THE DAILY CLIPS

September 2, 2011

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

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The estimated cost of repairs to East Carolina University following Hurricane Irene has risen to $1.7 million, according to a release Thursday afternoon from the university.

The estimate rose from an earlier $1 million figure as workers completed a more detailed assessment of campus, including health sciences and athletics facilities. Hurricane Irene left downed trees, broken residence hall windows, battered roofs and damp quarters in many buildings at ECU.

Rick Niswander, vice chancellor of finance and administration, said he expects funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help pay for repairs, the release stated. Some state money from the campus' renovations and repairs fund also will be used, he said.

At least 170 trees larger than 10 inches in diameter were blown over or were so severely damaged they will need to be removed. An early count, not including athletic facilities, had 70 trees down.

The Spilman Building lost one-third of its roof to water damage, with 20 rooms affected. The 1920s building houses the chancellor's and other administrative offices, which are in the process of being relocated.

In Greene Hall, a broken storm drainpipe sent water into the building damaging multiple floors. Approximately 10 rooms were affected and five students have been moved for a few weeks until repairs are complete.

A section of the roof in Minges Coliseum separated, causing water damage in the arena area and leaks onto the court floor.

In the Brody Medical Sciences building approximately 100 rooms had water damage, including ceiling tiles, carpet and drywall.

Water leaks damaged approximately 10 rooms in the Leo Jenkins Cancer Center. The Health Sciences building had 57 rooms and several corridors with water damage and damage to several windows and light fixtures on its exterior.

The East Carolina Heart Institute had 15 rooms and several corridors with water damage, as well as damage to the roof and the lighting protection system.
Officials survey the damage to Highway 12 on Sunday on Hatteras Island, N.C., after Hurricane Irene swept through the area, washing out the road in five locations.

**N.C. has love-hate relationship with Highway 12**  
Route is vital link to tourist island but is prone to damage from hurricanes

By MARTHA WAGGONER

RALEIGH, N.C. — There is probably no other road like it in America.  
North Carolina Highway 12, a thin strip of asphalt on top of sand, bends into the Atlantic Ocean, connecting most of the Outer Banks with the mainland. It floods easily and washes away during hurricanes, leaving some to question whether it is worth pouring millions of dollars of repairs into such a vulnerable road. Some have suggested building a long bridge instead.  
Irene took several big bites out of the highway, including one chunk that was nearly 160-feet long.
"It's a love-hate relationship, really," Kurt Kessler, who lives on Hatteras Island, said on a Facebook chat because he didn't have either cell phone or landline service after Irene hit almost a week ago. "12 is our main artery and we want to protect it. But again, we hate that we rely so heavily on it. This is one of those times you hate the fragile nature of Highway 12, but what are you going to do, you know? It comes with the territory."

Without Highway 12, the only way to get to Hatteras and most of the other nearby barrier islands would be by boat. The island is still not open to tourists, though the governor has said transportation officials would come up with a short-term solution for access by next week. The 140 mile-long road winds its way past unspoiled seashore as well as through villages packed with surf shops and hotels, and the black-and-white striped Hatteras Lighthouse.

At some spots, it's so narrow it feels like you can drag one arm through the Atlantic Ocean and the other through the Pamlico Sound. Sand washes onto the road during tropical weather, and it can sometimes pile up several feet high, making it impassable.

Hurricane Irene carved out several breaches in all, including two gaps that are new free-flowing inlets more than 120 feet.

**Would a bridge be better?**

In 2003, Hurricane Isabel also cleared out a piece of the highway. Ferries had to make round trips to Hatteras Village up to eight times a day, bringing bottled water, food, heavy machinery and relief workers while hauling out garbage and debris. Once again, emergency ferries are shipping goods to the isolated islands.

About 55,000 people live in the Outer Banks, which stretches south from the Virginia state line to Ocracoke Island. The Outer Banks includes all of Dare County and many of the towns along the coast, including Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head.

It's hard to say how many tourists visit each year. But in the summer, tourism officials say there are 250,000 visitors in any given week. Hatteras in particular is popular for its open spaces. There, people get up in arms when a garish beach supply store sets up shop and complain when people don't turn out the lights at night — it makes the stars tougher to see.

Danny Couch, a business owner in the Hatteras Island town of Buxton, said the state should spend whatever it takes to reopen the highway as soon as possible. Even though many areas will still be cleaning up during Labor Day weekend, the fall is also a big earner for property rentals and tourism, he said.

"I'm all for protecting the environment, but I have a payroll to meet," he said.

Because of the pristine land the road runs through, environmental groups support a 17-mile bridge that would bypass the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge and
many of the areas where the breaches occurred. It would cost an estimated $1 billion, though advocates say in the long run it would be less expensive than constantly repairing the road and smaller bridge.

The state transportation agency believes it's too late for a long bridge. Instead, they've decided to replace the short Bonner Bridge, which had a projected lifespan of 30 years when it was built in 1962, and continue to repair Highway 12 as needed.

**Constant repairs**

East Carolina University geology professor Stanley R. Riggs, one of the authors of a book on North Carolina's coastline, believes the state should put in a ferry system that would connect all of the state's coastal communities.

"Islands are built by storms, maintained by storms and need storms to help them deal with rising sea level," he said. "The way we are using those barrier islands will guarantee their collapse with time because we are not allowing any of the natural processes to take place."

Greer Beatty, spokeswoman for the transportation agency, said it would not provide an estimate until next week for how long it might take to reopen Highway 12 or what the repairs might cost. After Isabel in 2003, it took weeks to restore the road at a cost of roughly $5 million.

Jim Trogdon, the agency's chief operating officer who is leading efforts to rebuild Highway 12, said most residents want the short bridge because it "maintains the character of the Outer Banks that we have all known for decades, and the locals support it, which is very important since NCDOT ultimately depends on the locals to define which transportation options they would like to see in their communities."


"There are going to be those around the country saying 'why are you investing in that road again?' Until we can find a better way to move people on and off there, they're North Carolina citizens. They pay their taxes, and they've got to have a highway or road or bridge to travel on the same as the rest of us," she said.

Michael Biesecker in Raleigh and Mitch Weiss in Charlotte contributed to this report.
Editorial: ECU's chance to thank USC
Friday, September 2, 2011

The last time East Carolina University faced the University of South Carolina on the gridiron, misery barreled toward the North Carolina coast in the form of Hurricane Floyd. The Pirates won, but the defining memory of that contest was the post-game hospitality of the Gamecocks, who provided refuge to players and coaches unable to return to Greenville because of severe flooding.

When the two teams renew acquaintances Saturday night in Charlotte, eastern North Carolina will be recovering from Hurricane Irene and in need of a temporary escape. Pirate fans, while still eager for a win, should not forget the kindness and generosity of South Carolina at a difficult time for this community and celebrate this rekindled rivalry at yet another troubling hour for eastern North Carolina.

Three years ago, an upstart ECU football team grabbed the attention of college football by opening the season with a win over highly-touted Virginia Tech at Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium before following it with a victory over West Virginia University, a team ranked No. 8 in the nation. The Pirates leapt to No. 14 in the Associated Press poll, though the 7-4 record that followed ended hopes of crashing the Bowl Championship Series.

This year, the opportunity to shock the sports world will begin again in Charlotte, with No. 12 South Carolina providing the opposition. The Gamecocks will face off with East Carolina as the defending champions of the very competitive Southeastern Conference's East Division, posting a 9-5 record last year, including a win against defending national champion the University of Alabama.

The circumstances were far different for the Gamecocks when last they faced the Pirates. It was Head Coach Lou Holtz's first year at the helm and South Carolina lost to the Pirates 21-3 en route to an 0-11 season. However, the South Carolina program distinguished itself off the field by opening its doors to an East Carolina squad stranded in Columbia, S.C., by Hurricane Floyd. Using the Gamecocks' facilities, the Pirates readied themselves for the next week's game against the University of Miami, one of the signature wins in East Carolina history.

This week, the purple-and-gold faithful come to the game after enduring another natural disaster, though one far less severe than Floyd. While they should cheer success on the field, they need not waste this opportunity to say thanks to South Carolina for a touching gesture that led to a legendary Pirate memory.
Irene makes river inhospitable
By Jackie Drake
The Daily Reflector
Friday, September 2, 2011

Something fishy was happening at the Tar River on Thursday.

About 50-100 fish could be seen struggling to the water's edge at the Greenville Town Common on Thursday morning, gasping at the surface. A few were floating, dead.

The cause was depleted oxygen in the river following Hurricane Irene, according to an officer on the scene with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Its waters high from Irene's rains, the Tar flowed over the boat ramp and into the parking lot, where a handful of people gathered to watch the fish milling around in the shallow water. Onlookers identified the fish as striped bass, catfish, white perch, bluegill, carp and even an eel was spotted.

"Unfortunately this is a typical situation in our coastal rivers after a hurricane event like we had with Irene," said wildlife fisheries biologist Justin Homan via phone. Rain from the hurricane washed into the river carrying sediment and swamp water stagnant from a dry summer, Homan said.

There is no evidence of contamination in the river causing the fish distress, according to Homan. Greenville Recreation and Parks crew leader Justin Skinner said he had never seen anything like it during the other times the river has risen in the 13 years he has worked for the city.

"It's sickening, it gives you a sickening feeling to see wildlife just die," said Bill Layton, a retiree from Burroughs-Wellcome pharmaceutical company.
“It's pretty sad, because I enjoy fishing,” said Greenville resident Calvin Ward.

The oxygen level in the river on Thursday was less than one part per million, where it is normally eight parts per million, according to East Carolina University biologist Anthony Overton.

“Anything less than three and fish have a real problem,” Overton said. Sometimes oxygen levels can bounce back relatively quickly and fish can recover, Overton said. Oxygen levels normally are lower in the summer.

After Hurricane Isabel in 2003, oxygen levels in the Roanoke stayed at zero for nine days, resulting in a large fish kill, Homan said. “We probably will have a fish kill here in a couple days; they have a hard time surviving without oxygen,” Homan said. “It's a natural occurrence. There's not much we can do to fix it.”

While only a certain number of fish could be seen at the town common, Overton estimated that thousands of fish were affected Thursday - the river's overall fish population is in the millions. The Chowan and Roanoke Rivers also are affected.

“I don't know that it happens much on the town common,” Overton said, adding he also was surprised by the variety of fish affected. If the fish are removed, it should be done by authorities, Overton said, but usually the fish sink the to bottom to decompose or be consumed by crabs and other organisms.

People who see a fish kill are asked to report it to the N.C. Division of Water Quality at the agency's fish kill hotline, 877-337-2383, or the agency's regional offices in Washington, 946-6481, or Wilmington, 910-796-7215.

Contact Jackie Drake @ jdrake@reflector.com or 252-329-9567.
Textiles piece by Sandi Goldman titled "Lend a Hand" hangs at Emerge Gallery, which is part of ECU's Alumni Exhibition open now.

**ECU exhibit requires multiple venues**

By Kelley Kirk
The Daily Reflector
Friday, September 2, 2011

North Carolina's largest art school will hold an exhibition so big that its needs three locations to show it all.

Featuring close to 232 artists, the East Carolina University School of Art and Design Alumni Exhibition 2011 will be shown at the Wellington B. Gray Gallery on the ECU campus, the Greenville Museum of Art and the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge. The exhibition opens today and runs through Oct. 1.

The reason for multiple venues was simple.
"The number of artists could not be exhibited in one venue,” said Gray Gallery interim director Tom Braswell. “It also becomes more of a community celebration of the School of Art and Design art program.”

A panel discussion with five School of Art and Design alumni will be held at 4:30 p.m. today in ECU's Speight Auditorium. Speakers include Jeff Dean, ceramics; Dana Ezzell Gay, graphic design; Antonio Martinez, photography; Amanda Outcalt, painting and metal design; and Melissa Van Sandt, sculpture. A reception will follow in the gallery.

PCAC at Emerge and the Greenville Museum of Art will host receptions during Uptown Greenville's First Friday ArtWalk from 6-9 p.m. today. If you're concerned about walking to all the venues, the Jolley Trolly will provide free rides during the event.
The exhibition includes work from all studio areas of the School of Art and Design: animation and interactive design; ceramics; graphic design; illustration; metal design; painting; photography; printmaking; sculpture; textile design and wood design.

“This is only the second school-wide alumni show. The first was in 2006,” Braswell said. The show was open to submissions from School of Art and Design graduates — undergraduate and graduate students — who graduated in the spring of 2008 and before. All of the work submitted for the show was created in 2006 or later and each artist only has one piece on display.

Charlotte Fitz, executive director of the Greenville Museum of Art, said there will be approximately 75 pieces on display at her location.

“In addition to professionals, there's some people who have positions at university, some art hobby artists,” she said.

Uptown Art Supply and Gallery will participate with its own alumni exhibition. The gallery will display work by former ECU students who graduated within the last five years.

An opening reception will be held during ArtWalk. Lee Roberts of Youngsville will play music and there will be henna art on the balcony.

Food from Dale's Indian Cuisine and complimentary beverages will be available. An installation of “It's Raining Cats and Dogs” created by Dindy Reich's Design II class also will be on display. The comedy group “Seriously Clowning” will perform at 7 p.m. and a surprise live music performance is from 8-10 p.m.

Contact Kelley Kirk at kkirk@reflector.com or 329-9596.
Kellis White, a volunteer with the Maries Corps Disaster Relief Unit 1 from Charlotte, hands out plates of food during lunch in a parking near the intersection of Greenville Blvd. and 14th Street on Thursday. (Rhett Butler/The Daily Reflector)

Relief: Army paints it purple
The Daily Reflector
Thursday, September 1, 2011

The Salvation Army will paint it purple while it continues relief efforts in North Carolina.

The agency declared Saturday Pirate Nation Day to support East Carolina University in its season football opener against the University of South Carolina Gamecocks in Charlotte.

Army staffers and volunteers will wear purple throughout the region to support the Pirates and thank people here for helping the charity's work, said spokesman Ashley Delamar from the Greenville emergency operations center.

“We want to show the Pirate Nation, if you will, that we really appreciate the way they have welcomed us and supported us for our efforts,” Delamar said Thursday.

Because the Army typically wears red, purple is in short supply. Delamar invited folks to bring their old Pirate gear — hats, shirts, banners, stickers — to the facility at 2718 S. Memorial Drive near the post office.

“If folks will stop by and throw an old flag our way we'll take it and proudly wave it,” Delamar said.

The organization is feeding thousands of storm victims and Hurricane Irene aid providers in the region through its Greenville center.

Trucks daily head from the center to communities as far east as Cape Hatteras.
Canteens also have been operating in Greenville, Ayden and Grifton since Sunday along with mobile units dispatched to wherever they are needed.

Residents have supported the effort with donations of time, money and material, Delamar said.

The need in the Pitt County area has decreased as power has been restored.

However, canteens continued to operate Thursday at the old Boss Hog's location on 14th Street in Greenville and at 599 Queen St. in Grifton. Delamar expected the center to continue supporting operations in Beaufort, Hyde, Dare, Pamlico, Carteret counties and other locations into next week.

**Free laundry**
The Tide Loads of Hope mobile laundry program has brought its free laundry services to Washington, N.C.

Relief workers and residents affected by the storm are encouraged to drop off laundry at The Wash House, 123 E. Fifth St., from 1-8 p.m. today and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday. Workers will wash, dry and fold laundry at no charge. No bedding, jackets, or other large pieces will be accepted.

Working with the American Red Cross, the mobile effort was created in 2005 to provide much-needed laundry services to families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

**Red Cross**
Five field kitchens operated by Baptist Men's Disaster Relief in partnership with the American Red Cross are open in Ahoskie, New Bern, Manteo, Williamston and Washington.

Red Cross emergency response vehicles will pick up meals at the sites to distribute in hard-hit areas. The sites are open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. at the following locations:

- West Chowan Baptist Association, 335 N.C. 42 West, Ahoskie
- Manteo Baptist Church, 406 U.S. 64/264, Manteo
- First Baptist Church, 239 Middle St., New Bern
- Second Baptist Church, 2516 W. Fifth St., Washington
- Memorial Baptist Church, kitchen at 108 Trade St., Williamston

The Red Cross has operated 53 shelters since the storm hit; seven remained open as of Wednesday. It has sheltered 7,294 people.

The agency has served 75,236 meals and 55,494 snacks and provided 6,049 comfort kits since the storm hit. More than 680 Red Cross workers and volunteers have responded.
People who can help are encouraged to click, text or call to donate to American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Visit www.redcross.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a $10 donation.

Contributions also may be sent to the local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013.

**Baptist Men**
The North Carolina Baptist Men have recovery and feeding sites in 10 eastern North Carolina cities. Volunteers are needed to assist with debris clearing, roof repairs and meal service. Visit baptistsonmission.org and click the “Hurricane Irene Get Involved” link to register. Individuals seeking assistance must apply in person at The Memorial Baptist Church, 1510 S.E. Greenville Blvd.
Send donations to: N.C. Baptist Men Disaster Recovery, P.O. Box 1107 Cary, NC 27512. Indicate it is for the Hurricane Irene recovery effort.

**Food bank**
To make a food or monetary donation to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, visit the Greenville facility at 497 W. Ninth St., call 752-4996 or visit www.foodbankenc.org.
Most needed items are high-protein canned meals, single-serving meals that do not require refrigeration or cooking, single-serving snacks, peanut butter, infant formula, hygiene products such as hand sanitizer, toothbrushes and soap, cleaning supplies and paper goods and products.

**Donation tips**
The Internal Revenue Service cautions that scam artists see disasters as an opportunity to target the generous. People are urged to visit www.irs.gov/charities to verify a charity has been granted tax-exempt status.
UNC professor resigns academic chairman post

BY DAN KANE - Staff Writer

A UNC-Chapel Hill department chairman at the center of questions regarding academic integrity within the university's football program has resigned from the position, university officials said Thursday.

UNC-CH Chancellor Holden Thorp said in a statement that Julius Nyang'oro, who headed the Department of African and Afro-American Studies, has resigned as the university looks at "possible irregularities with courses that included undergraduate students."

"Because academic integrity is paramount, we have every obligation to get to the bottom of these issues," Thorp said.

UNC officials said the irregularities involved student-athletes and other students. They declined to provide further details.

Nyang'oro will continue to teach at the university. His salary will be reduced $12,000 to $159,000.

The university said that it had notified the NCAA of the resignation and the possible irregularities, but said no student-athletes would be held out of games.

The resignation follows reports in The News & Observer that raised questions about Nyang'oro's connections to football players and the athletic department.
Last week, The N&O reported that Nyang'oro had hired a sports agent to teach a summer class this year without telling his boss, Arts and Sciences Dean Karen Gil, about the agent's profession. The sports agent, Carl Carey Jr., who earned his doctorate at UNC-CH and had served as an adviser to football players there, was representing two football players at the time he taught the class. No football players took the class, according to the athletic department.

Nyang'oro's handling of two football players who took his classes also has drawn attention. He missed a blatant case of plagiarism in a paper submitted by one football player, Michael McAdoo, who was later given an F in the class by the university's honor court.

His department allowed incoming freshman Marvin Austin, a prized recruit, to take a 400-level class taught by Nyang'oro before Austin had taken introductory classes that included a remedial writing class. Austin received a B plus.

Both football players were kicked off the team last year as part of an NCAA investigation into academic misconduct and impermissible benefits from sports agents and their go-betweens. Carey is not among the agents found to have given players illegal gifts.

Allegations of NCAA violations include an assistant coach taking money from an agent, a former UNC football player whom the NCAA considers an agent with access to players in the weight room, and numerous athletes accepting trips, parties and other perks from agents. That inquiry into impermissible benefits and academic misconduct forced 14 players to miss at least one game last season, and seven sat out the entire season.

In July, Thorp fired football coach Butch Davis and accepted the retirement of Athletic Director Dick Baddour. UNC-CH has until Sept. 19 to respond to an NCAA notice of allegations, and is scheduled to appear before the association's infractions committee on Oct. 28.

After McAdoo's plagiarism was discovered by N.C. State University fans, and confirmed by The N&O, Thorp acknowledged that the university had missed it. But he continued to stand behind Nyang'oro, calling him a "great colleague."

Thorp was Nyang'oro's supervisor as dean of the Arts and Sciences college from July 2007 to May 2008, when Thorp became chancellor.
According to an academic resume, Nyang'oro began teaching at UNC-CH in 1984 as a visiting professor. He was hired as a professor six years later and became chairman of African and Afro-American studies in 1992.

His resume lists two teaching honors - one from undergraduate students for the 1990-91 academic year, and the outstanding faculty award from the Class of 2000 - and four pages of published books and articles.

Before the resignation, James Peacock, a UNC-CH anthropology professor and former faculty chairman, called Nyang'oro "one of the finest human beings and teachers and administrators whom I have ever known. Period. I don't really know anything about the situation with the plagiarism and all the rest, but whatever he has done in that area, and I don't know anything about it, should be balanced (with) his superb contributions in so many other ways."

Nyang'oro, 56, has a law degree from Duke University, and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Miami, according to his resume. He received his bachelor's degree from a university in Tanzania. As chairman, he oversaw a staff of 22.

Nyang'oro had not responded to numerous requests for interviews over several weeks. Reached at his office Thursday, he declined to comment and referred a reporter to the university administration.

Thorp said professor Evelyne Huber will serve as the interim chairman for the African and Afro-American studies department. She is also chairman of the political science department.

Staff writer Ken Tysiac and news researcher David Raynor contributed.

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C.J. Suitt, left, and UNC senior Will McInerney lead a rally at Silent Sam on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. The statue of a Confederate soldier at McCorkle Place has been the center of protests in the past.

**UNC's Confederate statue draws new protest**

BY LANA DOUGLAS - Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL Students gathered Thursday to start a new discussion about the monument known as "Silent Sam."

The statue at UNC-Chapel Hill has been the subject of many debates in the nearly 100 years it has stood in the center of McCorkle Place.

For the passer-by or new student, the statue overlooking Franklin Street may appear to be of little significance, but some of those who know the statue's history say it is a misrepresentation of students and the community.

"For me personally, as a longtime resident of Chapel Hill and student of UNC, it's something that doesn't represent me, the town or the university," said Will McInerney, a senior and part of The Real Silent Sam movement.

The Real Silent Sam movement hopes to spark dialogue and provoke critical thought about the meanings behind the monuments and buildings of Chapel Hill. It hopes to provide the public with information that goes beyond standard narratives.
Silent Sam was erected in 1913 as a monument to the alumni and students who fought and died in the Confederate Army.

Julian Carr, a veteran of the Confederate Army, gave a speech at the statue's unveiling on June 2, 1913, in which he credited the Confederate soldiers with preserving the Anglo Saxon people.

Although it was not the sole purpose of the memorial to support the white supremacist movement, that was a part of it, said Aleck Stephen, an alumnus of UNC-CH and part of The Real Silent Sam movement.

If people in the community and students of UNC-CH knew what the statue represents or that certain buildings on campus were named after leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, they would push for a change, according to McInerney.

Sophomore Jeanetta Clement thinks it is important to be aware of the historical implications of monuments and the names of buildings on campus.

"I do think that the idea of broader campus conversation about Silent Sam and other monuments is a good idea," said James Leloudis, professor of history at UNC-CH.

However, Leloudis is cautious about losing a monument that prompts people to think critically about our past.

"It's a dangerous thing to ignore," he said.

Silent Sam prompts people to confront their history and have serious conversations about race, Leloudis said.

Members of The Real Silent Sam movement have lots of opinions about what should be done about the statue.

Some think it should be removed.

Others say it should be relocated to the Old Chapel Hill cemetery.

Some have advocated adding a new statue of equal size that better represents the diverse character of the university, or adding a plaque to the current statue that describes the historical context in which it was created.

Adding a more detailed plaque or moving Silent Sam was compared to the removal of the Confederate flag from a public building by Stephan.

"(It's) not necessarily promoting amnesia, it's just simply saying, 'We don't want to represent ourselves as being apart of something that is not true to our values now,' " he said.
"The important thing about history is not about commemoration or celebration, but public conversation about finding meaning in the past and hope for our future," said Tim Tyson, UNC-CH faculty member, author and historian.

The UNC-CH administration has not been approached by The Real Silent Sam movement.

At the end of Thursday's gathering, a temporary sign was taped to Silent Sam that reads, in part:

"This memorial to Confederate soldiers who left the university perpetuates an incomplete and inaccurate history - one that intentionally neglects the vast number of North Carolinians who opposed secession and the Confederacy. The original supporters of this monument, both town and university leaders, were motivated by racism and were colluders in a statewide campaign to establish white dominance."

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Some facts about Silent Sam

Dedicated in 1913, Silent Sam was funded by N.C. Division of the United Daughters of Confederacy.

He is considered to be silent because he has no cartridge box for ammunition.

Legend has it that Silent Sam's gun will fire if a virgin walks by.

Silent Sam has been a gathering place for other protests. In 1992, students gathered for a "Speak Out" rally after Los Angeles police officers were found not guilty in the Rodney King trial.
GREENVILLE East Carolina coaches called the jostling for the starting running back position the most competitive battle during fall camp.

Junior transfer Reggie Bullock emerged from that five-player competition as the Pirates' top selection entering Saturday's season opener against No. 12 South Carolina at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte.

"He really proved to be the best runner we had," said running backs coach Clay McGuire, whose task has been to prepare his group for improved production in the team's spread "Air Raid" passing system.

Last season, the Pirates' rushing offense, led by senior Jonathan Williams, averaged 118.9 yards per game, ranking 10th in Conference USA.

"We've got better backs this year," McGuire said.

That starts with Bullock, a Las Vegas native who transferred from Arizona Western Community College after two seasons, 3,247 yards and 40 rushing touchdowns. The 5-foot-9, 175-pound Bullock made use of his time in junior college, rushing for 100 yards or more in 21 of 22 games. Last season, while collecting 1,830 yards and 20 touchdowns, he was the top rusher in the National Junior College Athletics Association.

"If I get an open space, I'm able to make the first guy miss with the ability I have," Bullock said. In the "fourth quarter, I'm really aggressive. I just take it right between the tackles, put my pads down and explode up the field."

Bullock said he came to ECU because he liked coach Ruffin McNeill's approach, the spread offense and the school's supportive fan base.

"I love giving a show," he said. "My big thing is trying to get to the end zone."

Bullock said he's aware the Pirates are a pass-first team with a talented quarterback in senior Dominique Davis. He said the passing game only creates lanes for a running back with vision and speed, adding that it's possible for a back to gain 1,000 yards in the system.
"It's one-on-one with the linebacker," he said. "That's what a running back wants. Being able to make plays one-on-one with the linebacker. That's cake - that's all day."

ECU will take four backs to Charlotte, with 6-0, 190-pound sophomore Michael Dobson as the second-string back, followed by sophomore Torrence Hunt and redshirt freshman Alex Owah.

"It's a competitive group," McNeill said. "Every carry, every block, every catch, every route is a competitive route."

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Natural surroundings make for thinner people

A new study has found that people who live in countries where the weather is good and there are more natural features like hills and lakes are more active and thinner.

The findings do not prove that natural features affect how much exercise people get or how much they weigh, but it does raise questions that further research can explore.

"We're trying to figure out whether the places themselves encourage activity or people who want to be active move to these places," said lead author Stephanie Jilcott, an assistant professor at the Department of Public Health at East Carolina University. She added that such research could encourage discussion about how to better link people with natural amenities - like lakes - that could boost their physical activity.

The study authors examined statistics about the average weight of residents in 100 North Carolina counties and tried to link them to rankings of the weather and the presence of natural features like lakes and hills.

The researchers adjusted their statistics, compiled from 2000 to 2007, so that factors like poverty level, participants' age or the percentage of rural and African-American residents in each county would not throw off the results.

Body mass index (BMI) is a measurement used to determine whether people are overweight. In adults, normal BMI is 18.5 to 24, while experts consider 25 to 29.9 to be overweight and 30 and over to be obese.

For the study, Jilcott said, the average body mass index was 0.47 points higher in counties with the lowest natural amenity scores compared to those with the highest. This might not make much difference to an individual, she said, but it is more significant in total across a community.

However, the statistics in the study did not offer a breakdown of how many exercised in, say, a gym instead of outside.
"There's nothing we can do to change the natural environment. It is what it is, but county leaders may want to assess what elements of natural amenities that could be enhanced," Jilcott said.

"For example, if the county is flat, but has access to water, parks and recreation departments could attempt low-cost investments in encouraging residents to be active in and around the water," she added.

The results appear in the September/October issue of the American Journal of Health Promotion.
Fog Lift, a painting by William Dunlap, is featured on the new Web site of the literary journal Shenandoah. (Courtesy William Dunlap and Washington and Lee University)

**Washington and Lee literary journal goes online-only**

By Daniel de Vise

Shenandoah, the literary journal of Washington and Lee University, turned 60 this year. It also ceased publication as a printed magazine.

The quarterly journal moved online with its Fall 2011 issue, which hit browsers (but not newsstands) today.

In an explanatory note, Editor R.T. Smith writes, In our transformation to the web we have eliminated paying subscribers, but now we hope to attract, converse with and sustain many readers who might never have been able to see a print issue. Please help us spread the word to others who would – as readers, auditors, gawkers, scoffers, donors, advocates and contributors – participate in this rapidly growing community which keeps the literary conversation lively and, indeed, alive.
Literary journals have fallen on hard times, along with newspapers and the rest of the publishing industry. Washington and Lee spokesman Jeff Hanna told me Shenandoah is at least the second collegiate literary journal to go online, following the TriQuarterly at Northwestern University.

I cannot find an instance of a college literary journal shutting down entirely, although there has been at least one non-collegiate casualty: Open City, a New York journal published not by a college but a consortium of intellectuals.

I found a list of top literary journals, and it appears that most of those are still in publication, albeit in an ongoing spirit of cost-cutting and revenue-enhancing.

The fate of Shenandoah “is perhaps inevitable when we look at what has happened to other literary journals,” Smith, its editor, said in an internal publication. “Literary magazines per se are going to have to change their way of conceiving themselves and of reaching their audiences. And this is all tied up in the deep inquiry going on in our culture about the future of print. There is time to make that transition and be an innovator.”

Financial health is a perpetual issue, too, at the Virginia Quarterly Review, one of the nation’s finest literary journals and the site last year of a tragic suicide.

Many of the best lit journals publish in the South, and Shenandoah apparently isn’t far behind VQR in repute. Founded in 1950 by a group including the author Tom Wolfe (a W&L graduate), Shenandoah has published the work of W.H. Auden, William Faulkner, Flannery O’Connor and Dylan Thomas.