Alumni, students celebrate Homecoming

By Kelly Mayo
News Editor

John McCloskey remembered when Pembroke was a “one-stoplight town.”

James White, McCloskey’s fellow math major, said, “I loved it [attending outside the athletic center. Merr and current “Pikes” was a member of Pi Kappa Tau and socialized with former and current “Pikes” outside the athletic center.

“James White, McCloskey’s friend and a member of rival fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon, agreed that UNC P is a “nice place” and that it had changed since he graduated in 1984.

“That pond over there [in front of Mary Livermore Library] used to be the old gym and tennis courts. This used to be an ugly campus now,” White said.

Graduate of 1989 Rick Stevenson shared a brief history of Homecoming at UNC P. He said that the event used to be during basketball season in February before football arrived five years ago.

Stevenson’s friend Merlin McLean, who graduated in 1996, agreed that U N C P has changed. Football brings the community closer,” he said.

Continued on page 12A

Homecoming Week stories - where to find them -

Kool and the Gang - 3A
Slam Poetry Event - 4A
Comedian Michael Blackson - 6A
Musician Matt Corey - 6A
ZTA’s Paint the Town Pink - 11A
Homecoming photo spread - 12A
Football game, photos - 1B, 12B

Annual event ties students and town together

By Kelly Mayo
News Editor

The 22nd annual Pembroke Day drew a festive crowd of thousands under sunny skies on Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

During Pembroke Day, there was an assortment of 150 businesses, Greek and religious organizations and 48 health fair vendors, all of which gave out various items ranging from pamphlets, stickers, pens and business cards to items pertaining to their business or department.

Pembroke Day is an annual event held at UNC P to promote relations between the school and the community.

The day kicked off with the presentation of the colors by the Army ROTC, and the National Anthem was sung by the Pembroke Singers.

The American Indian Honor Song followed, performed by the Southern Sun, and the opening ceremony

Continued on page 8A

Booker urges students to make a difference

By Chantel Moore
Around the Campus Editor

Cory Booker, mayor of Newark, N.J., came to UNCP Sept. 28 and gave an inspirational speech in Givens Performing Arts Center about his journey to success entitled “How To Change The World With Your Bare Hands.”

“I thought it was great. He showed me how a real leader should act. Take action, not talk action,” said Ashley Peoples, junior.

He opened his speech by chartably rapping a song to Kelly Check, the Deer Educator and Translator at UNCP, giving the audience one of many more laughs to come.

He said he loves what Newark has been able to accomplish because of their perseverance and their refusal to yield. “His speech was amazing. The lessons he taught me the most was to not give up so easily on your community and what you want out of life because in order to get what you want you must go through any form of struggle,” sophomore Sean Martinez said.

“You have to fight for what you want. So the lesson he taught me was to fight for what I believe in and what I want to make happen in my community for a better change,” Martinez added.

As one of his many accomplishments as mayor, Booker established a fatherhood program and fraternity, entitled DADS (Delta Alpha Delta Sigma), which is a program for fathers who want to better live their lives so they can take better care of their children.

The program has been running for four years and along with other programs has reduced the recidivism rate to below 3 percent.

With the nation’s economic crisis, it has been harder for recent college graduates to find jobs.

Continued on page 24