THE DAILY CLIPS

November 13, 2009

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Letter: Students' support good, poor conduct bad

Friday, November 13, 2009

Thank you for allowing me this space, first to commend the student section at the East Carolina University-Virginia Tech gridiron clash for its game-long exuberance as the students so vocally demonstrated their support of our Pirates.

Second, let me express concern about these same students who felt (as they do at every home game) it appropriate to boo the visiting team when it came out and onto the field. This conduct is inappropriate and reflects poorly upon our school. I have been told that much drinking takes place in the student sections. Gosh. Really?

Also, the rude taunting of Virginia Tech players and coaches by some positioned at the fence at the scoreboard end of the field was inexcusable. Plus, I was told of similar actions by some toward Virginia Tech supporters walking by tailgate areas as they made their way to the stadium.

Two final points: Wouldn't it be nice if more alumni, students and even just fans would sing the school alma mater when the music is being played. The words are put up on the screen. (For those who won't sing, you could at least show your respect by being quiet. There are, indeed, some schools where the singing of the alma mater is an almost sacred ritual.) Finally, what was the purpose, point or significance of wearing black at the game? Even our head coach wore a black jacket. Johnny Cash Night, perhaps?

I was repetitive, I know, but our school colors are purple and gold. Of this particular concern I promise to write no more. So ... go, Pirates. (Notice the comma, which should always be used for a name in a direct address.)

BARTOW HOUSTON

Washington

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W. Keats Sparrow

W. Keats Sparrow, W. Keats Sparrow, Dean Emeritus of East Carolina University's Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009. He was 67. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Greenville at 2 p.m. on Saturday, after which the family will receive friends in St. Paul's Parish Hall. Inurnment in the Sparrow Family Plot at Westview Cemetery in Kinston will be private. Sparrow was the son of Fred Becton and Tessie Rouse Sparrow of Kinston, where he was born and reared. He held A.B. and M.A. degrees from East Carolina College, where he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Kentucky. Before his appointment as Dean of ECU's Harriot College in 1990, he had served as Professor and Chairman of ECU's Department of English. He was a specialist in early North Carolina literature and technical and professional writing and published many articles and books in those fields. He was active in public life and professional circles and served as President of the Pitt County Historical Society, the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, the North Carolina-Virginia College English Association, and the North Carolina Huguenot Society. At the time of his death, he was President of the Carolina Charter Corporation, the sponsor of the second series of the North Carolina colonial records publication project, and Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of North Carolina. For many years he served on the Tryon Palace Commission, the Historic Bath Commission, and the North Carolina State Capitol Foundation Board. Formerly he had been a member of the First Flight Centennial Commission and of the Global TransPark Commission. He held membership in the Order of First Families of North Carolina and the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati. He was also active in the Lenoir County Historical Association and the Lenoir County Colonial Commission. Many of his varied works and services earned awards and citations. His state and national recognitions included the 1982 National Council of Teachers of English book award, the 1998 Award of Excellence for his term as President of the ECU Chapter of the academic honor society of Phi Kappa Phi, and the 2001 Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award for Significant Contributions to the Preservation of North Carolina History. In 2007 Sparrow was presented with the Roberts Award for his role in establishing the celebrated North Carolina Literary Review and in 2008, the North Carolina Society of Historians' History Book Award for his edition of The First of Patriots and Best of Men: The Public Life of Richard Caswell. He was also inducted as a member of The North Carolinian Society, the Order of St. John, and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Upon Sparrow's retirement from the Harriot College Deanship, the ECU Board of Trustees named the college's Bate Building conference room in his honor, and his department chairs, faculty, and other supporters created an endowment to support the W. Keats Sparrow Distinguished Chair in the Liberal Arts, an honorary title to be held by all subsequent ECU Harriot College Deans. In 2008, Sparrow was presented with the Harriot College Distinguished Service Medallion and in 2009 with honorary lifetime membership in ECU's Friends of Joyner Library. An accomplished terpsichorean, in 2009 he was also inducted into the Atlantic Beach Shaggers Hall of Fame. Sparrow is survived by his wife of 47 years, Elizabeth H. Sparrow; a daughter, Nicole S. McDuffey, son-in-law, Robert J. McDuffey, and a granddaughter, Ashley Elizabeth Furr; all of Beaufort; a sister, Karine Sparrow Caglayan, and brother-in-law, Dr. Sumer Caglayan, of Kinston; a brother, John D. Sparrow, Sr., of Kinston; nieces, Kara Druhen and Rebekah Sparrow; and nephews, Lee Ginter and John D. Sparrow, Jr. The family will receive friends tonight from 6 to 8 at Wilkerson Funeral Home in Greenville. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the Sparrow Keynote Lecture Endowment, North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, c/o N.C. Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street, Room 305, Raleigh, NC 27601, or to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 401 E. Fourth Street, Greenville, NC 27834. Online condolences at www.wilkersonfuneralhome.com.

Published in The Daily Reflector on November 13, 2009
UNC to aid Special Ops

CHAPEL HILL -- The UNC system will partner with the U.S. Army to provide academic expertise to the Fort Bragg unit that trains special operations soldiers.

The partnership, formalized by the UNC system's Board of Governors on Thursday, will give soldiers with the U.S. Army Special Operations Command easier access to education and training at UNC system campuses.

For years, some public universities have tailored programs to the needs of the state's military installations. The new partnership will expand the relationships and more easily connect soldiers with university programs.

Soldiers may receive higher-level training in all manner of disciplines, from medicine and technology to language and culture.

And UNC campuses will benefit through new research opportunities, by adding more soldiers to the student mix, and by expanding use of online courses, officials said. The Army will pay for the soldiers' education.

"This is an enormous opportunity for the university," said UNC President Erskine Bowles. "It's a whole new market for us."

The USASOC trains Green Berets, Army Rangers and other special operations soldiers for behind-enemy-lines combat. They are trained at Fort Bragg's JFK Special Warfare Center and School.

One example of how soldiers may benefit: All special operations soldiers receive language training at the JFK center and must demonstrate basic proficiency before graduating.

But those language skills could be better, said Lt. Gen. John F. Mulholland Jr., the USASOC's commanding general.

"It is short of the technical competency you'd expect from a college graduate," Mulholland said.

At UNC campuses, soldiers may receive further training in Arabic, Pashtu, Dari, Urdu and other languages in demand on Middle East battlefields and across the world.

"Those are very difficult languages to learn and obtain expertise in," Mulholland said.

eric.ferreri@newsobserver.com or 919-932-2008
Friday, November 13, 2009

The shooting deaths of two men in downtown Greenville this summer sparked calls for action across a community shocked by the event. The City Council moved swiftly to develop ordinances to improve safety downtown, proposals that were immediately met with strong opposition.

At its Monday meeting, the council slowed the wheels of progress by declining to take firm action on those ordinances. But its determination to see progress made provides assurance that further open debate will lead to sound initiatives that will serve the city's goals.

Sorrow and outrage were the common response to the deaths of Andrew Kirby and Landon Blackley, who were gunned down as they stood on a sidewalk in downtown Greenville this summer. Though the suspect was captured and is awaiting trial, many feel that significant changes in that district would foster a safe, welcoming and enjoyable atmosphere for businesses and their customers.

The course toward that end has proved difficult to navigate. By bolstering law enforcement and closing streets on the weekends in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy, a sense of safety was restored. These were short-term solutions, however, and not considered the cornerstone of a long-term strategy for the downtown district.

Instead, the council — after meetings with the Greenville Police Department, local merchants and downtown bar owners — asked that the city staff develop ordinances from four ideas selected from a lengthy list compiled prior to an August public hearing in August. Those generated considerable opposition from downtown bar owners, who felt the council intended to irreparably damage the downtown scene, and became a central issue for some candidates in the recently completed election cycle.

On Monday, the council took up the ordinances, since whittled to three, and firmly applied the brakes. The council instructed staff to develop new measures, that will be reviewed by that body — with two new members — in December. It also forwarded one ordinance to the Planning and Zoning Commission for its review, and asked that staff provide information about lighting improvements and the creation of a council or task force focused on downtown safety.

While the desire for action remains strong, the council acted with appropriate prudence in its decisions. It is crucial to the future of downtown Greenville that the measures adopted preserve the unique character of that district while improving safety in a fair and equitable manner.

By looking at new options and encouraging further debate, the council has not lost sight of its goals and remains focused on finding workable solutions with broad appeal. That should be the expectation of those in office, and what was delivered on Monday night.
ECU stages 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers'

By Kelley Kirk
The Daily Reflector

Friday, November 13, 2009

When the lights go down for the opening night of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" at East Carolina University, there will be a doctor in the house.

Dr. Leo Waivers will not only be in the house, he'll be on the stage.

Waivers plays the preacher in ECU production, which opens at 8 p.m. Thursday and runs through Nov. 24 in Wright Auditorium.

The musical "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" is set in rural Oregon. Mountain man Adam seeks a wife by venturing into the local town. Beset on Milly, Adam rushes to marry and takes Milly back to the mountains where she learns that she will be sharing their marital home with Adam's six brothers. By the end, they all are to be married.

"He's one of the townspeople and of course when there is some marrying to be done, he's needed," Waivers said about his character.

Waivers is an internal medicine specialist who works at ECU's student health services.

"I'm 40 years older and 50 pounds heavier than most of the cast," Waivers said.

While anyone can audition for ECU's theater productions, often non-students or faculty aren't cast because of the demanding rehearsal schedule.

"Rehearsals are typically each weekday evening, and at least one weekend day, for five or six weeks. Then the show runs for an additional six performances, so it's quite a commitment, and they must be dedicated," said Jeff Woodruff, managing director of ECU/Loessin Playhouse.

Waivers has been involved with community theater for many years. The New Jersey native was recently in Farmville Community Arts Council's production of "Annie Get Your Gun." Fellow Farmville cast members and ECU student Bruce Young encouraged Waivers to try out for the ECU production.

"First audition was like out of the movies. You're brought into a room with a couple of tables and you have three minutes to sing a song and recite piece of text. It was a very exciting process," Waivers said.

Once cast, he's been at rehearsals Mondays through Fridays and Sundays. Part of those rehearsals involve extensive choreography of a large fight scene.

Waivers doesn't actually participate in the fight but he's on stage while it takes place.

"I'm standing on stage, and I know this is just choreography, but I wince and jump when I watch them," he said. "The audience is going to love it, it's just amazing."

The fight scene that Waivers refers to is one that involves approximately 20 members of the cast.

Choreographing such a fight is a task that falls to Jill Matarelli Carlson.

"It really actually turns out like a very choreographed violent dance," she said.
Carlson added that such a fight scene requires a great deal of concentration on the actors' part because they need to know where they are on stage at all times.

Carlson came to ECU in 2004 to teach movement and serve as the fight choreographer at the school.

She was pounding the pavement in Los Angeles when the job opening became available at ECU.

"I applied just to see if I'd even get a response," she said.

Carlson admits that her position at ECU is not a typical job for a female, but being a fight choreographer became a passion during her undergraduate years.

"I started going to as many workshops, taking as many classes as I could," Carlson said.

Classes and workshops were followed by working as a teaching assistant and becoming a certified teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors. She's also a full instructor with Dueling Arts International.

In choreographing fight scenes, Carlson said that timing is essential since the actors have to make it look like they have been hit and sell it to the audience.

"You don't want the victim to appear to be a willing participant," she said.

She stressed that safety is an important part of choreographing such scenes and that the victim is always in control.

Contact Kelley Kirk at kkirk@reflector.com or (252) 329-9596.

If you Go!

What: “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers”

When: 8 p.m. Thursday through Nov. 24, except Nov. 22 when the show will be at 2 p.m.

Where: Wright Auditorium

Cost: $12-$17.50

Call: 328-6829

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UNC moving to stop expensive leaves

CHAPEL HILL -- The UNC Board of Governors is poised to clamp down on leave policies that wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars on UNC administrators who were supposed to return to teaching but instead retired, found work elsewhere or were shown the door.

A board committee Thursday approved a revised policy that would prevent chancellors and presidents from taking the paid leave without returning to the classroom. The revised policy also would reduce the amount of pay those officials would receive while on leave, as well as the amount of time they could spend away from campus.

Committee members said the revised policy would eventually be extended to other senior administrators, such as provosts and vice chancellors, who also have received paid leaves.

"We're paying them for six months at a very high-dollar value to retool," said board member Brent Barringer. "The worst-case scenario is that they retool for someone else."

The committee's actions follow reports in The News & Observer that showed the policies were being abused. A provost at N.C. Central University, for example, was paid $104,000 for a six-month leave and then retired, while a provost at Fayetteville State University received $72,500 to go on leave for five months only to be let go shortly after she returned. UNC-Asheville paid a provost nearly $59,000 to go on a leave, while knowing he was out looking for another job, which he eventually won at another university.

The review also found that some leave deals exceeded UNC policies on how much an administrator could be paid during the transition into teaching.

Over the past five years, the universities have paid a combined $8 million on leaves to 117 administrators.

Vote in January

The full UNC board will vote on the revisions for chancellors and presidents in January. The board will then work on policy revisions for other administrators.

Currently, administrators who work at least five years get a one-year research leave at their full salary and a guaranteed faculty position when they return. They have no work requirements during these unsupervised leaves.

The revised policy would cut the leave in half and lower the salary to one similar to what faculty members in their specific academic department earn.

It would also require a work plan spelling out the administrator's academic intentions for the time off.

At UNC system workshops over the past few months, chancellors have said research leaves are a vital
recruiting tool in a state where the benefits package is less than ideal.

Further, they say the time off is critical to prepare for a return to teaching after years -- or even decades -- in administration.

"The worst thing you can have is an unprepared faculty member in the classroom," said NCCU Chancellor Charlie Nelms. "No matter what position the person had."

Staff writer Dan Kane contributed to this report.

eric.ferrer@newsobserver.com or 919-932-2008
Western North Carolina veterans dedicate memorial in Asheville's Pack Square Park

By Dale Neal

Ernest Miller hadn't played his bugle in 64 years, a sad souvenir of his Navy career when he played "Taps" over 11 burials at sea during the battle for Iwo Jima.

On Wednesday, the Salvation Army colonel played the mournful Taps again at the dedication of the Western North Carolina Veterans' Memorial in the new Pack Square Park.

"I like the design of this memorial with the woman seated on the bench," Miller said. "And I like the philosophy they've taken, honoring not specific wars, but all veterans."

Several hundred veterans and their families as well as the next generation of JROTC cadets braved a cold drizzle on Veterans Day to pay tribute to all Western North Carolinians who have served in the armed services, whether in war or in peacetime.

The memorial board of directors worked for the past eight years to secure a location of the memorial in the new Pack Square Park and raised about $450,000 to build it.

The memorial may be the only one of its kind, featuring a female civilian, said artist Jodi Jubran, a sculptor at East Carolina University. A bronze statue of a woman sits on granite bench with letters from a serviceman in her lap.

The memorial honors the service of all veterans, instead of specific wars, said Richard Griffin, who chaired the board of directors for the memorial. Six granite pylons honor the branches of the military — Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, Coast Guard and the Merchant Marines.

The nation owes an everlasting debt to all veterans who "sign over a blank check to the U.S.A. in an amount up to sacrificing his or her life," said Brig. Gen. Katherine Kasun, deputy commander for the U.S. Army's Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command at Fort Bragg.

"We must acknowledge the courage and valor of all veterans to fight wars that are often politically divisive and unpopular," said Kasun, who grew up in WNC and was the first female to graduate from the ROTC program at Western Carolina University.

Kasun was a substitute for Maj. Gen. David Blackledge, who was called in to support the troops affected by the shooting at Fort Hood in Texas, which left 13 dead and 31 injured.

The American flag raised over the new memorial for the first time reached the top of the staff and then was lowered to half-staff to honor those killed at Fort Hood.

Cpl. Bob Halliday stood with an American flag throughout the nearly two-hour ceremony in the rain, dressed in the brown wool of vintage Marine uniform from World War I.
“Once a Marine, always a Marine,” he said, adding he wore the vintage uniform in honor of the first Veterans Day 90 years ago.

President Woodrow Wilson declared the holiday to mark the Nov. 11, 1919, Armistice that ended the first world war.
UNC murder suspect wants death penalty decision reversed

Posted: Today at 2:38 p.m.
Updated: 4 minutes ago

Attorneys for Demario James Atwater have filed a motion asking that the federal court strike the death penalty in his case.

Atwater faces a number of federal charges, including kidnapping and carjacking resulting in death, in the March 5, 2008, shooting death of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's student body president, Eve Marie Carson.

In a motion filed in U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina late last month, defense attorneys claim the Department of Justice violated its internal procedures and a court order when it held a meeting to determine whether to seek the death penalty without the presence of Atwater or his attorneys.

Attorneys cite an illness of one of the attorneys for not being present, as well as not enough time to prepare for that meeting.

"The appropriate remedy for this deprivation is for this court to strike the authorization of the death penalty in this matter unless and until the government grants the defendant an opportunity to be represented fully by his court-appointed counsel before the Capital Case Review Committee ..." a memorandum attached to the motion stated.

A trial on the federal charges has been scheduled for May 3.

Atwater also faces the death penalty on state charges in the case, which include first-degree murder, kidnapping, robbery, felonious larceny and felonious possession of stolen goods. No trial date, however, has been set.

Authorities say Atwater and another man, Laurence Alvin Lovette Jr., kidnapped Carson, forced her to withdraw money from ATMs, shot her five times, including once to the head, and left her on a residential street near the UNC campus.

Federal prosecutors allege that Atwater fired the fifth and final shot that killed Carson.

Lovette also faces several charges, including first-degree murder. Under a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, however, he is not eligible for the death penalty.

That ruling prohibits the executions of criminals under 18 at the time of a crime. Lovette was 17 when Carson was killed.

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More Parents Are Becoming 529 Dropouts

Investors and Advisers Seek More-Flexible Options in Wake of Market Turmoil

By JANE J. KIM

When Michael Singer of Coral Springs, Fla., started saving for his children's college education about six years ago, he relied mainly on a 529 savings plan sponsored by the state of New Mexico.

Then the 49-year-old high-school teacher lost about half of his 529 savings because of an Oppenheimer bond fund that had bet heavily on mortgage-backed securities. Mr. Singer decided not to make the big contribution he had planned to his 529 this year, and he is now saving for college on his own, mostly by investing in municipal-bond funds and individual bonds.

"Any new money going to my kids' college education is going into something that I manage myself," he said. "I know I could do better and I can be safer."

In recent years, 529 plans have been pitched as the ultimate college-savings vehicle. Investors can put after-tax dollars into an account that typically offers a range of mutual funds and other investments. Distributions and earnings are tax-free, as long as they're used for higher education. The plans are sponsored by states, and their investment options and fees can vary widely.

But in the wake of last year's market collapse and some high-profile fund blowups, some investors—and financial advisers—are paring back their reliance on 529 plans and in some cases are considering alternatives. After tucking some $15.5 billion into 529s in 2006 and an additional $15.2 billion in 2007, investors contributed an estimated $5.2 billion last year, according to Financial Research Corp., a Boston research firm owned by Mercatus Partners LLC. So far this year, investors have put an estimated $4.8 billion into the plans.

Investors' cautious attitude toward 529s is part of a broader pullback from the stock market. Most 529 plans have actually performed in line with the market, if not better, over the past year. Over the one-year period ended Sept. 30, 78% of the 529 portfolios that were 100% in equities performed as well as or better than the S&P 500 Index, which lost 6.9% over that period, according to Joe Hurley of SavingforCollege.com.

But in today's jittery investment environment, some consumers are forgoing the tax benefits of a 529 to retain the flexibility to use the money for whatever they wish. To get the tax benefit, any money saved through the 529 must be used for qualified higher-education expenses, such as tuition and fees. So if you save money through a 529 for a child and he or she doesn't go to college, you can't pull the money out of the plan without paying taxes and penalties on the gains (though you can change the beneficiary). Some investors and advisers also worry about the limited investment choices in many 529s, as well as restrictions on the number of times people can change their portfolios every year.

Grace Giso, an independent travel agent in Boston, decided to buy real estate instead. "I was very upset when I saw that the 529 fund was going lower and lower," said the 53-year-old. Instead of making more contributions to
the account of her older son, a college junior, she decided to take advantage of the drop in home prices and buy a house for him near his university.

Eventually, Ms. Giso says, she hopes to recoup some of her stock-market losses when the real-estate market turns around. "The theory [of 529s] is really, really good," she said. "But until you experience the losses, you don't realize how many questions you should have asked."

In September, John Martin of Hayesville, N.C., opened 529 accounts in the North Carolina plan for his nieces and nephews but stopped short of putting money in them. Instead, he bought indexed annuities, an insurance product that he felt offered greater flexibility and guaranteed returns. The 529 plans he looked at "had been pretty much losing money," said Mr. Martin.

In an attempt to bolster investor confidence, states and 529 plan managers have rolled out more conservative options, changed plan managers and tightened oversight of plans’ investments. Earlier this month, the Virginia College Savings Plan began offering FDIC-insured savings accounts through BB&T Corp. to investors nationwide. And in October, Colorado’s broker-sold Scholars Choice College Savings Program added new portfolio options, each investing in zero-coupon U.S. Treasury bonds. Oregon replaced OppenheimerFunds as its plan manager with TIAA-CREF and hired a third-party investment manager to oversee its investments.

Of course, many investors are riding it out in their 529 plans. Last year, Mark Mitchell of Dallas was tempted to sell holdings in the two 529 plans that he had set up for his daughters when the plans were "underwater," or worth less than what he'd put in. Investors whose 529 plans are underwater can cash out, since federal taxes and penalties are assessed only on earnings. Instead, Mr. Mitchell increased his contributions, figuring that since his daughters were under 10, he still had time to recover. "I figure I'm going to need $600,000 by the time they go to school," said the 50-year-old pharmaceutical sales director. "I just said I'm not going to move and miss the rebound." While his plan is up 14% this year, he still hasn't recouped all of his losses; his three-year return is still down 6%.

As the market rebounds, there are signs that investors may be warming up again to 529 plans. Assets in the plans neared all-time highs of $111.1 billion for the third quarter, according to Financial Research Corp. While 11% of the gains are due to market appreciation, investors put about $800 million, after redemptions, into the plans, compared to net outflows of $3.2 billion a year ago, said research analyst Bridget Bearden.

Some investors and financial advisers see other options as more attractive than 529s. Jennifer Davidson, a financial adviser in Dunstable, Mass., calculates that a Massachusetts resident who invested $10,000 in the state’s 529 plan and picked a conservative Fidelity portfolio holding bonds would have seen that investment grow to $11,660 at the end of a five-year period ended September. By contrast, the same investment in one low-cost, Vanguard tax-exempt muni-bond fund would have grown to $12,209 over the same period.

Fees explain part of the story. The Fidelity portfolio, for example, has annual expenses of 0.69%, compared with 0.20% for the Vanguard tax-exempt fund.

The current low-rate environment is another factor, at least for bond investors. "By and large, these low interest rates make the 529 shelter less attractive," said Louis Kokernak, an adviser in Austin. He generally puts clients’ fixed-income holdings in a 529 plan, since bonds’ interest income would otherwise be taxed at higher ordinary income rates. "The lower the interest rates, the less important the tax savings," he says.
### College Savings Options

In the wake of a market downturn, some investors and financial advisers are taking another look at their college savings strategies. Here are some popular options:

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<td>529 Savings Plans</td>
<td>Qualified distributions and earnings are tax-free</td>
<td>Substantial tax savings, especially for wealthy families</td>
<td>Qualified uses are limited to certain higher-education expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>529 Prepaid Plans</td>
<td>You can lock in current tuition rates upfront</td>
<td>Investments are expected to keep pace with tuition at some state colleges</td>
<td>In some states, investors can lose money if funds run out of state</td>
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<td>Coverdell Education Savings Accounts</td>
<td>Qualified distributions and earnings are tax-free</td>
<td>Can be used for a broad range of educational expenses</td>
<td>Low annual limits of $2,000 per beneficiary</td>
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<td>Custodial Accounts</td>
<td>Up to $10,000 in income is taxed at the child's tax rate. Any income after that is taxed at the parents' rate.</td>
<td>Can be used for anything that benefits the minor</td>
<td>Can hurt future eligibility and students go into college with accounts when they come of age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings Bonds</td>
<td>Interest earned is tax-free if used for qualified higher education expenses</td>
<td>Among the safest investments there are</td>
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