THE DAILY CLIPS

October 27, 2005

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

The Greenville Daily Reflector
The Raleigh News & Observer
The New York Times
The Wall Street Journal
USA Today
The Charlotte Observer
The Fayetteville Observer
The Greensboro News & Record
Newsweek
U.S. News & World Report
Business Week
Time

East Carolina University News Bureau
E-mail to durhamj@mail.ecu.edu  Web site at http://www.news.ecu.edu
252-328-6481 FAX: 252-328-6300
Money raised to help earthquake victims

By Paul Dunn
The Daily Reflector

East Carolina University graduate student Joshua Kittenger was fit to be tied.

Over a lousy nickel.

One of his professors had just dropped the coin into a donation bucket after Kittenger cajoled him to give money to Pakistani earthquake survivors. Kittenger was among a group of ECU students and professors in the ECU International Studies Program Global Understanding Project who had set up a donation booth Wednesday in front of the ECU Wright Bookstore.

Kittenger, 28, a computer technician in the International Studies Department, seemed genuinely miffed at the pittance.

“A nickel? He gave a nickel?” Kittenger asked. “Boy, am I going to bust his chops when I see him.”

The Pakistani catastrophe was foremost in the minds of Kittenger, Global Understanding Project professor Pat Dunn, students in her class, and Global Understanding Project director Rosina Chia.

Dunn’s class had just finished a five-week lecture series with the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. AJKU lies near the earthquake’s epicenter in the city of Muzaffarabad.

ECU’s Global Understanding Project allows students from other countries to attend class at ECU via the Internet. Dunn’s course — one of four ECU offers — began in early September with Pakistan as its partner. Students in that class, who routinely communicate with their partners in other countries, immediately e-mailed Pakistani classmates after the earthquake struck.

Most students in Dunn’s class have not heard from their Pakistani partners. They did learn that Hasan Zaheer Abbasi, a Pakistani student in the

See MONEY, B3

MONEY

Continued From B1

program, died in the destruction.

Wednesday’s outpouring of concern netted the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir about $350, Dunn said. She estimated that more than 50 people, mostly students and faculty, donated money to the cause during the four-hour event. Two students in Dunn’s class helped collect donations. The money will be sent to the Pakistani university through the Pakistan Embassy in Washington.

Wednesday’s donation effort pleased Dunn.

“I had no idea what to expect,” Dunn, also a Greenville City Council member, said. “The faculty at the Pakistani university were pleased that we were going to try to do anything. It’s just good human relations is how I see it.”

Dunn and her companions didn’t wait for donations to come to them on Wednesday. Like hawkers at a carnival, they pulled in passersby with a combination of charm and good, old-fashioned supplication.

“Hey there. How would you like to donate to a good cause?” Dunn said to people within earshot.

Some claimed they had no money at all. Some said they had no change. Others said nothing.

Some got caught twice.

One man donated on the way into the ECU bookstore, then was waylaid to donate a second time on his way out.

“Now, you want the change in my pockets, too?” he asked with a grin.

“Yes, we do,” Dunn replied with a laugh.

Dunn doesn’t know if Pakistan will be ready by next semester to continue its partnership with ECU. In the meantime, her class will engage counterparts in Malaysia and Mongolia during a pair of five-week interactions during the remainder of the semester.

The other three classes in the Global Understanding Project also work with students in partner countries, which are chosen from Africa, Europe and Asia. Three five-week lectures are included in a semester of work that goes toward a degree in international studies.

According to recent Associated Press reports, the Pakistan earthquake killed at least 79,000 people and left another 52,000 injured.

Paul Dunn can be contacted at pdunn@coxnc.com and 329-8569.
Robert H. Maier

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Dr. Robert H. Maier, 77, of Green Bay died on Monday, Oct. 24, 2005, after a courageous battle with cancer. A memorial service will be held Saturday at Fort Howard Chapel at 11 a.m. with Pastor Deanna Merritt officiating.

He was born on Oct. 26, 1927, in New York City, N.Y., to the late Ernest Henry Maier and Clara Louise (Greiner) Maier. He married Jane Hioe, Aug. 31, 1952, in Champaign, Ill. He was in the Army from 1954 to 1956. He lived in Tucson, Ariz., from 1956 to 1967, employed as an agricultural chemistry and soils professor and assistant dean of the graduate school at the University of Arizona. He moved in 1967 to Green Bay, where he lived until 1979. He was one of the original founders of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. He was vice chancellor of academic affairs, professor of science and environmental change and of public and environmental administration at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. In 1979, Robert moved to Green-

ville, N.C., where he was vice chancellor of academic affairs at East Carolina University, professor of experimental surgery, professor of biology, professor of political science and director of the trace element center, School of Medicine. He retired in 1999 and returned to Green Bay in 2001. Robert loved spending time with his family. Another of Robert's passions in life was his volunteer position as the treasurer for the Ronald McDonald House.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Ernest and Clara; a sister, Elinor Riccio; and a brother-in-law, Victor Riccio.

Robert is survived by his wife, Jane Maier; three children, Pamela Jane Maier and special friend, Gail, of Howard, David Robert Maier and wife, Susan, of California, Md., and Daniel Robert Maier of Destin, Fla.; six grandchildren, Aaron, Nicholas, Zachary, Andrew, Cassie and Connor.

A memorial scholarship fund has been set up in Robert's name for the students attending University of Wisconsin-Green Bay or East Carolina University. A very special thank you to the staff at Rennes Health Center for their compassionate care of Robert. Online condolences may be expressed at www.nationalobituaryarchive.com.
Celebrated painter returns to town for ECU homecoming

East Carolina University alumnus James B. Cromartie is coming home.

Cromartie, a celebrated painter, is visiting Greenville from his Nantucket Island residence in Massachusetts for ECU's annual homecoming weekend. He will be recognized as one of the 2005 outstanding alumni during an award ceremony at 6 p.m. Friday at the Hilton Greenville and during halftime at the ECU football game on Saturday.

In addition, a one-man show of Cromartie's paintings will be on display at Acacia's Tipsy Teapot, Parker Kennybrook Books and Mudslinger's Coffee Company, which share a building in downtown Greenville.

Cromartie will speak at a reception for his "Southern Routes to Nantucket Island" at 7 p.m. today. The reception will include complimentary food and drinks.

He has roots in North Carolina: His father was a realtor and builder and his mother was the first female president of the North Carolina Democratic Party. Cromartie chose ECU because of its reputation for arts instruction. In addition to his studies, he was a member of the first ECU Cheerleading Squad to have male cheerleaders — the same year that East Carolina College traveled to the Tangerine Bowl.

As a young artist, the late Nelson Rockefeller was Cromartie's major patron. In Cromartie's 30-plus year career, he has become one of the United States' leading realist and historical painters; his style is reminiscent of Andrew Wyeth and Edward Hopper.

Cromartie predominantly paints seascapes of Nantucket but also takes commissions for historical landscape portraits. His paintings "The U.S. Capitol" and "White House" were chosen by the U.S. State Department to hang in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow as symbols of democracy.

The White House painting was commissioned by Sara Blek-Grambrell and holds special significance to Cromartie, one of whose forebears, James Hoban, was the architect who designed the building.

Patrons of Cromartie's work include Tom Brokaw, the late Roger Firestone and Luther Hodges of the National Bank of Washington. The late Princess Diana purchased a Brant Point Lighthouse painting on a visit to Nantucket and it still hangs in Kensington Palace.

Cromartie's paintings and prints are also represented in collections in 125 countries around the world.

If you Go!

What: Reception for artist James B. Cromartie
When: 7-10 p.m. today
Where: Tipsy Teapot, Parker Kennybrook Books and Mudslinger's Coffeehouse
Address: 409 A&B S. Evans St.
Cost: Free
Call: 329-9082
Web: www.cromartiegallery.com
Duke study: Walking as good as jogging at improving heart health

By Natalie Gott
The Associated Press

RALEIGH — There’s no need to run. Just going for a brisk walk — in the park, around the block or on a treadmill — may be enough to help keep your heart healthy, a small study suggests.

The study, which indicates roughly two to three hours of mild exercise a week at a moderate intensity can significantly cut the risk of cardiovascular disease, supports earlier research.

The findings may encourage people who are reluctant to exercise, said Brian Duscha, the lead author of the research published in the October issue of the journal Chest.

“The classic question always is: What’s the minimum amount I need to do to enjoy the benefits of it,” Duscha said. “If you just walk 12 miles a week at a brisk pace, it’s scientifically proven now that you will get some benefits.”

The conclusions are based on a study at Duke University Medical Center of 133 middle-aged overweight sedentary men and women who were at risk for heart disease.

Broken into four groups, the volunteers either did not exercise, walked briskly for 12 miles a week at a moderate intensity, walked briskly or jogged slowly 12 miles a week at a vigorous intensity, or jogged 20 miles a week at a vigorous intensity.

The researchers studied two measurements of fitness — time to exhaustion and oxygen consumption. The better shape a person is in, the more oxygen can be consumed and used, Duscha said.

All the exercise groups saw fitness improvements. And when the two groups that walked 12 miles at differing intensity levels were compared, there wasn’t a significant difference in peak oxygen consumption. There was an improvement for those who jogged vigorously 20 miles a week, an indication that the amount of exercise can be important.

As to the exercising volunteers’ minimal weight loss — an average of 3 pounds over the eight-month study period — Duscha said that didn’t matter. People who don’t exercise and maintain the same diet will gain up to 4 pounds a year, according to an earlier analysis of the same study participants.
Medical students perform

A short story by Pearl S. Buck focusing on a physician's responsibility to enemy patients in war will be the basis of two Medical Readers' Theater performances by students from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University.

The free performances and discussion of "The Enemy" will be at 7 p.m. today in the Rivers Building, Room 102, on the ECU campus and at 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 13 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 151 Oakmont Drive.

"The Enemy" tells the story of a white American soldier during World War II who falls into the hands of a Japanese physician in enemy territory.

In readers' theater, the performers read from scripts and do only a small amount of moving about the stage. The performance and discussion, part of an ongoing program, allow a dialogue about social and ethical issues in medicine between students and the public they will be serving.
Bowles takes quiet tour of 5 UNC campuses

UNC President-Elect Erskine Bowles is making the rounds. Quietly.
With little fanfare, Bowles has already been to Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. Central University in Durham, N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro, UNC-Asheville and Western Carolina University in Cullowhee.
Bowles is meeting with chancellors, top administrators, small groups of students, faculty and others. He's traveling without an entourage and deliberately keeping the tour unobtrusive, out of deference to UNC President Molly Broad, who will step down at the end of the year.
Bowles has said the visits are an opportunity to learn about the university system's big issues. He's not ready yet to talk about his initial impressions, he said this week.
He plans to visit the remaining 11 campuses by Thanksgiving, according to the UNC system office.

The tour is shaping up to be a crash course in North Carolina's higher education system for Bowles, a two-time U.S. Senate candidate and Clinton White House chief of staff.
The pupil seems to have done his homework. Those who have talked with him say he's comfortable citing facts and figures and drilling into issues such as campus efficiency and diversity.
"I happen to think it's a pretty good thing if the students see their president at the center of campus," Spangler said.
Bowles has chosen UNC-Greensboro as the site of his inauguration April 13. Spangler was inaugurated in Chapel Hill, while both Broad and former UNC President William Friday were feted at N.C. State.
UNC-G was one of three original campuses of what was formerly known as the consolidated university, along with N.C. State and UNC-CH. The celebration will take Bowles back to his roots — he was born in Greensboro.

"He asked a lot of questions, but he came well prepared," said Appalachian State Chancellor Ken Peacock, who hosted Bowles at his home last week.
Former UNC President C.D. Spangler Jr. met with Bowles recently and reminded him to spend time with his most important constituents: students. Spangler was a regular at UNC-Chapel Hill's Lenoir Hall, the dining facility, where he enjoyed taco salads and conversation with undergraduates.
In the Used-Book Market, Textbooks Rule

$1.45 billion
Sales of used textbooks in bookstores last year.

$115 million
Sales of all other used books in bookstores.

Textbooks dominate the offline used-book market, according to a study just released by the Book Industry Study Group, a trade association. The study found that educational books made up 93 percent of all used-book sales in brick-and-mortar bookstores in 2004. (They represented a smaller percentage of online sales, for which only incomplete data were available.)

Textbooks are more expensive than other used books, said Jeff Hayes, director of market research for InfoTrends, the consulting firm that carried out the study. Used educational books sell for, on average, $45.63 a copy in bookstores, compared with $6.12 for other used books, according to the study.

Besides being more expensive, used textbooks also sell in volume; they are about 70 percent more common on bookstore shelves than other used books. “Many of them try to give the student as good a price as they can,” Mr. Hayes said. “They’re not trying to maximize their profit.”

ALEX MINDLIN