

Miss N.C. visits campus, emcees pageant

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2000 Lorna Ricotta. Southard competed at the Miss America Pageant on Jan. 30 and was eager to share some of her experiences at the Las Vegas event.

"We were at dinner and my sister saw Clinton Kelly," Southard said. "She makes a big deal, wanted a picture."

The Miss America Pageant is televised live on TLC and is currently

being emceed by actor Mario Lopez.

"He was very short," Southard said, recalling her memories of Lopez. "He was very nice."

Southard said that the Miss UNCP Pageant marked her first visit to UNCP, and she was impressed by the campus-community.

"There's so much support and everyone's so welcoming and so much cheering," Southard said. "I'm not accustomed to

this at home. I love it."

Before the pageant, Southard dined with Chancellor Charles R. Jenkins and guests in the Chancellor's Dining Room.

She offered some advice for Walters as she re-enters the realm of public life and state pageant competition.

"I want her to enjoy every bit of her preliminary title," Southard said. "She could be the next Miss North Carolina."

Dr. Jones said that she was very pleased with the pageant and thought that it was "very organized." She said that she would be reviewing the judges' remarks and looking for ways to improve the pageant.

"From the opening number to the crowning, our six contestants were well-prepared," Dr. Jones said. "Any of them could have won Miss UNCP."



Photo by Glory Attaochu

Miss UNCP 2010 contestants (from left): Kelsey Cummings, Chelsea Collier, Ashton Young, Mary Ann McGirt and Arlene Grady pose onstage following the pageant with the newly-crowned Miss UNCP 2010 Jenna Walters and Miss UNCP 2009 Katy Helen Locklear.



Photo by Wade Allen

Miss North Carolina 2009 Katherine Southard (left) congratulates the newly-crowned Miss UNCP 2010 Jenna Walters onstage in GPAC. More than 1,000 people attended the 58th annual pageant, including Chancellor Charles R. Jenkins and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Diane O. Jones. Walters will compete in the Miss North Carolina Pageant in June in Raleigh.

Top administrators present budget forum

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"We're real good at adding things; we're not good at taking things away," Chancellor Jenkins said. "It's painful."

Chancellor Jenkins stressed that his goal was to not have the budget reductions directly impact the instruction at UNCP.

"Teaching must come first," he said.

"President [Erskine] Bowles is even now saying if we get beyond 2 percent, it will have some impact on direct instruction," Chancellor Jenkins said. "We must continue to find non-state dollars."

He said they wanted to protect currently filled positions if at all possible.

Chancellor Jenkins

addressed the subject of graduation and retention rates, areas the University has been trying to improve.

"We cannot lose focus of trying to improve our graduation and retention rates," Chancellor Jenkins said. "We've got to get more faculty in advisement and teaching in freshman seminar."

Attending

According to Chancellor Jenkins, the forum was held in GPAC because he didn't know how many people would attend the event.

Among those attending were Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Diane O. Jones, vice Chancellor for University and Community Relations

Dr. Glen Burnette, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Jackie Clark, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Charles Harrington, Director of Athletics Dan Kenney, Dean of Library Services Dr. Elinor F. Foster, University Counsel and Chief of Staff Joshua Malcolm and Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Anthony R. Curtis.

Following Hawk's remarks, Chancellor Jenkins offered to entertain questions but there were none.

"A lot of blood, sweat and tears were spent on the reduction plan last year," Hawk said. "Unfortunately, this whole process must be concise."

Police seek vandals

By Kayloni Wyatt
Managing Editor

According to an email sent by campus police, two male students vandalized a pool table on Feb. 1. The incident occurred in "The Hawks Nest" game room located in the University Center. The students were seen on surveillance tape playing pool with several friends.

The police are diligently working on locating the vandals.

If you have any infor-

mation please contact campus police at 910-521-6235.

An officer responded to a domestic violence violation on Jan. 27. A student advised that someone was in violation of a domestic violence protection order. The subject was arrested and transported to the Robeson County Sheriff Office.

On Jan. 28 a student reported that tires on their vehicle had been slashed. When an officer arrived

on the scene, they figured out that a nail embedded in the tire caused the damage.

A Bert's employee called campus police to report stolen merchandise on Feb. 1.

Also on Feb. 1 two students were charged with visitation violations in Pine Hall. Campus Police arrived on the scene and charged both students with visitation violations.

The Pine Needle

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