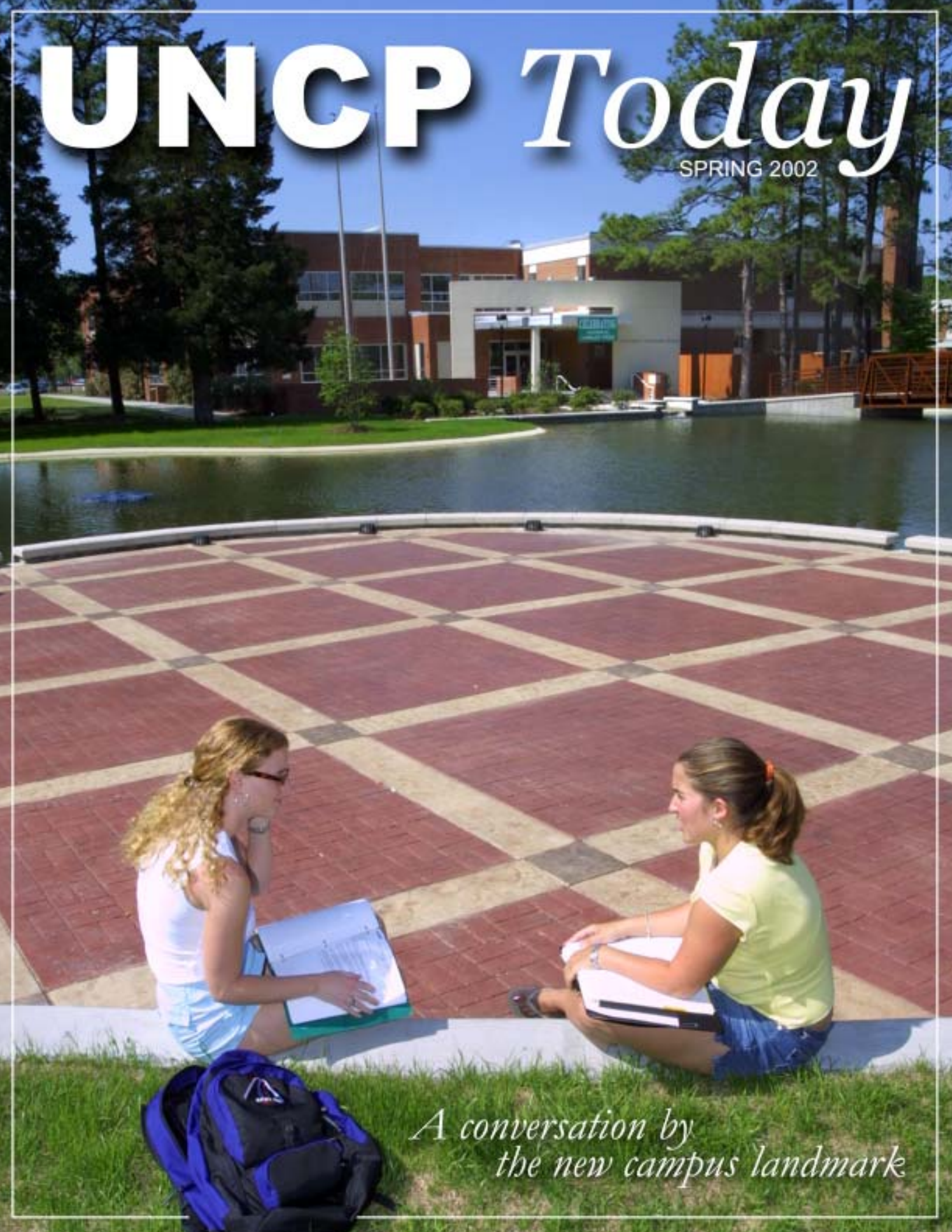


UNCP *Today*

SPRING 2002



*A conversation by
the new campus landmark*

From the Chancellor
Allen C. Meadors, Ph.D., FACHE

Standing room crowds celebrate Homecoming



Homecoming 2002 was celebrated with tremendous crowds and fanfare! Standing-room only audiences poured into a sold-out GPAC Friday and Saturday nights. We also dedicated the new campus water feature, a new symbol of a growing university.

If you did not attend Homecoming, please don't let this stop you from visiting your campus any time. I think you will like what you see. This is a university bursting at the seams with energy and excitement.

Spring enrollment is at an all-time record of 3,737. This mirrors the fall enrollment of 3,933, up 33 percent in just two years.

Freshman enrollment is 700, up almost 50 percent in two years. We have also established new enrollment records for Native Americans (814) and African-Americans (743).

UNC Pembroke is reaching out in all directions with new initiatives. We are building enrollment at off-campus sites and through our rapidly growing number of Internet classes. I expect an enrollment of

nearly 1,000 students by 2006 at our off-campus sites as we plan for new classes and programs at community colleges and other locations.

By building bridges to international universities, we have created new global opportunities for students and faculty. In the past six months alone, we have reached accords with French, German and Taiwanese universities. Our goal is to have a student body that is five percent international.

We have made great strides in helping solve North Carolina's critical teacher shortage. Nine hundred students are enrolled in our teacher training programs, a 77-percent increase in just two years. Our goal is to more than double this number by 2004.

Almost every indicator is bullish, including new student applications, retention and the academic achievements of our entering freshmen. We have record levels of full-time faculty (162), course offerings (1,003) and funding for sponsored research

and programs (\$6 million).

Our \$56.6-million construction program is well under way. The first priorities are \$17.4 million in expansion and improvements to Oxendine Science Building, \$8.2 million for Jones Athletic Complex and \$7.7 million for another new residence hall.

There are, unfortunately, dark clouds on the horizon. The state budget crisis presents a serious roadblock to our progress. If and when you are in contact with state lawmakers, please remind them that funding for enrollment growth in higher education is critical to our ability to serve North Carolina's growing student population.

As always, you, our alumni and friends, are a key ingredient to your university's successful growth and development. The more we improve, the stronger your degree becomes.

Together, we can do great things. Our doors are always open. Come home and visit your growing university.

From your Alumni President

Homecoming 2002 was very entertaining



Greetings, Fellow Alumni,

Those of us associated with UNC Pembroke know how fortunate we are to be graduates of an institution of higher education that espouses academic excellence while at the same time providing a physical environment that is also attractive and well designed. On a recent visit, I was somewhat astonished at how beautiful the campus is in the springtime.

The water park that was recently completed complements the campus nicely. Those of you who have not visited the university in the last few years should plan to do so in the very near future.

Homecoming 2002 was a great success. The entertainment, excellent as always, included such nationally recognized personalities as Percy Sledge and Bruce Bruce. Alumni from as far away as Alabama and Michigan attended class reunions. Congratulations to the Office of Alumni Relations and the Homecoming Committee for planning such splendid events.

Special congratulations to Mr. Harvey Godwin and Mr. Curt Locklear. Receiving the Outstanding Alumnus Award was Mr. Godwin. Mr. Locklear was honored with the Distinguished Service Award.

The Office of Alumni Relations and your Alumni Association is continuously

developing programs and activities of interest. In order to remain up to date, please visit the Office of Alumni Relations website at www.uncp.edu/alumni/news_events/.

As alumni of this great educational institution, you are encouraged to assume an active role in the life of your university. I look forward to receiving ideas and suggestions on how the Alumni Association can better improve services to the membership.

Live Well,
Dwight Pearson, Ed. D., '77

Departments

UNCP Today

UNCP Today magazine is published three times a year — December, April and August — for alumni and friends of the university. 13,000 copies were printed on recycled paper at a cost of 80 cents each.

UNCP is a member institution of The University of North Carolina.

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About the cover: University photographer Bobby Ayers caught Amber Jackson (left) and Amberly Ives studying at the new water feature. Located on the Arts Quad, it was dedicated at Homecoming 2002.

Three Stellar Additions

Morehead Scholar appointed to attorney post



Donna Payne

Elizabethtown native Donna Gooden Payne has been hired as the university's general legal counsel.

Payne has been in private law practice since 1996 with Hester, Grady, Hester & Payne in Elizabethtown. She graduated from the University of Texas

School of Law.

Payne will work in the Office of the Chancellor. Chancellor Meadors said a full-time attorney on staff is a welcome addition.

"Given the amount and complexity of the legal affairs at a growing university, we are very pleased to have Donna Payne join our staff," Chancellor Meadors said. "She is an outstanding individual who has strong ties to our region and brings a solid background in education law to UNC Pembroke."

Payne served as general counsel to the Bladen County Board of Education and to Bladen Community College, handling legal matters concerning contracts, employment, construction, real estate and civil litigation.

Payne explained that her enthusiasm about representing UNC Pembroke stems, in part, from her appreciation of the opportunities the university offers to students in the region.

"My mother received her undergraduate degree in education from UNCP, which led to her career as a school guidance counselor.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with Chancellor Meadors and the outstanding group of administrators, faculty and staff he has assembled at the university. It's gratifying to be part of an institution that is and will continue to be an important agent for positive change in southeastern North Carolina."

Payne is a 1987 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was a John Motley Morehead Scholar and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with highest honors.

West Pointer directing Chancellor's staff



Angela Weston

Rockland, Maine, native Angela Weston has been hired as special assistant to Chancellor Meadors.

Weston, a 1995 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., will be responsible for the managerial and administrative functions of the Office of the Chancellor. She will also

direct the office staff, serve as assistant secretary to the Board of Trustees and serve on various internal and external committees.

Weston left the military in 2000 at the rank of captain. She served in the Army as a military intelligence officer and held the positions of training officer, information manager and executive officer, among other duties.

Chancellor Meadors said Weston's training and organizational skills would be an asset to the university.

"Angela has already made a positive impact on the operations of the office," he said. "We expect a great deal from this talented individual."

Weston graduated in the top 25 percent of her class at West Point with a Bachelor

of Science degree in management. While serving her country, she led a 20-man detachment from Ft. Bragg to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Endeavor.

Weston earned her Master's of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix in 2000. She said she is excited by her new responsibilities at a growing university.

"I am happy to be a part of the UNCP team and look forward to contributing to the growth of the university," she said. "There are several programs and projects we are currently working on that will benefit the student body and the community."

Attorney, MBA heads up Sports Information



Pamela Mason

Pamela Mason has assumed the post of sports information director and compliance coordinator, according to an announcement from Athletics Director Dan Kenney.

"We're excited to have Pamela join our athletic family," Kenney said. "Her educational credentials and her professional and

collegiate athletic background will be a plus for this department."

Mason is a recent graduate of the College of William and Mary School of Law. She also received her Master's of Business Administration from the college. As an undergraduate, she majored in marketing at Southern Methodist University.

At William and Mary, Mason worked in the Compliance Office at the Athletics Department. She completed internships with the American Hockey League in West Springfield, Mass., and with SFX Sports in Washington, D.C.

Mason worked three years as assistant director of marketing and media relations for the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders.

"I think this is a wonderful opportunity to become involved with intercollegiate athletics," she said. "This is a program on the rise."

Her responsibilities will include coordinating all contacts between the Athletics Department and the media, producing the department's publications, maintaining the website and leading the NCAA compliance program.

Mason is a Marion, Ohio, native.



Maya Angelou brings her rainbow for a record crowd

Using the full range of her talents, Maya Angelou delighted a record crowd of 2,600.

A poet, author and professor, Angelou entertained Feb. 26 the largest crowd, by far, in the history of UNCP's Distinguished Speaker series. Due to overwhelming demand, the venue was moved to the Jones Athletic Complex.

She rose to the occasion, singing, reciting poetry, laughing and crying while delivering a message that covered a rainbow of emotions.

"When it looks like the sun isn't going to shine any more, God put a rainbow in the clouds," she said introducing her theme for the evening. "Each one of us has the possibility, the responsibility, the probability to be the rainbow in the clouds."

Growing up in tiny Stamps, Ark., Angelou told the story of being raised by a caring family and of crippled Uncle Willie, who was one of her rainbows.

"In each of our lives, there has been someone who has given us support and inspiration. Now you have to ask yourself, 'How can I be a rainbow in the clouds?'"

Angelou said it is no small irony that she speaks to thousands of people each year when, at one point in her life, she was

mute. She told the story of her childhood rape and the untimely death of the perpetrator.

"I thought that my voice had killed him, so I became mute," Angelou said. "I thought if I spoke I could kill anyone."

With the aid of several tissues, she said, during this mute period, her grandmother said, "When you and the Lord are ready, you are going to be a teacher."

"I don't know how she knew," Angelou said. "It is my blessing ... to be that for somebody. My grandmother was the daughter of an ex-slave and had about four years of education."

She encouraged the crowd to reject fear and have the courage to stand up against racial and ethnic "pejoratives."

"Sometimes I think we climb up the weakest side of the mountain," Angelou said. "Courage is the most important of all virtues because without it, all the other virtues cannot be applied consistently."

Church, school and civic groups arrived early on campus in busloads to hear the famed writer and teacher. They were not disappointed.

Angelou is a professor at Wake Forest University and has won a Grammy and has been nominated for two Tony Awards, the



Angelou performs

National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. She has acted and directed films and has written numerous books of poetry and prose, including "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," which tells the story of her childhood difficulties and ultimate triumph.

\$1.6 million grant to fight infant mortality in region

The university has won a four-year, \$1.6 million grant to battle high infant mortality rates in Robeson, Scotland and Richmond counties.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services was won with the help of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs and many friends of the university, Project Director Linda Greaver said.

"Sen. John Edwards and Congressman Mike McIntyre were helpful in procuring extra funds from Congress," Greaver said.

"It is a comprehensive project that will work with new mothers in collaboration with health departments."

The grant will fund a program to track high-risk, new mothers after they leave the Health Department's 60-day postnatal program. Tracking will continue for up to 24 months.

"New mothers are important because they are very likely to conceive again soon after the birth of their first child; healthy mothers lead to healthy babies," Greaver said.

The new project pulls together an array of resources from the community and the university. Students from the Social Work, Community Health and Nursing programs may be involved.

"We will also be helping the next generation of health care and social service providers by providing opportunities for students to experience civic involvement," Greaver said.

The grant is aimed at rural communities with infant mortality rates above 10.8 per 1,000 births.



GED class

From left: Mancil Jacobs, Craymon Strickland, Cathleen Oxendine, Airo Jacobs, Bonnie Lee Locklear, Jerry Locklear, Chancellor Meadors, Flora J. Chavis, Sam Mauney, John A. Locklear, Doug Hammonds and Robert A. Hunt.

Employees hit the books to earn GEDs

Eleven university employees have taken the plunge back into the classroom to work toward their high school equivalency degree (GED).

Ranging in age from 30 to 55, these rejuvenated students are highly motivated and thankful for the opportunity.

"Everybody in the class is working hard," said Craymon Strickland. "I know these fractions are killing me."

The program is underwritten by the university, with an instructor supplied by Robeson Community College.

Strickland said he dropped out of school because chronic childhood illnesses kept him behind in his studies.

"I just waited until I was old enough and dropped out," he said. "That was in the ninth grade."

"A university is about education for all."

— Chancellor Meadors

The students credit Chancellor Meadors for his strong support of the program.

"This is something the chancellor did for us," Strickland said. "He is all excited about it. He even paid for the books."

Chancellor Meadors praised the students for their courage.

"They are role models," he said. "Enabling our employees to get their GED is the right thing to do."

In a recent visit to the class, Chancellor Meadors reaffirmed his support of the program.

"A university is about education for all," he said. "As a university, we are about opening doors and minds. We believe that every person should have access and the opportunity to get as much education as they desire."

University reaching out to more students

Warren McDonald has been hired as director of the Continuing Education and Distance Education programs.

His role will be to expand off-campus educational opportunities of all types — in the region and around the globe. The number of courses and programs being offered over the Internet and at off-campus locations is on the rise as student needs continue to shift.

"Our off-campus enrollment is one of the fastest-growing segments of our student population," Chancellor Meadors said. "The university is committed to serve our older students who require continuing education and certification programs and to serve these needs in the best way possible."

McDonald's own educational background is a testimonial for lifelong education and distance education. He has received numerous degrees and certifications in a variety of educational settings near and far.

"It was not easy for me to get advanced degrees or continuing education living in Jacksonville, North Carolina," said McDonald.

"Every student cannot come to our campus in Pembroke, so we want to expand the ways that we can get to our students.

"We live in an aging society, where workers are increasingly employed in knowledge-based enterprises," he said.

"With technology, we can reach out to serve these older students who are returning to college.

"The level of cooperation here at UNCP is very high," McDonald said. "We're already in an expansion mode at our community college sites and on the Internet, and we are searching for additional opportunities in all directions."

McDonald is a Fayetteville native.



McDonald

South Carolinian fills chair in art

“My continuing quest or mission is to visually articulate the culture of the rural Southeast.”

— Tarleton Blackwell

There was never any doubt that Tarleton Blackwell would become an artist. He grew up the youngest child in a family of artists.

Blackwell, who was recently named to the Martha Beach Endowed Chair in Art, said he and his three siblings were inspired by a father who was a master bricklayer and an uncle revered for his work as an embalmer.

For some, these may be unusual sources of artistic inspiration, but not so for a youngster growing up in rural South Carolina.

“I grew up in a pretty small place, but I have come to realize that it is a wonderful place to live and create art,” Blackwell said.

Blackwell grew up in Manning, S.C., which he says is centrally located about an hour from everywhere. As for his uncle, the mortician, Blackwell, the painter, has nothing but admiration.

“He was well known for his restorative art techniques,” Blackwell said. “He took it to the level of an art form, just as my father did with brick masonry.”

And Blackwell knows something about both art and embalming. He is a master painter and a licensed embalmer.

Art Department Chair Paul Van Zandt said Blackwell is a great asset to his department and its students.

“Tarleton Blackwell is a talented painter and a great teacher with a genuine concern for the artistic development of our students,” Van Zandt said. “I am excited to have him join the faculty of the Art Department.”

Blackwell is a 1978 graduate of Benedict College. He received both his Master of arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees from the University of South Carolina.

In 1990, he received his Associate of Science degree in funeral service from



Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service in Atlanta.

Blackwell has taught in a wide variety of settings and has been the recipient of many awards and honors, including the 1994 Southern Arts Federation/National Endowment for the Arts Regional Fellowship in Painting. Blackwell has also been named an Outstanding Professional South Carolinian in the Field of Art.

His work has been displayed in more than 170 solo and group exhibitions, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Recently, one of his large-scale works was hung in the U.S. ambassador’s residence in Lagos, Nigeria. Another is in the South Carolina Statehouse.

Blackwell draws inspiration from rural surroundings for subjects of his paintings. Family portraits, hogs, dogs, historical images and other animals and objects inhabit his work.

His “Hog Series” is now more than 20 years old and contains 250 pieces. Just as the hog was once the staple of rural

Southern diet, it forms the core of Blackwell’s work.

“My fascination with hogs goes back to the time when my family raised them commercially,” he said.

An advertisement for his show at City Art Gallery calls him “the celebrated interpreter of the myth of the rural South.”

“My own visual language expresses the culture of rural South Carolina,” he said. “I employ an impressionistic style with Baroque composition.”

He said his major influences are Spanish painter Diego Velasquez and American portrait artist John Singer Sargent. He admits to a twist of surrealist Salvador Dali and some other influences, too.

Primarily, work in art should be self-satisfying, he said.

“I never look at art as work,” Blackwell said. “It is a pleasure.”

His joy of expression is being passed along to UNCP art students in his beginning and advanced painting classes in the spring semester.

'Chem 2002'

UNCP, NASA link up in space for research



Kris Stanton at NASA labs

The sky is no longer the limit for UNCP's chemistry program. With a remarkable record of accomplishment in the 1990s and an exciting future ahead of it, the chemistry program can also boast:

- A \$17.4-million revamped science building on the drawing board,
- A growing number of science majors in the past decade,
- Certification by the American Chemical Society and
- A plan to train students in advanced research and to attract the growing biotech industry to the region by building a bio processing lab.

It appears the program is headed for the stars after physics major Kris Stanton

sent a liquid protein solution into orbit aboard a NASA space shuttle. Advanced research of many types is going on.

"We were the only undergraduate program represented in the NASA project," said chemistry professor Len Holmes. "It was quite an honor."

The Lumberton sophomore's research project was to grow crystals in space as part of a 10-year biomedical research program at NASA. Before loading his project aboard the space shuttle, Stanton spent two months at NASA labs in Huntsville, Ala., preparing the solution.

"Alabama was a lot of fun, and I learned a lot about the lab," he said. "I worked under a NASA scientist to purify a plant protein solution."

Dr. Holmes said several years of work preceded the NASA project.

Certification key to program's future

The chemistry program has been certified by the prestigious American Chemical Society, joining 616 universities in the nation and 14 in North Carolina as members of the largest scientific organization in the world.

Ten years of hard work went into the certification process, which was led by Dr. Paul Flowers.

"There are extensive guidelines for faculty and physical resources, such as libraries and lab equipment," Dr. Flowers said. "It is a good thing for all involved — students, faculty and the university."

ACS accreditation gives the university instant recognition for potential students, graduates and faculty, Dr. Flowers said.

"It is the stamp of approval for our program," said Dr. Jose D'Arruda, chair of the Chemistry and Physics Department. "It

can mean thousands of dollars more in starting pay for our graduates."

"Whatever employers have or have not heard about us, they all have heard of the American Chemical Society," Dr. Flowers said.

'ACS certification is the stamp of approval for our program.'

Jose D'Arruda



Chemistry majors will be offered a professional concentration that will lead to their individual ACS certification. The seal of the American Chemical Society will be displayed on all departmental literature,

and the course catalog will list ACS accreditation.

Chancellor Meadors praised the news of ACS accreditation as another stamp of recognition for the outstanding programs at the university.

"We have one of the best overall science programs in the South," he said.

ACS accreditation is especially good news for the growing number of chemistry majors at the university, Dr. D'Arruda said.

"ACS certification puts our program in the national spotlight, and it is great news for our graduates seeking jobs or going to graduate school," he said.

"We've grown from 30 majors to more than 100 in the past five years, and there is more good news coming for us," he added. "For now, we're celebrating, because this is truly a special milestone."

May joins a new wave of science grads

Shanna May '01 is the answer to an age-old question for undergraduates everywhere: "What good is a science degree?"

"She is a poster child for a new generation of science graduates," said her former adviser, Dr. Len Holmes.

As May learned, an undergraduate science degree is the key that unlocks many doors of opportunity.

Experts predict that, in the 21st century, a new world of opportunities will open up in the bioscience market. The bioscience sector of the economy will be the largest employer by the end of the century, a Johns Hopkins University study shows.

For May, a world of opportunities in science came knocking on her door. In the end, she chose to enroll in a North Carolina State University Ph.D. program in chemistry after seriously considering law school.



May will stick to research for now after considering a career in patent law.

At NCSU, she is a teaching assistant and receives a waiver of full tuition.

A summer internship of doing patent research for a Durham law firm opened her eyes to new careers in science.

She has few regrets about her choices so far.

"After high school, I could have gone to Chapel Hill, but I chose Pembroke because of the close contact with professors," she said.

May grew up in rural east Robeson County and attended Lumberton High School. A Sunday school teacher who enjoys hunting and stock car racing, she had an outstanding undergraduate career in the labs at UNCP.

"Shanna is a great kid and a great role model for our science programs," Dr. Holmes said.

Plan unveiled to build a biotechnology facility

State and local leaders are joining UNC Pembroke scientists to lure the growing biotechnology industry to the region.

The university announced plans in February to construct a \$1 million fermentation and bio processing facility at COMtech., a nearby education, research and technology park. The facility would serve both university and commercial researchers and would attract manufacturing jobs in the biotechnology industry to the region.

A bio processing lab processes cells for use in research and manufacturing of drugs, agricultural and other products. North Carolina now ranks fifth nationally in the biotechnology industry with 140 companies. The industry is growing at a rate of 10 to 15 percent annually.

Chancellor Meadors said the planned research facility is another way the university can help its students and the region.

"We want to grow this university in every way possible, and we want to

facilitate the expansion of the region's economy," Chancellor Meadors said. "Our region needs new types of industry, and biotechnology is growing at a rate of 10 percent or more annually."

Attending a daylong conference at UNCP were representatives of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center (NCBC), education and political leaders from the region. The conference was hosted by the Biology and Chemistry departments and UNCP's Regional Center for Economic Development.

State Sen. David Weinstein endorsed the concept and pledged to work toward its funding.

"We cannot sit here at home and expect industry to come to us," said Sen. Weinstein. "Southeast North Carolina must make serious initiatives in technology to transform our regional economy."

Chemistry professor Len Holmes, who is leading the project for the university, thanked the senator for his support.

"UNCP has been in the field of biotechnology for 10 years thanks to \$1 million in investments from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. We are ready to take this most important next step," said Dr. Holmes. "We have the staff, students and resources to make this vision a reality."

Dr. Holmes revealed facility concept plans for a 4,800-square-foot building that will be located on a two-acre site at COMtech. He said a processing facility could be operating within three years of breaking ground and become self-sustaining financially in five to six years.

"The main focus of the facility will be the education and training of our undergraduates, but there are many attractive spin-off possibilities with community colleges and private industry," he said. "It is estimated that demand for bio-manufacturing capacity will exceed current supply by a factor of four times by 2005, a recent report by J.P. Morgan Bank concluded."



Haskins becomes assistant athletic director

John Haskins became assistant athletic director for internal affairs and golf coach at end of the basketball season.

Haskins arrived at UNCP in 1989 and served as assistant basketball coach and tennis coach until he was appointed head basketball coach in 1992. From 1989 to 1992, he served as assistant basketball coach under Dan Kenney, currently director of athletics.

Haskins' duties as assistant director of athletics will include issuing contractual agreements, overseeing summer camps and special programming, staffing of home athletic events, serving as director for all conference championships hosted by the university and coordinating selected fund-raising projects.

"It was difficult to decide to give up basketball after 21 years, but I am excited about the chance to gain experience in athletic administration and also to continue working with young people as coach of the golf team," Haskins said.

Haskins' 105 career victories rank him fourth in school history.

In the last 13 years, every recruited basketball player who has exhausted his eligibility at UNCP has either received his college degree or is scheduled to have all requirements completed this summer.

Kenney said it is a good move for several reasons.

"We are very excited to have John take on this new leadership position. I am personally thrilled to have his 13 years of experience on our athletic administration team," he said.

Determination keeps Urban on top

by Gavin Wyse

The "three Ds" — desire, determination and drive — play an essential role in the success of an athlete at any level.

Christine Urban has an abundance of each, which has kept her as the top-ranked tennis player at UNCP for four years of college.

Trying to succeed in the most competitive Division II conference has been a daunting task. The senior is ranked 13th in the Mid-Atlantic Region in singles and fifth in doubles. After a 15-7 junior season, she is 9-4 at this writing.

Urban arrived at Pembroke in 1998 from Terry Sanford High School in Fayetteville. She chose Pembroke over UNC Wilmington, UNC Greensboro and UNC Charlotte. In choosing UNCP, she followed her mother, who received her master's degree here.

"I wanted to be close to home so I could work a little while going to school and playing tennis," she said.

Urban has made a name for herself in the Peach Belt for her fierce competitiveness and desire on the court. She developed

this drive early in her career because of the fierce rivalry with her two younger brothers.

"A lot of Peach Belt coaches are very impressed with Christine's game," said tennis Coach Robin Langley. "She is versatile, has great court awareness and has an unrivaled mental toughness."



Away from the court, Urban is a broadcasting major, but plans to find work doing what she loves most, playing tennis.

"When I graduate, I'm going to get certified to teach tennis at a country club," Urban said.

Tennis is a great stress reliever for Urban and, despite her competitive nature, she always has fun while playing. This sentiment is echoed by her coach.

"Her mental toughness allows her to pull opponents into her game," Langley said.

Like many athletes, Urban has had obstacles to overcome. As a sophomore, a back injury prevented her from hitting some of her normal shots. An injury this severe would have kept most athletes out. But not Urban, who soldiered on.

"She's a good role model and a survivor," said Athletics Director Dan Kenny. "No matter what gets thrown at her, she comes away from the experience better than she went into it."

Urban confesses that once she sets a goal for herself, she lets nothing distract her from reaching that goal. Her current goal is to finish out her collegiate career on the all-conference team. With desire like hers, there is nothing that's out of reach.

Gavin Wyse is a senior journalism major.



Trio resurrected Lady Braves' program

In the 1998-99 season, the Lady Braves were coming off consecutive last-place finishes in the rugged Peach Belt Conference. One of those seasons saw only one win.

With the class of 2002, this all changed. It was a once-in-a-lifetime class.

“What is really amazing about this group is that they were able to contribute immediately,” Coach Sandi Mitchell said.

With the new recruits leading the way, they won 16 games that first season, and they got better every year.

The class won 61 games and lost 38 in four years. They finished the 2001-2002 season with an 18-9 record and 12 Peach Belt Conference wins, good enough for fourth place in the 12-team conference.

Senior co-captains Ginnell Curtis, Jennifer Lance and Amanda Brooks provided the leadership, consistency and grit.

Curtis, who provided the backcourt spark, finished with 2,061 points, second on the Lady Braves' all-time list. She is all-time assist leader (570) and set a single-game scoring record with 47 points. She also had 348 steals.

From Apex, Curtis earned PBAC Freshman of the Year honors. The 5-foot-4, slightly built guard is made of steel and missed only one game in her career.

She was first team all-PBAC her senior year and honorable mention all-American her junior year. (At press time, the 2001-2 all-American team had not been released.)

“Ginnell is a great player, but the special thing about her is that she was always willing to learn and get better,” Mitchell said. “She is the most competitive player I've ever seen, and she always played best in the big games.”



*Co-Captains:
Jennifer Lance, Ginnell Curtis and Amanda Brooks*

Lance, who was the rock, started all four years in the post and averaged almost a double-double. She finished with 870 career rebounds and 1,537 points, placing her sixth on the all-time scoring list.

A Hope Mills native, Lance did not miss a game in four years and improved every year. Her best marks came in her senior season, averaging 18.5 points on 53.9 percent shooting and 9.4 rebounds per game.

This performance earned her second team all-PBAC honors. Lance had a career-best 36 points against Division I Gardner-Webb.

“Jennifer had her best year this season because she is committed to excellence,” Mitchell said. “She is a coach's dream.”

Brooks, of Greenville, S.C., was also a solid performer over four years. An excellent rebounder and defender, she holds the Lady Braves' single-season mark for three-point field goal accuracy at 40 percent.

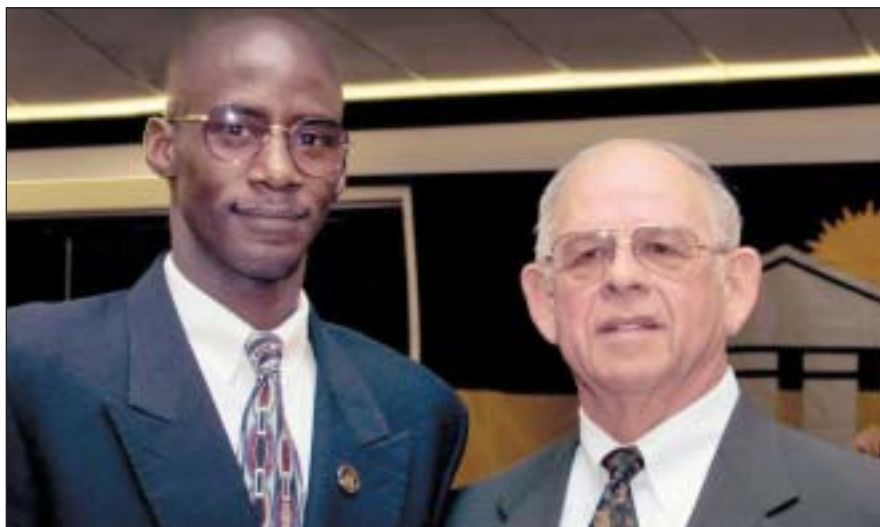
“Amanda was a great role player for us,” Mitchell said. “She was our best player under pressure. She produced when the game was on the line.”

Classes like this don't come often, but they make a great foundation for the future of Lady Braves' basketball.

“Awesome is all I can say about this group,” Mitchell said. “These girls turned our program around. Even though we are losing 40 points a game, the future looks great thanks to them.”



Harvey Godwin Jr. and Curt Locklear



Charles Swindell and William Howard Dean



Queen Quianna Robinson and King Ronald Johnson

The stuff memories are made of

Concerts by popular singer Percy Sledge and comedian Bruce Bruce were sold out at the 1,700-seat Givens Performing Arts Center.

UNCP swept its basketball doubleheader against Lander University. The women won 91-65, and the men won 65-58.

And, perhaps, most symbolic of a university on the rise, the new water feature was dedicated. The one-acre pond, located in the Arts Quadrangle, features an amphitheater, bridge and fountain.

"Students will find creative ways to use this place for many years to come," said Dane Onorio, president of the Student Government Association.

"It's wonderful! It adds a lot to campus, and I wish they had it when I was here," said Peggy Bullock '85.

"The campus looks really good, and the water feature is awesome," said Chad Martin '98.

Dr. William H. Dean, who served the university in a variety of capacities from basketball coach to vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at the annual Alumni Awards Banquet, along with five-time all-American triple jumper Charles Swindell Jr. '82.

The William Howard Dean Endowed Scholarship will help others enroll at UNCP.

Swindell was twice ranked in the top 50 of the world in the triple jump, and he holds all UNCP records.

Also honored at the Alumni Awards Banquet were two Pembroke area businessmen: Curt Locklear '49 with the Distinguished Service Award, and Harvey Godwin Jr. '91 with the Outstanding Alumnus Award.

A veteran of World War II, Locklear owns Pembroke Hardware and other business ventures in town.

Alumni traveled from as far away as Cocoa Beach, Fla., and Detroit, Mich., to attend reunions. There were alumni basketball and soccer games, a barbecue luncheon and a dance following the Awards Banquet.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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CHAPTER NEWS

For chapter meeting information, visit www.uncp.edu/alumni/events.htm. To contact the chapters, call the Office of Alumni Relations toll free at 1-800-949-UNCP, locally at (910) 521-6213 or e-mail alumni@uncp.edu.

1960s

The Rev. Michael '68 and wife Carolyn '70 Moree would like to say hello and let their fellow alumni know that they are doing well and currently living in Kannapolis, N.C.

Olene '68 and Jim '74 Sampson's daughter, Jana, was recently named as a winner at the Native American Music Awards for the Best Pop Song for 2001. She was presented with the honor at the awards show in Albuquerque, N.M. Jana will be featured on the cover of the May 2002 issue of *Native Peoples* magazine. Olene and Jim's son, Jamey, got married in April 2002 in Greensboro.

Richard Iacona '69 has had two choral pieces published by Carl Fisher music. One is an original work titled "Dona Nobis Pacem" and the other an original arrangement of the famous Shaker Song, "Tis a Gift To Be Simple."

John Roesch '69 continues his employment with State Farm Insurance. He is the estimates section manager for North Carolina and parts of Virginia, and resides with wife Dr. Maryanne Roesch '68 in Winston-Salem. In the winter 2001 issue of *UNCP Today*, it was incorrectly reported that John had recently joined Winston-Salem State University as an associate professor.

1970s

Cary Garris '70 is married and has three children and two grandchildren. He is general manager of American Light Bulb Manufacturing in Mullins, S.C., which manufactures incandescent light bulbs for home and industrial applications.

Olivia Holmes Oxendine '70 was inducted into the Moore County Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma on Oct. 10, 2001. This international honor society was established in 1921 to recognize key women in education. Oxendine has been a middle and high school English teacher, a middle school principal and a university administrator. In addition to her current job as a regional K-12 writing consultant, Olivia is completing her doctoral studies at UNC Greensboro. She and her husband, Gervais '65, reside in Southern Pines, N.C. They have two sons and two grandsons.

Larry R. Chavis '72 has been elected as a new member to the Southeastern Regional Medical Center Foundation Board in Lumberton. Larry is president and CEO of Lumbee Guaranty Bank in Pembroke.

Bob Morgan '73 is a supervisory personnel specialist in the FBI personnel office of the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. He has a graduate degree in public administration from North Carolina State University. Bob is the most recent alum to sign up with the Alumni Career Connection program.

Kappa Delta reunion:

First row, from left: Elaine Colville Poronto '85, Cathy Ludwig Hall '83, Sandra McLenny Overby '84, Sandy Jones Grimaldi, Bambi Marshall Kennerly '86. Second row, from left: Sally Wilkerson Rice, Kathie Hust Hermann, Harriette Floyd Lovin '85, Missy McDonald Renfrow '87, Carol Baldwin Grimes '84, Lynette Coleman O'Callaghan.





Scotland County Chapter

From left are Jenny Church '90, secretary-treasurer; Terry Stanton '91, vice president; and Maria Coble '82, president.

interests. Susan has also served as the National Chemistry Week coordinator for the South Carolina section for the past several years and was featured in the American Chemical Society's 2001 annual report.

1980s

Donna Cummings Crawford '85 and her family live in Sanford, N.C., where she is a teacher with 17 years of experience. Donna joined Lee County Schools in July 2001.

Mike Kampe '88 joined the Department of Juvenile Justice in Fayetteville as a juvenile probation officer June 13, 2000.

Michael Honeycutt '89 joined the Employment Practice Group in its Ann Arbor, Mich., office. Michael's practice will focus on general employment law matters.



George C. Marston Jr. '89 was appointed principal at Sandy Grove Elementary School in Lumber Bridge on June 18, 2001. He and his family live in Laurinburg.

1990s

Eric Tsali Brewington '90 has been promoted to the rank of major in the United States Air Force, effective Oct. 1, 2001. He entered the Air Force as a ROTC distinguished graduate in 1990 after graduating from UNCP. His current duty is the chief of specialized contracts flight, 3rd Contracting Squadron, 3rd Wing, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. Eric and his wife, Mary Jane, have four daughters: Erika, Meagan, Kristin and Laurel.

Michael H. Davis '91 was appointed branch manager/assistant vice president of Progressive State Bank in Lumberton on Sept. 27, 2001. He and his wife, Gaye, live in Bladenboro.

Piedmont-Triad Chapter News

Jim Gane '74, President

The Piedmont-Triad Chapter was re-formed last year under the leadership of President Barry Hopkins. The membership roster is about 12 members strong, with active participation of about seven at each meeting. The chapter meets about every six weeks. The agenda includes alumni business mixed with a social. By mixing business with pleasure, chapter members enjoy listening to stories that our members share. Membership ranges from the class of '65 to the class of '94. Last year, the Piedmont-Triad Chapter was most proud of the fact that it raised more than \$2,300.

In October, Barry Hopkins and Jim Gane switched duties. Barry is now vice president, and Jim is president. This year, the chapter has grown in active membership by seven members. This was done mainly by expanding into Montgomery County. We are giving a scholarship in the name of Jerry Daniel. Jerry was a graduate, educator and legendary coach in Montgomery County. He died last year in a car accident. We have now raised more than \$3,000 for this scholarship. To date, we will have 10 students competing for this scholarship. The Piedmont-Triad Chapter has involved the communities on the West Montgomery side of the county to support this scholarship. The chapter is planning other ideas and areas in support of UNCP. It has been fun to watch the progress that we have made in the past year and a half.

As you can tell, the Triad is active. Any alums in the Piedmont-Triad area are encouraged to get involved. We need to hear your stories, too!

For news and information about the Piedmont-Triad Chapter, please call (910) 521-6213.

James A. Miller '78 was recently appointed by the N.C. Substance Abuse Office as the director of the regional Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime Program. This program deals with criminal justice clients who have been arrested for a crime involving drugs and/or alcohol, as well as mental illness. James is responsible for 21 counties, including Robeson. He has also been appointed by the governor to co-chair the state's Criminal Justice Partnership Program Advisory Board. James has worked in the substance abuse/criminal justice field for more than 24 years.

Kelvin Sampson '78, head basketball coach at the University of Oklahoma, has his book available for purchase — "The OU Basketball Story" by Steve Richardson. Kelvin was named as one of 20 finalists for the Naismith College Basketball Coach of the Year Award. His fourth-ranked team recently defeated number-one ranked Kansas in the finals of the Big 12 tournament and made the Final Four of the NCAP tournament.

Susan Bird Reese '79 has been elected to a second term as chair-elect for the South Carolina section of the American Chemical Society, a self-governed individual membership organization founded in 1876 that consists of more than 163,000 members at all degree levels and in all fields of chemistry. The organization provides a broad range of opportunities for peer interaction and career development, regardless of professional or scientific

Johnny Karshner '91, a registered representative with BB&T Investment Services, has earned one of PLACO's highest honors — membership in the 2001 Captain's Club. PLACO, a wholesaler of financial products, honors reps who, in one year, produce \$1 million or more in Hartford investment products with a club membership.

Laura Alicia Chavis '92 wed James E. Davis on Nov. 20, 1993. They have a 3-year-old daughter, Taylor Nicole. Laura has taught with the Public Schools of Robeson County since September 1999.

Tommy O'Briant (Brian) Freeman '92, an Alumni Board member, was recently elected to the Red Springs Town Commission. He was elected by the local board as an alternate to the Board of Directors of the Lumber River Council of Governments. Brian, a National Board



certification recipient and a second-grade teacher at Peterson Elementary School in Red Springs, was recently named one of the top 40 teachers in the nation by *USA Today*. His award selection was based on his willingness to do whatever it takes to make students successful. His students have fondly nicknamed him "School Daddy."

Robert T. Williamson Jr. '92, who owned a landscaping company that was recently sold, owns a trucking company in Johns Island, S.C. Robert says he would like to hear from his classmates and invites them to e-mail him at rtw@dycon.com.

Elaine Deese Brewington '93 is employed as a social worker with the Robeson County Department of Social Services in Lumberton.

Royal Travis Bryant '93 was named chief of police for the town of Pembroke in May 1999. He was previously employed as a campus policeman with UNC Pembroke.

Katharine Denise Charles '95 was hired as media specialist for Janie C. Hargrove School in Lumberton in August 2001. She lives in Rowland, N.C.

Marcus Collins '96 left the TRIO programs at UNCP to accept a position with UNC Chapel Hill as the assistant dean for the Office of Student Academic Counseling. He plans to begin his doctoral

studies in fall 2002 at North Carolina State University. Marcus resides in Morrisville.

Curtis H. (Trey) Allen III '97, received his juris doctor in May 2000 from the UNC Chapel Hill School of Law, where he was a member of the North Carolina Law Review. He worked briefly for the Capital Litigation Section of the North Carolina Department of Justice before beginning active service in the U.S. Marine Corps. Trey is deputy staff judge advocate for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan. His responsibilities include providing legal counsel to the commanding general and subordinate commanders in the wing. He is a member of the North Carolina State Bar.

Joel Beachum '97, sports editor of the *Red Springs Citizen* and the *St. Pauls Review*, received the first-place award for sports feature writing in the 77th annual North Carolina Press Association's News, Editorial and Photojournalism Contest. This is the second win in a row for Joel. Recently, Strathmore's *Who's Who* selected him as an honored member for 2002-2003.

Stephanie Ann (Eaton) Harvie '97 serves as directorate of community activities and services/morale welfare and recreation department's commercial sponsorship director for Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. In her free time, she writes a weekly church column for the local newspaper, *The Coastal Courier*. She and husband David welcomed their first child in March.

Robert Dean Locklear '97 was promoted to assistant principal at Pembroke Elementary School. Robert, who has a master's degree in elementary education, will graduate from East Carolina in May 2002 with his master's in school administration.

Brian Dial '98 graduated Dec. 16, 2001, from Life University Chiropractic School in Marietta, Ga.

Jackie Cummings Hunt '98 celebrated the first anniversary of owning her own business, Pens & Needles, Feb. 17, 2001. She has also taught first grade at Piney Grove Elementary School for four years. Jackie lives in Pembroke.

Wendy Lowery Jones '99 was appointed director of the annual fund and parent programs with Methodist College in Fayetteville on Jan. 2, 2002. She and husband, **John '99**, reside in Hope Mills and are expecting their first child in August.

Alumni Professionals



Edward Bullard '85, assistant district attorney



Mary Alice Pinchbeck Teets '58, retired principal and part-time school administrator, and Harold Lindbergh "Lindy" Martin '52, Personal Touch Consulting Services.



Dwight Pearson '77, Alumni Association president, and Anthony Locklear '79, executive director of GEAR IT UP.

Greg Roane '99 was appointed assistant athletic director for the City of Statesville Recreation and Parks Department. He is pursuing a master's degree at UNC Greensboro.

2000s

Bryant K. Dargan '00 is a senior sales consultant for Kinko's. He is also owner of his own business consulting and design firm.

Jennifer K. Blue '01 of Fayetteville was employed as a graphic designer with *Up & Coming*, a weekly news magazine on the arts in Fayetteville on Nov. 12, 2001.

Donna Cummings '85 and Kendall Wade Crawford were married April 15, 2001.

Mike Kampe '88 and Diana Susanne were united in matrimony Oct. 10, 1992.

Marriages and Engagements

George C. Marston Jr. '89 and Sherry Oller were married June 29, 1991. They have two boys, Joshua, 10, and Tyler, 6.

Robert T. Williamson '92 married Amy Dorn on Dec. 15, 2001 in downtown Charleston, S.C. They live in Johns Island, S.C.

Elaine Deese '93 and Tim Brewington were married June 9, 2001.

Curtis H. (Trey) Allen III '97 and Teryn Melissa Smith were united in marriage May 27, 2000. They reside in Okinawa.

Stephanie Ann Eaton '97 and David Paul Harvie of El Paso, Texas, were married July 17, 1999. They reside in Hinesville, Ga.

Greg Roane '99 and **Monica Pearson '99** were married Dec. 4, 1999. They reside in Statesville, N.C.

Bryant K. Dargan '00 and Keyanta were united in marriage Sept. 15, 2001.

Whitney R. Hammonds '00 was married Sept. 8, 2001, at Bethel Hill Baptist Church to Windell Bell of Lumberton. She is employed at the N.C. Veterans Nursing Home in Fayetteville. She is the daughter of Wanda '95 and Jimmy Hammonds of Lumberton.

Erica Jones '01 married **Jason Brady '01** on Sept. 15, 2001, in Maysville, N.C. While at UNCP, Erica was in the Theta Kappa sorority and on the women's softball team, and Jason was on the baseball team.

Tori Annielle Locklear '01 wed Douglas Joseph Nicolosi Jr. on Sept. 22, 2001.

Births

Donna Cummings Crawford '85 and her husband, Kendall, announce the birth of their son, Wyeth Steele, Dec. 28, 2001.

Paula Stickney Lowry '92 announces the birth of her son, Justin Richard, Dec. 13, 2001.

Royal Travis Bryant '93 and his wife, Teresa, announce the birth of their son, Cameron Travis, Sept. 11, 2001.

Stephanie (Eaton) Harvie '97 and her husband, David, announce the birth of their

daughter, Paula Elizabeth. She arrived Feb. 19, 2002.

Michelle (McKinnie) Shelton '97 and her husband, Elvin announce the birth of their son, Christian Chandler, Jan. 10, 2001. He has an older brother, Jacob, 3.



Frederick A.

Dawley III '99 and his wife, Erin, announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Joy, May 1, 2001. She has an older sister, Elizabeth Jordan.

Greg '99 and Monica (Pearson) '98 Roane announce the birth of their second child, Sarah Elizabeth, born Sept. 7, 2001. Sarah has a big brother, Carter Tate, 2.

Deaths

Earnestine (Hammonds) Locklear '59 died Feb. 25, 2002. She is survived by a son, John L. Locklear Jr., and a daughter, **Sabrina Locklear '92**.

Brigitte (Brayboy) Cummings '88 died Dec. 16, 2001. Brigitte was a former UNCP Homecoming Queen. She is survived by **Raymond Cummings '80**.

Mitch Tyler was Hoke superintendent



received his Master's Degree in Education from UNCP in 1981.

He served the university as program director in the School of Education, and he was a former employee of the state Department of Public Instruction.

Dr. Zoe Locklear, the dean of the School of Education, met with him two weeks before his death.

Mitchell "Mitch" Tyler '78 died March 2, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Carol L. Tyler, and two children.

Tyler had been superintendent of Hoke County Schools since July 2000. He also

"No matter what, he was going to advocate and come down on the side of what is right with children," Dr. Locklear said.

Dr. Locklear said the region and the education community will miss him.

Tyler was known as a hands-on manager who visited his schools often. He was peace-maker who earned the respect of his employees and got them to pull together.

Tyler leaves a son, Brent, and two daughters, Brittaney and Lisa. He was the brother of Darlene Cummings, an employee of the Office of Student Activities.

A scholarship has been established in his memory at UNCP. Contributions may be made to the Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 1510, Pembroke, N.C., 28372.

Show your UNCP Pride!

Get your UNCP license tag today.
Contact:



(910) 521-6213

*alumni@uncp.edu

Alumni Career Connection

by Lisa Lewis Schaeffer

Alumni, do you remember the challenge you had in deciding on a major or career path during your college years? Today's UNCP students have numerous career needs similar to those you may have experienced. The Career Services Center thanks the following alumnus who has become the newest member of the UNCP Alumni Career Connection: **Bob Morgan '73**, a supervisory personnel specialist with the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va.

The Career Connection is a network of graduates willing to contribute information and/or time to UNCP students or alumni exploring careers and graduate schools. Your participation would add a unique experience to the network and provide realistic career planning information for students or alumni with similar career interests. This is an excellent way for you to contribute to your alma mater. Listed below are a few examples of how you can strengthen the UNCP Alumni Career Connection:

- Discuss or provide information about your career field or job
- Allow a student to shadow you for a day at work
- Discuss your graduate school experiences
- Provide information on internships, summer jobs and full-time employment opportunities
- Participate in the annual Career Fair
- Speak to classes or student organizations
- Interview or refer students for job opportunities

The possibilities are endless, and we hope you agree that you have something special to offer the UNCP Alumni Career Connection. Please sign up today at www.uncp.edu/alumni, or contact the Career Services Center for more information at (910) 521-6270.

'Kelvin Sampson: The OU Basketball Story'

One of the great thrills of Kelvin Sampson's life was joining his father in the UNC Pembroke Athletic Hall of Fame.

This is from the first lines of his new biography, "Kelvin Sampson: The OU Basketball Story," by Steve Richardson (Republic of Texas Press, Plano, Texas, 2002).

"I was inducted more for what I did after I left there. He (Ned) was inducted for what he accomplished there. He was a great, great athlete," Kelvin said.

From there, the book chronicles Sampson's story from his Little League days in Pembroke to his rise to glory as one of America's elite basketball coaches at Oklahoma University.

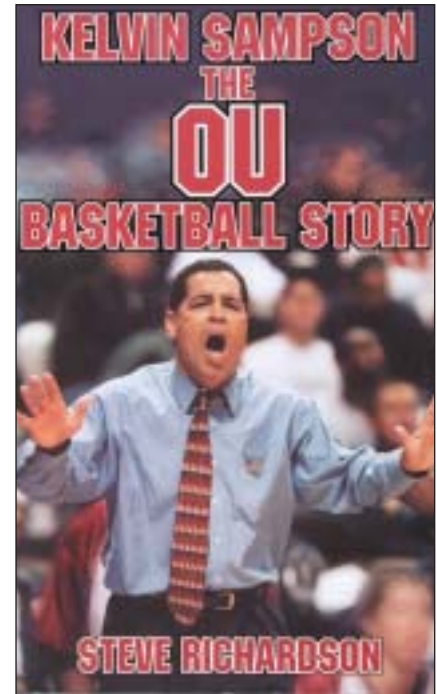
It is worth picking up a copy, whether you are a basketball fan or a Kelvin Sampson fan.

The book is loaded with insider information. Take this quote by Sampson from the 1977-78 UNCP press guide: "We lack a proven center, but our experience from last year, as well as some talented freshmen, could give us a good team."

The chapters on his tenure at Montana Tech are also wonderful. This is where the young coach learned his trade — the hard way.

The Kelvin Sampson story is not all about fun and games. The author tells how Sampson's "us-against-the-world" mentality was transformed into a winning formula. It spells out why he is one of the best coaches in America.

There is more about Kelvin and his legendary toughness as a coach and kindness as



a man. To this day, Kelvin calls "Mr. Ned" after every game. The contributions of his wife Karen are also well-documented.

The biography makes it abundantly clear that Kelvin Sampson will never forget where he came from. And the sky is the limit for this rising star, whose team was 29-4 and went to the Final Four this year.

You can get it from the UNCP Bookstore, or order it from www.RepublicofTexasPress.com, or online booksellers, or get a loan copy from Bruce Barton at the Indian Education Resource Center (located in the former Pembroke High School next to campus).

WOMEN'S UNCP LAPEL PIN

Show your UNCP pride!

Exclusively at **Cyna's Jewelers**, downtown Pembroke

Available in 10-, 14- and 18-carat gold with diamonds or other stones available. Prices range from \$180 to \$386.

To order, call (910) 521-3690, or e-mail Alumni Relations at alumni@uncp.edu

A portion of the purchase price will be donated to the university.



What's New?

Alumni may submit new information about retirements, births, marriages and job changes by completing this form. We want the information for purposes of maintaining your permanent alumni record and publishing Class Notes in UNCP Today. Mail your information to Alumni Relations, P.O. Box 1510, Pembroke, N.C. 28372. The deadline for the next issue is August 1.

Last name First

Middle/maiden Class year

Address

City State Zip

Home phone

E-mail Include in Class Notes Yes No

Employment Include in Class Notes? Yes No

Position Retired

Start date

Company name

Address

City State Zip

Marriage Include in Class Notes? Yes No

Month/day/year

Spouse's full name Class year (if a UNCP alumnus)

Birth/Adoption Include in Class Notes? Yes No
Boy Girl

Date born/adopted

Child's full name

Roger Willie '95



From "Windtalkers"
MGM Photo

Grad finds a new career in the movies

On June 14, 2002, the adventures of Roger Willie '95 continue at a theater near you when MGM premieres the new movie "Windtalkers."

Willie has a leading role alongside Nicholas Cage and Christian Slater. "Windtalkers" is about the famous Navajo code talkers, who operated in the Pacific theater of World War II.

"Windtalkers" director and producer John Woo ("Mission Impossible 2," "Broken Arrow") was taken with Willie's natural talents. A Navajo from Continental Divide, N.M., Willie speaks Dine, the code talker language.

He plays one of two lead Navajo roles in the battle for Saipan. Slater portrays his personal bodyguard on the battlefield.

Woo is not the only person captivated by Willie's native good looks and acting ability. He has since appeared in a *GQ* fashion spread. A second movie, "Adaptation," with Meryl Streep and Cage, has been shot.

Here is what one critic said about his performance: "... Roger Willie, who plays Pvt. Whitehorse, is amazing. He had some of the best moments in the movie. His interaction with Christian Slater was great" (coronaproductions.com).

"Windtalkers" was shot in Hawaii at a cost of \$100 million. Proud father-in-law Bruce Barton '86 says the family was treated like royalty while on location.

Please see *GRAD* on page 19



Lycurous Lowry '57: 'The Commissioner of Agriculture'

Occupation: U.S. Soil Conservation Service supervisor, president of the Robeson County Farm Bureau, a member of Farm Services Agents

Family: Twelve children (seven boys and five girls) — six are college educated. UNCP graduates include: Eurina L. Stearsman '51, Learlene L. Norris '53, Burlin Lowry '55, Oberon Lowry '59 and Oceanus Lowry '62

Parents: Burleigh and Pearlle Lowry both deceased

* * *

"In high school, I had always said that I would never farm," Lycurous Lowry said. "What began as chores ended as a love."

After graduation from college, Lowry enlisted in the Air Force. After discovering that he had sinus problems that would prevent him from becoming a pilot, he worked in air traffic control.

Upon leaving the military, he returned to teach agriculture for three years and started the Agriculture Department at Hawkeye School (now South Hoke Elementary) with \$500.

When his father died, in order not to lose the farm, Lowry decided to go back to farming.

He and his brother, Klyne, bought out the other brothers and sisters.

He currently farms, raises cattle and his son installed chicken houses.

"You buy cattle to glean the fields during the winter months, and that way it doesn't cost that much to feed them. You over-seed soybeans with rye (grass) and when the beans are cut the rye is ready for grazing."

Lowry has many fond memories of UNCP. "Campus life was great. There were only about 200 students total. Jim Ebert, English Jones and Andrew Ransom were my favorites.

"My education has been tremendously beneficial to my experiences in farming and in preparing me to serve on the agriculture



With the trophies he won at swine competitions.

boards. One could not farm today without an education.

"You'll find out in life that money's not everything. If you don't enjoy what you're doing, all the money in the world won't make you happy. Besides, I enjoy my independence."

Ida Baker '85: Success is proof that 'it takes a village'

Ida Baker, whose father died young, is one of seven children.

"My mother, Bettie, worked hard to provide the necessities and, when feasible, some of the extras," Ida said. "We all had chores that we were responsible for."

Even at an early age, Ida knew the value of a good education and was influenced by numerous teachers along the way. She went to college to secure a good job in order to be able to help her mother.

"Mrs. Patty Brayboy, my counselor (at Pembroke High), was a great influence on



me," Ida said. "She greeted me with a smile and told me that I could be anything I would like to be.

"I have always enjoyed arguing points and seeing justice prevail," she said.

She remembers that her mother asked her to attend one year at UNCP and then transfer. Ida now says she liked it so well all UNCP that she stayed the full four years.

"It was the best thing I could have done," she said. "My friends attended UNCP."

She especially remembers the friendships formed after joining the Pi Lambda chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority, and one special professor. "Monte Hill of the Political Science Department always went the extra mile for a student," Ida said.

"We're your professors, but we're your friends, as well," Ida remembered him saying.

Ida has been practicing family law for approximately 10 years.

"Hillary Clinton was correct when she made the statement, 'It takes a village to raise a child,'" Ida said. "A lot of people helped raise me ... watched out for me, took care of me ... and disciplined me, too! I was taught morals and values.

"When we raised vegetables or killed a hog, we shared," Ida said.

Final question: What do you want us to know about Ida? Without hesitation, she said, "UNCP has nurtured me and helped me develop into the person I am today. I hope they are proud of what I have become."



DALTON BROOKS: *He's glad to be back in the classroom*



Dr. Brooks in his comfort zone

Dr. Dalton Brooks is the only member of UNCP's Retired Faculty Club who still teaches full time.

Presented with the opportunity to get back into the classroom this fall, he jumped at the chance to return to the third floor of Oxendine Science Building.

Dr. Brooks, who taught in the Department of Chemistry and Physics until retirement in 1998, is serving as a long-term replacement for Dr. Timothy Ritter, who was called to active duty in the U.S. Navy in October during the war on terrorism.

"I am trying to keep everything in Tim's office just like he left it," Dr. Brooks said with a smile. "I am using his lab notes, even his pencils."

Dr. Ritter is expected back sometime next fall. Dr. Brooks' return to the classroom and laboratory is the latest chapter in the remarkable life of this Pembroke native.

"In a week's time, I realized retirement was not for a person who enjoys working," Dr. Brooks said. "Physicists have a need to stay abreast of the latest developments in their field."

An energetic person by nature, Dr. Brooks said he is managing the teaching load comfortably, and the faculty has been supportive.

"The students were concerned when Tim left in mid-semester, but it all worked out well," he said. "The faculty has been most gracious and helpful."

Breaking new ground has been a habit for Dr. Brooks. As a high school student, he left the familiar surroundings of Pembroke in 1953 to finish high school in Ann Arbor, Mich., where his brother Martin was attending medical school at the University of Michigan.

"That was a culture shock," he said.

His brother, who would become Robeson's first Native American doctor,

and a high school physics teacher were role models for the young scholar.

"I emulated Martin. He was valedictorian of his class there," Dr. Brooks said.

"I had a good physics teacher who encouraged me. He was a Christian man, and I went to church with him.

"My father believed that education was the best way for us to compete," he said. "When we were young, he would take us to Old Main to hear Dr. Wellons deliver the baccalaureate address."

Dr. Brooks returned to Pembroke and enrolled at the university, graduating in 1960 with a teaching certificate.

"I taught at Prospect High School in the days when all the children wanted to be doctors and lawyers," he said. "Prospect had some of the best teachers anywhere."

Dr. Brooks helped launch many professional careers during the Prospect renaissance of the 1960s. He was able to move his own career forward by obtaining a master's degree at Temple University in Philadelphia in 1970.

Dr. Brooks continued his education at the University of Miami with federal and private grants. In 1976, he returned to UNCP as the first director of Institutional Research.

It was an era of building and enrollment growth for the university, and his latest assignment at UNCP finds him in another era of building and enrollment growth.

"I always supported growth and expansion at the university," Dr. Brooks said. "The American way is alive right here in Pembroke. You can start out with nothing and make something of yourself."

A 40-year marriage to the former Doris Jacobs '59 has produced three more success stories. Peter, a 1988 graduate, is a dentist; Danielle '90 is a nurse and Darcia '93 is also a nurse.

"We are all products of the greatest institution in the world — UNCP," he said.

Rundus publishes 'Joseph Mitchell: Pilgrim in Manhattan'

A Review

This biography is important because it comes from Joseph Mitchell's native soil, and it contains insights about an important American writer that could only have been gathered here.

New York has had its say on Mitchell (1908-1996), the Fairmont, N.C., native who made his fame at *The New Yorker*.

"Joseph Mitchell: Pilgrim in Manhattan" (2002; Xlibris Corporation; Philadelphia) is the work of retired English Prof. Raymond Rundus.

Although Dr. Rundus is acquainted with Mitchell's old haunts along the Lower East Side of Manhattan, he is more familiar with Robeson County, located in the tobacco and cotton country of the coastal plains of North Carolina.

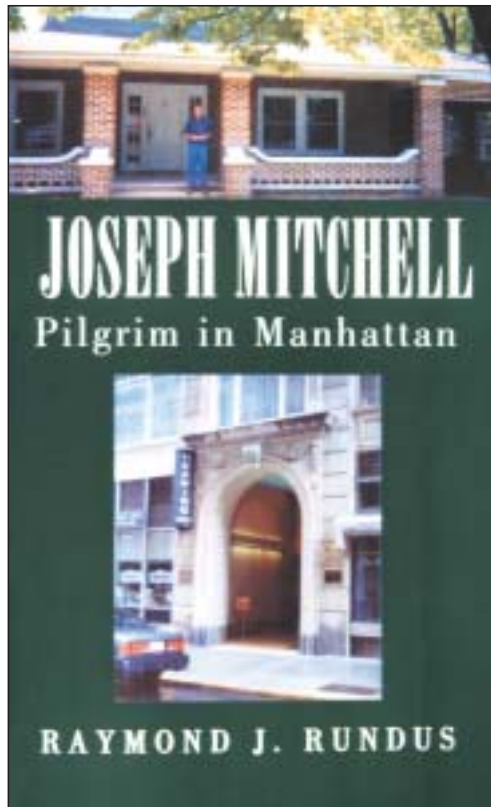
The English professor has visited McSorley's Old Ale House, where Mitchell spent considerable time during his adult life, but he also knows Fox Bay, Ashpole Swamp and Iona Presbyterian Church. Although Mitchell wrote little of consequence about Robeson County, these places were important lifelong influences.

As Rundus notes, "To a Southerner, place is an integral part of both communal and individual memories, and Joseph Mitchell took those memories with him to the great city" (p. 102).

The question of whether Mitchell was a Presbyterian or a Southern Baptist is of

little interest to New Yorkers, but it is important, and it is important to Professor Rundus.

The connections between Fairmont and New York are as mysterious as other



aspects of the journalist's life. For Rundus, the connection is critical.

"Pilgrim" consists of seven chapters chronicling Mitchell's life from beginning

to end. It is a thoughtful and careful analysis that is brilliant at times.

For instance: "... Joseph Mitchell had now created — and was continuing to create — a luminous tapestry of characters, a procession of pilgrims seeking shrines of some sort as they trod the sidewalks and took up temporary residence in the bars and grills and other public places of twentieth-century New York City" (p.69).

Dr. Rundus believes Mitchell is one of the great writers of the 20th century, "the paragon of reporters" who "set the standard." But don't just take his word for it.

Reading "Pilgrim" will provide inspiration for readers to go out and purchase a newly reprinted copy of "My Ears are Bent" (1938) and enjoy more hours reading and rereading Joseph Mitchell.

"Pilgrim" is the first book-length biography of Joseph Mitchell on the market, and Dr. Rundus' work will be the standard by which others will be judged.

More than anything, Rundus' "Pilgrim" should be read by North Carolinians because Mitchell's soul belongs to this soil. His talent was on loan to New York.

A hardcover or softcover copy of "Joseph Mitchell: Pilgrim in Manhattan" may be purchased on Amazon.com or by contacting Xlibris Corporation at 1-888-7-XLIBRIS or at www.xlibris.com/.

Grad

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Willie is married to Teresa "Sissy" Carter, and they have a son, Seattle Greyeyes, and a daughter, Jodi Whitehorse.

The military scenes proved no obstacle for Willie, who came to North Carolina via the 82nd Airborne. He graduated with a B.A. degree in American Indian studies and is continuing his studies at the University of Arizona while living in Tuscon.

Willie told *Indian Country Today* recently the experience has been "my fantasy fulfilled."

How did it happen?

About 400 Navajos were used in the film, and Willie was escorting his

"In all aspects of life, you have to look at it spiritually."

Roger Willie

nephew for a script reading when he was discovered.

He said MGM and Woo did a great job with the details.

"I'm really hoping this will enhance the perspective of how important our language is," he said.

The nation has recently demonstrated its pride and gratitude for the efforts of the code talkers. Last July, they were awarded Congressional Gold Medals in a special ceremony attended by President Bush and members of the movie cast.

Brayboy Scholarship honors an educator, mother

by Barbara Braveboy-Locklear

Mary Elizabeth Jones Brayboy's children doubt Hollywood will ever make a movie about their mother's life or her many accomplishments.

"But her support and encouragement of Indian children will produce men and women who are educated, responsible and committed to their families, communities and country," said her oldest son, Terrence.

"As her children, it is easy for us to be thankful that she raised us to be self-sufficient, educated and responsible members of society," he added. "She expected us not only to live our lives with decency and integrity, but to also develop a civic responsibility and commitment to make our chosen communities better."

Last November, Dr. Brayboy's three sons established an endowed scholarship at UNCP to honor their mother. The Mary Elizabeth Jones Brayboy endowed scholarship will be awarded to a Native American woman who is a full-time undergraduate student with a major in education.

As a 12-year old, Dr. Brayboy worked in tobacco and cotton fields bordering the family's home that stands a stone's throw away from where the scholarship announcement was made last fall. It was there, in the small farming community of Wakulla, the young Indian girl learned



Mary Elizabeth Brayboy

valuable lessons as she worked in the farm fields, worshipped in a clapboard church and studied in the classrooms of the public schoolhouse. Her parents extolled the value of these things.

Dr. Brayboy went on to Pembroke State College, where she received a B.S. in home economics education in 1961. For eight years, she taught high school home economics in the public schools of North Carolina, Ohio and Pennsylvania before

becoming a program administrator for the Baltimore City Public Schools. At 41, married with three school-age children, Dr. Brayboy earned an M.S. degree from Hood College in Frederick, Md.

While working on her doctorate at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Dr. Brayboy received a scholarship that provided full tuition and fees. She was awarded her Ph.D. from UNC Greensboro in 1990.

"The Education of Indian women is so important to me. It is my desire to see that population reach that achievement level that can make a difference in the lives of their families and community," Dr. Brayboy said.

She said her mother, Zelma Sampson Jones, a public school teacher, instilled in her the value of having a formal education.

Dr. Brayboy's sons said their mother's devotion to education emerges from her own educational experience.

"She did not just want her own children to be self-sufficient, educated and responsible members of society; she wanted it for all children."

"In her work with Indian education, Mary Elizabeth has encouraged the same public and private responsibilities of all

*Please see **BRAYBOY**, page 21*

Professor, husband endow Book Scholarship

A former student who could not always afford to purchase textbooks during his undergraduate days at UNC Pembroke has endowed a book scholarship that will ensure that others can.



Beasley

Cherry Beasley, a nursing professor and nurse practitioner at Student Health Services, and husband Ron Beasley '70, a Lumberton physician, contributed \$6,000 to endow the Student Book Scholarship.

"I heard about the scholarship on campus," Professor Beasley said. "Because

of my contacts with students, I knew there was a great need for book money.

"I mentioned it to my husband, who said he borrowed books from friends and the library to get through school," she said.

Beasley also gave to the Staff Council Scholarship last year.

"I contributed my pay raise to the Staff Council," she said. "It's things like this that make a university a community."

The Student Book Scholarship was originated by psychology Professor Pat Cabe and Trustee Roger Oxendine over dinner with UNCP's Ambassadors, student volunteers who work with the Office of Admissions.

Dr. Cabe proposed the idea of a scholarship for books to Oxendine,

who immediately agreed to make a contribution.

"It is very gratifying to see others supporting the Book Scholarship Fund, especially at the level that Cherry and Ron have," Dr. Cabe said. "This is a way to help out that directly enhances our students' chances for classroom success."

"This scholarship was created because they realized that financial aid often cannot be stretched far enough to purchase textbooks," said Dr. Glenn Burnette Jr., vice chancellor for Advancement. "They said several of their students would share one textbook."

The scholarship awards \$100 grants to students based on need. This semester 10 book awards were made based on need.

'Bootstraps scholarship is growing to meet staff needs

Recent fund-raising activities added \$2,368.63 to the Staff Council's growing scholarship fund.

The scholarship, which will benefit staff and family members attending UNCP, should reach \$4,000 by the end of the year. The contributions of UNCP employees through the State Employees Combined Campaign made up the balance.

"The goal is to raise a minimum of \$5,000 to become an endowed scholarship of the university," said Cynthia Oxendine, vice chair of the Staff Council Scholarship Committee.

"It is exciting to see the Staff Council come together as a team to work for a common cause," said Dr. Glen Burnette, vice chancellor for Advancement. "The scholarship program allows our staff the opportunity to give back to the university."

Now five years old, the Staff Council has become a voice for building a better working environment at the university. Staff Council leadership believes a scholarship fits nicely with this mission.

"The idea of a scholarship originated almost spontaneously and had immediate support from everyone at UNCP," said Nancy Starnes, who was Staff Council president when the scholarship was created.

The council has taken a grass roots approach to raising money that proved successful. The raffle of a television raised \$1,509 and the sale of snow cones during



Staff Council Check Presentation

From left: Randall Blue, Webster Smith, Debbie Jacobs, Cynthia Oxendine, Sharlene Locklear, Carlene Cummings, Melissa Vance, Roger Killian, Gary Strickland, Valerie Deese, Vivian Oxendine, Linda Chavis Hunt

Lumbee Homecoming raised \$859.63.

Grants of \$100 will be distributed to UNCP staff members, their spouses or children who are taking six or more hours of course work and maintain a 2.0 grade point average. Candidates will be selected based upon financial need.

Chancellor Meadors praised the council's "bootstraps" effort.

"We're in the education business, so it is nice to see our employees investing in the idea for themselves and their families,"

Chancellor Meadors said. "I am very proud of this scholarship project. It is special."

Special Collections Librarian Carlene Cummings is chair of the Staff Council Scholarship Committee.

"When you have a good idea and good people behind it, a project will succeed," Cummings said. "Looking down the road, this could become the largest endowment at this university. If so, it will help a lot of us."

Brayboy

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Native American children, always leading by example," said Dr. Ruth Dial Woods, retired educator and a member of the UNC Board of Governors, of her longtime friend.

Since 1998, Dr. Brayboy has served as a group leader in the National Office of Indian Education in Washington, D.C. The agencies serve 450,000 American Indian school children.

The scholarship award of up to full tuition and fees will occur half in the fall and half in the spring school semesters.

"I am humbly honored to know this is happening in my lifetime," Dr. Brayboy said.

Dr. Brayboy lives in Maryland. Her three sons are Terrence Dean, an emergency room physician living in Minneapolis, Minn.;

Bryan McKinley, an assistant professor at the University of Utah living in Salt Lake City; and Cary, a television/ film actor living in the Los Angeles, Calif., area. Dr. Brayboy has one grandchild, 5-month-old Quannah McKinley Brayboy of Salt Lake City.

Barbara Braveboy-Locklear is a resident of Angier and native of Robeson County.



Alumni Scholarship

The Robeson Alumni Chapter presented a \$3,000 scholarship to the university at the class reunion social during Homecoming 2002. From left: Ida Baker '91, treasurer; Lois Oxendine '95; Sandra McCormick '95, president; Teresa Oxandine '97, director of Alumni Relations; Floyd Locklear '86, vice president; Larry Rodgers '73; Shirley Rodgers '93, secretary; Dorothy Blue '55 and Earlene Locklear '52.

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