

Blackboard upgrades set for fall 2010

By Dustin Porter
Electronic News Editor

Students and faculty will enter fall 2010 under a new Blackboard that will allow them to drag and drop items, blog and maintain a day-to-day journal, receive updates and new postings via email and edit their homepage to suit their liking.

Students will also like how the new Blackboard will hide empty folders saving students from the disappointment of clicking on a folder and finding the message "folder empty."

Web Application

Administer for Division of Information Technology Alan PreVatte reports that the new Blackboard will be student and faculty friendly. He said that professors on campus will no longer have to make a request for Blackboard. Instead, all courses on campus will already have an existing Blackboard shell, and if a professor wishes to use Blackboard for their course, all they have to do is set it up.

"It will be available if they want it, and they can fix it themselves without requesting it," PreVatte said.

"I've been doing Blackboard since 2003. We only had 137 courses on Blackboard then. Now we have over 900," PreVatte said.

Blackboard continues to grow as the number of featured courses increases every semester, PreVatte said.

DoIT has already started testing Blackboard 9 and will continue to fix any errors or problems until they perfect it.

The faculty training for this process will start in the summer and continue until the start of the fall 2010 semester.



Photo courtesy of Blackboard.com

Blackboard upgrades will go into effect during the fall 2010 semester. The process to change over will begin during the summer.

Scholarship endowed for A.G. 'Tunney' Brooks

By Staff Reports

One of the great high school coaches in North Carolina history was honored on Feb. 24 at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

More than 100 friends, family and fellow coaches turned out to honor A.G. 'Tunney' Brooks at a reception and ceremony in the Native Angels Home Care & Hospice Braves Club Room of the English E. Jones Athletic Center. He was a coach and athletic director at Lumberton High School for 31 years.

The Lumberton Booster Club and Coach Brooks' friends contributed \$100,000 to an endowed or permanent athletic scholarship in his name. It is the largest athletic scholarship at UNCP.

"I love every one of you," Brooks said during the ceremony. "I love everything you're doing to help UNC Pembroke and Lumberton High School. I love you all."

"Thank you for all you did for me when I came to Lumberton," he continued. "I came here to teach, but I learned more from you."

"I thoroughly enjoyed coaching and teaching," Brooks said, lighting up the room. "If I'd known I was going to have to do all this, I'd have run a few laps to get into better shape."

Coach Brooks came to Lumberton in 1959. He coached football and basketball and was athletic director. He instantly turned around an ailing athletic program and for 31 years steered the Lumberton Pirates to solid success.

Attending the event were coaches like Findley Read, who coached with him in Lumberton, and Rockingham High School coach Bill Eutsler; friends like Charlie Kinlaw, who like Brooks played at Wake Forest; and players like Nicky Guy, a Shrine Bowl player, and Paul Willoughby, who played and coached for him.

"Tunney Brooks was the coach that other coaches said got more from less," said Paul Willoughby, who is also a UNCP graduate and current trustee. "I was fortunate to play three years for him in the late 1960s and then come back to coach Lumberton High School's football team under him as athletic director."

"Coach, we love you," Willoughby said.

Willoughby described Brooks with the terms "trust, stability, organization and structure."

The endowment will produce a maximum of four \$1,000 scholarships each year with a guarantee that at least two will be awarded. The scholarship will be open to male and female student-athletes at UNCP, who exhibit character, maintain a 2.5 grade point average and demonstrate financial need.

The scholarship will be first offered to student-athletes from Lumberton Senior High School, then student-athletes from Robeson County will be eligible. If no Robeson athlete qualifies, the scholarship will be available to any student-athlete at UNCP.



Photo courtesy of University Relations

A.G. "Tunney" Brooks is honored with an endowed or permanent athletic scholarship in his name on Feb. 24. Brooks was a coach and athletic director at Lumberton High School for 31 years.

"I have been contacted by people as far away as Alaska and California about giving to this scholarship," James Granger, scholarship facilitator, told *The Robesonian*.

UNCP Chancellor Dr. Charles Jenkins coached against Brooks for three years while at Scotland High School.

"In life and sports, we run into people all the time who are legends in their own mind, but not coach Brooks," Chancellor Jenkins said. "He truly is a legend."

"When I coached against him, we almost never won," he said.

Dave Bullock, a former player, is making a special tribute to the coach of a scale "Pirate" ship named in his honor.

"She's got 30 long guns," Bullock said. "Coach, she's deadly."

Attending the event were Brooks' wife, Joan; sons,

Ritchie and John; their wives, Carol and Sherry respectively, and five grandchildren.

Ritchie Brooks spoke for the family.

"The things you did made his career, and the things he did made you who you are," Brooks said. "Thank you for this ceremony and for what you have done for our father and your coach."

UNCP Athletic Director Dan Kenney said the University will ensure that the scholarship honors its namesake.

"When we select recipients for this scholarship, we won't compromise the values that coach Brooks stood for," Kenney said. "Coach, it is a great honor to be in the room with you."

For more information or to contribute to the A.G. "Tunney" Brooks Student-Athlete Endowed Scholarship, please contact the Office for Advancement at (910) 521-6252 or email advancement@uncp.edu.

Robeson County Humane Society to host pet festival

By Jodie Johnson
Advertising Manager

The First Annual FUNds for Furry Friends Pet Festival will be held at Lumberton's Downtown Plaza on March 27 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The festival will be hosted by the Robeson County Humane Society's Friends for Life Animal Shelter, with the help of many students and faculty members from UNCP.

This free admission festival will include food, vendors, live music, raffle items and other fun activities, such as a pet parade and pageant. Performing at the festival will be Victoria Huggins, Miss UNCP 2010 Jenna



Photo courtesy of Robeson County Humane Society

The first annual FUNds for Furry Friends Pet Festival will be held March 27 at Lumberton's Downtown Plaza.

Walters, The Harley and the Big Country Band and the Richmond High Gospel Choir.

"I am very excited about our first FUNds for Furry Friends Pet Festival. Many festivals

do not permit pets and this is one of the few that is geared toward the fun owners who can have their pets with them at an event," said the Robeson County Humane Society's Director Patricia Terrell.

"I'm particularly looking forward to seeing the dogs parade through downtown Lumberton and participate in the Pet Pageant. Most of all, it will bring attention to the vital work the Robeson County Humane Society performs, both with saving lives and with our spay and neuter program," Terrell said.

The pet parade will begin at 10 a.m. Participants will be able to strut their canine companions through the streets of downtown Lumberton. The entry fee for the parade is \$20 for one dog, \$30 for two dogs, \$40 for three dogs, \$5 for each additional dog after three and \$5 for UNCP stu-

dents' dogs.

The Pet Pageant will begin at 12 p.m. and will be open to the public. The entry fee for dogs will be \$10 for UNCP students, \$20 for advance entry, and \$25 the day of the event. The winner of the pageant will represent the Humane Society at future events throughout the upcoming year. The winner will also receive various other prizes.

All animals attending the festival must be spayed or neutered and wear an up-to-date rabies tag. Animals that need a muzzle should not attend the festival. Leashes should be kept on all dogs throughout the entire festival.

All proceeds from the festival will benefit the Robeson County Humane Society's Friends for Life Animal Shelter, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping cats and dogs. The goal of the shelter is to find loving homes for cats and dogs, promote responsible ownership, and educate the community on the importance of spaying and neutering.

For more information about the FUNds for Furry Friends Pet Festival or the Robeson County Humane Society's Friends for Life Animal Shelter you can visit www.robesonhumane-society.org or call 910-738-8282.