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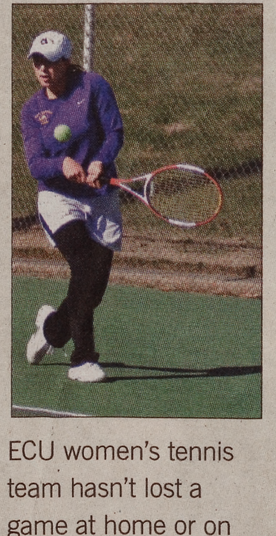
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2007

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY

Find out how to take an economically savvy Spring Break vacation.....**Page A4**

Stop by Riz Continental and Oriental Restaurant for a one-of-a-kind dining experience, read more.....**Page A4**

The ECU softball team got the season off on the right foot. For a complete recap of the Pirates tourney experience in Tar Heel country, turn to.....**Page A6**



ECU women's tennis team hasn't lost a game at home or on a neutral court. See how the young Pirates squad is getting the job done.....**Page A6**

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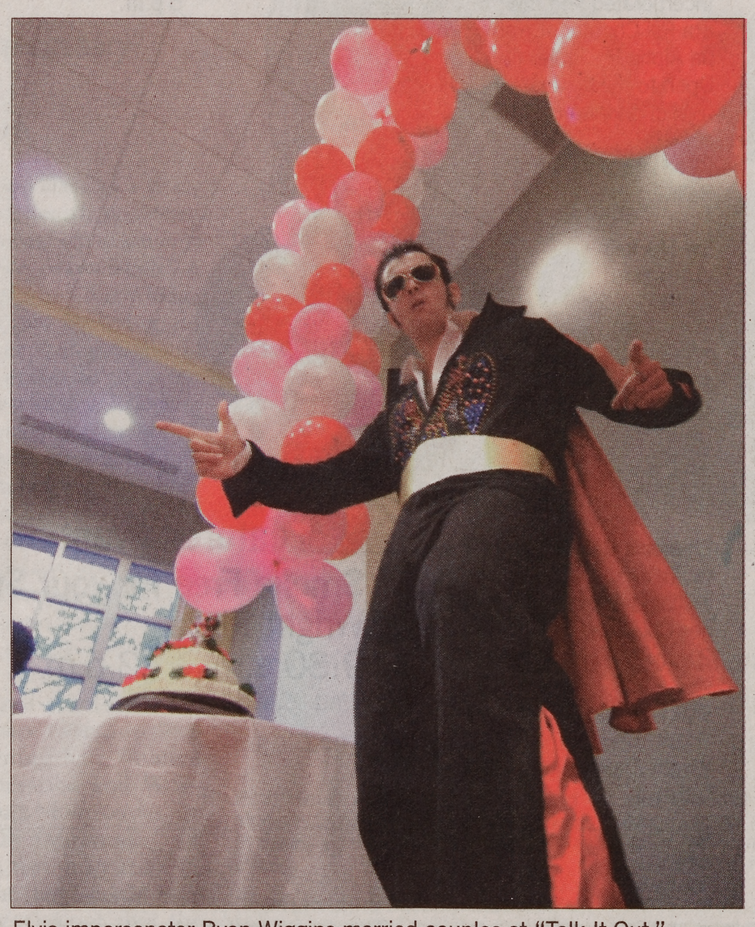
"Talk It Out" brings King to West End



Elvis impersonator Ryan Wiggins married couples at "Talk It Out."

Special guest Elvis Pressley

ZACK HILL
SENIOR WRITER

"Talk It Out Tuesday" brought out The King and young "engaged" couples to West End Dining Hall last night.

The event, sponsored by SGA, gave students a chance to dress up in costumes and get hitched by Elvis impersonator Ryan Wiggins, senior communication and public relations major.

P.J. Fiddler, freshman elementary education major, and Natalie Hamstead, freshman interior design major, were among the same sex couples who walked down the aisle in jest.

Hamstead said Fiddler asked her to marry her because "she thought I was hot."

Senior industrial distribution major Aaron Carr was the recipient of a 23-inch flat screen television he won through campus dining's JAM program.

"It's awesome to just eat and get a TV out of it," Carr said.

SGA secretary Keri Brockett said the event is a chance for students to get to know their student government leaders.

"One of the main goals that was part of our platform this year is be more visible and accessible," Brockett said. "It's a chance for students to ask questions, make comments or voice concerns in a laid back setting."

Aramark provided food that included a three-tier wedding cake and Ring Pop wedding bands.

"It's an example of the things we can do to add to the student's experience," said Mike Lysaught, residential district manager for Aramark.

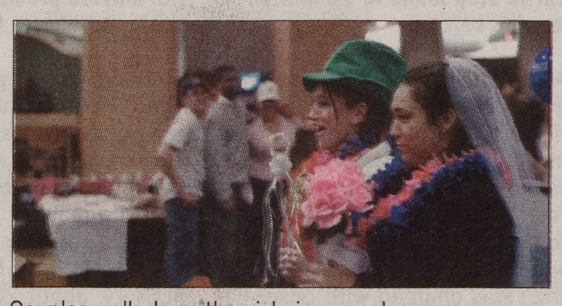
WZMB was also on hand to pass out t-shirts and grab bags.

Kristen Stoneman, manager at WZMB said to be on the lookout for new DJ playlists in the coming week and for students to visit WZMB's Web site, wzmb.ecu.edu.

As The King himself put it, "I'm out here for SGA, uh-huh."

This writer can contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Aaron Carr, senior industrial distribution major, won a 27-inch flat screen television.



Couples walk down the aisle in a mock ceremony.

Students pick up information packets for SGA.

Photos by Zach Sirkin

Students about safe sex and relationships

Sexual Responsibility Week events at ECU

ADELINE TRENTO
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to promote safe sex and healthy relationships, Campus Wellness and the ECU Student Health Center are sponsoring this week as Sexual Responsibility Week.

Sexual Responsibility Week, which began Monday, Feb.12, is a program that aims to educate students about STDs, birth control, abstinence, relationships and many other areas of sexuality.

Tywanna Jeffries, assistant director of Campus Wellness, said that the purpose of Sexual Responsibility Week is to teach students and help them make good decisions.

"Basically we want to help students be more responsible and take responsibility for their actions," said Jeffries. "Bad decisions can lead to dangerous things, and we just want to give students the knowledge to make better decisions about sex and relationships."

Many activities and events are planned for this week to help educate students about STDs and safe sex.

On Thursday, LaNika Wright, a women's health nurse practitioner from the Student Health Center, will present "HPV: What Every Woman Needs to Know."

This presentation will teach students about the risk factors and complications of HPV, as well as ways to protect themselves from the virus.

Wright believes that this is an important presentation for students because they will be able to get accurate information about HPV.

"There's a lot of information available about HPV, but most people don't know how to access this information," said Wright. "HPV has become such a widespread issue and it's just now getting a lot of press, so I think it's important for students to get correct information about the virus. This way, they can be educated enough to protect themselves."

Sexual Responsibility Week will also offer programs that benefit students who are not sexually active.

"We are trying to do a variety of things that will relate to all students," said Jeffries. "When people hear the word sexuality they automatically think sex, but sexuality is more than just the act itself. Sexuality can encompass self esteem, relationships, sexual orientation and how you view yourself. These things apply to everyone, so we wanted to have events for everyone."

On Tuesday, Shawnte McMil

see **SEX-ED** page A2

Commissioners told save for sales, N.C. lottery is meeting goals

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—North Carolina's new lottery is meeting all of its goals except in ticket sales, the lottery's chief executive said Tuesday, even though revenue will fall short of original projections.

"We're doing one heck of a job," executive director Tom Shaheen told the lottery's governing board, the North Carolina Education Lottery Commission, during its regular quarterly meeting.

Lottery revenues for the fiscal year ending in June are expected to be about $1 billion, less than the roughly $1.2 billion projected last year. Shaheen said ticket sales have been lower than expected, which he has blamed on competition from lotteries in border states and potential customers using extra cash elsewhere.

"When we compare ourselves to other startup lotteries, we are doing very well," commission member Bridget-Anne Hampden said.

At least 35 percent of ticket sales must be earmarked for education initiatives, meaning $350 million will be available for education, about $75 million less than what legislators and Gov. Mike Easley's administration had projected.

Otherwise, the lottery is on track to meet or exceed goals in more than two dozen areas such as workforce diversity, business contracts and administrative procedures, according to documents given to the commission.

That bodes well for Shaheen, who is making an annual salary of $235,000.

Commission chairman John McArthur said he and other personnel committee members were "very very pleased with his performance."

Shaheen said he hoped new games and recruiting additional ticket retailers will help boost gross revenues. The lottery currently is about 200 retailers short of its 6,000 retailer goal for the fiscal year that ends June 30.

Also Tuesday, the commission approved a $20-ticket raffle game with four $1 million grand prizes, plus 500 other prizes. The game is expected to begin May 11 and generate $3.5 million for education if all 500,000 tickets are sold before an expected July 4 drawing, the lottery said.

A ticket will carry a 1-in-125,000 chance of winning the top prize, compared to the Powerball odds of 1-in-146 million.

The lottery also rolled out three new instant ticket games Tuesday, including a $3 crossword-puzzle style ticket with 12 top prizes of $50,000.

Shaheen said a NASCAR-themed game could start in March, and the multistate Powerball game this year will allow players to multiply winnings by up to 10 times on lower-tiered prizes for an extra dollar.

'Vagina Monologues' aids domestic violence prevention

Performances benefit Pitt County Domestic Violence Program

GENERRA CORNWELL
STAFF WRITER

"The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler is a collection of performances by women expressing what it feels like to be a woman and how both tragedy and bliss changed their womanhood, and part of the V-Day celebration at ECU.

The V-Day creative events raise money and inspire already existing anti-violence programs to continue reaching out to their communities all around the world.

Amanda Harrell is the technical director of the Greenville Theater Project as well as a V-Day Coordinator. She, along with the help of many volunteers and sponsors such as Zeta Phi Beta sorority and others, helped organize and raise money for the production.

Sheree Hawthorne, junior family emergency services major, explained how she became a part of this production.

"My sorority Zeta Phi Beta, Inc. was a sponsor. They [program organizers] came and talked to us. I thought it would be interesting so I tried out and I made it," said Hawthorne.

Locally, the Pitt County Family Violence Program was founded in 1983 and is a private, non-profit agency that provides various services to victims of domestic violence.

Through this program they have various branches of other programs to aid domestic violence victims. These include New Directions, children's counseling and services, court services, adult counseling, community education, abuse in later life, abuser treatment, and the Family Center.

Sara Munzer, community outreach coordinator at the Pitt County Family Violence Program said community involvement is key in keeping organizations like these open.

"Funding is tight, there are a lot less grants and they are offering less money, and more competition [for the grants]. Non-profit organizations in general are going through hardships," said Munzer.

"The Family Center is [having financial hardships] and is in danger of closing," Munzer said. "You can have the greatest program in the world and it's still going to be a challenge to find funding."

The money raised by V-Day, through the production of "The Vagina Monologues," will go

see **MONOLOGUES** page A2

Photos by Zach Sirkin

Sad Vagina (left) and Angry Vagina (right) tell stories and share their feelings in "The Vagina Monologues."

NEWS

{ Campus & Community }

CORRECTIONS

In the story printed in Tuesday's edition about tuition increases at the University of North Carolina system, The Associated Press erroneously reported the amount of tuition and fees for 2007 – 2008 at UNC Charlotte and Elizabeth City State University. Tuition and fees at UNC Charlotte will be $4,091, not $3,978; the cost at Elizabeth City State will be $2,896.50, not $4,184.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pitt County Citizens Academy
The Pitt County Legal Department is accepting applications for the next session of its Citizens Academy, which will be held every Tuesday March 27 through May 15.
The Academy is designed to form a stronger partnership between citizens and Pitt County Government through education. Participants will learn about county services, programs and responsibilities. Applicants must live in Pitt County. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, March 2.
Applications are available at the Pitt County Legal Department, and on the County Web site at pittcountync.gov
For information, contact Nancy Wilson at 252-902-3106 or e-mail njwilson@pittcountync.gov

February 20 – 22, 2007 2007 Graduation Exp
Location: Wright Place rear dining area, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Everything the May graduate needs in a one-stop shopping Expo!
* Pick up cap & gown
* Find out about senior pictures
* Order graduation announcements
* Visit with reps from the Registrar's Office, Career Center, Alumni Association, Pirate Club, SRC and loan consolidation companies
May Grads have a chance to win a $400 travel voucher from Jostens.

Student actors needed for *Confessions*
Four to six student actors needed to participate in *Confessions*, a theatrical production in which the lived experiences of people with HIV/AIDS are told. Students will be asked to portray the lives of those living with HIV through monologues. Auditions will be held on Feb. 20 from 3 – 5 p.m. at the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center.
If you are interested in participating, please contact Shawnte McMillan at mcmillans@ecu.edu or Tywanna Jeffries at jeffriest@ecu.edu to receive a copy of a script.

Urinetown
Feb. 22 – 27
8 p.m., except Sunday at 2 p.m.
McGinnis Auditorium
Book by Greg Kotis, lyrics by Greg Kotis and Mark Hollmann and music by Mark Hollmann.
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! 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.

14 Wed

Last day
for undergraduate students to drop term-length courses or withdraw from school without grades by 5 p.m. Block courses may be dropped only during the first 40 percent of their regularly scheduled class meetings.

***Smoke free for Your Sweetheart**
Wright Plaza
9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

HIV Rapid Testing
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Mendenhall 242

***Men's Basketball**
vs. Southern Miss
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
7 p.m.

15 Thurs

Wheelchair Rugby
Drop-in Game
The game can be played recreationally by individuals both with and without disabilities. Individual players may register onsite prior to each night of play.
SRC Sports Forum
8 – 9 p.m.

HPV: What Every Woman Needs to Know
Student Health Service
5:30 p.m.

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

H.E.P.T.A Meeting
Health Educators Preparing for Tomorrow's Advancement's second meeting of the year. Refreshments will be served. We will be discussing upcoming events.
Bate 1009
5:30 p.m.

16 Fri

Ice Hockey
vs. Radford
Bladez on Ice
12 p.m.

"American Blackout"
Mendenhall Great Rooms
7:30 p.m.

17 Sat

Second Annual Krimson and Creme Ball.
Hosted by the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and the Eta Psi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Open to the general public, donations accepted.
City Hotel and Bistro Ballroom

Ice Hockey
vs. Radford
Bladez on Ice
3:45 – 8 p.m.

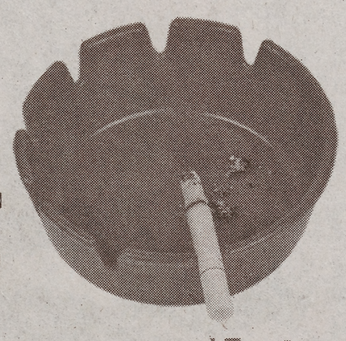
ECU Hosts Great D sions Seminars
Rivers West Buildin auditorium
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Women's Basketball
vs. Tulane
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
2 p.m.

Black History Month
Gospel Concert
Wright Auditorium
5 p.m.

18 Sun

Want to see your event featured here? Log on to theeastcarolinian.com/calendar to submit event listings.



*Featured Event:
Smoke Free for your Sweetheart
Wright Plaza
9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

19 Mon

Intramural Softball
Team registration meeting
MSC Multi-Purpose Room
5 p.m.

20 Tue

Intramural Kickball
Team Registration
Student Recreation Center, room 207
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

BRIEFS

Traffic stop leads to $6 million cocaine seizure

(AP)—Packed in diapers and hidden in television sets, $6 million worth of cocaine believed to be headed to North Carolina was seized by police in East Texas during a routine traffic stop.
Orlando Devis, of Avondale, Ariz., was charged with posession of a controlled substance after police say they discovered about 140 pounds of cocaine stashed in his truck and trailer. He was pulled over for a traffic violation along Interstate 20, about 90 miles east of Dallas. Devis is being held at Smith County Jail on $2 million bond. He faces life in prison if convicted.

N.C. mayors promote public safety at General Assembly

(AP)—Mayors, police chiefs, crime victims and others from some of North Carolina's largest cities converged on the General Assembly on Tuesday to demand that lawmakers make public safety a priority this session. Led by Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory, about 200 people rallied across the street from the Statehouse, then split up to go inside and speak to individual senators and representatives. No specific legislation was targeted, though McCrory said members of the group want more money allocated for local courts and law enforcement, and more autonomy for local court systems.
"We need (district attorneys), judges and jail space to back up every arrest that a police officer makes. If we don't have those three things backing up our police officers, then our police officers are whistling in the wind," he said. "Most people don't realize that the state is responsible for most of the criminal justice system. We are demanding accountability, because it is a life and death issue."
A couple of bills were filed in the session's first three weeks to help local court systems, such as one to hire another magistrate in Columbus County. McCrory was joined by mayors of Asheville, Boone, and Winston-Salem's Allen Joines, chairman of the North Carolina Metropolitan Coalition, an alliance of mayors from the state's largest towns.
The crowd included uniformed police officers, as well as crime victims, community activists and business groups waving signs with slogans such as "Support our police" and "Unclog the courts."
Harvey Katowitz, a former New York City police captain, now lives in Charlotte where he is president and security chairman of his homeowners' association. He said his neighborhood averages about 60 reported crimes a year, while perhaps another 60 go unreported.
"People have lost confidence in the system," Katowitz said. "When I speak to victims who have been victims of crime and didn't report it, they said, 'Why report it? Nothing's going to happen.' "People get arrested, we end up going to court, taking time away from our families, away from our job, and nothing happens. People are back on the street, and that has to stop."

N.C. limits number of patients at state-run mental hospitals

(AP)—North Carolina mental-health officials have capped admissions at its four state-run psychiatric hospitals as the number of patients continues to balloon.
The cap blocks state psychiatric hospitals from accepting patients from community hospitals when the short-term wards at the psychiatric hospitals are at more than 110 percent of capacity, said Mike Moseley, director of the state division that oversees mental-health services.

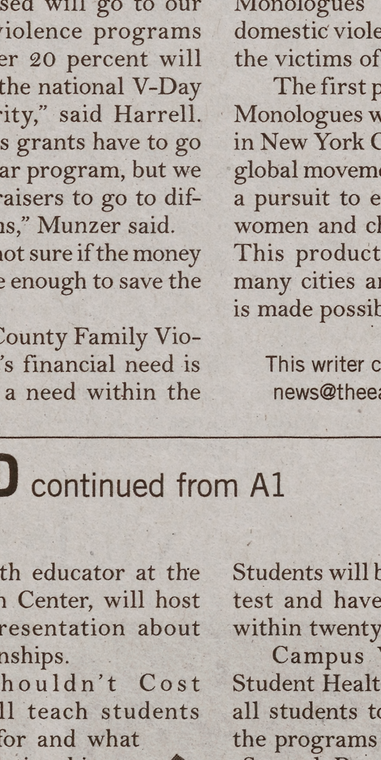
MONOLOGUES continued from A1

toward this program.
"Opening night we raised $4,000, give or take. We had an audience of around 400 opening night. Eighty percent of the money raised will go to our local family violence programs while the other 20 percent will be donated to the national V-Day spotlight charity," said Harrell.
"Sometimes grants have to go to one particular program, but we still find fundraisers to go to different programs," Munzer said.
Munzer is not sure if the money raised would be enough to save the Family Center.
"The Pitt County Family Violence program's financial need is a symptom of a need within the community," Munzer said.
Domestic violence is a reality that affects our community everyday. The money raised by the production of "The Vagina Monologues" is an effort to help domestic violence programs assist the victims of our community.
The first production of Vagina Monologues was over a decade ago in New York City, and sparked the global movement known as V-Day, a pursuit to end violence against women and children everywhere. This production now travels to many cities and countries, which is made possible by V-Day.

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

SEX-ED continued from A1

lan, a health educator at the Student Health Center, will host a hands on presentation about healthy relationships.
"Love Shouldn't Cost a Thing," will teach students what to look for and what to avoid in relationships.
McMillan plans to teach students about the different kinds of abuse, the major components of a good relationship and the skills students shouldpossess before getting involved with someone else.
"A lot of students come to college and expect it to be the same as high school," said McMillan. "College is not the same as high school in terms of meeting people, dating people and having relationships. With this presentation I want to help students get some knowledge about how to set up and maintain a healthy relationship."
Rapid HIV testing will also be offered on Wednesday as part of Sexual Responsibility Week. Students will be able to get an HIV test and have their results back within twenty minutes.
Campus Wellness and the Student Health Center encourage all students to take advantage of the programs offered throughout Sexual Responsibility Week. These programs will offer fun ways for students to learn something that may help them in the future.
"From this week, I hope that students will get on the bandwagon with prevention and be very careful," said Wright. "We want to help students understand that there is so much more to having sex than just having sex. If they can take that away from this week and make wise decisions from there, then I will consider Sexual Responsibility Week a success."
Students that wish to learn more about the programs offered for Sexual Responsibility Week can visitecu.edu/csstudentlife/crw/programs/campuswellness/.



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

Opinion

{ Happy Hearts Day to all }

RANT OF THE DAY

Are there any cute girls who like "Star Trek" and tennis? Will you be my valentine?

Health 1000 doesn't work for me

Is this class really necessary?

JASON PATTY
OPINION WRITER

ECU describes its Health 1000 class as a study of "Mental, social and physical health problems related to man's internal and external environments in technological and leisure-oriented societies." A more accurate description would be "Knowledge that you should have acquired just by living for 18 years." I'm not going to argue that you should already know everything taught in Health 1000, but simply that the information presented is information that if you don't already know, you should be able to figure out on your own with minimal effort.

So far this semester, we have learned that fatty foods make you fat and that if you look at the FDA's food pyramid you can learn what the FDA recommends as your daily portions. We have also learned that health does not only mean that you aren't sick, somehow, it incorporates your outlook on life and that cigarettes cause both heart disease and cancer.

Furthermore, in order to receive all of the points for this class, I am required to attend three different "passport" events. These events include taking a guided tour of the dining hall, Student Health Center or Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, attending the "Vagina Monologues" or attending a meeting about AIDS awareness. I am not a freshman and was never a freshman at ECU, but if I had been, I feel confident that I could have located the dining hall and figured out that the food was pretty bad without having to take a tour for one of my classes. God help me if I had to eat before I took the tour. I might have starved to death.

I found the Student Health Center when I got sick for the first time and I also had no trouble finding the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center when I realized that I was eating too much fast food (which I have since learned is bad for you—who knew?).

Everyone that makes it to class either does other assignments or sleeps. Half of the class is taught online and my teacher doesn't look at my assignment long enough to know if I wrote my answers in Spanish. My teacher skips most of the presentations that she is supposed to give and tells us that we "pacifically" need to remember that we have a test next week. Is that a clue that we are going to have to name the world's oceans on our next test or did she mean "specifically?"

It seems to me that we are learning things that we either should already know, or as college students should know how to find out if we feel so inclined. If we are going to have a class to teach basic life skills, maybe it should include enunciating properly so that people can understand you, how to budget for and cook a healthy meal as a college student, how to keep track of your finances and save some money, and what to look for when renting an apartment or house for the first time.

I don't understand why I am spending time and money that I don't have learning that cigarettes are bad for me. Why does this help me on my way to a business degree? If we are going to have a class like this, let's teach stuff that is useful and not waste everyone's time telling them that McDonald's food is bad for you and you better make the dining hall tour so you don't have to eat Big Macs for the rest of your college career.

Is Iran a distraction?

What lies ahead

MARGOT ROGERSON
OPINION WRITER

The buzz has shifted. No longer is Iraq the greatest concern on the minds of United States military leaders, a neighboring country has taken that spot. From sabotaging U.S. plans in Iraq to secretly developing nuclear power, it seems there is trouble in Iran.

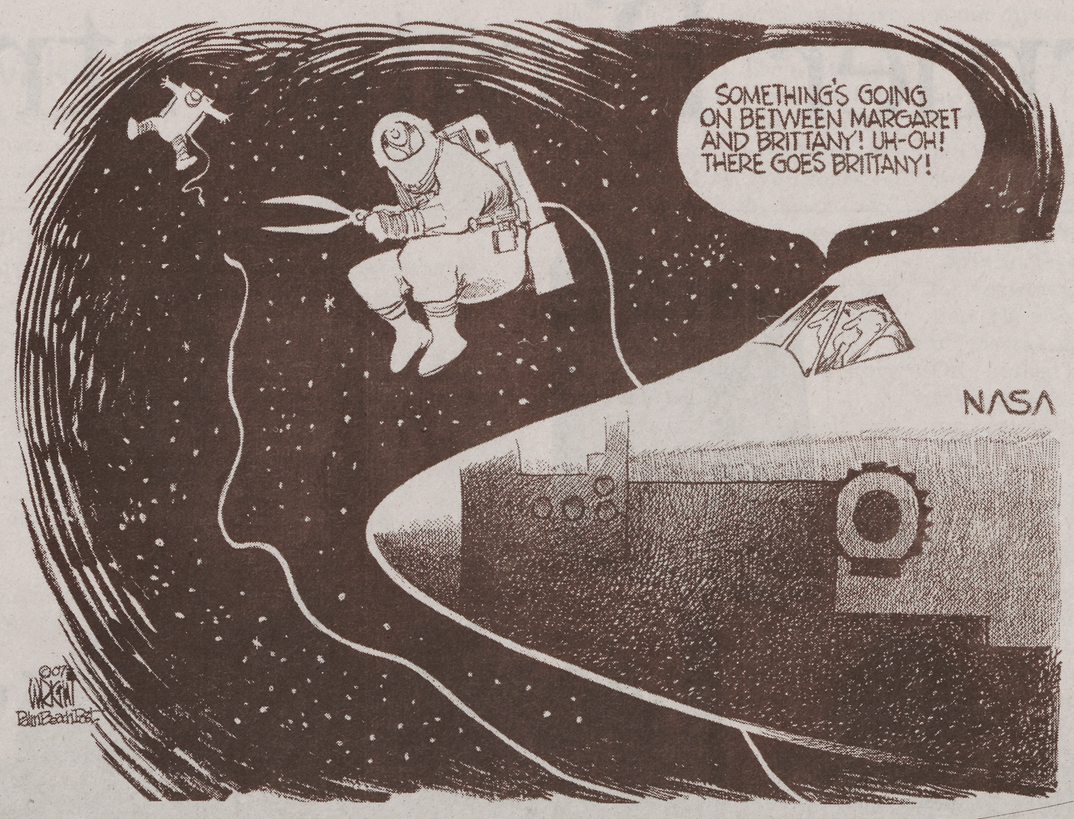
Since 1979 these two countries have carried strong resentment, but in recent months relations have become more heated than they have been for some time. Now talks of a possible war in Iran are on the rise. A truly scary thought, especially with the controversy surrounding their nuclear program.

I think that we can handle the war in Iraq. I truly believe that we can complete our mission there, despite strong opposition. I do not, however, believe that we understand the gravity of a war with Iran. Iran is a much stronger military opponent. Devastation would be yet to come.

As I was reading articles concerning Iran, I wanted to know the true severity of the issue. How much are the Iranians intervening with our plans in Iraq? It has been proposed that the Iranians are responsible for creating the "anti-American" feelings amongst the insurgents. The Iranian government has also been accused of providing the means with which the rebellious Iraqi groups can fight the Americans. Although President Bush has stated that he does not intend to invade Iran, he did not say that he would not fight the Iranians that are currently in Iraq. This tactic could be extremely controversial. Some argue that we are provoking a disaster.

The more serious issue at hand, however, concerns Iran's nuclear program. They are not being truthful about their intentions and uses of uranium. There is a need to be fearful if Iran should come closer to complete knowledge of nuclear power. Although Iran's speaker on the issue has firmly stated that they have no aggressive motives, including towards Israel, I am still fearful. Nuclear capabilities have to be strongly monitored. After a temporary freeze from the International Atomic Energy Agency, new leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad broke down the barriers and began research again. Stopping the Iranians from becoming a nuclear power seems almost impossible.

Although this issue is still developing, it is one in which Americans need to be keenly aware. There is no doubt that the future may hold some new dangerous frontiers. It is my sincere hope that the United States troops can carry out their mission in Iraq without getting involved in a confrontation with Iran. Only time will tell.



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.

Poll: Have you ever had anything stolen at ECU? Yes, my car was stolen by the ECU Parking and Transportation Dept.

I want to wish my Mommy and Daddy a Happy Valentine's Day! Now go put this in your cookbook, OK? I love you!

My birthday is Valentine's Day, and all I want this year is for a girl to just come up and kiss me. Is that so much to ask?

To whoever stole my Jazz book—I hate you, I had to pay another $107. I hope I find you.

I wish there was a bar in every classroom.

I still want my mom when I'm sick.

If I win the lottery... do you think the dean will take bribes?

I've eaten at every single restaurant in this town at least 400 times.

The number one thing you hear when walking into an ECU classroom... "Yo man, what'd we do last class?"

All I want for Valentine's Day is an abundance of Bubblicious.

I'm sorry... Myspace shouldn't cause arguments, but b**** put me back on your top eight!

I really hate your girlfriend.

Is anyone actually supposed to understand chemistry?

Yard gnomes are the number one killer of grass.

I hate when people don't ever come to class and when they do decide to grace us with their presence, they sit in my seat. Why is that? Every single time!

Sweetheart, when we can hear you chewing down the hall... you know that there is a problem. You might want to snap it shut or I'll do it for you.

Late night basement talks are awesome!

Whoever tells the people on "American Idol" that they are good when they're not is really mean.

To my best friend, I can't kiss you because it wouldn't be right!

I want you to know I named my fish after you and I consider not feeding it sometimes.

I wish I could sleep through Valentine's Day! I'm so in need of a man!

My boyfriend slips cute notes under my door at night after I go to sleep so that when I wake up I will smile.

I finally learned what banner is!

I do like younger guys; I have found that they treat me better than the losers my age.

Swedish dudes are ultra fine!

Since becoming single, my Facebook time has tripled. Somebody send me a message!

How come when an Israeli soldier is kidnapped, hell breaks loose, yet when a whole Palestinian family is murdered for no reason on a beach, no one cares?

I saw the first daffodils of the year near campus and my heart nearly busted out of me in joyous ecstasy. Yes, daffodils make my heart erupt in euphoria.

Does anyone else feel like they say something wrong every time they speak? It kinda sucks...

The blonde on the sign-up poster in my lobby is hot! Can I have a room next to hers?

Who needs a water fountain? We need a transporter pad on main campus. That way we can sleep late and "beam" into class.

Why should ladies settle for the same old tired box of chocolates and plastic flowers? That's played out. Let's get unpredictable. How about a pirate club membership, 12 boneless wings, a 40 oz. and $200. Smooth!

You're complaining about Marines downtown? Well, I don't hear them complaining about fighting for your freedom. Think next time before being so selfish.

Yes the world does not revolve around my girlfriend. However, I made the choice to have my world revolve around her because she is that wonderful and I love her that much.

You smell like feet. Take a shower!

I'm not bitter about Valentine's Day. I just acknowledge that too many people use the day as a way to act like they are better than single people and go around flaunting their oddly colored valentine gifts.

Stop dancing around it. Be a man and just say it's over! Do I always have to wear the pants in relationships?

Sweetie, you wouldn't know sexy if Justin brought it to you on a platter.

I agree with the person that said that the Whichard building needs some signs. That is the most confusing building on campus.

I'm right and you know it, so apologize already.

When I read about you people's love affairs and cheating ways, it makes me nauseous. Please stop being sleazy and grow a conscience. Otherwise, keep it to yourself and let me think people don't suck.

So, am I the only one super excited about the new Harry Potter book coming out this summer? Though, in my opinion, I would rather Harry die than Ron and Hermione. Ron + Hermione = Love.

Wow, my co-workers are so hot. Man, I am so glad I got that job.

Hi I'm ____, a compulsive flirt, amateur-alcoholic and procrastinator extraordinaire.

I can't decide what I want for lunch; ramen, ramen or cereal.

If only I were Superman...

I cant wait until I get on "Real World" and show the world how ECU can hands-down, out drink everyone.

Some days I just feel like streaking through Wright Plaza.

I can't wait for my present!

If you just apologized everything would be OK, I miss you being around.

I wish I had money for a road trip.

I hope my professor is OK with me missing a couple classes for job interviews, being able to eat kinda trumps sociology in my life right now!

Napping alone is nothing compared to napping with a buddy.

When reality catches up to you, I'm not going to be there to clean up your mess.

I was going to go to "The Vagina Monologues" for extra credit, but then I found out it was $10. I'm not paying that. So I spent $20 on beer instead...

To the girl that wants to know what to get a man for Valentine's Day, there is only one answer. Sex.

I don't care how tan your legs are or how in shape they look, it's 30 degrees outside... how 'bout putting on some pants?

M. & L. you, baby cakes!

I like to wear leopard granny panties when I do my laundry.

If I wanted to date a girl, believe me, I would.

Someone keeps pranking my house phone at all hours of the night. Please stop!

For future reference—skateboarding drunk isn't smart... at all... ask my elbow.

How awkward is it to share a room the size of a box with someone you don't trust?

Is it bad that my major is just as boring as it is fun?

If you don't stop sitting right outside my door at night to talk on your cell phone, I swear I will come outside and break it with the hammer that dorm rules says I'm not supposed to have.

Pirate bucks have more street value than crack.

If your cat bit me, I would hit it too and then I would kick it.

To the girl sitting in front of me in class... can we go out sometime?

So, it's pretty much pointless to visit other schools when nobody throws down like ECU.

I love when my boyfriend sings love songs to me in the morning.

I hope they serve beer in Hell.

I thought it was impossible to become addicted to marijuana... I guess not.

Is it just me or does it seem to rain on every Tuesday and Thursday?

I'm in love with the hockey team!

To the person who complained about being locked out of class... yes, I agree you shouldn't be locked out of class, but your point about paying billions of dollars does not make sense. If you're paying so much money to go here, you should get the most out of your dollar and show some respect to the people you're paying to teach you.

JUST ASK JANE

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

I have known this guy for a long time now and we have always just been friends, but I realized recently that I totally have more than "just friends" feelings for him. I think he feels the same way because we flirt with each other a lot, but I don't know how to tell him how I feel because I don't want to scare him away. What would you do in this situation?

Signed,
Just a Girl Who Likes a Boy

Dear Girl,

We've all been there and I'm sure a lot of your friends would give you great advice as well, but since you've asked for it, here's what I think. Ask him out on a proper date. Go have dinner and see a movie (even better if it's a romantic comedy or something... but don't go too girly-movie on him). Notice whether or not he offers to pay at any point—for many guys, this is "boyfriend behavior." If not, that doesn't necessarily mean he doesn't feel that way about you; you did ask him out, after all.

Either way, I'm a rather brazen person, so I'd give him a big smack on the lips before you part ways for the night. If nothing else, blame it on Valentine's Day, or your romantic movie, and that episode will eventually become a funny story between you. If he kisses you back, then great!

If you aren't that brave, at least be brave enough to ask him directly how he feels about you (this is the cheaper option—no need to wine and dine to ask this question). All you're doing is tormenting yourself. Be proactive. At least you'll have an answer, one way or another.

Good luck,
Jane

Love IS a battlefield

So retreat now or prepare to fight for your heart

ELIZABETH LAUTEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Today when Cupid carelessly knocks his bow and slings amorous arrows at unsuspecting victims, such as you—duck!—his impulsive actions just might prove to be your undoing. I mean, sure, there's the possibility that when struck, you'll find true love, but really, what are the odds of that? Call me a pessimist if you will, but I have a valid point here—in throes of collegiate existence, very few are willing to take on the challenges of love.

After all, these are the carefree days when you party 'til 2 a.m., wake up at noon, go to class for a few hours and then do it all over again the next day. Does love stand a fighting chance amidst an over abundance of keg parties and one-night stands?

With so many willing to settle for random hook-ups, it's amazing anyone ever seriously dates at all. In fact, relationships in college are more of learning experiences than anything.

Yes, some people find true love, get married and live happily ever after, but what about all of those who don't? The ones who put their hearts on their sleeves and end up nowhere. Shouldn't they be forewarned that the odds are stacked up against them?

We live in a society where going out on actual dates has been pushed the wayside. Where going out to dinner and a movie, has been replaced with hanging out downtown.

We've accepted so many shortcomings for what relationships should be. In fact, the only time that we're even slightly aware of it at all is when either a good friends points out that we're "settling" or we see what a semi-functional relationship looks like on TV or in the movies.

Nowadays, neither of the sexes even knows how to function in a healthy relationship. Both sides wait for the other to call, unaware that all they have to do is pick up the phone themselves. Dating has become so complicated, that guys and girls alike avoid it for fear of being tangled within its dense web of chaos and confusion.

What's more, is if you actually think about all the possible dilemmas in the way of love, you'd be half-crazy even to attempt to pursue it. On this Valentine's Day, stop and assess what your ideal of love is. Evaluate what you're accepting, versus what you actually want. After all, love is a dangerous game and you're likely to come out on the losing end if you're not careful. If nothing else, sometime today, remember Arthur Pendragon, Tess Durbeyfield, Romeo Montague, Orpheus, Eowyn, Don Quixote, Charlie Brown and of course the king, Cyrano. Like so many of us, these are the lovers who were losers. The ones who just couldn't catch a break. I think this is just as much their day as it is of the happy couples.

If nothing else, take a second out for their memory—you may end up like one of them.

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Pulse

{ Pirate Buzz }

Horoscopes:

Aries
Accept the opportunity to provide leadership. You may not know everything, but you can keep the objective in mind. And, you can make quick decisions. Besides, the odds are in your favor.

Taurus
Travel goes well, especially if you're going to meet an old friend. Gather a whole bunch of them together if you can. You'll all love it.

Gemini
Adapt to a slight change in direction and leadership. One you thought was a dunce turns out to be pretty smart, after all.

Cancer
Delegate most of your interactions with the public for a while. You'll be happier and more effective if you can stay out of the spotlight.

Leo
It's easier to do the job when you're full of energy. The support you've received from loved ones lately has increased your enthusiasm.

Virgo
You're not much in the mood to work. You'd rather be playing around. Your sweetheart feels the same way, too, so maybe you can fit some in.

Libra
It's OK to discuss your plans now, with people who already know. Continue to ask questions of others, but don't provide many answers.

Scorpio
You're gaining valuable information. Don't act upon it yet. This requires at least a couple of days of pondering.

Sagittarius
At least get the very best bargains you can find. Provide for the family before anything else.

Capricorn
You've learned a lot the past few weeks, and you're nowhere near finished yet. Some problems don't have solutions yet. You'll *have to make something up.*

Aquarius
You've been stashing away all sorts of things, some of which come in very handy. Once again, you show great savings, due to creative recycling.

Pisces
The job is getting easier, due to a change in attitude. The more fun you're having, the less you're annoyed by those other things.

Drink Recipes:

Cherry Buster

Bongo Java mocha syrup:
3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
3 tablespoons sugar
1 tablespoons white corn syrup
1 tablespoon boiling hot water
1 shot espresso, to taste

Cherry Buster:
1 tablespoon cherry syrup
1 tablespoon Bongo Java mocha syrup
2 shots espresso, hot
12 ounces steamed milk
Whipped cream (optional)
To make mocha syrup, mix all ingredients except espresso. Add espresso to desired strength. For the cherry buster drink, pour the cherry and mocha syrups in the bottom of a mug. Add the hot shots of espresso and swirl the chocolate and syrup together. Pour in steamed milk. Add whipped cream if desired.
This recipe was provided by professional chefs and has been scaled down from a bulk recipe provided by a restaurant. The Food Network Kitchens chefs have not tested this recipe, in the proportions indicated, and therefore, we cannot make any representation as to the results.

Mango Tango

2 1/2 cups mango nectar
4 ounces dark rum
2 ounces coconut rum
2 ounces Triple Sec
1 1/2 cups pineapple juice
1 lime, juiced (about 2 tablespoons)

Fill two ice cube trays with the mango nectar; freeze until solid.
Working in batches, puree the mango ice cubes, dark rum, coconut rum, Triple Sec, pineapple juice, and lime juice in a blender until smooth. Serve.

Please drink responsibly.

Former Pirates strike gold

Photo by Zach Sirkin

Pirate Alumni run the show at the Riz Continental and Oriental Restaurant. The new restaurant offers students a tasty meal at an affordable price.

New restaurant offers exceptional cuisine

SHANNON DAVIS
SENIOR WRITER

The Riz Oriental and Continental Cuisine located on East 10th Street is one of Greenville's finest treasures. They have excellent cuisine with courteous, outstanding service. The atmosphere is warm and inviting to all patrons who dine.

The ambiance is set with bamboo decor, wine bottles, decorative flowers, plants, unique light fixtures and live goldfish swimming in fish-shaped bowls. The music includes the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra as well as other American classics.

For Valentine's Day they plan to have roses to set the romantic mood for the holiday.

The Riz is ECU student-friendly providing a student menu with inexpensive prices for copious amounts of food.

A student ID must be shown in order to receive the special student discount. This opportunity is available from 11 to 5 p.m. The student menu includes an assortment of dishes ranging from Habachi to chicken basil. Students receive these large portions of food for a set price of $5.99.

The restaurant is family run by the Chayaratana family, who has moved to Greenville from Greensboro, N.C. Chaiyuth (Kim) Chayaratana is the head chef and owner of the restaurant. He spent 25 years refining his culinary techniques in Manhattan before relocating to Greensboro.

His wife, Umpira assists him with the culinary duties. Their daughters Nimmie and Noon are also a part of the friendly waiting staff and the restaurant manager is ECU alumnus, Maurice Galloway.

Nimmie and Maurice are engaged to be married this month, making the management entirely family run. Galloway graduated from ECU with a degree in public relations and a minor in business.

"We offer a romantic environment, excellent service and an amazing selection of the finest cuisine around town. We would love for you to come out and experience the pleasure of fine dining at affordable prices. Our lunch special changes daily, so that every visit is a new and exciting experience. Reservations are available for those special moments in your life," said Galloway.

The menu has a variety of choices including Italian, French and Oriental food. A recommended dish is the tropical chicken. It is a grilled chicken breast with mango slices, cilantro, red onions and lime sauce with white rice and a side of vegetables.

"Everyday I come in here and it's something different. It's exciting and busy. I have an opportunity to learn whom the people are who are eating with us. The

see **RIZ** page A5

Spring Break without breaking the bank

Photos.com

A Spring Break trip can be break any budget in a matter of moments. This year use these tips to save money.

No money? No worries.

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

College kids are known for the keen ability to date everything in relation to the major break times we receive as students. December's break is generally thought of as a chance to see friends and family missed during the past months. Spring break, however, is when students are allowed the chance to spend their break the way they want, with minimal parental influence.

Sometimes, problems occasionally arise in cases of which students' budgets may not cover their big plans and as such, Spring Breaks are subsequently wasted. They do not have to be!

Do not expect your breaks to resemble anything close to what you may see on TV or movies. Unless you are eager to spend large sums of money or fall into the particularly lucky crowd, it simply will not happen. People find themselves too caught up in what they wish they could do, instead of actually planning something within reason and when their break comes along, they find that they've wasted ample planning time.

While some would prefer to steer clear of their family for a week longer, others are more than happy to see what their parents have planned. Remember friends, if they have been paying for your college education, who says they can not help pay for something to do this spring break?

Molly Harden, freshman exercise physiology major, is counting down the days for spring break for just this reason.

"My mom always wanted to go snorkeling on the reefs surrounding Key West. I get to invite my boy friend and spend my spring break in Florida, what's not to love," said Harden.

see **SPRING BREAK** page A5

Roses are read

(KRT)—Don't even think about getting her phone number. And stop worrying whether he'll call you the next day.

In this age of high-speed instant communication, the manner in which potential lovers interact is a complicated, tiered system that has reconfigured the way we court.

Gone are the days when potential paramours exchange phone numbers and contemplate too long and hard over a call. With the emergence of e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging and handheld devices like Treos and BlackBerrys, dating has evolved so that the thrill of a quick response goes hand-in-clammy-hand with the uneasiness of knowing you are reachable no matter where you are.

Michele Fontana, 45, is a divorced networks engineer from Santa Clara, Calif., who changed her dating ways when she incorporated new technology into her life. Unlike younger members of the singles pool who seem born with communication gadgets in hand, Fontana adopted text messaging, buying a Treo 650 and giving up her landline phone.

As doctoral student in neuropsychology at San Jose State University, Fontana used to give her phone number to an interested suitor. Now she prefers exchanging e-mails to establish communication. If she likes what she reads, she suggests talking via Yahoo! messenger or her cell phone.

"If you have a thought or feeling, or if something happens that you want to share, technology allows you to be spontaneous in a way you couldn't before," Fontana says. "It gives you a new avenue to touch them."

Today, people who date are likely to make that first post-introduction contact through e-mail. A phone conversation follows after some flirtation and virtual footsies are played via text messaging or instant messaging.

Sex expert Helen Fisher agrees that technology is changing the way we date.

A biological anthropologist at Rutgers University who specializes in the evolution and future of sex, love and marriage and gender differences in the brain and behavior, Fisher says new technologies have expanded our ability to communicate while increasing the possibilities—and emotional impact—of dating.

"The technology has made it more emotional," says Fisher, author of "Why We Love: The Nature and Chemistry of Romantic Love"" (Henry Holt, 2004). "Not only can you express your emotions almost instantly and have the other person respond, but if you express yourself and they don't respond, you instantly want to know why not."

Noemi Tappang, 20, of San Jose, Calif., prefers to initiate contact with someone interesting via succinct text messaging. A photojournalism major at San Jose State, Tappang explains that texting gives her a degree of control that a phone conversation lacks.

see **TECH DATE** page A5

Photo by Erica Chan

Taking a date to the Wright Place for lunch may not be the best idea if you are hoping to score another one.

Bad dates never seem to end

Students share their experiences

ARIANNE SWANEK
STAFF WRITER

Here are some bad date horror stories to counteract all the mushies one that are certain to fill your day. Singles, prepare to celebrate your singledom in all of its splendid glory. Couples, be happy that you no longer have to suffer through bad dates. For the time being, at least…

"I went on this date with a guy to a restaurant that had shiny metal on every wall. He was staring at me so intently. It took me about 30 minutes to realize that I was not the one he was looking at. He was instead staring at his own reflection on the shiny surface of the wall behind me."

"There was this girl visiting from another school, and after she left, she relayed to a mutual friend that she thought I was hot and something really special. So I decided to ask her out. Well, before our date, I got curious and decided to look her up on Facebook. I ended up finding out she was engaged, and was seeking revenge on her fiancée who had cheated on her. So the date never happened."

"I knew it was a bad date when he took me home, I went to give him a kiss good bye and he gave me a high five."

"A girl I went on one date with tells her guy that I am still pursuing her and he has to compete with me, so he proceeds to follow me around all night and glare at me. I was really confused. I was leaving with other friends and she comes up and is like "you and he need to stop this," and I of course am

Share with us:

Log on to theeastcarolinian.com to share your Valentine's Day date horror stories and read what others have to add.

see **BAD DATES** page A5

TECH DATE continued from A4

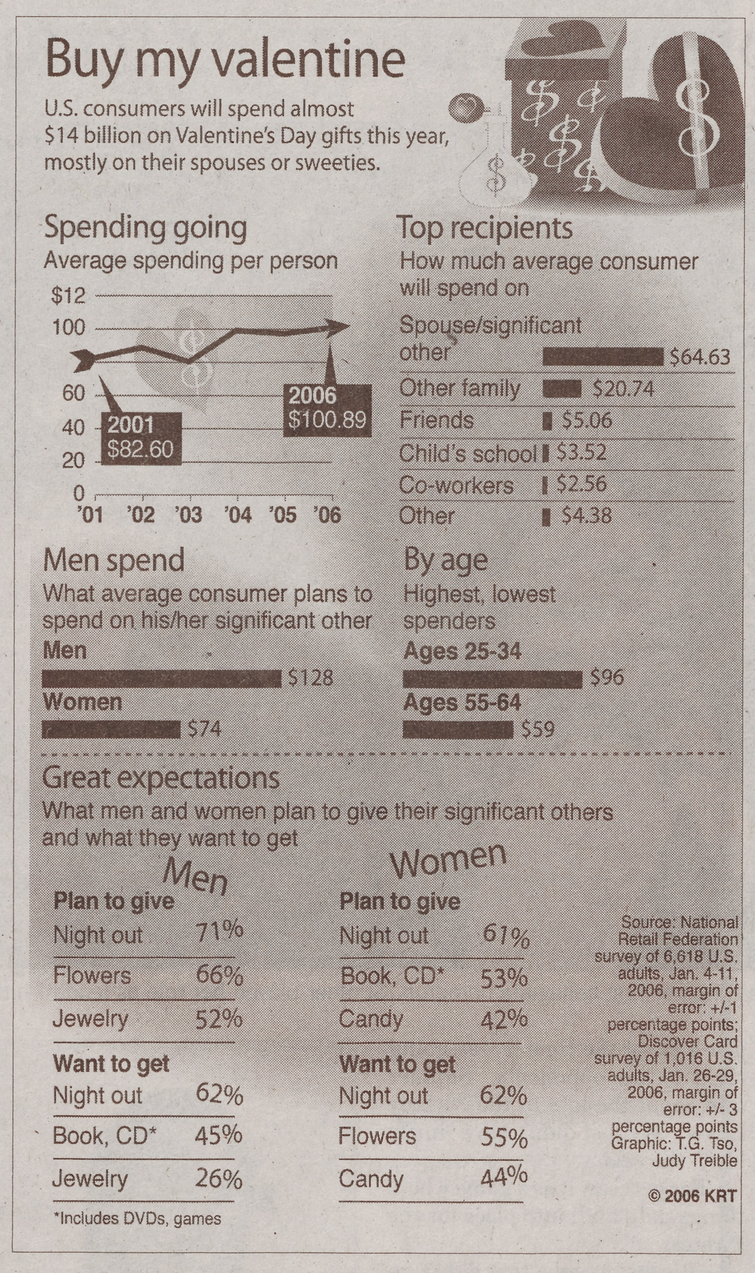
"Text messages are quick," she says. "And you can respond only if you feel like it."

Such means of communication makes sense for anyone locked in the hectic Silicon Valley lifestyle. Oliver Mogan, 35, of San Jose, says that calling on the phone is not always convenient. A systems administrator for the U.S. government, he will give his cell phone number to women, but that isn't always his preferred way of reaching out.

"A lot of people cannot always make calls at will because of their job schedule or lifestyle," he says. "And you can communicate through text messages and instant messaging at work without the boss knowing."

The downside of text messaging is its depersonalized nature. An e-mail, for example, isn't always something the recipient is obligated to respond to, says Stacie Hrabal, 41, who manages trade shows. And though breaking up on the phone was once considered a potentially heartless act, those who dated briefly and mostly communicated through e-mail can conveniently end their courtship with an electronic message.

Like Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks, who labored over when to advance their exclusively e-mail relationship to an in-person encounter in *You've Got Mail*, people who rely too much on electronic interaction, even an emotionally intimate one, ultimately must step it up.



BAD DATES continued from A4

like "Huh?" so I shrug and leave because she is not herself and making stuff up. The next night I saw the guy and asked to have a word with him and I was like, dude I am not your rival and I am not interested, she is all yours. So please stop with the macho act."

"Here's how my recent date went, play-by-play:

HIM: Talk about myself, talk about myself, talk about myself, talk about myself.

ME: Really? I have a story about that—

HIM: Talk about myself, talk about myself, talk about myself.

"I was picked up on campus by this guy I met online. When I saw him I realized he was 45, but didn't want to be rude, so I went with him to a restaurant. He then shared that he had gotten 11 speeding tickets and used to be a cop in another state, but was fired for something he couldn't mention. He also said he was "kind of" married and asked if that was OK. I asked him to take me back to campus; he said he was expecting something "special." I told him I had to meet a friend and made him drop me off at a dorm that wasn't mine.

These horror stories are all brought to you by none other than your fellow ECU students, but for obvious reasons they wish to remain anonymous.

So, regardless of your so-called "status" this Valentine's Day, go out and flaunt it. Your survival of the dating game thus far deems you worthy of admiration.

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

SPRING BREAK continued from A4

Always keep in mind that things will not always go as smoothly as you plan. Getting Spring Break down to a science takes a lot of trial and error. Experts in the field of "spring breaking" call upon past experience to lend a hand in where prospective party animals spend their time.

"I'd call my cousin up from Campbell and head out to the beach. I know of great low-key places not yet caught up with the tourist bug. Keep an eye out for them and you'll spot plenty of inexpensive hotels to stay in," said Joe Wood, freshman history education major, "and the night life is great if you know where to look."

Lastly, keep in mind the importance of friends, and not just for company and laughs. Your funds may be limited if you go in alone, but planning with a group helps to share the burden of expenses in more ways than one.

"One car means less gas money that's needed," said Angela LeBeck, freshman music education major. "I think it's a great way to bond with friends. It's hard to escape a conversation when you're trapped in a car for 10 hours."

Do not forget to check your local papers or the Internet for day trips and weekend specials. Always keep an eye open for group rates if you know you will be traveling with friends. Spring Break is what you make it; so don't waste it worrying about something as minor as money.

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

RIZ continued from A4

food and service is always going to be good but the people are going to change, which is what I enjoy most about my job," Galloway said.

The Riz Oriental and Continental Cuisine is open for lunch from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. , Monday through Friday. For dinner they are open Monday through Thursday from 5 –9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5 – 10 p.m. and on Sundays they offer a brunch 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. and dinner 5 – 9 p.m.

For more information call the restaurant at (252) 695-6360 or swing by and check out their amazing food at 2601 E. 10th St.

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

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EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

0

Losses by the ECU women's tennis team at home or at a neutral site so far this season; The Pirates hold a 8-4 overall record, with all four losses coming on the road; after a weekend sweep to open the home schedule this past weekend, the Pirates are now 2-0 at home and 6-0 at neutral sites; half of the Pirates losses have come against Fila Collegiate Tennis Poll top 10 nationally ranked teams in No. 7 North Carolina and No. 8 Virginia Tech

.417

Batting average for ECU softball player Charina Sumner; the freshman right fielder was named to the Carolina Classic All-tournament team after her performance this past weekend; Sumner went a combined 4-for-6 on Friday, and recorded three RBIs and three runs in her doubleheader debut as a Pirate; Sumner, who is the leadoff batter for ECU, hit her first career home run on Friday, smashing a two-run shot against Gardner Webb

15

Of the 28 players on ECU and Southern Miss's men's basketball combined rosters are freshmen; ECU currently has seven freshman on its roster while Southern Miss has eight; The Pirates will look for their first C-USA win tonight as they host the Golden Eagles at 7 p.m. inside Minges Coliseum; ECU is 6-2 all-time against Southern Miss

6

Combined conference losses by the ECU women's basketball team's next two opponents, UTEP and Tulane; Tulane sits atop the C-USA standings with a 10-2 record and a 21-4 overall record, while UTEP is in third place in C-USA with a 8-4 record and a 19-5 overall record; ECU hosts UTEP tomorrow night at 7 p.m. and Tulane at 2 p.m. on Saturday, both in Minges Coliseum

21

Returning players for the ECU women's soccer team; The Pirates lost only three players to graduation and signed seven recruits last week to add to the 2007 team; of the seven additions, two are from North Carolina, two are from Texas, two are from Virginia and one is from New Hampshire

9

Games in a row in which the ECU softball team's Paige Baggett, a junior from Winterville, has a hit; the streak is the longest of Baggett's career, and began with the last five games of last season; Baggett was named to the Conference-USA All-Freshman team, and finished her first campaign with a .326 batting average; in the Carolina Classic tournament Baggett tallied three homeruns; before the tournament Baggett had four career homeruns

They said it

"We're playing really well, our record is 8-4 but three of the teams we lost to were nationally ranked. We've beaten some good teams and we're not going to play any more nationally ranked teams so our record should only get better."
– ECU women's tennis player Brooke Walter

ECU softball team opens season in grand fashion

Photo by Terrell Gordy

ECU Head Softball Coach Tracey Kee congratulates Charina Sumner after hitting her first collegiate homerun. Sumner played her role as leadoff hitter to perfection over the weekend.

Pirates look to continue success in FAU Dunkin' Donuts Classic

ROBERT MATTHEW PARKS
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team won three of four games this weekend at the Carolina Classic in Chapel Hill, NC.

All three of the Pirate's victories were dominated by strong pitching and timely hitting. ECU shut out Gardner-Webb 8-0 on Friday, then followed up the performance with a 9-0 drubbing of the College of Charleston on Saturday.

The opening game against the University of Ohio on Friday was much more gut wrenching. Behind a strong performance from star pitcher Keli Harrell, the Pirates eked out a win, 3-2, over Ohio.

ECU's lone loss of the tournament came at the hands of Penn State, 4-2.

"I was pleasantly surprised," Kee said of her team's performance. "I think [the offense] was the biggest surprise we were able to view this weekend. The power numbers and the hitting one through nine was something we knew we had the ability to do, we just weren't sure how soon it would show itself."

The offense was led by junior infielder Paige Baggett, who put in the performance of her career. Baggett had at least one hit in each of the four games in tournament and finished with a batting average of .500. She is currently in the middle of a nine game hit streak that started with last season.

Baggett also had three homeruns and eight RBIs. Most notably, her tear through the tournament featured a grand slam in the win over College of Charleston.

"Offensive-wise I was seeing the ball," Baggett said "I was confident up there hitting."

According to Baggett the team was ready to get out of practice and start the season

"As a team we played well, we hit well, we executed on defense well," Baggett said. "We had high energy. We were ready to play. We have been practicing against each other for the last month now so it was exciting to just get out there and play someone different."

In addition to Baggett's contribution, freshman utility player Charina Sumner provided some offense as well. She batted .417 for the tournament. Sumner also recorded her first-ever home run as a Pirate against Gardner-Webb.

Both Baggett and Sumner were named to the all-tournament team for their accomplishments.

The Pirates were 3-0 going into the last game of the weekend against Penn State.

However, sweeping the tournament was not to be.

"We were hitting the ball and just a lot of the time it was going right to our opponents," Sumner said about the loss to the Nittany Lions. "We just didn't have timely hits," she said.

Baggett saw it as a game where things didn't fall into place for the Pirates.

"It's just a game that didn't go our way," Baggett said "We gave up that one home run… which gave them the lead."

That was all the Nittany Lions needed to put the Pirates at 3-1 on the season.

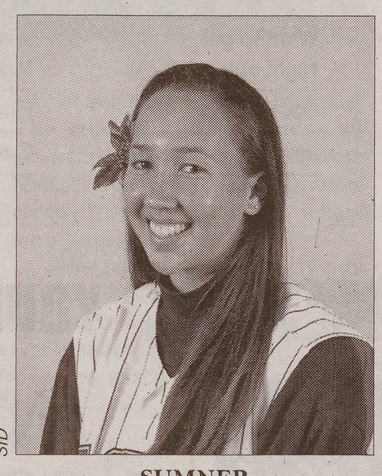
The Pirates expected to play the No.2 NCFA/*USA Today* ranked University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers as part of the Classic, but the marquee match-up was canceled

"Carolina, Wednesday prior to the tournament, they were having issues with their second field and the dampness on it so they had to drop games in the morning," Kee said. "They also were having issues with the cold weather. They originally had 7 o'clock games scheduled, which I don't think anybody wanted to be out there at 7 p.m. I know we were out there at 5:30 at one point and it was freezing."

Kee's added, "They ended up dropping games on the back- half, as well as the front-half. Unfortunately that was the game that was dropped,"

Tennessee's ace is senior

see **SOFTBALL** page A7



SID

SUMNER

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BAGGETT

Two Pirates receive all-tournament honors

(SID)—Junior Paige Baggett and freshman Charina Sumner were named to the Carolina Classic All-Tournament Team after helping the Pirates win three of four games in Chapel Hill, N.C. Baggett had a career-high day against the College of Charleston, hitting a grand slam and a home run, while driving in six runs. Sumner hit a home run in her collegiate debut and started all four games for the Pirates.

Baggett, a Winterville, N.C. native, batted .500 with eight RBI and three home runs over the weekend. The three home runs were one shy of her career total, spanning two seasons.

Sumner, a freshman from Kailua, Hawaii, led the Pirates in runs with five and had a batting average of .417. She was second on the team in total bases with eight.

"I was really pleased with Paige's power numbers over the weekend," said head coach Tracey Kee. "She really stepped into the clean-up spot and drove in runs when we needed them."

"Charina was an exceptional lead-off hitter for us," explained Kee. "She did what we needed her to do, which was get on base, hit for power, hit for average and really just be that catalyst at the top of the lineup."

Pirates sweep up the competition

ECU women's tennis records two more wins

JOSEPH MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU women's tennis team defeated Appalachian State 5-2 and North Carolina A&T 7-0 Saturday afternoon. With the victories the Pirates completed a sweep of their first home competitions of the season and improved to 8-4 overall.

"I think it was our two best matches," said Junior Luiza Borges.

The victories ended a two match losing streak. The Pirates previously lost at Fila Collegiate Tennis Poll No. 68 ranked Virginia Tech and Campbell. The team's other two losses on the season came against Fila Collegiate Tennis Poll nationally ranked No. 7 North Carolina and No. 8 Virginia Commonwealth.

"I think that we are playing really well, our record is 8-4 but three of the teams we lost to were nationally ranked," said freshman Brooke Walter. "We've beaten some good teams so I think we're doing really well. We're not going to play any more nationally ranked teams so our record should only get better."

The Pirates four losses all came on the road. Thus far the team is 6-0 at neutral sites (defeating Georgetown, James Madison, Longwood, Delaware, George Mason and Radford) and after this weekend the team is 2-0 at home.

The Pirates are looking to improve their doubles play as the season continues.

"Right now were all playing really well in singles, and were working on doubles. The matches that we have lost, we lost the doubles point," Walter said. "Our confidence is lower if we lose the doubles point because that's what starts the match, so if we improve our doubles it's going to improve our overall record. I think that's the main thing we need to focus on now because we lost our top doubles team from last year and they were nationally ranked, so we've got to work up to that again."

The Pirates are looking to improve on last season's 19-9 record, which was the best in school history.

"We had the best year we ever had at ECU last year, if you compare that team to this team the focus should be on doubles," said Coach Tom Morris, "I feel very good about our singles play but we really have to focus on doubles, we don't have any seniors on this team so this team is younger and we don't have the advantage of a really good doubles team."

"We're good doubles players but we need to show it in match play," Walter said. "We get better every time we play, but doubles is the key thing right now."

Without any seniors, the Pirates look to their five juniors, Borges, Mireira Gol, Zandy Overcash, Hannah Priest and team captain Alex Smith, to provide leadership.

"We have five juniors so we look to those players to step up," Morris said. "We don't have any seniors, we don't look to one player to step up."

Staying healthy and injury free is another concern for the Pirates.

"Right now we want to focus on keeping everybody healthy," Morris said.

That could prove difficult; Walter defeated Appalachian State's Amanda Cash despite severe cramps. After the clinching point she was unable to meet Cash at the net for the customary handshake because of the pain. Furthermore, only six of the team's ten players participated in Monday's practice due to nagging injuries or illness.

The team's health could be an issue this upcoming weekend because the Pirates have three matches in three days, which are all on the road. On Thursday they play at Davidson, Friday at Elon and Saturday at High Point.

"The very beginning of our schedule is always the most difficult," Walter said. "We're just trying to rest this week so we'll be fresh for this weekend."

Coach Morris still has high hopes for the teams' season despite the injuries and lack of senior leadership.

"If we can stay healthy and keep improving on doubles then we'll have a good year," Morris said.

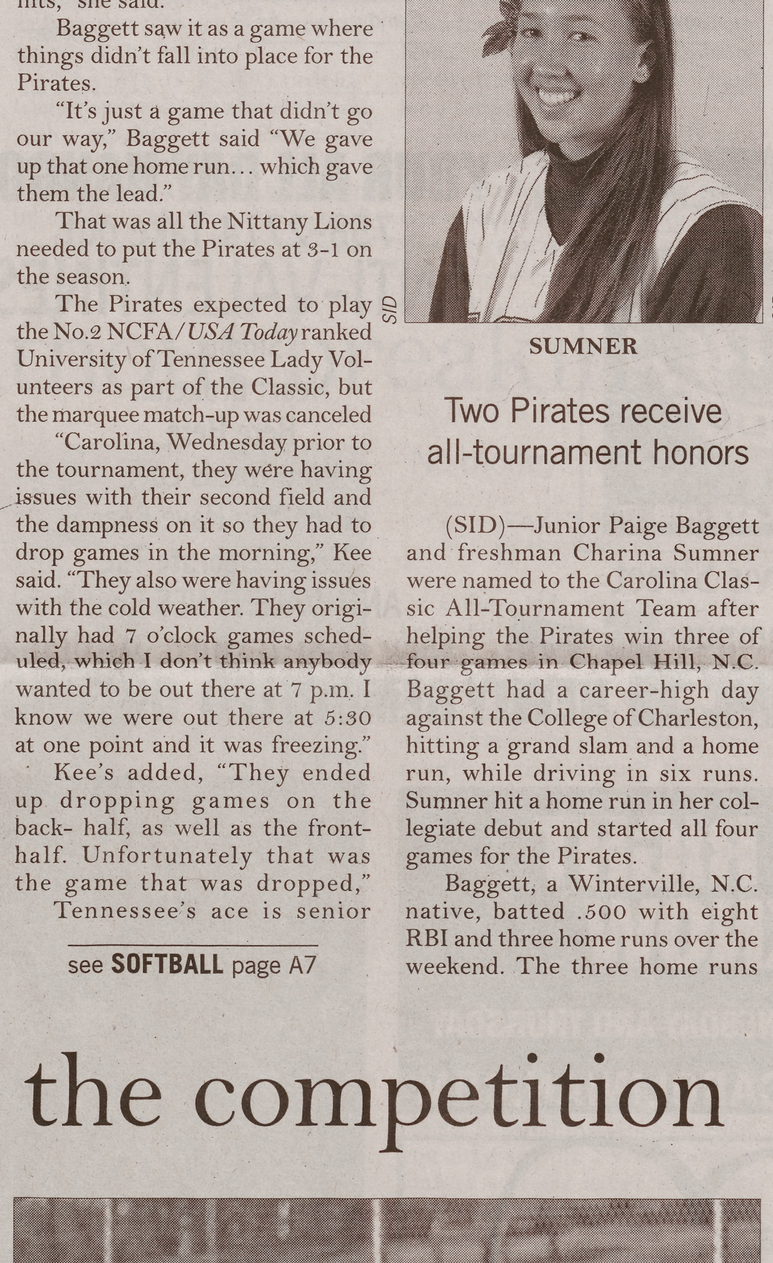


Photo by Terrell Gordy

Coach Tom Morris said of his players, "We get better every time we play."

Walter says the teams continued improvement is essential to potential success for the rest of the season.

"I think the main thing is to get better with every tournament we play," Morris said.

If the talented young Pirates can keep improving, stay healthy, and improve their doubles play then look for them to hopefully re-write the school's record books again this year.

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

Pirates sign seven for next year's soccer team

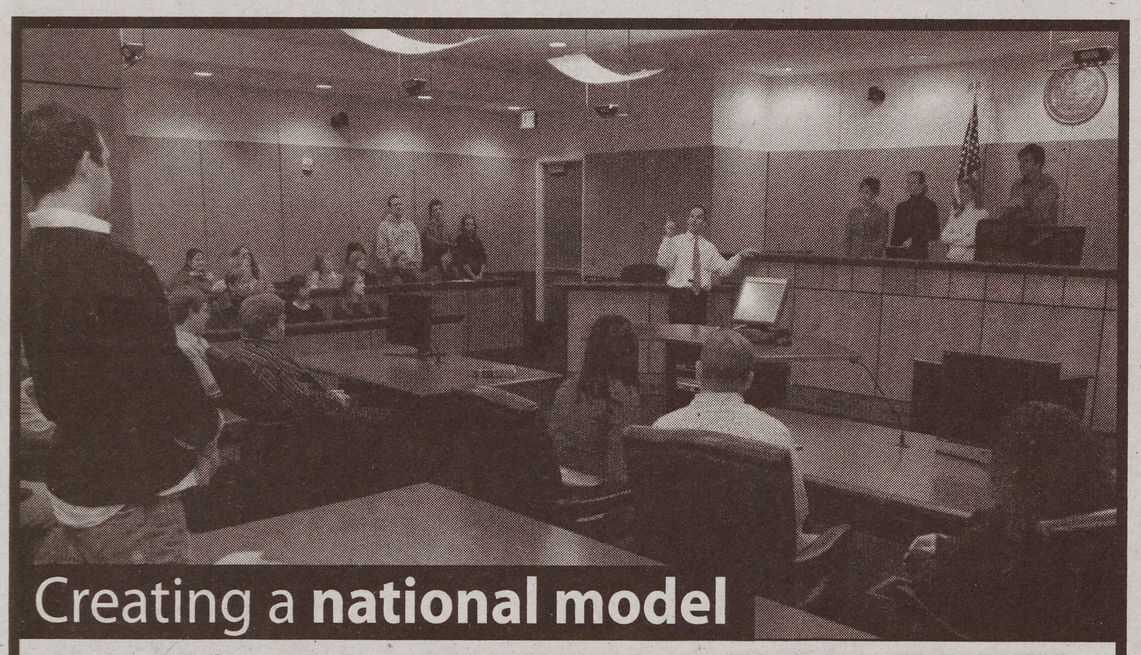
(SID)—ECU's women's soccer program announced that seven student-athletes will join the Pirates in 2007. The class includes Amanda Broz (Houston, Texas), Regan Sigler (Austin, Texas), Jessica Gulley (Concord, N.C.), Scarlet Van Loon (Winston-Salem, N.C.), Jessica Cunningham (Ashburn, Va.), Tricia Tufts (Exeter, NH) and Bailey Wilcox (Fredericksburg, Va.)

Broz plays club soccer for the Challenge Soccer Club. Her team won the South Texas State Cup Championship from 2001-2005. Her team was also US Region III quarterfinalists in 2004-2005. She played for Klein High School where she was named her team's defensive MVP. Klein was two-year district champions and Amanda was named All-District 2nd Team. Amanda is a member of Who's Who among American High School Students and the National Honor Society.

Sigler is a player for the South Texas Olympic Development Program. She currently plays club soccer for Lonestar '89 Premier Red team. She plays school soccer for Westwood H.S. coached by Jim Donahue where she was the RRISD Varsity Newcomer of the Year in 2005. She was named to the All-District 2nd Team and Academic All-District in 2006.

Gulley plays for FC Carolina Alliance coached by Shane Carew. Her team was three-time NCYSA State Cup semi-finalists and participated in the Region III Premier League in 2005. FC Carolina Alliance was the

see **SOCCER** page A7



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SOCCER continued from A6

2006 Greensboro Labor Day champions, 2005 Jefferson Cup finalists and 2004 CASL Shootout champions. Gulley plays for First Assembly High School, where she scored 44 career goals and assisted on 71. As captain of the team she has been a two-time team MVP and been named all-state (three times), all-conference (three times) and all-region (one time).

Loon was a three-time NC Olympic Development Team player. She plays for the 88 Lady Twins Premier team. She also played for FC Carolina Alliance coached by Dan Dudley. Loon plays high school soccer for RJ Reynolds. Her team has combined for a 48-9-4 record over the last three years and won two CPC Championships and was the runner-up in 2005. In 2006 her team also finished as the NCHSAA Western Region runner-up. During her high school career she has scored eight goals and tallied 15 assists while earning all-conference honors in 2005.

Cunningham was a member of the Virginia Olympic Development Team in 2003 and 2004. She plays club soccer for the Great Falls Strikers coached by Tim Lucas and Stephanie Drinkwine. As team captain she has been the team's leading goal scorer from 2003-2006 and was named the team's most valuable player from 2004-2006. She is a four-year starter for Broad Run High School coached by Claire Collins and Annie Smith. Broad Run was Va. State Runners-up in 2004. Jessie has also been an honor roll student at Broad Run.

Tufts was a member of the 2006 New Hampshire Olympic Development team. Tricia played for the 2006 Seacoast United Soccer Club, coached by Paul Willis, where they advanced to the USYSA Region I Tournament. The SUSC Team also participated in the Super Y-League National Tournament and Tricia earned First Team Tournament Honors. Previously, as a member of the Bedford Classics, she participated in the USYSA Region I Championships in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003. She was a two year Captain for the Exeter High School, coached by Megan Curran, and won the 2006 State Championship. She scored four game-winning goals on the road to the Championship scoring a total of five goals in the tournament. She was also named tournament MVP and earned All-State First Team honors. She will represent New Hampshire this summer in the Lion's Cup Senior All-Star Soccer game against Vermont.

Wilcox was a four-time member of the Virginia Olympic Development Team. She was a three-time captain for the FASA Impact coached by Pete Cinalli. She was a two-time MVP and the leading scorer for her club. She was also a three-time captain for Riverbend High School coached by Rebecca Berry. Riverbend were two-time District Champions and won the Regional Championship on their way to the State Semifinals. At Riverbend, she was a two-time leading scorer and Most Valuable player. She was twice named First team All-District and All-Region and was the District and Regional Player of the Year. She was also named First Team All-State and earned Second Team All-Metro honors. Bailey has been an honor roll student and earned scholar-athlete honors.

SOFTBALL continued from A6

Monica Abbott. Abbott decimated all challengers in the Carolina Classic, going 3-0, striking out 44 batters and finishing with an ERA of 0.00.

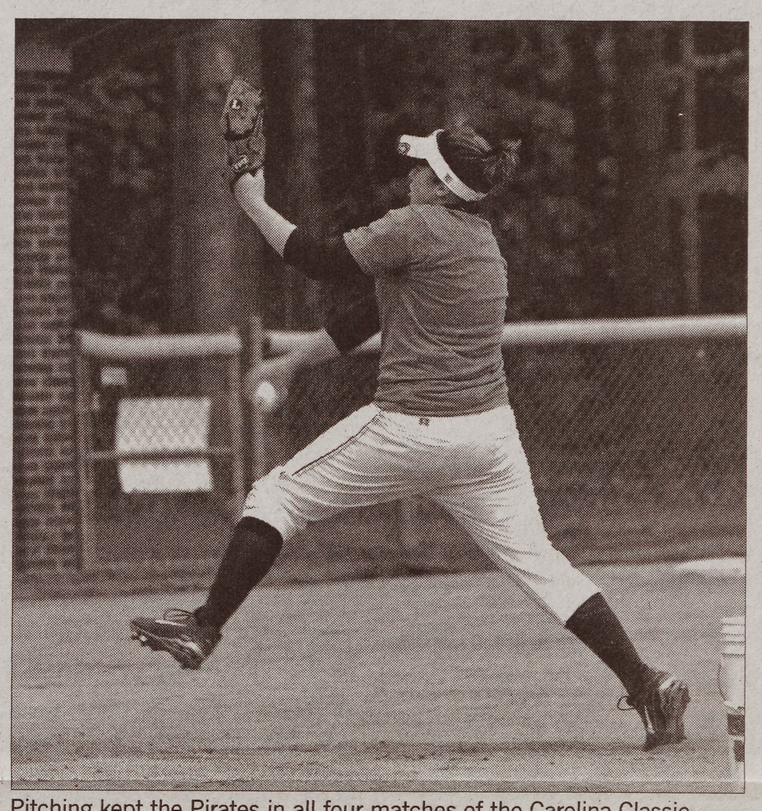
"She was dialed in but it would have been nice to face her," laughed Kee .

Now Coach Kee and her Pirates will turn their focus to the upcoming FAU Dunkin' Donuts Classic in Boca Raton, FL.

As part of the tournament the Pirates will take on the University of Michigan Wolverines, who are ranked No.11 in the NCFA/*USA Today* poll. They will also play the University of Maryland, Long Island University and Florida Atlantic University.

The tournament begins this Friday, Feb 16, when the Pirates take on Michigan and Maryland. On Saturday, Feb 17. ECU will play two games against Long Island and Florida Atlantic.

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



Pitching kept the Pirates in all four matches of the Carolina Classic.

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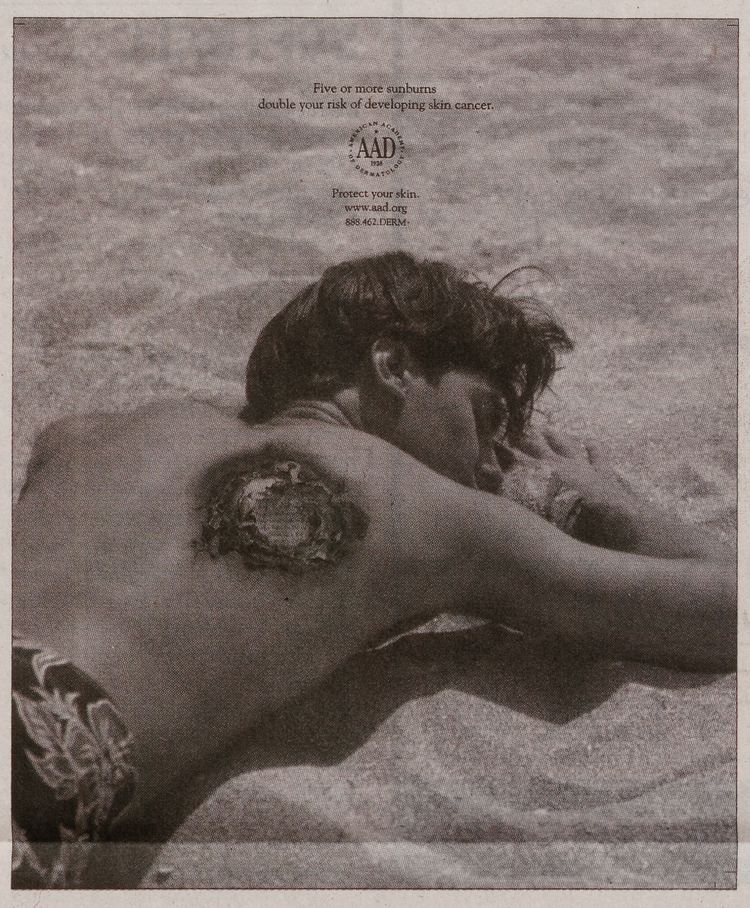

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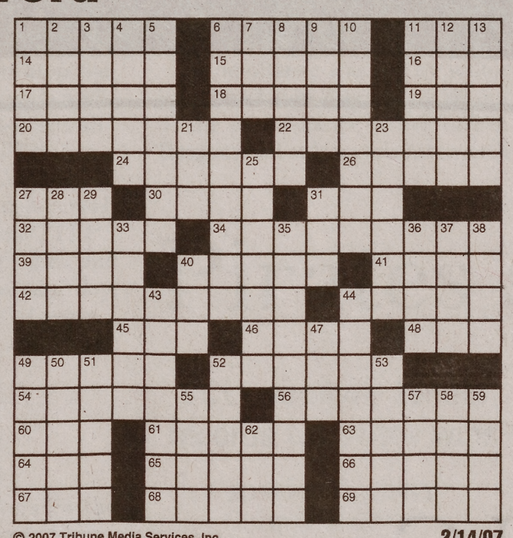

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11 Mormon letters
14 Unconscious states
15 Sharif and Epps
16 Bullpen stat
17 Bad deeds
18 Composition for nine
19 WWII soldiers
20 Temporary routes
22 Stiff felt hats
24 Kills, old-style
26 Gene of oaters
27 Flow out
30 Corn units
31 Dog tags
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34 Repetition
39 Intestinal fortitude
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63 English ruling dynasty
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65 Light haircuts
66 "Frasier" pooch
67 Before, in verse
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69 Bargains

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37 Burden
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55 Actor Franco
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Kickball Team Registration
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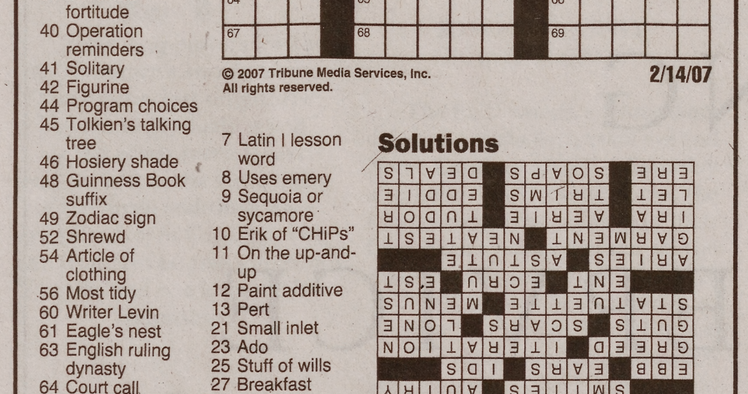

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