works in the leasing office part time. “I signed up when they were still pushing dirt around.
“It's great to be part of it,” she said.

Contact Jennifer Swartz at jswartz@reflector.com or 252-329-9565.
Aljumaily, Brooks join medical school staff
Monday, August 22, 2011
WorkWeek

Dr. Raid Aljumaily, a cancer specialist, has joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its group medical practice, ECU Physicians.

Aljumaily joined ECU as an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. He comes to Greenville from Tufts Medical Center in Boston, where he completed a fellowship in hematology/oncology. Aljumaily has a medical degree from the University of Baghdad College of Medicine in Iraq. He worked at hospitals in Iraq and the United Kingdom before immigrating to the United States.

Aljumaily worked as a researcher and research volunteer at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, then completed residency training in internal medicine at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Aljumaily is board-certified in internal medicine. His clinical and research interest is lung cancer.

Aljumaily sees patients at the Leo Jenkins Cancer Center at 600 Moye Blvd. in Greenville. Appointments are available by calling 744-1888.

Dr. John Brooks, a cardiologist, has joined the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and its group medical practice, ECU Physicians.

Brooks joined ECU as a clinical assistant professor. Brooks has a bachelor's degree from Davidson College in North Carolina and a medical degree from the Brody School of Medicine. He completed residency training at Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Brooks also completed a fellowship in cardiology at the Brody School of Medicine. Brooks is board-certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease. His clinical and research interests are general cardiology, nuclear cardiology and consultative services.

Brooks sees patients at the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU. Appointments are available by calling 744-3476.
Meredith College freshman Chelsea Hoofnagle, left, talks with senior Sarah Miller at a student services fair Wednesday. Meredith has more than 2,000 students, but about 400 fewer than it did a decade ago.

**Women's colleges don't doubt their role in the 21st century**

BY JANE STANCILL - Staff writer  
Sun. Aug. 21, 2011

Every August, the first-year students at Salem College trek to a corner of the campus in Winston-Salem to lay daisies on the grave of Elisabeth Oesterlein, the first teacher of the school founded in 1772.

Two hundred and thirty-nine years ago, the Moravians started the school under the then-radical notion that women deserved an education just as men did.

Women's colleges began in this country when there was no other path to higher education for women. Today, though, women make up 57 percent of the college-going population, and yet 50 women's colleges remain in the United States.

There will be one fewer in fall 2012 when Peace College in Raleigh admits men under the new name, William Peace University. That will leave three women's colleges in North Carolina: Bennett College in Greensboro, Meredith College in Raleigh, and Salem.

In 1960, there were more than 200 women's colleges in the country, but by the late 1960s and early 1970s, the number began to drop rapidly. The majority have closed, merged with other colleges or become coed, mostly because they were not able to attract large enough numbers of students. The economic crisis of the past few years has further tested them.

But students and leaders at the colleges say there is still a place for single-sex education in American higher education. They say the colleges provide a nurturing environment
and unparalleled leadership opportunities at a time when women still trail men in earnings, in elective office, in science and in corporate America.

I think women's education has great significance and relevance from what we're learning from other areas about leadership," said Jo Allen, a 1980 Meredith graduate who became its president this year. "So I don't see this going away."

**Evolving leadership**
Allen believes the ways that women tend to lead are becoming essential in the 21st century workplace. She mentions collaboration, team-building and multitasking. "The old command and control model of leadership is definitely falling out of favor," she said.

The day that Peace announced the changes, Allen came out with a statement saying that Meredith is committed to remaining a women's college.

Meredith, with more than 2,000 students, is among the largest, but it has about 400 fewer students than it did a decade ago. The year after the nation's economic tailspin, Meredith cut about one-tenth of its workforce and dropped several degree programs, while merging other academic departments.

But this year, Meredith will develop a strategic plan to guide the next five to 10 years, Allen said. That is likely to include new degree programs and efforts to take advantage of Meredith's location in the state capital and near Research Triangle Park.

While Meredith does have male students in graduate programs, the strategic plan is not likely to include any radical shifts or a move to coeducation.

"What we're doing is working for Meredith," Allen said. "If it weren't, we might have to have those other kinds of conversations that none of us wants to even say out loud."

Katie Nelson, a Meredith sophomore from Garner, knew she wanted a small college, but she didn't necessarily set out to go to a women's college. Then she visited Meredith's 225-acre campus. "We aren't distracted by things that might come along with a coed school," she said. "If there are guys in classes we feel like we wouldn't have the confidence to give our opinions."

She and her friends joke about a T-shirt on campus with the message, "It's not a girls' college without men. It's a women's college without boys."

**Special places**
Allen believes the small, single-sex classroom can benefit women.

"There is a greater freedom of expression in the classroom to really test and try their ideas in ways they might be a little less inclined to do sometimes in a coed environment," she said. "I know there are women who have said that in a coed environment, they
frequently feel either intimidated by the men or actually outtalked by the men, and felt
like they were competing for their faculty member's attention."
The closeness and sisterhood were an instant draw to Sarah Johnson, who arrived at
Meredith a week ago as a first-year student.

"It just felt like home," said Johnson, from Raleigh. "I just walked on and thought, 'This
is where I want to be.'"

Women's colleges are trying to preserve what makes them special while applying
a contemporary interpretation to their mission, said Susan Lennon, executive director of the
Connecticut-based Women's College Coalition.

The colleges have broadened their student base, drawing more minority students and
international students. They have also discounted their tuition and offered scholarships to
compete with other public and private universities.

Some are looking to establish doctoral degrees. Saint Joseph College in Connecticut
added a pharmacy program this fall. Smith College established engineering degrees about
a decade ago.

"It's not that they're changing their track; it's that they're keeping pace and trying to look
out over the horizon," Lennon said.

All colleges do that, she said, to adjust to the changing needs of business and society.
"If they don't change, what happens?" she said. "They die."

'A huge advantage'
Studies have shown that graduates of women's colleges end up in disproportionately
more leadership positions than women from coed universities. They tend to report more
satisfaction with their education.

Susan Pauly, president of Salem College, can list the superlatives. Only about 2 percent
of female students in the United States attend women's colleges. Yet, Pauly said,
graduates of women's colleges make up 23 percent of U.S. congresswomen and 30
percent of rising stars in corporate America, according to Business Week magazine.

It shouldn't be a surprise, Pauly said. On the Salem campus, of course, female students
are the captains of every varsity team, the leaders of every club, the president of student
government.

"Everything is geared to their becoming all that they can be and realizing their best
selves, not only when they're on campus but after they graduate," she said. "It keeps it
vitally important even in the 21st century, and a huge advantage over the course of a
woman's career. Huge advantage."
**Growth and change**

Salem College is feeling a good kind of pressure this year. With the largest first-year class in a decade and three consecutive years of enrollment increases, the 1,100-student college is running out of space. The college wants to buy acreage on the east side of campus to expand with new dorms, athletic facilities and a science building.

Peace hovered at 600 to 700 students in the last decade, though the school has the capacity to grow as large as 1,000 to 1,200. That, Peace leaders say, would have been impossible to do as a women's college. Going coed was a matter of survival, trustees say.

Alumnae are waging a battle against the decision, with letters, protests and a planned sit-in next month, according a Facebook page dedicated to "Preserving Peace College's Legacy."

In an interview this month, Peace President Debra Townsley pointed out that in more than 150 years, Peace had been a high school, a junior college and then a four-year college.

"It's been through a lot of iterations," she said. "That's why we're still here."

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South Carolina athletic director Eric Hyman could be the perfect candidate to be UNC's next athletics director.

Getting Hyman to UNC is quite another matter. Through various feelers, UNC has learned Hyman will not pursue the job. Yet it is becoming clearer by the day that UNC will pursue Hyman.

Of course, parties on both sides remain mum on the UNC search, which began in earnest two weeks ago when Chancellor Holden Thorp named a 12-person committee to find an athletics director. So all we can do is speculate, based on conversations with numerous insiders at UNC and a couple of others who are close to Hyman.

From the UNC side of things, the next athletics director's primary mission will be to fix the football mess. That will mean first dealing with whatever sanctions are likely to come down from the NCAA after UNC received notice of major allegations against the football program.

The next step is to produce a football program that wins championships without compromising principles.

Hyman will not come cheap, though. Baddour was paid $310,000 annually at UNC, while Hyman's recent $75,000-a-year raise brings him close to $500,000 annually. Money seldom is an issue at UNC, so it could easily up the ante to woo Hyman. A move to UNC would mean another immense challenge for Hyman, one that could mean another 10-year commitment.

At this juncture, Hyman might be more inclined to remain at South Carolina. He and his wife, Pauline, both recently encountered health issues. He also retains a high degree of
loyalty to South Carolina and might be unwilling to bail out of Columbia before his job is completed.

Still, UNC could be very persuasive in its quest to bring Hyman back home, where he played football for the Tar Heels and where his wife was reared in Ahoskie. Both will tell you their days in Chapel Hill were among the happiest of their lives.

So, it is probable that as UNC sifts through athletics director candidates, Hyman's name will rise to the surface. He appears to have great support within the staff of UNC coaches. He is the strong leader with vision and integrity that the school seeks.

**Miami:** Jacory Harris came into this season believing Miami coaches would struggle deciding if he or Stephen Morris should be the Hurricanes' starting quarterback.

Well, he was right.

Filling out the season's first depth chart is going to be an arduously difficult process for Miami. The accusation that Harris is one of 12 current Hurricanes who allegedly broke NCAA rules by accepting gifts from a rogue booster is overshadowing just about everything that happened on the field during training camp.

New coach Al Golden will tip his hand on where things stand this week, when he releases Miami's depth chart for the Sept. 5 opener at Maryland.

"We don't know yet," Golden said Saturday.

**Louisiana State:** Four LSU football players hired a defense attorney and put off a meeting with police about a bar fight that started when a patron honked at a crowd blocking his exit from a parking lot, Baton Rouge police said Sunday.

The group, which includes quarterback Jordan Jefferson, been asked to give their side of the story at police headquarters Monday, Sgt. Donald Stone confirmed. Stone did not say if a new date was scheduled.

**Stanford:** Life could take a left turn on Andrew Luck. The football world did a double take last winter when Luck passed up the NFL draft - and millions of dollars - to spend this season in college.

An injury could take him down. His draft stock could drop for a number of reasons. Which raises the obvious question: Why come back? "I always thought I wanted to do four years of college," he says. "That's sort of the norm."

**UCLA:** One question hovered over Drake Stadium at UCLA on Saturday: Who's going to be UCLA's starting quarterback? The Bruins' end-of-training-camp scrimmage provided no clear answer.
Kevin Prince struggled until he took over the second team. Richard Brehaut led three scoring drives in four series, but did not attempt a pass in the one series in which he led the first team.

**Oregon State:** If there's beauty in anonymity, Oregon State is gorgeous right now. Mike Riley likes it that way. The departure of OSU's two best players - defensive tackle Steven Paea and running back Jacquizz Rodgers - has transformed the Beavers an afterthought in the public reckoning. "We love coming from that vantage point," says Riley, who begins his 11th football season at OSU. - News services