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252-328-6481
McDonald's franchisee Wade Dixon talked about the importance of his company's relationship with the East Carolina University football program during Thursday's merchant's fair on the ECU campus.

**Football top business boost**  
By Michael Abramowitz  
Friday, August 31, 2012

Greenville business people touting their products and services to ECU students and faculty on Thursday said nothing gives them a boost like Pirate football.

Typically, an ECU football game brings about $2.5 million directly to the local economy, according to Debbie Vargas, director of the Greenville-Pitt County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Particular games, including parent’s weekend, homecoming and this week’s opening contest against cross-state rival Appalachian State University, stimulate about $2.8 million, Vargas said.

“Football puts visitors from out of town in hotels, and they eat in restaurants, stop to buy gas and pick up tailgating supplies at the grocery stores. The fans who don’t attend games also put money into the economy for things like backyard grilling, ECU logo clothing and other football-related memorabilia,” Vargas said.

Football is the “in” season for the local hospitality market, much the way summer is for the beach communities, Vargas said.

“This is what we bank on during the year, having the football income during the fall months. It carries us through the slower months.” Vargas said. “In terms of events, football is the main contributor to the local economy each year.”
The relationship is a sustaining one, but success is not guaranteed every week, Vargas said.

“It always depends on a lot of factors, including the weather, how the team is doing, the time the game is played, the year’s schedule and who we’re playing. With all those variances, football is always a major contributor,” she said.

Lee Workman, ECU’s associate athletics director for administration, knows the business community’s relationship with athletics is, in turn, extremely important to the university.

“We value that relationship very much. We take the role we play for our business community very seriously,” Workman said. “We hope we have the kind of quality program that they can benefit from as well.”

Workman praised the Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau for the part they play in supporting and promoting the economy of ECU football in the community.

“All the folks in this area do a great job of servicing the fans that come here from all over the state, Virginia and South Carolina for every game. It’s a marriage that benefits from everyone working together,” Workman said. “We all understand the importance of that. No one can do it alone.”

Wade Dixon, owner of 10 McDonald’s restaurants in Greenville and Pitt County, including a store on East 10th Street adjacent to the campus, said his franchise benefits from the ECU community. Football fills an important niche for Dixon and his staff on game days, he said.

“Most fans tailgate, but they stop at our place for breakfast when they flood into Greenville,” Dixon said.

“Our co-sponsorship of the Ronald McDonald House with the football program where we give $100 every time they sack a quarterback is a nice way for us to show our support for both with advertising dollars,” Dixon said. “But it’s more than just the games; it’s being part of student life.”

Other restaurateurs at the merchant’s fair said they have similar valuable relationships with the football program.

Dickey’s Barbecue restaurant, located close to some of ECU’s major off-campus housing complexes at the corner of East 10th Street and Greenville Boulevard, catered the team’s recent scrimmage game and will serve its distinctive food Saturday to the Pirate Club’s 350 tailgating boosters, Dickey’s manager, Toi Coffey, said.
“Our business has grown tremendously since we established our relationship with ECU,” Coffey said

U.S. Cellular recently renewed its sponsorship of ECU football, said Carolyn Hill Nichols, a U.S. Cellular retail consultant.

“It’s a phenomenal way for us to be able to get the word out to the community about our product. We’re proud to have our logo back at ECU,” Nichols said.

Joe Chrobak, regional manager of Wendy’s, described the restaurant company’s relationship with ECU as “absolutely critical.”

“We see our sales expand by anywhere from 50 percent to 100 percent, depending on the location of the store in Greenville,” Chrobak said. “We actually begin preparation for this day in the spring. We have to be ready with both barrels going.”

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or 252-329-9571.
Law enforcement is expecting fans to fill up the stands and clog the roadways on Saturday as they head to Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium for ECU’s first football game.

Lt. Chris Sutton with East Carolina University Police said areas that are typically congested on game days — Charles and Greenville boulevards and 14th, 10th and Elm streets — may be even more crowded when Appalachian State comes to town.

“Being the first game of the season, there’s added interest depending on the team that you’re playing,” Sutton said. “App. State travels well and they’re bringing a lot of people that are coming in to watch the game. ... The traffic this Saturday will be traffic people have not seen in well over 10 months, even 12 months.”

Though construction of a basketball facility continues on the athletic campus, it will have little impact on traffic and parking, Sutton said.

“The construction project that is going on at Minges Coliseum will not have a direct impact on the traffic patterns coming in or leaving the football game,” Sutton said.

“The construction site has been kind of consolidated to the immediate area outside of Gates 1 and 2,” he said. “We have not lost that many parking spaces because of the construction. It will not impede any traffic for anyone coming into the event or leaving the event.”

General admission parking will not be available in Stratford Arms Apartments lot on Saturday because Appalachian State purchased all of the passes available there for Saturday’s game, Sutton said.

A small number of general admission spaces will be available for purchase through the university at the Swashbuckler Car Wash near the intersection of 14th Street and Charles Boulevard.

Most lots adjacent to the stadium are permitted through the Pirate Club. Some private lots offer parking, officials said.
Another change this season includes a more secure location for first aid services. EMS services will now be set in the Scales Field House on the south side of the stadium, moving from underneath the north stands, Sutton said.

Though a streaker managed to run onto the football field last November, Sutton said ECU Police has pumped up security to prevent a repeat, with the help of Greenville Police, Pitt Community College Police and an outside contractor.

“I always hope that people have enough sense to make good decisions, but I’m not naive enough to think that when people start to drink and then they get their peers to pump them up that things like that occur,” he said.

“We’ve taken a look and reevaluated where we have officers. We’ve tried to make the most strategic placement of where we have officers, not just in the student area but because it could come from really any of our lower seating space in the stadium.”

Contact Jane Dail at jdail@reflector.com or 252-329-9585.

**Driving restrictions**

- The following restrictions will be in place from 8:30 a.m. Saturday until 1 1/2 hours after the game is over:
- 14th Street will be closed from the ECU Facility Services building near West Rock Springs Road to Elm Street
- Parking on the north and south sides of 14th street from Elm Street to Berkley Road will be permit only
- No traffic will be allowed west on 14th Street from Elm Street
- 14th Street from Berkley Road to Elm Street will be eastbound only
- Traffic traveling south on Elm Street will not be allowed to turn right to travel west onto Greenville Boulevard.
- No traffic will be allowed east on 14th Street from West Rock Springs Road
- Charles Boulevard will be closed to southbound traffic and diverted west onto 14th Street
- No traffic will be allowed north on Charles Boulevard at Greenville Boulevard

**Parking**

- Most lots adjacent to the stadium are permitted through the Pirate Club. [Click here for information.](#)
Editorial: Pirates set to start season
Friday, August 31, 2012

When the 2012 version of the East Carolina University football team takes the field at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Saturday, the roar that comes from the Pirate faithful is as much in support of the squad as it is an expression of regional pride. Eastern North Carolina may have its problems and its divisions, but each autumn it rallies around the purple and gold whenever they hit the gridiron.

This year will be no different as East Carolina players, coaches and fans are eager to erase the memory of last year’s losing season and begin a march to another Conference USA title. The schedule ahead will be difficult — featuring tough out-of-conference matchups against in-state rival North Carolina and nationally ranked South Carolina — but the Pirates will face the challenge head on.

The return of students to the East Carolina campus this month infuses Greenville with the type of energy and vigor expected in a college community. However, it is on a home game day that one can feel the excitement that pervades the area around Dowdy-Ficklen, beginning hours before kickoff. The tailgating is legendary, with lots filled with purple and gold, and everyone hopeful for a Pirate win.

North Carolina is a state that, from the national perspective, is known more for its college basketball than its college football. Owing to the huge shadow cast by the Atlantic Coast Conference schools and their success, the so-called experts often pay scant attention to the gridiron contests being played here — especially those featuring the Pirates.

Only one thing is proven to change that perception and make people take notice: winning. In 2008, when East Carolina rode consecutive wins over Virginia Tech and West Virginia to a No. 15 ranking, the talk in college football circles was of the Pirates as a possible BCS-buster. A mid-season swoon erased those dreams, but also showed that a couple of upsets can upend expectations in a matter of weeks.

That is what the Pirates will have to do this year. Picked to finish fourth in Conference USA’s East Division, East Carolina will have to raise its game to compete — particularly against teams like South Carolina and North
Carolina — but it has done so before and can do so again. The road to a championship begins Saturday with cross-state rival App State and all of eastern North Carolina eager to see Coach Ruffin McNeill leading his men into action.
Romney supporters share vision
By Ginger Livingston
Friday, August 31, 2012

About a dozen volunteers with the Mitt Romney presidential campaign gathered on Thursday to watch their candidate officially accept the Republican Party’s presidential nomination.

They were excited that the nation would hear Romney share his vision for the country.

“It’s not about convincing us, but this is about hope,” Susan Stockman said. “I think America has become so discouraged with what society has become and it thinks we’ll never be great again.”

Romney and vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan are ready to do the serious work needed to resolve the nation’s problems, Stockman said.

Erin Brady, a new Greenville resident, joined the group after spending her first day volunteering at the local Romney headquarters on Commerce Street. It is her first time working in a presidential election.

“I want to be part of making change happen,” Brady, a corporate trainer, said.

Matt Steindl, a junior nursing major at East Carolina University, also believes America’s political direction needs to change.

“My biggest concern is the financial crisis,” he said. “I think there has to be drastic improvements in our debt and how we handle our fiscal policy.”
Steindl said debt is a part of the college experience. While he will not graduate with as much debt as some of his classmates, he believes the nation’s economy needs Romney to recover.

A stronger economy will give him and other soon-to-be graduates a chance to get a job, Steindl said.

Most of the volunteers at Thursday’s event were under the age of 30. Several, like Steindl and ECU freshman Ryan Beeson, have been interested in politics since they were in high school.

Being involved in this campaign allows them to create their own future, Steindl said.

“We are of the age that we understand what is going on and we are not satisfied with what has gone on in the last several years,” Steindl said.

“I think we really need to make a change in America,” Beeson said. “I think we are going down the wrong path, away from our constitutional roots.”

Thursday’s event was sponsored by Republican state legislative candidate and Rep Express Catering owner Brian Brown.

Brown is challenging Democratic incumbent Marian McLawhorn for the state House District 9 seat.

“Being a candidate, owning this facility here, it seemed like a great opportunity to share a magical night, to share the fellowship,” Brown said. “I hope for (Romney) to continue to charge the base and talk about the facts.”

Contact Ginger Livingston at glivingston@reflector.com or 252-329-9570.
Connector appraisals being reviewed
By Wesley Brown
Friday, August 31, 2012

When state engineers first spoke to him a year ago, Dan Wilson said they were polite.

They offered him as much as $30,000 to move a network-solutions firm he manages at the corner of South Evans and 10th streets to run a four-lane connector between East Carolina University and Vidant Medical Center.

But since then, the only new information Wilson has received on relocating his business — Computer Peripherals Unlimited — is a brochure.

The N.C. Department of Transportation promised Wilson this week that he and the 60 other shop owners and residents to be displaced by the highway project will be rightly compensated for their land, home and office space.

“We are not looking to take advantage of anyone,” said Ed Eatmon, the district engineer overseeing the construction of the 10th Street Connector. “We want to be fair and we will be fair.”

Doug Askew, the DOT agent in charge of land acquisition for the project, said the first batch of appraisals — approximately 15 of them — have been submitted and are being checked against federal standards and state guidelines for accuracy and consistency.
Askew added 135 properties still are being assessed and the owners of 40 more have to be contacted.

Melinda Gorham, co-owner of Air Mania, a custom-printing shop on West 14th Street, continues to anxiously wait for a subcontractor from Wilmington to value her property in September.

It is an unsettling feeling for Gorham, who is one of two landowners who thought their business would be spared in 2014 when contractors started bulldozing from Memorial Drive to Evans Street.

“We’re just kind of sitting and waiting, expecting the worst,” Gorham said.

Gorham’s property, and that of Kenneth Lloyd, a Greenville resident who owns land on Watauga Avenue, were added at the last minute when the DOT learned they would have to make some utility easements that they thought would be temporary permanent.

Lloyd, who spent up to $50,000 to renovate a garage he had on his property into an auto center, has indefinitely withdrawn an application he submitted to rezone the land from residential to heavy commercial, City Planner Chantae Gooby said.

Eatmon said it is not uncommon to have to tweak plans and that this is one of most difficult land acquisitions he has done. He said there are five right-of-way agents assigned to the project to guide those affected through the process.

“No matter how good our engineers are, sometimes they are going to miss something,” Eatmon said. “We understand it is a very emotional time for owners and that they are very sensitive about the future of their homes and businesses. If we can revise our plans to stay away, we will.”

Askew urged the public not to take the rumors they hear about the project as “gospel.” He, instead, directed people to the agent assigned to them if they have questions.

“The best thing to do is to go to your agent,” Askew said. “They are here to help you.”

Wilson said and his business partner, Sean Van Haelst, do not have an agent or at least they do not know who he or she is.

“Pretty much, we have been left completely in the dark,” Wilson said. “We know nothing about when this is going to come; when or where we are going to have to move; or if we need to look at loans or bank all capital we have to pay for relocation expenses. Nobody has told us anything.”
The two businessmen have three employees and plan on hiring a fourth in the near future. With advertising costs factored in, Van Haelst estimated it would take three months and between $10,000 to $15,000 to move, as their network and the dozens of data-backup, exchange and virtual servers they host would have to be uprooted.

“I support the project. It is necessary for the city,” Wilson said. “It would just be nice if we knew when we are going to have to leave or if they are going to have help.”

Askew said the state will be there to help, including next October when construction starts. He said properties that are rendered useless by the project will be purchased and that owners will be compensated for any damages they incur during the move.

“It’s going to be a great road, a straight-shot from the university to the hospital,” Eatmon said. “Right now, though, it is just hard to see.”

Contact Wesley Brown at wbrown@reflector.com and 252-329-9579 and follow him on Twitter @CityWatchdog.
As East Carolina University football players dust off their cleats for their home-opener Saturday against Appalachian State, Pirates fans are grabbing their “freeboots” to kick off the season in style.

Freeboot Friday — an alive-at-five event held in Uptown Greenville on the eve of ECU home football games — is back.

With an inflatable Pirate Ship, arts and crafts, live music, uptown restaurant food samplings, adult beverages for those 21 and older and free rides on the Greenville Jolly Trolley, there’s something for everyone.

Dub Addis, a Reggae group from Durham, will lead off the fall lineup of musical artists Friday, with a mix of local, regional and international entertainers to follow.

With soulful melodies embedded in the polyrhythm of Africa, dub Addis hails from the horn of Africa, Ethiopia. Led by singer-songwriter Dereje Tesfaye, the group has for the last decade been performing original songs that vary from traditional Ethiopian rhythms to Roots Reggae. They have shared stages with Hugh Masekela, The Wailers, Steel Pulse, Culture, Arrested Development, Morgan Heritage, Buju Banton and Vieux Farka Toure.

The rest of the schedule will include:
Satin Finish Band (Sept. 28) — Satin Finish is a dynamic 6- to 10-piece party band that electrifies its audience with an incredible show customized to each particular event. The band performs at a high energy level, keeping the party fun constantly flowing. Satin Finish isn’t limited to a certain style of music and performs a variety of Motown, classic rock, disco, funk, country, swing and R&B hits.

Emily Minor Band (Oct. 12) — North Carolina native Emily Minor is the fresh new face of country music. Having first grabbed the attention of many as a top 50 finalist on Fox’s “American Idol,” Minor quickly realized she belonged in Nashville. Her self-titled EP is a lively collection of stories, emotions and vocals that are as honest and lovable as Minor herself. She wrote four of the six songs and is catching the interest of new listeners.

Those Meddlin’ Kids (Oct. 26) — Originally formed as a jam band inspired by the likes of Phish and Widespread Panic, Those Meddling Kids have found themselves immersed in the world of Bluegrass and Americana. TMK have successfully melded the traditional bluegrass sounds of the acoustic guitar, upright bass and banjo with rock and jazz sounds of the electric guitar and saxophone to create a truly unique sound among a quickly rising musical genre. Pack that with a highly energetic live show and tons of improvisation, and it is easy to understand how it has been love at first sight for many of their fans.

Clumsy Lovers (Nov. 2) — The Clumsy Lovers have brought their mix of fiddle and banjo-fueled bluegrass Celtic rock to North American audiences for more than a decade. With more than 2,500 performances under their belts, their high-energy shows have worn out dance floors and created a loyal following in 49 states and across their homeland of Canada.

In 2010, the Clumsy Lovers released “Make Yourself Known,” a 13-song collection showcasing the band’s penchant for mixing styles. From bluegrass rave-ups to pop-rock sing-a-longs, their album brings the Lovers’ live show energy to your living room.

Contact Wesley Brown at 252-329-9579 or wbrown@reflector.com. Follow him on Twitter @CityWatchdog.
Minges pool to re-open
By Katherine Ayers
Friday, August 31, 2012

The Minges Natatorium at East Carolina University is scheduled to open on Oct. 1 after months of work to install a new filtration system.

Glen Gilbert, dean of the College of Health and Human Performance, said the project was significant, but officials are pleased with the outcome.

The system must now go through a number of safety and maintenance checks before it can be opened.

Gilbert cautioned that a number of issues could delay the Oct. 1 reopening.

During the closure, the ECU swim team is practicing at both Brook Valley and the ECU recreational pools. The Greenville Swim Club is using the Greenville city pool.

ECU will work on the facility’s lighting system sometime in the spring, although a date has yet to be announced for that project.

Contact Katherine Ayers at kayers@reflector.com and 252-329-9567.
UNC promises major changes in wake of academic scandal

By Jane Stancill - jstancill@newsobserver.com

CHAPEL HILL—UNC-Chapel Hill leaders on Thursday promised different ways of doing business to prevent academic misconduct related to student athletes, including a new name for the beleaguered African and Afro-American Studies department.

Some of the changes had already been announced; other initiatives were new. But the goal was clear — deans, faculty members, department heads and Athletic Director Bubba Cunningham lined up to convince a UNC Board of Governors review panel that they would do whatever it takes to recover from perhaps the campus’ worst academic and athletic scandal.

They pledged more faculty involvement in athletics, a revamped African studies department, new oversight rules for academic administrators, changes to the tutoring program for athletes and a strategic plan for the university’s entire sports enterprise.

The panel from UNC system board is just one of several entities looking into the problems. Former North Carolina Gov. Jim Martin is leading an independent review to determine whether other academic irregularities occurred.

UNC-CH Chancellor Holden Thorp said he met with Martin on Tuesday and told him he is free to examine any data and talk with faculty, staff and students as he deems necessary. Martin will work with Baker Tilly, a national consulting firm, which also is taking a separate look at UNC-CH’s academic procedures and controls.

The UNC system panel spent Wednesday and Thursday reviewing the campus’ handling of academic fraud in the African and Afro-American Studies department.

An internal campus review found 54 courses in that department, many heavily attended by athletes, that were no-show classes with little or no faculty supervision. Many courses were linked to former department chairman Julius Nyang’oro, who retired under pressure this summer, and to Deborah Crowder, a former department manager who left the university in 2009.
On Wednesday, the panel met behind closed doors for much of the day. One board member, Jim Diehl, suggested Thursday that too much power was in the hands of Crowder.

**Integrity ‘didn’t happen’**

Karen Gil, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the university would intensify its review of department chairmen, who previously had little oversight.

“The college depended on our department chair and our manager to do their jobs and do them with integrity,” Gil said. “It didn’t happen.”

Other policy changes and reforms are meant to beef up oversight of independent study courses, teaching assignments, summer school courses and other areas.

For example, from now on in the African studies department, only majors with at least a 3.0 grade point average will be able to take independent study courses. All faculty syllabi will be reviewed by administrators to ensure appropriate rigor.

“Please know that faculty and staff members share your concerns about the unethical practices,” said the new department chairwoman, Eunice Sahle.

The department is changing its curriculum and its name, Sahle said. It will be called African, African American and Diaspora Studies, she said, which denotes its worldwide focus.

Beyond the African studies department, reforms will focus on the Academic Support Program for Student Athletes. A national search is under way for a new director for the program, which Thorp said would report only to the academic side of the university.

The university is also considering expanding its Summer Bridge program, which guides first-year students who may need help adjusting academically to college life. A version of that program may be adapted for first-year athletes, to give them a leg up on their academic experience.

**Pressure on athletes**

Cunningham, the athletic director, said the university has 720 student-athletes in 28 sports. Among the upperclassmen, he said, 34 different academic majors were represented. Two majored in African and Afro-American studies. No matter their major, he said, all face major time pressure in balancing their classroom and athletic demands.
How Julius Peppers’ transcript was exposed

UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Holden Thorp on Thursday explained how former UNC football and basketball player Julius Peppers’ academic transcript was exposed on the Internet.

Appearing before a UNC Board of Governors review committee looking into the university’s handling of academic fraud, Thorp said he had apologized to Peppers for the lapse.

Thorp said the issue dated back to 2001, when a staff member created a test record, using Peppers’ transcript with personal information removed. The original transcript was saved on a secure server, Thorp said, and a second staff member mistakenly moved that file to an unsecured directory during a technology migration in 2007.

The first unidentified staff member has been disciplined, Thorp said, but the university would not disclose the nature of the punishment. The second staff member left the university previously.

Thorp said the exposure of a former student’s private grade records was “extremely troubling.”

“We greatly regret this incident, and we have apologized to Mr. Peppers,” Thorp said.

University officials initially dismissed the 2001 transcript as a fake test document when recently questioned about it by The News & Observer. Later, Wolfpack fans from N.C. State University found a nearly identical transcript bearing Peppers’ name in an obscure related address. They immediately posted it on a fan bulletin board.

On Thursday, Larry Conrad, a vice chancellor who heads information technology at the university, issued a statement that said of the document: “It was discovered on the unsecured server through a sequence of targeted searches that ultimately yielded the URL of the transcript. The University has long since changed the protocol for how test student records are set up.”

The emergence of Peppers’ transcript added more evidence that UNC-CH’s African and Afro-American studies department operated in ways to allow athletes to remain academically eligible. The transcript showed a 1.82 grade
The athletic director said there is room for athletics and academics to thrive alongside each other if they are integrated and done “in the right way.” It’s not a tradeoff, he said.

“We’re going to educate and inspire through athletics,” Cunningham said. “That’s our fundamental mission.”

The UNC system panel is expected to meet with Martin, the former governor, in the coming weeks to find out what he uncovered.

Once those reviews are complete, Thorp said, another effort will examine the broader question of whether the university has struck the proper balance between athletics and academics. That will be led by Hunter Rawlings, president of the Association of American Universities and former president of the University of Iowa and Cornell University.

Thorp reiterated his promise to clean up the situation once and for all. It’s a promise he’s made over and over.

“I am determined that we will fix this and that it will never happen again,” he said. “Nothing is more important than restoring confidence in this university that we all love.”

Stancill: 919-829-4559
point average and 11 grades of D or F in various subjects, along with much higher grades in African studies.

Thorp did not comment on the lack of rigor in Peppers’ schedule, but said his main interest going forward is that “all of our students get the high quality educational experience they should expect at Carolina.”

Peppers is now a defensive end for the Chicago Bears.

Staff writer Jane Stancill
The Wilmington Star News
Published: Thursday, August 30, 2012

UNCW to test emergency siren Aug. 31

WILMINGTON–UNCW will test its outdoor emergency sirens at 3 p.m. Friday, according to a release from the school.

The university will perform a growl test, which means the sirens will sound for about 30 seconds to make sure they're working properly. People on campus don't need to take any action when the siren sounds, the release stated.

If the siren sounds in a real emergency, notifications will also be sent to faculty, staff and students. For more information about UNCW's emergency warning system, visit www.uncw.edu/alert.

– Pressley Baird
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Harvard University revealed Thursday what could be its largest cheating scandal in memory, saying that about 125 students might have worked in groups on a take-home final exam despite being explicitly required to work alone.

The accusations, related to a single undergraduate class in the spring semester, deal with “academic dishonesty, ranging from inappropriate collaboration to outright plagiarism,” the administration said in a note sent to students.

Officials said that nearly half of the more than 250 students in the class were under investigation by the Harvard College Administrative Board and that if they were found to have cheated, they could be suspended for a year. The students have been notified that they are suspected and will be called to give their accounts in investigative hearings.

“This is unprecedented in its scope and magnitude,” said Jay Harris, the dean of undergraduate education.
Administrators would not reveal the name of the class or even the department, saying that they wanted to protect the identities of the accused students. The Harvard Crimson, the university’s student newspaper, reported that it was a government class, Introduction to Congress, which had 279 students, and that it was taught by Matthew B. Platt, an assistant professor. Professor Platt did not respond to messages seeking comment.

When final exams were graded in May, similarities were noticed in the answers given by some students, officials said, and a professor brought the matter to the administration immediately. Over the summer, Harvard’s administrative board conducted an initial review, going over the exams of all of the students in the class for evidence of cheating. It concluded that almost half of them showed signs of possible collaboration.

“The enabling role of technology is a big part of this picture,” Mr. Harris said. “It’s the ease of sharing. With that has come, I believe, a certain cavalier attitude.”

The university said it planned to increase efforts to teach students about academic integrity.

“The scope of the allegations suggests that there is work to be done to ensure that every student at Harvard understands and embraces the values that are fundamental to its community of scholars,” Harvard’s president, Drew Gilpin Faust, told The Harvard Gazette, the university’s official newspaper.

Harvard’s student handbook says that students must “comply with the policy on collaboration established for each course,” and notes that such policies vary from department to department, from class to class, and even from assignment to assignment within a class.

The news comes as Harvard students are returning to campus for the fall term, which begins on Tuesday.
Former Virginia lacrosse player and convicted murderer George Huguely V is led to court for his sentencing in Charlottesville. A judge sentenced Huguely to 23 years in prison for the alcohol-fueled beating death of his ex-girlfriend in 2010.

Steve Helber / AP

George Huguely V sentenced to 23 years for Yeardley Love murder

By Mary Pat Flaherty

CHARLOTTESVILLE — In the end, when George Huguely V rose to speak for himself before learning his punishment for murdering his ex-girlfriend Yeardley Love, he turned toward Love’s mother and sister: “I’m so sorry for your loss.”

His hands in cuffs, his imposing frame in a gray-striped jail jumpsuit, the former University of Virginia lacrosse player added: “I hope and pray that you may find peace.”

He looked at the benches closest to him, filled Thursday by his parents, grandmother, younger sister, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends, and his voice finally cracked as he thanked them “for all their love and support.”

Huguely was sentenced to 23 years in prison by Circuit Court Judge Edward L. Hogshire, who chose to impose a shorter term than the 26 years
recommended by the jury. In Virginia, a judge can lower, but not increase, a jury’s recommendation.

Love, 22, was found facedown in a bloody pillow by a roommate on May 3, 2010, a few hours after a drunken Huguely kicked through her bedroom door, shook her and wrestled her to the ground as they argued about their recent breakup. Huguely told police that he left her bleeding but alive when he pushed her back onto her bed “flopping like a fish.”

Love’s mother, Sharon, and sister, Lexie, did not comment on the sentence. But they issued a statement saying they were “relieved to put this chapter behind us.”

“We find no joy in others’ sorrow,” they wrote.

Huguely, 24, and Love, who was also a successful lacrosse player, were within weeks of graduation from the elite university. Photos of the two, pulled from university athletes’ biographies, have flashed across newspapers and television screens. Those images and stereotypes of privilege and lost promise hung over the trial and the sentencing.

Huguely’s attorneys have conceded that he had a drinking problem severe enough that his friends had discussed an intervention to get him help. If he’d received help from someone, they argued, Huguely “would have done what most do — graduate from college, become employed and grown out of the patterns that many develop as college undergraduates.”

Charlottesville Commonwealth’s Attorney Warner “Dave” Chapman told the judge that drinking wasn’t to blame. “The issue isn’t too much alcohol. It’s too much violence,” he said.

Chapman said that while Huguely’s parents have a chance to see what their son may make of his life, the Loves lost that. Lexie Love is set to marry soon, Chapman said, “but the maid of honor will be missing,” a statement that left Lexie wiping away tears.

Huguely, of Chevy Chase, won’t be old when he’s released, and “there’s a world of good he can do,” Chapman said.

He said Huguely had opportunities to turn his behavior around but failed to heed three “wake-up calls” showing that he could be violent, especially when drinking.

During Thursday’s hearing, a former U-Va. student testified that in 2008 an angry Huguely put his hands around her throat at a bar. She said he became upset because she told her father — a former coach of Huguely’s — about
his excessive drinking. She said Huguely backed off only when a bouncer intervened and threw him out. A former teammate who was briefly involved with Love testified that Huguely punched him as he slept. And a woman who had sporadically dated Huguely told the judge that he punched a U-Va. tennis player who was walking with her.

Hogshire invoked those incidents when he asked Huguely to stand to hear his sentence. The bar incident, the judge said, “was a foreshadowing of what was coming.” He called the others “a preview of the kind of violence Mr. Huguely is capable of under the influence of alcohol.”

In a statement, Huguely’s family members said that they “love George and will always support him” and that they believe Love’s death was an accident.

They also said that Love “will always be in our hearts.”

Huguely had been the starting quarterback, an honor-roll student and a lacrosse all-American at the renowned Landon School in Bethesda before heading to U-Va., where he was an anthropology major, according to his online team biography.

Love, of Cockeysville, Md., a Baltimore suburb, had been a member of the lacrosse and field hockey teams at Notre Dame Preparatory School in Towson, Md., where a new field for lacrosse, soccer and field hockey is to be dedicated in her honor Sept. 9.

The case sparked changes at U-Va. and beyond.

Virginia lawmakers mentioned Love as they expanded laws to make it easier for people who are dating, but not living together, to obtain court orders seeking protection from an abusive partner.

The university now requires that at the start of each school year, students report whether they have been arrested or convicted of anything other than minor traffic infractions. And it stepped up training to help students, faculty and staff respond when they think someone may be in an abusive relationship or struggling with alcoholism or mental-health issues.

At the close of the hearing, Huguely said, “I love you,” in the direction of his mother, Marta Murphy, as he was led from the courtroom and returned to the local jail, where he has been held since his arrest and will remain for as long as 60 days while he is evaluated for his state prison slot.

Under Virginia rules, he will serve at least 85 percent of his sentence.
Richard C. Levin, who has directed a vast expansion and modernization of Yale University while improving university finances and relations with the city of New Haven, announced on Thursday that he would retire as president at the end of the school year, after 20 years. Dr. Levin is currently the most senior president in the Ivy League and one of the longest-serving in Yale’s history. The university is expected to undertake a nationwide search for a successor, who will take the helm next summer at an elite institution with a global reputation and a $3 billion annual operating budget.

Dr. Levin, 65, said in an interview that he simply felt it was time to move on, that he planned to take a yearlong sabbatical to write a book and that he did not know what he would do after that. He noted that the university faced several big, potentially expensive, strategic choices, including how to pursue online education and whether to resume building projects that were delayed during the recession.

“It makes sense to let someone who’s got a horizon of 7 to 10 years, at least, to take those over,” he said.

When Dr. Levin took office, Yale was being described as a university whose perch among the world’s top educational institutions had grown shaky. The administration often battled the faculty and the troubled surrounding city, there were budget shortfalls and staff cuts, applications were down and facilities badly needed renovation and repair.
A search committee repeatedly postponed the deadline for naming a new president, reportedly settling unenthusiastically on the low-key Dr. Levin after being unable to find a more famous and charismatic leader. Almost two decades later, Yale’s reputation and its finances are more secure, and Dr. Levin, commonly called Rick, is among the most admired university leaders in the country.

Under his presidency, the university has greatly expanded its academic facilities, including new quarters for science and medicine and a new business school campus; has overhauled its buildings, including all 12 undergraduate residential colleges; has started construction of two residential colleges to make room for the first major expansion in undergraduate enrollment in decades; and has embarked on new programs overseas.

“Rick’s presidency hasn’t been revolutionary,” said Anthony Kronman, a former law school dean. “It’s been a steady, persistent accumulation that, I would say, add up to a massive set of achievements.”

Dr. Levin’s administration has increased Yale’s endowment faster than those of its peers, despite heavy capital spending; as of mid-2011, it stood at $19.4 billion, second only to Harvard’s. His base salary of more than $1 million, and total compensation of more than $1.6 million, made him the highest-paid Ivy League president and one of the highest in the country.

After decades of discord, Dr. Levin set out to improve relations with New Haven — he said his first act as president would be to shake the mayor’s hand. The university gave financial assistance to employees who bought homes in New Haven, and it invested in the city’s efforts to revive the commercial core.

“Yale was a campus that physically and metaphorically relied on hard edges — hard edges around the campus and hard edges in relationships with the community,” said John DeStefano Jr., the mayor since 1994. “With Rick, those edges have become very soft.”

Benno C. Schmidt Jr., president from 1986 to 1992, battled faculty members over his moves to take decision-making powers away from them, over his plans to make deep cuts in their ranks and over other issues. Hired from Columbia University and maintaining his residence in New York City, Mr. Schmidt was derided as an outsider.
Faculty relations quickly improved under Dr. Levin, a familiar, well-liked and calming presence, and a longtime Yale professor and administrator whose wife, Jane, was an English professor there.

Perhaps the most serious clash with the faculty occurred this year, after Yale joined with the National University of Singapore to create a campus in Singapore. Professors protested the university’s collaboration with an autocratic government and the fact that the faculty had not been consulted, but the project continues.

Yale’s history of combative labor relations continued under Dr. Levin, with two strikes by clerical, maintenance and service employees in 1996 and two more in 2002 and 2003. But since then, relations have gone fairly smoothly with those employees, and Yale reached a new contract with them in June. The university has fought a longstanding effort to form a union by graduate students who teach or do research.

Dr. Levin’s administration was also criticized in recent years by women’s groups who said the university was slow to recognize that it needed to be tougher on sexual harassment and sexual assault. Last year, the university overhauled its procedures and suspended a fraternity that had been involved in harassment episodes.

Private universities have come under fire for their fast-rising prices; under Dr. Levin, the cost for a year of undergraduate education at Yale — including tuition, books and room and board — has more than doubled, to $58,600 for 2012-13. But most students receive financial aid, and Yale was among the first, in recent years, to replace student loans with grants and to extend significant aid to students from middle- and upper-middle-income families.

The top administrators that Dr. Levin has groomed have gone on to hold major posts elsewhere in academia — presidents of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Duke University, Swarthmore College and Colgate University, and vice chancellors at Cambridge and Oxford Universities.