

# Governor Perdue will give UNCG commencement speech

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

North Carolina's first female governor, Beverly Perdue, will be the commencement speaker for The University of North Carolina at Greensboro on Friday, May 15.

Chancellor Linda P. Brady will officiate at UNCG's 117th graduation at 10 a.m. in the Greensboro Coliseum. The university will recognize students who have completed undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees. Honorary degrees also will be presented.

In her successful and history making bid for the governor's office, Perdue announced her candidacy in October of 2007. She won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in May of 2008, defeating State Treasurer Richard H. Moore and Dennis Nielsen. She went on to defeat Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory on Nov. 4, 2008, to win the state's top elected post.

Drawing on her experience as a teacher, Perdue says she is working to transform North Carolina schools, with efforts on increased technology in the classroom and a statewide online school initiative - steps she feels are critical to preparing students to enter the global workforce. Perdue served two terms in the N.C. House of Representatives and five terms in the



Bev Perdue is the state's first female governor.

state Senate, where she became the first woman to chair the Senate Appropriations Committee. She was part of several landmark initiatives, including raising teacher salaries from 43rd to 21st in the nation, starting the Children's Health Insurance Program, and creating the North Carolina Lottery and the Clean Water Management Trust

Fund. She grew up in the coal-mining mountains of Southwest Virginia and has lived most of her adult life in New Bern. She has worked as a public school teacher and as director of geriatric services at a community hospital in New Bern, and has earned a Ph.D. in education administration.

## Davis

from page A1

regarded as the history of extraordinary individuals ... mostly male."

Davis, a controversial author, activist and educator, participated in a series of public lectures, workshops and master classes at UNCSA known as The Kenan Writers' Encounters. A project of The Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts, The Kenan Writers Encounters is now in its fifth and final year.

Liz Lerman, founder of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, will round out the 2009 series, themed "The Word is Women," with a lecture slated for this evening (April 2) at the school.

Ellen Rosenberg, The Kenan Writers' Encounters project director, called Davis a "hero" in her introduction.

"She has gone on to change just about every part of the social fabric of the world, by addressing injustice when she sees it," Rosenberg told the audience. "It thrills me that she (is) here ... it fulfills my vision of the program."

Davis, 64, made headlines in 1970 when a shotgun registered in her name was used in an attempt to free a group of men known as the "Soledad Brothers," who were standing trial in connection to the stabbing of a prison guard. She spent a brief period on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List as a result, and was apprehended after two months on the run. Davis was charged as an accomplice to conspiracy, kidnapping and homicide,

but was eventually acquitted. A firestorm of protests marked her notorious trial.

Over the decades, she has used her fame to fight for equal rights for all. She has authored eight books and is currently a Professor of History of Consciousness and Professor of Feminist Studies at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Davis spent part of her lecture talking directly to the droves of artists in the audience. Artists, she believes, play a vital role in movements for social justice by giving voice to invisible populations.

"This is to me one of the important tasks that artists accomplish," she commented. "They tear away that veil (of apathy). They urge us to ask questions about things that we would otherwise take for granted."

The prison system, and the plight of those entangled in it, remains a source of concern for her.

"It is important that we understand the institution of prison and the way it affects the lives of those inside ... but also how it affects the lives of those in the so-called 'free world,'" Davis stated. "The existence of a prison creates the very problems it presumes to solve."

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts Kenan Writers Encounters series will continue today, April 2, with a lecture by Liz Lerman at 7:30 p.m. at the Main Theatre, ACE Complex on the school's campus. Tickets are free, but required. For more information, call (336) 721-1945.

## Atkins

from page A5

tion to students at Atkins High School," Macosko said. "Through the magic of computer animation, the observer will fly from the outside of a body into an organ, down into a cell, and land at the location where each student's chosen molecular machine performs its function. Other students (throughout the state of North Carolina) who view these animations will be able to learn about biotechnology through a medium they are accustomed to watching for entertainment. We hope this leads many of them to consider training for careers in biotechnology, a field with a need for more trained workers."

Macosko developed the project idea through his work advising a group of Wake Forest student entrepreneurs, who after taking his freshman seminar on

biotechnology formed a company called BioBotz that produces educational games, cartoons, toys and storybooks aimed at getting youngsters interested in biotechnology.

Atkins Academic and Technology High School, a mammoth school on Old Greensboro Road, opened in the fall of 2006. It is named for Atkins High School, which educated generations of African-Americans before the school was closed in the 1970s. Atkins Academic and Technology operates schools of biotechnology, computer tech and

pre-engineering. Macosko said Atkins was the ideal partner because of its proximity to the various institutions providing scientific and animation expertise, and because it is the only high school in North Carolina with programs in both computer visualization and biotechnology. When the fall semester begins, about 15 to 20 students are expected to enroll in the course.



Macosko

## Jessie Draft & Associates LLC



Jessie Draft/Broker  
CRS, GRI, REALTOR

RNJDRAFT@MSN.COM  
3750 Beeson Dairy Rd  
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

(336) 403-1254 Business  
(336) 748-0871 Fax

MULTIMILLION DOLLAR PRODUCER

## S. Wayne Patterson

Attorney At Law and Certified ADR Mediator

•Immigration •Social Security •Civil Rights  
•EEOC Claims •Non-Profit/501c(3)  
•Employment Discrimination

235 Peachtree St. Suite 400 Atlanta, GA 30303  
8 West Third Street Suite 220 Winston-Salem, NC 27101

1-877-SWP-4LAW

or local number

(336) 714-8858

www.swaynepatterson4law.com



Donald R. Buie

## BANKRUPTCY

Legal Help For Your Debt Problems

DONALD R. BUIE,  
Attorney At Law

www.donaldrbuie.com



★ Free Initial Consultation

★ Stop Repossession & Foreclosure

The Law Office of Donald R. Buie is a Federally designated Debt Relief Agency under Title 11 United States Code Section 528(a). We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the bankruptcy code.

773-1398

8 W. 3rd St., Ste. 100

# SOLID

# KICKS COMPLICATED

# TO THE CURB



With SunTrust Online Payroll and Online 401k, simplicity is an understatement.

That's because together, these services cut confusion and save time with setup, monthly payroll processing, and employee record updates. You'll run your business more efficiently. And maybe even look forward to payday, again. There's never been a better time to visit [suntrust.com/business](http://suntrust.com/business), call 866.587.1780, or speak to your SunTrust banker to learn more.

Enter the Solid Performance Promotion for a chance to win one year of FREE Online Cash Manager Plus® with Fraud Inspector, Online Payroll, Online 401k, Online Check Deposit, and much more.\* For details, go to [suntrust.com/business](http://suntrust.com/business).

**SUNTRUST**  
Live Solid. Bank Solid.™

Cash Management

Financing Solutions

Retirement Solutions

Deposit products and services are offered through SunTrust Bank, Member FDIC

Securities and Insurance Products and Services: Are not FDIC or any other Government Agency Insured · Are not Bank Guaranteed · May Lose Value SunTrust Banks, Inc., their affiliates, and the directors, officers, agents, and employees of any of its affiliates are not permitted to give legal or tax advice. Clients of any affiliates of SunTrust Banks, Inc. should consult with their legal and tax advisors prior to entering into any financial transaction. SunTrust Online 401k provided in partnership with ePlan Services, Inc. ePlan Services, Inc. is not an affiliate of SunTrust Banks, Inc.

©2009 SunTrust Banks, Inc. SunTrust is a federally registered service mark of SunTrust Banks, Inc. Live Solid. Bank Solid. is a service mark of SunTrust Banks, Inc. \*No purchase or other obligation required to enter.