

# UNCP Black & Gold News

The Official Newsletter of the UNCP Alumni Association

Volume 1, Issue 2  
January 2008

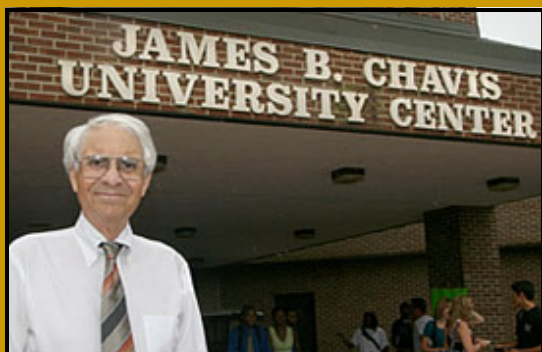
## Freshman Enrollment Higher Than Ever at UNCP

Led by a record freshmen class, fall enrollment at the University gained for the eighth consecutive year. Total enrollment increased by 86 students to 5,827. Freshman class enrollment was 1,122, up almost six percent from 2006, Chancellor Allen C. Meadors reported on August 30 to the Board of Trustees.

"We're not making all the progress I would like to see, but there are some of what I call double gold star areas to report," Chancellor Meadors said. "We're working very hard, but we need to work smarter in some other areas."

While SAT scores for the region's high school seniors declined slightly year-to-year, UNCP's freshmen gained nine points to 949.

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/bot\\_september.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/bot_september.htm)



**Dr. James B. Chavis, former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, stands in front of the campus landmark named in his honor.**

## Chavis Center is 20

UNC Pembroke celebrated the 20th year of the James B. Chavis University Center on October 3.

The original center opened in 1985 and was dedicated two years later.

The hub of student activity and services at UNCP, the University Center opened its first major addition in October, a \$5 million Annex.

The Annex houses a large assembly room, four conference rooms and offices for Student Housing, Residence Life and Student Activities.

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/uc\\_20th.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/uc_20th.htm)

## Fraternity Honors Dr. Sylvester Wooten with Scholarship

An advisor, mentor and friend was honored during Homecoming 2007 at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Dr. Sylvester Wooten, a retired University administrator, was honored by members of Omega Psi Phi fraternity on October 6 with an endowed scholarship.

"Dr. Wooten impacted so many lives, and this scholarship will impact many more lives," said Newy Scruggs, a fraternity member and 1994 UNCP graduate. "We will always remember him."

The Omega Psi Phi/Dr. Sylvester Wooten Endowed Scholarship was launched on October 6 with a \$10,000 gift from its members. On hand for the announcement were Ken Spencer '91, Bernard Griffin '89 and Artis Hill '92 along with members of Dr. Wooten's family including daughters, Candice and Shanita, and wife, Eveland.



**Alumni from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity present a check to Dr. Sylvester Wooten, naming a scholarship in his honor.**

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/wooten\\_scholarship.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/wooten_scholarship.htm)

# ESPN Builds Relationship with Mass Communications

## Three UNCP Graduates Find Work With Broadcasting Giant

Representatives from the broadcasting track of UNC Pembroke's Mass Communications Department visited ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Conn., in October for a tour and meetings with human resources executives. They also met with University alumni working at "the worldwide leader in sports."

Department Chair Dr. Jamie Litty has cultivated a recruiting relationship with the production side of ESPN for nearly three years and was invited by Tony Valentino, manager of technical recruitment, and his boss, Fred Brown. The two men, former broadcasters themselves, have visited UNCP twice to conduct one-on-one interviews with broadcasting and journalism majors and to speak in classes.

"This was a wonderful opportunity to have a lengthy meeting with the company's college recruiting staff, internship supervisors, and department heads," said Dr. Litty. "They described the corporate culture at ESPN, the skills they absolutely must see in our students, the work ethic and lifestyle demanded by a multinational, multimedia sports entertainment conglomerate that never sleeps."

Dr. Litty traveled with George Johnson, assistant director of broadcasting and an adjunct faculty member teaching computer animation and media integration courses for the department. Also making the trip was Sallyann Clark, producer/director for WNCP-TV, the department's cable operation that functions as a laboratory for the broadcasting curriculum.

They met with former students Melina Savage, Rollie Boone and Jackie Bower, who all landed jobs with ESPN within a year of interviewing in Pembroke.

"The ESPN campus and facilities are almost mind-boggling," said Johnson. "On their campus are a million miles of fiber optic cable, studio cameras operated by people in another building, and master control of dozens of program signals around the world. They say they take in as many as 40,000 feeds of sports video a day. And they have never stopped construction in Bristol since their first broadcast in 1979."

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/espn\\_visit.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2007/espn_visit.htm)



Dr. Jamie Litty, chair of the UNCP Mass Communication Department, meets with Melina Savage '06.



George Johnson and Sallyann Clark, of UNCP's Mass Communications Department, meet with representatives of ESPN during their tour of the station's facilities.

## Travel Program Available To Alumni



Beijing



The Canadian Rockies



New York City



Quebec

Experience some of the most fascinating cities in the world with friends and loved ones! The UNCP Alumni Association has partnered with Collette Vacations to offer unique travel opportunities around the globe.

Visit the website and find out more:

<http://www.uncp.edu/alumni/travel/>

# Return of Braves' Football Deemed A Success

Returning to the field after a more than 50 year absence, Braves Football ended its season with a 4-7 record. In just a short time, spring practice will begin, and Coach Pete Shinnick and his team will be preparing for their 2008 season, which will kick off on August 30 at Brevard. Following the 2007 season, Coach Shinnick was asked what his thoughts were on the successes of the Braves return season and what he sees in the future.



*Your season was deemed a success before it started simply because you took the field, but grade your season, talk about the successes and things you would have liked to have seen go differently.*

**Shinnick:** "I think, from the success standpoint, we were able to stick with what we wanted to do pretty much throughout the course of the whole season. Even with the amount of injuries and the changing parts, we were still able to get better fundamentally in certain areas. When we played poorly, our weaknesses were exposed. We knew we weren't going to be as physical as some of the teams that we played. Other people, we felt like we could hold up...I think, from that standpoint, it is a success and, also, from the standpoint that our players are starting to understand what we want out of them, how they are supposed to conduct themselves and the way they should be living and doing things.

*One of the highlights of this first season was that first game at Davidson because you brought a lot of fans and UNCP football was welcomed with open arms.*

**Shinnick:** I think the way our crowd and the way our fans stayed and cheered through the end of that game was unbelievable. We made a little run there in the fourth quarter to give them something to cheer about. Our first two home games, we had more than 4,000 people and we had to bring in that extra bleacher to accommodate the people. We had standing room only and a great atmosphere and it was a great opportunity for us to show the community what we can do and how we can do it. The community was, obviously, very supportive in coming out and seeing who we were...I think the players thought we were closer in the Davidson game than we actually were. We didn't make it 10 points until the last couple of minutes. But, to come back against Greensboro after giving up the two blocked punts and giving them a couple of touchdowns, it was very satisfying to come away with a victory there. To kind of go through the season, the two losses (Wingate, Jacksonville) that we lost big, we didn't play well on either side of the ball and then, to go up to Chowan and play the way we did there, there was definitely some great things taking place and neat things for our team. I think the overall experience worked out well for all of us. We were very easily in another couple of games, but we also came out on top in a couple of games where the other team had the ball late and it could have been a different story.

Read the entire interview here:

<http://uncpbraves.athleticsite.com/article.asp?articleID=780>

## Join Us For A Reception In A Town Near YOU!

Receptions are being hosted by the UNCP Admissions Office in six different locations throughout the state. If you – as UNCP Alumni or parents of prospective students — would like to attend one of these receptions as an ambassador, please let us know. We're always looking for alumni willing to share their stories and help recruit new UNCP students. If you have questions or would like to join us in one of the locations listed below, please call 910-521-6533 and let us know!

Receptions will be held from 6-9 p.m.

**January 28—Jacksonville, NC—Quality Inn, 701 N. Marine Blvd.**

**January 29—Raleigh, NC--Marriott at Crabtree Valley**

**January 31—Fayetteville, NC—Hilton Garden Inn, Sycamore Dairy Rd.**

**February 4—Greensboro, NC--Four Seasons Hotel**

**February 5—Charlotte, NC—Charlotte Marriott Executive Park, 5700 Westpark Dr./ I-77 and Tyvola**

**February 7—Pembroke, NC—The James B. Chavis University Center Annex**