On the Rise

And on the move, to Coliseum

The Greensboro Coliseum has seen lots of exciting basketball moments and milestones. The legendary 1974 NCAA Final Four. Many ACC Tournaments. And starting next year a new one: homecourt of Spartans men’s basketball.

Chancellor Linda P. Brady announced plans Friday, at a high-energy press event, to move the men’s basketball program to the Coliseum beginning with the 2009-10 season.

“First, I want to let Greensboro know that Spartan basketball is on the rise,” Chancellor Brady told the crowd and reporters. She was flanked by Spartan cheerleaders, Blue Crew members, the mascot and the dance team.

“One of my priorities is to enhance the visibility of Spartan athletics and make new investments in support of our athletics programs consistent with our NCAA Division I status,” she said.

Brady cited several benefits in the move, including enhancing the student experience, creating a larger community fan base, increased alumni participation and financial support, greater regional and national recognition, heightened partnerships and loyalty within the Greensboro community and helping to stimulate Greensboro’s economy.

Coliseum officials unveiled design proposals for a “home” court and Spartan-decorated dressing room. Specially modified for UNCG games, the Coliseum would seat 7,613, which could be expanded.

UNCG is engaging two contractors: former Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) administrator Fred Barakat to assist in scheduling and ISP Collegiate Services Vice President Jerry Reckerd to assist in aggressive marketing of Spartan athletics.

Barakat, retired associate commissioner of the ACC, will assist in scheduling additional men’s basketball games with ACC and non-ACC teams in the Coliseum.

For next season, UNCG has scheduled non-conference home games in the Coliseum with N.C. State, Princeton and East Carolina.

Barakat said he foresaw ultimately having games against about five ACC opponents each year. Two or three each year would be at the Coliseum.

UNCG’s relatively young squad has one game in the Coliseum this season, Feb. 5. They take on Davidson, now ranked no. 22 nationally. Davidson came within one shot of reaching the NCAA Final Four last season. One of their players, Stephen Curry, is a pre-season All-American. Their exciting game at Fleming Gym last year was packed. UNCG, led by big man Kyle Hines, surged to a large lead before falling 78-83.

For that Feb. 5 game, the Spartan Athletics Ticket Office is offering a limited number of $10 tickets for great seats behind the UNCG bench. Additionally, the Coliseum Box Office is offering a four-ticket “4 for $44” deal, drinks and hotdogs included. Tickets are otherwise $15 for that game. More basketball deals are on p. 3.
**Free Commencement Shuttle**

Park & Ride shuttle service will be provided Thursday, Dec. 18, to transport faculty, staff and students between campus and the Greensboro Coliseum for Commencement.

Board the bus on Stirling Street in front of the Elliott University Center to be dropped off at the Coliseum.

The shuttle will depart campus at 7 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. The return shuttle will depart from the Coliseum at 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 12:15 p.m., 12:30 p.m., 12:45 p.m. and 1 p.m.

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**Commencement Exercises Dec. 18**

UNCG will hold commencement exercises Thursday, Dec. 18, at 10 a.m. in the Greensboro Coliseum, with Dr. Annette Van, assistant professor of English, as speaker.

Van’s address will be titled “Curiosity.” Last spring, she received the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award. Her teaching and research interests include the Victorian period, particularly the novel, critical theory and gender studies. She is working on a project that looks specifically at intersections between the Victorian novel and economic theory. She has also contributed significantly to the Women’s & Gender Studies Program.

Chancellor Linda P. Brady will officiate at her first commencement since becoming chancellor in August. She will welcome the graduates and their families, and will play a central role in the ceremony. Approximately 1,055 students are candidates to complete their degrees during the semester. The 561 graduates who completed degrees in August can also participate in the December ceremony.

In addition to Brady and Van, other participants include Provost David H. Perrin; Dr. Rebecca Adams, chair of the Faculty Senate; Stephen Hassenfelt, chair of the UNCG Board of Trustees; Kathryn Bender representing the UNC General Administration; Jeff Colbert, president of the UNCG Alumni Association; Dr. Rebecca Saunders, associate dean of the Graduate School; and Gratia Wright who will be the speaker for the December graduating class. Also taking part will be UNCG’s academic deans; Dr. Terry Nile, who is faculty marshal and mace bearer; and Stephanie Rinehart, chief marshal. At the conclusion, the University Bell will be rung by Wayman Mubaarak of the December class and Pat Shore Clark, an alumna of the Class of 1958. The Commencement Brass and Chorus will provide music.

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**SPC Focuses on UNCG Values**

The Strategic Planning Committee met on Nov. 18 and plans to meet again on Dec. 11 from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House. At the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on Nov. 18, Dr. Cherry Callahan, chair of the SPC Transparency Workgroup, gave a presentation on how to develop measurable goals. After her presentation, each Strategic Area Workgroup worked with a liaison from the Transparency Workgroup to begin to develop measurable goals to be included in the UNCG Plan 2009-2014.

At its Dec. 11 meeting, the Strategic Planning Committee will focus on infusing UNCG values throughout the Plan. After hearing brief comments by Chancellor Linda P. Brady and Provost David H. Perrin and an update on the planning process by Dr. Rebecca G. Adams, chair of the SPC, the members of each SPC Value Workgroup will meet with each Strategic Area Workgroup. During these sessions, the members of the Value Workgroups will make recommendations to the members of the Strategic Area Workgroups about how to develop goals that are driven by UNCG’s values of transparency, inclusiveness, collaboration, sustainability and responsibility.

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**Collecting Books for MLK Day Event**

Have any new or gently used books for infants through grade 3? Donated books will be given free to kids at the MLK Day Campus Compact “Read-on” event.

Drop off books through Dec. 18 in collection boxes the Rec Center, the Caf, Curry Building and Room 214, EUC.

Also, to volunteer to read with kids on MLK Day, Jan. 19, from 1-3 p.m., email alkeith@uncg.edu.
Golden touch

Chancellor Brady passed out several hundred Blue & Gold Day T-shirts to those wearing school colors last Friday. Hundreds more were handed out throughout campus. The next such day is Feb. 5.

Basketball Deals

Want some basketball for the holidays? Athletics offers the following ticket specials:

These prices are available at www.uncgspartans.com and game-day walk-up.

12/13 Women’s basketball vs. Fordham – 1 p.m.
   All ages, all tickets, all seats just $3.
12/17 Women’s basketball vs. Georgia Southern – 7 p.m.
   All ages, all tickets, all seats just $3.
12/31 Men’s basketball vs. Akron – 2 p.m.
   All ages, all tickets, all seats just $6.
Those with questions may call 4-3250.

Soccer’s Sweet Sixteen

Was that the same team?

Men’s soccer, which had had a somewhat disappointing regular season, earned its way into the NCAA tournament by pulling three upsets in the SoCon Tournament to clinch the title.

They then beat Duke at Duke, 2-0, in the first round. Next, they beat Loyola (Md.) at Loyola, 2-1. In doing that, they reached the Final 16.

The men’s team has reached that round of 16 four of the last five years. The fact that this year’s squad still had fewer wins than losses for the season made this year’s run even more remarkable.

Next they faced South Florida. The Spartans were tied at the end of regulation and the end of overtime, but they fell short on penalty kicks at the end.

Still, theirs was one of the most remarkable turnarounds in any season in UNCG’s athletic history.

Location Change

For next week’s Science on Tap

Dr. Dasantila Golemi-Kotra’s talk on “Superbugs: Our Contribution to the Evolution of Opportunistic Germs” on Dec. 18 at 8 p.m. will be in a new location. It will be in The Green Bean, 341 South Elm St., Greensboro.
Kushner Answers
Q&A on Obama, Lincoln, ‘Angels in America’

Kushner’s talk was well worth the wait.

Originally scheduled for earlier in the semester, playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner fielded questions for nearly two hours in Taylor Theatre Dec. 3.

Theatre department head Jim Fisher introduced him. “It’s just going to be the two of us in those chairs over there.” Fisher asked the questions, and the answers typically went into tangents – often hilariously.

Kushner is best known for “Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes.” His screenplays include Steven Spielberg’s “Munich.”

Kushner’s awards include a Pulitzer Prize for Drama, an Emmy Award, two Tony Awards and three Obie Awards.

Presidential politics was an initial source of conversation.

Originally a supporter of Hillary Clinton, Kushner has become very hopeful of Obama’s presidency. “I’ve become more in love.”

Fisher said, “So has my wife.”

“Even straight guys can too,” he suggested to Fisher. “It’s the ‘Obama magic.’” The audience roared.

Kushner has spent the last two years working on a screenplay about Lincoln. He sees lots of parallels between Obama, whom he sees as a very thoughtful communicator, and Lincoln. “He came from almost nowhere – like Obama. Kind of spooky.”

He detailed Lincoln’s family and the family’s emotional dynamics, comparing them to those in a Eugene O’Neill play. “It’s ‘Long Day’s Journey Into Night’ – with the Lincolns.”

He likes that being a playwright gives you more control over your work. “More people saw ‘Munich’ on its first night than have seen ‘Angels in America’ ever.”

Perhaps his job as a citizen and as an activist is to help change the world, Kushner said, but not necessarily as a playwright. Works that show anger or that bore audiences will be hard-pressed to stand the test of time. “My job is to tell the truth,” he said.

Student Films Dec. 12

The Department of Broadcasting & Cinema presents its Fall Semester Film Screenings of work by students Friday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. in the EUC Auditorium. Films by undergraduates and graduate students will be shown. There is no admission charge.

A special attraction is the premiere of “Zero Sum Game,” a feature film made by four undergraduate students who pooled independent student projects together into one big project – the first of its kind for the department. The project was supervised by Matt Barr. Filmed in high definition, “Zero Sum Game” is a political thriller, and features a number of actors from the Department of Theatre, including Jim Wren.

There will be a reception as well.

Spreading cheer

Saturday’s Branches of Love event at the Alumni House resulted in about 30 beautifully decorated trees. On Monday, senior Stuart Smith and junior Carrie Hamrick, Student Alumni Ambassadors, helped carry the trees outside for distribution to needy families in the area.
New Master Advisors

Each academic year, the University Advising Council sponsors the Master Advisor Program. The purpose of the program is to develop highly effective faculty advisors, resulting in greater student connection to the university and ultimately higher student retention rates.

On Dec. 5, the Advising Council recognized 48 new master advisors from across the university. The Advising Council would like to thank this year’s participants and invite future academic advisors to participate.

This year’s master advisors include:

Jeanne Aaroe (Residential College), Linda Anderson (Nursing), Heather Azuzu, (Undergraduate Admissions), Martica Bacallao (Social Work), Joseph Brown (HHP), Stool Burrows (IARC), Ang Chen (ESS), Nicole Dobbins (Specialized Education Services), Dana Donaldson (Nursing), Catherine Ennis (ESS), William Evans (Public Health Education), James Fisher (Theatre), Diane Gill (ESS), Lillie Granger (Nursing), Jennifer Grotz (English), John Gulley (Theatre), Stacy Hines (Biological Science), Susan Johnson (Political Science), Margaret Kennedy (Curriculum & Instruction), Mary Lou Kyle (Curriculum & Instruction), Fabrice Lehoucq (Political Science), Jay Lennartson (Geography), Teresa Little (Specialized Education Services), Jennifer Mangrum (Curriculum & Instruction), Diana McHenry (Nursing), Sharon Morrison (Public Health Education), Noelle Morrissette (English), Angela Newman (Nursing), Tracy Nichols (Public Health Education), Muhsin Orsini (Public Health Education), Connie Rankin (Nursing), Minita Sanghvi (CARS), Carol Seaman (Mathematics and Statistics), Christopher Seitz (Public Health Education), Philip Simpson (Bryan School), Selina Sultana (Geography), Aaron Terranova (ESS), Jennifer Tomon (Education), Leah Tompkins (Public Health Education), Manuel Triano-López (Romance Languages), Takashi Tsukamoto (Political Science), Touger Vang (Bryan School), Margaret Vaughn (Curriculum & Instruction), Lee Walton (Art), Baxter Williams (Curriculum & Instruction), Cynthia Wooten (Curriculum & Instruction), Dan Yasaki (Mathematics & Statistics) and Adam Zahand (Biology).

Inaugural ‘Girls in Sport’

The symposium convenes Feb. 20

Dr. Maureen Weiss, co-director of the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport at the University of Minnesota, will be the keynote speaker at the first annual Girls in Sport Symposium Feb. 20.

Sponsored by the Center for Women’s Health and Wellness and the Department of Exercise and Sport Science, the symposium, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in EUC Auditorium, will help promote the positive development of girls and young women through sport and physical activity. In addition to Weiss’ address, it will include panel discussions with female athletes, coaches, teachers and community leaders.

Weiss brings to the subject a wealth of experience as an athlete, a coach and a scholar. She competed at the college level in basketball, tennis and softball; and has coached young people in softball, volleyball, soccer and track and field. She also served as director of the Children’s Summer Sports Program at the University of Oregon from 1982-1997.

As a scholar, her resume includes more than 110 articles and book chapters; 90 invited lectures; 130 research presentations; and 100 workshops for coaches, administrators and teachers. She has edited or co-edited four books, and mentored 21 doctoral students. Her research is focused on the psychological and social development of young people through sport and physical activity.

She earned bachelor’s degrees in kinesiology and psychology and a master’s in kinesiology, all from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and her doctorate in education from Michigan State University.

The cost of the symposium is $20 for the general public and $10 for undergraduate and graduate students before Feb. 6. After that date, the cost rises to $35 for all attendees. Early registration is by mail only. The registration form is at www.uncg.edu/hhp/owl/events.html.

For more information, call 4-3025 or email dmduffy@uncg.edu.

OLSL Grants

The Office of Leadership and Service-Learning is offering three types of funding opportunities for work in public scholarship:

• Community-Based Research Grant: $1,000 to faculty; $1,000 stipend for the undergraduate student; and $1,000 stipend for the graduate student. Preference will be given to proposals that include both undergraduate and graduate student researchers. Proposals are due Jan. 15.

• Student Reflection Leaders: $200 payable to student. Proposals are due Jan. 15.

• International Service-Learning Course Development Grant: $2,500. Proposals are due Feb. 13.

For details, visit http://olsl.uncg.edu/engage.

January SOAR 2009

Shortly after the New Year, the campus will welcome new students, parents and family members to our community during SOAR. Transfer and Adult SOAR sessions are Wednesday, Jan. 14, and Thursday, Jan. 15. Freshman SOAR is Friday, Jan. 16. All January SOAR sessions are one-day programs.

The Office of Orientation and Family Programs looks forward to working with the rest of the campus to show our new students how UNCG is “Spartan Bold, Blue and Gold.”

If you speak with a new student, parent or family member who has questions regarding SOAR, direct them to Orientation & Family Programs at 4-5231 or soar@uncg.edu.

Dr. Michael Cauthen (African American Studies) co-authored “The Student-Athlete’s College Recruitment Guide,” with Dr. Ashley Benjamin and Patrick Donnelly. It will be in stores by June. The book shows high-achieving student-athletes in “non-revenue” sports such as track & field and tennis how to increase their chances of garnering athletic scholarships. He also delivered the Presidential Address of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the South Atlantic Philosophy of Education Society. He just finished a two year term as the president of that organization.

Kim Cuny (Communication Studies) was named the National Communication Association’s (NCA) Von Till Outstanding Newcomer for Communication Centers. She became director of the University Speaking Center five years ago. Cuny’s nomination noted her successes in speaking center and lab innovation, scholarship, mentoring, effectiveness, participation in NCAs Communication Centers section and hosting the National Association of Communication Centers Mini-Conference in 2007.

Lloyd Douglas is the new assistant director of the Office of Sponsored Programs. Douglas comes to UNCG from the University of Nevada, Reno, where he was assistant to the vice president for research. Prior to that, he was the senior program officer in the Division of Mathematical Sciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF), where he received several awards for program management excellence. Douglas received his BS in mathematics from the City College of New York and his MS in mathematics from Miami (Ohio) University. He was a paralegal for a Wall Street law firm, and then worked for the Department of Defense (Navy and Army) and the U.S. General Services Administration before joining NSF. OSP supports sponsored research activities at UNCG.

Dr. Patricia W. Stewart (University Advancement) received an Outstanding Fundraising Professionals award from the North Carolina Triad Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Other recipients of their 2008 Philanthropy Awards, which recognize individuals, corporations, foundations and non-profit organizations that exemplify the best and highest ideals of philanthropy and charitable fundraising, included Randall Kaplan and Kathy Manning. They received an Outstanding Philanthropists award. Kaplan is a member of UNCG’s Board of Trustees. The new Kaplan Commons in front of the EUC resulted from a gift from him and his wife, Kathy Manning.

Nursing students organizing food items for the food pantry.

Helping at Hampton Homes

Many nursing students took part this semester in a service-learning experience at health centers housed within Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) sites.

Last week, for example, about 17 students at Hampton Homes had the chance to organize and run a health fair, under the supervision of faculty member Jayne Lutz.

They gave residents screenings, provided them the results and then guided them to booths that addressed specific needs they might have.

The highlight of the health fair was a food pantry. Students collected hundreds of dollars’ worth of donations and non-perishable foods.

Each resident who participated in the health fair’s activities was able to take a bag of groceries home. “This one bag of groceries may be the only food the families here at Hampton Homes may have for the next week,” said Suzanne Lineberry, the health center coordinator. “I don’t think the students really understand how much of a difference they are making in the communities. They may view this as just a part of their class, but in reality the service they provide is something that cannot be measured.”

In addition to providing nursing students service-learning experiences, the health centers are also looking at opening up opportunities for other departments on campus to bring their specialties to the residents in these communities. Faculty members who are looking to incorporate service-learning experiences into their courses or have course projects may contact Lineberry at 420-9333 or suzanne_lineberry@uncg.edu.
Limited Edition Alumni House Ornament

Many memories have been made in the Alumni House since its dedication in 1937.

The doors to the Alumni House recently reopened after an extensive 18 month renovation.

To celebrate, a commemorative 2008 holiday ornament has been designed. The ornament features a winter photograph, circa 1945, of the Alumni House, encased in an antiqued frame.

The ornaments are available for purchase beginning Dec. 17 at the Alumni Relations office, located in the Alumni House. The cost is $10 and checks should be made payable to The Alumni Association.

It’s a great opportunity to honor a treasured campus gathering place.

Those with questions may contact Cindy Dew at 6-2010 or c_dew@uncg.edu

‘Writing Through’ Family Pain

Dr. Chris Poulos believes in the healing power of stories. The ancient Greeks understood it, he says. They knew that archetypal themes and myths offer up a “nexus of possibility.”

“Kierkegaard said that being in despair is like being out of breath,” says Poulos (Communication Studies), author of the new book “Accidental Ethnography: An Inquiry into Family Secrecy.” “People need something to keep them from spiraling down into darkness. They need air, and story may be that air.”

“Accidental Ethnography,” serves dual purposes. First, it guides the reader through the process of writing personal narratives, or autoethnographies. Second, it helps the reader to use those stories to improve communication within the family.

Poulos uses stories about some of his own family secrets, especially his great-grandfather’s desertion of his family when he left Greece for America in 1912, to illustrate his point. Talking about his grandfather helped Poulos’ dad to heal.

“He was finally ready,” Poulos says. “He was able to let go of the old need to hold stuff in.”

Poulos suggests embracing what he calls “accidental revelations,” those chance disclosures by family members that often take our breath. Other forms of story — dreams and memories — can also be harnessed for healing, he says. “It’s all about being attuned to and open to everyday events and conversations and engagements with people.”

The Inclusive Community Initiative Task Force Presents

American Politics
And the
21st Century University

This Presentation consists of viewing the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama followed by engaging in interactive dialogue with an invited panel of scholars discussing American politics, higher education and the 21st century University.

Date: January 20, 2009
Time: 11:30am-3:30pm
Location: EUC Ballroom A

Guest Panelists:
Dave Holian (Political Science) Charles Bolton (History),
Dan Beerman (Social Work) Jackie Claes (Joint Master of Social Work Program)
Steve Cureton (Sociology) Tara Green (African American Studies)

Event Co-Sponsors:
Chancellor’s Office, Office of the Provost, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the departments of History, Political Science, Sociology, Social Work, African American Studies, Educational Leadership & Cultural Foundations, and Women & Gender Studies.

Drinks and Desserts provided by Faculty Senate

*Note: Campus Members, if you are unable to join us for the viewing please join us for the panel presentation.
A brief look at faculty and staff recently in the news

The Business Journal quoted Wei Jia (Center for Research Excellence in Bioactive Food Components) about the tremendous potential for collaboration at the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis.

Jorge Quintal (Facilities Operations) was quoted in The Business Journal about the university’s plans and efforts to become more energy efficient.

Andrew Broad (Bryan School) was interviewed for a Fox 8 News report on how the economic crisis decimating American car makers might trickle down to auto part suppliers.

Deborah Tollefson (Financial Aid) was interviewed by WFMY News 2 for a segment on how to find money for college.

Jayne Lutz and Lois Voncannon (Nursing) were quoted in a Nursing Spectrum feature about the School of Nursing’s free on-site health clinics for Greensboro residents in low-cost housing and community centers.

The Greensboro News & Record published an extensive Q&A with Chancellor Linda P. Brady and posted a video interview.

Charles Prysby (Political Science) was quoted in an Associated Press article about the role of third party candidates in presidential elections.

Green with Envy?

As the semester draws to a close, so does Green Games 2008.

Over the past six weeks, on-campus residents have hosted and attended environmentally focused programs in order to earn Green Points. They knew the team with the most points at the end of the competition would win $600.

Highlights included a recycled Fashion Show, two inter-dorm recycling competitions and a cigarette butt pickup.

College Avenue once again dominated the Green Games competition. The Mary Foust, Guilford, North Spencer and South Spencer team held six Green Games events and won.

SOAR 2008

Orientation & Family Programs thanks faculty and staff for their support in making SOAR 2008 a success for incoming students and their families.

In June and August, they served 3,688 students and 2,803 parents and family members. A total of 6,491 attended SOAR during the twelve sessions last summer. SOAR participants completed an online survey to assess program satisfaction and student learning outcomes. This year’s survey focused on learning outcomes related to presentations and sessions about UNCG’s academic advising and academic success. Students reported measured learning in:

• understanding policies and curriculum requirements of the School/College and major
• the academic advising process
• the difference between high school and college level work to achieve academic success
• the expectations professors have of their students.

Students and family members were very pleased with their SOAR experience and UNCG, and students reported feeling prepared and welcomed.

Office Supply Exchange

Have unused office supplies cluttering up your office? Need new ones?

Check out the new Office Supply Exchange. Faculty and staff are encouraged to drop off unwanted, lightly used items and take office supplies as needed from the inventory located at the back of North Spencer residence hall.

Call 4-5192 for details.