FOOTNOTES

Getting inside Triangle universities and colleges

NCSU research in FEMA manual

N.C. State University engineering researchers play a key role in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's new coastal construction manual. Their findings on breakaway wall design for ground-level parking and storage areas exposed to storm surges helped to create a new, easier-to-use construction method that is in the new manual.

"The Coastal Construction Manual is the most up-to-date guide for the design and construction of houses in areas subject to coastal flood conditions," said Spencer Rogers, a coastal construction and erosion specialist for North Carolina Sea Grant, which is based at NCSU.

Rogers collaborated with NCSU engineering researchers C.C. Tung, Bohumil Kasal and S.C. Yeh on the breakaway wall study. He recommends the CD-ROM version of the new manual, which includes interactive links for cross-references, calculations and Web links. Both the CD and the printed version, which fills three binders, are available from FEMA at (800) 480-2520. There is no charge for single copies.

For more information on coastal construction, including the breakaway wall research, call Rogers at (910) 962-2491 or send him e-mail at rogerssp@uncw.edu. A list of coastal construction publications is also on Sea Grant's Web site, www.ncsu.edu/seagrant/extension/CoastalEng/CoastalEngPubs.html

Dees to speak at UNC-CH

Civil rights attorney Morris Dees, founder and chief trial counsel of the Southern Poverty Law Center, is slated to speak at UNC-Ch this month as part of a five-day commemoration of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Dees recently won a $6.2 million civil judgment against the Aryan Nations in an Idaho trial. He will deliver his speech, "A Passion for Justice," at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 16 in Memorial Hall. Dees, an Alabama native, began bringing controversial lawsuits against racially motivated hate groups in 1967. He is known for his work on behalf of minorities and the poor and for his successful lawsuits against perpetrators of hate crimes and white supremacist organizations.

"It is doubtful that anyone in America is more hated and feared by the nation's hate groups than lawyer Morris Dees," U.S. News & World Report said. "In the past 30 years, he has taken on dozens of neo-Nazis, white-power Christians and Ku Klux Klanspeople."

Dees said his talk will address this challenge King issued decades ago: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

MBA course to be webcast

This month, Duke University's Fuqua School of Business will begin offering a live webcast of a regularly scheduled MBA course to students outside its campus.

The course to be broadcast, "Global Asset Allocation and Stock Selection," will be taught by Campbell R. Harvey, a specialist in portfolio management and global risk management.

Milton Blood, managing director of accreditation services the International Association for Management Education, said Fuqua is the first to webcast a live course. "Certainly, Fuqua is the pioneer at this point," he said.

The Web course is aimed at business professionals who don't have time or resources to enroll in an on-campus MBA program. The class meets Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. starting Jan. 22. The course will be archived for those who miss the live webcasts. The cost is $1,000 for non-Duke students and $500 for Duke alumni. For more information or to register, visit the site at faculty.fuqua.duke.edu/~charvey/Teaching/BA453_2001/webcastinfo.htm

NCSA film turns heads

"George Washington," an independent film directed by a 1998