

For alumni and friends of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

# UNCP

Today

Summer  
2012

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE

1887  
**1**  
Honoring Our

Celebrating  
**2**  
Years  
Heritage,  
Soaring Toward

2012  
**5**  
Our Future!

*Honoring Our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!*



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMROKE

# GIVENS

## Performing Arts Center

### Broadway & More Series

Smokey Joe's Café *Friday, September 28*

Homecoming Concert (Artist TBA) *Friday, October 26*

Cirque Chinois *Tuesday, November 13*

Cherish the Ladies: A Celtic Christmas *Thursday, November 29*

Spamalot *Tuesday, January 15*

The Midtown Men *Monday, March 25*

Russian National Ballet: Swan Lake *Tuesday, April 2*

Of Mice and Men by The Acting Company *Thursday, April 25*



**THE  
MIDTOWN  
MEN**

PAULA DANZIGER  
**AMBER BROWN  
IS NOT A CRAYON**



### On Stage for Youth

The River People Music & Culture Fest *Spring 2012*

Drum! *Friday, February 8*

Amber Brown is Not A Crayon *Friday, November 16*



*cherish the ladies*

### Special Events Series

The River People Music & Culture Fest *Spring 2012*

Drum! *Friday, February 8*

All shows and artists subject to change



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# Inside

UNCP Today  
Summer 2012



*On the cover:* Old Main featured with commemorative 125th banners.  
Photo by Raul Rubiera Jr.



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*UNCP Today* magazine is published three times a year for alumni and friends of the university by the Office of University Communications and Marketing. UNCP is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system. XX,XXX copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$0.XX each.

#### Class Notes

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Yolanda Sinclair '98

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Happy birthday to UNC Pembroke! The university turned 125 years old on March 7th, and we are celebrating this milestone through commencement 2013. This is a time in our history when we need to take stock of our past and step confidently into the future. Our celebration theme—"Honoring Our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!"—calls to mind the fact that our university's current and future successes rest upon footings laid by previous generations of people, events and accomplishments. The work of our predecessors has made our many achievements possible.


While this year we're taking time to look back to our founding, we also can't help but marvel at the many changes that have taken place recently on campus and the changes that are to come. The most obvious are physical: We are enjoying new buildings and renovations that are already enhancing our academic and campus life, and we are anticipating future changes across campus. Most notable is the opening of the 80,000 square-foot Health Sciences Building in late May. It is the new home of the nursing and social work programs as well as several biology laboratories. We will break ground on

a new Student Health Building in September and will perform extensive renovations to our dining facility in the Chavis Center over the summer. We completed a master plan last June, which proposes many changes to campus over the next 10 to 15 years. The most critical piece of that plan was accomplished this spring—securing approximately 40 acres northeast of the varsity soccer field off Prospect Road, where we plan to develop a sports complex and intramural fields. Over time we will relocate baseball and softball fields and tennis courts to make way for new academic buildings and green space within the current footprint of our campus. Phase One of the sports complex will start next year when we begin development of intramural fields at the site. I invite you to learn more about our master plan by visiting: [www.uncp.edu/fm/](http://www.uncp.edu/fm/).

A more subtle transition is occurring in the classroom. Faculty are raising expectations and providing extramural opportunities for students to apply what they are learning. In a recent survey of seniors, 95 percent indicated that faculty set high expectations for them, and 89 percent stated that faculty encouraged active learning. Now, undergraduate research is commonplace across our campus and increasing. We see students engaged in service learning, co-ops, practicums and internships where they apply course content and make a difference in the community. This is an exciting dimension to the high quality education that our students receive from our dedicated faculty. It must be paying off because the overall GPA for our undergraduates is the highest in our history.

I'm sure you've heard the old saying, "The only thing certain in life is death and taxes." I want to add one more certainty: retirement! At some point in our careers, this event is inevitable. It is that time now for several long-time UNC Pembroke administrators: Dr. Diane Jones (VC Student Affairs), Neil Hawk (VC Business Affairs), Jackie Clark (VC Enrollment Management), Sandy Waterkotte (VC Advancement), Dr. Robert Orr (CIO), and Dr. Elinor Foster (dean of Library Services). Collectively, they have served UNCP more than 90 years. Each has added his or her mark on the university over the last decade(s). I will miss their leadership and thoughtful counsel, but I share their joy as they enter a new phase in their lives: a more leisurely lifestyle and grandchildren. To their credit, they built strong units that will carry on as we search for their replacements, anticipated by year's end. In contrast, the university welcomed several new leaders to campus: Wendy Lowery became vice chancellor for Advancement last October, and several key dean appointments occurred this spring: Dr. Mark Canada (Arts and Sciences), Dr. Mark Milewicz (Honors College), and Dr. Rami Maysami (School of Business). Over the next nine months, I will be busy searching for additional creative, energetic leaders who will embrace UNC Pembroke and all it represents.

As we close out this academic year, I can report we've had a great run. UNC Pembroke remains focused on its strategic themes of cultivating student success, being an institution of choice and continuing regional engagement—all within the challenging financial climate of the new normal. As we complete initiatives in each of these strategic areas, we will become a stronger institution and provide even clearer pathways to success for our students. In future editions of *UNCP Today* we will bring you stories of students, faculty and staff related to each of these themes to show how the university is affecting individual lives and the region we serve. I am excited about the progress our institution continues to make. We are making your diploma more valuable each day!

  
 Kyle R. Carter, Chancellor





## UNCP kicks off celebration of its 125-year history

With motorcycles rumbling and a giant birthday cake, the university kicked off 14 months of celebrating its 125th anniversary.

The fanfare on March 14 included celebrities from the university's past and present. Television talk show host Cecil Chandler of WPDE-TV served as emcee. To enthusiastic cheers, he introduced Mike Williams, UNCP's newly crowned national wrestling champion.

Chandler also introduced three of UNCP's oldest living alumni: Beulah Mae Ransom Kemerer of the classes of 1939 and 1952, Cattie Mae Hunt of the class of 1941 and Tessie Hunt of the class of 1942. They had front row seats as UNCP's cheerleaders rolled in a massive birthday cake. He also introduced Larry Barnes, who was the first African American to enroll in the university.

A five-motorcycle procession, led by Chancellor Carter, roared into the Main Gym to launch the celebration. The chancellor was followed by his wife, Sarah, and honorary chairs Alphonzo McRae '74, Dr. Linda Oxendine, former chair of the American Indian Studies Department, and Mickey Gregory '88. In his

remarks, Chancellor Carter invited the crowd of 1,000 to join in the celebration of its university.

"We're going to be celebrating for the next 14 months until commencement 2013," he promised. "We will take every opportunity to celebrate the founding of this great institution."

UNCP student and television personality Victoria Huggins sang Happy Birthday, and everyone ate cake. Steven Roberts Original Desserts, a bakery that recently located in Pembroke and provides decadent desserts to restaurants throughout the country, created and donated the confection of layers of chocolate and vanilla cake and ice cream.

The popular local rock band Dark Water Rising, led by former American Idol contestant Charly Lowry, closed out the celebration. As if to demonstrate that a rapidly growing regional university of 6,000 students still has its roots in its home community, the band's drummer, Shay Jones, is the grandson of the late Chancellor English Jones, namesake of the English E. Jones Health and Physical Education Center, where the kick-off was staged.

There was a lot of fanfare, but it was a day to remember the university's history, too. In discussing UNCP's 125-year history, a variety of landmarks stood out in the minds of those in attendance.

*Continued on pg. 5*





Honorary Chairs Alphonzo McRae, Dr. Linda Oxendine and Mickey Gregory



Charly Lowry and Dark Water Rising



Victoria Huggins sings Happy Birthday UNCP.



Continued from pg. 3

When asked what is the second most important event in university history after its founding in 1887, answers varied.

Miss UNCP 2012 Jocelyn Hunt, who sang the national anthem, reached back to 1972, "when the university became part of the UNC system," she said. "It brought the university to another level."

Dr. Linda Oxendine, former chair of UNCP's American Indian Studies Department, offered another landmark event from 1939. "I would say it was when we became of four-year college," she said.

Dorothy Blue, who wore her class ring from 1955, had a more personal answer. "In 1951, when they named Locklear Hall for my grandfather (Anderson Locklear)," she said. "Five generations of our family followed him here."

Dr. Richard Vela, who has taught English at UNCP since 1971, had a modern take on the university's history. "To be honest, the biggest thing was the name change (to The University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 1996). It changed the way people look at us."

Student Government Association President Brian McCormick considered the return of football as a possible answer, then offered this: "I believe it is the growth and expansion of the university to reach out to the entire state and nation. It did this while continuing to serve the community that founded this university. Without that growth, I would not be here."

The comments and the celebration both put a spotlight on the theme of 125th celebrations: "Honoring our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!" ✨



Greg Richardson, Commission of Indian Affairs

## UNCP to expand its American Indian Studies programs to a national scale

Chancellor Carter announced the formation of the new Southeastern American Indian Studies (SEAIS) Program. The program is expected to be in place by the fall semester 2012.

The announcement came one day after UNCP kicked off a 14-month celebration of its 125th anniversary and was endorsed by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs and its Executive Director Greg Richardson.

During a March 15 press conference on the steps of Old Main, Chancellor Carter said the program will transform the university into a center for the study of American Indians in the southeastern U.S. He said the university, with its existing American Indian programs, is ideally located to accomplish its mission.

"Its academic, research and outreach missions will benefit all tribes in the southeast and serve as a resource to all who are interested in American Indian life," Dr. Carter said. "The program will act as the intersection between disciplines outside of American Indian Studies to promote interdisciplinary curricula, research and outreach.

"I have pledged that the historic purpose for which our institution was founded would remain a core attribute, even as UNCP continues to grow more complex and serves broader constituencies and purposes."

Ultimately, Chancellor Carter said the Southeastern American Indian Studies Program would become a stand-alone school alongside the schools of Business, Education and Graduate Studies and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Richardson also spoke during the press conference. He said the commission has been in consultation with UNCP about the program. He hailed it as the realization of a long-held goal.

"The Lumbee started this process in 1887," Richardson said. "We, the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, want to let you know that we are here to support you."

Programs such as anthropology and archaeology may take root as the university steps onto the national stage with the new Southeastern American Indian Studies Program.

The program was approved UNC General Administration, and Provost Kenneth Kitts will lead the next planning step by appointing an implementation committee next fall. ✨





# Spring COMMENCEMENT

## UNC Pembroke celebrated 670 graduates on May 4-5

In two commencement ceremonies on May 4-5, speakers invoked history, both recent and long past, to challenge and counsel graduates. In the two events, the university celebrated the achievements of 670 graduates and its own 125-year history.

On Friday, May 4, 144 students received their master's degree hoods from the School of Graduate Studies in the Givens Performing Arts Center. On May 5, 526 undergraduates accepted their diplomas on the Quad.

On Saturday morning, graduates streamed across campus and over the bridge onto the Quad. Chancellor Carter explained the significance of the procession and set the tone for a historic celebration.

"Two years ago, we started a new tradition of having our freshman walk north across the bridge. Today, our graduates walk south to commencement," Chancellor Carter said. "They walked through a gauntlet of their professors, who supported them along the way.

"It is natural that we gather here today in the shadow of Old Main, our oldest building and a lasting symbol of the university's perseverance," he continued. "You are lucky to be here on this historic moment as the university celebrates its 125th anniversary.

"As you leave us, think about Old Main and the 20,000 students who have gone before you; and think about the founders whose vision and persistence established this university."



Chancellor Carter said he wanted a commencement speaker worthy of the moment, and he believes he found one in Kevin Gover, executive director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. He is a member of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

"I am a big fan of ritual and ceremony," Gover told the graduates. "This is the way people express their values; this is how we say we respect what you have accomplished."

Gover, a former law professor and top Bureau of Indian Affairs official, said he is impressed with the story of UNCP's founding as a college for American Indians. "I am also impressed with your intention to become the leading institution of the study of southeastern American Indians," he said.

To make a point about the challenges facing the graduates, Gover returned to 1492, "the moment the entire world changed," he said. "You should know that in 1491, American civilizations were already thousands of years old. At first contact, there were as many people living in the Americas as in Europe."

Disease decimated 90 percent of that population in "the greatest calamity in the world's history." But the story of America's indigenous people did not end in 1492, Gover said. Like UNCP's history, the story of the First People is one of perseverance and ultimately triumph. 1492 was not the end; it was the cradle of the creation of the most successful and diverse society the world has known.

"You are heirs of ancient civilizations, and you face steep challenges in a future where we have reached the limits of the



Smithsonian's Kevin Gover



# 2012



earth's resources," Gover continued. "We still live in a world of perpetual warfare. But I remain optimistic.

"We live in a world of instantaneous information, but information is not knowledge," he said. "You must learn the difference between knowledge and nonsense."

Just as the Indigenous people of America made an "astonishing recovery in the face of insurmountable odds ... humanity is resilient," Gover advised. He told the graduates that "saving the world requires more than great ideas; it requires millions and billions of small acts.

"Find the will to prevail," he concluded. "I can't wait to see what you do with our world."

Graduation ceremonies have always been a fount of advice for students who are commencing upon the rest of their lives. In his address Friday evening, Dr. Joseph Lakatos, a UNCP business professor who was told several years ago that he had three months to live, shared some advice of his own.

"Tonight we are all young, so let's set the world on fire," Dr. Lakatos said, quoting lyrics from the band Fun. "Life is truly short. Use tonight as a stepping stone to an extraordinary life."

Good advice is not wasted on youth, said Katie Giddens, who received a Master of Arts in Teaching. "My parents told me to go to graduate school," she said. "Here I am."

Rachel Elizabeth Sutton, who received a degree in special education, was getting a big hug from her mother. "When I was little, my mom used to say, 'you can't be my daughter,'" she said. Sutton's mother taught her to say, "'I am because I'm beautiful, intelligent and ambitious.' Only I couldn't say

ambitious because I was missing some teeth at age four."

Her mother, Susie Quintal, beamed: "Magna cum laude!"

Sometimes roles get reversed as this mother-daughter story demonstrates. Teri Woods home schooled her two children, including Jaclyn, who received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology.

"When my little classroom was empty, it was sad," Teri Woods said. "My children said I should go back to school in elementary education; I will graduate in 2014."

If Jaclyn's success at UNCP is any indicator, Teri is a good teacher. Jaclyn graduated summa cum laude and hopes to go to medical school.

Shaun Barefoot, who was president of UNCP's Student Veterans Association and earned a degree in criminal justice, remembered advice from his gunnery sergeant. "Don't ever let anyone tell you that you can't achieve your goals," he said.

Army 2nd Lt. Bernice Stratton, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing, also invoked military wisdom. "Stop complaining; don't quit," she said. "I would also advise young people to consider a military career."

Pamela Hughes, an Esther Maynor Scholar, had just learned that she and all three of her classmates had earned certification from the National Athletic Trainers' Association. "We helped each other; it was a difficult test." Hughes will continue her studies at UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall.

Megan Jacobs said her father set expectations high. "He said 'stay in school and go as far as you can,'" she said. Jacobs is waiting to hear from three law schools.

Advice continued through the weekend ceremonies. Dr. Robin Cummings, chair of UNCP's board of trustees, asked the graduates to remember a more recent and personal history. "One word: focus," he advised. "Remember how you got here."

Chancellor Carter added: "Make a difference. Use what you've learned to make a difference in others and in your communities."

And finally, Walter Davenport, who represented UNC General Administration, said, "It's your time to celebrate!" ☀



Robert Brennan, undergraduate





## Jackie Clark, vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, to retire on June 30

Jackie Clark, vice chancellor for the Office of Enrollment Management, announced that she will retire on June 30.

Clark has worked nearly 35 years in education – 25 of them at UNCP. A 1977 graduate of the university, she joined the office of Student Support Services in 1987.

In 1996, Clark was named director for the Office of Admissions, and in 2001, she was appointed vice chancellor of the new Office of Enrollment Management.

Chancellor Carter praised Clark's dedication and her contributions to the university. "Jackie has been an integral part of the university during her many years of service. In her role as vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, she oversaw the rapid growth of our student population that transformed our university," Chancellor Carter said.

"In each position she held at UNC Pembroke, she served with unparalleled dedication and passion, keenly aware of the importance of this institution to the communities it serves," he

said. "She has been a trusted colleague and friend, and I know that even in retirement she will continue to be a part of the university."

Clark said it has been a great career, and her decision to retire was a family decision. "My education and professional career have been entirely in this community. It was the best of all worlds," she said. "I will stay busy with four grandchildren and work in my church and the community."

The university is also like family, Clark said. She was a first generation college student at UNCP, and before that, she was a member of the first Upward Bound class at the university. Both of her daughters and a son-in-law are also UNCP graduates.

"I grew up here at the university," she said. "It is a special place for me and this community, as a beacon of hope for helping American Indian people achieve a better quality of life."

"As an advisor here, I worked to support many first generation college students," she said. That shaped my view – my belief in the importance of accessibility to higher education."

As vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, Clark opened the doors of UNCP to more students. On her watch, enrollment at UNCP more than doubled from 3,000 to nearly 7,000.

"Being part of the growth of the university and the development of the Enrollment Management Division were highlights of my career," Clark said.

Clark said she was fortunate to surround herself with dedicated and talented people and five chancellors who were all outstanding leaders. ✨



## Neil Hawk, vice chancellor for Business Affairs, to retire

Neil Hawk, vice chancellor for the Office of Business Affairs, announced his retirement, effective June 30.

Hawk is concluding a 43-year career in higher education, with 36 years as a chief financial officer. He has served UNCP for the past 20 years.

With 150 employees and a budget of \$130 million annually, Hawk supervised the offices of Business Services, the Controller, Dining Services, Facilities Management, Facilities Operations, Facilities Planning and Construction, Financial Planning and Budgeting and Human Resources as well as the Bookstore. He was also treasurer of the UNCP Foundation Inc.

In the past 12 years, Hawk supervised \$250 million in construction that transformed the campus. New construction and renovations touched virtually every corner of the university.

Chancellor Carter offered best wishes and praise for the university's longest serving vice chancellor.

"After 20 years of service to UNC Pembroke, Neil should be proud of all that he has accomplished here," Chancellor Carter

said. "He served four chancellors during very different times and served each expertly. During the first part of his tenure, Neil helped plan and develop a campus that is one of the most beautiful in the system. He skillfully guided the university during a period of unprecedented growth and expansion.

When Hawk turns off the lights of his office for the last time, he will be leaving UNCP's financial house in order and a blueprint for the university's future. In an interview, he summed up highlights of the past 20 years.

"I am particularly pleased that we have had 20 years of clean audits," Hawk said. "It's been fun; there is nothing I'd rather have done. The university has many opportunities for expansion of enrollment, facilities and programs.

"The best times at UNCP were also the most challenging, because they brought out the best in us," Hawk said. "The employees here are very supportive of the university, which they view as family. I've seen hundreds of examples of our employees going the extra mile to make the university the best it can be."

Hawk credits university employees for the success of the university's financial operations. "We're one of the smaller UNC schools, but the system looked to us to take the lead on critical financial conversions."

Hawk also leaves the university with a new, 10-year master plan for buildings, grounds and infrastructure. "We've got a good blueprint for the future," he said. ✨





## Dr. Diane Jones, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, to retire

Dr. Diane O. Jones, vice chancellor for the Division of Student Affairs, will retire effective June 30. Dr. Jones worked in student affairs at for 34 years, beginning as director of the Career Center.

Dr. Jones will leave a legacy as a program builder during a time of rapid enrollment growth and expansion. She said it has been “a good 34 years,” and she thanked her current and former staff.

“There is lot of responsibility as an administrator of student affairs, but I’ve had good people working with me who have served long and well,” she said. “My father-in-law (former Chancellor English Jones) told me to surround myself with good people. I’ve had some of the best, and it has made my job easier.”

Chancellor Carter praised Dr. Jones as an able and dedicated university leader.

“All of us face retirement in our future, but, for me, Dr. Jones’ retirement comes much too soon,” Dr. Carter said. “I will sorely miss her competent leadership and management as well as her thoughtful counsel.”

“Diane has served the university over three decades with style and grace,” the chancellor continued.

“I know Diane will continue to be a part of the university after her retirement,” he said.

Dr. Jones has served the university continuously from 1977. In 1989, she was appointed director of Student Activities, and in 1993, she was appointed assistant vice chancellor of Student Affairs. She was named vice chancellor in 1999.

Dr. Jones said she is proud of many accomplishments. Offices and staff multiplied during her tenure.

“I have witnessed many changes in student affairs,” she said. “Besides the growth of facilities, the growth of student programs has been remarkable.”

“Student housing stands out for me because of the new residence halls with diverse accommodations,” Dr. Jones continued. “UNC Pembroke is a residential university today with many opportunities to provide evening and weekend programming, which is very rewarding.”

Expanding programming and building audiences for the arts at Givens Performing Arts Center is another high point for Dr. Jones. “We’ve built a broad-based audience,” Dr. Jones said.

Also on Dr. Jones’ short list are the continuing good relations between the university and the Town of Pembroke. Dr. Jones coordinated Pembroke Day and chaired the Town and Gown Committee for many years.

To be successful in student affairs, she said takes a great staff that is dedicated to student welfare. “We have that!” ☀



## Dr. Mark Canada named dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Mark Canada has been named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has served as acting dean since June 2011.

Dr. Canada joined the faculty of the Department of English

and Theatre in 1997. He was named assistant chair of the department, the university’s largest, in 2008 and chair in 2009. He was appointed to the position of associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 2010 and named acting dean in 2011.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for the Office of Academic Affairs, said Dr. Canada has the “experience, vision and values to lead the college. He makes good decisions and is a wonderful ambassador for UNCP. I am very pleased to have him as part of the leadership team in our division.”

An outstanding scholar of American literature, he is a popular professor. Dr. Canada was named the recipient of an Outstanding Teacher Award in 2000. In 2008, he won the UNC Board of Governors’ Award for Excellence in Teaching.

## Dr. Ramin Maysami named dean of the School of Business

Dr. Ramin Maysami has been named dean of the School of Business. He was acting dean during the 2011-12 academic year.

A faculty member for eight years, Dr. Maysami teaches economics and finance. Previously, he served as

chair of the Department of Economics, Finance and Decision Sciences; director of the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) program, and chair of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs said: “I have enjoyed working with Rami this year,” Kitts said. “He is an energetic and focused leader. I am confident that he can provide the direction necessary for the School to meet its goals and to serve our students well and to provide excellent outreach to our partners in the local business community.”

Dr. Maysami said he was delighted to accept his new position and that his role as acting dean inspired him.

“I have been acting dean for eight months, and I like the job. I enjoyed the job, and I was good at it, I think,” he said with a smile. “As a successful School of Business, we know what we need to do, and now it’s time to go out and do it.” ☀







**Shelby Stephenson's 'Playing Dead' published in late 2011**

**P**laying Dead," Shelby Stephenson's ode to the underappreciated possum, was published in late 2011 by Finishing Line Press.

"Playing Dead" is a sequel to "Possum," his 2004 work. "Playing Dead" is 25 poems and 25 pages, including Possum's recipe for "Hunters

and Taters." Stephenson's Possum or "PD" is a much-harried sage of the modern age.

"Shelby Stephenson must have been a possum in another life," poet and essayist Janet Lembke wrote for the back cover. In this life, Stephenson is an award-winning poet and former editor of *Pembroke Magazine*, the university's long-standing literary magazine. Stephenson retired in June 2010 and continues to

write daily and play music from the back porch of his historic family home near Benson, N.C.

In an interview from his home, Stephenson talked about possums, an animal he identifies with. "A possum is as much a part of our culture as a mockingbird," Stephenson said. "Nobody admits to eating possum any more. That world is gone. Poor possum, here come the cars and cats," he said. "Possum will survive."

For all its wry humor, "Playing Dead" is dead serious. As one of the oldest

North American mammals and only marsupial, the possum is an adaptable survivor in the modern world, and playing dead is one of its many strategies.

Possum, like Stephenson, is bothered by too much blacktop and too many people, but surviving modernity as a sly witness.

Poets also seem to be relics of a past age, Stephenson says, lamenting the lack of newspaper reviews of poetry. Stephen Smith, a friend and fellow writer, offered his thoughts in a recent review for *The Pilot* newspaper of Southern Pines.

"If you're a lover of poetry, you'll want to read 'Playing Dead,'" Smith wrote. "Shelby has spent his adult life writing the truth, and his work has never been better, in my opinion, than in 'Playing Dead.' He's propelled by music, image and memory that never masquerade or fall prey to clever obfuscation. He's the purest poet I know."

North Carolina author and poet Robert Morgan added praise for Stephenson. "In 'Playing Dead,' Shelby launches out in some new directions, using the persona of PD to comment in dialogues, lyrics, rap rhymes and soliloquies on our rapidly changing times."

Stephenson, who won a Bellday Prize and the Oscar Arnold Young Award for his 2009 book-length poem, "Family Matters: *Homage to July, the Slave Girl*," said his latest small book of poetry did not win a prize, but the judges and publisher liked it enough to publish it.

Unlike some of his former publishers, Stephenson said he is not personally acquainted with Finishing Line Press of Georgetown, Ky. The story behind the cover art is a familiar one, however.



***"I just wanted to write it to salute the old church hymns and hillbilly music, they call it—that back porch music that keeps me going..."***

"My son Jacob did it in high school," he said. "He always loved to draw animals. I held the flashlight while he held the pencil and paper."

Stephenson's writing is branching out again with his next work. He isn't sure where this part-memoir, part-epic poem is going yet. "I don't know," he pondered. "It's about growing up playing music and wondering why I didn't go to Nashville."

"I just wanted to write it to salute the old church hymns and hillbilly music, they call it—that back porch music that keeps me going," he said.

Stephenson has been working on the manuscript for a year. He has sent out pages for review and is threatening a rewrite into prose, which would be a first for the poet. Whatever form, his loyal readers will be familiar with it as a singular act of art and inspiration. ✨





## Jennifer Key wins poetry prize and is published

UNC Pembroke creative writing professor Jennifer Key's newest book of poetry was recently published. Her second chapbook of poetry, "Ghosts to Whom We Call," was published by Astounding Beauty Ruffian Press after winning its annual poetry award and \$10,000.

Key, who is busy this spring editing her third edition of Pembroke Magazine, was

named permanent editor of UNCP's literary journal this spring. It will be the journal's 44th annual publication.

The Astounding Beauty Ruffian Press is owned by Roger and Sherry Beasley of Stuart, Va. Sherry Beasley said she was delighted to receive Key's contest submission.

"Not only were her images gorgeous, but her use of the English language was intriguing, with much use of alliteration and assonance," Beasley said. "There was a lyricism to her lines which I considered beautiful, and her subject matter was

interesting as well. I think my favorite poems are 'Jefferson's Daughters' and 'The Sick Dog,' but all of the poems in this collection are top-notch."

Key was pleased that her work was acknowledged with a national award. "I'm floored by their generosity," she said. "They are very nice people. Sherry and I worked very closely all the way through to the marketing of the book."

The publication and prize are a testament to the Beasleys' love of poetry. They

founded the press in 2005 and started the contest in 2007 with a modest prize. The size of the 2011 prize is "unprecedented in the world of poetry," Beasley said.

"I want to publish beautiful poetry in the most beautiful little collections possible, and I think I have achieved this," Beasley said. "I also want to publish books to which readers will continually return so they can re-read particular poems, a quality that the best books have, and I think this also has been accomplished with our publications."

"It's a little book—a chapbook," Key said. "The 12 poems are very personal and some address history too."

Key's first chapbook, titled "The Manifest Destiny of Desire," won the Jessie Bryce Niles Chapbook Competition in 2007. Her poetry and prose have been published widely in literary journals. She also has a novel and another collection of poems in progress.

The subject matter for Key's poems ranges from historical to personal. The opening lines from "Ways to Consider the Summer" demonstrate her skill with language:

*Only now do I come and go  
like a story circling back on itself,  
so why shouldn't you think nothing much happened*

*when I can't explain afternoon's drag into the trees,  
stillness's hover like a god that may or may not bite?  
The asphalt breathed heat until its black knuckles shone*

*and the heart of everything turned to vapor.  
It was that way all summer  
while I went breathing in and out.*

Key's poetry packs an emotional punch. In "Anniversary," she penned an ode to her husband that begins with a reminiscence of their wedding day:

*at this embarkation I will be  
less obsessed with the geometry of beauty  
(my whole life I've tried to solve for y),  
more meanderer than arrow, more meadow  
than hedgerow, growing the way the tulips*

*you planted our first fall broke open...*

As Beasley notes, Key's poetry comes alive with beautifully selected words and marvelous timing. As the editor of Pembroke Magazine Key has been nurturing other writers' work into Number 44. She is excited about this edition.

"This edition has a focus on the American South," Key said. "We have some really great writers in this issue."

Pembroke Magazine has long sought out great writing from North Carolina and beyond and it has been a Southern journal. Key notes a few contributors to No. 44, including Alan Michael Parker, Kathryn Stripling Byer, Kelly Cherry, Maurice Manning and Michael Chitwood.

"These writers were incredibly generous with their work," she said. "I like this edition." 🌟



Winner of the 2011 Astounding Beauty Ruffian Press Poetry Award





Holden Hansen

## UNCP's 'A-Lister'

On April 23, theater professor Holden Hansen accepted the Adolph L. Dial Award for Creative Work. He directed the University Theatre production of Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" this spring, and he is successfully auditioning for film roles.

Hansen, who is known more for his stage work, won a role in a new movie starring Academy Award

winner Colin Firth and Golden Globe winner Emily Blunt. He spent October 31 in Wilmington on the set of "Arthur Newman: Golf Pro." Shooting started on October 10 and moved to other locations, including Fairmont in Robeson County.

Hansen also successfully auditioned for a role in the upcoming filming of "42" which is the story of Jackie Robinson, starring Harrison Ford, among others. In an interview, he was feeling less like a movie star and more like a professor of 14 years, wearing a polo shirt and jeans.

Here is the interview:

### Question: So what happened?

Hansen: I went to Wilmington for just one day, on Halloween. They put me up in a nice hotel the night before because I had to be there at 7:30 (a.m.). I had one scene with no speaking part. It turned out my character is pivotal to the entire plot.

### Q. How pivotal was your role?

Hansen: My character is a dying man, although his name, Beauregard Tulley, is not revealed until later in the movie. The setting is a bus station, and Emily Blunt and Colin Firth are in the scene. I'm having a heart attack and they put me down on the pavement. Colin Firth asks if there is a doctor present. There isn't so...

### Q. Wait a minute...

Hansen: Colin Firth gives me mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. We had to shoot the scene 20 times. I got to know him pretty well. When I met them before shooting, they were really nice. She (Blunt) joked that he is a good kisser. There were some love scenes that had already been shot, so I guess she knew. He was jokingly apprehensive. But he was very intent on making this scene work.

### Q. Then you die?

Hansen: I die, and Emily Blunt's character steals my wallet. Because I don't have identification, I become a John Doe. In a very important scene later, Colin Firth's character makes Emily Blunt's character give the wallet back to my wife. It is a turning

point in the movie. So, I don't think I'm going to be cut from this movie.

### Q. What are your afterthoughts?

Hansen: It was a thrill! I've been feeling the aftereffects for a couple of weeks. I'm just now getting back to being just an old teacher at the university. It's great to be able to do something like this on the side. I'm glad I did it and didn't blow my scene. The camera worries me. I've done a lot more work on stage. But Colin Firth said "good job, my friend. That's not easy to do." It's nice to get affirmation from a guy who just won an Academy Award for Best Actor.

### Q. So, how did you get the role?

Hansen: My agent is Susan Tolar-Walters of STW Talent in Wilmington. She and I did a play together at the Cape Fear Theatre. It was my last musical. She was asked by Fincannon and Associates, a big casting company in Wilmington for the last 20 years, to start an agency. They got me the TV role also.

### Q. This might sound impolite, but how much did you make?

Hansen: I made the non-union minimum, \$825 a day, plus 10 percent for my agent. They paid for my hotel and breakfast, too. This is a low budget movie, but I'm sure Colin Firth was paid a little more than me. I received \$180 in travel and per diem as well.

### Q. Is this the start of something new for you?

Hansen: They will be shooting "Iron Man 3" with Robert Downey Jr. in Wilmington next year. So, you never know; there's always hope. It's hard to get professional work around here; you have to travel. I got lucky on this one.

### Q. On another level, acting is also scholarship.

Hansen: Yes it is. As a faculty member, this role is part of my scholarly work. Creative work is what I do, and I've done quite a lot in 10 years. It's also part of the tenure process. The faculty recognizes what I do as scholarship.

### Q. Your students must benefit from this experience also?

Hansen: Absolutely, it comes back to the classroom. I am able to talk to my students about acting as a profession. How to get roles, audition and things like that. Mostly, I tell them it is a hard profession to make a living at. I'm keeping my day job. I also tell my students to get a degree (Hansen has a Master of Fine Arts degree). You don't have to have a degree to be an actor, but a degree is important. My wife is a former Broadway chorus girl. What is she doing now? Going back to school.

### Q. What's in your immediate future?

Hansen: I'll keep auditioning for film and television roles. I'm on break from theater and stage work. It's just a pause. I'm working on full professor status. I've also been nominated for an Adolph Dial Award for Creative Work. That's a nice award here at the university. And this spring I'll be directing a student production of "The Crucible," a great play by Arthur Miller. I'm looking forward to it. 🌟





## Dr. David Nikkel receives Award for Teaching Excellence

Dr. David H. Nikkel is the 2012 recipient of the UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Nikkel, who is chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion, is a teacher and scholar of religious studies.

UNC's Board of Governors established the award in 1994 to highlight the importance of teaching and to reward good teaching across the university system. The coveted award is given annually to a tenured faculty member from each UNC campus.

Dr. Nikkel was presented the award during the spring graduation ceremony. As part of the recognition, Dr. Nikkel will serve as University Marshal during the 2012-13 academic year.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said Dr. Nikkel is a model scholar and teacher whose love of teaching stems from his passion for the subject of religious philosophy and his desire to ignite that excitement among his students.

"We are delighted that Dr. Nikkel has been selected for this award," said Dr. Kitts. "He represents the very best that UNCP has to offer. We salute him on this accomplishment and thank him for his many contributions to our students and campus community."

Dr. Nikkel received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University in mathematics, a Master of Divinity degree from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University. He went to seminary with the plan to work in the ministry and fell in love with theology. He now practices professionally in both arenas; he currently is pastor of a small church in Fayetteville, N.C.

A 10-year member of UNCP's faculty, Dr. Nikkel calls himself a generalist. He has developed five new courses and taught 13 different courses. For three semesters, he has co-taught the course Religion and Science with Dr. Bruce Ezell of the Department of Biology.

"The university is fortunate to have a person like David Nikkel," Dr. Ezell said. "By any criteria, he is an outstanding individual. He is truly a 'professor's professor.'"

Students find Dr. Nikkel's classes engaging and challenging. Sarah Weatherman took one of Dr. Nikkel's courses. "He is ready to offer each of his students the assistance she or he may need to complete his class successfully," Weatherman stated in her letter of recommendation. "In advanced classes, he also explained difficult and complex ideas clearly so that we gained greater understanding of them."

In his statement of teaching philosophy to the awards committee, Dr. Nikkel said his "passion for teaching stems from my fascination with the subject of religion and from the satisfaction of kindling interest and learning in my students.

"Enthusiasm about teaching and about the subject sets

an atmosphere in my classroom conducive to learning," his statement continues. "I also attempt to convey a personal sense of caring for my students, which not only directly facilitates the learning process, but can create windows that allow me to help students succeed in other aspects of their lives."

Dr. Nikkel discussed his newest course for upper-level students. "I am giving the students exposure to the most important methods in religious studies as well as classic and contemporary theories about the nature of religion," he said. "The class has aspects of a seminar, and reading and discussion weigh heavily in the final grade. It's weighty material."

Paul Tillich, a German-American theologian and Christian existential philosopher, is the subject of Dr. Nikkel's graduate research and his first book. Like Tillich, Dr. Nikkel's scholarship knows few boundaries as he tackles modern issues of science and culture from a theological perspective.

All agree that Dr. Nikkel's success in the classroom is the result of his comfort with the most complex theological issues and his comfort in the real world, or "close to the ground," as he says.

"In their own way, ministers also make religion relevant in the modern world," Dr. Nikkel said. "We all wear believer's hats—some of us as disbelievers in religion—and scholar's hats.

"Having experience as a pastor of a church provides examples for many of my students," he continued. "In my classes, I've had students of all religious, non-religious, and anti-religious stripes, and they feel comfortable sharing their personal beliefs. I challenge them to think about religion in new ways."

A man of faith and a man of science, Dr. Nikkel is also a man of humility. "I really like being here at UNC Pembroke, and I appreciate the opportunity to teach," he said. "I am pleased and thrilled by this award," Dr. Nikkel said. "I am humbled because we have so many good teachers at this university." ✨



Dr. Nikkel serving as University Marshal.





## Aubrey Swett named N.C. Civic Engagement Professional of Year

The North Carolina Campus Compact has named Aubrey Swett its 2012 Civic Engagement Professional of the Year. Swett is the founding director of the university's Office of Community and Civic Engagement.

Comprised of 42 North Carolina colleges and universities, the North Carolina Campus Compact is a 10-year-old organization with a mission to encourage civic engagement among college students to promote life-long commitment to building strong communities. The award recognizes an individual who has deepened the engagement of his or her campus, impacting community and campus.

Chancellor Carter, a member of the compact's executive board, made the award presentation to Swett.

"Mr. Swett's leadership in civic engagement is a tremendous asset to UNC Pembroke," stated Chancellor

Carter. "He and his staff keenly understand the importance of preparing our students with strong leadership skills that will elevate their chosen communities. It is an honor to present Aubrey with this prestigious award."

Swett joined UNCP in 2003 and became director of the Office of Community and Civic Engagement in 2006. Retired from the U.S. Marine Corps, the Pembroke native also directs the Veterans Education and Transition (VET) Program.

Swett talked about his work at UNCP. "The recognition is nice," he said, "but it would not have been possible without the people who work in this office and the support of the university.

"We have experienced exceptional support from the chancellor, Provost Kitts and the administration as a whole," Swett said. "The growth of this office is evidence of that.

"Chancellor Carter's vision of a university that is a community resource has made our job easier," Swett said. "He has created a culture of community engagement."

The success of two programs, service-learning and veterans assistance, are particularly pleasing to Swett. Service-learning, which incorporates civic engagement into the classroom, has experienced impressive growth. During the fall semester, there were 18 faculty and 336 students engaged in service-learning programs.

For veterans, UNCP has established a system throughout the university to support their transition to higher education and careers. UNCP has won GI Jobs magazine's "Military Friendly Schools" award for five consecutive years.

Swett sees an engaged university that is growing programs to meet the needs of its students and community. "In these programs, our students become the kind of leaders who see the importance of giving back," he said. "They become leaders in their own communities and in the nation." ✨

## Layla Locklear named Impact Award winner then Miss Indian N.C.

The twin passions of the newest recipient of the Community Impact Student Award are her Native American heritage and the environment.

Layla Rose Locklear, a rising junior from Pembroke, won UNCP's top student award for civic engagement during 2011-12.

Not long after accepting the Impact Award, Locklear was named Miss Indian North Carolina in March at the North Carolina Indian Unity Conference. In 2009-10, she was named Miss NCNAYO (N.C. Native American Youth Organization).

The pageant tests the contestants' tribal knowledge and Native American skills. Locklear, who is a Women's Southern Traditional dancer, is an expert on Native American culture.

As a student, Locklear has successfully combined her

interests by majoring in environmental science. She is contemplating an advanced degree in Native environmental science.

Locklear's career ambitions may take her west, where a large branch of her family tree came from. Explaining her Oglala Sioux connection, she laughs. "I tell them I'm related to Crazy Horse; then I explain. Locklear is a third-generation UNCP student. Her grandfather, Ray Elk, a Sioux, is the first UNCP graduate in the family." ✨







**Retired physics professor Dr. Dalton Brooks died Jan. 13**

Dr. Dalton P. Brooks Sr. died on January 13 at the age of 76. After joining the university in 1976, he taught physics and was an administrator for three decades.

A Pembroke native, Dr. Brooks graduated from Pembroke State College in 1960 and became a science teacher in the public schools. After

earning a master's degree from Temple University, he won support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation to earn a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Miami. He retired from the UNCP in 1998.

"Dalton was a great person and he enjoyed teaching physics and talking about relativity and quantum mechanics. I will surely miss seeing and talking to him," said Dr. Jose D'Arruda, former chair of the department. "The community also loved him."

Dr. Brooks pastored Dundarrach Baptist Church in Hoke County for nearly 40 years. In 1988, Dr. Brooks was selected as the chairman of the newly formed Public Schools of Robeson County. He was also elected as the first chairman of the Lumbee Tribe of Cheraw Indians in 1994.

Memorials may be made to the Physics Scholarship Fund at UNCP. ☀



**Dr. Cherry, adjunct professor of religion, passed away on Dec. 2**

Dr. Russell Thomas Cherry Jr., 84, died on December 2, 2011. He served congregations in Lumberton and Bladenboro for many years and taught religion at the university from 1996 - 2009.

Dr. David Nikkel, chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion, remembered him. "Dr. Cherry was loved by his

students. During his years teaching Introduction to Religion and Introduction to the New Testament, Dr. Cherry always spoke with eloquence, illustrated his points with engaging stories, and showed genuine concern for his students. He will be sadly missed."

In 2004, Dr. Cherry was installed as pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Lumberton and continued to serve in that capacity until his death.

A native of Portsmouth, Va., Dr. Cherry was educated at the University of Richmond and at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., where he received both a master of divinity degree and a Ph.D. As a graduate student, he served as a fellow in the Department of Homiletics. Campbell University honored Dr. Cherry with a doctor of divinity degree in 1989.

Dr. Cherry was also active in Baptist affairs. ☀



**Dr. Carolyn Thompson, former dean, died on March 2**

Dr. Carolyn Thompson, founding dean of the Esther G. Maynor Honors College and a member of the faculty in the Department of Political Science died on March 2.

Dr. Thompson came to Pembroke from UNC Charlotte in 2000 with her husband, Dr. Roger Brown, who had been named provost and vice

chancellor of Academic Affairs. They left in 2006 when Dr. Brown was appointed chancellor of The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, a position he still holds.

As leader of UNCP's Honors College, she recruited its first students and helped establish its programs and curriculum. In an interview with *UNCP Today*, she said one of the best parts of the job was working with first-generation college students from communities surrounding the university.

The UNCP community remembers Dr. Thompson as a deeply committed scholar, caring leader and friend.

Dr. Jesse Peters succeeded Dr. Thompson as dean of the Honors College. "During her time at UNCP, she set the foundation for what is now the Maynor Honors College, and I was proud to know her as a colleague and friend." ☀



## Freshman won right to compete in national competition

First-year music student Ed Gunther won the southern division senior brass competition sponsored by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA).

Gunther competed against trumpet players from across the South at the Clinton, Miss., event in January. His success at the southern division contest qualified him to compete in the national finals in New York City in March.

At the MTNA southern division competition, Gunther played three compositions with three different trumpets. He performed contemporary, classical and baroque pieces – an Arutunian Concerto, a Neruda Concerto and a Torelli Sonata, respectively.

“These are pieces from three styles that I know and love,” Gunther said. “I’ve performed in many auditions and competitions, so I’m not as nervous as I used to be. But I was nervous.”

“To win this [New York] competition would be great,” he continued. “Doc Severinsen won this competition, and it’s still on his resumé.”

This spring, the young musician competed in Virginia at the National Trumpet Competition for players under 25 years old. A video performance he submitted earned him one of 40 spots in the competition.

With this kind of success at age 18, Gunther smiles but says he’s no prodigy. “With the trumpet, it takes a while just to get the first note out; I started pretty fast though,” he laughed. “I first picked up a trumpet in the sixth grade to play for my middle school band.”

The journey from his Ocean Isle Beach home to UNCP is a story about music and being in the right place at the right time. Dr. Timothy Altman, chair of UNCP’s Department of Music, happened to be attending a district music event to watch his son perform when he heard Gunther playing trumpet at the same event.

“We recruit at events like this, and I had a booth set up,” Dr. Altman said. “I spoke with his parents, and they started traveling from the beach for Saturday lessons.”

Gunther flourished under Dr. Altman’s guidance, and as Gunther said, “In music, you pick a college based on the teacher.”

Dr. Altman said his pupil “is a tremendously strong



trumpet player, and he excels academically. Luckily he felt at home here, and UNCP is fortunate to have him.”

In Gunther, Dr. Altman finds a student with a strong work ethic. “Performing is fun; practice is work. It takes thousands of hours,” he said.

Besides a heavy practice routine and traveling near and far to perform, Gunther keeps a busy schedule at the university. He performs with UNCP’s Contemporary, Trumpet and Jazz ensembles and the University Band. He also plays with the Faculty Brass Quintet.

“That’s a pretty big thing to be invited to play with the faculty,” he said. “I am second trumpet to Dr. Altman.”

Following a performance at the North Carolina Museum of Art, music critic Steve Row noted Gunther’s work in a review for CVNC, an online performing arts journal. Row wrote: “Morley’s ‘My Bonny Lass’ included a nice duet for the trumpets between Altman and Ed Gunther, who is a UNCP music major. Gunther had several prominent parts, including the lead melody line in Dowland’s ‘Sweet Love Doth Now Invite.’”

Gunther received another honor this semester when he was selected to be a substitute player with the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra. “That’s one of the biggest things that’s happened to me,” he said. “I played fourth trumpet for their performance of Boléro. It paid \$65.”

The future is wide open for Gunther. While he ponders symphony orchestras, military bands and other options, he will strive to improve and to be heard.

“I don’t know how good I can become,” he said. “My short-term goal is to get my name out in this community because I am new here. Longer term, I plan to get a master’s degree in trumpet performance.” ✨

## Student's essay to appear in 'Real Writing' textbook

Courtney Stoker had just won a regional accounting competition when she learned that an essay she wrote had been selected for inclusion in a popular textbook on writing.

Stoker's essay "The Great Debate: Essentialism vs. Dominance" was selected as a model of exemplary college writing for the 6th edition of the textbook "Real Writing: Paragraphs and Essays for College, Work, and Everyday Life with Readings" by Susan Anker and published by Bedford/St. Martin's.

"The Great Debate" was first featured in the 2011 edition of UNCP's magazine *ReVisions: Best Student Essays*. In her essay, Stoker analyzed the "language of gender," citing a wide variety of references to make her case.

The essay went through many revisions and is based on quality research, said Dr. Teagan Decker, who assigned the essay in her honors composition class. Dr. Decker is also director of the University Writing Center and current editor of *ReVisions*.

"She really thought the topic through, and I like that she analyzed both sides of the issue," said Dr. Decker. "Courtney is a really intelligent and motivated person who put a lot of work into this essay. It's great to see an accounting major who is good in another area.

"I'm pretty sure what happened is the textbook's editors read *ReVisions* online," Dr. Decker said. "I was really excited about the selection. It is a validation of the quality of our magazine and our students' writing."

Stoker sat down for an interview a week before her trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national championship of the Association of Government Accountants' (ASG) Case Study Challenge. She pondered the relationship between accounting and writing.

"When I was good with numbers in high school, my teachers said I should major in business or science," she said. "I did have one English teacher who begged me to be an English major.

"I have a gift for talking, but numbers are what I really like – it's the rules and guidelines," Stoker said. "And there's the money."

Stoker's presentation to the ASG judges would show off her diverse skills. She promised an entertaining show.

"I'd like it to be interesting, if that's possible in government accounting," Stoker laughed.

Her essay generated interest, too. "On the essay, I just really got into the topic," she said. "I'm a bit of a feminist."

Two excerpts from "The Great Debate" demonstrate why it was selected. After drawing readers in with a baited "hook" in first paragraph, her thesis statement gets to the point: "While a pretty solid consensus exists among scholars and the general public that differences in communication purposes and styles exist, the conflict lies in why these differences are present."

After a thorough discussion of the issue, she concluded: "Honestly, we may never be able to confidently and empirically show the root of differences between men and women; the



human experience may simply be too complex and multi-dimensional to pinpoint the cause. However, it is important to continue to look for answers in determining how and why men and women are different so that future generations can communicate more effectively."

So, what are the characteristics of an accountant who is also an outstanding writer? And what advice does Stoker have for her fellow student writers?

"I don't like texting or email," she said. "I call them, so they can hear the tone of my voice. I'd rather talk in person because I like to use my hands when I talk."

On writing, Stoker advised, "Just jump in and start. Get something down [on paper] even if you change it. It doesn't have to be perfect the first time. Then, revise, revise, revise."

UNCP has been a good fit for Stoker in several ways. "Coming here was the best decision I ever made," she said. "The faculty is outstanding in all departments. I got (congratulatory) emails from professors I didn't know."

Scholarships and membership in the Esther Maynor Honors College are on Stoker's resume. She is president of the Accounting Students Association, treasurer and community service coordinator of the Honors Council and a member of Alpha Chi honor society and the Society for Human Resource Management.

Perhaps the most important contribution UNCP made in Stoker's life took place long before she stepped on campus. "If it weren't for UNCP, I wouldn't be here," she said. "My parents [Mickey and Minnie Stoker of the class of 1982] met here."

While Stoker is quick to praise UNCP's influence in her life, it's clear she has kept up her side of the balance sheet. Her remarkable aptitude in both language and math sets her apart. And although written by someone who favors accounting ledgers to manuscripts, Stoker's essay shows her ability to articulate an issue that continues to confound communication among men and women. Not bad for a numbers person. ☀



# Miss UNCP

## Jocelyn Hunt is Miss UNCP

Jocelyn Hunt, a senior public relations major, was crowned Miss UNCP 2012 with a crowd of approximately 1,200 looking on in the Givens Performing Arts Center.

Hunt demonstrated the talent and poise of a contender for the Miss North Carolina crown, which she will compete for in June. An appreciative and boisterous crowd watched for two-and-a-half hours before the new queen was crowned.

The 60th anniversary edition of the Miss UNCP Scholarship Pageant featured entertainment from former queens, including Karen Jenkins, Miss Pembroke State College 1966. She performed a tap routine to the music "Jump Joint."

"The pageant was different in 1966," Jenkins said. "Students voted among five finalists, and we were crowned at a homecoming basketball game. I guess I was homecoming queen, too."

Jenkins along with Teresa Oxendine, Miss Pembroke State University 1974; Kristy Woods Billings, Miss Pembroke State University 1989; Morgan Hunt Warriax, Miss UNCP 2005; and Jamee Hunt, Miss UNCP 2008, warmed up the audience, which included dozens of visiting queens and

princesses and their crowns.

UNCP's pageant is getting a great deal of respect for its large crowds and professional management, as Miss North Carolina Pageant executive director Beth Knox noted. "We have 30 to 35 preliminary pageants each year, and this is my favorite," she said. "This crowd is so fantastic."

Pageant emcee Miss North Carolina 2011 Hailey Best agreed. "I heard this would be like a rock concert, and they were right," she said.

A Raeford, N.C., resident, Hunt showed confidence in the on-stage interview. Dr. Diane Jones, the retiring executive director of the pageant, said Hunt had the strongest interview in preliminary competition that she has witnessed. Dr. Jones has worked with the pageant since 1989.

"She nailed her interview," Dr. Jones said. "Jocelyn has pageant experience, and she will be a strong contender for the Miss North Carolina crown. We are looking forward to Raleigh."

Chancellor Carter gave Dr. Jones roses and showered her with praise. The 34-year veteran UNCP administrator and vice chancellor for Student Affairs announced her retirement the morning of the event.

"This is a special night for many reasons," Dr. Carter said.





"The woman who has meant so much to this pageant for many years, Dr. Diane Jones, announced her retirement earlier today. Diane will be sorely missed by the university community."

Dr. Jones enjoyed the evening. "It was a memorable night with a lot of history," she said. "This was a talented group of contestants and a very nice production."

Hunt won a \$1,000 scholarship, housing and a meal plan for her year as Miss UNCP. She will also receive a wardrobe allowance for the Miss North Carolina pageant.

First runner-up was Saudia Horton, a biology major from Pleasant Garden, N.C. She won a \$500 scholarship.

Second runner-up was Arlene Grady, an art education major from Spring Hope, N.C. She won a \$300 scholarship. Grady also won Miss Congeniality and the Jessica Reed Family Community Service Award.

Chasity Chavis, Miss UNCP 2011, crowned Hunt after giving a farewell performance. Among the many performances, Best and fellow emcee, Michelle Braxton, sang. Former Miss UNCP and the 1999 Miss North Carolina Rebecca Revels sang a duet with Patrick Strickland.

Former Miss Pembroke State Colleges, Miss Pembroke State Universities and Miss UNCPs returned for the 60th anniversary event. Returning queens included: Rosa Dial Woods 1952, Mary Pinchbeck Teets 1955, Flora Locklear Scott 1957, Judy Locklear Lowery 1962, Karen Gibson Jenkins, 1966, Mary Covington Baker 1968, Cynthia Brown 1973, Teresa Oxendine 1974, Kathy Gooden Cates 1982, Kristy Woods-Billings 1989, Eustacia Lowry Jones 1990, Renee Steele 1991, Dana Lowery Ramseur 1993, Lisa Mitchell Belcher 1996, Hilca Rosario-Casado Lewis 1998, Jessica Reed 2000, Morgan Hunt Warriax 2005, Deidra Locklear 2007, and Jamee Hunt 2008.

It wasn't all glamour and crowns. The former queens also raised \$12,910 for the Miss UNCP Scholarship. Alumni Director Renee Steele, who was Miss PSU 1991, organized the raffle.

On a sad note, the pageant was dedicated to the late Florence Ransom, a long-time volunteer. 🌟



Jocelyn with first runner-up Saudia Horton (right) and second runner-up Arlene Grady



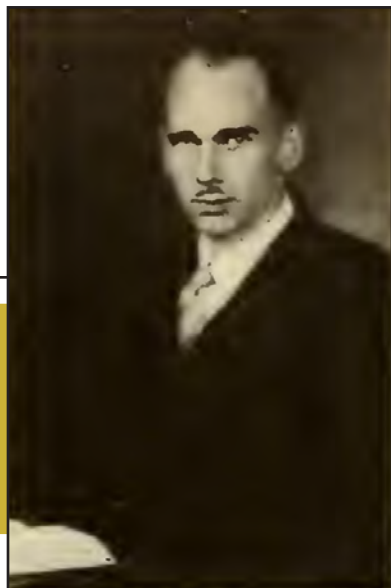
Jocelyn in evening gown competition



Former Miss UNCPs on stage at the pageant

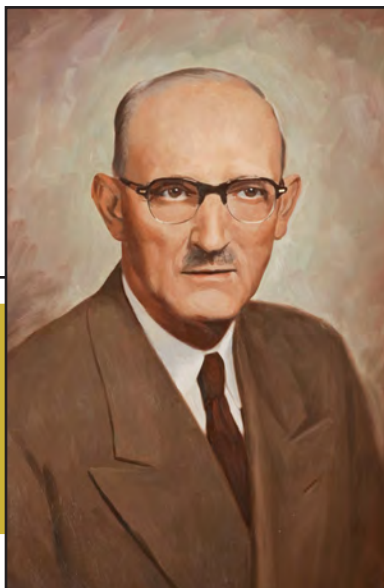


# A Tradition of...



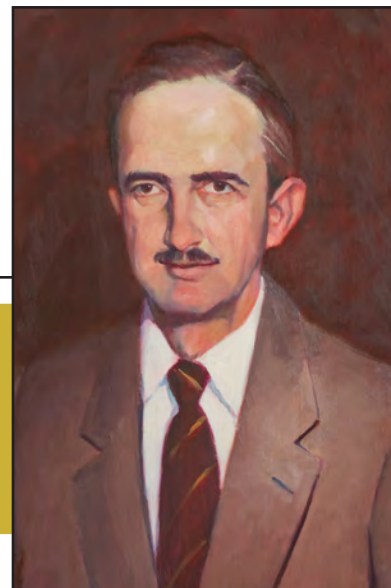
**Dr. O.H. (Owens Hand) Browne**  
Acting President 1940 – 1942

Before 1940, the leaders of the school had titles of headmaster or superintendent. When the Cherokee Indian Normal School of Robeson County offered its first four-year curriculum, the title became “president” and the school a college. With an enrollment of 129, the school was on a roll when Dr. Browne was named interim president. In 1941, the school’s name was changed to Pembroke State College for Indians. Unfortunately, war broke out and enrollment shrank as men everywhere headed to war.



**Dr. Ralph D. Wellons**  
President 1942 – 1956

Dr. Wellons was the first permanent president of the college. With him came the liberal arts designation in 1951. Following the war, the men came home armed with the GI Bill and the college flourished. This was the first era of football. O.R. Sampson, Locklear and Moore halls were completed. In 1949, “for Indians” was dropped from the name. In 1953, at the request of the board of trustees, the North Carolina General Assembly opened the college to white students. Dr. Wellons advocated for a local hospital and admission of American Indians to graduate schools. In his farewell address to the board, he advocated for a learning environment in an “atmosphere of freedom and goodwill.”



**Dr. Walter J. Gale**  
President 1956 – 1962

Although enrollment had sagged as veterans graduated, it slowly increased to 758 by the end of Dr. Gale’s tenure. He began a program of student recruitment in local high schools. Dr. Gale is believed to have encouraged students to participate in the January 18, 1958, rout of the Ku Klux Klan at Hayes Pond in Maxton. Perhaps, he feared that a Klan victory would mean they would turn their attention to the biracial college next.

**English E. Jones**  
**President 1962 – 1972,**  
**Chancellor 1972 – 1979**

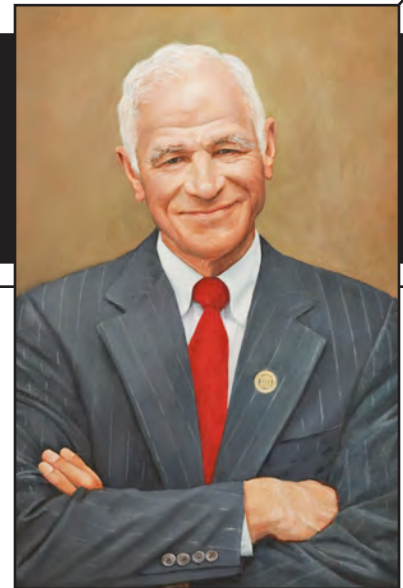
Jones was the first American Indian president and first chancellor. Pembroke State College emerged as Pembroke State University, a regional university in the new UNC system. Enrollment surged to 2,334 by the end of Jones' tenure. This was the biggest building era in campus history. As he left office, the first graduate students were receiving degrees.

**Dr. Paul R. Givens**  
**Chancellor 1979 – 1989**

Dr. Givens rededicated Old Main and presided over the centennial celebration. He launched the first \$1 million Centennial Celebration Campaign. He founded the Chancellor's Club and staged top-notch shows at the Performing Arts Center, which was renamed for him in 1985. Adolph L. Dial Humanities Building and the James B. Chavis University Center were completed in 1980 and 1987 respectively.

**Dr. Joseph B. Oxendine**  
**Chancellor 1989 – 1999**

Enrollment passed 3,000 under Dr. Oxendine's administration. New programs like the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Teaching Fellows, MBA and Master of Organizational Leadership and Management (now Public Administration) flourished. Fundraising hit new highs. Dr. Oxendine was able to unify administration into the new Lumbee Hall in 1995. Perhaps his biggest accomplishment was less tangible. Dr. Oxendine forged wide agreement with all stakeholders to change the name of the university to The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.



# Leadership





**Dr. Allen C. Meadors**  
**Chancellor 1999 – 2009**

UNC President Molly Broad charged Dr. Meadors to grow the university. From an enrollment of a little more than 3,000, the university topped out at near 7,000. Another construction boom was fueled by an injection of \$57 million from N.C. Higher Education Bonds. Four new residence halls, one with apartments, were constructed. Following the most successful fundraising campaign in university history, bringing in \$3.5 million, football returned in 2007.



**Dr. Charles R. Jenkins**  
**Interim Chancellor 2009 – 2010**

When Dr. Meadors suddenly resigned to take a similar post at the University of Central Arkansas, UNC President Erskine Bowles called on Dr. Jenkins. More than an interim, Dr. Jenkins had been a seasoned and loyal university administrator and faculty member for more than 38 years. For a year characterized by recession and painful budget cuts, he brought energy to the university and reinstated Founders' Day.



**Dr. Kyle R. Carter**  
**Chancellor 2010 – Present**

Dr. Carter has brought veteran leadership to the university. The former provost at Western Carolina University got to work quickly raising standards and reorganizing student support services to boost retention. He returned commencement to the Quad, the university's most hallowed ground. In March, Dr. Carter declared a 14-month celebration of the university's 125th anniversary. Shortly afterward, he honored the university's history by launching the Southeastern American Indian Studies program, which will become a national leader in research, scholarship and outreach.

# 125 years



### The Founders

Hamilton McMillan  
W. L. Moore  
Preston Locklear

Isaac Brayboy  
James E. Dial  
James "Big Jim" Oxendine  
J.J. Oxendine  
Olin Oxendine



**CROATAN NORMAL SCHOOL - 1887**

CHEROKEE INDIAN NORMAL SCHOOL OF ROBESON COUNTY

INDIAN NORMAL SCHOOL OF ROBESON COUNTY



John A.B. Lowry, First High School Graduate, Second from Institution

First Two-Year Normal School Graduates

First Third-Year Graduates

First Four-Year Baccalaureate Degree Awarded

1887

1905

1908

1909

1911

1912

1913

1923

1928

1938

1940

1941

143 Enrolled

First females graduate:

Winnie Lee Bell & Ruth Sampson

Campus Relocated to Present Location



**D. F. Lowry**  
First Graduate



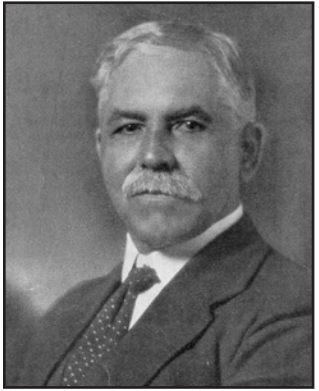
**Tom Oxendine**  
130 Students and Alumni serve in WWII

PEMBROKE STATE COLLEGE FOR INDIANS

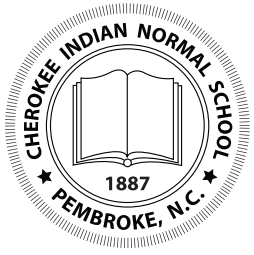


**Old Main Opens**

**O. R. Sampson**  
Trustee 1896-1928







**O.R. SAMPSON HALL - 1949**



**MARY LIVERMORE LIBRARY - 1967**



**HERBERT G. OXENDINE SCIENCE BUILDING - 1967**

**Ralph D. Wellons**  
First President



Four Year Accreditation



**Christian White**  
1953 - 54  
First Non-Native Graduate



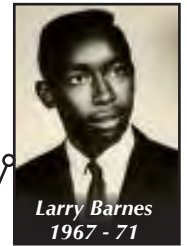
**Walter J. Gale**  
1954



**English E. Jones**  
1956



**Sylvia Baugham Banks**  
1967 - 69



**Larry Barnes**  
1967 - 71

First African-American Graduates

1942 1946 1949 1951 1953 1954 1956 1962 1967 1969 1972

PEMBROKE STATE COLLEGE

PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY

Joins UNC System



**Football**  
1946 - 1950



**Ira Pate Lowry & Reba Lowry**  
'Hail to PSC' - 1954

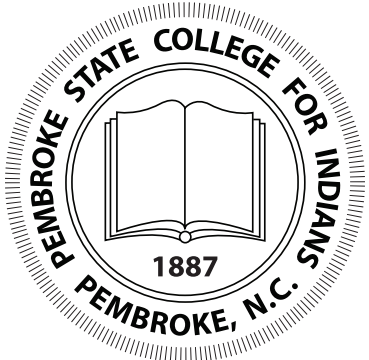


**Cross Country**  
National Champs  
1978



'Braves' Nickname Adopted 1946

**Old Main Burns**  
1973



**ANDERSON LOCKLEAR HALL - 1950**

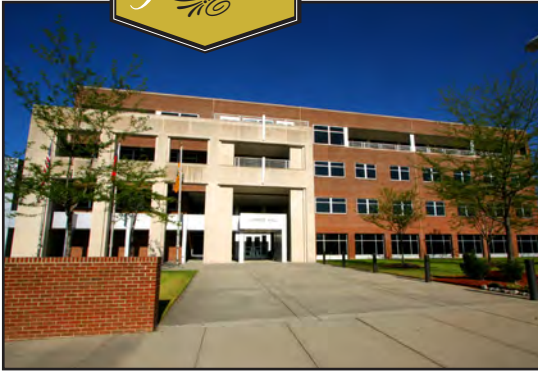


**W. L. MOORE HALL - 1951**

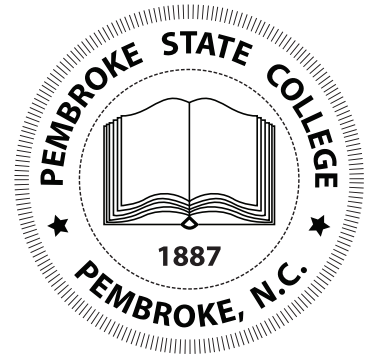




**JAMES B. CHAVIS  
UNIVERSITY CENTER - 1987**



**LUMBEE HALL - 1995**



**Paul R. Givens**

**Hamilton McMillan**  
Statue Unveiled



Old Main  
Reopens



**Lowry  
Bell Tower**  
Dedicated



**Joseph B.  
Oxendine**

**Red-Tailed  
Hawk**  
Mascot  
Unveiled



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH  
CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE



**Allen C.  
Meadors**



**Kyle R. Carter**



**Football**  
2007



5,000  
Enrollment

6,000  
Enrollment

Joined Peach Belt and  
NCAA Division II



**Mike Williams**  
2012 NCAA  
Wrestling Champ

**ENGLISH E. JONES HEALTH  
AND P.E. BUILDING - 1973**



**PAUL R. GIVENS PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER - 1975**



**HEALTH SCIENCES  
BUILDING - 2012**





## Brother, sister led golf to 'golden era'

By Todd Anderson

Shauna Walor will readily admit that she is no match for her brother Jordan on the golf course. However, she says the rivalry between the two siblings has not always been one-sided.

You see, when the two siblings were growing up in New Hampshire, Shauna was quite the budding field hockey player. Not to be outdone, Jordan regularly challenged his younger sister to "friendly" games in the backyard.

"He always thought he could beat me at (field hockey)," Shauna said.

"But we would always play games in the yard back (in New Hampshire), and he could never beat me. He would make up different rules that didn't have anything to do with the sport just to win. He didn't like to lose to me."

But if there is one thing that the two can definitely agree on, it is the fact that they have been a part of the so-called "golden era" of the UNCP golf program – an era that has produced Peach Belt Conference championships on both the men's and women's sides, as well as numerous other tournament titles.

But it was fate that brought the Walors to Pembroke in the first place. In his early teens, Jordan was excelling at a game that his father had identified as a strength for him at an early age. Shauna, on the other hand, was excelling in a variety of other sports, including field hockey.

"Jordan picked up a plastic club at a very early age, and I noticed he had a nice little swing," said their father, John Walor. "When I went to play, he always wanted to go with me and always enjoyed it so much. In the New England area, your practice time is limited, so we thought about going South to see what happens."

So, with the prospect of developing Jordan's golf game, the Walors made the move to Wake Forest, to hone his skills in a friendly climate. Shauna was less thrilled.

"I was pretty mad at first," admitted Shauna, who played softball, basketball and a handful of other sports. "It was different," she said. "We had to leave our family, and I didn't know anybody in Wake Forest. And I pretty much hated golf."

It was a move that, even Jordan admits, made him feel a little guilty. "I always felt kind of guilty, leaving her at home when I went and played after we moved," Jordan said. "One day I told her she was coming with me."

That day, in the midst of Shauna's freshman year in high school, may have been the turning point, not only for the Walor family, but also for the golf program in Pembroke. Something changed that day. The girl who once hated the game, and who placed a lot of the blame on the golf for her unhappiness,



suddenly began to develop a different viewpoint.

"I don't know what happened," Shauna said. "(Playing golf) started to be relaxing and frustrating at the same time. I enjoyed hitting my driver, and being on the course with Jordan was nice because he didn't have to invite me."

UNCP head coach David Synan had already begun to take notice of Shauna's skills by the end of her junior year. It was that skill set that led him to Wake Forest to investigate further. Upon arriving, Synan got a surprise when he found out that Shauna had a brother who had escaped the notice of NCAA Division I head coaches. Another twist of fate maybe?

"Jordan didn't get the attention we thought he might after being in North Carolina for a while. He kind of slipped through the cracks," said John Walor. "Shauna was always known as Jordan's sister (in New Hampshire), so it was kind of funny at first when he was known as 'her brother' when they got to (Pembroke)."

Jordan's collegiate career in Pembroke got off to a grand start as the rookie led the team with a 72.8 stroke average en route to being selected a PING NCAA Division II Honorable Mention All-American and PBC Freshman of the Year. Along the way, he earned tournament titles at the Laker Collegiate Classic and the Lenoir-Rhyne/Catawba Intercollegiate Tournaments, while finishing second at the PBC Championships. He also qualified as an individual for the 2009 NCAA South/Southeast Regional. Just a year later, he led the league with a 72.4 stroke average, while also capturing the individual PBC Championship.

To date, he booked 30 career top-20 finishes (43 total events), including 18 tournaments in which he finished among the top five golfers. He has taken home eight tournament championships, including three this season. He put the cherry on top of a storied collegiate career by taking home the PBC's coveted Male Golfer of the Year award. At the time of this publication, Jordan and the Braves were competing at the NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championships in Louisville, Ky. – a first for Pembroke.

"His attitude is what sets him apart," Shauna said. "When

he's out on the golf course, if he has a bad hole, in his mind he always knows he can make up for it on the next hole. He is so well-rounded outside of golf that, in golf, his attitude is a major reason why he is so successful."

Success has defined Shauna's collegiate career as well. She followed her brother by nabbing PBC Freshman of the Year honors at the conclusion of a rookie season that saw her rank seventh in the league with an 82.1 stroke average. As a sophomore, she ranked fourth in the PBC with a 77.4 stroke average, captured a pair of PBC Golfer of the Week honors and won her first tournament in the AASU Lady Pirate Invitational.

Over the course of her three-year career, she has 26 career top-20 finishes (32 total events), including eight tournaments in which she finished among the top five golfers on the individual leaderboard. This season, Shauna was listed 10th among PBC golfers with a 79.3 stroke average while finishing in a tie for sixth at the league championships.

"She's got the Walor name. That's what makes her so good," Jordan said. "We are competitive in everything that we do, and she wants to be the best at everything she does. She was that way in field hockey, softball and basketball too. She plays at a very high level in everything."

Together, they have combined for one PBC Golfer of the Year, two PBC Freshman of the Year, seven all-conference honors and nine tournament championships at UNCP. The individual dominance has transferred to team dominance as well. Both teams were ranked among the nation's top-10 teams this season, and both squads made appearances in the NCAA postseason.

The natural question now would be: Which Walor is better?

"We like playing together, and I always like to play against him, but I really do not have a chance against him," Shauna said. "He only likes to play me straight up – he doesn't spot me any extra strokes or anything. I guarantee you that if he gave me a couple of strokes, I could beat him."

It is sibling rivalry at its best. As for the field hockey competitions back in New Hampshire? Jordan does not deny anything.

"I did make up my own rules," laughed the elder sibling. "I was allowed to use both sides of the stick and she was only allowed to use one." ☀️



From left: K.J. Cooper, George Blakeney and Shamel Brackett

## It's 'California or Bust' for Basketball Team

The resurgent men's basketball team is hitting the road next fall to gain early season experience and exposure, according to coach Ben Miller, and they may need a little help to get there.

"We are expecting our most experienced and talented team next season," Miller said. "The West Coast trip is a tremendous competitive and educational opportunity for our team. Some of our student-athletes have never been on an airplane. Not only will they get to see another part of the country, but also compete against some high level Division I and Division II teams."

- The first part of the trip includes two exhibition games versus Stanford on Nov. 4 and the University of San Francisco on Nov. 5.
- The second opportunity is the Disney Tip-off Classic, Nov. 9-11 in Anaheim, Calif., competing against the most competitive Division II teams in the nation.

"It is an exciting opportunity that will require a significant investment (\$50,000)," coach Miller said. "The good news is we've already raised nearly \$35,000 through 'guarantee' games and contributions.

"We appreciate the former Braves and supporters who have already stepped up to help financially. We are trying to get the word out to any other former players, alums and friends who may want to help with the additional costs," he said. "We would also love to see you at the Basketball Reunion on October 20 for a football game, tailgating and intra-squad basketball scrimmage. We want to continue to build a program you can be proud of every year!" ☀️





National  
Champion  
Mike Williams

## Wrestling's breakthrough season

The wrestling team turned in one of its finest seasons in school history by finishing in a tie for eighth at the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships – despite qualifying just three wrestlers for the event. The Braves finished the dual meet portion of their season with a 6-6 record, including wins over region foes Belmont Abbey, Seton Hill, West Liberty, Anderson and St. Andrews, as well as a victory over Lake Erie.

During the NCAA Super Region I Tournament, which UNCP was hosting for the second time in five years, 141-pounder Daniel Ownbey finished second, 165-pounder Mike Williams finished first and 197-pounder Shane Nolan finished second earning the trio berths in the national tournament.

In Pueblo, Colo., all three wrestlers finished among the top six nationally en route to All-American honors, while Williams brought home UNCP's first wrestling national championship with a perfect 4-0 run through the 165-pound championship bracket. Ownbey, who finished third, went undefeated through the consolation bracket after getting knocked out in the quarterfinals, while Nolan won his first two matches before settling for sixth place. ✨

## Women were outstanding

The women's basketball team booked its best overall record in seven years, as well as a school record for Peach Belt Conference victories. The Lady Braves finished with a 16-12 overall record, while posting a solid 12-6 mark en route to third place honors in the PBC's East Division.

Along the way, the Black & Gold picked up some impressive wins, including a 52-46 home upset of then-No. 11 USC Aiken, as well as a 63-62 road upset of then-No. 19 Lander, who would eventually finish among the nation's top 10 teams after advancing to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight.

Courtney Bolton earned all-league laurels after averaging a team-best 12 points per game, while seniors DeDe Cotton and Domonique Washington joined Jazmine Kemp on the North Carolina Collegiate Sports Information Association's All-State Team. ✨

their season with an exhibition tilt at preseason No. 1-ranked UNC-CH and finished the campaign with the most wins (12) inside the English E. Jones Center in school history. After going 4-3 in November, UNCP posted wins in eight of its next 10 outings, including a 78-69 home upset of then-No. 19 USC Aiken in mid-January, to take over sole possession of first place in the PBC.

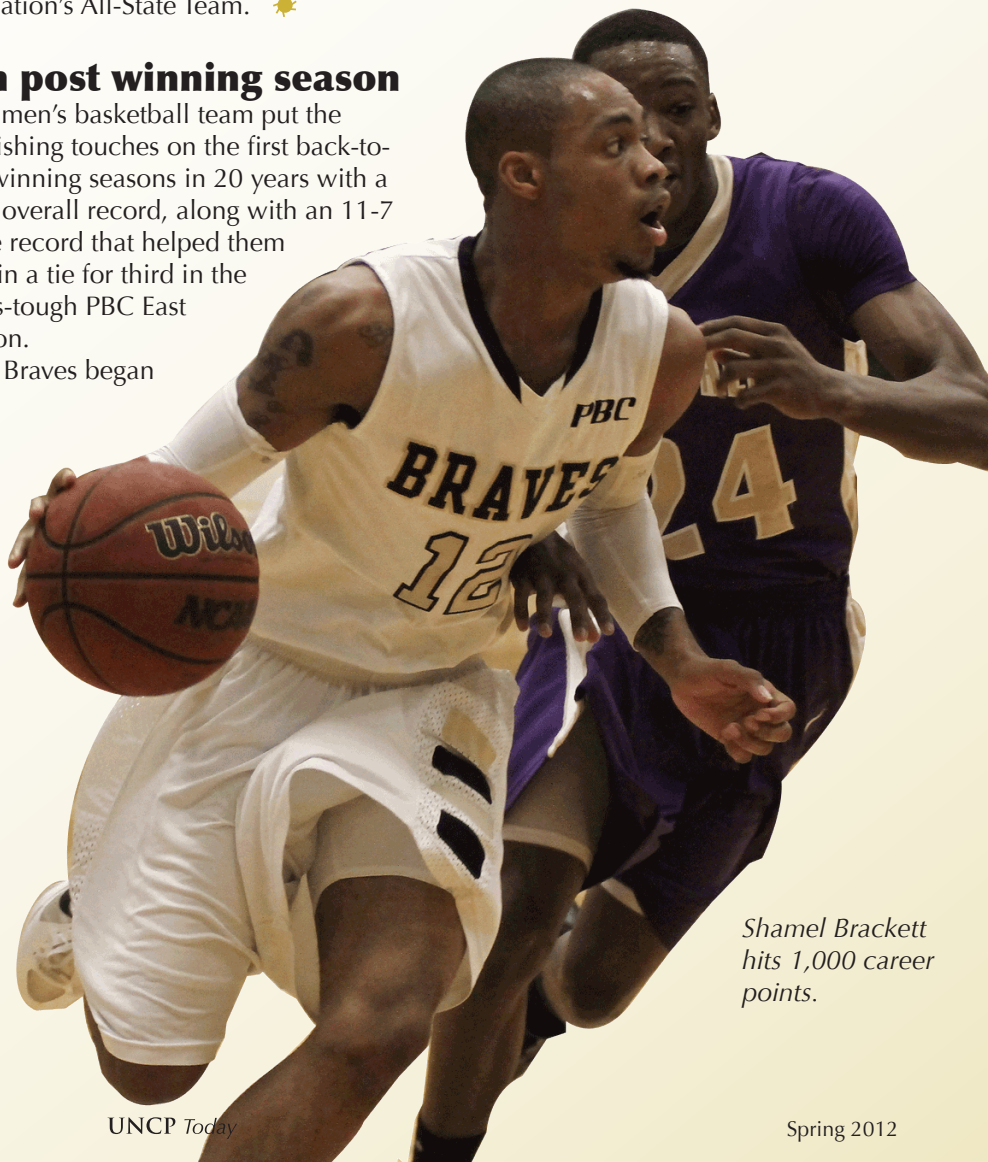
The Braves would drop five of their next seven games before recovering to win three of their final four heading into their second-straight PBC tournament appearance.

Junior Shamel Brackett became the 28th member of the men's basketball team's 1,000-point club in early January, collected all-league laurels for the second-straight year and then joined front court mate Marcus Heath on the North Carolina Collegiate Sports Information Association's All-State Team. ✨

## Men post winning season

The men's basketball team put the finishing touches on the first back-to-back winning seasons in 20 years with a 17-12 overall record, along with an 11-7 league record that helped them finish in a tie for third in the always-tough PBC East Division.

The Braves began



Shamel Brackett  
hits 1,000 career  
points.



# Class notes



Miss Indian North Carolina Layla Locklear (right) presents Heritage T-shirts to three of UNCP's oldest living alumni (from left): Tessie Hunt '42, Cattie Mae Hunt '41 and Beulah Mae Ransom Kemerer '39, '52.

## Class of 2011

**Shane Brown** is a hospice social worker with Southeastern Regional Medical Center Hospice House. He resides in Fayetteville.

**Teresa Tubbs** was promoted to financial aid director at Robeson Community College. She resides in Lumberton.

**Heather Reed** is an associate college relations manager for Fidelity Investments.



**Kenneth Burton** has joined Youth Villages as a teacher-counselor at the Youth Villages-

Inner Harbour Campus in Douglasville, Ga. He

provides residential treatment to children with emotional, behavioral and mental health issues.

## Class of 2010

**Tamika Owens** resides in Naples, Italy, with her husband, Staff Sgt. Sylvester Owens II. She recently took the LSAT and will be applying to law school.

**Emily Graves** has joined the David H. Murdock Research Institute in Kannapolis. She was published as a co-author of undergraduate and graduate students of Dr. Ben Bahr in UNCP's Biotechnology Lab in the Regional Center at COMtech.

**Chante Hargrove** is a community liaison with Victorian Senior Care. She resides in Rowland.

**Amy Cox** is employed with Bryan Honda as a title clerk. She lives in Hope Mills.

**Gilberto Alvarado** works for UNC General Administration as an academic adviser. He resides in Fayetteville.

**Sara Allen** is a leasing consultant with Independence Place. She lives in Fayetteville.

## Class of 2009

**Andrea Locklear** is a program coordinator with North American Indigenous Ministries. She resides in Maxton.

**Ann Lowery Windom** is a registered nurse at Southeastern Regional Medical Center. She lives in Lumberton.

**Amanda Slaughter** is employed with the Department of Defense's Child Youth Services as a CYS program dance instructor. She is married to **Matt Slaughter '09**, an active duty soldier in the U.S. Army. The couple resides in White Sands, N.M.

**Candace M. Dial** is employed with Robeson County Department of Social Services. She was promoted to supervisor of Child Protective Services. Candace resides in Maxton.

**Anthony Dwayne Bullard** is an education assistant at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. In his

role, he communicates and interprets native cultures of the Western Hemisphere. In 2005, he achieved Museum Studies Certification from the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, N.M.

## Class of 2008

**Alan Chase** is teaching for Wake County Schools and received his master's degree in special education from NC State University on May 12. He returned to the university on May 4 to celebrate the completion of the Braves Disabled Student Enrichment Endowed Scholarship, which he helped start six years ago.

## Class of 2007

**Matt Swift** is an associate director for the City of Lexington. He resides in Davidson.

**Andrea Bethauser** is a physician assistant with Village Family Care Center. She completed her Master of Medical Science degree from Methodist University in 2010. Bethauser lives in Fayetteville.

**Kenneth Lance Bowen '02, '07** was appointed the principal of Ashley High School in New Hanover County.

**Stephanie Monroe** was named Moore County Teacher of the Year. She teaches at West Pine Elementary.

**Mark Salazar '07**, a sergeant with the Special Forces, died on May 5 in Fayetteville. He was an outstanding basketball player and honors student. Salazar scored 18 points against the University of Oklahoma in a 2005 pre-season game. He was also on the Peach Belt President's Honor Roll.



# Class

## Class of 2006

**Leslie Hewett Drennan '94, '06** is employed with the Public Schools of Robeson County as the positive behavioral interventions and supports coordinator. Leslie resides in Lumberton.

**Jason Erick Hunt** is a music minister with Columbia Road Church of God. He lives in Orangeburg, S.C.

**Heather Scarboro** was named to the 2012 Fayetteville Observer's Top 40 Under Forty. She is a candidate for a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling at UNCP.

**Douglas Scott Thompson** is employed with N.C. Farm Bureau as a field adjuster. He is married to **Sarah Parker Thompson '06**. Sarah is the information security officer for State Employees Credit Union. On July 24, 2011, their daughter, Carolina Brooke Thompson, was born. They live in Willow Springs.

**John Thompson** is employed with Grifols, a multinational pharmaceutical and chemical company. He resides in Clayton with his wife, Betsy, and children, Leah and Ethan.

**Carla Baxley Hickman** is an exceptional children's teacher at Red Springs High School. She is presently working on her master's in reading education.

Carla lives in Red Springs.

**Erick Hines** is a community living specialist with Advoserv of New Jersey. He resides in West Collingswood, N.J.

**Erin Berry** is a full-time faculty lecturer for Morgan State University in the Department of Communications Studies. She teaches classes in the areas of qualitative and quantitative research methods, media studies and speech.

**Leslie Liszcz** graduated from King's College London with a post-graduate certificate in education. She is employed with Plumstead Manor School as an English teacher. She resides in London, England.

## Class of 2005

**Tara Jo Blue** is a project director for the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. She lives in Lumberton.

**Brandon Knight** is a program specialist with the Office of Policy and International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy. Knight completed his Master of Public

Administration degree from North Carolina Central University in June 2011. He lives in Camp Springs, Md.

## Class of 2004

**Amanda Brooks** is a general manager with SportsLink; she lives in Charlotte.

**Calvin Webster** is a usability engineer with the software company SPARC, LLC. Webster married Anne Marie Ciccolini on Sept. 4, 2000. The couple resides in Hanahan, S.C.

**Rose Cooper** was named Moore County Principal of the Year. She is principal of Crain's Creek Middle School.

## Class of 2003

**Kylie Cirioli McKinney** is employed with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools as teacher. She resides in Charlotte with her husband and daughter, Lillian.

**Rennie Harrington-Jones** is

pleased to announce the birth of Ella Mae Jones, born on Sept. 27, 2011.

## Class of 2002

**Anquonette Stilles** is a chiropractor. She resides in Austell, Ga.



**Carver Campbell** is a 2nd Lt. in the Army. He is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas. Campbell with *Dan Kenney, Athletic Director.*

## Class of 2001

**Nicholas Anderson** is employed with WakeMed as a senior planning analyst. He lives in Raleigh.

Find us on **Facebook** and **Twitter**.



[www.facebook.com/uncpembroke/](http://www.facebook.com/uncpembroke/)

<http://twitter.com/uncpembroke/>



# notes



## Tessie Hunt '42 Lumbee Elder of Year

It's been a big year for Tessie Hunt '42.

She is the current Elder of the Year for the Lumbee Tribe. For her good works, state Rep. Charles Graham presented her with the

Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Hunt is a founding member of the Tribal Elders and participates regularly in their activities, including quilt making.

On March 14, Tessie Hunt '42 attended the kick-off celebration for the university's 125th anniversary. Miss Indian North Carolina Layla Locklear presented UNCP Heritage t-shirts to Hunt, Bulah Mae Ransom Cormier '39, '52 and Cattie Mae Hunt '41.

The trio had a seat of honor as the oldest alumni in the audience.

After graduation from then-Pembroke State College, Tessie Hunt taught school for two years in Fairmont, worked in nursing at Baker Hospital in Lumberton and returned to teaching at Magnolia High School, where she remained for 28 years.

Her service to children has included teaching Bible studies in the Dakotas, Oklahoma, Maine and New York. For many years, she was a member of the Pembroke chapter of the Business and Professional Women's club, which endowed a scholarship at UNCP several years ago.

Congratulations, Tessie Hunt! 🌟

## Class of 2000

**Tyler J. Collins** married the former Katherine Leigh Jordan at the North Carolina Aquarium on April 30, 2011. The couple resides in Lumberton.

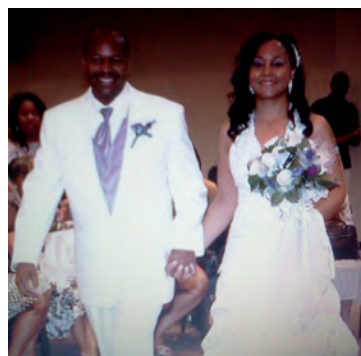
## Patricia Hollingsworth

has been named director of communications for Cumberland County Schools.

## Class of 1998

**Elzetter Maria Oxendine** is employed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and Inspection Service as a supervisory consumer safety inspector.



**Sonja P. Anderson** of Atlanta, Ga., formerly Sonja R. Pearson of Red Springs, married Lynn Anderson on June 4, 2011, at Hillcrest Church of Christ in Decatur, Ga. Anderson is a law clerk in Atlanta; her husband is a law enforcement officer. **Felicia Renee Treadwell '98** served as bridesmaid at the wedding. The couple resides in Atlanta, Ga.

**Chad Morgan** was named 2012 Chatham County Schools' Principal of the Year. He is married to **Lisa Edwards Morgan '99**. The couple resides in Siler City. They have one child, Alejandro (Alex) Morgan.

## Class of 1997

**Curtis 'Trey' Allen III** was promoted to partner in the Tharrington Smith law firm in Raleigh. He lives in Garner.

**Ursulla '97** and **Neal '98 Locklear** are the proud parents of Abigail Grace. She was born

on Nov. 20, 2011, at 2:18 p.m. weighing 7 lbs. 9 oz. and 21 inches long.

## Class of 1996

**Craig Brand** is a business analyst with CSX Railroad. He resides in St. Johns, Fla.

**Clarissa McPherson** received her Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Health Administration from the University of Phoenix on Aug. 1, 2011. She lives in Whiteville.

**Jeff Lolley** is the global director of information security with Hogan Lovells, an international law firm. He resides in Rockville, Md.

## Class of 1994

**Mark Jandreau** is employed with Goodyear Excellence; he resides in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

## Class of 1993

**Lisa S. Denton** is a media coordinator for Cumberland County Schools. She lives in Fayetteville.

## Class of 1992

**Eric Smith**, who lives in Tokyo, has published a self-development book titled "The Path." He has worked in journalism and teaching in school and corporate settings. He earned Japanese language proficiency certification and started a design company, Polyglot Studios, KK.

## Class of 1991

**Carmen Biddle** is a 6th grade science and forensic science teacher with Poquoson Public Schools. Her husband, Bill, a former director of the Givens Performing Arts Center, is the executive director of the Ferguson Center for the Arts in



# Class

Newport News, Va. They live in Poquoson, Va., with their three boys: Jacob, 17; Caleb, 14; and Nick, 12.

**Jerry Caddell** is a social work case manager for FirstHealth of the Carolinas' Moore Rehabilitation Center. He is married to **Brenda B. Caddell '03**. The couple resides in West End.

### Class of 1990

**Brenda Fulmore** is employed with Winston Salem State University as a purchasing and payment coordinator. She lives in Advance.

**Kimberly D'Amico Sebesta** is an area director for N.C. Senior Care Council. She resides in Laurinburg.

### Class of 1988

**Richard Whisenant** is a police captain for the City of Greensboro; he lives in High Point.

**Melody Parnell** was recognized at the Halifax County school board for becoming the second Halifax County teacher to attain National Board Certification.

### Class of 1987

**Rodney Jackson** is employed with Cumberland County Schools as an assistant principal. He resides in Pembroke.

**Jamie K. Oxendine** was appointed to the board of trustees for the Ohio Humanities Council by Ohio Gov. John R. Kasich.

**Angela Witherspoon** is a math teacher with Western Harnett High School; she resides in Bunnlevel.



*From left: Patsy Sampson Locklear, Louise Cummings Maynor, Francis Locklear Kerns, Katherine Roberts Oxendine, Dr. Ben Hardin, Earlena Chavis Lowry, Delmus Graham, Charity Revels, Ronnie Revels, Lillian Deese Brewington and Victoria Brooks Lowry*

### Pembroke High School class of '61 endows a scholarship

Their teachers said they were a special class, and 50 years later Pembroke High School's class of 1961 is proving it – again!

As their 50th high school reunion approached, the class searched for ways to make their mark and decided on an endowed scholarship to benefit graduates of Pembroke High School.

According to the wording of the scholarship: "This endowed scholarship is meant to encourage and inspire recipients to recognize the relevance and the importance of the contributions of Pembroke High School graduates to this country and the belief that education is a means of broadening horizons, pursuing a meaningful career, and advancing the quest to serve all humanity."

The class endowed the scholarship at \$10,000 quickly, and then contributed enough money so that it could be awarded immediately without waiting for interest to accumulate on the endowment.

"At our 50th reunion, the committee

presented the idea to the class, and they approved it unanimously," said Earlena Lowry. "We reached the endowment level by Christmas, and we hope to add to it every year."

Because the university played a central role in the lives and families of the class, UNCP was a popular choice. "We wanted to give back to both our schools," Lowry explained. "I wouldn't be who I am without the Pembroke State College."

At a reception to sign the agreement in February, there was widespread support. Historically, the high school and the normal school have been connected from the founding in 1887. When a new high school was completed in 1939, the school and college separated.

There is great fondness among the members of this class for both schools and for each other. "I am really proud of this class," Lowry said. "I hope this scholarship gives someone else a chance like we had."

Dr. Ben Hardin summed up: "This class prided ourselves on being a class of firsts," he said. "We are the first PHS class to endow a scholarship. It was a good class."

And it still is. ✨

# notes

There is a photo of the BSO in the 1980 Indianhead yearbook. Well-dressed and comprised mostly of athletes, it was an important and active group on campus, and June was a leader with a reputation for getting things done.

"The Black Student Organization was very involved, and they encouraged me to run for SGA president," June said. "My strategy was to link up with other strong groups. I went to the TKEs and gave them my plan."

With a platform to build student activities and student involvement on campus and support from key groups, June won in a landslide. Then he worked to make good on his promises.

"PSU was a suitcase college back then," he said. "I wanted more activities on campus to keep them from going home on weekends."

Using the old gym as a roller skating rink was one idea. Building a new university center with recreational activities like bowling, pool and ping-pong was another. The idea that really resonated on campus was a concert with a name band, like Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show.

"Advance ticket sales were poor, and we were nervous," June said. "By show time, it was filled up. That was a big thing because it took the university out of its comfort zone."

"There were quite a few firsts, and the Black Student Organization were pioneers," he said. "The scholarship keeps the name alive."

Martin is calling on his old friends to make it an endowed scholarship that will keep the name alive forever and help out students financially.

Recently, June's time as the university's first Black SGA president was remembered as part of the SGA Wall of Honor in the James B. Chavis University Center, which opened eight years after he started advocating for it.

Yes, the Martins met and fell in love at Pembroke State University. Carmen's campaign to become the first black homecoming queen was simple, she said. "June was my campaign manager."

If you were or are a friend of June's, you can expect a call. It's doubtful you will be able to say no. ✨



## Black Student Organization scholarship established by June and Carmen Martin

It started with a conversation during Homecoming 2011.

June '80 and Carmen '81 Martin were attending their first fall homecoming with football. Although they had attended several homecomings, work and busy lives put distance between them and their alma mater.

June, a former track star and Student Government Association (SGA) president, retired from a career in criminal justice. Carmen, a former homecoming queen, retired from a career in higher education administration.

As June said, "we're retired, so our time is now."

In conversations with students at homecoming they heard that students were leaving UNCP for financial reasons. "We heard that story, and it was heartbreaking," Carmen said.

"At home that Sunday, we read on the front page of the News and Observer that 500 UNCP students did not return to college for financial reasons," June said. "That's what started it."

The Black Student Organization Endowed Scholarship was born.

# Homecoming 2012

October 27



# Class

## Class of 1986

**Nathan Williams** was recently promoted to area sales manager for Miller Coors, managing five beer distributors. He lives in Lynchburg, Va.

**James Ayars** is the owner/president of Sandhills Academy of Gymnastics, located in Aberdeen. His company was founded in 1991 and serves families in Moore county and surrounding areas. He resides in Pinehurst.

## Class of 1984

**Catherine Evans**, '68, '76, '84 is a retired educator and resides in Newport.

**Delois Hines** is a library technician with Brunswick Community College. She lives in Bladenboro.

## Class of 1983

**Craig Freeman** resides in Wake Forest. Since graduating from UNCP, he has earned the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts in the music industry,

master's degree in music education, Master of Arts in divinity, Master of Arts in ethics and a doctorate in education. He is writing his third book.

## Class of 1981

**Charlotte Williams** received her doctorate in education from the University of Phoenix. In 2010, she retired from the Public Schools of Robeson County. She resides in Lumberton.

## Class of 1980

**Peggy Cecil Owens** completed her Doctor of Ministry degree at Columbia Theological Seminary in December 2011. She married Mark Hind on Nov. 11, 2011.

## Class of 1974

**William Roy** is a senior environmental compliance officer with Cape Fear Public Utility Authority.

## Class of 1972

**Jackie Warner**, a retired principal with Cumberland County Schools, was sworn in on Dec. 5, 2011, as the first woman major for the Town of Hope Mills. She recently opened a gift shop, Carleen's, in Hope Mills.

## Class of 1970

**Howard Barley** is a retired educator; he lives in Mint Hill.

## Class of 1968

**Frank Baker** recently started a home renovation business after

retiring; he resides in Hampton Bays, N.Y.

**George Rogers** is a retired educator. He resides in Aiken, S.C.

**Dr. Reginald Oxendine** is an assistant professor in the School of Education at UNC Pembroke. He lives in Pembroke.

## Class of 1967

**Matthew Kemp Gwynee** retired from McDonald's Corporation in 2008 where he had been the vice president and director of worldwide security for 30 years. In 2011, he became a civics and economics teacher for Western Harnett High School. He resides in Angier.



## Ruth Dial Woods '80 in Women's Hall of Fame

**D**r. Ruth Dial Woods '80 was inducted into the North Carolina Women's Hall of Fame in late 2011. She was one of four inducted, but those who know her say she is one of a kind.

Dr. Woods, a 27-year veteran educator, directed Indian Education for the Public Schools of Robeson County for many years and later joined the faculty of

A life-long advocate of American Indian education, she earned a bachelor's degree from Meredith College, a master's degree in education from UNCP, an Ed.D. in educational administration from South Carolina State University and a Ph.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill in curriculum and instruction.

She advocated for the establishment of the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs. She also camped out on Alcatraz joining in the 1969 American Indian protest.

In retirement, Dr. Woods has not rested in her pursuit of helping out the Pembroke Community. In 2006, she founded Sacred Pathways, a nonprofit that fights hunger and is a haven to those in need in her hometown.

In a recent interview with the Fayetteville Observer, she said "I carry my people on my back," she said. "I carry them in my heart. I'm not just representing myself.

"It's close to my heart because it's a way to reach out to people who don't have families or have gotten off the tracks somewhere along the way because they need to feel that somebody cares and there needs to be a place where they feel they are welcome." ✨

Fayetteville State University. She was the first woman to be appointed to an at-large seat on the UNC Board of Governors.

# notes



## Kim Bullock Lupo discussed research careers in the pharmaceutical industry

Kim Bullock Lupo '05 returned to the Oxendine Science Building on February 28 to explore careers in pharmaceutical research with students.

From Fairmont, Lupo works for IRIX Pharmaceuticals in Florence, S.C., a contract manufacturer of active pharmaceutical ingredients. Her first job was with Metrix Pharma, a contract research company.

Lupo recently completed work on a Master of Science degree in analytical chemistry from UNC Charlotte. She had some solid career advice for the undergraduates.

Research jobs are available for graduates with bachelor's degrees in the Carolinas, and starting pay is in the mid-\$30s, she said. "You are expected to learn quickly, but if you do a good

job pay raises come every six months," Lupo continued. "I've had two promotions."

Small companies offer more opportunity and visibility and

rewards come fast, but "it's all about attitude," she said. "I decided I wanted to be a lab supervisor, and in four years, I did it."

"It's very important to get in the lab as an undergraduate, even if it does not pay," Lupo said. "They also want to see that you were involved because we work in teams."

Communication skills are also important, she said. As a lab supervisor, Lupo works directly with customers. The chemist said she loves her work because it is diverse and stimulating.

Dr. Meredith Storms '02, chemistry professor and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, planned the event. ☀



## Eric Smith '92 pens motivational book

UNCP graduate Eric A. Smith recently announced the publication of his new self-help book, "The Path," a revolutionary book about self-development that explores psychology, neurochemistry, communications theory, exercise and nutrition. In 540 pages, "The Path" outlines methods for excelling in every aspect of life.

Want to succeed at sports? Ace exams? Find romance? Win over an enemy? Raise your IQ? Develop a super-memory? Drop your body fat and stay slim and healthy for life? Live to be 100? "The Path" teaches you how – and much, much more," Smith said. "You have never seen anything like "The Path." This is the real thing – the true secrets

to life, to optimal health, success, self-mastery and fulfillment."

A Chancellor's Scholar and dean's list student, Smith majored in mass communication and graduated. He was a science reporter and photographer for *The Beacon* in Research Triangle Park before moving to Canada and opening his first company. Since that time, he has been teaching in higher education and corporations in Canada, the U.S. and Japan, where he is currently living.

Since arriving in Tokyo, Smith has earned Japanese language proficiency certification and founded his own design company, Polyglot Studios, KK.

"I can't begin to tell you how exciting this is," Smith said. "The chance to share these techniques, which range from studies conducted as

recently as 2011 to ancient wisdom, philosophy and practices from the earliest recorded civilizations, is a rare privilege. There is no question that the secrets contained in this book have the power to fundamentally and permanently change lives in ways never before seen. I challenge your readers to find out what the frontiers of science hold for their life enrichment."

To find out more about "the Path" or browse the book, go to <http://getonthepath.blogspot.com/>.

"It's my mission to help you improve your lot in life – physically, emotionally, financially, spiritually and romantically," Smith continued. "It's bringing Dale Carnegie into the 21st century – applying the latest cutting-edge science to self-improvement." ☀





# Class notes



## Family of former Trustee Ralph H. Lowry establishes a scholarship

More than 50 descendants of Ralph H. Lowry met in Old Main on April 13 to remember a patriarch and a former member of the university's Board of Trustees.

A restored portrait of Lowry was unveiled in the History Room of the Native American Resource Center, and a scholarship was established in the School of Business to honor the former merchant and farmer.

"This is our fifth family reunion," said Janet Leech, a granddaughter. "The scholarship was a collaborative effort among all of us. Ralph Lowry was a fervent believer in education, and almost all of his children went on to advance their education."

Lowry was a trustee from 1929 to 1937 – when UNCP was known as the Cherokee Indian Normal School of Robeson County. Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, thanked the family and commented on a remarkable life.

"We are here to pay tribute to a towering figure in the history of this university," he said. "It's appropriate we celebrate his remarkable legacy during this our 125th anniversary."

"Being a trustee in higher education is no easy undertaking," Dr. Kitts said. "Mr. Lowry was a trustee during the depths of the Great Depression."

As chairman, Lowry helped to celebrate UNCP's 50th anniversary in 1937. He left an extraordinary record at the university. In 1929, there were only four graduates, but in 1937, there were 22. The school began seeing good times in a bad economy.

During Lowry's tenure on the board, the campus grew to 11 buildings, with the addition of a women's residence hall, a faculty cottage and an agriculture-home economics building. The



Ralph H. Lowry's surviving children from left: Adeline Maynor, Carson Lowry and Lottie Hardison

school had just graduated its first students with two-year teaching degrees. While Lowry was on the board, plans were developed to add a third year to the college curriculum and to separate from the high school.

The achievements of Lowry's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren are evident. "He passed on his hard-work ethic to his children," Leech said. "He believed one of the keys to success is education, and many of his descendants attended this university."

Because Lowry was a businessman, the family thought awarding the scholarship to a student in need of financial assistance who is in the School of Business would be appropriate, Leech said.

"An endowed scholarship is a lasting tribute to Ralph Lowry," she said. "On behalf of the family, and in his memory, we would like to express our appreciation to UNCP and share in the university's 125th anniversary celebration."

Dr. Stan Knick, museum curator for the Native American Resource Center, thanked the Lowrys for their gift to the collection. "This room is dedicated to the history of the university. What better place to put this portrait than with the rest of the school's history," he said. ☀

# UNCP

# BRAVES FOOTBALL

## 2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 - at Winston Salem State

Sept. 8 - Fayetteville State

Sept. 15 - at Wingate

Sept. 22 - at Va. - Lynchburg

Sept. 29 - Catawba

Oct. 6 - at Tusculum

Oct. 13 - Charleston

Oct. 20 - Carson - Newman

Oct. 27 - Newberry (Homecoming)

Nov. 10 - at West Liberty



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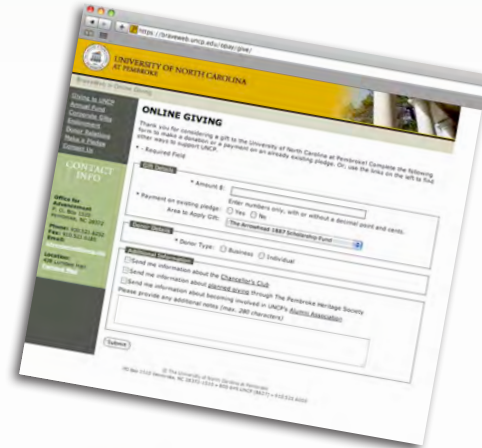


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