The EastCarolinian

YOUR INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17, 2007

Students prepare to dive into the icy waters of the outdoor pool at the SRC for the Polar Bear Plunge, find out more about the event.....**Page A4**

Enjoy a night of great food and fun at the new downtown locale Bumperz. Find out more.....**Page A4**

Through the first week of practice ECU has some questions to answer. First up, who will replace the offensive punch of last season's standouts, Adam Witter and Jake Smith? Read more.....**Page A5**

The Pirates' shooting woes continued on their home court against Rice. Check out the sports section to see if ECU has any hope for a turn around before some critical conference match-ups.....**Page A5**

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A Wheelchair Rugby drop in game will take place at 8 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center. For more calendar events, turn to.....**Page A2**

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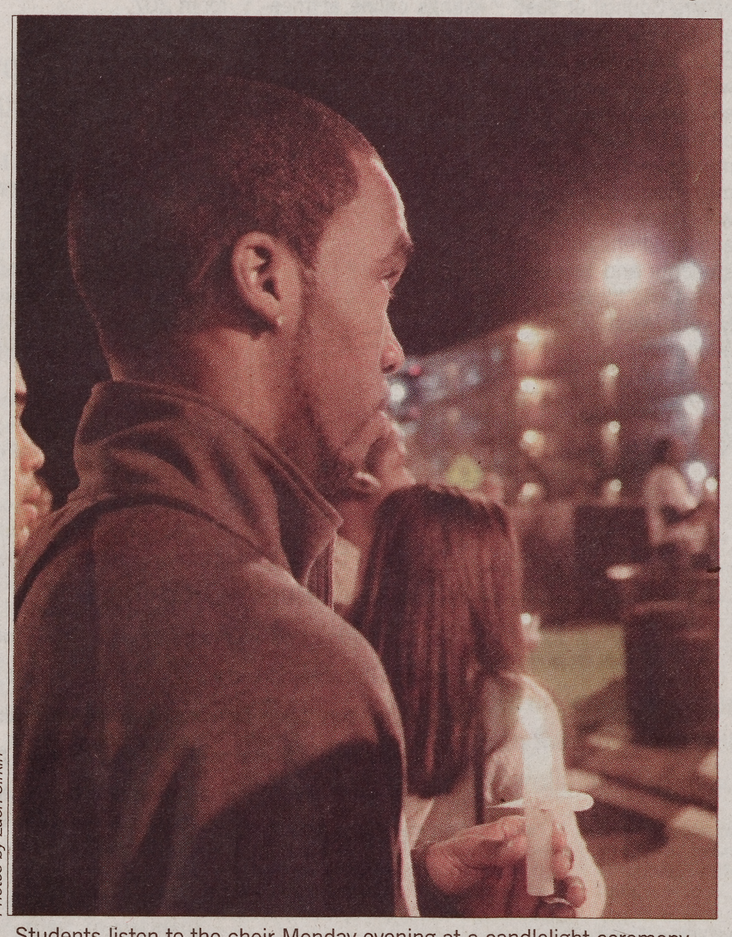
Dr. King's legacy lives on through students



Photos by Zach Sirkin

Students listen to the choir Monday evening at a candlelight ceremony.

MLK Day Volunteer Challenge held on Monday

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

Many students helped the community and honored civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by participating in the MLK Day Volunteer Challenge on Monday.

There was an opportunity for students to choose from 15 different volunteer projects that ranged from making greeting cards, delivering food to the elderly or playing bingo with the elderly.

Some of the volunteer sites included The Little Willie Center, Family Violence Program Inc. of Pitt County, and the Ronald McDonald House.

Registration and breakfast was from 8:30 to 8:45 a.m. A brief reflection activity was completed from 8:45 to 9:15 a.m.

The reflection was conducted by a member of the volunteer staff that helped coordinate the event.

This part of the event tested the students on what elements they thought goes into having a stable community by asking them "if you were mayor for a day," how would you control the community.

From 9:30 to 12:30 p.m., the students worked at their volunteer sites with other students who also signed up for that project.

Transportation was not provided for the students who participated in the volunteer projects. Getting the students to meet new people and carpool with them was apart of the challenge of the day.

Shawn Moore, volunteer and community partner coordinator, said the challenge is to get them diversified so that not all the people from the same organization works together.

"Dr. King was all about community service and getting people to interact with one another in a peaceful, meaningful way and that's what I think we're dong here today," said Moore.

The MLK Day Challenge was sponsored by the volunteer center. Moore was the leader of organizing the event.

Moore said that the entire volunteer staff was a big help with coordinating this volunteer project.

"Most of our stuff is a total group effort because I can't do anything without them," Moore said.

Students can apply these hours to their clubs, organizations and classes if their professors will allow them to do so. The hours are kept on file in the volunteer center.

According to Moore, this is about the fifth year that the volunteer center has sponsored the MLK Day Challenge. Another challenge is on the agenda for next year.

Make a Difference Day, is the next event that the center will sponsor. This event is similar to MLK Day Challenge because it provides students with a choice of multiple volunteer projects.

The difference in the two events is that transportation will be provided for the Make a Difference Day.

That event was held last year to try to engage freshman students early on in volunteering in the community. Upperclassmen also participated in the event and it will be open to everyone again this year.

To learn more about how you can volunteer in the community, visit ecu.edu/volunteer or call 328-2735.

This writer may be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

ECU's chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha and Zeta Eta Lambda participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr. walk, which began at the top of College Hill and ended at Mendenhall Student Center.

Superior Court Judge Manning speaks at ECU meeting

Manning delivers update on school case at PDK meeting

ZACK HILL
STAFF WRITER

Superior Court Judge Howard Manning attended the January meeting of Phi Delta Kappa to give an update on the Leandro case, which deals with North Carolina's public school system.

The Leandro case began in 1994 when five counties' parents and school boards filed a lawsuit against the state board of education and the State of North Carolina claiming that they had not been provided enough money to give the students a good education.

The five low-wealth counties were soon joined by six city school districts who said the State had not given enough funds for students at-risk or students for whom English is a second language.

The suit made it all the way to the State Supreme Court, where it was decided that North Carolina's state constitution guarantees, "every child... an opportunity to receive a sound basic education."

"That right belongs to the child, not the principal, not the superintendent, and not the school board," said Manning. "This is not about you, this is about the child."

After the review by the State Supreme Court the case was sent back to Superior Court, where it came under the review of Manning, who found that there are three basics needed to provide a sound, basic education.

"Every classroom has to have a competent, certified teacher. Every school has to be led by a well-trained, competent principal. And you have to have the resources to supply whatever the teachers and principals come up with for academic programming," Manning said.

"It's so simple it will scare you."

Since the ruling, Manning threatened to shutdown more than a dozen schools in the state if they did not step up to a few standards, one stating that they should have 90 percent of the students testing at Level III.

"I have 17 schools in this state under my thumb," Manning said.

Manning said that a lot of the problem came from within the schools' staffs.

"I told them to resign, retire or get out. When you're not performing you better change or get out," Manning said.

"The students are the end product and we're dropping the ball. We've got to have accountability. When you have teachers in classrooms that just want to get through the day it's a violation of every child in the classroom's constitutional rights."

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

English Education Club holds inaugural meeting

A brand new organization on campus

ADELINE TRENTO
STAFF WRITER

Thursday, Jan. 11, the brand new English Education Club held its first meeting of the semester.

The ENED club, which was developed at the end of last semester, plans to bring students together for networking, volunteer opportunities and social activities.

Wilson Lee, junior and chairman of fundraising for the ENED club, said that the organization was formed to give students an opportunity to talk with people who have the same interests and goals.

"There wasn't an English club on campus, but there were clubs for everything else," said Lee. "We produce a lot of teachers here so we figured an English club would work out nicely. It's great to see people who are interested in something have somewhere to apply themselves in that field."

The ENED club is also a service organization. The members plan to take part in many community service activities including tutoring and volunteering at schools.

Lee said the first big project the organization will take part in involves helping a school in east Guilford County that lost everything in a fire. The club hopes to help re-establish the school by donating school supplies and helping to rebuild lesson plans lost in the fire.

The ENED members believe that joining this organization will be very beneficial to students and also a fun opportunity.

"It's a good time to join a club anytime in college, that way you have some resume "love," as I like to call it," Lee said.

"Since we are a brand new organization, you can say you helped to charter a club which looks really great on a resume."

Along with looking good on a resume, this club gives students the opportunity to discuss ideas and share teaching techniques.

Lindsey Ford, president of ENED, believes that this club will be a great post graduation resource as well. She said that the organization will help to build a network for students, allowing them to get advice and help from people going into the same profession.

Ford also said that the group hopes to compile an online database of lesson plans for graduated

see **ENGLISH ED** page A2

Photo by Zach Sirkin

Local belly dancing instructor, Donna Whitley, tastes one of the varieties of Japanese tea at the ceremony.

ECU hosts Japanese tea ceremony presentation and tea tasting

Japan Center East continues cultural enrichment

BY LISA URAM
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 11, ECU's Japan Center East, which is committed to strengthening the bond between the U.S. and Japan, held a cultural enrichment event about the traditional tea ceremonies that have been performed for centuries in Japan.

The objective of the demonstration was to allow people to better understand a culture that immerses itself into our society.

"Japanese companies have a large economic impact in our community," said Chikako Massey, interim director of Japan Center East.

Currently there are over 150 Japanese companies in North Carolina alone and they provide around 700 jobs in Pitt County.

The event began with a brief discussion on the history of the beautiful ritual that was started by a Japanese monk in the 12th century. As the popularity of tea drinking grew, the Japanese began learning how to cultivate and prepare it locally.

"These teas are the embodiment of Zen," said Massey. "They have no comparison to those you are used to in the local restaurants."

Massey, who was dressed in a kimono inherited from her family, also wore a traditional zori, a type of footwear with split-toe socks. Roughly 35 people of all ages in attendance joined Massey in the demonstration of the movements that would be used during the

see **TEA** page A2

News

{ Campus & Community }

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hispanic Film Series: Screening of *Machuca*

Thursday, Jan. 25, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Bate 1010
Directed by Andrés Wood, this coming-of-age film, set in 1973 right before the military coup, follows the friendship that develops between two boys, Gonzalo and Pedro, who meet when the director of a private school.
All films will be shown in their original language, with English subtitles. Films are not rated and may include adult content. Discussion after each screening, for those interested.
Visit ecu.edu/cs-cas/foreign/hispanicfilm.cfm.
Contact Juan José Daneri at 328-5523 or danerij@ecu.edu for more information.

Information session on trip to Japan

Thursday, Jan. 25, 5:30 - 7 p.m. in the Willis Building.
The Japan Center East is leading a trip to Japan, including the cities of Tokyo, Hakone and Kyoto. This information session will give details about the trip planned for later this year.
Visit ecu.edu/japancentereast
Contact Chikako S. Massey at masseyc@ecu.edu or 737-1352 for more information.

Contra Dance

Friday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., lesson; 8 - 10:30 p.m. dance.
This event will take place in the Willis Building.
Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band.
Admission charged. 752-7350. A smoke- and alcohol-free event.

The Third Annual Jean Mills Health Symposium

Friday, Feb. 9, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at The Hilton-Greenville, 207 Greenville Blvd.
Sponsored by the ECU School of Allied Health Sciences in collaboration with the ECU Medical Foundation, Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation and Eastern AHEC, the symposium will address current health issues affecting African-American and Hispanic population
The fee is $25 for the symposium and $15 for students if received by Feb. 2. After Feb. 2, registration is $30 and $20 for students. Online registration is available at eahec.edu.edu. There is no fee to exhibit at the health fair and information should be provided free of charge to participants.
Visit ecu.edu/ah or contact Dr. Beth Velde at (252) 744-6012 or at veldeb@ecu.edu for more information.

Urinetown

In McGinnis Auditorium, Thursday, Feb. 22 through Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. except Sunday at 2 p.m.
One of the most uproariously funny musicals in recent years, *Urinetown* is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year draught, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides he's had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Inspired by the works of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, *Urinetown* is an irreverently humorous satire in which no one is safe from scrutiny. Praised for reinvigorating the very notion of what a musical could be, *Urinetown* catapults the comedic romp into the new millennium with its outrageous perspective, wickedly modern wit and sustained ability to produce gales of unbridled laughter.
Visit theatre-dance.ecu.edu for more information. Ticket Required

17 Wed

Wellness Wednesday Fit Stop – Folic Acid Awareness
Todd and West End Dining Halls
11:30 a.m.

Study Abroad Information Session
Have you always wanted to study abroad but are unsure where to start? This information session will answer your questions about participating in an ECU-sponsored study abroad program.
Mendenhall Great Rooms 1 & 2
3 - 5 p.m.

***Wheelchair Rugby Drop-in game**
This sport combines elements of basketball, football and hockey. Similar to the able-bodied version of rugby, teams of four participants attempt to score a goal by crossing a designated line with a volleyball. Individuals both with and without disabilities can play the game. Individual players may register on-site prior to each night of play.
SRC Sports Forum
8 - 9 p.m.

18 Thu

Graduate Student Council Meeting
Mendenhall Student Center room 221
6 - 8 p.m.

Business Fashion Show
An effort to teach the students of ECU how to properly dress for success. Ann Taylor Loft will be offering job placement opportunities along with discounts for their stores.
Rivers Building room 105
5 - 6 p.m.

Tales of the Beijing Opera
Hendrix Theatre

19 Fri

Last day to apply for graduation in May

Public Reception for Still - An Exhibition featuring the work of Amy Freeman and Annie Hogan
For additional information please call Emerge Gallery & Art Center at (252) 551-6947 or e-mail heather@emergegallery.com
Emerge Gallery & Art Center 404 S. Evans St., Uptown Greenville between Fifth and Forth Streets
6 - 9 p.m.

AIMO Fashion Show
Support ECU's Apparel and Interiors Merchandising Org. in the "Battle of the Boutiques" Fashion Show
Tickets are $5 when purchased in Wright Plaza, $7 at the door.
Club AQUA
9 - 11 p.m.

20 Sat

ECU Hosts Great Decisions Seminars
Sponsored by the World Affairs Council of eastern North Carolina and ECU, the lecture series will feature academic and professional experts on the Middle East, climate change, Mexico, migration, South Africa, war crimes, Central Asia and children. Full-time students and teachers can attend for free.
Rivers West Building auditorium
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

21 Sun

Want to see your event here?
Submit your calendar listings online at theeastcarolinian.com/calendar.

22 Mon

Intramural Racquetball Registration
Student Recreation Center room 207
10 a.m.

23 Tues

Nutrition for the New Year Registration required, call 328-6387 to register.
Student Recreation Center room 238
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Better Breathing – Better Health Seminar
The program is for patients, parents/relatives, friends or anyone interested in learning about shortness of breath and other breathing problems.
Edwin W. Monroe AHEC Conference Center, 2000 Venture Tower Dr.
6 - 8 p.m.

*Featured Event

Wheelchair Rugby Drop-in game

This sport combines elements of basketball, football and hockey. Similar to the able-bodied version of rugby, teams of four participants attempt to score a goal by crossing a designated line with a volleyball. Individuals both with and without disabilities can play the game. Individual players may register on-site prior to each night of play.
SRC Sports Forum
8 - 9 p.m.

BRIEFS

Frozen-dessert school is a cool place to learn
(AP) — Steve Heaps came all the way to Winston-Salem from Madison, Wis., to learn how to make gelato.
He received his education in making the Italian ice cream at Carpigiani Frozen Dessert University, or FDU, a program at Carpigiani-USA on Industrial Drive.
The company, which has 28 employees and distributors throughout Canada and in the United States, services machines from throughout North America, and trains technicians and service providers.
Corti said that the company has developed advance courses to include information about trends in the industry before they fade way.
"The university is another way of having an inside look into the industry," he said.
He recommends Carpigiani equipment for anyone who wants to get into the gelato business.
"Carpigiani makes the absolute best equipment for gelato," he said.
Schneider, a pastry chief and chocolatier, sells chocolates that she makes by hand. She is moving to bigger space and wants to add gelato.

New section of Raleigh interstate speeds travelers
(AP) — A new stretch of Interstate 540 opened Tuesday, forming a 26-mile-long freeway that bridges north Raleigh and links U.S. 64 to Interstate 40 on the city's west side.
The new 9.3-mile section of highway from Capital Boulevard to U.S. 64 cost $114 million and can serve as an east-west bypass of Raleigh for some travelers.
"We expect some tremendous benefits in relieving the I-40 traffic to the western side of town," said state Transportation Secretary Lyndo Tippett.
Another section of I-540 between I-40 and N.C. 54 on the west side of Raleigh is expected to open by spring.

Virginia legislator's comments on slavery anger blacks, Jews
(AP) — A state legislator's statement that black people "should get over" slavery and questioning whether Jews should apologize "for killing Christ" caused furious and tearful denunciations Tuesday before stunned lawmakers.
Del. Frank D. Hargrove, in defending himself, told one of his critics, a delegate whose Jewish ancestors immigrated from Nazi-occupied Poland, that "your skin is a little too thin."
Hargrove, 79, in an interview published Tuesday in The Daily Progress of Charlottesville, voiced opposition to a measure apologizing on behalf of the state to the descendants of slaves.
In the interview, Hargrove, R-Hanover, said slavery ended nearly 140 years ago with the Civil War and added, "I personally think that our black citizens should get over it."
Sen. Henry L. Marsh, D-Richmond and sponsor of the Senate version of the apology resolution, declined to criticize Hargrove, saying the measure was intended to bring about racial reconciliation before Virginia marks the 400th anniversary in May of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in North America.
"Everyone has a right to his own opinion," Marsh said.

Authorities suspect arson in church fires

Federal agencies working with local law enforcement on case

ZACK HILL
STAFF WRITER

Weekend fires that damaged one church and left another barely standing are now under investigation by not only the Greenville Police Department, but the F.B.I., among other agencies.

"We're investigating a suspected arson with the task force," said Cpl. Kip Gaskins of the Greenville Police Department. The task force also includes the S.B.I., the Greenville Fire Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Pitt County Sheriff's Department.

The two fires, one at Memorial Baptist Church and the other at Unity Free Will Baptist Church, occurred Saturday night.

Gaskins said that the fire at Memorial Baptist Church was called in at 10:36 p.m. An hour later, fire fighters were on their way to the second blaze of the night, at Unity Free Will Baptist.

Battalion Chief Sandy Harris of the Greenville Fire Department agreed with the assessment of many that the fire at Memorial was one of the largest in the city in the past decade.

"It was a very large fire," said Harris. "It's a big building with a lot of wings, and that became a major problem."

Senior theater major, Kyle Greer said that as he passed Memorial he saw smoke, but no flames. Several minutes later at a friend's apartment close to the church he said that flames erupted violently from the back portion of the church.

"Within a few minutes of that it collapsed and kept burning," Greer said.

Rev. Rick Bailey of Memorial Baptist Church says that this is an opportunity for the church to start over.

"We as a staff are trying not to dwell on it, but the fact is that it did happen. To dwell on it is to defeat the notion of moving forward," Bailey said. He also thanks the community for their support.

Senior dance performance major Barrett Wheeler was with Greer.

"At first we thought it was a small fire and they would put it out," said Wheeler. "The flames were ridiculously high. I took a picture with my camera but you can't see anything because the fire is so bright."

There are no solid leads at this time according to Gaskins, though there were two witnesses who reported seeing someone run from Memorial to a white car around the time the fire started.

Several vehicles at the churches had their tires slit.

A break-in was reported at Oakmont Baptist Church, but there was no fire.

Pitt County Crimestoppers is offering a $5,000 reward to any information leading to an arrest. Local churches have matched that with a $5,000 reward of their own.

Damage has been reported at close to a million dollars at Memorial and close to $50,000 at Unity.

"I think it's a shame. It shows ignorance and that hatred is everywhere in the world, even Greenville," Greer said.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

TEA continued from A1

ceremony.

Although music isn't typically used during tea ceremonies, light Japanese flute music played in the background to help set the ambiance in the room.

Rie Ishida, a licensed chef from Japan, who was also dressed in traditional attire, assisted Massey in performing the complete ceremony. Donna Whitley, who teaches belly dancing in Greenville, volunteered to join in the performance as well.

According to Whitley, she came to the event because of her interest in traveling and different cultures.

"I thought that the event would be interesting and educational," said Whitley. "I was a little nervous volunteering, but it was fun."

After the completion of the ceremony, attendees sampled green tea, wheat tea, brown rice tea and sea weed tea. They were also able to touch the d'gu (tools) used during the ceremony and discuss any questions they had with Massey.

Japan Center East will hold an information session on Jan. 25 about the trip to Japan they will be leading on May 14. The trip will include visits to Tokyo, Hakone and Kyoto. For more information on this event and other upcoming events hosted by Japan Center East, visit japancentereast/.

This writer can be reached at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

ENGLISH ED continued from A1

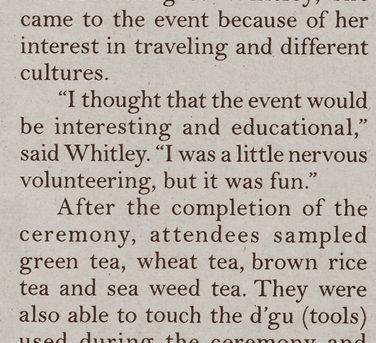
students to use in their classrooms.

"We hope to establish something that lasts forever at ECU, something that people will enjoy being a part of and something that will help others, especially in the education community," Lee said.

"We just want to create something that East Carolinians can take pride in, something that will give them an opportunity to apply themselves and a place where they can meet with other people who are like-minded and just want to have fun."

Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month on the third floor of the Speight building at 5 p.m. The ENED members invite all students to join and they do not limit interested students to English Education majors only. Students that enjoy English, education, or just working and volunteering with kids are invited to attend a meeting. Interested students can e-mail ecuenedclub@gmail.com for more information about meetings.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.



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Opinion

{ Less talk, more action }

RANT OF THE DAY

If there was a club for virgins I bet that after a few meetings, half of the club would have to stop going.

Stealing from the future

The double standard of the Bill Gates Foundation

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

Last week an article came out in the *LA Times* that really grabbed my attention. This particular article investigated the investments of the Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation and dug up some rather striking information concerning their motivations.

The Bill and Malinda Gates Foundation is a philanthropy composed of enormous investments from Bill Gates and Warren Buffet, the second richest person in the world. In total, they have donated over 66 billion dollars in support of global health initiatives, improving US public education, and social welfare programs in the Pacific Northwest. Like most philanthropies, the Gates foundation uses its capital to invest in corporations and companies to generate a profit and insure the future of the foundation. From that, they donate roughly five percent of the foundations worth annually to avoid tax payment and achieve their initiatives. Last year, this five percent amount to 1.4 billion dollars in donations and grants.

I know you are thinking, what could be wrong with a foundation that donates billions of dollars every year to combat AIDS and improve education? To be truthful there is nothing wrong with the donations and other beneficial attributions from the foundation, the problem is their investment program.

The *LA Times* discovered that while the Gates Foundation is investing their capital to make a profit, which in turn is going towards positive causes, the companies they have chosen to invest in are actually contributing to many of the health problems they are trying to combat.

The *LA Times* uses a small town in Nigeria as the focal point of their article. This town, known as Cancer Valley to some, is plagued with AIDS and some of the worst respiratory problems in the world. In local schools, over 50 percent of the children have asthma and many die every year from respiratory complications. The majority of the health problems in the area can be contributed to local oil refineries that spew burning gas and oil hundreds of feet in the air, clouding the sky with thick smoke. The gases that are emitted from these refineries contain toxic by-products such as benzene, mercury and chromium. These gases not only can cause cancer and respiratory illnesses, but also lower immunity to infections like polio. In addition to respiratory illness, the holes drilled to extract oil later fill with water becoming a breeding zone for mosquitoes and malaria. Also, these oil spills have clogged the rivers causing outbreak of cholera in local towns. In addition to the environmental impacts of the oil industry, oil workers in the Nigerian Delta are the main customers in red light districts in Nigeria and complicate an already beleaguered population with AIDS and teen pregnancy. The main refineries in the Delta are ENI, Royal Dutch Shell, Exxon Mobil Corp., Chevron Corp., and Total of France, all of which are companies that the Gates Foundation has invested almost a half billion dollars in.

By supporting these companies, the Gates foundation is contradicting its motives. Currently the Gates foundation is donating money to Nigeria to combat AIDS, polio, malaria and other health problems, health problems some would say are a result of the oil companies they profit from.

The *LA Times* found that the Gates Foundation has invested 8.7 billion dollars in companies that are like these are counter to the foundations' initiatives, questioning the real motives of their charity – profit or doing good for the world?

When student sanitation stinks

Dorm hygiene at its all time low

JESSICA DUNLOW
OPINION WRITER

Summer school was awesome, I lived with my best friend in Umstead Hall and everything was perfect. However, outside of our own personal room, the residence hall bathrooms were a total mess.

It is optional at ECU to live in the university provided residence halls, but for those of us who choose to live in them, please learn to take care of our shared house.

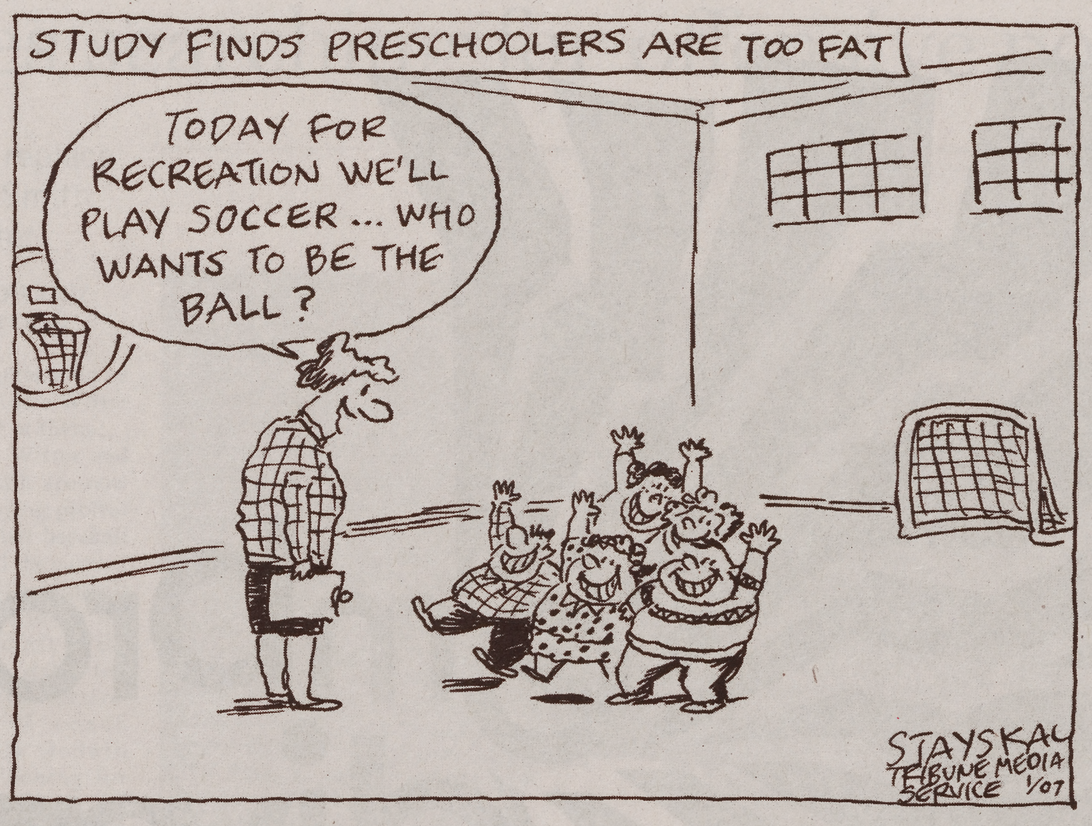
I have lived in the residence halls for two years and have seen something shameful occur in the bathrooms on a weekly basis.

Human feces are smeared on the walls in the male showers and pee spilled all over the floors. You are grown men, hit the right hole. I can live without vomit in the sinks, on the walls, in the stalls and on the carpet in the public hallways.

If you think that the girls' floor would be better, think again. There isn't much that can beat clogged toilets. Vomit in the showers is more popular amongst the women. When did it become OK to leave bodily fluids for all to see in public places?

Parents pay around $2,000 for their students to have a place to live. We can choose not to clean and pick up after ourselves, but it is beyond housing services' job and training to clean after a bunch of slobs who do not care or love where they live.

The residence halls are not our permanent homes, but that is not an excuse to not keep up the rooms for the future residents. Grow up. Respect the areas that everyone in the residence hall uses. For once, think about the others that reside and work in the dorms instead of just how convenient the free "maid" service is.



MCT

PIRATE RANTS

The *East Carolinian* does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to Rachel King, Opinion Page Editor, at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

My friend was doing a crossword puzzle, and number three across was the atomic weight of Boron, which is obviously ten... he put "fat," and for a celestial body, he put "Uma Thurman."

Roommate... can I please sleep with you?

Thank you, Bate Advising Center! I called you in a mad panic, trying to get the last spot in a much-needed class. You calmed me, registered me, and sent me happily on my way.

Being bi-sexual is no fun. I only seem to like the straight guys. Oh well, guess I'll just stick with girls.

Special thanks to the guys in Austin 101... you guys absolutely rock my world. And you fixed my broken computer. If I wasn't taken, I would ask one of you out.

You make me nervous, but in a good way.

I'm in love with Hamburger Helper Microwave Singles... they rock my socks off.

Don't you see that I'm falling in love with you bit by bit every day? Wake up and notice what's right in front of your face!

My boyfriend gives the best facials!

"Friday Night Lights" is the shiznit!

I need a girlfriend that doesn't sleep all day and actually does something, and yes, I did write this and I am talking to you!

Step it up, *TEC*... and before you even think about telling me to apply and step up, I'm not a communications major nor do I know a thing about newspapers. I just know the paper has problems...

Are they rebuilding the fountain? I say they build a giant statue of Pee Dee the Pirate!

What's with all this legal crap on the Pirate Rant page? They're supposed to piss people off, they're called Rants, after all. If you don't like them, don't read them.

My New Year's resolution: To be anorexic and lose 30 pounds. It works for the other girls in my sorority, so it'll work for me, too.

I just can't help wanting to be friends with you. We're like peas in a pod.

TEC needs to hire some new writers and some new editors...

I wish the shower in our suite was at least as big as the ones in the rec. center.

To the person complaining about only getting $5K from your millionaire dad, just appreciate what he did do. Some of us would love to get half that much for Christmas.

Some people are just as fake as a weave. It's so hard to "beweave" sometimes, but it's true.

New rule: If you want to pet my dog, you have to at least tell me your name.

It's a shame this is my last semester here, because you people sure are going to miss my Pirate Rants.

I wear my sunglasses inside because I'm cooler than you. Sometimes I pop my collar, too.

No ECU! Change the Web site back! Five years of the same Web site and now you change it on me! You have no idea how you have just screwed up my ECU online experience!

Why do I need a drink after my MWF English class? Yet they say AA works!

Brown Route riders: ECUSTA isn't responsible for your laziness in checking the schedule. GREAT doesn't tell the homeless when they change the schedule...

To the person who had the best friend break a promise, we must have the same friends.

Congrats to me! I quit smoking!

To the person who made the comment about their $5,000 Christmas present not being enough from their dad who makes over a million dollars a year: My father is worth over $40 million, but you would never know that about me because I have class and don't feel the need to brag. If money could buy class, I'd tell you to go buy some. Plus, you must have really low self-esteem to try to impress people with money, I feel sorry for you.

Does anyone care that two of our fellow Pirates were killed over Christmas in Greenville – the town we all love to hate.

Am I the only one who finds "The White Rapper Show " racist?

What in the heck happened to the Rants and the opinion section? Aren't there usually more Rants? And articles, for that matter?

Rants are for people with problems, Just Ask Jane is for people that have problems and really want answers, so let them have their space.

In class the other day, the professor asked if anyone could think of an instance of immaculate conception, and the guy next to me immediately said, "Darth Vader." The answer she was looking for was Merlin... duh.

The paper was not impressive today.

Up! Stretch! Bend! Down!

Guinness... I find it a nice substitute for food.

How can you call yourself a scientist and not worship at the "Altar Roddenberry?!"

Thank you God, for all of the wonderful blessings you have given me. I see all of the wonderful miracles you do for me everyday.

To the person who wrote the Pirate Rant on Wednesday about the basketball billboards: If you had half of a brain you would know that the athletic director does not design the billboards. That's what marketing is for!

I wish my sisters would just grow up and stop watching *High School Musical*, and "Hannah Montana" is not cool!

I am afraid that my lack of any relationships is causing me to become bitterly misogynistic. I hope somebody comes along and changes that soon.

If life is so fair, why do roses have thorns?

Part of my health class is online... so I do my health work sitting in front of the computer with a bag of potato chips and a soda. How healthy is that?

Why is it that I only notice that there are actually books in the bookstore when I have to buy them... are they there all year?

Why do people insist on talking about their personal business in the shower? Yeah. We all heard your business.

It's nice to have a professor with a personality. I feel like he really cares about whether I pass or fail. I am actually excited to go to his class.

I really like how you talked bad about her the whole weekend, and then as soon as Monday rolled around you were saying how you still liked her and wanted to hang out. So much for, "This could be a good thing!"

Guys: Take a tip from the guy who wrote in to his girlfriend, who loves the Pirate Rants. Every girl wants to be treated like that!

I can totally replace you. In fact, I can do so much better!

Why is it that every time I meet what seems like a decent guy, he turns out to be nothing more than a jerk?

How come I cannot trust any of my friends? Is there anyone out there who is honest and trustworthy?

It's not just you... I'm lonely all of the time, too.

How is it that I can do Sudoku puzzles in seven minutes, but failed remedial math twice?

To the ignorant person who thinks gay marriage won't be approved: I am a straight democrat who supports gay marriage... Maybe you should go hide under a rock with the rest of the ignorant people!

Why does the Barefoot on the Mall logo have a shoe?

I'm in a sorority and I will never, ever be caught dating a frat boy... Come on, non-Greek boys, where are you?

Thank you to whoever wrote that Rant saying that Democrats really don't want homosexuals to get married. Because of you, I have finalized my decision to move back North after graduation so I can avoid ignorant people like you!

Another semester has ended and I've again managed to swell to the size of an orca whale...

"Nothing happens when you die." Dane Cook is my hero.

"Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the others gold." Screw that, my new friends are way better!

To the soldier who thinks he has the most underpaid job in the US, you're wrong. You have the most underpaid job in the world. I commend you for serving our country and yes, let's get together and make some Hollywood stars give you money...

I pick my nose in my car and think people can't see me because I have tinted windows... they can.

TEC's site is still broken if you navigate in various ways. Couldn't you guys have fixed it for 2007?

I'm 19 years old and still somehow managed to get onto the wrong bus today. Not only that, but because I was too embarrassed to ride the bus all the way back to campus to get on the right bus I proceeded to get off at this buses destination and walk around like I actually lived there. I then sat alone in the freezing cold for 30 minutes so my roommate could come pick me up. Thanks, roommate.

People! Please stop leaving your stuff unsecured in the rec. center. That's why man invented lockers and locks. Criminals prey upon dumb college students like you.

I'll go to the nurses' reception with you.

I'm getting rather tired of seeing girls wearing Ugg boots. They are hideous, and not very flattering. I know some girls think they are being cute little snow bunnies, but when you wear hot pink sweat pants and a sweatshirt with them, it sort of defeats the purpose.

To all the nice guys and nice girls out there feeling frustrated: I found one, and it's worth the wait.

I miss vodka.

I will spread all of your great and glorifying blessings you have given me forever and ever. You have done so much for me that I do not deserve at all! For that I will always believe in you and stand up for you when people protest against you.

To the person who said that all ACC teams suck: They're just jealous because their team isn't that good.

Seriously, do we really need to send 21,500 more troops over to Iraq? That gets rid of the good guys around here.

I hate to be the one to say this but if you lay in the tanning bed and you are a guy, you are not a real man. No exceptions!

Why am I dating you again?

To the Southern gentlemen: I've been looking for you guys for so long and this Southern belle has yet to find one.

How am I supposed to see the flyers on campus about the bus schedule changing before my first day of class? I don't know about you, but I'm usually not on campus before the semester starts. You should probably think before you Rant.

I love to cough when I break wind to cover up the sound. I do it at school, at work, even at home by myself. It's the oldest trick in the book!

You people suck!

FYI... the Jones Administration is about progress. The Chief of Staff progressed to a higher position and the SGA Treasurer progressed to a fantastic internship. Sounds like progression to me!

Last time I checked, the SGA President, Vice President and Secretary are still here, working hard to continue to "Enhance the total student experience."

Leif Erikson Day is Oct. 9, get serious.

Thanks for telling me how to view past articles. I guess my browser is faulty. It doesn't show any drop down menus; thankfully we have computer labs, and they work!

A car hit me for the first time yesterday...

Stewart, Colbert Nations alive and well for viewers

How much influence do these comedians really have?

JONATHAN GARDNER
OPINION WRITER

Monday through Thursday, millions of television viewers turn their sets to Comedy Central to watch a late-night hour of "fake" satirical news. "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," and it's "right wing" counterpart, "The Colbert Report" have quickly become two of Comedy Central's top-rated shows, fighting over the number one spot with "South Park." And while the two shows spend their timeslot bringing humor to the headlines, not everyone is laughing. Many believe that Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert are corrupting today's youth, leaving them uninformed about politics and uninformed about the media. Do these two comedians really leave their audience in the dark, or is there something more than meets the eye?

A campaign has spread across the US, mostly by way of the Internet, to have a Stewart/Colbert office in 2008. By way of bumper stickers, T-shirts, and even a stewartcolbert08.com Web site, people everywhere are showing their support of the duo. According to an MSNBC interview with Jon Stewart, the campaign is for naught. The comedian stated that he has no intention of running for office, but says that the campaign is "a real sign of how sad people are" with the government. But do his supporters think the same way? Are they in real support of a Stewart/Colbert in 2008, or are they expressing discontent with the government?

A similar question applies to the viewers of the show. Do they take "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" as legitimate news sources, or as a comedy show on a comedy channel? Well, this all depends on whether the two shows could be taken as a legitimate news source or not. According to research done by the University of Pennsylvania, during the 2004 elections, viewers who watched "The Daily Show" were more informed about the election than those who watched other late-night talk shows, such as "David Letterman" and "Jay Leno." The research also showed that viewers of "Jon Stewart" were more informed than some who watched "ABC News," CBS and NBC.

Personally, I see "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" as a filter for news. They're quick, 30-minute programs that get straight to the important news, while adding humor to it. So instead of wading through news about celebrity break-ups, or an ongoing fight between Donald Trump and Rosie O'Donnell, I get the big stories right away. Then, if the story interests me, I'll get on CNN's Web site to get a detailed look. The two shows also report on subjects that other news programs normally wouldn't touch. If there's something important going on in the Senate, Stewart and Colbert will report on it, but they'll also mention the Senator who's doing a crossword puzzle on the Senate floor.

Do "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" corrupt the viewers when it comes to politics? That depends on your definition of corruption. They make their viewers more aware of international politics, while at the same time, making them more likely to question national politics. They ask the questions that need to be asked, but rarely give the entire story. On their own, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert are harmless. They're comedians who poke fun at politics. The problem lies with those who don't see them as comedians, but see them as political figureheads.

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Pulse

{ Pirate Buzz }

Horoscopes:

Aries
Curtail your imagination long enough to be practical. Outrageous schemes are much more interesting if they're bringing in money.

Taurus
Conditions are excellent now for long-range planning. You can even successfully venture outside your comfort zone. Be bold, chances are you'll get just what you've been searching for.

Gemini
New assignment: get your financial affairs in order again. Tidy up the book work so you know what you have and how much more you can get.

Cancer
The person you've been training is just about ready to take over. Sit back and watch the performance, and provide encouragement.

Leo
Focus on your work and get as much done as you can.

Virgo
You're very lucky now, so go ahead and take a risk. Move quickly and acquire something you've wanted for ages.

Libra
A family meeting is helpful, to know what the others want. Compromise will be necessary.

Scorpio
You're on a quest to find the best, and your odds of success are great. Do the research with passion and determination and be the first to the buried treasure.

Sagittarius
Indications are that you're receiving a lot of money. This does not appear to be from the lottery. It's more likely that you cash in something at home of value.

Capricorn
You have a natural talent for doing business, as you may know. Now's a good time to launch that idea you've been thinking about.

Aquarius
There's a thin line between having prophetic imagination and being crazy. Basically, it has to do with whether you can build the thing. Back to the drawing board to try again.

Pisces
Get involved with a group who are passionate about taking care of business. Let them teach you how to make the most of what you have.

Recipe for the Best Hot Chocolate:

1 pint milk
2 tablespoons of the best hot chocolate powder
A handful of marshmallows

Firstly, put a pan of milk on to the heat. Bring to a simmer, not a boil, and while it's heating, put a tablespoon of chocolate powder into each mug. Add a little warm milk from the pan to each mug; you just need enough to dissolve the chocolate powder. At this point, plonk a few marshmallows into each mug. When the milk is at a simmer, carefully pour it into a plastic jug or flask. Screw the lid on tightly, place a cloth over the lid for safety, and shake hard for a minute. Remove the lid, minding the steam, and pour into your mugs. A little stir and you can slurp your way to heaven!

embracing diversity

'Expressions' Magazine offers something for everyone

ELISE PHILLIPS
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

All over ECU's campus, students can find purple bins full of *The East Carolinian, The New York Times, The Daily Reflector* and *The News & Observer.* They can also find something else, a publication that is often overlooked: *Expressions* Magazine.

Expressions has been making students' voices heard at ECU for almost two decades. The magazine is entirely student-run and targeted towards students who feel left out by the mainstream media.

The staff at *Expressions* considers these students the "minority," and aims to promote diversity on campus. This "minority" may include students from a certain racial group, but also non-traditional groups such as the physically handicapped, veterans or international students as well.

The staff of the magazine has grown tremendously since its beginnings in the late 1980s. It is a mixture of students from all races and religions, reflecting the magazine's goal of promoting diversity.

Expressions is published two times each semester, and covers topics like gender and racism, along with other political, social and economic issues.

These topics are discussed in poems, short stories, reflections or interviews, and the magazine is a compilation of these writings.

The upcoming issue, which is set to be released within the next few weeks, will be entitled "Expressions in Progress," and will discuss political, racial and diversity topics as they have progressed throughout the years.

Even though *Expressions* publishes hot subjects like these in a fresh, young way, many students at ECU do not pick up a copy of the magazine on their way out of class or on the way to the dining hall.

Guillaume Bagal, *Expressions* General Manager, thinks that many students have the wrong idea about the magazine.

"People don't read [*Expressions*] a lot, but when they do, they love it. I think that when people think "minority" publication they think of it as a racial term, and it's not. It's about diversity," said Bagal.

Bagal got involved with the magazine when he was a freshman, as an assignment in his English 1200 class. A biology major, he had no idea that he wanted to write. When invited to write for *Expressions*, he gladly accepted. Now a junior, Bagal loves working at the magazine.

"Look at me, I'm a biology major and I love working at this magazine. It's one of the best things that has happened to me at ECU," Bagal said.

Any student at ECU who has something to say can contribute to *Expressions.* Those who are interested in contributing can do so through the magazine's official Web site at expressions.ecu.edu.

Bagal and the *Expressions* staff hope that students will understand that the magazine is about student's self-expression, not about a certain race, color, or religion. They are always excited about a new point of view or a fresh outlook on different topics.

"After all," Bagal says, "we're all a minority really."

The heart of *Expressions* beats to a rhythm that appreciates diversity and embraces differences in a quest to better the world through knowledge, and in turn understanding.

This writer can be contacted at pulse@theeastcarolinian.com.

Around Town: Bumperz moves into downtown area

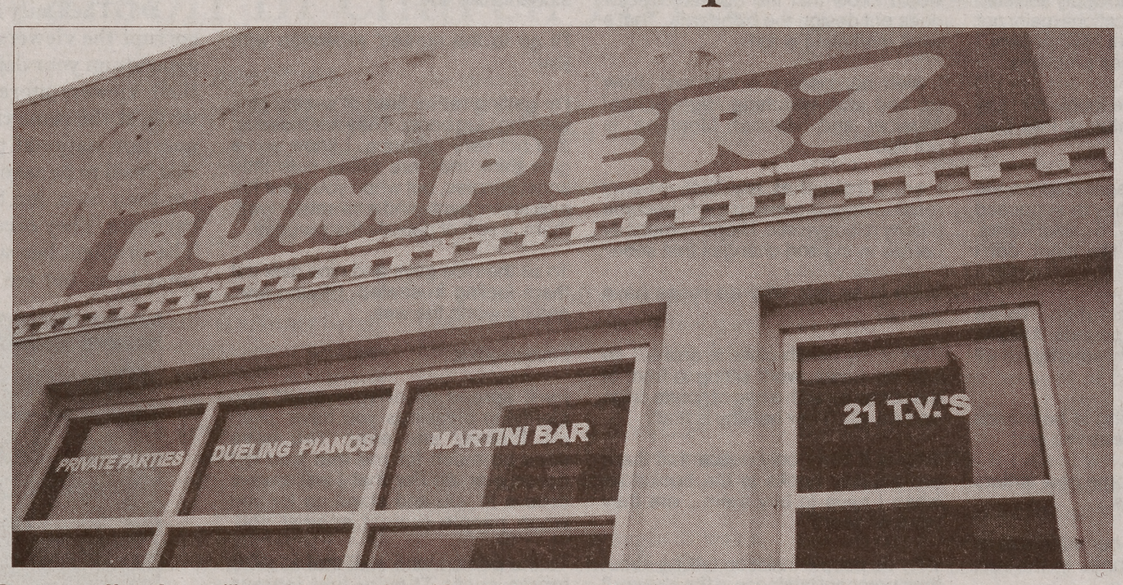


Photo by Lizz Wells

Bumperz offers Greenville residents a piece of night life as well as a tasty dining experience to be enjoyed by all.

A new hot spot invades Greenville

JESSICA DUNLOW
STAFF WRITER

There is no permanent sign in front of the newest hot spot in Greenville. Saturday, Jan. 13 marked the grand opening of Bumperz, located in the former Café Caribe building, another asset to the Greenville downtown scene.

Bumperz opened its doors in early November as a sports bar that quickly turned into a hip social club at night. Business boomed thanks to the advertised free admission for the first few nights, and word of mouth brought out even more socialites.

While the nightclub was expanding, owner Tony Stone and his crew began putting together a menu to provide traditional American cuisine. Thus, December 2006 marked the official opening of Bumperz "the restaurant."

Servers were hired and the first couple of weeks were slow for business, but like every new restaurant, the secret of Bumperz's food has erupted.

"The boneless buffalo chicken wings are killer," said Wendi Williamson.

The philly cheese steak also caught the attention of Williamson, who does not like these sandwiches normally. However, the cooking staff at Bumperz has her convinced that they are not so bad after all.

After sampling numerous items on the menu my personal favorite is definitely the chicken and cheese wrap with onion rings. It is a simple dish that can easily be screwed up, but at Bumperz it is flawless.

At 10 p.m., the lights go down in Bumperz. Two beer stations are opened and stocked full of eight domestic and nine imported beers. Cocktail servers arrive, and at least two bartenders are ready for action.

At Bumperz, every night of the week is special. Mondays is sports night, with $1 drafts. Tuesday is Martini Night, which houses the special "Nip/Tuck" shot. Formulated at Bumperz by the specialty bartenders, the recipe remains a secret. Wednesday is Karaoke night with $1.50 Budweiser.

Tiki Night resides on Thursday with one of the specials being the $3 Blue Hawaiian. Friday is Bomb night with $4.50 Jaeger bombs. Saturday is just that regular clubbing, all-you-can-dance night so to speak, in which the bar picks a shooter for $3. Sunday, my personal favorite, is Salsa night with $3.50 margaritas!

Bumperz has only begun to take over Downtown Greenville, and the forecast is good for the crew. However, when planning to visit Bumperz one night, remember to dress respectably.

The bouncers and owners reserve the right to refuse service to those dressed in offensive or less-than-tasteful outfits. Therefore be sensible, do not go out wearing overly baggy clothes that you could stash weapons in or clothes that just do not fit.

Overall Stone and his crew have provided downtown Greenville with a hangout that is sure to please those from all walks of life. No matter what your pleasure you can find great eats, cool drinks and a bumpin' good time at Bumperz.

This writer can be contacted at pulse@theeastcarolinian.com.

Students prepare to take the plunge into icy waters

Photo by Terrell Gordy

The SRC hopes to draw at least 500 jumpers to their Polar Bear Plunge.

Annual Polar Bear Plunge draws near

KORRI-LEE SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Now that we're officially in the winter season, it is certain that there are some people already longing to return to the warm beaches and pools of summer. Well, fortunately there is an alternative.

The event, which began in 1997 as part of the grand opening festivities for the Student Recreation Center is now held annually at the outdoor pool located at the SRC.

Since it's humble beginnings in 1997 when only 35 students participated in the event, the number of jumpers increased to an astounding 467 last year. This year the goal is to break over 500 jumpers.

Although it has been fairly warm this January, do not hope to catch a break at the plunge. Staff members of the event have been known to dump huge bins of ice into the pool for added frostiness.

This year's big day will be held Thursday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. Registration for the event will be held prior to the event at 6:45 p.m. The plunge will be conducted in groups of 30 students at a time, on a first come first serve basis.

"Stephen Gray, a long time staff member in the Division of Student Life, will serve as "Papa Bear" and lead the jumpers into the water for each group," said David Gaskins, associate director of the SRC.

Those debating on whether or not to attend may be persuaded by a few small incentives.

The first 500 jumpers will receive T-shirts after their icy plunge.

"At the conclusion of the jump, food will be available in the SRC Concourse and prize drawings will be conducted. The grand prize this year is a $250 Best Buy gift card," said Gaskins.

Another bonus to the jump is that those students interested in kayaking or canoeing will get a chance to experience it first hand thanks to a demonstration that will be set up inside of the indoor pool at the SRC.

Students, faculty and staff are given the opportunity to dive into the icy waters this year thanks to sponsorship by Campus Recreation & Wellness, University Unions/ Mendenhall Student Center and Campus Living & Dining.

Don't be one of the few left out of this exhilarating icy adventure. The cold may not sound too appealing right now, but the excitement of such an accomplishment will warm you right back up.

This writer can be contacted at pulse@theeastcarolinian.com.

Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BRIEFS

ECU set to play 500th game at Minges tonight

(SID) — Tonight, ECU will host Conference USA rival Tulane in the 500th game played at Minges Coliseum. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. EST. In recognition of this historical game, the ECU Athletic Department is selling tickets to the first 500 patrons Wednesday night for only $5. Tickets can also be purchased in advanced for the same price by ordering on-line at ecupirates.com.

The doors to Minges Coliseum first opened in 1967 and the first game was played against St. Peter's on Dec. 1. Although it lost the first game played, ECU has won nearly 66 percent of its home games since, posting a record of 328-171. Constructed at a cost of $2 million, Minges Coliseum was dedicated on Jan. 27, 1968 in the name of the Minges family of Greenville.

After 27 years of basketball, Minges Coliseum got a facelift prior to the 1994-95 season. The renovations totaled nearly $12 million and made it one of the finest facilities in the country. The Pirates are 107-61 at home since the upgrades were made to the facility.

Following the renovations, the building was formally named Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum in honor and recognition of Walter and Marie Williams for their support of Pirate athletics.

Icenhower Named Conference USA Diver-of-the-Week

(SID) — ECU junior Christie Icenhower has been named this week's Conference USA Diver-of-the-Week. Icenhower set an ECU record on the three-meter board against UNC-Wilmington with a score of 332.40 and also won the one-meter board. Icenhower set the ECU varsity record on the three-meter board with a score of 332.40, breaking her own school record of 296.10 also set against UNC-Wilmington in 2005, to help lead the Pirates to a 158-85 win over UNCW on Sunday. She also claimed top honors on the one-meter board with a score of 263.70. The junior earned a first-place finish on the three-meter board against Virginia Tech on Saturday with a score of 276.07.

Pirate Radio announces Blackout Weekend Jan. 19-20

Pirate Radio 1250 & 930 "The Voice of the Pirate Nation," announces its first ever black "Arrrrrrgh" T-shirt promotion. 4,000 black "Arrrrrrgh" T-shirts will be available at UBE beginning Friday, Jan. 12 for $5. $1 from every T-shirt sold will be donated to the ECU Pirate Club.

Pirate Radio is encouraging the Pirate Nation to create a "Blackout" by asking all fans to wear black to the ECU Club Hockey Game on Friday, Jan. 19 vs. Appalachian State Mountaineers and to the Saturday, Jan. 20 ECU Basketball game vs. Memphis. The ECU Club Hockey game will be at Bladez on Ice on Red Banks Road in Greenville and is scheduled to start at 9:30 p.m. The ECU basketball game is at Minges Coliseum and is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

"The Pirate Nation is what we are all about, and this is a way we can give back to the program by providing fans a great looking shirt, and raising $4,000 dollars for the ECU Pirate Club, everybody wins!" said Troy Dreyfus co-owner of Pirate Radio 1250 & 930.

SPORTS TALK

Log on to theeastcarolinian.com/messageboard/ to post your response on the Sports Talk message board.

With both Duke (14-3, 1-2 ACC) and North Carolina (15-2, 2-1 ACC) falling to Virginia Tech (13-4, 3-0 ACC) in an eight-day span, who is now the class of the ACC?

Don't forget Boston College (13-4, 5-0 ACC) sits in first place in the conference, but has lost to lowly out of conference opponents Vermont, Providence and Duquesne.

Also, Clemson (17-1, 3-1 ACC) was undefeated until losing to Maryland on the road, but has only two truly impressive wins (at Old Dominion and against Georgia Tech)

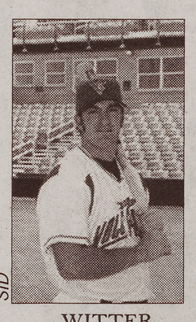
North Carolina's two losses were on the road by single digits to Gonzaga (who are almost impossible to beat at home) and Virginia Tech. Finally, up to this point Duke has played one of the toughest schedules in the country, with notable wins over Georgetown and Indiana at Cameron and on the road at Gonzaga

Pirates searching for offensive power

ECU looks to replace void left by Smith and Witter

RONNIE WOODWARD
STAFF WRITER

The ECU baseball team hit 58 home runs last year; Adam Witter and Jake Smith hit 27 of them.



SID

WITTER

Witter and Smith are now playing professional baseball and the current ECU team will have to fill the void left by the two departed power hitters. Head coach Billy Godwin is looking for some of the upperclassmen to do so.

"I really think we have some older guys who are going to step up and swing the bat for power," said Godwin after a recent practice.

One of the leading candidates to provide offensive power figures is senior Ryan Tousley. Tousley played his freshman and sophomore seasons at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kan. prior to transferring to ECU. At JCCC, Tousley hit .356, smashing 10 home runs and 79 RBIs. Tousley tallied six home runs and 29 RBIs last season in his first season at ECU, emerging late in the season and becoming one of the Pirates more consistent hitters down the stretch.

Tousley was used mainly as a designated hitter last season, but could see increased playing time as an outfielder this year.

"He's been practicing very well in the outfield," Godwin said. "He's a candidate to come out every day and play in the outfield or DH for us, so we'll use him at both positions. We certainly feel like we need his bat in every game and he needs to be somewhere in the middle of the lineup for us."

Godwin was quick to point out that Smith and Witter didn't put up huge home run and RBI numbers until late in their respective careers, which looks good for Tousley and fellow junior college transfer, Jake Dean, as they enter their respective senior seasons as ECU Pirates.

The Pirates do return other hitters who boast impressive offensive statistics from last season. Junior Harrison Eldridge, who will probably be the Pirates leadoff hitter, and sophomore Stephen Batts each batted .336 last season. Godwin also said he expects sophomore Brandon Henderson to continue to improve after an impressive freshman campaign. Henderson, an Alpharetta, Ga. native, batted .326 with a .500 slugging percentage in just 132 at-bats in 2006. His most impressive feat came in mid-April when he had eight hits in eight consecutive at-bats and reached base safely 10 consecutive times. This earned him the Conference USA Hitter-of-the-Week and *College Baseball Foundation's* National Honor Roll honors for his hitting performance.

"We have some guys who have the potential to hit 10 or more home runs this year," the Pirates second-year Head Coach said. "Jake Dean, Ryan Tousley, Stephen Batts, Brandon Henderson; all of those guys have that power potential."

The Pirate pitchers also have full confidence in the team's ability to hit, despite the loss of Witter and Smith.

"I think pitching can definitely be a strength for this team, but we're going to hit the ball too," said Pirate closer Shane Mathews.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

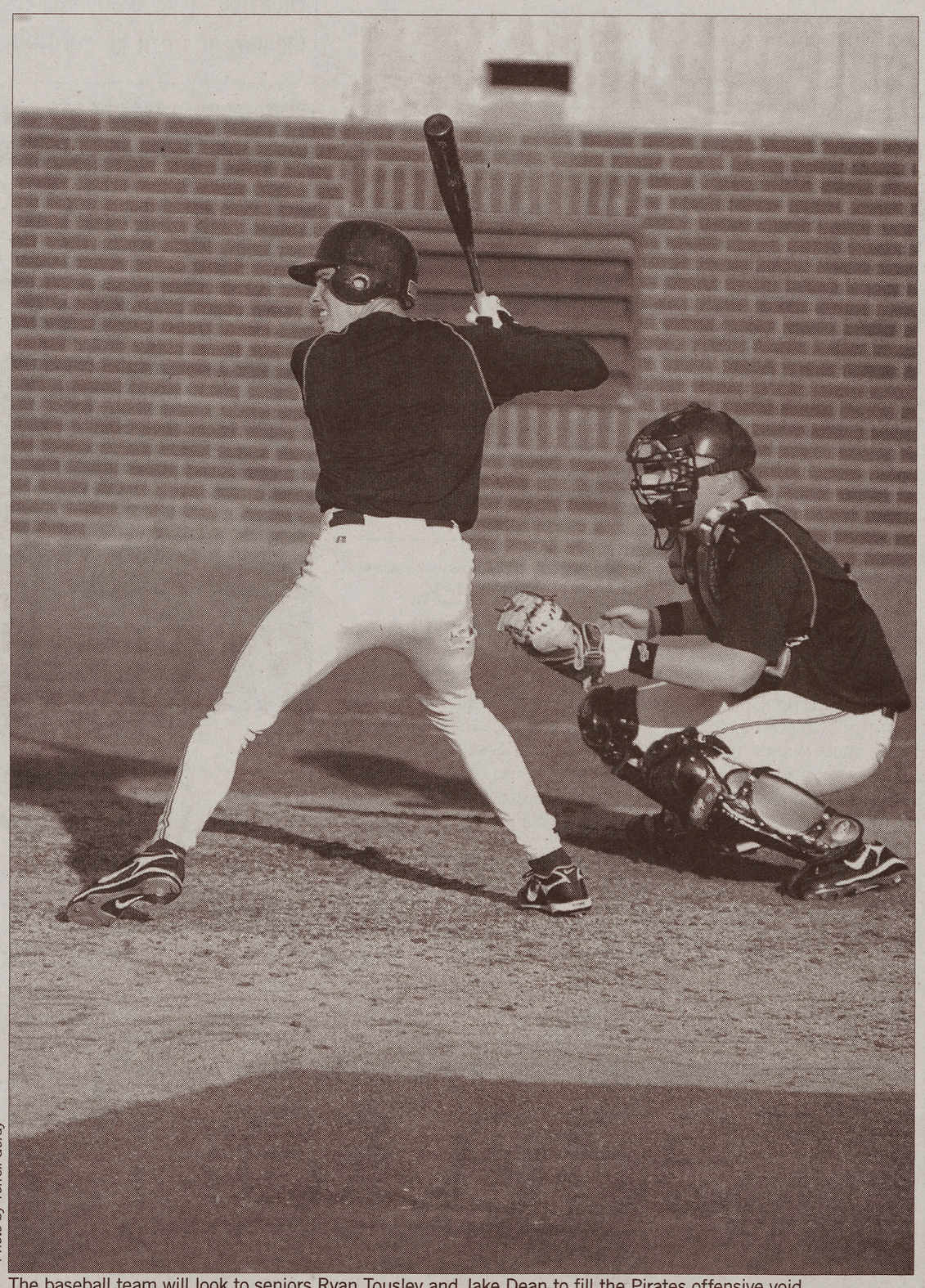


Photo by Terrell Gordy

The baseball team will look to seniors Ryan Tousley and Jake Dean to fill the Pirates offensive void.

ECU loses first home C-USA game

Pirates have worst shooting night of season

BENJAMIN LLOYD
SENIOR WRITER

Even at home the Pirate Basketball team seems to struggle. Saturday night's loss against Rice, 64-47, shows that the Pirates still have some growing up to do. Rice is now 8-7 overall and 2-0 in C-USA games while ECU is 5-10 overall and now 0-2 in C-USA play.

Rice dominated the first half of play only allowing ECU to shoot 16.1 percent from the floor. It wasn't as though Rice's defense was too much for the Pirates, but that ECU couldn't hit an open shot. The Pirates went 5-31 in the first half and only scored 18 points, mainly because of Senior Courtney Captain who put up 12 points in the first half.

Coach Ricky Stokes has said about the loss, "For us to be successful, we are going to have to have more than one guy to have a good shooting night. This is a young team trying to find its way. We'll have to continue to work, and continue getting better. For the most part, I think we had some good shots, and we'll try to come back Wednesday."

Captain scored the Pirates' first 10 points and was one of only two Pirates to make a field goal in the first half. Rice's Center Greg Killing's lay-up started a 10-0 spurt over a four-minute stretch snapping a 10-10 tie and giving the Owls a 10-point lead, 20-10, midway through the first half.

During the first half ECU struggled while taking the ball in the lane and feeding it to their forwards. ECU's big men only scored two points in the first half.

With 3:16 remaining until half time, Rice's Lorenzo Williams sank a pair of free throws to push the Rice lead to 16, 32-16.

ECU definitely needed some pick me up at half time from Coach Stokes. Courtney Captain has said, "He pretty much just told us to keep playing, because the last five minutes of the first half we played good D. He told us to just keep taking the shots and eventually they will fall."

The second half started with Rice's Chris Hagan lay up to give Rice a 21-point lead. The tides quickly turned when Captain sank two 3-pointers and Junior Darrell Jenkins hit another on the next possession to bring Rice's lead to 14 with 15:49 left in the game.

Rice would then take the helm back and go on an 18-7 run to give the Owls a 25-point lead. ECU's play in the second half was much better as they hit five more three pointers and got the ball inside to Gabe Blair and towards the end of the game to Taylor Gagnon, for 14 points in the paint.

ECU's main concern for the night on defense was stopping Rice's Senior Morris Almond, who is known for his proficient shooting abilities and is the second leading scorer in the nation with 28.8 points per game. During the game Almond went 5-15 from the floor and hit 5-7 from 3-point land, which game him 18 points on the night and he also pulled down 10 rebounds for a double-double. Rice's other dominate player was Guard Lorenzo Williams who put up 17 points at the close, had five assists, and two steals.

ECU's freshman forward John Fields pulled down 13 rebounds, although he didn't score, his inside presence is starting to speak for itself. Junior Darrell Jenkins had six assists for the night and only six points.

ECU had its lowest shooting percent for the season with 26.7 percent on the night. Senior Courtney Captain said after the game, "We can't just sit here and just dwell on the losses, because obviously you can't get those back. So at twelve o'clock we just put those to bed and the next day just get ready for the next game."

Freshman guard James Dillard spoke about the loss and had to say, "We have to take what worked in this game and apply it to the next game. We are always thinking about how to improve one game to the next."

ECU's next game will be Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Minges Coliseum against Tulane. The tip-off will be at 7 p.m.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

Pirates run past Rice, 74-60

Lauren Cochran records first career double-double in the win

(SID) — The ECU women's basketball team disposed of Rice 74-60 Sunday afternoon at Minges Coliseum in Conference USA action. The Pirates improve to 8-10, 3-2 in C-USA play while the Owls fall to 9-9, 2-3 in league play. The win marks the first-ever for a Pirate basketball team over Rice, who is now in its second year in Conference USA.

After a Rice basket to open the game, a LaCoya Terry jumper tied the game, 2-2, with a minute and a half expired. The Owls took control on a three point play by Valeriy Berezhynska with 18:27 on the clock. Jessica Slack's jumper at the 14:48 mark cut the Rice lead to four, 10-6. Tiffany Loggins layup at the 14:40 mark started an 14-1 Rice run, extending the Owls lead to 17, with under 10 minutes to play in the half. The Pirates, sparked by a Terry jumper, went on a 12-0 run to cut the Rice lead to five, 24-19, with just 4:22 remaining. Krystal Frazier's three-pointer ended a five minute Owl scoring drought, extending their lead to eight, 27-19, with four minutes to play. A three point play by Gabriela Husarova and a jumper by Jasmine Young cut the lead to three, 27-24, with 2:37 on the clock, but another Frazier trey extended the Rice lead back out to six. Slack's three-pointer on the next possession pulled ECU back to within three, but Tara Watts' three-pointer put the Owls back up six with under two to play. A free throw and a three pointer by Young cut the Rice lead to just two with 38.6 seconds to play in the opening half. A pair of Nicole Days free throws with 10.9 on the clock tied the game at 33 a piece, but a Berezhynska free throw with 8.6 on the clock gave the Owls the slim 34-33 lead at the break.

Photo by Terrell Gordy

Shana Franks, 5-foot, 9-inch freshman guard from Wilmington, N.C., looks for an easy feed inside against Rice.

Frazier led all scorers at the break with 16, including four three-pointers. Terry led the Pirates with nine points and five rebounds while Young chipped in with eight points and three assists. Rice shot 48.1 percent compared to ECU's 32.5 from the field.

The Pirates opened the half just like they ended the first, going on a 6-2 run to open the second half taking their first lead of the game on a Days layup, giving ECU the 39-36 advantage with 18:37 to play. Rice's Samantha Stovall hit a jumper at the 18:10 mark to pull the Owls to within one, 39-38, but the Pirates put together another scoring spurt, this time a 10-2 run over the next four minutes, taking the 49-40 lead with 14:21 to play. Berezhynska's free throws with 13:32 on the clock cut ECU's lead to seven, 49-42, but a three point play by Shana Franks on the next possession gave the Pirates the ten point, 52-42 lead, their largest advantage of the game, with 13:25 to play. Terry's jumper with 10:03 to play increased ECU's lead to 12, 58-46, but a trey by Watts on the next possession cut the Pirate lead to nine, 58-49, with 9:53 remaining in the game. After a pair of free throws by Franks, Rice's Frazier connected on a three point play to get the Owls within eight once again, this time at 60-52 with nine minutes on the clock.

After a two and a half minute scoring drought by both teams, a free throw and a three pointer by Watts cut the ECU lead to six with 6:10 on the clock. Cochran's free throw's with 3:21 to play extended the Pirates lead to 11, 69-58, and her layup at the 2:49 mark gave ECU the 13 point lead, at 71-58. Young's free throws with a minute to play gave the Pirates their largest lead of the game, 15, at 73-58. ECU would cruise to the 74-60 victory.

Rice's Frazier led all scorers with 21 points while Watts added 10. For ECU, Terry led the way with 18 points, seven assists and eight rebounds. Cochran tallied a career-high in points and rebounds with 14 and 10 for her first career double-double. Young also scored in double figures for ECU, with 13, adding a career-high eight assists and seven rebounds. Franks tallied a personal best nine points and four rebounds in 19 minutes off the bench.

The Pirates, who were without Cherie Mills, Impris Manning and Alicia Person due to a team violation, pulled down a season-high 55 rebounds, including 23 offensive boards.

ECU will hit the road for three straight road games, traveling to Birmingham, Ala. for a Thursday evening tilt at UAB. The Pirates will travel to Memphis to face the Tigers Saturday afternoon.

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GREEK PERSONALS

Alpha Delta Pi will be holding a Meet and Greet on Tuesday, January 23, 2007. If you are interested in Greek Life come by the ADPi house between 5pm and 8pm. Call for Rides 758-5447. Hope to see you there!

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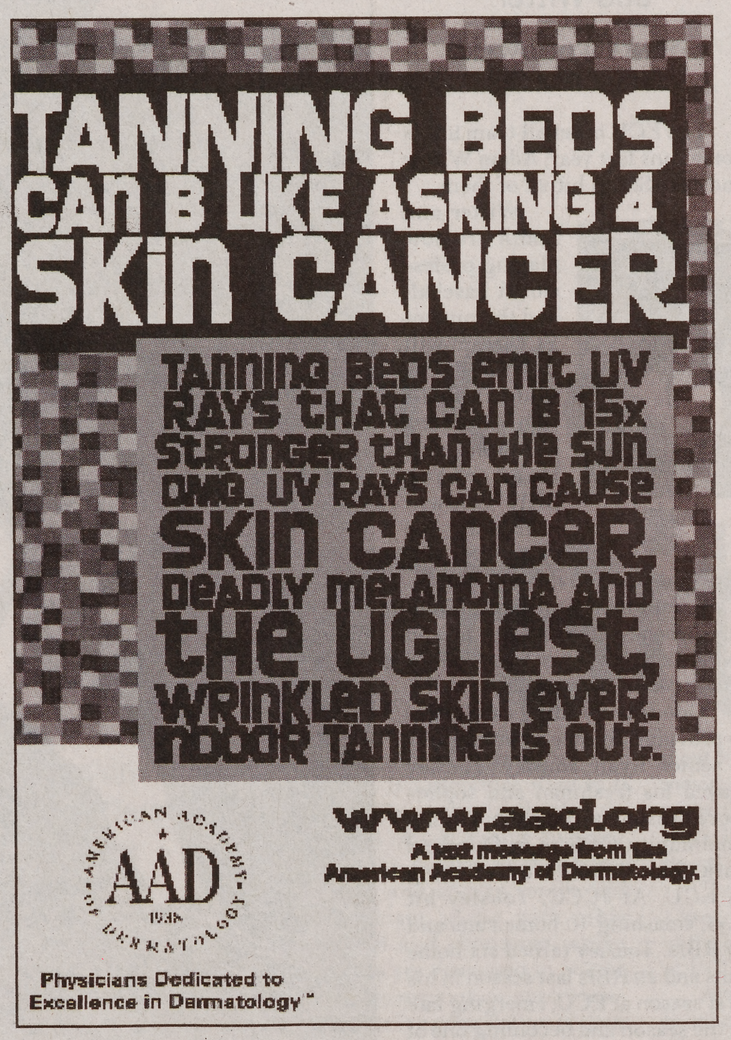

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ACROSS
1 Draw a bead on
6 Grizzly nail
10 Crib cry
14 Humiliate
15 Rhine feeder
16 Basics
17 Stubble cutter
18 Dunderhead
20 Added in front, as a title
22 York Peppermint
23 Old hand
24 Egypt and Syr., once
25 Zany Caesar
26 Talked idly
30 Some NCOs
32 Diarist Nin
33 Make it, but just barely
37 Spill the beans
38 Turns, as milk
39 Director Kazan
40 Sharp mind, figuratively
42 Deadpan
43 Fathered
44 "Citizen Kane" director
45 Be overdrawn
48 Make imperfect
49 __ Mahal
50 Cyndi Lauper hit
52 Munitions collections
57 Lockheed Martin's industry
59 Gosh, will you look at that!
60 Silver-tongued
61 Ms. Bombeck
62 Related maternally
63 __ out (barely manages)
64 Weight-loss plan
65 Productive hen

DOWN
1 Seniors' org.
2 Building beam
3 Pencil puzzle
4 Dating from
5 Flourishes
6 Military student
7 Extol
8 Appendage
9 Internet sites
10 Distiller's grain
11 Borders on
12 1202, classically
13 Invited
19 Montmartre menu
21 Crossed (out)
24 Overthrow
26 Thugs' guns
27 Henry Gray subj.
28 Cotton bundle
29 Two-wheelers
30 Cleerleaders' group
31 Longtime Cleveland Orchestra director
33 More tender
34 Carrier to Israel
35 Hops stem
36 Chatters on
38 Hard up for cash
41 Prom vehicles
42 Cover with gems
44 Existed
45 Missouri feeder
46 Marine snail
47 Creepy
49 Actor Williams
51 Short hairdos
52 High point
53 Nine: pref.
54 Out of town
55 Dieter's word
56 Tarot reader
58 Jackie's second

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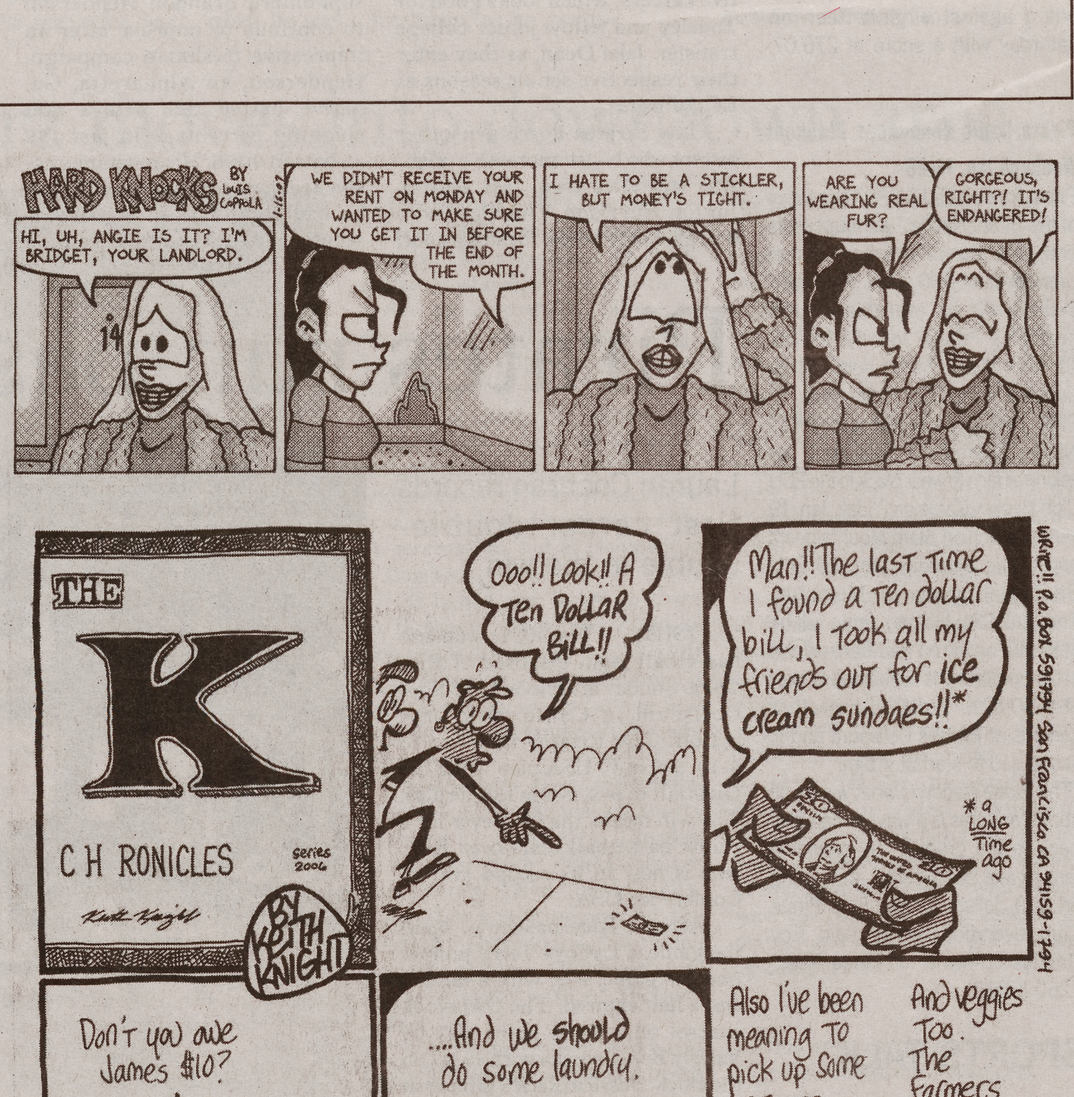
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