



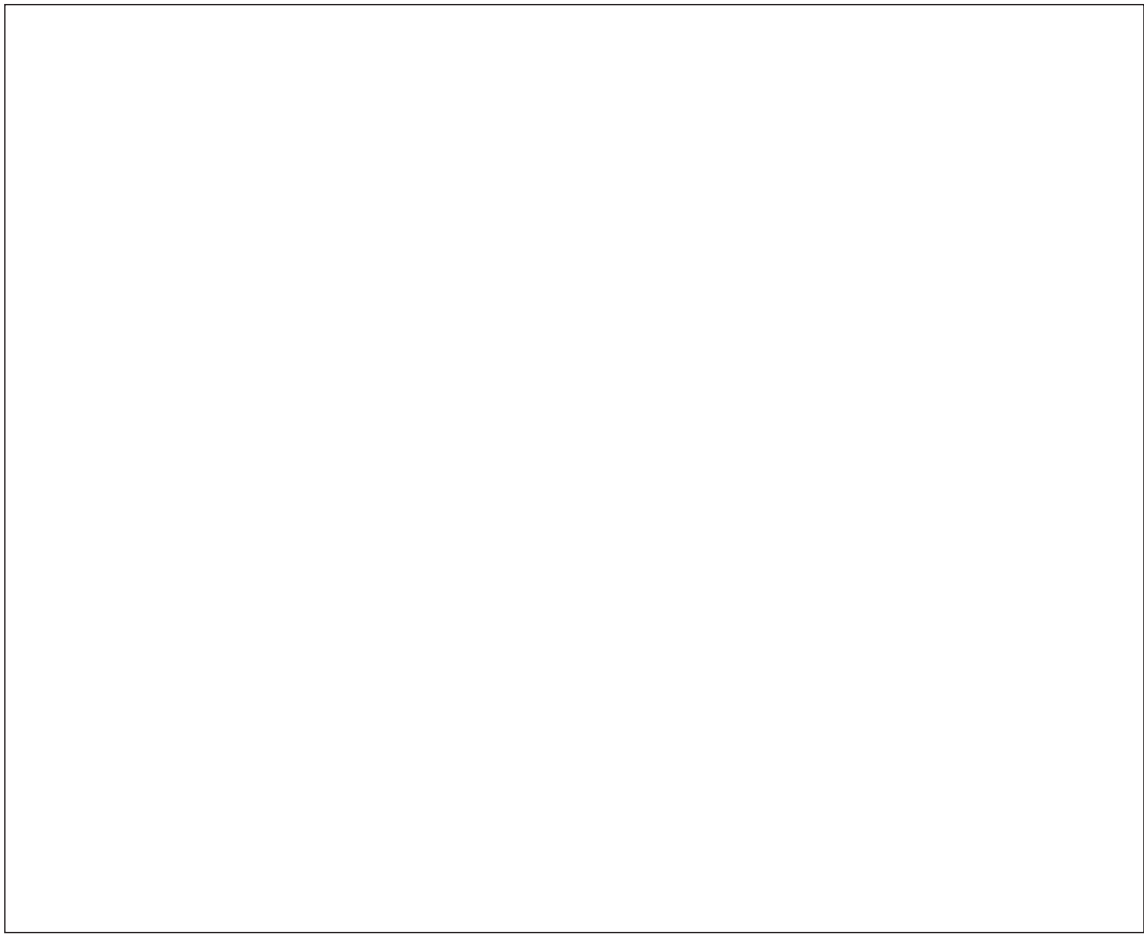
Entertainment ~Page 3

Deathtrap!



Sports ~Page 7

Kelvin Sampson
Coaches Em Up



A Message on Coronavirus From Chancellor Cummings

BraveNation:

Today, a North Carolina person has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus), making it the first case in our state. The test, conducted by North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health, is presumptively positive and will be confirmed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lab. The individual is believed to have contracted the virus during recent travel to Washington state. According to a press release issued by the Governor, the individual is doing well and is in isolation at home.

We understand that public concern continues to increase over this outbreak and want to take this opportunity to provide an update and offer tips to keep yourself and our campus community healthy. Since the coronavirus was first reported early in 2020, UNCP has been actively preparing and monitoring to ensure our pandemic plans are in place should a local response become necessary.

As of March 3, 2020, there are 60 cases of COVID-19 in the United States that have been reported to the CDC. While this is the first affecting NC, our state is among the many in the U.S. with widespread flu activity. The practices that may help you avoid the flu are the same for helping you avoid the COVID-19. Please take this opportunity to review the attached handouts from the CDC and visit uncp.edu/ncov for best practice on the prevention of the flu and COVID-19.

In addition, with the spring break travel season upon us, we want you to be aware that travel advisories or restrictions have been issued by the U.S. Department of State. We strongly encourage you to review advisories prior to finalizing any upcoming travel plans. The ban on university-affiliated travel to China remains in place through the spring semester.

For domestic and international travel, many airports are now implementing increased passenger screening in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. We encourage you to arrive at the airport early for air travel in order to accommodate the additional time needed for these screenings.

Should you determine your travel remains safe, we encourage you to keep the following tips in mind to stay healthy on your trip:

- Practice good hygiene, including frequent hand-washing with soap and water for at least 30 seconds. If soap and water isn't available, use hand sanitizer with alcohol.
- Use sanitizing wipes to clean armrests and tray tables on airplanes, trains, and buses.
- Limit exposure to others who are sick, and stay home if you have flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath).
- Get any recommended vaccines. A vaccine to protect against COVID-19 is in the developmental stages.
- Seek medical attention if you develop flu-like symptoms.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping protect your health and that of our campus community. Be assured, the university will continue to monitor the situation daily in coordination with local and state health officials. Additional updates will continue to be issued as necessary.

Sincerely,

Robin Gary Cummings, MD
Chancellor



From the Center for Disease Control Website. File Photo/Pine Needle

The Pine Needle
UNCP Student Newspaper
Founded in 1947

Contact us

P.O. Box 1510
Pembroke, NC 28372

253 Old Main Building

Phone: (910) 521-6204
Email: pineneedle@uncp.edu
Fax: (910) 522-5795
Web: uncp.edu/pineneedle

Editors

Ky'Aire Goode
Editor-in-Chief

Sara Goldsberry
Managing Editor

Alexis Polson
Campus Life Editor

Mike McGuinness
Sports Editor

Local News Editor

Zachary Young
Assistant Sports Editor

Copy Editors

Sara Fox

Savanna Rudolph

Stephanie Sellers

Contributors

Mitchell Doub

Jalen Head

Noah Ross

Carrington Tyson

Madison Trombley

Jared Freeman

Alisabeth Limon

Alanna Tucker

Faith Alford

Isaiah Dunavant

Carson van Taborsky

Victoria Brousseau

Karyn Lindsey

Jayde Grant

Domminik Gest

Madison Hardin

Jackie Porter

Social Media

Alexis Polson

Circulation

Brian Pridgen

Jalen Head

Adviser

Darlene W. Natale
Faculty Adviser

The Pine Needle is distributed free. The first copy is free; each additional copy is 50 cents. Contact the office to obtain additional copies.

The Pine Needle is an active member of the following organizations:

American Scholastic Press Association

Associated Collegiate Press

North Carolina College Media Association

The Pine Needle is supported by student fees and is printed twice a month by Mullen Publications on 100 percent recycled paper.

The Pine Needle does not print anonymous letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. When submitting a letter to the editor, please indicate your name. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Accessibility Resource Center, DF Lowry Building.

Column

It’s Over (Finally)-US, Taliban Sign Peace Deal

Michael McGuinness is a U.S. Army war veteran of 16 years. McGuinness served in Afghanistan on three deployments and saw firsthand the impacts that the longest war in American history had on all the people involved. With the United States and the Taliban signing a peace agreement on February 29, 2020, McGuinness shares the implications of the new deal.

Mike McGuinness
News Editor

After almost 18 months of negotiations, the United States and Taliban signed a peace deal in Doha, Qatar, to end the longest war in America’s history. This came after a week-long “truce,” in which both sides limited any maneuvering by their own forces, and more importantly, committed to not attacking each other, giving them time to double down on negotiations.

The peace deal commits the United States to withdrawing all their forces, both military and civilian, from Afghanistan within 14 months, and in the first 135 days of the agreement to reduce troop levels to 8,600 uniformed personnel. Over the following nine and a half months, those 8,600 personnel will have to leave the country.

The Taliban’s main priority has been to see the removal of all foreign service members from within Afghanistan; for the United States, the focus has been to ensure that terrorist organizations cannot utilize Afghanistan as a launching pad for any further attacks against the U.S., like al-Qaeda did in 2001. To that end, the Taliban have committed to end their relationships with organizations that the U.S. characterizes as a terrorist organization.

There are other ancillary issues that were addressed as well. The U.S. and other allies will petition the United Nations Security Council to remove certain Taliban members from the sanctions list. A prisoner swap between the current Afghan government and the Taliban that would see 5,000 Taliban prisoners exchanged for 1,000 Afghan security forces that are being held.

The deal also brings both the Afghan government and the Taliban together to negotiate and conduct their own peace

talks. Projected to begin sometime in March of this year in Oslo, Norway, these negotiations have a daunting task in front of it: how to integrate the Taliban back into an Afghanistan that ostensibly is a functioning democratic nation.

Another major hurdle

suffered 2,300 deaths and 20,660 injuries to military personnel. Over 40,000 members of the Afghan security forces have died in the fighting, as well as over 100,000 Afghan civilians.

Financial loss has been exorbitant as well. Over \$800 billion has been spent on the war

is that the war is finally coming to a close. Service members, while it is their profession, won’t have to worry about going to Afghanistan, and facing the very real possibility of being wounded or killed. The Afghanistan Papers, compiled and then released by The Washington Post,



Jarred Ruhl, Dallas Haggard and the author on patrol in Zharay District, Afghanistan in June 2012. Photo Credit: Alan Gladney

for these negotiations to contend with is that, at the time of this writing, Afghanistan’s presidency is still in flux. Ashraf Ghani, current president of Afghanistan, claimed victory in the elections of September of last year while his opponent, Abdullah Abdullah, contends that there were voting irregularities. Ghani was supposed to have been sworn in for his second term, but the U.S. has asked that be pushed back until early March.

But what does this mean for the United States? After news of the deal were released to the public, there was a wide range of opinion on the internet and T.V. news. And while there may be disagreement on whether a negotiated peace should be negotiated, what can be agreed upon is that the cost of the war has been high.

Since 2001, U.S. military forces have

and reconstruction, with as much as \$15.5 billion being lost to fraud, waste, and abuse.

This number is not an agreed upon indicator of waste-some organizations, such as the Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan that said that it could be as high as \$60 billion, just as of 2011.

What does this mean for America, though? This brings to an end America’s longest war, one that has seen multiple iterations of ideas on how to win in Afghanistan (which, history has shown, no one can do if you’re a foreign invader), set up a stable democracy in a nation that has little background with representative government, and foster a pro-Afghan program in an area of the world that identifies more with their tribe than their nation. It was a tall order from the beginning.

What is important

showed the world that American government and military officials had no clue as to what they were doing in their policy creation in regards to Afghanistan. They were as lost as the rest of America as to what was going on there.

While the road was long and full of holes, it is finally winding down. And while some Americans will not be happy with the how the war unfolded, a negotiated peace is preferable to what was potentially staring at both the U.S. and Afghanistan: a continuing conflict that would never seem to end, killing the children of our respective nations.

It was time for it to end. Hopefully, we can now move forward together and see this peace through, and process the ramifications of an almost 20 year war. Because it is much more preferable than to begin the killing again.



U.S. Marines at Camp Bost in Afghanistan’s Helmand province in Oct. 2017. Photo from Tribune Content Agency. Marcus Yam/L.A. Times.

Greek Letter Organizations Then vs Now

By **Madison Long**
Staff Writer

UNCP offers 20 Greek letter organizations with the completion of the National Pan-Hellenic Council in the fall of 2019. Fraternity and sorority life have been prominent opportunities for students to get involved for over 40 years.

Joining a fraternity or sorority provides students with a wide variety of opportunities to help them excel in their college experience. Some of these opportunities include service opportunities, excellence in academics, leadership opportunities, and community support.

Volunteer events are integral in Greek life with many organizations having service-based values. Opportunities may include serving

in a soup kitchen, volunteering at an animal shelter, reading books to elementary school children, holding events to raise money for a special cause or their philanthropy.

“Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. offers many services to the local community such as canned food drives during the holidays. We also have a Lumberton Kappa League program which mentors young men in the community and we are also big supporters of the St. Jude’s Children hospital,” said Tyler Oxendine, junior, and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

By joining a Greek organization, students are met with chances to develop leadership skills by taking positions within their organization. Leadership positions may later provide a job for students pursuing a profession within their organization, such as being an advisor, or working

at their headquarters. Leadership opportunities help members grow in their desired skills, confidence, organization, and responsibility to later help them be successful in their careers.

“College is more than just sculpting your intellect. It’s about building relationships in which you develop key leadership methodology for your future. Greek life is this repertoire and a place to build beautiful relationships with people of all walks of life,” said Tucker Pridgen, senior, and member of Phi Kappa Tau.

Another positive outcome of fraternity and sorority life are the bonds forged from close relationships. In college, it’s important that students have a community to support them and help to push them to be the best version of themselves. This close bond also known as a sisterhood

or brotherhood is what encourages students throughout their college years.

“Kappa Delta has helped me immensely throughout my college experience by gaining leadership opportunities and understanding the true meaning of sisterhood. I’m so thankful to call these ladies not only my best friends, but my sisters too,” said Amber Smith, senior, and member of Kappa Delta.

The effects of joining a Greek organization doesn’t end after your four years of undergraduate study. Many members go on to join alumni chapters, usually available in each state.

These alumni chapters participate in service projects, events for their philanthropy, and continue pursuing the values their organization has set in place.

UNCP Opinions on Syracuse Situation

By **Octavia Johnson**
Staff Writer

A group of students from Syracuse University are protesting after a series of racist incidents. The students’ protest involved a sit-in at Crouse-Hinds Hall for 11 days. The students were suspended after campus police attempted to shut down the protest. The suspension has been lifted by SU Chancellor Kent Syverud.

“To have suspensions placed on protestors is a systematic way of quieting the noise and essentially telling students, who have a voice and reasonings, ‘...stay in a student’s place’ when societal issues affect us just like the rest of the world,” UNCP student Jeremiah Kelly said.

SU students are still protesting along with faculty and staff. On Feb. 26, about 100 protestors closed two city blocks for about two hours. Many students, faculty, staff and allies are trying to support the protestors by giving them food

and supplies. “I feel like for a case like that, I would go to higher ups, past the school...because someone is going to listen,” UNCP student Ayanna Williams said.

Some of UNCP’s students understood the frustration the SU students were feeling currently.

An incident involving a former campus police officer, Steven E. Jones, who pepper-sprayed students and alumni during a homecoming tailgate was hired last January by the Robeson County Sheriff’s Department.

The students attended the Police and Public Safety forum to resolve the issues between students and campus police. After hearing about Jones termination, some UNCP students felt there was a possibility to move forward from the situation.

However, news of Jones being hired at Robeson County Sheriff’s Department traveled fast and some expressed the concern of him

working for the police department of the county.

Kelly believes he can relate to the students at SU, because when a person who is put in place to protect and serve students pepper sprays victims and is then hired by the county, it becomes concerning and frustrating to the victims.

SU students also faced concern with campus police officers who were seen on video, posted on Twitter, of them recording and taking pictures of students. SU professor, Jennifer M. Jackson, tweeted that she watched as SU Associate Chief John Sardino physically handled some of the students. There’s a video of Sardino forcefully moving students on Instagram.

There are also students who spoke out on Twitter under #NotAgainSU stating that police officers were mistreating students and using force to shut down their protest when they were at the sit-in at Crouds-Hinds Hall. SU

protestors have also updated their list of demands and refuse to move until these demands are met.

Lawrence T. Locklear, UNCP director of Office of Student Inclusion and Diversity, discusses using dialogue, discussions and forums as an outlet to discuss any issues students, faculty and staff may have. For him, it is better to keep the conversations going so issues don’t escalate.

“We want [UNCP] students to feel like we are listening,” Locklear said. “Try to address it...try to determine what’s the sickness, so if you address the sickness the symptoms will go away.”

Locklear and Kelly hope SU protestors understand that their voices matter and they need to be heard.

SU protestors are still occupying Crouse-Hinds Hall and local news outlets are updating throughout the protest.

Deathtrap by Ira Levin

By **Sports Tweede**
Staff Writer

GPAC hosted a student production of the play ‘Deathtrap’ by Ira Levin on Feb. 13-15.

‘Deathtrap’ is a tale of murder, betrayal and foresight.

Sideny Bruhl, played by Sean Deam, is desperate and willing to do almost anything to find his newest play. Soon his wife, Myra Bruhl played by Chelsea Williams, and his former student Clifford Anderson, played by Kevin Stepp, learn how desperate Bruhl really is.

The performance was directed by Carolanne Marano. Other actors are Taylor Cummings, who played the psychic neighbor Helga Ten Dorp, and William (Bill Oxendine, who played the somewhat suspicious lawyer Porter Milgrim.



Actors on set of Deathtrap by Ira at the Givens Performing Arts Center. PN Photo/Sports Tweede

Artnauts: Globalocation II International activist art on exhib-

By **Stephanie Sellers**
Reporter and Copy Editor

Artnauts: Globalocation II is live at UNCP’s A.D. Gallery now through March 5. The juried show offers artists an opportunity to reap full price for art sold while participating in an activist art collective.

Since 1996, the collective has promoted social change in areas of unrest, such as Uganda and Russia. It has been hosted at universities, museums, galleries, public spaces and four continents as an art platform to provide global awareness to social issues.

UNCP’s Professor Brandon

Sanderson of the Print and Drawing Department was juried into the show with his work titled Feed Back Loop. It is the second piece on the left when entering the gallery. Sanderson is a former computer programmer who has had several reconstructive surgeries following a bomb explosion. His piece relates to the effects of those surgeries as he is preoccupied with the weight of their outcomes. For instance, his hearing has been altered.

Feed Back Loop utilizes screen printing, lithograph and relief. Sanderson wants people to find their own story in his piece, but

shared part of his own story. Its central figure is a rat sitting upright as hooks hold its life in a standstill. The rat’s head is hung low as it sits hopelessly encased in a shiny metal spiral cone.

“My piece is about the perpetual loop of behavior that happens in people,” Sanderson said.

Each element of the composition addresses Sanderson’s story. The background is clouded with swipes of color repeated from the foreground while bits of bright yellow prick the clouds as hope for escape, begging the hapless rat to look upwards. He explained, “The hooks

are holding him down,” but the rat is not looking upwards toward the light.

“I like to look at two to three pieces a day. If you try to look at everything in one visit, it can be overwhelming” Associate Professor & A.D Gallery Director Joseph Begnaud said.

A.D. Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sanderson has limited prints of his featured work, Feed Back Loop, available. Contact him at brandon.sanderson@uncp.edu.

Students’ thoughts on Democratic Socialism

By Mitchell Doub

Bernie Sanders tied for first place in the Iowa caucus, won New Hampshire and dominated Nevada. Other Democratic candidates are scrambling to catch up with the Vermont Senator. Former Vice President Joe Biden has the name recognition and the resume. South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg had the youth (but has since dropped out of the race) and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has the money, but Sanders has the delegate lead. Sanders was proud to tell the Washington Post “I am a socialist and everyone knows that.” In the past, Democratic candidates have shied away from the ‘Socialist’ tag, but Sanders embraces it. Young people on college campuses are coming out in droves to support “Bern,” the 79-year-old democrat (a registered independent). Sanders was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1941 and is the longest serving independent member in U.S. Congressional history.

His views on climate change, income equality and national healthcare resonate with the youth of America, and he has refused to accept large corporate donations. According to the Sanders campaign, most of his funds are online donations averaging \$27. It may be ironic that a candidate nearing 80 years of age would capture the hearts of the “OK Boomer” generation, but Sanders has done it. Historically there have been competing definitions of “socialism,” and here on campus it’s no different. Ryan Smith, a freshman chemistry and physics major, defines socialism as when the government exerts greater control over the economy and how it works. It would control the movements of money and would take money from the richer people and give it to the poor. It would make things more balanced. He



Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders speaks to supporters during a campaign rally at Valley High School in Santa Ana, Calif., on February 21, 2020. (Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times/TNS)

said he believes socialism looks good on paper, but that it could lead to reduced freedom for the people. “There are positives and negatives to it, like every economic system, I’d hope the government would have some controls on itself. I don’t think Sanders is advocating for total socialism, maybe just a hybrid,” Smith said. Deondre Butler, a freshman zoology major, agreed with Smith’s definition, and added that socialism, in some cases, eliminates the ownership of private property. He was unsure how that concept would be received by Americans, especially the wealthy. “I think it might be a good thing if private property was not owned just by a few. Maybe Bernie Sanders can do it right, I mean, it wouldn’t be good to end up like communist China, but if Sanders does it right, it could further boost our economy. I know in the past socialism did some bad things, but it just depends on where Bernie wants to take it.” Butler said he would be willing to vote for Sanders. Timothy Cubero, a freshman IT major, said he was surprised to learn Sanders was a socialist. “I actually did not know Bernie Sanders was a socialist, but some of the things he is trying to pass are pretty cool, like the free college and the legalization of medicinal marijuana. I think it would be interesting if maybe a private house from a rich person was given to somebody of lower class, that could have a good connotation to it, but at the same time, imagine being the original house owner. I think the country would be split on whether it’s good or bad.” Cubero was non-committal on his willingness to vote for Sanders; but said he liked the idea of free college but was unsure how Sanders would make it work.

Emanuel Stallings, a sophomore nursing major, believes that socialism means all profits are shared equally among the people and no one makes a great deal more than anyone else. “I think socialism is unfair. Some people just work harder, and they deserve to have more money. Property should not be shared equally amongst everybody.” Stallings is unsure if he would vote for Sanders. Jeffrey Gerzog, a sophomore exercise physiology major, said socialism and communism are similar, but he couldn’t really put into words a concise definition. “I believe socialists are looking for equality and I believe that as an idea, it’s good but in practice it’s not always done right.” If the race comes down to Sanders versus Trump, Gerzog wants to wait and see what each candidate proposes before he makes his voting choice.

Josh King, a sophomore IT major, defined socialism as a system where all profits are shared, and everyone makes basically the same income. “Whether you work or don’t, people would make the same. Socialism is a bad thing.” King was clear about his feelings on voting for Sanders when without reservation he responded, “No.” Bernie Sanders continues to make headway with college students and the working poor, but he has a perception problem. The word “socialism” triggers thoughts of despotic regimes for many Americans. The decades-long Cold War with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) is not so distant a memory. Some will recall that “Nazi” and “Nazism” was short for National Socialism,

although Germany’s Nazi party rejected Marxism and was staunchly anti-communist, imprisoning large numbers of German communists and socialists in the death camps. Sanders did not help his case with moderate voters when he recently complimented former Cuban dictator Fidel Castro’s reading program for Cuban children; many people around the country saw that as Sanders advocating for a brutal regime. With that being said, Sanders has been transparent with what nations he would model his administration on. In an interview with the Washington Examiner, he said that his brand of socialism is much more like Denmark’s (which actually has a blended economy) and that he wants to blend the best of socialism with the strength of the U.S. economy. It remains to be seen if Sanders can attract votes from baby boomers which may have a negative view of socialism. The word socialism is very polarizing, and terms like democratic socialism, national socialism, and Communist Socialism (what Marxist governments attempted to implement) muddy the political waters for many Americans. Karl Marx, the self-proclaimed Father of Communism saw socialism as an intermediate state to convert capitalist systems into full-blown communist systems. Sanders popularity and possible nomination is a referendum on the trajectory of the Democratic Party heading into the general elections in November. What that means for one of the two major parties in American politics remains to be seen.

Southeast Indian Studies Conference Presents



Keynote Speaker
Friday, March 20
1:45-2:45 p.m.

Devon Mihesuah

Enrolled citizen of the
Choctaw Nation of
Oklahoma

The Indigenous Food Sovereignty Movement in 2020

Conference Dates
Thursday & Friday, March 19-20
Museum of the
Southeast American Indian

Books will be available for purchase and signing at the end of her talk.



AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

Devon Mihesuah

is the Cora Lee Beers Price Professor in the Humanities Program at the University of Kansas. A historian by training, she is the author of numerous award-winning non-fiction and fiction books, including *Ned Christie: Choctaw Crime and Punishment: 1884-1907*; *American Indigenous Women: Decolonization, Empowerment, Activism, and Recovering Our Ancestors’ Gardens: Indigenous Recipes and Guide to Diet and Fitness*. Her 18th book, *Indigenous Food Sovereignty in the United States: Restoring Cultural Knowledge, Protecting Environments, and Regaining Health*, co-edited with Elizabeth Hoover, was published last fall. She is the former editor of the *American Indian Quarterly* and the University Nebraska Press book series, “Contemporary Indigenous Issues.” She oversees the *American Indian Health and Diet Project* at KU and the Facebook page, *Indigenous Eating*.

For more details about the conference and to register, please visit uncp.edu/ais/sisc.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Accessibility Resource Center, D.F. Lowry Building, Room 107, or call 910.521.6695.



Commemorative powwow t-shirt featuring the red-tailed hawk (UNC Pembroke’s mascot), Old Main, and traditional Southeastern American Indian motifs. Artwork by: Buffalo Gouge

Powwow and Gathering

By Alexis Polson
Social Media Manager

Come join the fun and entertainment at the fourth annual BraveNation Powwow and Gathering (BNPG) on Saturday, March 21, 2020. BNPG will be held in the English E. Jones Athletic Center at UNCP. Doors will open at 10 a.m. and the grand entry will be at noon. The event will feature the history and culture of America’s Indigenous peoples with dancing, vendors, and recruitment activities for American Indian high school students. At 7 p.m. there will be contest finals and closing ceremonies. Admission:

- Adults: \$5
- Alumni: \$3 (must check-in at Alumni Engagement table)
- Elders (60+): \$3
- UNCP Students, Faculty, and Staff (with UNCP ID): Free
- Non-UNCP college students (with college ID): \$3
- Ages 7-18: \$3 Children (6 and under): Free

Dr. Lawrence T. Locklear, director of the Office of Student Inclusion and Diversity, said there will be a drawing for two \$125 Brave Dollars Cards. He encourages all students to go to BNPG this year. “It’s free. Why not?” Locklear said. This year the commemorative powwow t-shirt will be \$15 (adult) and \$10 (youth and toddler). For more information, email powwow@uncp.edu or contact Dr. Lawrence Locklear, chair of the BraveNation Powwow and Gathering

Distinguished Speaker Series



U.S. Poet Laureate, Musician and Activist Joy Harlow (Mvskoke Nation)
Photo Credit: Matika Wilbur/ retrieved fromjoyharjo.com/

By Jackie Porter
Staff Writer

The Distinguished Speaker Series (hosted at Givens Performing Arts Center) will welcome Joy Harjo to the stage at 7:30 pm on March 26. Joy Harjo, of the Muscogee Creek Nation, is an author who published over a dozen books covering poetry, children’s stories and a memoir. She speaks about her life growing up, how she lives now and her connection that she has with her tribe and the land. She will be the next on a long list of speakers that have appeared at GPAC to share stories and inspiration with the students at UNCP. More information can be found at <https://www.uncp.edu/resources/givens-performing-arts-center>

Women’s History Month

Thursday, March 5
Holi Festival (12:00-4:00pm at UC Lawn)

Friday, March 6-7
Darkwater Women in Music Festival
(7:00 pm at Moore Hall Auditorium)
An evening full of songs, stories, and historic images. Entertainment will include string ensemble, low brass ensemble, Anastasia Bryant (piano), Sarah Busman (flute), and Katherine DeFiglio (soprano).”

Thursday, March 12
Women’s Health / Wellness Screenings
(3:00-7:00 pm at the University Center Annex)
Women’s preventive health screenings will be provided. Blood, pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar testing will also be included. For more information, contact Mary Beth Locklear at mary.locklear@uncp.edu.

Get Fit Zumba Class
(5:30 pm, Jones Center in the west lobby)
Co-sponsored by Office for Regional Initiatives and Campus Recreation

Thursday, March 19
Get Fit Zumba Class
(5:30 pm, Jones Center in the west lobby)

Thursday, March 19-20
Sixteenth Annual Southeast Indian Studies Conference
(Museum of the Southeast American Indian)
8:30am-5:00pm
Come join the Southeast Indian Studies Conference for two days of discussion of the culture, history, art, health and contemporary issues of Native Americans in the Southeast.
Keynote Speaker, Devon Mihesuah (Choctaw Nation)
March 20 from 1:45-2:45pm

Tuesday, March 24
Walk A Mile in Their Shoes!
(5:00-7:00pm)
begins at Cypress Residence Hall
ends at the Chavis University Center
This event was created with intentions of men and women marching to raise awareness about prevalence of sexual assault and educate students and community members on local resources.
For more information, contact Jasmine Boykin at jkb023@bravemail.uncp.edu.

Friday, March 27
Women’s Empowerment Summit
(8:30am - 4pm at the University Center Annex)
The theme is “Our Vote. Our Voice.”
Admission:
General Public: \$45
UNCP Employee/UNCP Alumni: \$35
Veteran/Senior Citizen (60+): \$30
Student: \$25
Table of 8: \$350
For more information, contact Mary Beth Locklear at mary.locklear@uncp.edu.
Sponsored by Office for Regional Initiatives

Thursday, March 31, 2020
2nd Annual MMAIW (Missing, Murdered, and Abused Indigenous Women’s) Walk
(5-9 pm, University Center Annex)
Get Fit Zumba Class

SPORTS



SECTION

B

The Pine Needle

Wrestling



Coach Othello Johnson (center) and the UNCP wrestling team celebrate after winning the NCAA Division II Super Region II Championship held at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court on Feb. 29. Photo Credit: UNCP Athletic Department

UNCP Dominant in Run to NCAA Super Region Title

By Mike McGuinness
Sports Editor

UNCP wrestling dominated the Mountain East Conference at West Liberty University. Led by Tyler Makosy (149 lbs.) and Nick Daggett (125 lbs.), UNCP racked up five individual titles on their way to 115.5 points as a team, giving them the first ever MEC wrestling title on Feb. 1.

Later in the month, the wrestling team added yet another title to what is turning out to be a wildly successful year in UNC Pembroke athletics.

Feb. 29th saw UNCP rack up

the NCAA Super Region II title on their home turf in Pembroke, NC. This achievement puts UNCP in line for not just individual championships, but for the team championship as well.

At the event at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court, Nick Daggett (125 lbs.), Logan Seliga (133 lbs.), and Nick Kee (197 lbs.) all wrapped up wins in their tourneys without ceding a point to their opponents. Tyler Makosy, Kaleb Warner, and Brandon Sloop all finished in second in their respective

tournaments. UNCP's performance will see six athletes representing Pembroke at the NCAA Division II wrestling championship, which is the second highest total in head coach Othello Johnson's tenure with the team.

This team is successful because of the great individual seasons from multiple athletes. Six wrestlers posted 20 or more wins on the season, and Kaleb Warner, Bryan Sloop, Jonathan Miller, and 4 others posted a Dual Record with 10 or more wins. Program stalwarts

Makosy and Nick Kee earned MEC wrestler of the week accolades.

Those strong individual seasons led the Braves to a 14-9 record overall, but more importantly led to the conference championship and the Super Region II championship, with still more time to add even more hardware to the school's trophy cabinet.

The NCAA Division II wrestling championships will be held Mar. 13-14 at the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Men's Basketball

Braves Shine on Neon Night, 109-89

By Carson von Taborsky
Sports Writer

UNCP's men's basketball team defeated USC Aiken on February 19th. The Braves bounced back from their narrow loss to Augusta the previous Saturday.

The Braves stood out in their Neon Night jerseys early, but USC Aiken kept up with them. The visiting Pacers took an 11-point lead, but that didn't stop the Braves from making the game interesting. Tyrell Kirk caught fire early with 11 points, 9 of which came from the three-point line and his brother, Shaun, added 11 more on 100% shooting from the field in the first half. UNCP finished the first half shooting 57% compared to USC Aiken's 54%. At the end of the half the Braves would have the lead 49-47.

While the first half was somewhat underwhelming, the second half didn't disappoint. The Braves hit the ground running and established momentum early. The newly-found momentum left USC Aiken shell shocked as the Braves lead continued to grow.

Midway through the second half, the Braves stretched the lead to 10 when USC Aiken's

coach, Mark Vanderslice, picked up a double technical and was disqualified from the game. Coach Vanderslice disappointed with a call, and took it too far when making his case for his team. His disqualification left assistant coaches Corey Hendren and Andrew Glover to take over for the Pacers.

The crowd was electric with the disqualification and it fueled the Braves momentum to close out the game. The Braves would outscore the Pacers 60-42, giving the Braves 109-89 win. The Braves got big contributions from Tyrell Kirk (22 points, 10 assists, and 6 rebounds), Shaun Kirk (17 points and 5 rebounds), Akia Pruitt (15 points and 8 rebounds), and Spencer Levi (14 points and 7 rebounds).

"Our second half effort was amazing. First half we were challenged to sprint... They beat us up and down the court a couple times and we were careless with the ball in the first half. We had 8 first half turn overs and finished the game with 12. Second half we took care of the ball and executed," said Coach Tony Jones.



Jordan Ratliffe (11) drives past USC Aiken defenders in the Braves 109-89 win on Feb. 19. PN Photo/Carson von Taborsky

Tyrell Kirk said that this game would be one of the biggest of the year, and the Braves' output demonstrated that.

"The bench effort plays a huge role, it allows us to get those breaks to the starting guys and allows us to come in with fresh legs. The bench always brings in new energy and knocks it up to another level,"

Kirk said. The bench outscored USC Aiken's 43-26 in the win.

The Braves' next game will be March 4th, the beginning of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament. The Braves hope the momentum they established this season takes them through the PBC tournament, and into the Division II NCAA tournament.

UNCP Alumnus Kelvin Sampson Still Winning

By Zachary C. Young
Assistant Sports Editor

Kelvin Sampson has racked up an impressive record of 135-137 as head coach of the University of Houston men’s basketball team for the past 30 years. Prior to being the head coach for the University of Houston, Sampson was head coach at Montana Technological University (1981-1985), Washington State University (1987-1994), University of Oklahoma University (1994-2006), Indiana University (2006-2008).

Coaching basketball is part of Kelvin’s DNA. His father, the late Ned Sampson is a celebrated basketball coach himself. Ned Sampson was inducted into UNCP Athletics Hall of Fame in 1980 and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2004.

Carrying the mantle passed down by his father, Kelvin Sampson has won AP Coach of the Year, NABC Coach of the Year, Big Eight Coach of the Year and Pac-10 Coach of the Year awards. In his 15 NCAA Tournament appearances, he has made two trips to the Sweet 16, one trip to the Elite Eight and one Final Four appearance in 2002. Kelvin was inducted into the UNCP Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998.

Kelvin is a member of the Lumbee Tribe from Pembroke and a graduate of Pembroke State University, now known as UNC Pembroke. He was a two-sport athlete at UNCP playing both baseball and basketball. Sampson graduated in 1978 with a double major in political science and health & physical education.

When he reflects on his time at UNCP Coach Sampson says the campus may have changed but “the memories remain the same.” Mrs. Lewis [his English professor] “gave me the confidence to succeed, but she also gave me the confidence to fail... her way of forming a relationship with you, she made everyone feel special.”

Dr. Andre Nadeau’s role in Sampson’s collegiate career was pivotal. When he left Pembroke, he was accepted into grad school at Michigan State University where he went on to receive a master’s degree in Exercise Physiology.

Sampson credits his decision to choose that field because of Nadeau. He studied under Nadeau at Pembroke in a kinesiology class and “he [Nadeau] made learning fun... I was probably the only one who got there early every day. Those two people were instrumental in forming my thoughts and putting me in a position to think outside the box... We all come from a box, but once we go to college our minds grow. People plant seeds and you grow. The two seeds I think I grew from would be Nadeau and Lewis.”

In addition to his two professors, Coach Sampson remembers his mother Eva Sampson’s influence



Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson is displeased with one of the Cougars’ players. (Brad Horrigan/Hartford Courant/TNS)

on his time at Pembroke. Eva was the director of health services on campus, “everyone that my mother came in contact with loved her and had great respect for her. I don’t think she knew it, but she gave me a sense of pride in the way everyone respected her.” Also, Eva Sampson had the foresight to recognize her son’s true passion. She told her son “Kelvin I know you want to go to law school, but you may want to coach one day. If you want to coach, you’re going to have to have a teaching certificate. Why don’t you go ahead and get a minor in health and physical education... Be a student teacher while you are here, and you’ll always have that in your back pocket. She told me this the first semester of Junior year.”

Growing up in the segregated south and working in a tobacco barn in Lumberton left a lasting impact on Kelvin. Sampson remembers vividly seeing three different water fountains and three different restrooms labeled: white, colored or other. He was inspired by Thurgood Marshall and his landmark Supreme Court case Brown v. Board of Education.

“The racist mentalities of those tobacco barns, the way people treated each other made an impact on me. When I went to college, I wanted to be an attorney... I actually took the LSAT.” Coach Sampson was even accepted in to Wake Forest School of Law.

“I could see myself as an attorney and that is what I wanted to do, but that wasn’t my passion. I always felt like I wanted to make a difference in people’s lives, and I think I found my calling in coaching.”

During his senior year at Pembroke he completed his student teaching at Upchurch Junior High School in Raeford, North Carolina.

While coaching a 6th grade girls

team Coach Sampson notes “this was the first time I ever coached a team and I could feel something going inside me with the coaching thing... that’s how it all started.”

During his first year at Michigan State as a graduate student, the Spartans won the National Championship led by Magic Johnson. After his tenure as a graduate student he got his first head coaching job at Montana Technological Institute at the age of 25 and “the rest is history.”

Kelvin Sampson has also made several stops in the NBA from 2008-2014, acting as an advisor for the San Antonio Spurs and an Assistant Coach for the Milwaukee Bucks and Houston Rockets. During his tenure with the Spurs he was able to advise NBA legends such as Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili, and Tim Duncan.

During his stint with the Bucks he coached Brandon Jennings and future NBA champion Andrew Bogut. While with the Houston Rockets Kelvin coached Dwight Howard, Jeremy Lin and future NBA MVP James Harden.

In regards to earning the respect of NBA star players Coach Sampson kept it simple: “If they think you are confident and know what you’re saying and if they think you can help them, they will give you their undivided attention and respect.” Coach Sampson has also coached multiple USA national teams with notable names such as Vince Carter and Chris Paul.

Wherever he coaches, Coach Sampson tries to compete against UNCP in a preseason exhibition, his Oklahoma, Indiana and Houston teams have played the Braves. In his 6th season with the University of Houston, the team’s theme year in and year out is culture.

“Culture is the way we do things. The standard that we hold ourselves

to. Playing for something bigger than yourself, that’s who we are.” His 2018-2019 Houston team won a total of 33 games, ultimately losing in the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Tournament. “We lost four starters, so we’ve had to start over a bit this year... the team has come a long way since November.”

The Houston Cougars are 25th in the NCAA Division-1 Men’s Basketball rankings with a record of 22-7 overall and 12-4 in the American Athletic Conference. In their conference the Cougars are currently tied for first with the University of Tulsa. Also, the Cougars currently boast the best away record in their conference at 6-5.

“That speaks to our culture... we have always been pretty good on the road. You have to have a strong culture and good players to win on the road. You have to be tough to leave our campus, jump on a plane and go somewhere and play. It’s not easy, we play in a really good conference, everyone has a good team. That is something that we are really proud of.

The culture that Sampson has embedded in the University of Houston Men’s Basketball team has bred success. The Cougars are poised to make a deep run in their conference and NCAA tournaments. In the American Athletic Conference, Houston is currently first in: scoring defense, scoring margin, 3-pt field goal percentage, offensive rebounding, and rebounding margin. In their conference Houston is also second in: field goal percentage defense, 3-pt field goal percentage defense and rebounding defense. The Houston Cougars will play the UConn Huskies March 5th at 6 P.M. and the Memphis Tigers March 8th at 11 A.M. The American Athletic Conference Tournament will begin Friday, March 13th.



Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson shouts at one of his players during the first half against Southern Methodist at Moody Coliseum in Dallas on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019. Houston won, 69-58. (Daniel Carde/Dallas Morning News/TNS)

UNCP Women’s Indoor Track Wins the Mountain East Conference Title, Men’s Team Comes in 2nd

By Zachary C. Young
Assistant Sports Editor

The UNCP Women’s Indoor Track & Field team wrapped up the Mountain East Conference Title, placing first out of eight total teams. This was UNCP’s first year competing in the Mountain East Conference.

The Men’s Indoor team also placed, coming in second out of nine teams.

“Our staff and athletes have been working since September and have made adjustments along the way due to injury and weather, but the end results are what we strive for,” said coach Peter Ormsby. He also created a motto for the Mountain East Championship weekend: “Flood the finals, the more athletes we can get into the finals the better.”

On the men’s side of the tournament Sophomore Joshua Chepkisir came in 1st in the 1-Mile with a time of 4:12, scoring 10 points for UNCP. Chepkisir’s time was a school record and indoor personal best. Chepkisir also came in first in the 3000-Meter with a time of 8:17:86, earning another 10 points for UNCP and an NCAA qualifying time.

In the 5000-Meter Chepkisir finished 1st again with a time of 14:09:31, gaining another 10 points. Junior Silus Kipkoech finished third in this event, earning UNCP 6 points. In the 60-meter Junior Jamar Adams finished in second with a time of 6.92 seconds. Adams also finished third in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.17, setting a personal indoor best for Adams.

In the 60-meter hurdles Junior Jathan Deberry finished first with a time of 8:20, gaining 10 points. Deberry’s time was also a school record and an indoor personal best. UNCP’s 4x400 relay finished third with a time of 3:22.80. The runners for this event were Freshman Walker Mabe, Seniors Dominic Foy and Mason Crawford, along with Sophomore Cody Miller.

In the high jump Freshman Forrest Powell finished third and Junior Jathan Deberry finished fourth clearing a distance of 1.97 meters, earning the Braves another 6 and 5 points respectively.

In the long jump UNCP Freshman Caleb Coles finished third with a distance of 6.85 meter, scoring 6 points for the Braves. In the triple jump UNCP Sophomore Terrence Lackey finished second and Freshman Ryan Smith finished third, with a distance of 14.26 meters and 14.07 meters respectively. In the high jump Freshman Bradley Thompson finished first with a distance of 2 meters and Senior Forrest Powell finished third with a distance of 1.97 meters. In the 60-meter hurdles (heptatholon) Senior Elijah Woods finished third with a time of 9.27. Earning a total of 3,962 points for UNCP in the heptathlon, by placing second overall.

“Our men came up just a little short after having two great days where we outperformed ourselves, but Charleston was just a little better in certain events,” said Ormsby.

In the women’s competition, Freshman Aly Hudspeth finished first in the high jump with a distance of 1.62 meters, registering her personal indoor best and scoring 10 points for the Braves. In the 400-meter dash Senior Jacques Tucker placed second with a time of 58:19. Her time is now a new UNCP record and her indoor personal best. In the shot-put Senior Kelsi Sheldon finished third with a distance of 13.13 meters, a new indoor personal best.

For the triple jump Sophomore Keionna Ray (personal indoor best) finished second with a distance of 10.69 meters, a new personal indoor best. Freshman Breze Ervin finished third in this event with a distance of 10.90 meters. Sophomore Dy’Air McCormick finished second

in both the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash. McCormick’s time in the 60-meter dash was 7.70 and in the 200-meter dash her time was 25:43, both are records for UNCP and indoor personal bests.

In the 800-meter Junior Erman Jepleting recorded a time of 2:18.37. This would secure a first place finish and set a new UNCP record and indoor personal best. Junior Riley Axe finished third with a time of 2:24.60, recording a new indoor personal best.

In the one mile run Jepleting would finish first again with a time of 5:15.59. In the 3000-meter run Freshman Valary Samoei finished third with a time of 10:43.14. This is a new school record and indoor personal best.

“It helps when freshmen come into a situation where their peers are performing on a high level and seeing success. Mentorship comes naturally at that point and grows a healthy competition in practice,” said Ormsby.

Ormsby chalks up UNCP’s success in track and field in being able to recruit talented athletes, both in state and out of state. The implementation of NC Promise has only made it easier as an incentive for those athletes to compete for the school.

“This year I feel we are a pretty well-rounded team. I would say we are suited to perform better outdoors than indoors, but to have the success we had over the weekend we will take that going into the Braves Classic in two weeks,” said Ormsby.

UNCP will host the Braves Track Classic Friday, March 6th at noon, officially kicking off the outdoor track & field season.



Junior Corey Pethers runs her leg of the 4x400 relay on the second day of the MEC Indoor Track and Field Championship. Photo Credit: Jamie Moreno



Jamar Adams stands on the podium at the MEC Indoor Track and Field Championships. Adams placed second in the 60 meter event. Photo Credit: Jamie Moreno

We’re Hiring Editors

for the 2020-2021 academic year

Send your resume to:

Pine Needle

Aurochs

Indianhead

darlene.natale@uncp.edu

jenny.teague@uncp.edu

uncpyrbook@gmail.com

A vintage typewriter with a wooden base and a black body. It has a complex mechanism with many keys and a carriage. The brand name 'Hammond' is visible on the front.