The EastCarolinian

SUPER BINGO FOR THE SUPER BOWL...A10

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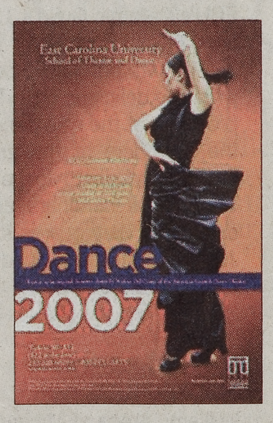
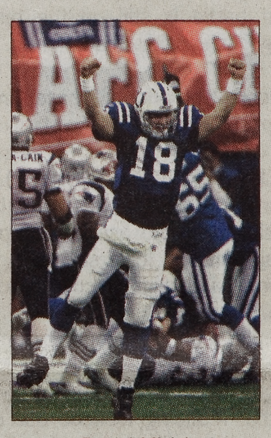
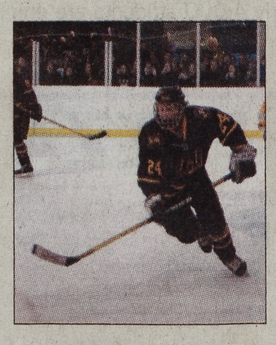


Dance 2007 is being performed in McGinnis Theatre. Check out the Pulse section to read more about the performance...**Page A4**

Grab some popcorn and get ready for a season of great flicks and disastrous disappointments. Find out more.....**Page A4**



Super Bowl XLI is fast approaching. Is it Peyton Manning's time to shine, or are the Chicago Bears going to do the Super Bowl Shuffle? For the official preview of the "big game," turn to.....**Page A7**



The ECU club ice hockey team might not be playing in the "big game," but they will be competing in the most important tournament in the club's young history this weekend. Read more.....**Page A7**

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Test your skills at SuDoKu.....**Page A10**

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Grading appeals process gets revamped

Committee revises the process

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

The grading appeals committee is working on revising the way grades will be changed if a student feels that the grade they were given was unjust.

Jon Massachi, speaker of the Congress and Grading Appeals committee, said that the current grading appeals process leaves the decision of the grade up to the professor.

According to section 5: Academic Regulations, in the 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog, the final decision shall rest with the faculty member responsible for the course grade.

The previous process involved the departmental chairperson, school director and dean of the college reviewing the appeal made by the student.

According to Massachi, one of the changes that has been suggested is establishing a committee of three students and three professors to make appeals decisions.

"If there's a grade appeals committee rather than an instructor or professor being the sole determining person, I think the student would feel that it is a more equitable process," said Marilyn Sheerer, vice chancellor of student life.

The committee of students and professors would be one of the later steps of appealing the grade if the new process is approved.

"The first option we would want students to make is to talk to the professor or the dean of the college before it goes to the forum of people," said Massachi.

Other ideas for the revisions include the students being required to sign a FERPA, a form that discloses the student's attendance and grades for the class.

To decide what changes should be made to the process, students on the committee brainstormed ideas and looked at the grading appeals process of other universities.

Sheerer said the changes were strongly needed.

"At other universities where I've worked, there is a Grade Appeals Committee," she said.

Massachi believes that the grade appeals process is vital.

"I think it's greatly needed because I feel like there's a lot of students that feel like they were unfairly treated by their professors," Massachi said.

Sheerer said that this is a very important issue that should be addressed by students and commends the student leaders who have been working on the process.

"The faculty needs to listen closely to the students' concerns, and students need to advocate responsibly for a change if it is needed," Sheerer said.

According to Sheerer, the faculty may resist the new changes to the process because it represents a very different approach than the previous process.

Sheerer proposed the idea to change the grading appeals process to Massachi in October. The idea was quickly set into gear after it was proposed.

Members of the committee have been working on these changes since the fall semester Zwhen the idea was first proposed by Sheerer. The first committee meeting was held on the first week of the spring semester. The meetings are held every Tuesday in Mendenhall.

Members of the committee voluntarily participate in this process. Anyone is welcome to become a member of the grading appeals committee.

The committee still has to get the new ideas approved on a few levels before the current process is terminated and the new process takes effect.

According to Massachi, the process has to be approved by the SGA congress and then presented to the faculty senate for approval.

"We are going to try to move to the second step of the process by February and it will hopefully take effect by the fall semester," Massachi said.

The committee is also looking for examples of students who knew that their grades needed to be appealed but weren't. The examples will be used as a reference to what happened in the past so the committee can make the appropriate changes.

Students who have examples like this should send their examples to Massachi's e-mail at SGASpeaker@ecu.edu or call him at 328-4051.

To find out more about the grading appeals process you can also contact Massachi at 328-4742 or visit the SGA Web site at ecu.edu/sga.

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

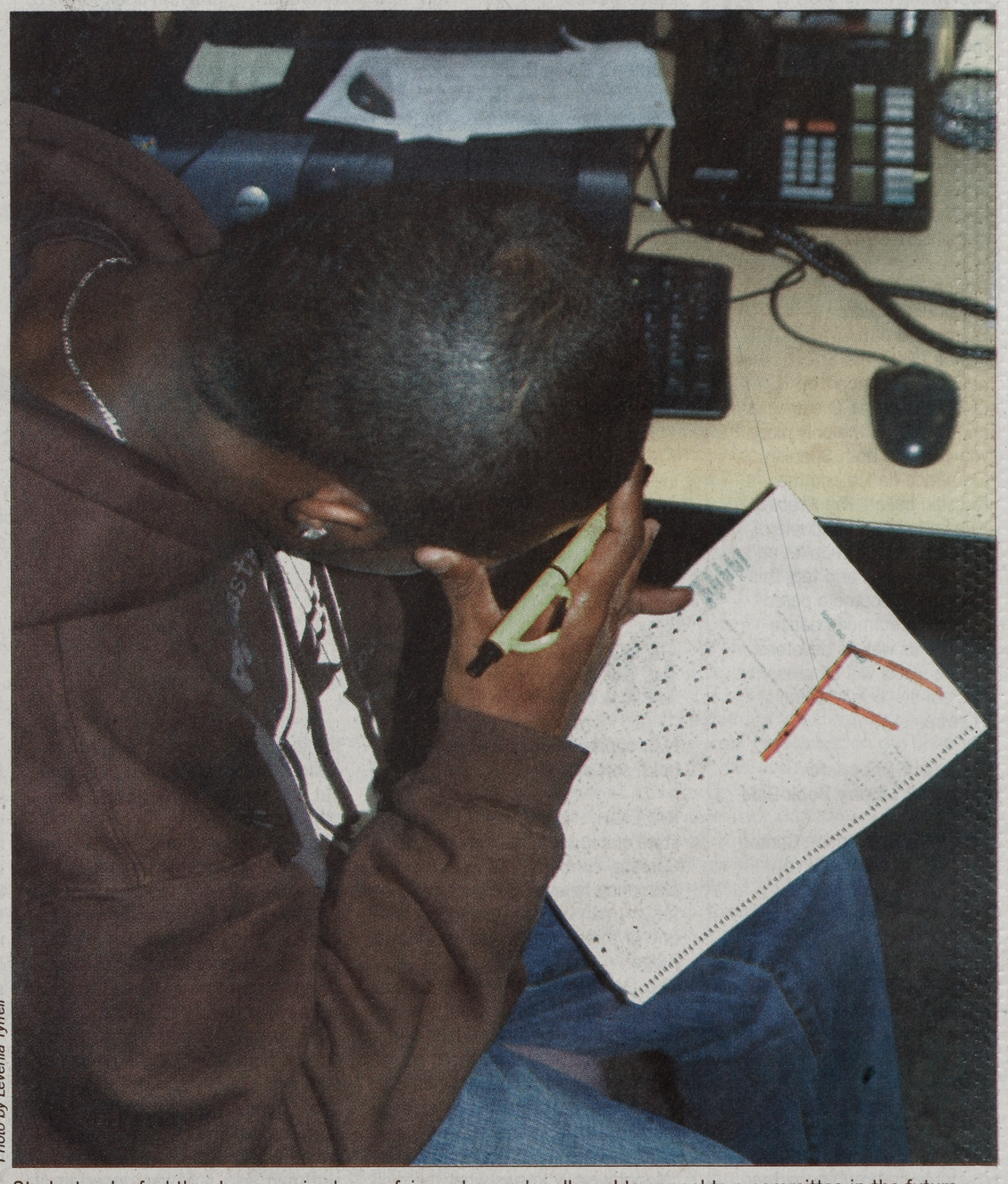

Photo by Levenia Tyrrell

Students who feel they have received an unfair grade may be allowed to appeal to a committee in the future.

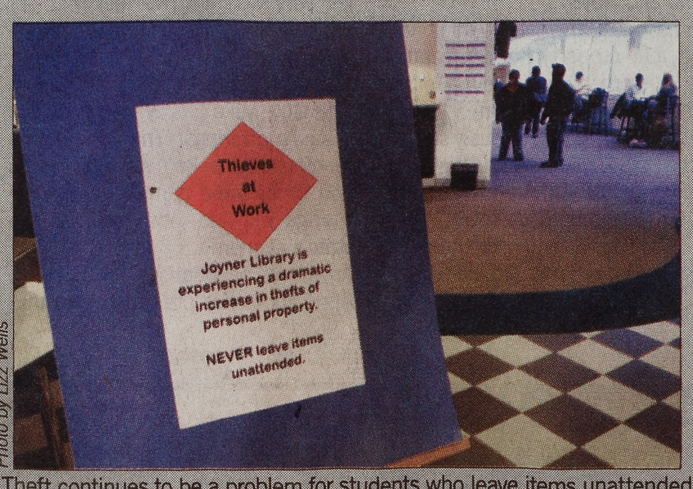

Photo by Lizz Wells

Theft continues to be a problem for students who leave items unattended.

Theft increases in Joyner Library

Reports have tripled since 2005

GENERRA CORNWELL
STAFF WRITER

Joyner Library is typically considered a place to study, do some research, surf the web or just relax and read.

Recently, there has been an increase in reported thefts.

"Within two weeks [of being back in school] there has already been a book bag and wallet stolen," said Beth Winstead, interim associate director of Administrative Services at Joyner.

"Since 2005 the reported cases of theft have almost tripled. The primary reason students items are being stolen is because they are being left unattended," said Winstead.

"Ninety-nine percent of theft cases [occur when] people are going to the bathroom," she continued.

According to Winstead, textbooks, cell phones and wallets are the most frequently stolen items.

"Textbooks are stolen especially around [book] buy back time. People don't want to lose their place [where they are studying] but instead they are losing textbooks," said Winstead. "I think the increase is because more people have laptops and cell phones."

Changes have been made in Joyner to accommodate the limited number of study rooms available to students, as well as to help keep students' belongings safe.

"We have changed some of the faculty study [rooms] to student study rooms, we have increased study space by 11 since the summer," said Winstead.

Winstead says there are some precautions that can be made to help prevent theft of personal property.

"Stay with it [your belongings] even if you are just going to the bathroom, take it with you," said Winstead. "Or if you're studying with a friend, someone needs to stay with your belongings."

Joyner has security cameras and security guards, but personal responsibility is a large factor in avoiding becoming a victim of theft says Winstead.

Students who have belongings stolen while in Joyner should notify one of the security guards. Security will then contact the ECU Police so students can file a report.

Kaniqua Outlaw, senior health education major, said she considered her belongings somewhat safe in Joyner library.

"I think my stuff is safe while in Joyner, you just have to be responsible for your own stuff and not leave it unattended," said Brent Richard, freshman sports studies major.

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

ECU contributes to N.C. Encyclopedia

Several professors, alumni provide essays

ZACK HILL
STAFF WRITER

The Encyclopedia of North Carolina, a massive work containing information about virtually every aspect of North Carolina, received several contributions from professors and alumni here at ECU.

"It's just a tremendous asset for the state," said Maury York, head of services for the North Carolina Collection.

York contributed five articles including pieces about the state library, PTAs and clock making.

Lawrence Babits, director of maritime studies, contributed articles on a variety of subjects ranging from boats to Revolutionary War battles.

"It's eclectic. It's a part of North Carolina," said Babits. "Every library should have it."

Alex Albright, associate professor of English, had essays on collards, film production in the state and the *Literary Lantern*.

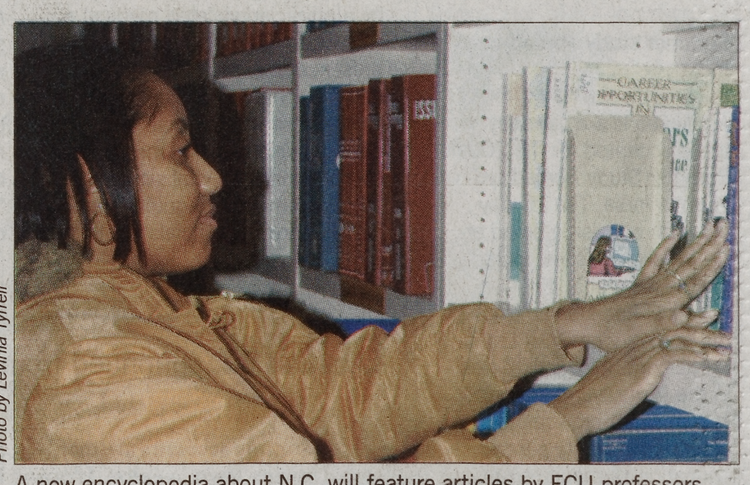

Photo by Levinia Tyrrell

A new encyclopedia about N.C. will feature articles by ECU professors.

"It's fun. It's a neat book with lots of detail and lots of variety," said Albright.

"Powell has done a lot of work and he picked a lot of people who grew up here for good reason," said Jerry Mills, visiting professor of English, in reference to the book's editor William Powell.

With articles on Hippol Castle, Chapel Hill, mules and Catawba trees, Mills tallied nine contributions.

Karin Zipf, Assistant Professor of history, wrote pieces on granges and sharecropping.

The encyclopedia is over a thousand pages long with several hundred writers providing essays.

Powell is one of North Carolina's most prestigious historians. He started the project in the early 1990s and it is the first consolidation of North Carolina information into one volume.

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

Online courses offer great experience

New Horizons courses available

ALYCIA WENDT
STAFF WRITER

More than 1,200 online computer software training classes are offered to students, faculty and staff through Information Technology and Computing Services. ITCS started New Horizons Online Training five years ago and it has come a long way.

New Horizons is an electronic library system that makes learning new computer skills interesting in a self-paced and interactive way.

The courses available train users to have a better knowledge of computer software such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. There is also a wide variety of software available in web design. According to ITCS, the most often completed course is Microsoft Excel.

"There is training available for all kinds of software programs that students need to know how to use while they are in school and after they graduate. By taking advantage of the New Horizons instruction, I can tell my future employers that I have training certifications in a lot of relevant and useful software programs," said fifth year senior Greg Harris, who has a double major in anthropology and religion, and a minor in business.

The length of the courses varies. The more in depth courses can take several weeks to complete, while a simpler course could take as little as an hour.

Most of the courses are in sections. The user can decide how many sections they want to complete, or how deep into the program they want to explore. This will determine how long the courses take to complete. Lab simulations in networking and other operating systems can include complex training.

"One of the major benefits to students is that online training provides the convenience of learning at each individual's own pace, anytime and anywhere. Whether it is in the library, their dorm room or sitting in a building on campus waiting for class to begin," said Jennifer Raby, training and communications coordinator of ITCS.

Online training is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To start an online course, submit an online New Horizons account request form at ecu.edu/itcs/webtraining.cfm. It takes three working days after an account request to receive a user ID.

see **ONLINE** page A2

NEWS

{ Campus & Community }

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tiny Art Show Submissions
Emerge Gallery & Art Center
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Emerge Gallery & Art Center announces the sixth annual Tiny Art Show!
Everything in the show is 5x7 or smaller. Works of all mediums are featured. All artwork is priced $5, $10 or $25. Anyone can enter and there is no entry fee.
Everything has to be 5x7 or smaller. For more information or for an entry form e-mail heather@emergegallery.com or call 551-6947.

Dance 2007
McGinnis Theatre
Starts at 8 p.m.
Dance 2007, the annual dance concert by ECU's School of Theatre and Dance, is the only place you can find both Spanish Flamenco dance and the Russian ballet, *The Firebird*. Known for its cornucopia of dance styles from ballet and jazz to modern and tap, this event has become a perennial favorite among dance novices as well as devotees. Dance 2007 will be presented Feb. 1 – 6 in McGinnis Theatre.

Friends of Sheppard Memorial Library Book Sale
Feb. 1 – 4
Greenville Convention Center
303 SW Greenville Blvd.
Books, CDs and videos of all kind will be available for sale.

ECU-READS tutoring and mentoring program
Wahl-Coates Elementary School
ECU-READS is a tutoring/mentoring program that recruits, prepares and places volunteer tutors with appropriate community partner agencies. As a campus-based literacy program, ECU-READS also aims to enrich the educational and personal experiences of ECU students who volunteer by providing them with meaningful ways to apply what they learn in the classroom and by encouraging an on-going commitment to community service.
To become a volunteer and make a difference, contact Mandy Dough ard0303@ecu.edu or Courtney Campbell cbc0506@ecu.edu.

Summer study abroad in India
Austin 235
Applications are currently being accepted for the 2007 Summer Study Abroad program in India. The 25-day program will visit a broad array of religious sites, including the Taj Mahal, the Ganges River and Dharamsala, the home of the Dalai Lama. Participants will go on a trek in the Himalayan Mountains. The program provides six credits that satisfy general education Humanities requirements.
For more information about the program, including a photo gallery, blog and media coverage of the 2006 trip, please see visit ecu.edu/religionprogram/india/
To apply, contact Dr. Maher, maherd@ecu.edu.

Laptops available for check-out

Joyner Library has 10 laptops available for checkout and use anywhere in the building. All laptops have wireless access and Microsoft software. Simply ask for one in the Digital Learning Center, which is the computer lab in the back of the building. Perfect for working on papers and other assignments in a quiet, cozy corner of the Library.

Yearbook Portraits
Location: Wright Auditorium.
Calling all Spring 2006 and Fall 2007 graduates, grad students and underclassmen! Mark your calendar to take portraits for the Buccaneer yearbook. The Buccaneer will capture ECU centennial year. Go to our-year.com; enter ECU code 453 and reserve a day and time that works best for you. Walk-ins Welcome

1 Thu

***Folkfriends Concert**
Folk Arts Society of Greenville
Tipsy Teapot/Parker-Kennybrook Books, Evans Street
7 p.m.

Women's Basketball
vs. UAB
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
7 p.m.

Japan League
For more information, please visit us at ecujapan.org.
Bate 1015
5 – 9 p.m.

2 Fri

Best Dressed in Red Contest
Open to all students, faculty and staff.
Send your digital picture to warrenk@ecu.edu.
Winner will be on Campus Wellness Web site.

Go Red Day
American Heart Association Go Red for Women
Awareness Event To Fight Heart Disease
Wright Plaza
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

3 Sat

ECU Hosts Great Decisions Seminars
Full-time students and teachers can attend for free and purchase the program book for $20, $15 if WAC members. The cost for individual sessions is $10.
Rivers West Building auditorium
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Women's Basketball
vs. Memphis
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
1 p.m.

4 Sun

Want to see your event here? Visit our Web site at www.theeastcarolinian.com/calendar to submit dates, times and locations.

5 Mon

City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers, third floor of City Hall, 200 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
6 p.m.

6 Tue

Lackawanna Blues
Sponsored by Ledonia Wright Emissaries
Hendrix Theater
6 p.m.

Wheelchair Basketball Drop-in game
Individuals with or without a disability are welcome and encouraged to participate in this exciting sport.
Campus Recreation & Wellness Center Sports Forum
8 – 9 p.m.

7 Wed

Chili Bowl Sale
ECU's Ceramic Guild's 11th annual Chili Bowl Sale. You can fill your purchased bowl with free delicious chili. The proceeds of the sale benefit the members of the guild enabling students to go to educational seminars and/or bring in visiting artists.
Jenkins Fine Art building main entrance
8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
vs. UCF
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
7 p.m.

Black History Month Bingo
Sponsored by Student Union Cultural Awareness & Spectrum Mendenhall Multi Purpose Room
9 p.m.

Intramural Sports Official Interest Meeting
Campus Recreation & Wellness Center, room 238
9 p.m.

***Featured Event:**
Folkfriends Concert
Sponsored by the Folk Arts Society of Greenville, free of charge.
Tipsy Teapot/Parker-Kennybrook Books, Evans Street
7 p.m.

BRIEFS

N.C. capital punishment process on hold, sort of

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The odd state of capital punishment in North Carolina continued Tuesday, with a clemency hearing going as planned for a man whose execution was one of three-blocked last week by a judge.
The Department of Correction has even stopped scheduling executions until state leaders deal with a judge's order requiring them to approve changes in the execution process. The procedure was recently modified to limit the role of physicians because of ethical concerns.
"Nobody really knows what the next steps will be," said Rowan County District Attorney Bill Kenerly, who met with Gov. Mike Easley during Tuesday's clemency hearing for James Adolph Campbell. Campbell was scheduled to die Feb. 9 for the 1993 slaying of Katherine Price.
Wake County Superior Court Judge Donald Stephens signed preliminary injunctions last week delaying Campbell's execution and two others that were scheduled on successive Fridays beginning last week.
His ruling came in response to the North Carolina Medical Board decision declaring that any participation by a physician violated medical ethics. State law requires a doctor's presence at executions, so the state decided that a doctor would be present but that a nurse and medical technician would monitor condemned inmates' vital signs.
If a problem arose requiring the doctor to intervene, officials would stop the execution and reschedule it, allowing the physician to assist without violating the medical board's ethics policy.
Stephens, relying on a law written in 1909, said such a change in the state's process for imposing a death sentence requires the approval of the governor and the Council of State.
The 10-member Council of State, comprised of the governor, lieutenant governor and the elected heads of eight state government agencies, doesn't hold its next regular meeting until Feb. 6.
The agenda for that meeting, to be released Friday, is not finished and Easley spokeswoman Renee Hoffman said she was uncertain if the execution issue would be discussed.
No special meeting has been scheduled to deal with the ruling before the regular meeting, she said.
A defense attorney said she believes that even with action by the council, the matter will have to be resolved by a change in state law.
"The Council of State cannot just approve any protocol that is put before them because the protocol has to comply with the United States and North Carolina constitutions, with the North Carolina statute, and with Judge Stephen's Order," said Ann Groninger, an attorney representing James Edward Thomas, 51, who was set to die this Friday. "They cannot do that without the participation of a doctor, which now cannot happen because of the medical board policy.
"The Legislature is going to have to deal with the conflict."
The state Attorney General's office has given the Department of Correction clearance to set execution dates for Allen Holman and Archie Billings, but the department doesn't plan to do that until the role of doctors is clarified, said Keith Acree, a corrections department spokesman.
Despite the uncertainty, Kenerly said prosecutors will press on until the issue can be resolved.
"I don't think any of us are inclined to wait for the Council of State before taking the next steps," he said. "If it's commuted, then so be it."

Cherokee council approves $650 million expansion of casino

CHEROKEE, N.C. (AP) — The tribal council of the Eastern Band of Cherokees approved a $650 million plan Tuesday to expand the tribe's hotel and casino in an attempt to make the facility a destination resort.
The five-year project would add a hotel tower, retail stores and more room for gambling at its casino. The plan also calls for a new spa, a 3,000-seat showroom and new restaurants near Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel.
"You have to rejuvenate yourself and make your property better because your customers are going other places," said Joyce Dugan, a casino spokeswoman who previously served as the tribe's Principal Chief. "If we're going to compete with Atlantic City, we have to stay up there."
The existing casino features an 88,000-square-foot gaming space and offers only video-style gambling, with 3,500 slot, video poker and video blackjack games.
Dugan said the expansion will create about 1,000 new jobs.
Principal Chief Michell Hicks will sign the resolution Wednesday and provide additional details of the plan then, tribal officials said in a statement.
The casino, located 50 miles west of Asheville at the entrance of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, is owned by the Cherokees and managed by Harrah's. The facility employs 1,800 people and earns about $155 million annually for the tribe.
Half of that money pays for government services and infrastructure, while the other half is divided into equal payments for each tribal member. Each adult in the 13,500-member tribe receives a biannual check while payments to members younger than 18 go into trust accounts.
"We're very excited about the opportunity that (the expansion) brings to the tribe, but also to the region," Hicks said, adding that its the largest investment the tribe has made in its history. "We've studied the market very well and we feel that our strategy is on line and will continue to be online."
The tribe has negotiated in the past with Gov. Mike Easley to expand the casino's offerings. The tribe wants to offer live poker, roulette, craps and other table games, saying the change will add jobs and help the state's economy.
A year of negotiations fell apart in April. Hicks has previously said that Easley wanted to steer an estimated $10 million in profits from the second casino to mental health needs in the state.
Easley's office said Tuesday nothing has changed since talks broke off, and the governor, through a spokeswoman, declined to comment about the expansion.
Dugan said she hopes the two sides can come to a resolution to help the casino maximize its potential.
"That battle is still on the table, though," she said. "It's in limbo."

Gardner-Webb adopts tobacco-free campus policy

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. (AP) — Gardner-Webb University will no longer allow tobacco use on campus, a major change for a school in the nation's largest tobacco-producing state.
Gardner-Webb President Dr. Frank Bonner said the school banned tobacco because of studies showing that reducing tobacco use can decrease the likelihood of cancer, stroke, and heart and lung disease.
"By implementing this tobacco-free policy, Gardner-Webb University is seeking to make our students, faculty, staff and visitors healthier," Bonner said. "We hope to set an example for other universities nationwide that are considering implementing a similar initiative."
The policy, which takes effect Aug. 7, will make Gardner-Webb the first private co-educational university in North Carolina to ban tobacco products.
Nearly 4,000 students are enrolled

ONLINE continued from A1

The online accounts are monitored every two weeks. If an account is inactive for two weeks or more, it will be deactivated. As long as an account stays in use, it will remain activated. If an account is shut down, users can easily re-apply at any time.

Every year new courses are added and the extent of the program is increased. This year project management and time management courses were some of the new additions.

New Horizons Online Training has multiple benefits. The more in-depth courses can help to prepare students for certifications exams offered by Microsoft, Cisco and other corporations.

"I have taken some of the management courses. The program has defiantly improved and the virtual labs really help to give users experience. The content of the program has gotten a lot better and I am overall pleased with it," said Joe Norris, associate CIO and director of ITCS Support Services.

There are approximately 425 active users enrolled in New Horizon courses at the moment. Last semester students and staff completed over 1,200 courses.

"I think in this day and age, when technology dominates business and the way we live our lives, gaining knowledge of computers is an absolute must. Anytime somebody is offered the chance to learn more about computers, they should take up that offer because in today's business world, employers are looking for people that know there way around a computer," said Patrick Sebastian, freshmen class president.

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

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NEWLY REMODELED OUTDOOR PATIO

Opinion

RANT OF THE DAY

Why is abbreviate such a long word, and pneumonic such a hard word to remember?

{ Opinionation Superstation }

How far will you go?

A rewarding solution to the post graduation dilemma

KRYSTLE STRICKLIN
OPINION WRITER

Life is calling. How far will you go? Those words, as simple as they are, have become a source of stirring inspiration for many, including me. They can be found on Peace Corps recruitment walls all across America and on my own wall.

Joining the Peace Corps involves 27 months of service overseas, which is broken into three months of training and two years of service. There are 139 host countries across the globe where Peace Corps volunteers are sent to live and work. The jobs they perform fall into a wide range of categories, such as education, agriculture, youth development, HIV/AIDS awareness, business development and information technology.

Many people think joining the Peace Corps means living in a grass hut with no electricity or running water. For some volunteers this may be the case, but not everyone is thrown into a grass hut with no modern conveniences. Many volunteers live in modest apartments and are given weekly allowances to cover food and basic needs.

Joining will undoubtedly come with some sacrifices, but what can be gained far outweighs the bad. Imagine being able to wake up every morning with the knowledge that you are making a difference in the world. Everyday you will be influencing lives and gaining a deeper understanding of the world. It requires you to give so much of yourself, but what you get back is sure to be tenfold.

Even though a person's reasons for joining the Peace Corps should go beyond personal gain, the benefits from joining can certainly be substantial. The Peace Corps can be a great way to gain relative job experience, as well as important leadership skills. In addition, many lending institutions will allow students to defer their loans for the duration of their service, which could be beneficial to students without lucrative job offers.

All of this being said, do I think that the Peace Corps is right for everyone? No. However, I do believe that very few college graduates, still in their early twenties, are ready to enter into the competitive job market. Most graduates lack the experience many companies are looking for in employees.

Not planning to pursue a career in the area of non-profit? It does not matter. The Peace Corps will equip you with skills that can be applied to any job. At the very least, you will gain experience for the future, and at the very most, it will change your life. I encourage everyone to look into the programs the Peace Corps offers, especially those who are unsure about what to do after graduation. Soon we all must decide how far we will go.

The future of Iraq

A historical perspective

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

According to the U.S. military, at least 25 U.S. troops were killed Jan. 20, making it the third-deadliest day for Americans in Iraq since we got into this mess in 2003. Seven more soldiers were killed between Jan. 25 and Jan. 27, but we didn't hear much about this because people were still talking about Bush's far from convincing plan for the future of Iraq laid out in his State of the Union address. The focal point of Bush's "strategy" is a surge in troop levels by 21,500 soldiers. Bush seems to think that this moderate increase in troop levels will stabilize Baghdad and give us some time to better prepare the Iraqi security forces and eventually get out of there.

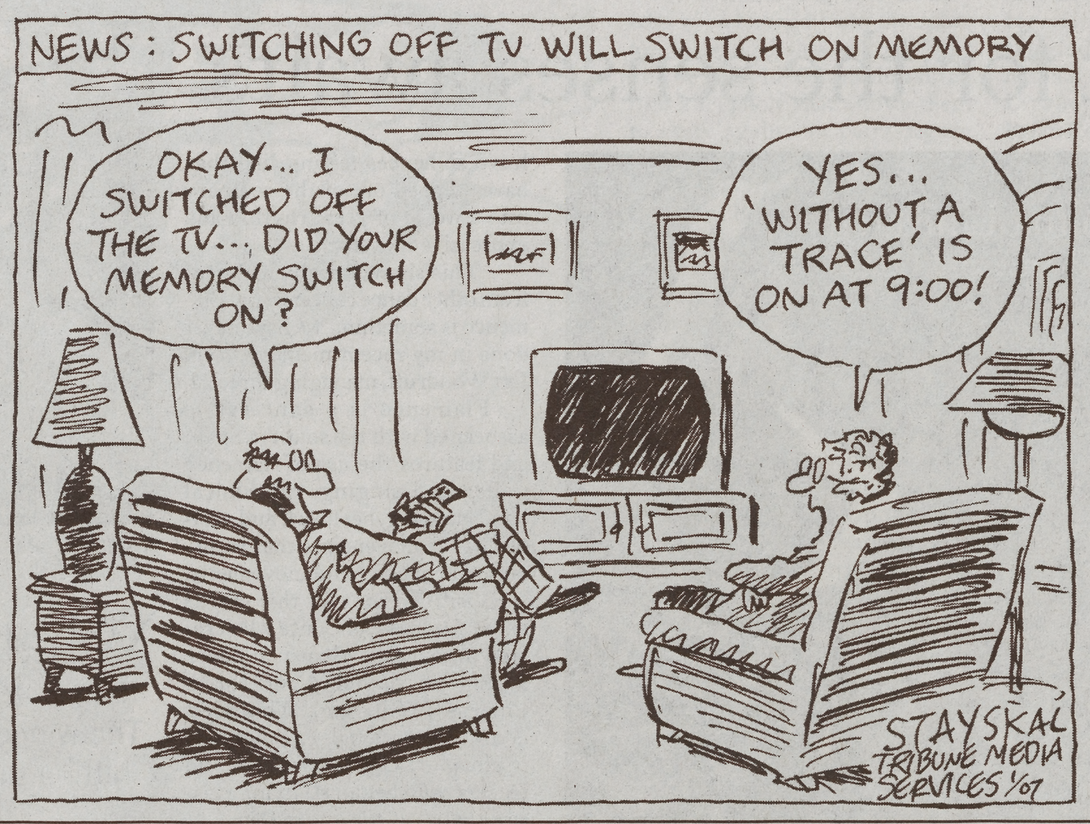
What do I think the real "strategy" behind the surge is? I think all his plan will do, effectively, is take some of the spotlight off of Bush for a while without having to set any real time line or strategy for an actual withdrawal of our troops. This type of tactic has been used again and again in Iraq and is only worsening the situation. A year ago Bush *withdrew* the first large amount of soldiers in an attempt to convince us we were somehow nearing the end of this disastrous war. Needless to say these troops are back in Iraq for the second or third time and will stay there until a real effort is made to put a stop to this war. Bush continues to avoid the suggestions of his peers in congress and the senate and in doing so is exacerbating a failing conflict in a failed country.

Years ago another president from Texas made some of the same mistakes and for years extended our occupation of a sovereign country. In return thousands of lives on both side of the conflict were needlessly lost and no outcome of success was ever achieved. The president I am talking about is Lyndon B. Johnson and the war was in Vietnam.

During the Vietnam War Johnson refused the advise many intellectuals and military strategists and by not pulling our troops out he extended his war through two presidencies.

Thirty years ago we were afraid to pull out of Vietnam because communism might spread to the rest of the region, just as in Iraq we are afraid radical fundamentalism will spread throughout the Middle East. We stayed in Vietnam pumping more and more troops in every year until finally congress cut off funding for the war and thus forced us to pull out. Like I have said in past articles, this is exactly what must happen if we ever want to get out of Iraq and more importantly prevent future conflicts in the region ie. Iran. During the Vietnam War there was a man names George McGovern who proposed this plan very early in the conflict and today he is proposing the exact same strategy with backing from many democrats in Congress.

To me, the similarities between the two wars are palpable. Two long occupations, civil war and no exit strategy. Certainly increasing troop levels is was not an exit strategy then and it is not the solution now. I believe we must do just what we did in Vietnam, accept the loss and vow never to commit our country to future wars of aggression.



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.

To the girl wondering where I've been all her life, I've been on the first floor of Scott Hall all this time.

I thought I was the only one who got up at 3 a.m. to watch live coverage of the Australian Open.

Dear roommate: You seriously have a huge blabbermouth and we don't trust you anymore. Word of advice: shut up

Thank God the "OC" is ending! That show is just a soap opera for preteens.

To the really mean, rude, ugly, nasty girls who I live with in the Greene dorm. You are the reason I'm not staying on campus next year. Girls are evil people.

To all the boys in my high school graduating class who were super skinny and now have nasty fat beer guts: The rec. center is nearby. Please use it.

I have no Friday classes. Be jealous.

Why is it that you can go just about anywhere on campus and get your food in only a few minutes, even when there is a line, but when you go to Destination 360 the line never moves?

Terry Holland is cool because he's from Clinton!

I can't believe some girl's "bedazzled shirt" not only started a fight in Mendenhall, but also made it onto the front page. Hilarious.

It's funny to me how the people who complain the most about "drama" are always the ones who seem to be causing it.

I love how the only form of communication between me and my boyfriend is through Pirate Rants!

You weren't punked, you were stupid. Don't go to work drunk, even without customers. It's still a job!

To all the girls: Can we not agree that there are not enough males at ECU? I am pretty, smart and funny, and still cannot find anyone. I'm lonely.

Sweetie, most of us were born with "that banjo, back woods, out of the cornfield accent." I'm from the Outer Banks and have one, so it doesn't matter where you come from.

My downstairs neighbor apparently got a bongo drum for Christmas. Please stop playing it randomly through out the day and night. You're not that good.

Is it bad that I spent more money on my boyfriend for Valentine's Day than for Christmas?

I hate when people knock on my door and I say come in, but they continue to knock! Idiots!

To the person that says there is no such thing as southern hospitality. realize that you're in a college town and not everyone is from the South. Second, it's people like you that make us rude.

Spring break 2007 is around the corner, so do yourself a favor ladies, and stop eating and drinking and hit the gym. I'm sure all the teenagers on my trip will be good to go.

It felt so good to introduce you as my boyfriend the other night.

Fit For Life is determined to kill me.

Just because you recognize me working at a club does not mean you get in for free. If I don't do it without asking, then don't ask or expect it. Believe me, most likely I'm not your friend just because you know my name.

If you're going to walk on the rec. center track, use the outside lanes. The inside lane is for running, not for staring at people down below.

Dude, this is like the third time this year I've woken up with some random girl in my bed! Why does this keep happening to me?

To the girl in my history class: The solution for your split ends is a haircut, not picking them throughout the class period. If you pick it, it will never heal.

Reserving courts for racquetball is ridiculous, I'll wait around for half an hour for someone to leave and then two minutes into our game someone comes and knocks on the glass saying they reserved it. First come first serve, guys.

Sweetheart, I'm not pissed. I'm only speaking the truth.

Hitting girls isn't cool!

My friend figured out I wrote that Rant about her. She stopped calling me. Yessss!

My neighbor let me and my friend dye her hair brown at 3 a.m. this morning... and it looks great.

To the girl with the broken foot... we see you everywhere, and it makes us very upset!

Darn. I hate writing papers. I always wait until the very last minute. I have a paper due in 5...4...3...2..

To the eight different people at Wright Plaza who just sat with their coffee stared at those actually trying to find somewhere to sit, you are so rude. Go play with your hair somewhere else. I only have 15 minutes between classes I don't have time for you.

When will this "messy" look finally go away and the "I actually showered today" look come back?

What ever happened to Pop-Up Video?

Thank you to the cop who saw me jump out of a window, caught me hiding behind a car and looked at my under age license and still let me off!

I lost my 22 year old boyfriend to an 11 p.m. curfew (yes, he knows it's stupid) and AutoTrader...

I've given up on the entire female population. I think I'm going to live as a monk in the Andes after I graduate.

Whoever tells the people on "American Idol" they can sing when they obviously can't needs to stop lying.

If I could wear a towel everywhere, I definitely would.

You love my big boobs, don't lie.

My landlord doesn't know we have a cat.

Life Lesson #75: Never fall in love with a U.S. Marine. He will break your heart.

If anyone ever mentions changing Pee Dee's name again, I'll go ninja on them.

Cartoons are life.

This message is in Spanish when you're not looking.

When I submitted about seven Rants the other day I was positive atleast two would get in. My friends and I all thought they were hilarious. So this morning I rode the bus and couldn't wait to get to campus just so I could check *TEC* and see which ones had made it in, and not one single one did. It completely ruined my day.

Fools look into tomorrow, wise men look into tonight.

If you have to think twice prior to speaking, you will never get into the conversation.

A committee of three can get a lot of things done if two of the people don't show up.

About the only thing you can easily do on a shoestring these days is trip.

Is it bad that I find all the relationship advice I need in the Rants?

These political science girls, while unbelievably gorgeous, tend to be the biggest airheads on the planet. It's a toss up whether or not they even know who North Carolina's two U.S. senators are.

I thought Christians were supposed to be good examples, stop being so judgemental with the things I do, it's getting old.

I like how you told me I was everything you were looking for in a girl, yet you haven't called and now you're in a relationship with someone else.

Why are stupid people allowed in college?

We should exercise natural selection in the dorms, and throw out whoever was smart enough to light candles on a birthday cake and set the fire alarms off.

I say, do you bite your thumb at me, sir?

I am the sharpest spoon in the drawer.

You know, I never understood the whole sexy accent thing, but some of these international boys are driving me crazy.

I wonder why ECU is the only school that has such strict visitation policies in the dorms. We are all adults, yet we can't have people over past 2 a.m.?

If you don't support Hillary Clinton, you're probably a conservative nimrod.

I have learned that people have reasons for being the way are, accept it and move on.

I love the feeling of an empty beach. I feel like it's all mine.

I won't ever show it, but I think the world of you.

Sometimes I just can't believe that people don't have the same beliefs as mine.

It's true. I really do love my last name.

I love my Rubiks cube!

Why am I so sad that we are not together when I was sad when we were together?

I'm sorry you don't like my Uggs. I am positive that there is something in your closet that I don't like but you don't see me Ranting about it...

To the little one: Sorry for breaking your slide.

JUST ASK JANE

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

I have a new boss at work this semester and I can't stand her. Last semester I had the most wonderful boss ever that just seemed to understand how to effectively communicate with all of her workers and so, we respected her authority, but admired her caring and understanding persona. My new boss however, can only be described one way... Nazi-ish. I know that sounds harsh, but our nickname for her is Hitler. She's a tyrant. I've even thought about leaving my job because of her, but there is still a part of me that loves it despite her behavior. So what should I do?

Signed,
Thoughtfully Eyeing the Unemployment Line

Dear Eyeing the Unemployment Line,

First of all, have you spoken with her one on one about why you have such a problem with her? She may not even know how you and other staff members may feel about her. If you know other people feel the same way as you, talk to them if you believe that your words alone won't change anything. An open line of communication is necessary, and you have the responsibility to improve your work life. Also, if she tries to make amends and you can't or won't accept her and/or her demands on the job, you should quit. It's not worth being miserable and you can't make your boss quit or change.

Good luck,
Jane

Flaws in gun control legislation

Will increasing legislation on legal guns stop criminals from using illegal ones?

JASON PATTY
OPINION WRITER

The second amendment of the United States Constitution states that "...the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed." It seems more and more that liberals are attacking this freedom at every chance that they get. It seems clear that the founders of our country were not interested in gun control by the government.

With every media frenzied tragedy that involves a gun, many immediately think "If only this country had stricter gun control, things like this wouldn't happen."

This is simply not true. How many people go through the time to fill out all the necessary paperwork, chase down all of the required signatures and (in North Carolina) wait three days to purchase a handgun, only to turn around and murder someone with it? Not many.

The vast majority of crimes are committed with guns that were either stolen, purchased on the black market or both. What good does limiting the amount of bullets that a new clip for my pistol will hold except to make liberals think that they are doing something about crime? Unless he has some serious hand-eye coordination problems, what does a criminal care if he only has nine bullets instead of 13?

I have no problem limiting access to guns to people that have proven themselves unfit. I think that if you have made decisions that show that you are not responsible enough to own a gun, then we should by all means not let you. However, that does not mean that we should limit guns to law-abiding citizens whether they want them for hunting, recreation, collecting or just to have in the night stand to help them sleep better at night.

Lawmakers banning guns because they "look inappropriate" is the height of foolishness. I dare say that the founders would have let me have any gun that I saw fit and could afford to purchase. This is an area where the government constantly tries to overstep it's boundaries. The first government that ordered forced gun turn ins (as Speaker of the House Nancy Palousi and Senator Hillary Clinton would have us do) was Nazi Germany under Hitler's control.

Why waste our time and money attempting to enforce laws that are foolish and don't stop any crime?

Responsible gun owners don't kill people and irresponsible gun owners don't follow the law when buying a gun anyway. Lowering the restrictions on the legal market will limit the black market for guns. Let's keep guns out of the hands of criminals by increasing penalties for crimes committed with guns and spending our money and police resources on shutting down the black market.

Criminals don't follow laws by very definition. Punishing law abiding citizens for this makes no sense. This country was founded on freedom. The right to purchase, own, possess, carry and shoot firearms was one of these freedoms.

OPINION WRITERS WANTED!

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Pulse

{Arts & Entertainment}

Horoscopes:

Aries
Start in carrying out your promises for the New Year. Projects now get farther than expected.

Taurus
You've got a tough decision to make. There's no need to hurry. Information you get tomorrow makes a big difference, anyway.

Gemini
If you have a job you love, you're having a fabulous time. If you don't, you're miserable, gazing out the windows. Put in the correction.

Cancer
You can make a tidy profit if you take on a challenge. Call up those folks who owe you, and remind them it's time to pay up.

Leo
Your assignment for today is to try and get along. You also need to make sure the other side plays by the rules. This is a challenge, but you can do it.

Virgo
Consult with you co-workers as you're figuring out the job. Consider that something may have changed, over which you have no control.

Libra
In theory, your plan works perfectly. The trouble seems to come when you try to put it into practice. More research is required.

Scorpio
You're not doing any more work, but there's more money coming in. Did you just get a promotion or raise? If not, ask for one.

Sagittarius
You have plenty of choices, that's not the problem. Well, on second thought, maybe it is. If you flip a coin, make sure you get the coin back.

Capricorn
Resist the urge to buy off the shelf, even if you'll have it sooner. On a high-ticket item, you'll save a lot if you can get it wholesale. Keep shopping.

Aquarius
Your partner has lots of wonderful ideas, well thought out and thorough. Money is not the primary consideration for this person, so watch out, if he's spending yours.

Pisces
You're doing lots of work, but not making a lot of money. It'll be a while but don't dismay. You're gaining experience.

Local Entertainment

Jump In Jam Session with Vance Moore and the Boys at the City Hotel and Bistron on Feb. 1 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Victor Hudson Band at the City Hotel and Bistro on Feb. 2 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Drink Recipes:

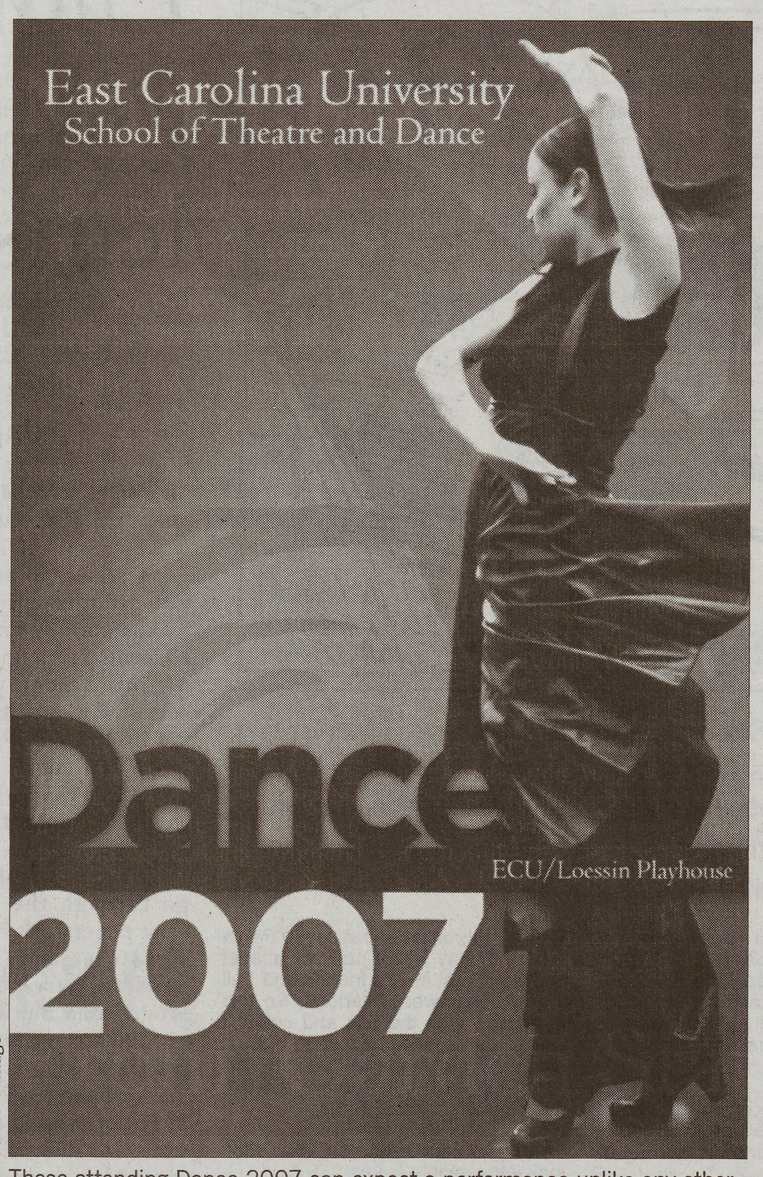
Chocolate Dipped Strawberry Coffee

1/2 shot strawberry liqueur
1 shot chocolate liqueur (recommended: Godiva)
Coffee
Whipped topping, for garnish
Fresh strawberry, for garnish
Combine strawberry liqueur, chocolate liqueur and coffee in a coffee mug. Float whipped topping on top. Garnish with a fresh strawberry and serve.

Espresso Frappe

3 cups milk
1/2 cup heavy cream
2 shots espresso, chilled (or 1/2 cup instant espresso)
1/2 cup simple syrup, recipe follows
Crumbled amaretti cookies (or biscotti), for garnish
Mix the milk and cream in a 9 by 13-inch glass baking pan and put it in the freezer for two to three hours. Every 30 minutes, scrape the ice that forms with a fork to create a soft, icy mixture. The icy mixture can be made one day ahead, stored in the freezer covered with plastic wrap.
In a blender, combine the icy milk-and-cream mixture with the espresso and simple syrup. Blend until smooth. Spoon into decorative serving glasses and top with the crumbled cookies.
Simple syrup:
1/2 cup water
1 cup sugar
In a saucepan, combine water and sugar over medium heat. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer for five minutes, stirring occasionally, until the sugar has dissolved. Take pan off heat and cool the syrup. Any extra cooled syrup can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up one month.

Feast for the senses awaits



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Those attending Dance 2007 can expect a performance unlike any other.

Dance 2007 offers something unique

LEIGH CARTER
STAFF WRITER

When someone mentions a dance concert, what is the first thing you think of? Seeing a performance of *The Nutcracker?* One of those long drawn out classical pieces that is pretty to watch but leaves you feeling somewhat sleepy?

After years of seeing these productions elsewhere, the Greenville community will experience a feast for the senses as they attend ECU's School of Theatre and Dance's annual concert Dance 2007 performed Feb. 1 – 6 in McGinnis Theatre.

While this event is known for its variety of dance styles: Ballet, jazz, modern and tap each being represented in various numbers, this year's production is expected to be quite different from ones before it.

Created using both Spanish Flamenco and Russian ballet, this performance promises something for everyone with its combination of different dance styles and fresh talent.

Selections to be expected include *Firebird*, using freer movements and less lengthy compositions, *Eve Speaks*, a modern work by Tommi Overcash Galaska and several other numbers that will leave audiences feeling like they have stepped out of the ordinary into a world of great rhythm and expressive movement.

"This show is really different from other dance concerts, the Flamenco is something we have never done in my recent memory," said Jeff Woodruff, managing director.

Flamenco is a dance style associated with the south of Spain and features the use of flamenco guitar and singing, rhythmical hand clapping, heelwork and various dance movements that incorporate arm and hand movements.

Visiting guest for this year is artist Andrea Del Conte who created an original flamenco dance during her residency entitled "A Compas (In Rhythm)." This guest is an internationally recognized performer, choreographer and teacher who began studying classical ballet at the age of four.

"I have been to ECU's dance productions before and each of them was amazing," said Arianne Swanek, junior communications major. "This one is supposed to be even better than those preceding it so I am really excited to attend."

"...In my own suite time," is a new tap piece to be performed by Clarine Powell that creates excitement through a variety of sophisticated tap dance rhythms. In this number, different characters introduce themselves in a series of musical vignettes.

Also lending talent to the show is Patricia Weeks in her piece "Watch Your Step," with music by composers Peter Jones and Tigger Benford.

"Most people enjoy diversity of styles and techniques when experiencing a show," Woodruff said. "This one is a little bit of everything."

With a performance like this, where it is likely that tickets will sell out, it is no wonder that the people behind the production are excited for the show to begin.

Ticket prices for the show are $8 – $12 in advance and $12 at the door. Tickets may be purchased by calling (252) 328-6829 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS, and online at ECUARTS.com.

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

Photos.com

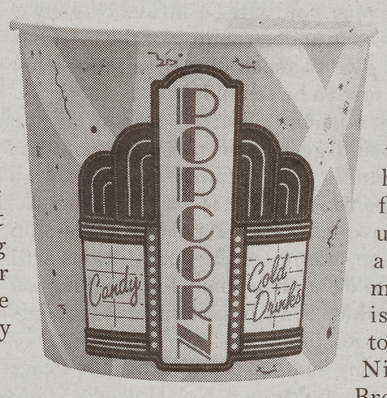
Instead of searching for movies to watch, read about the best and worst.

What to watch this Spring

The winners and losers hitting the big screen

BEN HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Spring is another quiet time for the movie industry. Although spring movies are considerably better than the usual garbage that comes out during January and February, they still lag far behind what is to come in the second half of the year. Granted there are some surprises, most springtime films are easily forgotten only to show up years later as the Saturday afternoon movie on WGN. This year sounds no different as the following films represent the majority of what people are going to be wasting their money on come March with very few exceptions.



The Good:

The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford: (Exact date TBA) — I wanted to start off with a film I am very excited about. Brad Pitt stars the outlaw Jesse James as he plans his next big robbery and deals with the betrayal of a close friend. Casey Affleck, Sam Shephard, Mary-Louise Parker, Sam Rockwell and Zooey Deschanel also star. The movie promises to deliver thanks to the great cast.

300: (March 9) — Here is another film that is sure to be big come March. When I first saw the trailer I was completely blown away by the visuals. The story here surrounds the Battle of Thermopylae as 300 Spartans are all that stand between Ancient Greece and the invading Persian Army. It is the second film in three years derived from Frank Miller's (*Sin City*) work.

Hot Fuzz: (April 13) — A new action comedy from director Dave Meyers (*Shaun of the Dead*) follows London's top cop (Simon Pegg) who makes everyone else look bad and is transferred to the sleepy hamlet of Sandford, sleepy until a series of accidents may mean something is rotten in the town of Sandford. Nick Frost, Jim Broadbent, Paddy Considine, Steve Coogan and Timothy Dalton also star. Pegg and Frost were excellent on *Shaun of the Dead* and I do no think anything bad could come out of their pairing again.

The Bad:

Blades of Glory: (March 30) — Once great figure skaters

see **MOVIES** page A5

Mark Mathis and company hope to rock Greenville

Public Radio: the band, not the station

JOHN BOSCO
SENIOR WRITER

Reading the Charlotte-based band Public Radio's Sonicbids.com description of their sound, you might get the impression that they are either hard to classify or just showing off.

Relevant magazine claims they "... [rock] out, in a post-indie kind of way, recalling hints of Pavement, Pedro the Lion and Tom Petty with an aftertaste of early Springsteen. Throw in a splash of folk Americana and you've got this homegrown bouquet that's aged to perfection."

While I don't agree with that completely after listening to their four song demo, I also wouldn't say they're an act you should simply look over.

While front man Mark Mathis' voice has been described numerous ways in various publications, none of them quite hit the truth.

The band's Sonicbids.com Web site describes Mathis as "...a soul singer. Not, obviously, soul in the style of seventies R&B, but in that broader sense that includes songsmiths like Bob Dylan, Tom Petty and Bruce Springsteen."

Certainly, the band's material and lyrical themes are reminiscent of Springsteen's working-class rocking ballads.

However, vocally Mathis is nothing like Dylan or Springsteen, and maybe only slightly like Petty.

The more accurate description of his voice would be something along the delivery of Wilco's Jeff Tweedy, except that it's deeper, more southern and not, like many, just a cheap imitation.

Beyond comparisons, Mathis' voice is good for the reason that it is not like the rock legends that you've heard before. It retains some sense of originality, and

see **ROCK** page A6

Contributed image

Public Radio is coming to Greenville to perform this Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Spazzatorium Galleria.

From 'Garden State' to gold

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The Shins shine again

JESSICA DUNLOW
STAFF WRITER

Jan. 23 marked the release date of Indie-rock favorite The Shins new album *Wincing the Night Away*. After breaking through with writer/director Zach Braff's movie *Garden State*, the group's previously released albums, *Chutes too Narrow* and *Oh, Inverted World* skyrocketed with over 500,000 copies sold each.

Lead singer/songwriter James Mercer returns with his staple lyrics that baffle listeners but make sense in the perfect way. Although the stereotypical "emo" obscureness is present, the music enthralls listeners.

The lyrics to "Phantom Limb," the first single off of the new album, echoes the thoughts of youth today in, "Follow the lines and wonder why/There's no connection."

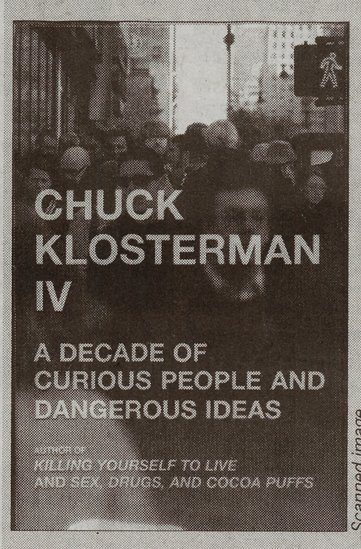
The acid-rock intro to "Sleeping Dreams" brings a Pink Floydian twist and then the song breaks into the Shins' patented simple but catchy sound.

"Wincing the Night Away" is definitely in lieu of the Beach Boys' popular "Pet Sounds," with each song bringing a new (but loved) sound to the table.

Rolling Stone magazine claims that this album sounds "labored," due to the three-year interval between

see **SHINS** page A6

Curious ideas, curious author



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A decade of curious people and dangerous ideas

BRIDGET TODD
STAFF WRITER

You will like Chuck Klosterman. After reading his 2003 collection of pop culture essays "Sex, Drugs and Cocoa Puffs," I was convinced that Klosterman could write about any oddball thing he wanted and it would be hysterical. With his new book *A Decade of Curious People and Dangerous Ideas*, he proves that I was right.

In this book Klosterman tackles three different categories: "Things that are true," "Things that might be true," and "Something that isn't true at all." The first is a collection of interviews and music journalism compiled from his stints writing for *Spin*, *GQ* and *Esquire*. This is obviously where Klosterman shines. He writes about celebrities like other people write about art.

His opening essay on Britney Spears could have easily been a fluff piece about her favorite foods and TV. Instead Klosterman turns it into a fascinatingly funny piece of cultural criticism about her seeming inability to recognize her

see **BOOK REVIEW** page A6

MOVIES continued from A4

(Will Ferrell and Jon Heder) who were banned from the sport for their no-holds-barred fight at the World Championships find a loophole that allows them to skate again—in pairs' figure skating. Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, William Fichtner, Jenna Fischer, Romany Malco, Rob Corddry and Craig T. Nelson also star. Ferrell is sure to be hilarious, but the rest of the cast will not support him.

Balls of Fury: (April 27) — A comedic look at the "unsanctioned, underground and utterly unhinged world of clandestine Ping-Pong tournaments." Sounds like *Dodgeball* mixed with *Beerfest* except with, you know, ping-pong balls. Christopher Walken, who, like Robert De Niro, has been relegated from once near godlike status in cinema to playing trite comedic roles. George Lopez also stars… enough said.

Zodiac: (March 2) — Director David Fincher (*Se7en*) takes on the real life unsolved Zodiac murderers when a serial killer terrified San Francisco and taunted the police. Jake Gyllenhaal, Mark Ruffalo, Robert Downey Jr., Anthony Edwards, Brian Cox and Dermot Mulroney star. I could see this movie doing well although movies such as this are nothing but thinly disguised copies of *Seven*.

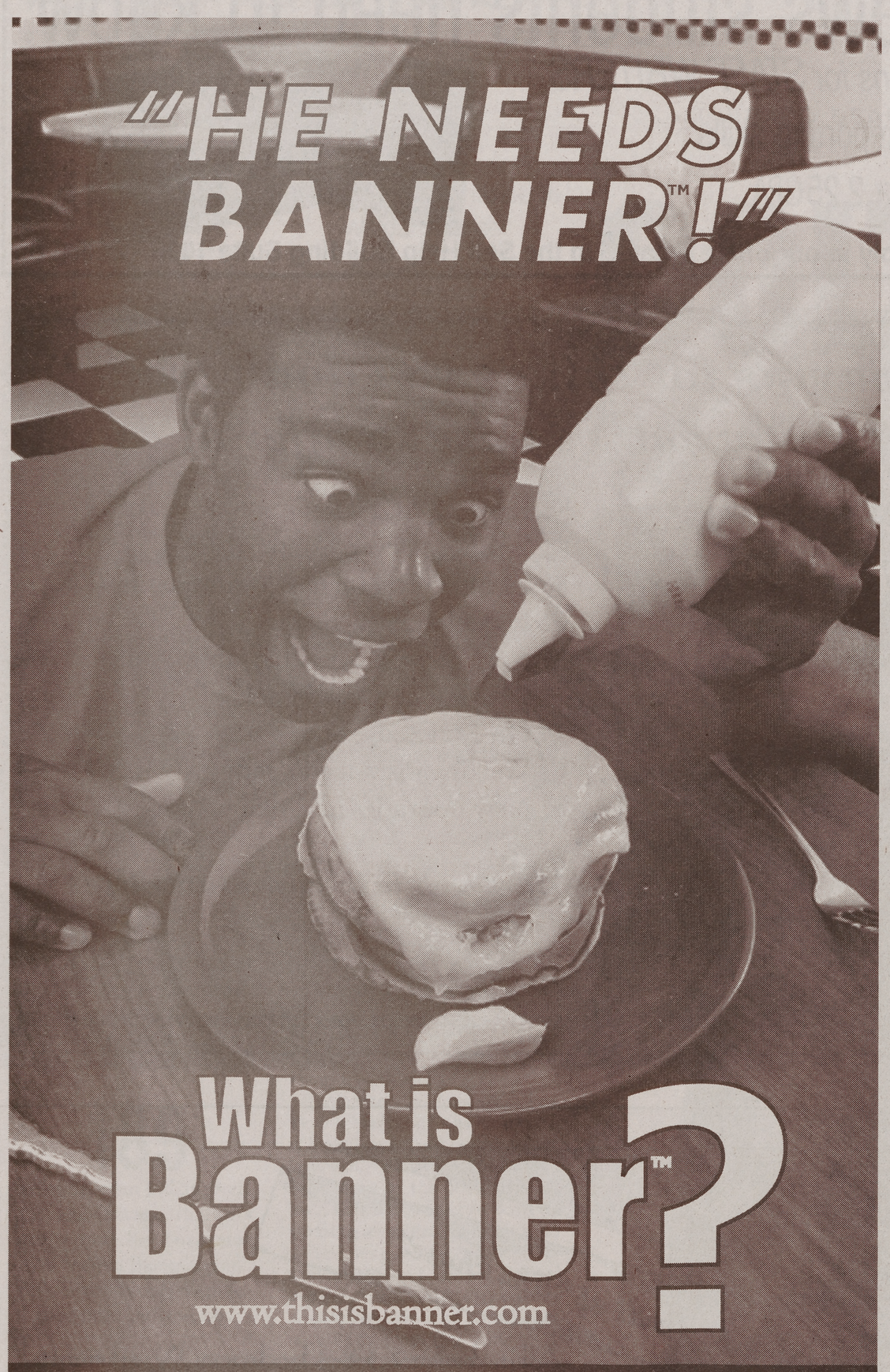
The Ugly:

Are We Done Yet?: (April 6) — Sequel to *Are We There Yet?* Ice Cube, Nia Long, Aleisha Allen and Philip Daniel Bolden reprise their roles. Why?

Lucky You: (March 16) — Curtis Hanson (*Wonderboys, L.A. Confidential*) examines the world of high-stakes poker through the eyes of a reckless all-or-nothing player (Eric Bana) and the obstacle standing in the way of his victory at the table—his father (Robert Duvall). Drew Barrymore and Debra Messing also star. Besides the great Robert Duvall there is nothing, and I mean absolutely nothing, that can be good about this film. Drew Barrymore can and will kill any movie she steps into.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: (March 23) — The heroes in the half-shell are back as the turtles, with the help of Master Splinter, April and Casey Jones, take on an industrialist, ancient monsters and the Foot Clan. Gone are the animatronic suits in favor of an entire film created by "state-of-the-art CG animation." The film includes the voice talents of Mako, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Patrick Stewart and Kevin Smith. Growing up I was a huge fan of the original series and the original movies. TMNT are meant to be either hand drawn or with the suits. CG animation will do nothing but destroy the movie by making it unoriginal and just plain ugly. The film will no doubt ruin the franchise and kill a piece of my childhood.

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



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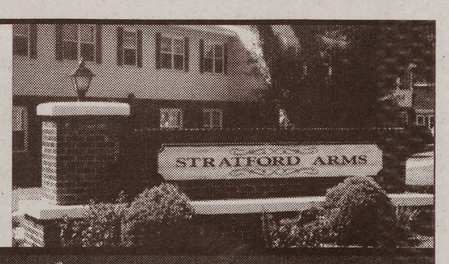

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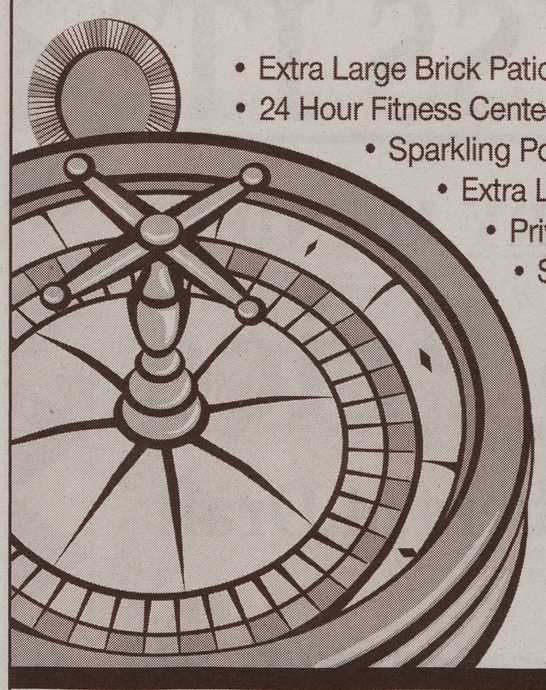

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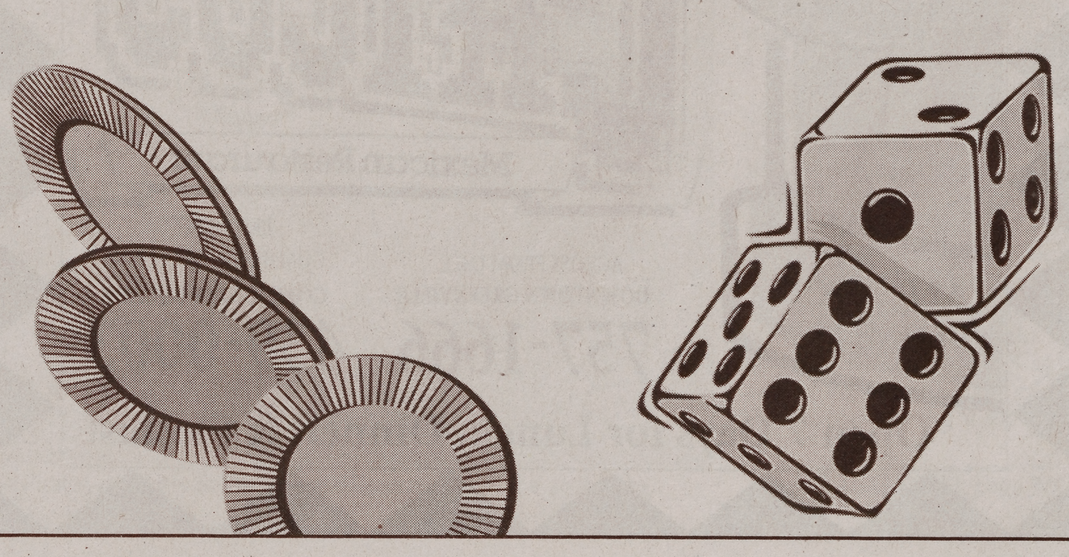

ROCK continued from A4

that's refreshing.

Mathis' voice rings deep and hard, especially on the track "Oh King," where he is backed with brilliantly crafted slide guitars that really evoke an alt-country feel, yet manage to capture indie-rock spirit too.

His lyrics aren't dismissible, by any means. On the track "Wasteland," Mathis sings, "Welcome to the graveyard where the hollow people are/whose bodies smell of the earth/I can see the toothless grins of them skeletons/that haunt you in the dark."

Mathis' timing and rhythm are also great, and it helps elevate his lyrics to more of a poetic, honest status.

The demo track that stands out most in my mind is "Wasteland," but that just may be because of the excellent production value.

With all this talk about Mathis, it'd be unfair to say he's the only talent in the group.

Members Jason Guthrie (drums), Jeremey Smith (bass), Luke Ramos (guitar) and Jessie Mathis (piano, vocals) all pull their weight to create a cohesive sound.

Front man Mark Mathis also has a solo album due out in February. The album, "We Both Was Young," is currently available on iTunes, and according to publicist Mark Ramos, it's a folk album.

The band will be playing at the Spazzatorium Galleria this Saturday, Feb. 3, along with Dignan, Ours the Alibi and Brody Soil.

The band has songs posted on their Myspace Web site, myspace.com/publicradiomusic. To check out Mark Mathis' solo tunes, visit myspace.com/markmathis.

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

SHINS continued from A4

the first hit CD, and this revival. However, the wait was worth it.

Many of these songs ensue mountains of emotions, for instance the stinging star reaching of "Splitting Needles" when Mercer pronounces the double-standard of being an indie-rock superstar; "We'll set you up with some odd convictions/Because you are finally golden, boy."

This is due to the idea that if you are "underground" and you begin to rise above that scene, you are selling out or putting the fame over the music.

"A Comet Appears" remains soft and reverent, and proclaims that, "Still to come/the worst part and you know it/there is numbness/in your heart and it's growing."

Shins fans rejoice because the new album is worth the money, "Kissing the Lipless" and "Caring is Creepy" are now the classics, with this new album erupting with obscure power.

The closest The Shins are coming to North Carolina is Illinois, so it is time to hit up their Myspace Web site, myspace.com/theshins with requests to come down south.

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

BOOK REVIEW continued from A4

own sexuality.

In this section he writes about Billy Joel, Wilco, Radiohead, Metallica and Morrissey. Each essay isn't just about the artist, it's about what the artists represents. With each sprawling, fast paced piece Klosterman tells us something we didn't know.

For instance, did you know that in Los Angeles, Morrissey has an enormous Latino fan base? Klosterman writes that Morrissey, "Sings about loneliness. He sings about solitude. Those are things any minority group can relate to." Did you know that every year heaps of goth kids migrate to Disneyland? Which inspires Klosterman to concoct the list "Things to do in Disneyland if you're goth" 1. Carry a Cure lunchbox as a purse, 2. Make devil horns whenever photographed, 3. Insist you're 'not really goth.'"

When he writes about music he is writing about the larger and unusual aspects of popular culture at play.

The second section, "Things that could be true" are Kolsterman's thoughts on hypothetical topics. In this section he ponders the difference between an arch-enemy and a nemesis deciding that if you meet someone with the same name as your nemesis you instantly dislike them. He asks hilarious, albeit pointless questions, like if there was a pill that made you 10 percent smarter but made people perceive you as 20 percent dumber, would you take it? This section is witty and captivating, but pales in comparison to the first.

The last section "Something that isn't true at all" is a piece of fiction. It's written in the same sprawling pop-culture laced style as the book's previous sections. It's interesting and passable, but noticeably the weakest part of the book.

I found myself yearning for Klosterman's chatty conversational essays on music and pop culture. It is this mix of great and not as great aspects that make this book overall a really good read.

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

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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

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To buy a NFC sideline private exclusive suite for the Super Bowl on stubhub.com; the suite accommodates 50 people, which would cost $9,294.36 per person

0

Number of punts returned for a touchdown in Super Bowl history; there has only been one punt return of 35 yards or more, which happened in Super Bowl XXIII when John Taylor of the San Francisco 49ers returned a punt 45-yards; Chicago Bears return specialist Devin Hester set a NFL record this season with six kick return touchdowns and had a 66-yard punt return for a touchdown in the divisional round of the NFC playoffs, that was nullified by a illegal block in the back penalty; the Colts finished the regular season next to last in the NFL in punt return yards allowed, giving up 13.1 yards per return

189

Miles between Indianapolis, Ind. and Chicago, Ill. Bears quarterback Rex Grossman was born in Bloomington, Ind., which is only 47 miles away from Indianapolis.

2

Super Bowl wins for the NFC since 1998; the Tampa Bay Buccaneers won Super Bowl XXXVII in 2003 and the St. Louis Rams won Super Bowl XXXIV in 2000; the AFC has won the other seven, another example of the league's superiority

$2.6

Cost in millions for a 30-second commercial advertisement in this year's Super Bowl; this number is slightly above last year's figure of 2.5 million

220

Total rushing yards allowed in three games by the Colts defense this postseason; the Colts rush defense finished last in the regular season allowing 173 rushing yards per game; they also allowed the Jacksonville Jaguars, who were quarterbacked by former ECU star David Garrard, to rush for 375 yards in a regular season game, which was the most rushing yards by one team in a game since 2000

3

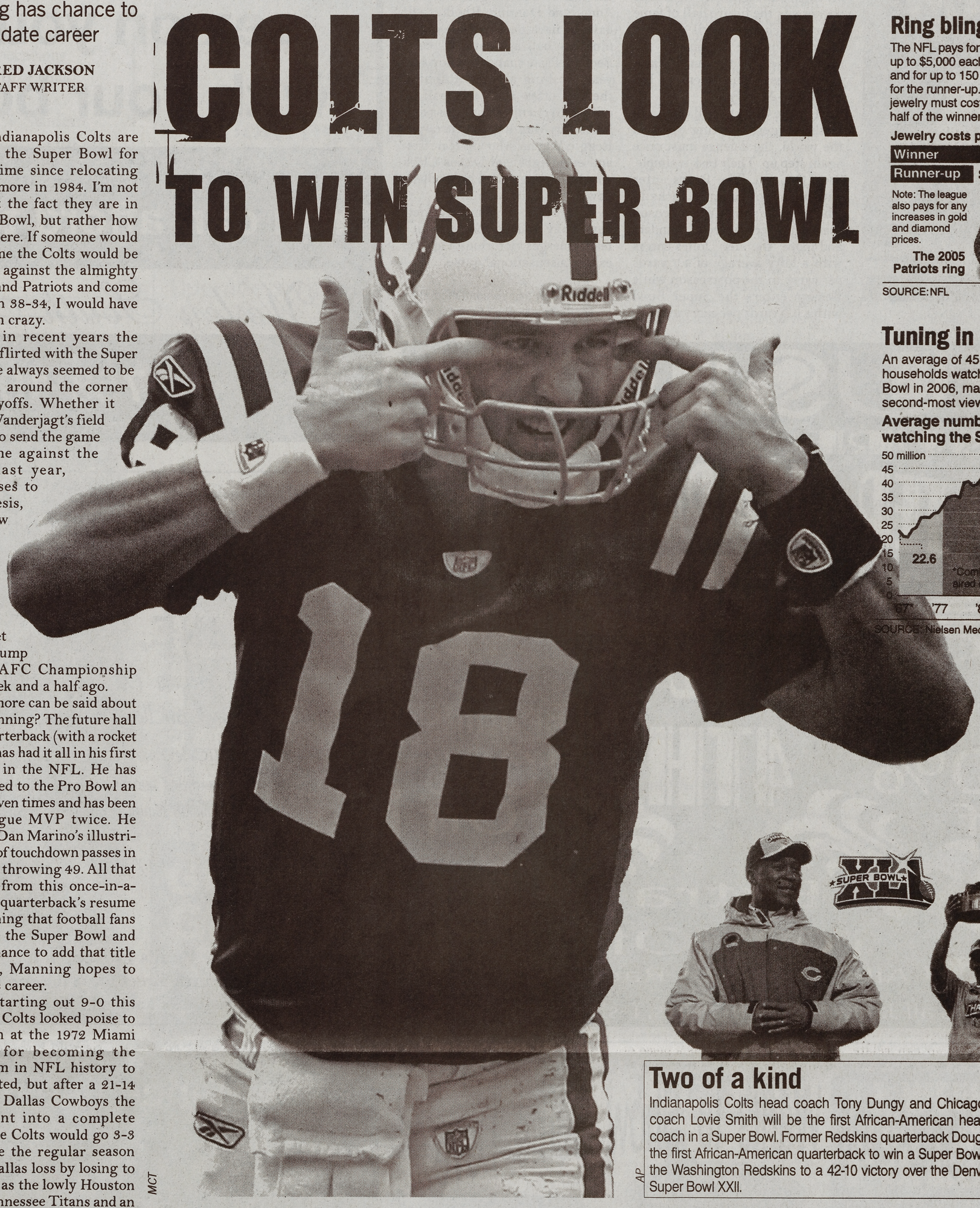
Points scored by the Miami Dolphins in Super Bowl VI in a 24-3 loss to the Dallas Cowboys; this was the only time in Super Bowl history that a team failed to score a touchdown; in this seasons AFC divisional playoff game between the Colts and the Baltimore Ravens, neither team scored a touchdown as the Colts won 15-6

SPORTS TALK

Colts or Bears? Cast your vote for which team will win Super Bowl XLI online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, and banter with other fans on the SportsTalk message board.

CHICAGO **BEARS** SUPER BOWL **XLI** — INDIANAPOLIS **COLTS** DOLPHIN STADIUM • MIAMI

COLTS LOOK TO WIN SUPER BOWL



MCT

Manning has chance to validate career

JARED JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

The Indianapolis Colts are headed to the Super Bowl for the first time since relocating from Baltimore in 1984. I'm not shocked at the fact they are in the Super Bowl, but rather how they got there. If someone would have told me the Colts would be down 21-3 against the almighty New England Patriots and come back to win 38-34, I would have called them crazy.

While in recent years the Colts have flirted with the Super Bowl, there always seemed to be heartbreak around the corner in the playoffs. Whether it was Mike Vanderjagt's field goal miss to send the game to overtime against the Steelers last year, or the losses to their nemesis, the New England Patriots, in years past, the Colts couldn't seem to get over the hump until the AFC Championship about a week and a half ago.

What more can be said about Peyton Manning? The future hall of fame quarterback (with a rocket laser arm) has had it all in his first nine years in the NFL. He has been selected to the Pro Bowl an amazing seven times and has been named league MVP twice. He also broke Dan Marino's illustrious record of touchdown passes in a season by throwing 49. All that is missing from this once-in-a-generation quarterback's resume is a little thing that football fans like to call the Super Bowl and with the chance to add that title on Sunday, Manning hopes to validate his career.

After starting out 9-0 this season, the Colts looked poise to make a run at the 1972 Miami Dolphins for becoming the second team in NFL history to go undefeated, but after a 21-14 loss to the Dallas Cowboys the season went into a complete freefall. The Colts would go 3-3 to complete the regular season after the Dallas loss by losing to teams such as the lowly Houston Texans, Tennessee Titans and an absolute dismantling at the hands of the Jacksonville Jaguars.

While offense is the Colts best weapon, it seems like every time you turn on ESPN the NFL analysts quote the age old "defense wins championships" slogan. The Colts played horrible down the stretch on the defensive side of the ball allowing an NFL worst 173 yards rushing a game.

The Colts entered the playoffs looking worn down and like a team that would be one and done. When the wild card game against the Kansas City Chiefs began I thought "Here we go again," but then something happened. The horrid, so called "work on defense" of the Colts stood up to the challenge and only allowed the magnificent Larry Johnson to 32 yards on 13 carries in the 23-8 victory. The next week the defense stepped up again to allow Jamal Lewis to only 53 yards on 13 carries in a 15-6 Colts win. It was like the defense had been sand-bagging all year.

Fans hoped the Patriots were going to come into the RCA Dome for the AFC Championship game and give up a much better fight after beating the powerful San Diego Chargers. The Patriots shot up 21-3, however, and by halftime the Colts were facing a 21-6 deficit. After a wild third quarter, with the Patriots up late 34-31 the Colts defense stepped up and made a play to get the ball back one final time.

Manning was 27-of-47 for 349 yards with one touchdown and interception to his name in

see **COLTS** page A8

Ring bling

The NFL pays for up to 150 rings – up to $5,000 each – for the winner and for up to 150 pieces of jewelry for the runner-up. The runners-up jewelry must cost no more than half of the winner's.

Jewelry costs per team:

Winner	$750,000
Runner-up	$375,000

Note: The league also pays for any increases in gold and diamond prices.

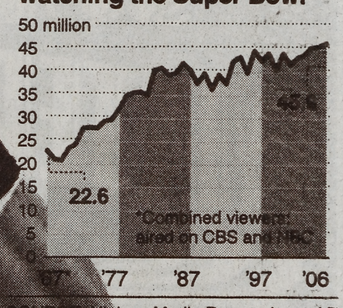
The 2005 Patriots ring

SOURCE: NFL AP

Tuning in to watch

An average of 45.9 million households watched the Super Bowl in 2006, making it the second-most viewed show ever.

Average number of homes watching the Super Bowl



SOURCE: Nielsen Media Research AP

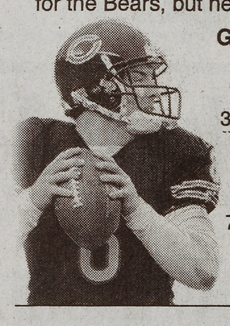
AP

Two of a kind

Indianapolis Colts head coach Tony Dungy and Chicago Bears head coach Lovie Smith will be the first African-American head coaches to coach in a Super Bowl. Former Redskins quarterback Doug Williams was the first African-American quarterback to win a Super Bowl. Williams led the Washington Redskins to a 42-10 victory over the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXII.

Pigskin drivers

The Colts' offense starts and revolves around Peyton Manning, who has not been outstanding in the playoffs. Rex Grossman has been inconsistent for the Bears, but he wins.



Grossman		Manning
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3,193 • 426	YDS	4,397 • 787
6.7 • 6.7	YDS/ATT	7.9 • 6.8
23 • 2	TD	31 • 2
20 • 1	INT	9 • 6
73.9 • 75.4	RATING	101.0 • 66.8

Regular season • postseason

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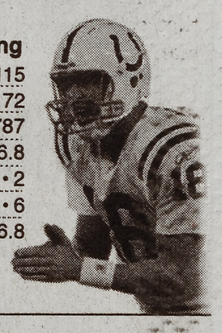


MCT

Pirates seek revenge against Owls this weekend

Hockey team loses to Kennesaw State, beats Georgia

JARED JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

The ECU club ice hockey team entered this past weekend hoping to upset one of the best division III teams in the nation, and even though it held a 5-4 advantage going into the third period, ECU (13-4) would eventually fall to Kennesaw State University (20-4), 10-6.

The next day the hockey team bounced back in a big way as it defeated the University of Georgia (6-10) by a margin of 6-4.

Pirate Head Coach Wayne Cox thought his team learned a lot by playing the Kennesaw State Owls, who were ranked third in the south, this past weekend. The Pirates will try to use that experience as they prepare to play the Owls again this weekend in the South Regional Tournament.

"We learned a lot with respect to Kennesaw this weekend," Cox said. "We learned what we're going to have to do if we are going to be successful against Kennesaw. I thought we put a pretty good beating on Georgia. We were one period away from taking Kennesaw down; we were up 5-4 going into the third and had a flat portion in our game against Kennesaw. That happens sometimes when you are on the road. We learned from the game the adjustments we are going to have to make to beat Kennesaw."

Cox is hoping the Pirates will play with more discipline in the South Regional Tournament.

"I think the kids are going to have to play a more discipline brand of hockey against Kennesaw," said Cox. "Discipline with the way we fore check; discipline with the way we take penalties. Kennesaw will burn us if we take penalties."

ECU goalie Connor Brearley, who suffered his first loss since taking over for the injured Brent Falcon, played solid against Kennesaw State and Georgia despite what the stat sheet read.

"I think we definitely could have played a little bit better Friday night," said Brearley. "We were able to bounce back and get a big win on Saturday night. We didn't let the loss get to our heads so that's pretty good."

With a rematch looming this weekend against Kennesaw State and Falcon not able to return to the starting goalie position just yet, Brearley hopes to prepare himself better mentally and keep his team in the best position to win.

"Take some more time to mentally prepare for the game and try not to lose my head," Brearley said on what he could do to prepare for the upcoming tournament.

"I'm not expecting not to get scored on, but if I can just keep

see **HOCKEY** page A9

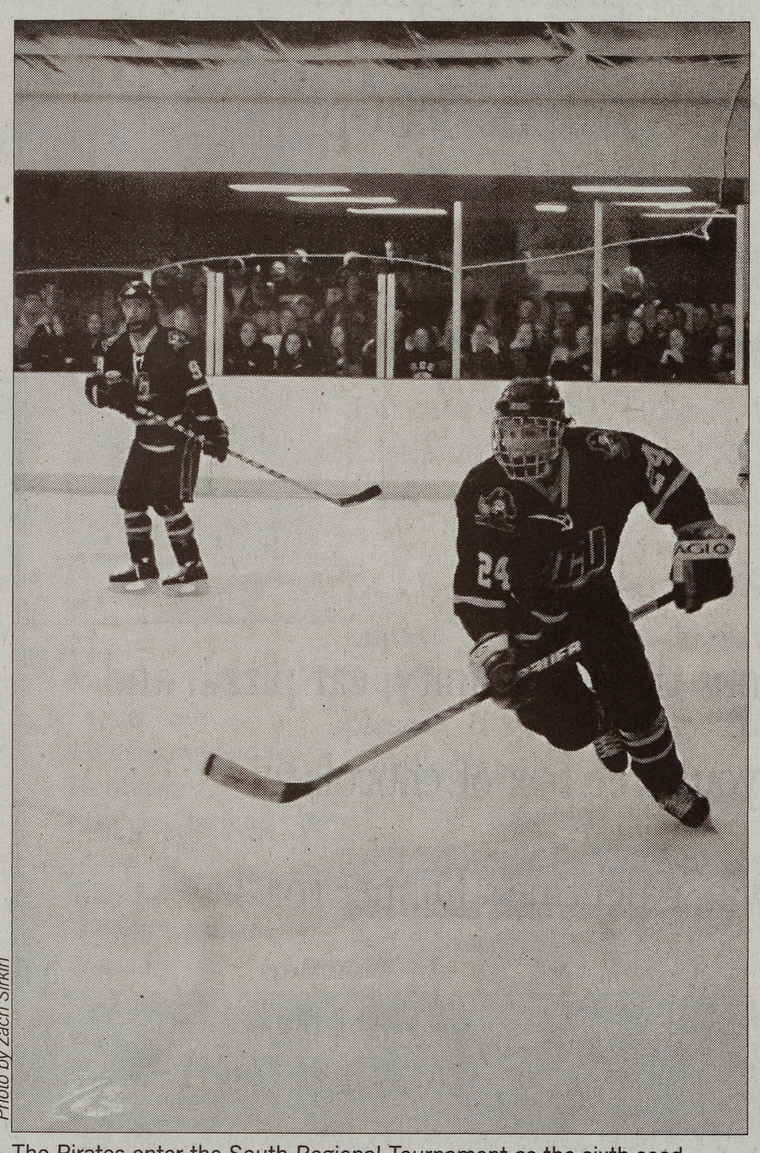


Photo by Zach Sirkin

The Pirates enter the South Regional Tournament as the sixth seed.

Pirates get trampled by the Herd

ECU fails to recover from double-digit first half deficit

(AP) — Markel Humphrey scored 17 points and grabbed seven rebounds to lead Marshall to a 56-52 win over ECU in a defensive struggle Wednesday.

Mark Dorris was the only other Marshall player in double figures with 12 points.

Courtney Captain led the Pirates with 18 points while Darrell Jenkins added 13 and Cory Farmer scored 10.

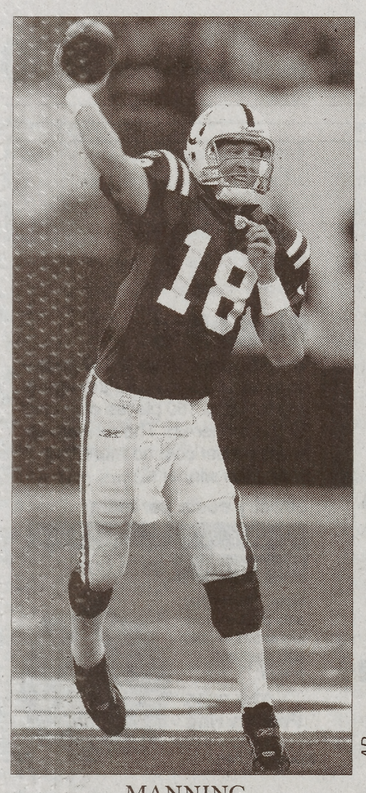
It was ECU's 14th loss in 15 games, including seven straight Conference USA contests.

Marshall senior point guard Chris Ross, who missed the Thundering Herd's loss to Houston on Saturday, hit a 3-pointer with the shot clock running out to put Marshall (8-13, 3-4 C-USA) up 51-44 with 48 seconds left. ECU did not threaten again.

One key in Marshall's win was the ability to contain Captain down the stretch. Captain scored all but one field goal for the Pirates during a 22-minute

see **BASKETBALL** page A9

COLTS continued from A7



AP

MANNING

the AFC Championship game. The 6-foot, 5-inch quarterback from New Orleans also added a rushing touchdown to break out of his mini-slump the last couple weeks.

The Super Bowl now awaits these two storied franchises. Fans of the Colts and "Da" Bears are on edge, and rightfully so. In one corner sits the future hall of fame quarterback who until recently couldn't win the big one. In the other corner sits the quarterback who is best reminiscent of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

For the Colts to pull out a win in the biggest sporting event in the world, the defense must once again step up. Their task is simple. Stop the run. The Bears enter with a pair of running backs in Thomas Jones and Cedric Benson that can be considered "thunder" and more "thunder." Jones enters with a lofty average of 4.7 yards per carry in the postseason while Benson enters the Super Bowl with a 2.9 yards per carry average in the post season.

The Colts' best defense most of the time seems to be their offense. They enter the game averaging an astonishing 379 yards of offense a game. While the Colts rely on their receivers a lot, Manning has seemed to learn in the postseason that he can win without throwing the ball 40 times a game. Joseph Addai and Dominic Rhodes will have to have decent games running the ball against a Chicago Bears defense that only allows 99 years rushing a game. Running the ball often and early will be critical to opening up the passing lanes for Manning to throw to Reggie Wayne, Marvin Harrison and even tight end Dallas Clark who has emerged as a great check down option for Manning.

The Super Bowl is only a few days away and no matter which team emerges victorious, fans can expect a sensational game.

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

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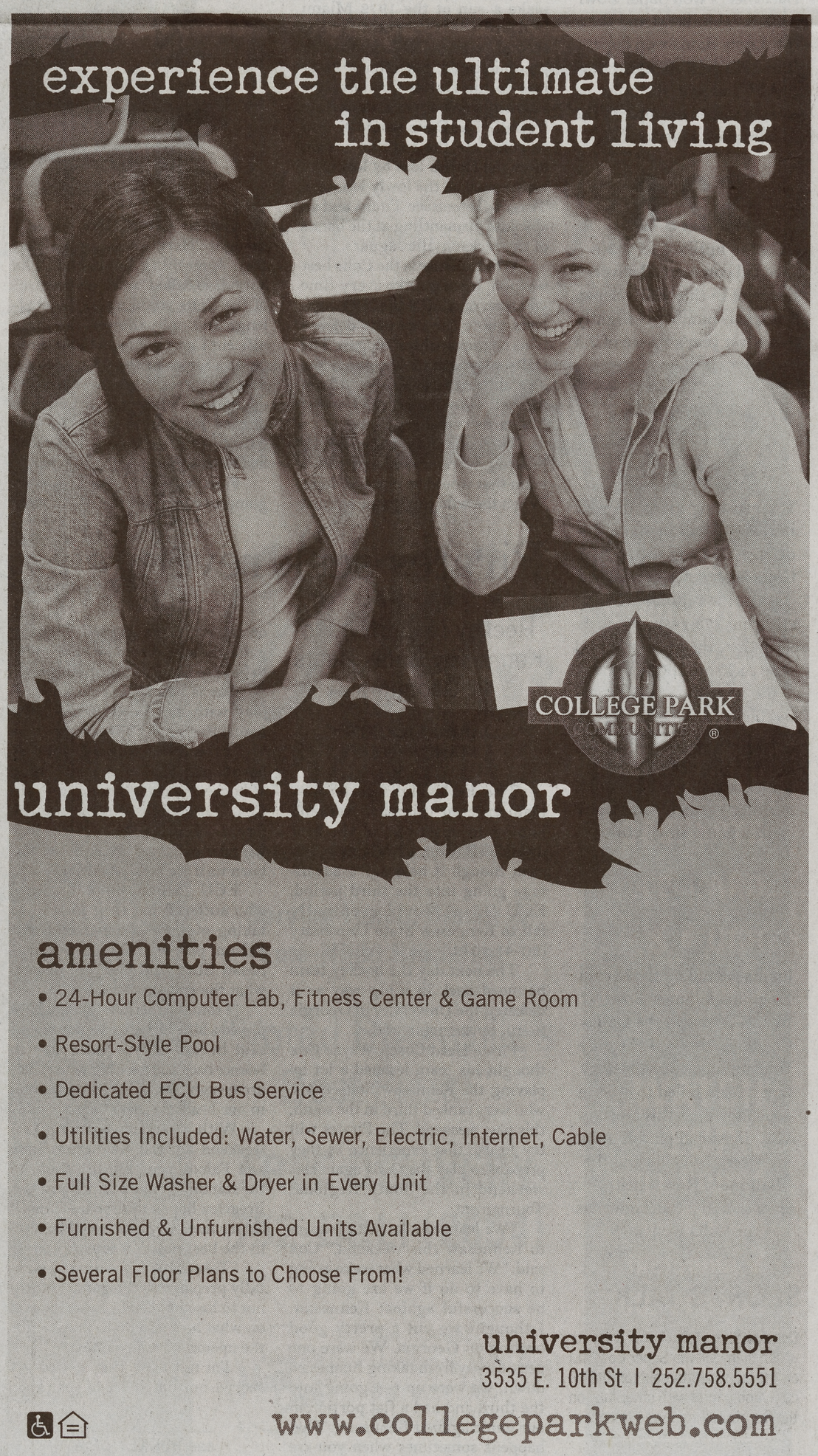

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HOCKEY continued from A7

my team in a position to win the games, and not let any goals get me down, then that will be a success in my mind. I'm just going to try and keep my team in the best position to win and hopefully they will capitalize on some areas that we weren't able to last game.

The Pirates return to action this weekend in the South Regional Tournament, in which the top eight teams are invited to play based on the American Collegiate Hockey Association rankings by region. ECU is seeking revenge for the loss suffered last weekend against Kennesaw State. The Pirates and Owls are set for a 7 p.m. start time on Friday in Alpharetta, Ga.

Senior forward Corey Fleitz believes anything can happen in this type of tournament and believes his team has a great chance to win.

"In tournaments like this there is no telling," Fleitz said. "Somebody can get knocked off and you can beat the best seeded team and win it all. We have a very good chance of winning; we just have to play hard."

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

Pirates head to Georgia for South Regional Tournament

The South Regional Tournament, which the club ice hockey team will be competing in, will be held this weekend in Alpharetta, GA.

The University of Tennessee enters as the number one seed and will face the University of Georgia, who enters as the number eight seed, Friday at 7 p.m. The winner of that game will face the winner of number four seed Richmond and number five seed South Florida. The losers will also face each other. In the bottom half of the bracket, number two seed Loyola will face number seven seed Central Florida. Like the top bracket, the victor will face the winner of the number three seed Kennesaw State and number six seed ECU.

The winner of each half of the bracket will face off for the tournament championship. A third place final will also be held, as each team is guaranteed to play at least two games. The two host teams, Kennesaw State and Georgia, were guaranteed invitations. The last six seeds were determined by American Collegiate Hockey Association rankings in the South Region.

BASKETBALL continued from A7

stretch, but was held scoreless over the final 12 minutes.

ECU (5-15, 0-7 Conference USA) put together an 11-4 run that tied the score at 40 with 4:09 left. However, Dorris grabbed an offensive rebound off a Humphrey miss and nailed a 3-pointer to give Marshall the lead for good.

Marshall pushed its lead to six after a pass to Jean Francois Bro Grebe bounced off his hands, hit the backboard and came back to him. The center found Humphrey underneath the basket for a dunk plus a foul to put Marshall up 46-40.

ECU shot just 29 percent, offsetting a 44-31 rebounding advantage over the Thundering Herd. Twenty-three of ECU's rebounds were offensive.

Marshall led 23-17 at the break as ECU could not find its range in the first half. The Pirates had nearly double the turnovers (11) as field goals (six). ECU's 17 points were an all-time low at the Cam Henderson Center for Marshall opponents.

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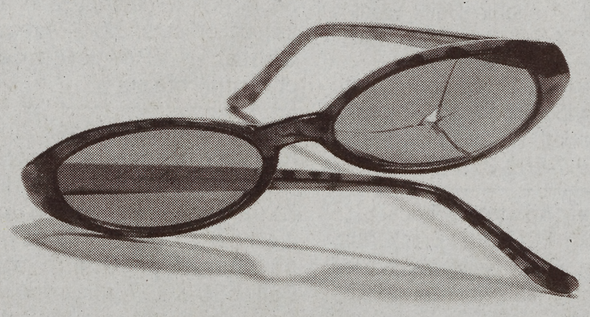

Photo by Michael Mazzeo

U.S. Department of Transportation

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The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta would like to say congratulations to Jessie Connor for being our sister of the week!

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1	9	8	5	6	3	4	7	2
2	4	9	7	1	5	8	3	6
6	7	3	2	8	9	5	1	4
8	5	1	3	4	6	7	2	9

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SUPER BOWL BINGO

Football fan or not, here's a game everyone can play

By Debra Bass
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

THE RULES:

1. Read your game cards and voice your reservations about the clues before the game starts. No whining allowed after the kickoff.

2. Playing multiple cards is allowed. You decide what people "pay" for extra chances to win.

3. Winning doesn't have to conform to a straight line with five squares in a vertical, horizontal or diagonal row. Maybe in honor of football-viewing tradition, you might want to have a six-pack version. This means you have two adjacent rows of three adjacent clues that look kind of like a six-pack if you viewed it from the top (this can occur anywhere on the card). Or you can insist that all of the clues be checked off for a game card to win.

4. When you see one of your clues on-screen, you have to call it out. If various people have the same clue on their card, you can either play nice and say that everyone gets to mark off the clue whether they saw it or not OR you can insist that only the first person(s) to shout out gets to mark off the clue and the others will have to wait for another shot of the redheaded cheerleader or what have you.

5. Keep going until one player completes the designated bingo pattern and wins the prize.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

SUPER BOWL BINGO

Lip-syncing glitch	Full face paint	"D" + fence sign	Touchdown throw by non-QB	Double-fisted drinker
A player's wife	Talking-pet commercial	Championship ring	Fan watching mini-TV	A blimp
Chin or cheek Band-Aid	Celebrity	FREE SPACE	End-zone dance	Coach pumping fist
Kicker practicing	First-aid cart on field	Fan with emblem carved in hair	Female interviewer	Body slam
John 3:16 sign	Live animal	Nonblond cheerleader	Coach's challenge	Too much makeup

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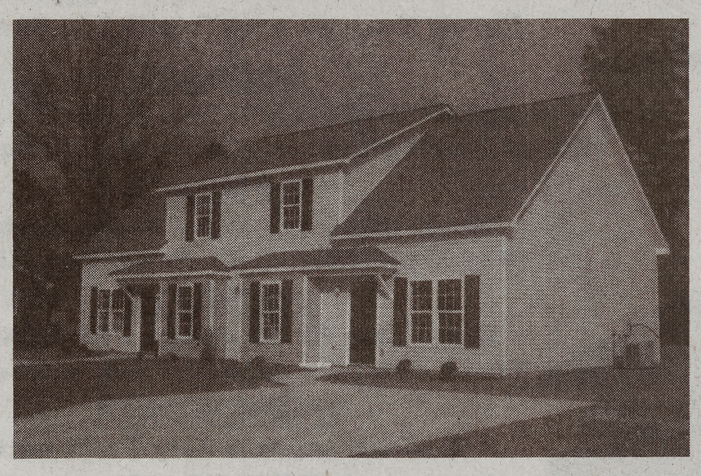

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