THE DAILY CLIPS

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News, commentary, and opinion
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The Greenville Daily Reflector
The Raleigh News & Observer
The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
USA Today
The Charlotte Observer
The Fayetteville Observer
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ECU hosting forum to discuss shooting

The Daily Reflector

East Carolina University will hold a forum today to discuss a recent shooting near campus.

Chancellor Steve Ballard and Greenville Police Chief William Anderson will take part in the event, which will be held at 2 p.m. in Room 244 of the Mendenhall Student Center. Representatives of the campus police force and other ECU departments also will participate.

The forum stems from an early-morning robbery Tuesday at 607 E. Fourth St. A group of armed men entered the house, robbed 12 people inside and shot 23-year-old ECU student Drew Daly twice in the chest.

Daly's condition is unclear; a spokeswoman at Pitt County Memorial Hospital offered no information about him Thursday. On Wednesday, Anderson said Daly was still in the hospital in serious condition.

Greenville police arrested six suspects Tuesday and Wednesday: Kendrick Montel Little, 20, of 1709 W. Conley St.; Marcus Brandon Bell, 18, of 300 S. Memorial Drive; Benny Tyrice Clark, 19, of 905 A Imperial St.; Keyvon Clifton, 17, of 110 B Paul Circle; James Johnson, 16, of 101 Howard Circle; and Kendrell Bland, 18, of 1801-A W. Conley St. All six have been charged with armed robbery and burglary.

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SHOOTING

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Little, the alleged shooter, was also charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Police are still looking for a seventh suspect, Christopher Taylor, 21, of 512 W. 14th Ave.

Anderson has suggested the incident was gang-related.
Moose CO2 ‘infoganda’ smells bad

Who was responsible for the inclusion of Gary Harmon’s little “infoganda” opinion hit piece about moose flatulence in your Living Green section of the Oct. 20 paper? Granted it was labeled as commentary, but why was it not, as such, placed in the editorial section, rather than allowed to hide behind the legitimacy of this regular feature?

Everyone’s entitled to an opinion, no matter how ill informed and intentionally deceitful, but how about some facts? One hundred twenty thousand moose in Norway each create 2,100 kilos (about 2.3 tons) of methane equivalent CO2 annually. Seventy-five percent of what the typical European automobile produces (about 2.9 tons per year). Moose in Norway therefore produce 276,000 tons of CO2 per year, equivalent to 90,000 cars. Norwegians drive 2 million cars (6,800,000 tons of CO2 annually). Norwegian industry produces another 48,000,000 tons.

In summary: Norwegian moose CO2 is equal to 276,000 tons/year, with Norwegian people’s CO2 equals 58,800,000 tons/year. This is about a 200:1 ratio.

The Norwegian moose is responsible for 0.05 percent of Norway’s annual CO2 production. Other facts: The United States’ annual CO2 production is equal to 5.79 billion tons per year (19.61 tons per person). (We’re No. 1!) China’s annual CO2 production is 4.15 billion tons per year (3.19 tons per person) (No. 2). There are 2,000,000 moose worldwide; 255,000 in the U.S., zero in China unless you count zoos.

Harmon is obviously operating from some sort of Al Gore bashing agenda, and would try to scare folks into thinking Gore would have us all ride moose to work to lower CO2. His is an entertaining but frankly stupidly reasoned piece that should have been buried in the Op-Ed section. Shame on you for elevating it to the level of “infoganda.”

TIM HAMRICK
Greenville
Legislation contains money for ECU

The Daily Reflector

East Carolina University is promised a share of two grants totaling $800,000 in legislation adopted by the U.S. Senate this week.

The money will be used to study heart disease and diabetes. However, the money is in the Senate version of the 2009 budget for the departments of labor, health and human services.

The legislation is headed for a conference committee to be reconciled with the House version of the budget, according to a news release from U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C.

If the money is kept in the version of the budget produced by the conference committee, that legislation must still be approved by the House and Senate and signed by President Bush.

The legislation proposes $700,000 to ECU and the University of North Carolina to study how racial disparities contribute to differences in health care, especially with regard to cardiovascular disease, according to the release.

A $100,000 grant is planned for the Eastern North Carolina Metabolic Institute at ECU. The money will help plan a 230,000-square-foot Metabolic Institute to develop an interim clinical research center, upgrade a diabetes clinic, refurbish several laboratories and support pilot studies and educational programs.

"I applaud the Institute for securing these resources to advance its study and treatment of diabetes and obesity," Dole stated in the release. "This is a serious public health problem, and I am proud to support the remarkable work being done at the Eastern North Carolina Metabolic Institute to treat these conditions and improve the lives of people in our state and beyond."
ORANGE COUNTY

Bill would give funds to UNC, WakeMed

CHAPEL HILL — A bill passed by the U.S. Senate this week would give nearly $1 million to local projects.

U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, who pushed for the funding, applauded the passage of the appropriations bill for several federal agencies in a news release Thursday.

The bill includes $700,000 for a joint research program at UNC-Chapel Hill and East Carolina University that focuses on the disparities in health care services based on race.

The bill also includes $200,000 for a communications center at WakeMed Raleigh Campus that will allow emergency and health care personnel to better communicate during disasters.

The House and Senate versions of the bill must be reconciled. Both chambers must then pass the final bill.
Graham: Grad schools should cut foreigners

Should North Carolina's graduate programs cut back on the number of foreign students?

Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Graham thinks so. At a debate Saturday, he said state colleges need to focus more on helping "home-grown North Carolinians" get graduate degrees.

"The other thing we have to do in North Carolina is stop subsidizing so many people, in our university system, that come here, from other countries to achieve master's and Ph.D. level education," said Graham, a Salisbury lawyer.

Graham's two Republican opponents disagreed.

Former Supreme Court Justice Bob Orr said state businesses need "the best and the brightest" regardless of where they're from. State Sen. Fred Smith of Clayton said he didn't want to micromanage state schools.

Linda Dykstra, dean of graduate schools at UNC-Chapel Hill, said state colleges could not fill their seats without some foreign students, especially in physics, math and computer science.

"We have a hard time identifying enough high-quality students who are interested in pursuing particular areas," she said. "In order to fill the workplace needs of our state at the university, we draw on international students."

According to the Statistical Abstract of Higher Education, 10 percent of graduate students at UNC schools are foreign, compared with 4 percent at private schools in North Carolina. Among those seeking medical, legal and professional degrees, 0.4 percent at UNC schools are foreign, compared with 3 percent at private schools.

The political action committee of the N.C. Forum for Research and Education endorsed all but one Republican and 13 Democrats in the state Senate for re-election. It endorsed 25 Democrats and all but three Republicans in the state House.

The endorsements were based on senators' voting records on business issues, how business-friendly they are compared with their district and their effectiveness in office.

In the Senate, the favored Democrats include President Pro Tem Marc Basnight and Majority Leader Tony Rand and Sen. Kay Hagan.

The Republicans included Senate Minority Leader Phil Berger and Sens. Tom Apodaca and Harry Brown.

The one Republican not endorsed was Smith, presumably because he is running for governor and not for re-election.

In the House, the group endorsed Minority Leader Paul Stam and Reps. Nelson Dollar and Marilyn Avila.

It did not endorse Reps. Joe Boylan, Carolyn Justice and Ken Furr.

Among Democrats, the group endorsed Majority Leader Hugh Holliman and Reps. W.A. "Winkie" Wilkins and Bruce Goforth.

It did not endorse House Speaker Joe Hackney.

Um, remember me?

Gov. Mike Easley, testifying Thursday before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, described the governor of Alabama "Bill Riley" as his "very good friend."

The governor of Alabama is Bob Riley.

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SEE THE ENDORSEMENTS

& For a full list of the legislators endorsed by N.C. FREE, visit the online version of Under the Dome at dome.newsobserver.com.

Dykstra said that UNC accepts a smaller percentage of foreign students than of North Carolina residents.

That is because admissions officers do not interview them in person or over the phone, as much about their previous colleges or know the people who wrote their letters of recommendation.

"We're more cautious," she said. "It just takes a closer level of scrutiny."

Many legislators endorsed

A pro-business group has made its first round of legislative endorsements.