An image of Dwight Jones in his football uniform appears on the flier.

**UNC player's appearance in promotional flier raises issue**

BY ANDREW CARTER - acarter@newsobserver.com

CHAPEL HILL–The University of North Carolina is looking into whether Dwight Jones, the Tar Heels' leading receiver, willingly appeared on a flier promoting a New Year's Eve birthday party in his honor at a Burlington club.

NCAA rules prohibit athletes from appearing in advertisements that promote off-campus businesses or revenue-generating events.

Jones, a native of Burlington, appears prominently on the flier for the party, which will cost $10 to enter - $20 for VIP treatment, according to the flier.

It's unclear whether Jones knew his likeness was being used, or whether he gave permission to the club to use his name and image. The flier emerged Monday when Deadspin.com, the popular sports website, posted a link to it on its website.
Through a spokesman, Jones declined to comment on the flier.

An image of Jones in his football uniform appears on the flier surrounded by a gold throne, which is in turn surrounded by $100 bills.

The flier promises free admission, paid for by Jones, for the "first 24 ladies" to enter the party. "D Jones will be giving some lucky ladies in the building up to (a) $500 cash giveaway," the flier reads.

In addition to the cash giveaway and free admittance for women, the flier promises "24 free shots every hour on the hour," compliments of D. Jones.

A phone call to a number listed on the flier went unanswered.

An NCAA spokesperson, meanwhile, referred questions to UNC. Kevin Best, a spokesman for the football program, said the university was looking into whether Jones knew his name and image were going to be used on the flier.

The flier surfaced at a time when UNC is attempting to put its NCAA issues in the past.

After appearing in October in Indianapolis before the NCAA's Committee on Infractions, UNC officials are now awaiting word from the NCAA about what sanctions might await the university in the wake of an NCAA investigation into impermissible benefits and academic fraud.

The NCAA launched its investigation in the summer of 2010 after Marvin Austin, then a Tar Heels defensive end preparing for his senior season, posted on Twitter about a trip to Miami Beach, where he wrote of shopping sprees and parties. Eventually, the NCAA levied a "failure to monitor social media" charge against UNC.

The Tar Heels will play against Missouri on Dec. 26 in the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, La. It's unclear whether Jones' status for that game is in jeopardy.

Clemson recently cleared Sammy Watkins to play in the Orange Bowl after Watkins, a native of Fort Myers, Fla., appeared on a promotional flier for a Christmas party at a restaurant in his hometown.
Green construction poses more dangers, CU-Boulder study finds
Workers more likely to be cut, fall from roofs

By Brittany Anas
Boulder Daily Camera

A new study led by a University of Colorado engineering professor shows that green construction poses more dangers than traditional projects -- partly because workers are more likely to be cut on recycled construction materials or fall while installing solar panels.

Matthew R. Hallowell, an assistant professor in CU's department of civil, environmental and architectural engineering, led the study, which reviewed construction projects built to achieve the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification.

His team's study revealed that LEED-certified buildings have a perceived 9 percent higher injury rate than non-LEED buildings.

Hallowell said that builders, while trying to achieve environmental sustainability, also need to consider the safety of workers.


The findings show a perceived 36 percent increase in cuts, strains and sprains from recycling construction materials.

Hallowell said his research team found that one project tackled that problem by contracting with a waste management company to sort commingled material -- preventing on-site workers from digging through recycling bins, exposing themselves to glass and other dangerous objects.

There is also a perceived 19 percent increase in eye strain when installing reflective roof membranes.

Also involved with the study were former CU graduate students Katherine Dewlaney and Bernard Fortunato III, as well as Michael Behm from East Carolina University.
Rebuffing Governor, Florida A&M Declines to Suspend President in Student Death

By LIZETTE ALVAREZ

MIAMI — Rebuffing the governor, Florida A&M’s board of trustees on Monday decided not to suspend the university’s president and asserted that it would “stand firm against outside influences, no matter how well intended.”

Solomon Badger, the chairman of the board, said the trustees would wait to decide whether to suspend the president, James H. Ammons, until the end of criminal investigations into the Nov. 19 death of a marching band member, possibly from a hazing ritual, and potential fraud by university employees.

Last week, Gov. Rick Scott called for Mr. Ammons to be suspended pending the investigations.

The governor’s action prompted an outcry from university students and alumni who called it premature and unnecessary. Students held small protests over the weekend at the governor’s mansion in Tallahassee.

But Mr. Scott, a Republican, said he had sought only to neutralize any conflict of interest that might arise from the investigation.

“For the sake of appearances, and to assure the public that these investigations are clearly independent, I believe it would have been in the best interest of Florida A&M University for President Ammons to step aside until all of these investigations are completed,” Mr. Scott said in a statement.
As the board contemplated its decision, it was also advised by the Southern Association of Colleges and the Schools Commission on Colleges that a hasty decision, taken at the governor’s behest, could affect the university’s accreditation by threatening its independence.

State Representative Mia L. Jones, chairwoman of the Florida Legislative Black Caucus and an alumna of the university, agreed.

The board should “be allowed to fulfill its duties in the manner outlined in Florida statues without influence from the legislative or executive branch of government,” said Ms. Jones, a Democrat.

Mr. Ammons fired the band director, Julian White, who had turned over documents that showed dozens of student suspensions for hazing. But Mr. Ammons was then told by law enforcement officials to freeze all personnel decisions pending the outcome of the investigation. As a result, Dr. White was placed on administrative leave; he is fighting to get his job back.

On Friday, nearly a month after the death of Robert Champion, 26, a drum major, the Orlando medical examiner ruled his death a homicide that resulted from “blunt-force trauma.” Mr. Champion also had bruises on his torso and arms, the coroner found.

Dr. White said students told him that Mr. Champion had been repeatedly punched as part of a hazing ritual. Mr. Champion collapsed in a parked bus shortly after the Florida Classic, a football game against Bethune-Cookman University.

Since Mr. Champion’s death, another student, Bria Hunter, 18, told the police that she was repeatedly punched and struck with a ruler on her legs during two hazing rituals at the apartment of more senior band members. The members were part of a band subgroup called the Red Dawg Order because of their Georgia roots. Ms. Hunter, a clarinetist like Mr. Champion, suffered a broken thigh bone and clots to her leg. Three students have been charged by the police in her beating.

Performances by the band, known as the Marching 100, have been suspended while the investigators look into Mr. Champion’s death. But alumni have been quick to point out that hazing is a problem nationwide, not just at Florida A&M or other historically black colleges. The university’s alumni group, which has been criticized for failing to take a stronger stance against hazing, said it would campaign to end the practice.
An undergraduate education in one course?

By Daniel de Vise

Students at Harvard, Yale and Bard College participated in an experimental course this fall that takes the notion of a core curriculum to its logical extreme.

The course is called Great Big Ideas, and it purports to survey the entire landscape of intellectual discourse in a single semester.

Here is Saul Levmore, a University of Chicago scholar, with an introduction to economics. And Nicholas Christakis from Harvard on sociology. And Jeffrey Brenzel from Yale on the classics. And Bard President Leon Botstein on art.

Each scholar is presented in glossy video lectures, a format that exploits the latest in “distance learning” technology. Flesh-and-blood professors led the courses at the three universities, but the content is available to the public online (a six-month “subscription” costs $130) from its publisher, the Floating University.

Each school offered the course for credit, and the response from students was impressive: according to the publisher, 300 students each registered for the course at Harvard and Yale and 500 at Bard, for 18 available slots.

The Floating University Web site bills the course as “a survey of twelve major fields delivered by their most important thinkers and practitioners.” It’s sort of like the core curriculum offered at UChicago and Columbia, but compressed into a single course.

In the first lecture, on demographics, Columbia scholar Joel Cohen asks, “Are People the Problem, the Solution, or Both?” By the second week, students will have “The Universe in a Nutshell: The Physics of Everything.” Week 9 brings Harvard scientist Douglas Melton and, “Is Biomedical Research Really Close to Curing Anything?”
The Yale Daily News called the course “Yale’s hottest residential college seminar” and likened it to a restaurant sampler platter.

Adam Glick, the Yale alumnus who designed the lessons, told the campus paper, “We’re delivering something that’s purposefully an inch deep and a mile wide. That’s the opposite of most education, where you look at something in a very narrow field.”

Glick’s collaborator in the Floating University is Peter Hopkins, a Harvard grad who started a web site called Big Think to “master and manage the universe of information”.

The point of the new course seems to be to introduce students, every week, to a broad discipline and the big questions it has spawned. If they want the answers, well, they may have to sign up for another course.
Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg said Monday that Cornell University had been chosen to build a high-tech graduate school. The school will be operated with Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

**Cornell Alumnus Is Behind $350 Million Gift to Build Science School in City**

By RICHARD PÉREZ-Peña

The donor whose $350 million gift will be critical in building Cornell University’s new high-tech graduate school on Roosevelt Island is Atlantic Philanthropies, whose founder, Charles F. Feeney, is a Cornell alumnus who made billions of dollars through the Duty Free Shoppers Group.

Mr. Feeney, 80, has spent much of the last three decades giving away his fortune, with large gifts to universities all over the world and an unusual degree of anonymity. Cornell officials revealed in 2007 that he had given some $600 million to the university over the years, yet nothing on its Ithaca campus — where he graduated from the School of Hotel Management in 1956 — bears Mr. Feeney’s name.

The $350 million gift, the largest in the university’s history, was announced on Friday, but the donor was not named. Officials at Atlantic Philanthropies confirmed on Monday evening that it was Mr. Feeney, a native of Elizabeth, N.J., who is known for his frugality — he flies coach, owns neither a home
nor a car, and wears a $15 watch — as well as his philanthropic generosity, particularly to medical research.

“This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity,” Mr. Feeney said in a statement released by Atlantic Philanthropies, “to create economic and educational opportunity on a transformational scale.”

The statement echoed what Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg said hours earlier at a news conference officially crowning Cornell, with its partner, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, the winner of an intense international competition to build the new graduate school.

“Today will be remembered as a defining moment,” Mr. Bloomberg said, making official what had been apparent since Cornell’s chief rival, Stanford University, withdrew its bid for the campus on Friday. “In a word, this project is going to be transformative.”

Revealing details of the $2 billion plan for the first time, Mr. Bloomberg and the presidents of the two universities said it would include a $150 million venture capital fund for start-up companies that agree to remain in New York for three years, as well as math and science education support for 10,000 city children. They estimated that building the campus would create 20,000 construction jobs, and that it would spin off 600 new businesses over the next generation, creating 30,000 more jobs and as much as $1.4 billion in tax revenue. The city is providing the land and up to $100 million in infrastructure improvements.

“New York City is positioned to become the new technology capital of the world,” said David J. Skorton, the Cornell president, whose personal lobbying and fund-raising commitment to the project proved important in winning the competition.

That has long been a goal for Mr. Bloomberg, who noted that the city had only recently surpassed much-smaller Boston in attracting venture capital for high-tech start-ups, and that such businesses here face a chronic shortage of engineers.

Mr. Bloomberg has repeatedly said he could choose more than one winner. He emphasized during the announcement that the city was still negotiating with other schools in the Applied Sciences NYC initiative: Columbia University, which wants to make a new science center part of its expansion in West Harlem; Carnegie Mellon University, whose joint proposal with Steiner Studios is for a parcel the city offered in the Brooklyn Navy Yard;
and a consortium led by New York University focused on Downtown Brooklyn.

“We’re eager and hopeful that we’ll be able to find ways to help them realize their proposals,” he said.

He declined to cite specifics when asked about Stanford’s decision to drop out, though he said that he had spoken to the university president, John Hennessy, and that he hoped Stanford might some day come to New York. “The program that we want may not exactly fit what they want,” he said.

City officials spent two months poring over 10,000 pages of documents submitted in seven proposals from 17 institutions. Mr. Bloomberg picked the Cornell-Technion plan, he said, because it was “far and away the boldest and most ambitious” and had an “incredibly aggressive schedule.”

The two universities promise to start offering classes next September in temporary space, and to complete 300,000 square feet of space on Roosevelt Island by 2017 and more than 2 million square feet by 2037. Plans call for about 280 faculty members and 2,500 students in master’s and doctoral programs, a larger contingent than the universities had proposed a few months ago.

The schools have also committed to training at least 200 teachers each year in science education.

The universities plan to organize the campus around three overlapping, shifting “hubs”: technologies for “connective media,” applicable to everything from finance to social media; health care industries; and sustainable development, chosen in part to mesh with the city’s existing strengths.

Each institution brought critical ingredients to winning the competition. Cornell needed Technion, which has played a role in Israel similar to the role Stanford has had in Silicon Valley, supplying talent and resources that help hundreds of companies set up shop near its Haifa campus. And Technion needed a local partner: “6,000 miles, the Atlantic, the Mediterranean — too far,” the school’s president, Peretz Lavie, noted at the news conference.

Asked what role he might play in financing the campus, the mayor, a billionaire, drew laughter when he said, drily, “You assume that when they make the phone calls, I’d be on the list.”
Topping the list is Mr. Feeney, whose Atlantic Philanthropies had assets of $2.1 billion at the end of 2010, and has announced plans to give it all away over the next decade. The philanthropy was created in 1982 by Mr. Feeney, who has transferred virtually all of his assets to the charity. It has recently become involved with human rights causes. Last year, Atlantic distributed $285 million; the year before, $375 million.

Stephanie Strom contributed reporting.
Opposing view: Three-year degree is not a solution
By Daniel J. Hurley
Updated 1d 15h ago

The three-year bachelor's degree has been hailed by some as the solution to cutting college costs, allowing students to graduate and enter the job market sooner. It has one fundamental flaw, however, in that it benefits only those students who have the highest academic aptitude and the financial means to attend college full-time, year-around, for three years.

Beneficiaries of the degree are limited to students who largely come from affluent households, whose parents attended college, who are likely Caucasian, and who have a laser-like career focus and the discipline required to succeed in full-time, non-stop college studies.

Facing steep state funding cuts and rising costs, public universities must maximize the efficiency of taxpayer and tuition dollars. The best way to do this is not to focus on getting a small number of students through college faster, but to get more of them through in the first place. Only 57% of first-time, full-time freshmen college students complete a bachelor's degree within six years, let alone four, according to federal data.

Critical to this nation's economic competitiveness is a focus on the success of all students. This focus must include those who come from low-income
households, minorities, first-generation college-goers, and older adults who completed some college but fell short of having earned a degree. All told, it's a wide swath of the population, consisting of individuals who likely need some remedial education, who need to work while attending college, and for whom the three-year degree has no utility whatsoever.

Many colleges do offer three-year bachelor's degrees, and students who complete Advanced Placement or dual enrollment classes while in high school and take courses offered during the summer while attending college can boost the likelihood of completing a degree in under four years.

The U.S. benefits from a consumer-driven, market-based system of higher education. That system will respond accordingly to the demand for three-year bachelor's degrees. Meanwhile, building a competitive workforce will require getting more students to graduate from college in the first place, not by utilizing scarce resources on a select few who have the propensity to benefit from the three-year degree.

Daniel J. Hurley is director of state relations and policy analysis for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.
A Franklin High School (Ind.) junior scrolls through Twitter posts on his cellphone. As students gain access to sophisticated electronics, educators are trying to stay on top of cheating trends.

**eCheating: Students find high-tech ways to deceive teachers**
By Greg Toppo, USA TODAY
Updated 4d 8h ago

Everything's going digital these days — including cheating.

As students gain access to sophisticated gadgets both at school and at home, educators are on the lookout for new kinds of cheating. From digitally inserting answers into soft drink labels to texting each other test answers and photos of exams, kids are finding new ways to get ahead when they haven't studied.

YouTube alone has dozens of videos that lay out step-by-step instructions: One three-minute segment shows how to digitally scan the wrapper of a soft drink bottle, then use photo editing software to erase the nutrition information and replace it with test answers or handy formulas. The video has gotten nearly 7 million hits.

"There's an epidemic of cheating," says Robert Bramucci, vice chancellor for technology and learning services at South Orange Community College District in Mission Viejo, Calif. "We're not catching them. We're not even sure it's going on."
Several security-related companies, such as Spycheatstuff.com, will even overnight-mail a kit that turns a cellphone or iPod into a hands-free personal cheating device, featuring tiny wireless earbuds, that allows a test-taker to discreetly "phone a friend" during a test and get answers remotely without putting down the pencil.

One Toronto firm named ExamEar shut down its website after authorities investigated how it was selling $300 Bluetooth devices to desperate exam candidates.

Common Sense Media, a non-profit advocacy group, finds that more than 35% of teens ages 13 to 17 with cellphones have used the devices to cheat. More than half (52%) admit to some form of cheating involving the Internet, and many don't consider it a big deal. For instance, only 41% say storing notes on a cellphone to access during a test is a "serious offense." Nearly one in four (23%) don't think it's cheating at all.

But authorities are increasingly getting tough on cheating. Police in Nassau County, N.Y., on Long Island, this fall arrested 20 teens at five public and private schools in an SAT cheating ring. Five are accused of taking SAT and ACT tests for other students, who paid up to $3,600 for the service, authorities say.

An Orange County, Calif., student pleaded guilty in March to stealing Advanced Placement tests and altering college transcripts. Prosecutors say Omar Shahid Khan, 21, pilfered a teacher's password for the school's grading system by installing spyware on school computers.

In a 2007 case, two students in China used the wireless devices to cheat on an English exam but had to be hospitalized afterward to have the tiny earbuds removed, according to China Daily.

"This is about the pressures that kids are feeling in school," says Jill Madenberg, a Great Neck, N.Y., college consultant. "The pressure to do well, the pressure to get into a good college."

She says cheating like the kind seen in Long Island isn't isolated. "It's literally all over the country — it's an epidemic of sorts."
A former high school guidance counselor, Madenberg says that perhaps the only positive aspect of the Long Island SAT scandal is that it will begin a discussion on the pressures kids feel. "There's no question that people are beginning to look at that," she says.

Digital devices haven't necessarily made cheating happen more often, experts say. They've just make it harder to detect.

"The naïve folk belief is that cheating never used to be a problem," Bramucci says. "It's always been a problem."

Problems like detecting cheating boil down to what Nobel Laureate psychologist Daniel Kahneman calls "cognitive bias." If teachers can't see it happening in front of them, they're unlikely to believe it's happening and so they're less likely to try to prevent it. But Bramucci says educators "are lousy detectors at cheating."

To prove his point, a few years ago he brought in a group of students to take a mock test and instructed them to cheat in a handful of different ways, all under the gaze of South Orange professors, who watched and took notes.

"They didn't even get a third of the ways people were cheating, even when they knew they were cheating and it was happening right before their eyes," Bramucci says.