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ECU Recoups From Floods as Classes Resume

By **MATTHEW B. DEES**
State & National Editor

GREENVILLE — "Is this a joke?" one student asked, himself half-joking, as he loaded what was left of his possessions onto a flat-bed truck. "Yes," laughed another in reply. "You're going to wake up tomorrow in Maui."

Such humor and wishful thinking were about the only things many East Carolina University students could cling to as they continued picking up the flood-soaked pieces of their ravaged homes Wednesday.

Although ECU students were due back in class Wednesday, many off-campus residents had more on their minds than revised syllabi and class make-up dates.

Residents of Tar River Apartments, named for the river whose overflowed banks left a large portion of eastern North Carolina under 30 feet of water, spent the day trying to salvage their drenched possessions.

Orange Xs on mud-stained glass doors branded each flood-ravaged apartment as a condemned structure.

Yellow police tape and bright orange barricades cordoned off the pond of flood waters that still covered several rows of apartments.



DTH/MATTHEW B. DEES

Mildewed possessions strewn on an apartment floor signify the damage left by Floyd. Flood waters left many ECU students' apartments in ruins.

The residents able to get into their front doors loaded bags of drenched clothes and any other odds and ends that survived the flood onto pick-up trucks. Others donned filter masks to protect them from the rancid stench that permeated the entire complex as they fled ruined apartments with their few remaining possessions.

Owners of Tar River Apartments

refunded each resident's deposit and waived their obligation to fulfill their lease agreement.

But the material and emotional damage clearly had taken its toll on the bewildered students.

The damage was so devastating for one ECU student and former Tar River

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Professors Focus on Floyd On Students' 1st Day Back

By **MATTHEW B. DEES**
State & National Editor

GREENVILLE — Students returned to classes at East Carolina University on Wednesday to find a soggy but relatively unscathed campus.

The university cancelled nine days of classes to allow flood waters to subside and clean-up efforts to begin.

Most students interviewed said their professors used the first day back for a discussion about the emotional drain and material losses caused by Hurricane Floyd, leaving most academic pursuits on the backburner for the time being.

"I think they're easing up on us," said junior Wells Tyson, 20, of Wendell.

"My professor said something about a take-home test, so it might be a blessing in the end," he said with a laugh.

But some students had a less cheery outlook on the decision to return to class.

"Coming back's hard. I don't know why they're even starting school up," said Chance Kornegay, a 21-year-old junior from Louisburg, as he filled out an application for university aid to cushion the financial blow after Floyd ruined his apartment.

ECU officials established a flood relief center in a campus dining hall that offered everything from legal advice for student conflicts with landlords to vouchers allowing students to borrow books for the rest of the semester.

The unusual mix of devastated students seeking aid and relatively unaffected students reuniting with friends left little room for academic concerns.

"It's been like the first day of school," said Miranda McLean, 21, a senior from Elizabethtown, between cracking jokes with her friend Tamika Mackey, a senior from Greenville. "I'm not focused. I

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McCoy Sets Disclosure Deadline

The interim chancellor decided on a firm deadline rather than a target date for full disclosure.

By **AISHA K. THOMAS**
Staff Writer

After three weeks of deliberation, interim Chancellor Bill McCoy has set a March 31, 2000, deadline for full disclosure of manufacturing sites that produce UNC-licensed goods.

The next step in the disclosure plan is to have letters sent to licensees explaining details of the full disclosure policy.

Based on his review of recommendations from the Task Force on Labor Codes in Licensing McCoy decided to make March 31 an official deadline for full disclosure rather than a target date, he stated in a letter to Caitlin Salemi, sweatshop action coordinator for Students for Economic Justice.

"It was called a target date," McCoy told the Daily Tar Heel Wednesday. "But we were serious about that date."

On Sept. 7, SEJ students sent a letter to McCoy asking him to set a firm deadline instead of just a target date for implementing full disclosure.

"I am very pleased that the chancellor was able to make that deadline," said Salemi. "I think that decision is a crucial step in addressing the sweatshop issue."

In McCoy's letter he called for labor task force members to develop a third-party complaint mechanism as soon as possible, although the system would not go into effect earlier than Jan. 1, 2000.

The mechanism would address problems that might arise when companies disclose their manufacturing sites. "I think in general terms the main thing is to have a reasonable and practical system from the standpoint of doing on-site reviews when needed," McCoy said.

Task force member Todd Putgatch said the committee had already begun discussion about the main components of the complaint mechanism. "I am confident that the committee will come up with a proposal by (Jan. 1, 2000)," he said. He said the main focus was to set basic standards by which all licensees

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PANNING OUT?

Opinions Divided On Law

No arrests have been made in the year since Chapel Hill officials implemented a law limiting panhandlers.

By **RYAN STEWART**
Staff Writer

A year has passed since Chapel Hill put the brakes on local panhandlers, but some say the problem still has not been solved.

On Sept. 28, 1998, the town passed an ordinance to curtail aggressive begging, soliciting and panhandling, which town officials said caused problems on and around the 100 block of Franklin Street. There have been no arrests on an aggressive panhandling charge since the ordinance went into effect.

While some business owners said they had seen police enforcing the ordinance, others, such as Maria Nicholas, co-owner of Hector's at 201 E. Franklin St., said she had seen little improvement.

"They're not doing a damn thing about it," Nicholas said. "I don't think the law has helped in the least."

"I have people come in from out of town and tell me they're scared to come in my restaurant."

Other business owners, such as Varsity Theater Manager Justin Ansley, said they had not experienced much of a problem.

"I can't say that we've had them around the theater," Ansley said. "You can tell they know the law."

In addition to curbing overtly aggressive behavior, the ordinance also prohibits panhandling that is considered aggressive simply because of

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DTH/JEFF POULAND

Kevin Campbell finds shelter from the rain outside Sephora on Franklin Street. Campbell, who has been homeless for three years, needs a Social Security card and a pair of glasses before he can hold a job.

Battle Still Looming Over Location of IFC Shelter

By **JENNY STEPP**
Staff Writer

Controversy surrounds the future of the Inter-Faith Council Community House as town leaders and local businesses struggle with competing visions of the facility's impact on the community.

Debate first erupted in March when the IFC attempted to extend its lease for an additional 25 years and expand its current location at 100 W. Rosemary St.

The IFC task force, formed by Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf, is exploring the possibility of moving the shelter to a location on Homestead Road, near Chapel Hill High School, instead of renovating the Rosemary Street shelter.

While some community members are hesitant to move the shelter out of the downtown area, business owners say a move will greatly improve the atmosphere of downtown Chapel Hill.

Maria Nicholas, co-owner of Hector's at 201 E. Franklin St., said the

shelter negatively impacted the Franklin Street business community.

"I can tell you by the people coming from out of town all the negative comments they have about all the homeless people loitering in front of the (Franklin Street) post office," she said. "They park and then they're afraid to walk by the post office."

Robert Humphreys, executive director of the Downtown Commission, said he agreed that the homeless population was a problem for local businesses.

"The problems that we have with it are not the people that use the shelter in the way that it was intended, but the people that abuse that system," he said. "It allows people to have three meals a day and then the money that they raise (from panhandling) they can use for alcohol or drugs."

Barry Jones, a resident of the Brookstone Apartments at 2701 Homestead Road, said moving the shelter would prevent many members

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Carolina, Speak Out!
A weekly DTH online poll
Do you support a freestanding BCC?
Go to www.unc.edu/dth to cast your vote.

INSIDE
Thursday
Summer Reading
Best-selling author Alex Kotlowitz will discuss his book "There Are No Children Here" at 7 p.m. today in Memorial Hall. All UNC freshmen were assigned to read the book this summer. See page 10.

Extra! Extra!
Applications are still available for the Fall 99 Joanna Howell Fund, which is named in honor of the former DTH editor who died in the 1996 Phi Gamma Delta fire. Applicants have the chance to prepare a full-page article that will be published in the DTH in mid November. Necessary forms can be picked up in our office in Suite 104 of the Student Union.

Today's Weather
Sunny;
Mid 70s.
Friday: Sunny; Mid 70s.

Human kind cannot bear very much reality.

T.S. Eliot