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YOUR INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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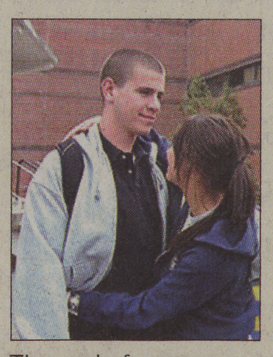
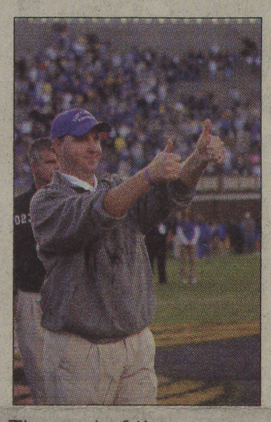
WEDNESDAY APRIL 11, 2007



The end of a relationship may mean the end of a longtime friendship as well. Read how couple's cope with the loss of a romance as well as friendship.....**Page A4**

Your resume is the advertisement that you offer to future employers. Find out what useful tools the Career Center has to offer.....**Page A4**



The end of the semester is fast approaching, wrapping up a rather eventful school year of ECU athletics. Find out what Pirates fans have to be excited about leading up to next year.....**Page A6**

The ECU softball team has been battling teams on the road to stay afloat in C-USA. See if the Pirates could tame the UAB Blazers in Birmingham....**Page A6**

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Test your skills at SuDoKu.....**Page A8**

NEWS .....**Page A2**

PULSE.....**Page A4**

SPORTS.....**Page A6**

OPINION.....**Page A3**

CLASSIFIEDS.....**Page A8**

ECU police department nationally recognized

New policies and standards apply

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

Photo by Zach Siirkin

The Blount House, located on 10th Street, is home to the ECU Police Department which received national accreditation status last month.

This past month, ECU Police department received national accreditation status. By receiving this award, ECU has joined the ranks of which only 39 other university police departments nationwide may also attest.

Accreditation allows police agencies to willingly exhibit their "commitment to excellence" in the field of law enforcement. By achieving this status, police departments not only work to further strengthen community ties, but also hold all aspects of the law more accountable.

"It is a change in documentation. Everything is becoming more detailed, more specific. It helps to keep lasting records," said Captain Perry, division commander for ECU Police.

"I remember a case where a DUI did not go to court for almost two and a half years. If I had not taken good notes then, the guy could have easily naturally changed appearances and you wouldn't know it was the guy until the judge called his name. Accreditation helps to change this," Perry said.

The program begins when an agency believes they meet certain prerequisites. By voluntarily submitting an application to the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, police departments express their interest towards working for accreditation status.

An on-site assessment of ECU's police department followed, allowing CALEA to see procedures and guidelines that may or may not be taking place.

"It's an evolving process," said Lt. Curtis Hayes, accreditation manager of ECU's police department. "CALEA is constantly improving, revising [their] standards and allowing agencies to change with the times. Everyone knows what their job is now, because it's spelled out in the policy."

CALEA's Web site states that it does not tell agencies how to do their work, but specifies what each department should be doing. By covering all aspects from procedure to administration, the accreditation status has been seen throughout ECU.

"Campus Safety has seen the effects of the accreditation recently," said Seth Adcox student parole unit supervisor, "we have to keep records for everything that we do, such as keep evaluations for everyone we employ. In the end, it helps to maintain accountability."

ECU police department will be reevaluated in three years. At that time, another on-site will occur, assuring that ECU is still in compliance with all required standards and 80 percent of any applicable standards. CALEA is currently on their fifth edition of standards and policies. ECU began their efforts towards gaining accreditation status using the fourth edition.

"Every officer has been very supportive," Lt. Hayes said. "It was a struggle at first, but as time went on, members of the department saw how their work was becoming more detailed, more precise. It really takes the guesswork out of their jobs."

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

ECU students celebrate Greek Week

Photo by Terrell Gordi

Greek organizations pick up trash between the Alpha Phi house and Sheetz.

Public service events scheduled

CARMIN BLACK
STAFF WRITER

The fraternal brothers and sisters of both the National Panhelenic Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Greek organizations joined forces last Monday at 4 p.m., hosting a step show, canned food drive and opening speech in an effort to kick of their annual Greek Week.

The purpose of this week is to allow all members of sororities and fraternities on ECU's campus to join together in a unified effort to give back to the Greenville Community.

"Greek Week happens every spring semester at ECU. It involves friendly competition in the name of service. The focus of Greek Week this year is to promote unity with the three branches of the Greek Community: Panhellenic, Inter-Fraternity Council and NPHC with every event," said Panhellenic Director of Programming Stephanie Lee.

Greek Week will run from April 9 – 15 with different events scheduled throughout the week.

Yesterday, a street clean up was held along 10th street which begin at 4:30 p.m. in front of the Alpha Phi sorority house and finish at the Sheetz convenience store located on the corner of 10th and Cotanche streets.

Today, the "Greek Life Blood Drive" will be held in Mendenhall from 12 – 6 p.m. Everyone on campus is invited to come and donate regardless of if they are involved in a fraternal organization or not.

The next event will occur on April 14; taking a short break from public service, ECU's Greek Life is hosting a tailgate to celebrate ECU's Purple and Gold Spring Football Game. The tailgate begins at 12 p.m. and the football game begins at 3 p.m.

Greek Week festivities wrap up on April 15 with the third annual "Casey's Race". This race is primarily sponsored by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity to honor the late Casey Rogers, a former SAE member who died in a car wreck in 2003.

Money raised at the event will benefit The Boys & Girls Clubs of Pitt County.

"Our biggest and most success-

see **GREEK** page A2

Laptops accessible for borrowing

Photo by Levinia Tyrrell

ECU students can checkout laptops for use in Joyner or Music libraries.

Joyner offers 13, Music Library offers five laptops for checkout

ALYCIA WENDT
STAFF WRITER

Joyner Library has a selection of 13 in-library laptop checkouts for ECU students. The Music Library in the Fletcher Building also has five laptops. These laptops are loaned and used for students' personal uses around the libraries.

These laptops have the same programs as the lab computers in the libraries and include a wireless card for internet access. Headphones are also available for in-library checkout.

"We began this service with only four laptops back in January 2000, in an effort to assist students who may have lost their computers in the flood caused by Hurricane Floyd. Since then, we have grown the inventory to 13," said Interim Head of the Systems Department, Ann Stocks.

Currently enrolled ECU students may loan a laptop once daily for a period of 12 hours or until 15 minutes before the library closes.

The 12-hour check out period for laptops has been in effect since Aug. 15, 2006.

"We started out with a check out period of three hours, but extended to 12. Since we extended the check out period, use has really

see **LAPTOPS** page A2

Student designs recognized

Annual Design and Drafting Contest

ADELINE TRENTO
STAFF WRITER

Last month, three ECU students received national recognition for their architectural work at the 40th Annual Design/Drafting Contest.

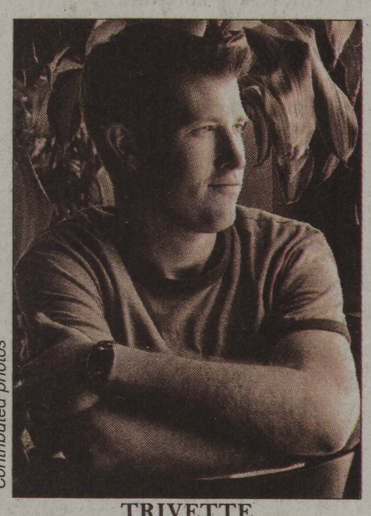
The competition, which was sponsored by the American Design Drafting Association, allowed students to demonstrate their skills in the architecture and design field.

According to the ADDA Web site, "The purpose of this contest is to encourage excellence in effort and discipline, and to give recognition to outstanding students and design/drafting programs."

The participants were able to submit their work in several different categories including residential architecture, commercial architecture, technical illustration and architectural rendering.

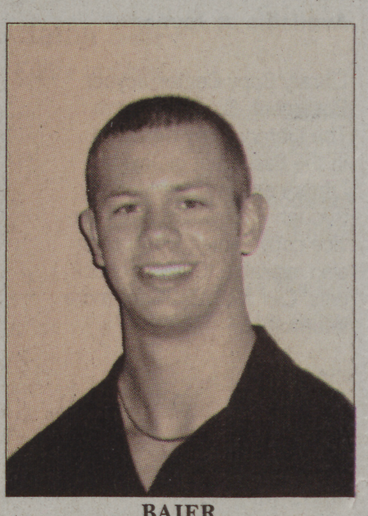
"The students were given a chance to display their knowledge by solving a problem according to certain criteria that was established for the specific divisions," said Robert Chin from the ECU Department of Technology Systems. "The students designed and documented a structure by following the practices that are used in the industry today."

The blueprints were judged on appearance, accuracy, line work, organization, reproducibility, creativity and many other categories.



Contributed photos

TRIVETTE



BAIER

Tim Baier, senior design major with an architectural concentration, took home the top prize at the event.

Baier received the Board of Governors Award for his residential design in the AC1 division.

"This is what I like to do so it was great to get recognized at the competition," said Baier. "The contest gives you a lot of experience in making blue prints and creating designs which will be really helpful in the future."

Two other ECU seniors took home awards at the event as well.

Michael Trivette received the second place award in the AC1 division and Daniel Stiling won the Board of Governors award for the commercial architecture division.

"The fact that three ECU students won top prizes at a national competition shows that we have a great program," Baier said. "It shows that not only can the students excel academically and in this field, but the faculty, such as Chin, are doing a great job as well."

Chin said that his students have been participating in this contest for the last five years and he plans to encourage them to enter their work in the future.

"It is very beneficial for the students to enter because it gives them an opportunity to get judged by someone other than myself," Chin said. "It helps to validate what we teach them here because

see **DESIGN** page A2

News

{ Campus & Community }

CORRECTIONS

The *East Carolinian* is dedicated to accurate reporting and will correct errors published in the paper.

To submit a correction, send an e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 12 – 15
The Tempest
By William Shakespeare
Prospero lives on a desolate isle with his virginal daughter, Miranda. He's in exile, banished from his duchy by his usurping brother and the King of Naples. Providence brings these enemies near; aided by his vassal the spirit Ariel, Prospero conjures a tempest to wreck the Italian ship. The king's son, thinking all others lost, becomes Prospero's prisoner, falling in love with Miranda and she with him. Prospero's brother and the king wander the island, as do a drunken cook and sailor, who conspire with Caliban, Prospero's beastly slave, to murder Prospero. Prospero wants reason to triumph, Ariel wants his freedom, Miranda a husband; the sailors want to dance.
For more information, visit ECUARTS.com
McGinnis Auditorium
8 p.m., except Sunday at 2 p.m.

Contra Dance and Potluck Dinner
April 14
6 p.m. potluck dinner, 7:30 p.m. lesson and 8 – 10:30 p.m. dance
Live old-time and Celtic music by a string band.
A smoke and alcohol-free event.
Sponsors: ECU Folk and Country Dancers

Now – April 17
Choose the Centennial Buccaneer Yearbook Cover
The department of Student Media is inviting all students, faculty and staff to help us choose the yearbook cover for the centennial edition of the Buccaneer, ECU's official yearbook!
You can view all three covers and place your vote using OneStop. All yearbook covers were designed by ECU students and staff.

Scholarships being offered by NC National Guard
The North Carolina National Guard is currently offering two, two and one-half, and three-year scholarships. Those interested can see SFC Jimmy Smith in Room 344-A Rawl Building to pick up an application packet. Information can also be obtained by calling 916-9073.
344-A Rawl Building

Color Copies Now Available at Joyner

Library Copy Center, Joyner Basement, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Library Copy Center is in the basement of Joyner Library and is open Monday through Friday. It is a full-service copy center, with faxing also available. Cash or check only. Call 328-2326 for more information.

11 Wed

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Mendenhall Student Center
12 – 6 p.m.

12 Thur

ECU hosts UN judge Bankole Thompson
Justice Bankole Thompson will present "The Role of International Law in Social Justice" presented by the Annual Carolyn Freeze Baynes Lecture on Social Justice presented by the College of Human Ecology. Justice Thompson serves as an appointee to the United Nations Special Court (War Crimes Tribunal) for Sierra Leone, Africa.
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
2 p.m.

13 Fri

Video Conference Lecture "International Projects, Our Experience"
Hosted by ECU Dept. of Engineering and Dr. Gene Dixon. Video Conference between ECU and Czech Technical University in Prague. ECU's 100th Anniversary and Czech Univ.'s 300th Anniversary. Lecture involves faculty and students from both campuses interacting in an information exchange.
Flanagan Building Room 312
8 a.m.

14 Sat

ECNAO's Spring Powwow
The East Carolina Native American Organization holds its annual powwow displaying traditional Native American dancing, songs, and crafts.
Bottom of College Hill

ECU hosts Spring Open House
Activities include an academic fair, a student life and organization fair, walking and bus tours of campus, and tours of the residence halls. There will also be sessions from Financial Aid, and the University Honors Program.
Wright Auditorium
9 a.m.

15 Sun

Softball
vs. Memphis
ECU Softball Field
1 p.m.

Casey's Race "Run for the Kids"
Presented by The Greek Community at ECU. For more information, visit caseysrace.com/index.html

16 Mon

Nutrition and Fitness Expo
Student Recreation Center Concourse
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Dating Doctor: David Coleman
Presented by ECU Student Union
Hendrix Theater
7 p.m.

17 Tue

ECU's International Film Series: "Fearless"
Bate 1031
6:30 p.m.

"Real Talk" with Jonathan Perry
Hendrix Theatre
7 – 8:30 p.m.

* Featured Event

TECU hosts Spring Open House
Activities include an academic fair, a student life and organization fair, walking and bus tours of campus, and tours of the residence halls. There will also be sessions from Financial Aid, and the University Honors Program.
Wright Auditorium
9 a.m.

BRIEFS

Tainted pet food linked to sharp increase in kidney cases in cats, study shows

WASHINGTON (AP)—Cases of kidney failure among cats rose by 30 percent during the three months that pet food contaminated with an industrial chemical was sold, one of the nation's largest chains of veterinary hospitals reported Monday.
Banfield, The Pet Hospital, said an analysis of its database, compiled from records collected by its more than 615 veterinary hospitals, suggests that three out of every 10,000 cats and dogs seen in its clinics developed kidney failure during the time the melamine-contaminated pet food was on the market. There are an estimated 60 million dogs and 70 million cats in the United States, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association.
The veterinary hospital chain saw 1 million dogs and cats during the three months when the more than 100 brands of now-recalled contaminated pet food were sold. It saw 284 extra cases of kidney failure among cats during that period, or a roughly 30 percent increase when compared with background rates. It's not clear if those animals ate the contaminated food, though it seems likely.
"It has meaning, when you see a peak like that. We see so many pets here, and it coincided with the recall period," said veterinarian Hugh Lewis, who oversees the mining of Banfield's database to do clinical studies. The chain continues to share its data with the Food and Drug Administration.
In the three weeks since the first pet food was recalled, Banfield vets have examined 1,605 cats and dogs reported to have eaten the recalled food. That is less than 1 percent of pets examined. Just six of those animals five cats and one dog have died.

Rutgers women's basketball team to weigh in on storm circling Don Imus over racial comment

NEW YORK (AP)—The Rutgers female basketball players called "nappy-headed hos" by Don Imus are ready to voice their opinions on the remarks that led CBS Radio and MSNBC to suspend his morning talk show for two weeks.
Word of the suspension, which will begin Monday, came several hours after Imus sought forgiveness for statements that have caused widespread condemnation.
Members of the Rutgers women's basketball team and coach C. Vivian Stringer planned to offer their feelings Tuesday on the gathering storm.
MSNBC, which telecasts the radio show, said Imus' expressions of regret and embarrassment, coupled with his stated dedication to changing the show's discourse, made it believe suspension was the appropriate response.
"Our future relationship with Imus is contingent on his ability to live up to his word," the network said late Monday.

U.S. official tells North Korea that time is running out to honor nuclear disarmament deal

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—A Bush administration official warned Tuesday that time was running out for North Korea to take initial steps toward dismantling its nuclear program, while a U.S. nuclear negotiator expressed hope that Saturday's deadline could still be met.
In an encouraging sign, the U.S. Treasury Department said authorities in the Chinese-administered region of Macau are prepared to unblock the frozen funds that North Korea says are the reason it has refused to move forward on a disarmament agreement.
The communist country struck a deal with the U.S. and four other nations in February to shut down its main nuclear reactor by Saturday in exchange for economic aid and political concessions.
If North Korea follows through with its promises, they would be the first moves the communist state has made to scale back its nuclear development since it kicked out international inspectors and in 2003 restarted its sole operating nuclear reactor.
But the hard-won agreement, reached four months after Pyongyang rattled the world by testing a nuclear device, has been held up by a dispute over North Korean funds frozen in a Macau bank.

Climate change to cause increased droughts, sea-level rise in Australia, New Zealand

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—Warming temperatures will cause increased drought and sea-level rises in Australia and New Zealand by 2030 and threaten ecologically rich sites such as the Great Barrier Reef, according to excerpts from a new scientific report released Tuesday.
The South Pacific Islands, meanwhile, will be swamped by sea level rises as well as increased frequency of cyclones, according to the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

rant, rave, read.
theeastcarolinian.com

LAPTOPS continued from A1

picked up," said Interim Associate Director Jan Lewis.

According to Lewis, the main advantages to students checking out laptops is that they can work in the group study rooms or quiet study spaces and bring the laptop into those areas.

A laptop loan includes the laptop, power cord, mouse, mouse pad and external floppy drive in a carrying case.

The laptops are Windows operated systems and have Microsoft Office, which includes Internet Explorer. Users may not add or remove any software.

If a laptop user needs to use a printer, they can send their work to a networked printer within the building and pay the current rate.

If a user's laptop is damaged, they will be sent a bill for the repair. This fee is then placed on the user's student university record.

There are also overdue fines and replacement fees for the laptops. For every hour the laptop is overdue, there is a $5 fine. These fines can add up to a maximum total of $120. If laptop is not returned, there is a $1,500 replacement fee.

If a borrower receives an overdue fine, they will also receive a tag by noon of the next day.

The 10 laptops were purchased with money from the library's equipment budget.

"All 10 laptops are sometimes checked out at the same time, but not very often. The highest use is during the time right before and during exams," Lewis said.

If all the laptops are checked out at once, there is no wait list. Students just need to keep checking back to see if one has been returned or when it is due.

"Since not everyone owns a laptop, I'm glad we're able to make them available," said Access Services evening supervisor David Hisle.

From July 2005 until January 2006 the laptops had circulated 588 times. Within the same time frame this year, the laptops have circulated 4,431 times. This is a 750 percent increase this year.

Borrowers are expected to read and follow ECU's "University Student and Employee Computer Use Policy." This can be viewed at ecu.edu/cs-itcs/policies/staffstudentpolicy.cfm.

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

DESIGN continued from A1

there is an outside panel of judges that looks at their work. If they do win, it shows that the students know what they are supposed to know and are doing what they are supposed to do."

On April 19, this year's winners will attend the ADDA Annual Conference in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Along with receiving framed awards and a cash prize, the students will be able to participate in workshops and listen to speakers at the event.

"The conference will be a really good opportunity for people to network and share ideas," Chin said. "They will get to talk with other people in the field, learn from one another and share ideas that will benefit the discipline."

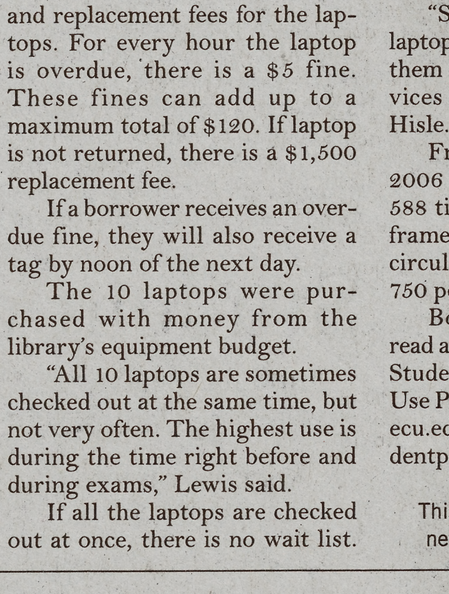
This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

GREEK continued from A1

ful philanthropy is Casey's Race... it is a 5K race where the Greek community, ECU community and Greenville community are encouraged to participate," said Lee. "We are hoping for a successful week where everyone can see what good the Greek Community presents at ECU and in Greenville."

Registration for the run begins at 12 p.m., with the race beginning at 1:30 p.m. Visit caseysrace.com for more details.

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


"Before giving, I always look for the Humane Seal."
NOAH WYLE
Star of NBC's hit show ER
The Humane Charity Seal of Approval guarantees that a health charity funds vital patient services or life-saving medical research, but never animal experiments.
HUMANE CHARITY
Council on Humane Giving
Washington, D.C.
www.HumaneSeal.org
202-686-2210, ext. 335
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U.S. ARMY

RANT OF THE DAY

My boyfriend broke up with me via Facebook.

Opinion

{ Insert comment here }

Gwen's cutest pets

How long until Gucci makes a purse to carry Asian girls?

BRIDGET TODD
OPINION WRITER

Like many girls who came of age in the late nineties, I once harbored a creeping fascination with all things Gwen Stefani. I envied her amazing abs. I yearned for the courage and lack of parental supervision necessary to dye my hair pink. While Britney and Christina Aguilera were glossy gyrating pictures of what I could never be, Gwen was there with her kick-butt attitude and low-key style. And I loved her for it.

Gwen and I lost touch over the years, but I assumed she was still spin-kicking through the MTV airwaves in her platform sneakers inspiring another generation of girls to not trade in their Keds for stilettos just yet.

She is not. She is, however, parading around with four cute Asian girls in tow. They are her Harajuku girls: Love, Angel, Music and Baby (I wonder if there was a *Roots*-esque scene wherein Gwen forces her Harajuku harem to accept their cutesy new names).

Now I didn't know it was possible to actually collect human beings, but if you were going to, you could do a lot worse than four pretty Asians girls.

The Harajuku girls are cute, they giggle a lot and wear knee socks. And I guess racial stereotypes can be pretty fashionable. Besides, what's more chic than a tall blonde being followed around by a pack of silent Asian caricatures?

Of course, Gwen isn't the first musician to "borrow" the style of a minority group and call it her own. Just mention the name Elvis around one of my blues-playin' uncles and you'll get an entire dissertation on the subject of whitewashing in music. (Are you listening Justin Timberlake?) However, in Stefani's case, the whole thing is made more troubling by her altering of the Harajuku facet of Japanese culture to reflect a racist stereotype.

It would be one thing if she just thought Harajuku was a cool look and used it in her videos. Why does she even need to incorporate the meek Asian schoolgirl aspect at all? Does something have to be offensive and completely distorted before it's marketable?

MiHi Ahn, essayist and cultural critic for salon.com maintains, "Stefani fawns over Harajuku style in her lyrics, but her appropriation of this subculture makes about as much sense as the Gap selling Anarchy T-shirts; she's swallowed a subversive youth culture in Japan and barfed up another image of submissive giggling Asian women."

On her blog Margaretcho.com, comedian extraordinaire Margaret Cho compares Stefani's particular form of Asian fetishism to the minstrel shows of yesteryear. I can see the similarity—white person is captivated by a particular subculture of a minority group, cranks it up about a million notches, thereby claiming it as her own.

As an even sadder note on Asian invisibility in the media, Cho maintains that while Stefani's use of Asian girls as props makes her cringe, it's better than nothing. She writes, "At least it is a measure of visibility, which is much better than invisibility. I am so sick of not existing, that I would settle for following any white person around with an umbrella just so I could say I was there." Now that sh*t is bananas.

Ms. Pelosi goes to Syria

Waves from all sides follow

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

All right Ms. Pelosi, you have done it! You are the first woman to become Speaker of the House, the third highest ranked political official in the United States!

Now let me ask you, which one of your bright aides decided that among your first actions in this position would be to visit Syria? Don't you know that Egypt is always a safe bet?

Let us take this trip step by step. To begin, you choose a state that you know for a fact the current President does not approve of. You know the United State's government has the Sunni majority country listed as a sponsor of terror for the Shi'a organization Hezbullah (if that is not inter-religious cooperation, I do not know what is).

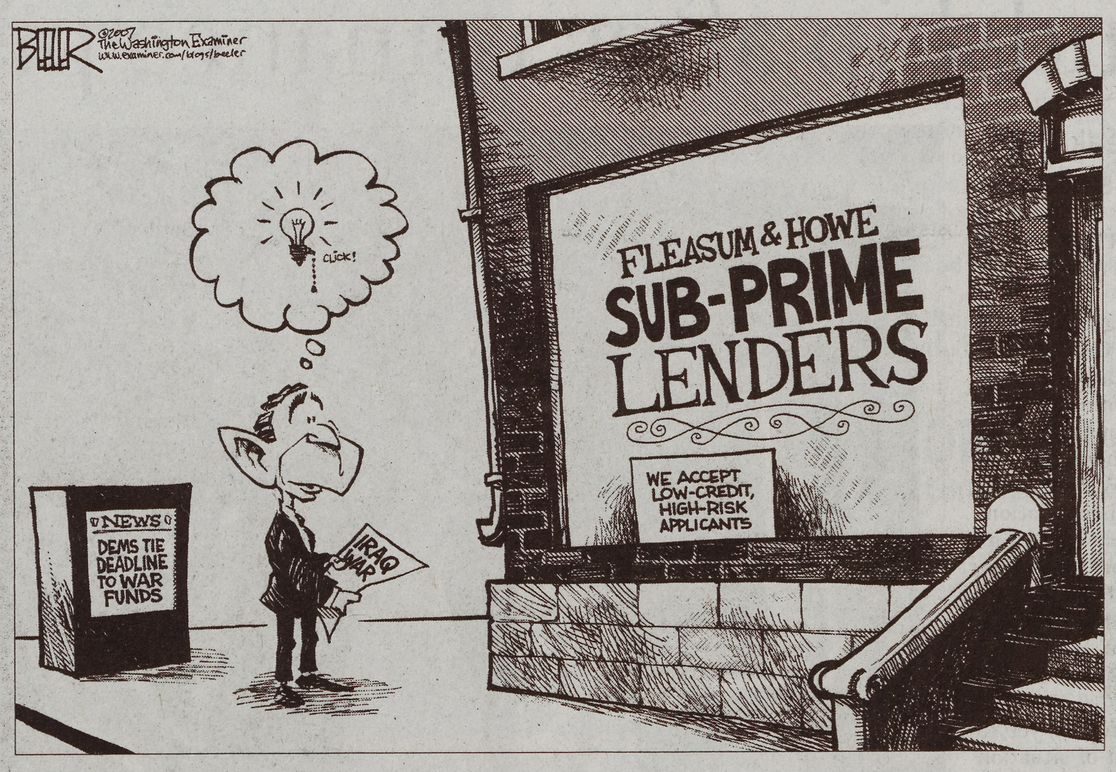
Now, granted, you were not the only political official to visit Syria in the past month. Your Republican colleagues have you beat there. But, Ms. Pelosi, you must remember that you are always going to be a prime target for the media, your every action will be watched and publicized.

If you are planning on going on another fact-finding mission, maybe take it somewhere the current administration approves of. Like the Virgin Islands... or Hawaii...

This leads to the second most talked-about aspect of your trip. The topic of interest is your hijab dawned while entering al-Umayyad mosque.

While some media outlets have described this scene as "subservient," how quickly they forget the First Lady's trip to al-Aqsa mosque in 2005. How about Condoleezza Rice? Was this really an issue of "bowing" down to the Middle East, or saying a symbolic thanks to your hosts?

Now I for one think it is great to practice the old adage "while in Rome..." Why, I could swear even Pervez Musharraf was sporting some Sperry Top-Siders while visiting "The Daily Show" last fall. So what it comes down to is respect, and Ms. Pelosi, you showed it. As the leading representative of the United States, maybe your fellow congressmen will follow your lead in something they rarely partake in—doing the right thing.



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.

Never have I ever...

Things would be so much better if we could just get back together.

To the person who thinks there aren't any ECU guys who aren't always drinking, smoking and addicted to sex... there are. I guess we're few and far between but we do exist. I'm sorry you haven't met one of us yet, but you will someday soon...

To the guy who blind sided me with a beer bottle and then ran away because you think you're gangster. Thanks for the cool scar over my eye. Ladies love scars.

Can someone flirt with me please?

I absolutely love it when a girl makes the first move.

Why does my gut always have to be right?

Yes, I'm a Math major... and I love it!

I find it hilarious that I know everything I'm not supposed to... guess some people don't keep secrets!

What's the point of having a Chik-Fil-A on campus if there isn't even Chik-Fil-A sweet tea!?

Seriously, get a cough drop before the test!

Here is one thing the government wants you to forget. You have a voice. How are you going to use it?

I'm ready to graduate!

What would the reaction be if someone wrote "White Power" on a fence?

My friend and I had fun hanging out and talking to the cops downtown Greenville this past weekend... thanks for the ride back to our dorm.

Can't we all just get along?

Goats really suck.

I love the person that hanging out with you has made me.

My sister is pregnant and it just may ruin everything.

Today I accidentally left my car in a two-hour parking spot all day. When I got off work, my car was still there and there were no tickets. It was a miracle!

Why would Dining Services close the one place on campus that sells tampons for an entire weekend?

I really hope that you're my Chandler and not my Richard.

My roommate just started giggling at a commercial because it said "penetrating."

You know what really grinds my gears about the Bate computer lab? The Google advertisement that pops up whenever I want to check my e-mail. Is there any way to disable that thing? I mean, c'mon.

I am in a constant state of drunk!

Why is a gallon of water more expensive than a gallon of gasoline? Sad but true!

Is it OK to give a cat liquor?

Is it sad that I have been here at ECU for two years and have never been downtown?

Chinese buffets are so much better than Mexican Buffets!

I think my professor pulls our test questions out of the sky. I've never heard any of this before.

I still believe in first come first serve parking!

To the girls who gave out hugs on the mall: Thank you, you brightened up my day!!

My RA's girlfriend is hideous. Is there anyway to make the walls thicker or sound proof?

Student government: Where politics, not people, matter.

First of all, you can't drive at the speed of light, it's a physical impossibility so don't try it at home. But, if you were to drive at such a speed, the car will only be seen for an instant as a flicker of light, the light from your lights will be moving twice as fast (faster than the speed of light), so it won't be seen at all.

You are wrong, Will Smith is not the black Chuck Norris. Mr. T is, and Mr. T can eat a Rubix cube and crap it out solved.

The first six months of a relationship are always gravy... Why can't the rest of it be?

To all the girls that are taking naked pictures, sleeping with you roommate's boyfriend, or any thing else... stop it... It's definitely not classy and last time I checked it's not cool to actually admit to doing those things.

Why is it so hard for an attractive single black woman without children to find a decent man that has something going for himself?

Dress and act like you respect yourself, and guess what—others will respect you too.

I'm glad you enjoyed the shows... I'm getting darker blinds.

Yes, you are trouble, but I think that I like it.

I'm totally crushing on a baseball player in my class. He's so hot... but he has no idea. Too bad I have a boyfriend of two years!

To the nice guy who put his Rant in Wednesday's paper, I'm just wondering where you are? You'd think you'd be pretty easy to find here, saying most men here are pigs. I really wish I could find you.

What is up with so many people in front of Wright place handing out stupid things? I don't want them, please leave. The hot dog stand downtown is the highlight of my night.

Actually, Ruckus does work on iPods you just have to be smart and know how to transfer them over to iTunes.

Having the love of your life break up with you and say we can still be friends is like your dog dying and your mom saying you can still keep it.

No, you cannot copy my notes because you are too lazy to go to class and get your own stupid notes!

Too much racial stuff is going on right now.

To all the Barbie Wannabees: Please stop with the brain dead accent, OK? If I hear one more fluff head babbling "Oh my God..." on her cell, it'll be one time too many. Here's a hint—it doesn't make you sound cool... it just makes you sound dumb.

I'm determined to prove that ECU squirrels were once a part of a Bio-Chemistry experiment in the 1970s!

To the girl that slept with her best friends boyfriend.. you are a disgrace to women.

Making fun of people I don't like in my classes is the best thing about going to class in the first place... other than you, of course.

To the Republicans in Wright Place: You say you want students to voice their opinions. I did. You got pissed.

You know what really grinds my gears? When I'm waiting in line at the computer lab while you sit there and waste your time changing your relationship status on Facebook from "single" to "in a relationship."

I'm thoroughly displeased with the outcome of the SGA elections.

My boyfriend's nose is runny and he won't let me kiss him.

I am in love with a nerd.

I do date a dancer. She is also a cheerleader. And I am proud of her.

To those people writing about how they are cheating on their boyfriend or girlfriend with their roommate, get a freakin' life!

To the girl wearing the white stilettos: Those only look good on Barbie.

Why waiting for I do is a good idea

True love and a successful marriage take time and maturity

JESSICA DUNLOW
OPINION WRITER

College is supposed to be a time when you find yourself, when you find your destination in life, and when you find your true love, right? Wrong. Not these days.

It is easy to believe that the same thing that happened in the days of our grandparents will happen to us. We go away to a university, we meet some strapping young man who vies for our love against the will of our parents, he sweeps us off our feet, and we live happily ever after. We reach the 50th anniversary and everything.

I am just completely sick of hearing these love stories and having friends and family hint about marriage and children anytime I go on a date! Especially when, according to *Divorce Magazine* (yes, there is a magazine for this lovely aberration), people getting married at our age have a 40 percent divorce rate. Why is this happening?

A large amount of us are just not ready for the big ball and chain, and we would much rather focus on careers and finding ourselves before we can really find someone else to complete us. The average marriage age is rising, and you know what? It is a good thing. The longer we wait to make this decision and to make sure we have found the right one, the better.

Two young marriages in my extended family have already begun to fall apart, with all of the partners being in their mid-twenties. Counseling and separation have plagued the one-year and five-year marriage. These couples were together beginning in their first years of college and married at the age that most couples did back when our parents were getting together. Look at them now!

However, there are exceptions. One out of all my friends' parents has been together since eighth grade. They live happily together in a nice suburb, and they have a wonderful daughter and two dogs. I am not going to lie; I have always wanted that perfect love story like theirs. Don't we all?

The average marriage age now is around 26, and rightfully so. The age of 22 just is not what it used to be. With college years lasting longer than the prescribed four, and with graduate school, traveling careers and the tendency of our society to focus on the individual, I say the older the better.

Some people may argue that the later we get married, the less time we will spend together in life. Well, not really. The average human lifespan has increased to around 100! That is more than enough time to find yourself, to find your love, to have children, to find a perfect career and to find that perfect house.

Marriage is supposed to be the big move, and it is just being proven repeatedly that a vast majority of adults our age cannot hold a marriage together yet. So, in the spirit of that, rejoice in the years we have until after college. It is possible to find happiness and love somewhere else. Marrying our college sweetheart may be our dream, but should it be our reality?

Big business vs. science

The perils of politicized science

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

Not too long ago I was engaged in a senseless geopolitical debate that is not uncommon in my daily life. Different from my usual arguments, I was not Bush hating or "spouting liberal diarrhea" as one person so colorfully put it, rather I was ranting about something I felt anyone would agree was a problem: Global warming. This particular person (we'll call him Jake for now) did not seem to care about global warming and actually was determined to "debunk" its existence.

Jake stated that global warming is a theory invented by climatologists to scare us and fill their pockets in the process. He supported this idea by quoting a petition signed by thousands of "scientists" that discredits the validity of global warming.

Now, I did not believe Jake because he is not a scientist and made no effort to include scientific evidence in his diatribe, but I was still stunned to hear someone try to disprove a theory that I thought had been validated by almost every scientific body in the world.

What I came to find out was that Jake was not wrong, there was in fact a signed petition that aimed to debunk global warming. Where he was misinformed, though, was thinking the people who signed the document were credible scientists. Actually, these people were just scholars, bankrolled by corporations to misinform everyday people like Jake.

The people who misinformed Jake were a group of pseudo-scientists whose aim was to increase corporate profits or political popularity by decreasing the public's awareness on global warming or simply misinforming them about it.

By convincing people that global warming doesn't exist, companies like Exxon prolong actions taken to reduce emissions and thereby ensure profits into the foreseeable future.

Most of the organizations that aim to disprove global warming are backed by companies that depend on the abundance and consumption of fossil fuels.

The automotive industry and manufacturing companies make up a large percentage of contributors, but no group likes to misinform more than the oil industry.

In 2004 alone, Exxon funded 29 climate-change denial groups with almost $20 million. These groups seem like environmental organizations but are really just the opposite.

Denial groups bear names such as the Information Council on the Environment, or the Science and Environmental Policy Project and use this environmentalist façade to fake citizens and politicians alike.

Thanks to the effectiveness of these organizations there have been many setbacks in policy aimed to limit carbon dioxide emissions. President Bush rejected the Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty that sets goals to reduce emissions because climate change was "not universally accepted" among other things.

We are one of the only nations in the developed world yet to accept the treaty and make proactive decisions to help stop global warming.

More recently, Bush rejected a bill to set a cap on CO_2 emissions. Until the media pundits and false scientists are rejected, we will never be able to convince the public that global warming is an important issue, and if we do not do anything about it, there will be consequences.

The fact of the matter is there is still a lot to be learned about global warming and there is a ton we don't know about our affect on the world's climate, but these groups who aim to misinform us are merely exacerbating the problem.

My aim with this article is not to convince you that everyone is lying to us about global warming, but rather to inform you that some people are. Before you accept something as the truth, you should do some research on your own and find out who's doing the research and who's profiting from it.

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Pulse

{ Pirate Buzz}

Horoscopes:

Aries
It's getting easier to let the others know exactly what you want. Even better, it's getting easier to inspire them to do it, quickly.

Taurus
Make your trip more exciting by going into the past. Not only will you have more fun, you'll also discover more treasures.

Gemini
Finish up your obligations first thing in the morning. As the day progresses, you'll feel less and less like working.

Cancer
A person of great stature will soon be giving you detailed instructions. Take notes, so you don't forget anything. This could be very important.

Leo
Conversations will be noisier for the next several weeks. Everybody feels the need to strongly defend their positions. There'll never be a dull moment.

Virgo
You're anxious to get down to work. By now you should have a rough plan of what you want to accomplish and how. If not, start with that.

Libra
Passions are aroused, but cooler heads can prevail. Actually, it's your job to help them all do that. No problemo, right?

Scorpio
Try out a new skill you've been learning, carefully, at first. This is going to turn out well for you, eventually.

Sagittarius
You're getting smarter about a philosophical subject. That which is unexplainable seems very reasonable to you. Don't even try to exploit it, yet.

Capricorn
You're getting into another "less talk, more action" phase. This one pays well, so don't resist. Give it all you've got.

Aquarius
Some of the stuff you're finding has great value, and some of it doesn't. Your assignment, if you choose to take it, is to determine which is which. Take care; big money is involved.

Pisces
You're getting into the planning phase. More quiet thinking and drawing and making up lists will be required. Hide out in a quiet place.

Drink Recipes:

Caipirinha Cocktail

Brazilian drink that's all the rage in Europe. Refreshing, cold, tart and sweet at the same time. Plain delicious.
2 tablespoons turbinado sugar
1 lime, cut into wedges
Ice cubes
2 shots Cacacha or white rum
Club soda
Crush sugar and lime wedges in bottom of glass. Add ice cubes then top off with Cachaca and a dash of club soda.

Lava Flows

These can be made as mocktails for the kids or cocktails for big kids. The recipe calls for defrosted frozen sliced strawberries. When you bring them home from the market, place them on a dish in the refrigerator so they will be soft and ready to process. The dish will catch any leaks or moisture from defrosting.

2 cups frozen sliced strawberries in juice, defrosted
2 cans coconut milk drink mix (recommended: Coco Lopez)
2 cups pineapple juice
6 shots coconut rum or light rum
* For mocktails, omit liquor and use a few extra ice cubes
1 tray of ice
Blend strawberries in a blender on high until smooth. Place 1/2 cup strawberry puree in the bottom of four hurricane or double rocks cocktail glasses. Rinse blender and return to motor base. Place remaining ingredients in blender and blend on high until smooth. Pour pina coladas into glasses on top of the strawberry puree. The puree will run up through the pina colada, making a lava flow effect.

Please drink responsibly.

Friendship after romance proves tough

Age-old break-up question answered

LEIGH CARTER
STAFF WRITER

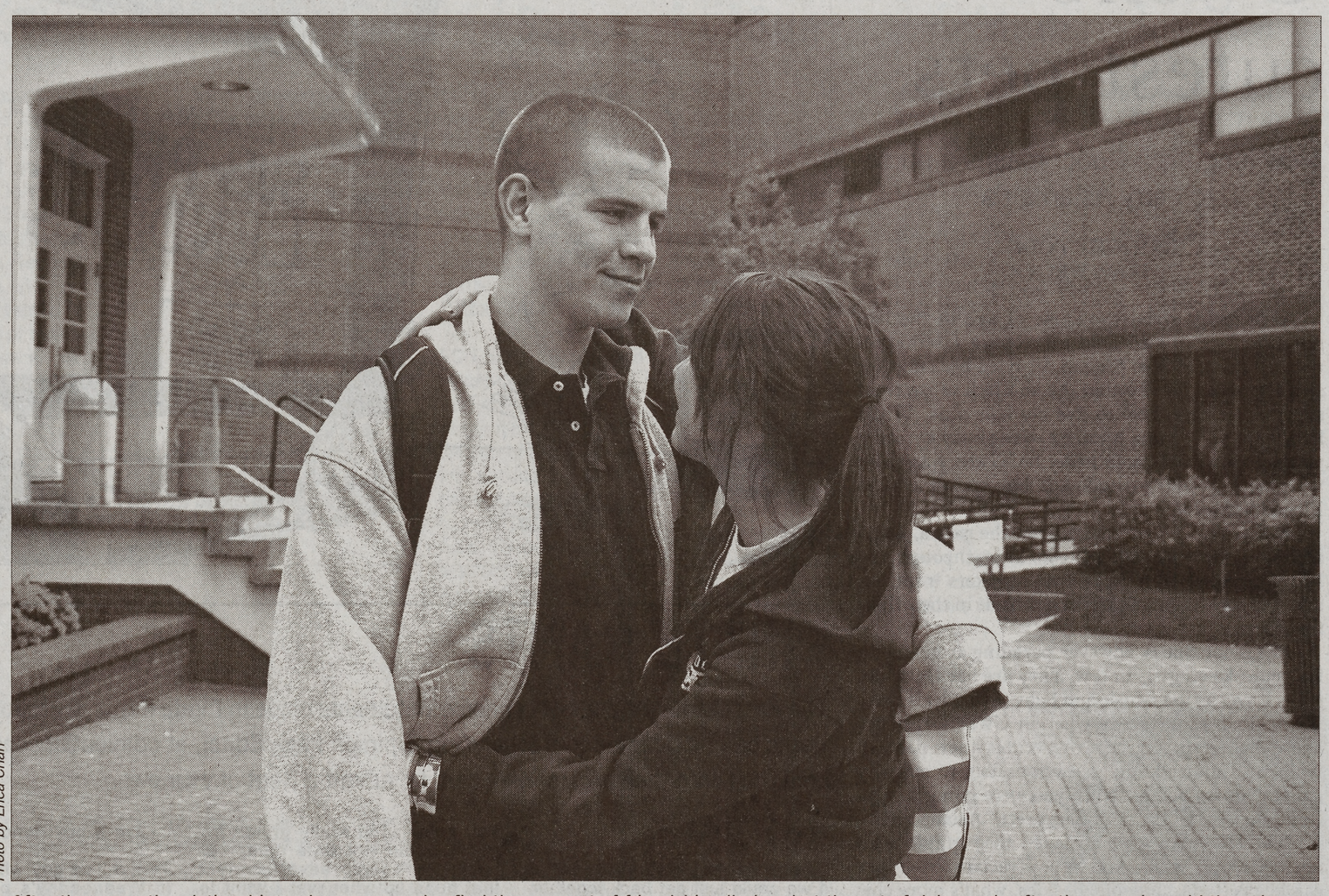

Photo by Erica Chan

After the romantic relationship ends many couples find the concept of friendship alluring, but the act of doing so is oftentimes easier said than done.

Many college-aged students spend their years in the academic institution of their choice getting to know many different kinds of people and finding out what kind of person best fits them based on a variety of factors. While couples that choose to end their relationship may base their decisions on differences in personalities, life goals or even background, it has been found that the average person will suffer at least three break-ups in their life with at least one that ends badly.

While those who are yet to experience this kind of situation may not understand what the big deal is, they will soon know the huge amounts of effort and time that one spends mending the effects of such a loss, especially one that ends painfully.

With the intention of making things easier on both parties, many couples choose to remain friends after their romantic relationship ends. While some believe that being friends with an ex is impossible, many have tried and found the experience to be well worth the effort.

"Several factors determine whether or not couples can be friends after they break up," said Keeley Simmen, senior communication major. "Both the state of the relationship before it ended and how long the individuals were together affects the outcome immensely."

Statistics published in the February 2002 census show that 80 percent of divorced men and 75 percent of women remarry after divorce, and most do so within three years. This shows that remaining close after ending a relationship leaves room for reconciliation and even closure for both members.

"I have had a little bit of experience with each kind of break up," Simmen said. "I am still friends with many of my exes and they are like big brothers to me now, while I had one that ended really badly and we no longer speak."

The census goes further to reveal that married couples have become a minority in American households as women living without a spouse were at 51 percent in 2005, up from 35 percent in 1950. While many factors may influence this statistic, the high emotions that reside within relationships as well as the need for some to avoid such negative energy may be one of the causes.

see **FRIENDS?** page A5

Career Center offers valuable tools

Tips to land the dream job

JESSICA DUNLOW
STAFF WRITER

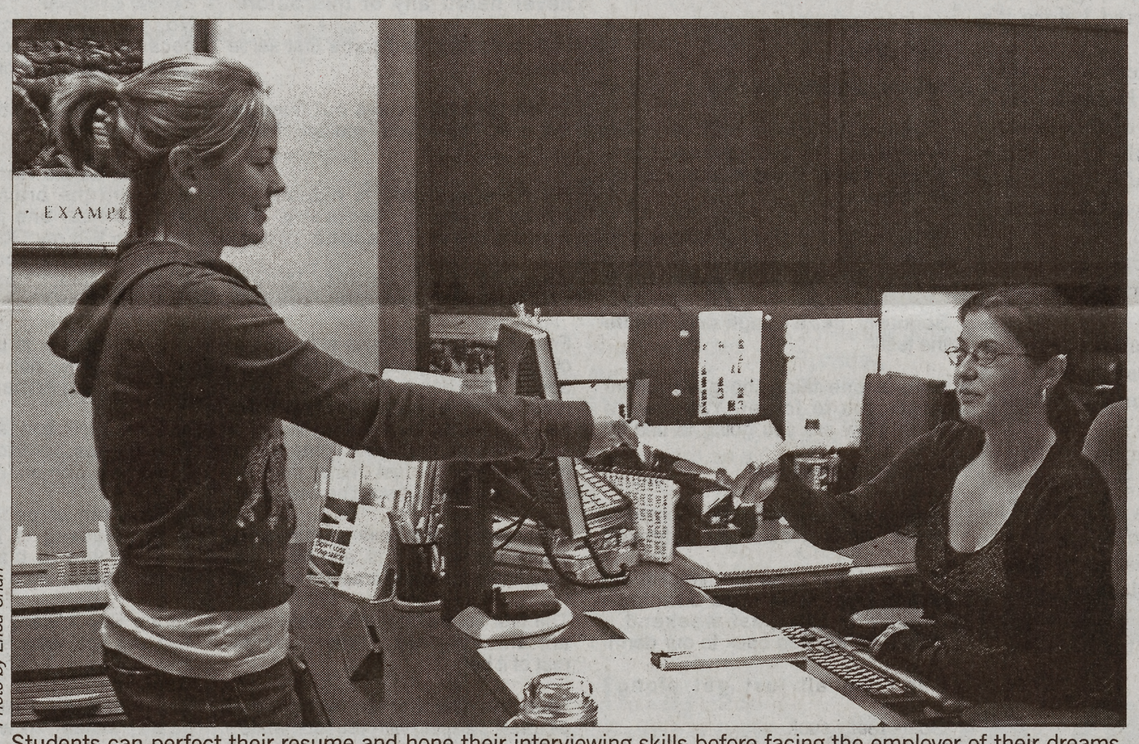

Photo by Erica Chan

Students can perfect their resume and hone their interviewing skills before facing the employer of their dreams.

Astronaut, veterinarian, teacher, designer, writer, laboratory assistant, nurse, no matter what your dream job is, there are required skills and steps to get there. It is possible! Anyone can land their dream job, just by following these simple steps.

Step 1: The Resume. A common belief about resumes is that they always make or break an individual. Well, this is partially true. The Career Center's associate director, Bruce E. Maxwell, describes the resume as an advertisement.

"Take it as you are a product, and you are trying to sell it to a company," said Maxwell. This means that there is no such thing as a universal or perfect resume. Every job is different, therefore, every employer is looking for something different, and every resume needs to be tailored to the needs of the company.

The Career Center offers an online Virtual Handout Cart that contains a PowerPoint presentation, which provides all the guidelines needed to create the four different types of resumes: reverse chronological, functional, achievement and curriculum vita. In addition, it provides examples of each of these.

It is important to realize which one to use since different employers are seeking a variety of distinctive qualities and skills. For instance, Paul Clifford, associate vice chancellor for alumni relations, said that the first thing he looks at is "where an applicant went to school," except if they are older, in which case he values the "amount of experience over their college degree."

Step 2: The Cover Letter. The Career Center also offers a packet titled The Art of Job Research Correspondence which details the four different types of cover letters that grab employers' eyes and gives example introductions, middle paragraphs and conclusions along with numerous completed letters to reference. This is the first thing an employer will see. Therefore, it is imperative for this letter to advertise one's best attributes well within these three short paragraphs.

Although, in the middle of this process, it is important to discover whom within a company makes the decision to hire someone new. This can be found through a database that Joyner Library offers called ResearchUSA. In this database, all occupations are numbered, and within minutes of typing in the number of the chosen field, the city and state where an individual would like to work and the average income of the company, it provides

see **DREAM JOB** page A5

The Onion makes the news funny for all

Just don't get it confused with the truth

LAURA HUHN
STAFF WRITER

Photos.com

After hours of studying take a break to catch some laughs from TheOnion.com, a modern day twist on satire.

Do you ever get tired of reading a newspaper or an online news magazine, needing to determine for yourself the truthfulness of a story, and realizing along the way just how unhappy the news can make you? Then TheOnion.com is for you. When reading the stories found on TheOnion.com, you won't have to wade through story after monotonous story just to find a tiny anecdote that will both bring a smile to your face and make you feel a little bit better about the world.

As long as you know these stories from The Onion to be completely and utterly false (this is very important to understand), they can take you away to a place where it is OK to laugh about the absurdities in life. They make you think "if these were true, then maybe my life would seem relatively normal."

Take politics for instance. In reality, the 2008 presidential election is looming ever closer, prompting the newspapers to include story after story involving the candidates' growing popularity and the issues they want to address. In the world of The Onion, however, these candidates seem to be growing desperate for attention, and are using tactics such as performance comment cards and bumper stickers featuring a "How's Our Governing?" number, all featured under the headline "Democrats Demand Inquiry into How They're Doing So Far."

Now be honest, which story is more appealing to you?

If entertainment "news" is more appealing to you, than you can read recent stories about how Dane Cook has an hour-long HBO special devoted entirely to the Texas Double Whopper, and how Justin Timberlake was officially deemed the King of Pop by record executives because they just couldn't think of anyone else.

Sports fan can read about how Robby Gordon is planning to race a 1977 Oldsmobile Cutlass from now on, how the University of Florida once again advanced to the NCAA Tournament's prestigious Round of One or how Phil Mickelson predicted that Tiger Woods was probably going to win the Masters again this year.

Obviously these stories are not actually true, but the appeal for readers of TheOnion.com is that

see **ONION** page A5

New series provides intellectual stimulation

'Planet Earth' proves to be a winner

JASON PATTY
STAFF WRITER

My new Sunday night addiction is the Discovery Channel's "Planet Earth." Debuting two weeks ago, it is an eleven-part journey through the earth, looking at the most amazing details ever captured on camera.

Commercials for it caught my attention months ago, and on the first night I was glued to the TV for three hours watching "Pole to Pole," "Mountains" and "Deep Ocean."

For the first time in a very long time after watching three straight hours of the same television show, I felt more intelligent and enlightened about the world that I live in, and most importantly, more excited about the amazing things that our planet has to offer.

Last week followed with "Deserts" and "Ice Worlds." This was especially exciting because ECU graduate student Joe Hoyt shot some of the footage of the polar bears in the Artic Circle.

I didn't realize how addicted I was until my roommate canceled the TiVo for "Shallow Seas" this week. I did catch the "Great Plains" episode, and the fox being chased by geese made the show.

Some of the views are so amazing that you have to tell yourself that you are not watching computer animation. The Vampire Squid from Hell (actual name) will make your jaw drop and the tropical bird dancing will give new breath to your downtown courting rituals. The slow motion view of a Great White shark jumping out of the water to catch a fur seal is nothing less than amazing. Unbelievably, even more footage is available on their Web site, planet-earth.com.

With unprecedented looks at animals that have never been caught on camera, complete animal hunts in the wild and amazing time-lapse changes in every environment imaginable, the Discovery Channel has produced a winner.

Five years in the making, and all in high definition, this was certainly no cheap project. It definitely deserves a spot in your Sunday night television lineup beginning at 8 p.m. There is no doubt that this incredible new series will be viewed in homes and classrooms across the country for years to come.

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

FRIENDS? continued from A4

"Just because you break up with someone does not mean that there should be evil between you," said Thad Barnes, ECU grounds keeper. "It is a good idea to remain friends and get along to avoid this from happening."

Some individuals may share more than emotional ties as they decide to split living quarters, bills and other expenses leading to more issues.

"I know people who have been together for a long time and chose to move in together to help each other out financially," said senior media studies major Arianne Swanek. "This seems like a good idea until the relationship begins to fall apart and they must choose whether to try and make the relationship work or let it go and take the hit financially."

As students finish their academic careers and begin to find themselves through various relationships, they discover what works for them and what steps they need to take to make their relationships last. Whether individuals decide to remain friends or part ways, each takes with them a lesson that can be used the next time they become acquainted with a different person of interest.

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ONION continued from A4

they at least have a basis in truth. This is what makes The Onion one of the foremost outlets of satire on modern American society. When you are tired of reading stories from CNN or Fox News, you can just travel over to The Onion, and have a good laugh at just how ridiculous the world can seem.

Speaking of ridiculous, you can read an abundance of opinion pieces in The Onion, with supposed authors ranging from celebrities to college frat boys. There are many interesting tidbits of information found in the op-ed section.

For instance, you'll find Charlton Heston claiming to have performed all of the miracles in *The Ten Commandments*. Who would have ever known? You will also find a moving piece by a writer who is appalled by the lack of information regarding Weird Al Yankovic on Wikipedia. You can even find several op-ed pieces from none other than the Emperor of the Universe.

Sure, these stories may seem absurd to some, but for others, they may just be enough to start a little laughter and brighten someone's day. So, after researching for yet another paper or project, just take a few minutes and visit TheOnion.com for a little break from reality.

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

DREAM JOB continued from A4

hundreds of listings.

The information it provides includes the address of the company, number of employees, average income and the names and positions of top executives. This is the perfect way to figure out whom you need to contact and talk to about what type of individuals they are seeking to hire.

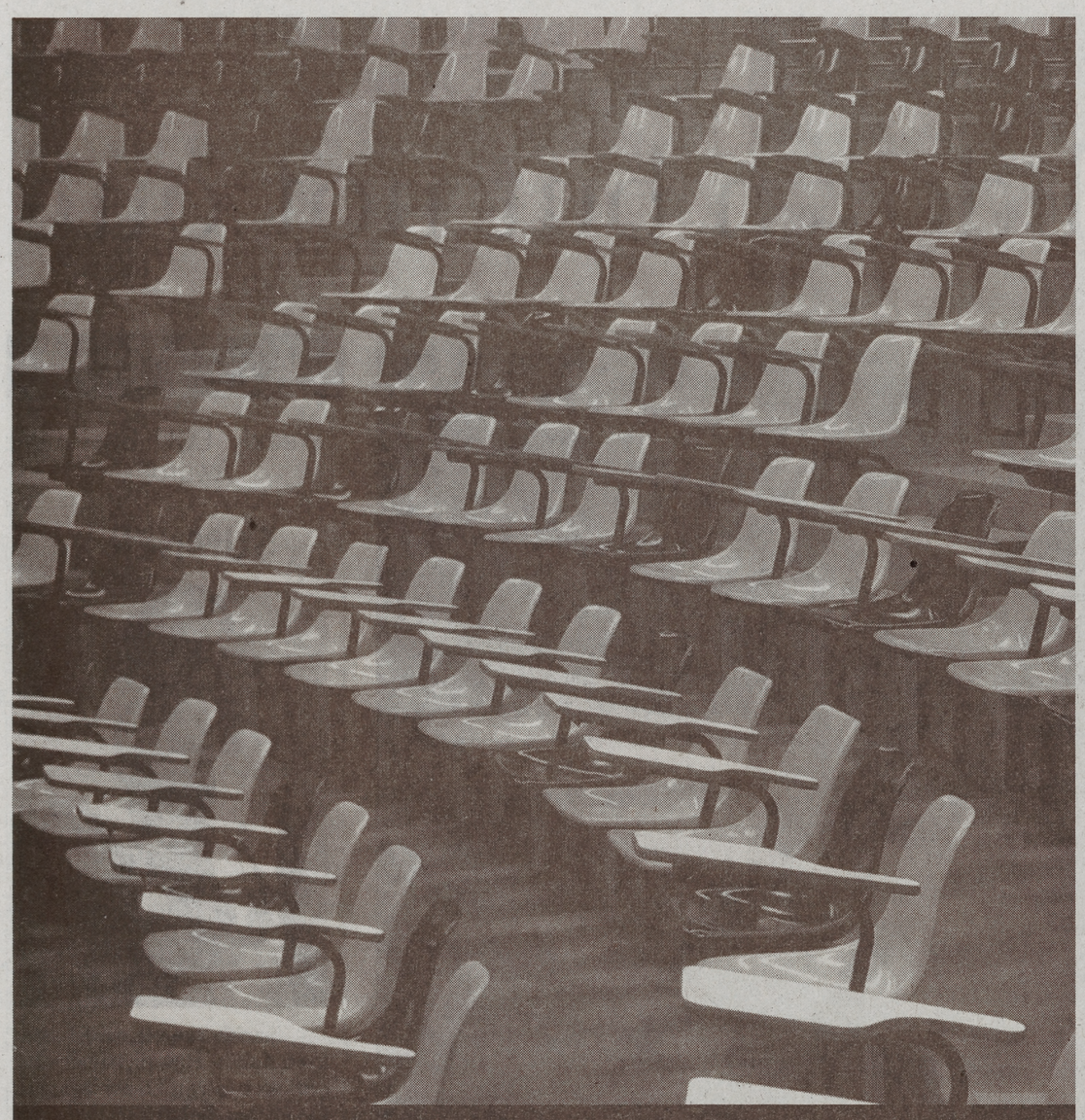
Step 3: The Interview. The Career Center Web site also offers an entire section on interviews. It provides sample interview questions, guidelines for the after interview letter, stress free interview suggestions and even mock job practice interviews.

In addition, the interviewing section has a cheat sheet called Job Interviewing in Brief, which quickly points out the specifics needed before the big day. The resume and cover letter market one to the company, but it is the interview that is the real sales pitch.

Landing the dream job is not that far away, and a majority of former students obtain their jobs from contacting a person within a company, establishing good will, inquiring about the position and providing one of these guided resumes.

Use the Career Center; it is positively mind-blowing to see all of the resources and information they provide for undergraduates and recent graduates in order to help anyone land the job they are most passionate about.

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



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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

3

Conference USA softball teams that currently have seven wins and are battling for second place in the conference; the Pirates currently hold the second position as they have a C-USA record of 7-5, while Tulsa and UAB sit in a tie for third with 7-7 records respectively; ECU's 3-2 win at UAB this past Saturday secured the Pirates position in the C-USA standings for the moment; the Pirates have four C-USA series' left in the regular season, and three of the four C-USA teams that they have left to play have losing records in the conference; ECU will host Memphis this weekend for a three-game series, and Memphis is currently last in the C-USA standings with a 3-8 record; the only C-USA team that ECU has left to play that currently has a winning C-USA record is Houston, who is in first place and is dominating the league with a 13-2 record

18

Wins for the ECU women's tennis team, which is one short of tying the school record; Last season, the Pirates won a school record 19 games; with two regular season games and the C-USA Conference Championships left to play, this year's Pirates sit at 18-8 and have a very good chance to break the record; ECU is looking to break the school record for the third straight year as the 2005 team finished with a then school record of 17-9, which was the school record until last season when it went 19-9; Head Coach Tom Morris, who is ECU's all-time winningest women's tennis coach, is in his ninth season with the Pirates and has only had one losing season at ECU; He now has an overall record of 131-83 at ECU with games still left to play this season

8

Run-deficit that the ECU baseball team overcame to beat in-state and former CAA rival UNCW at Clark-LeClair Stadium two weeks ago; UNCW had a 8-0 lead after the top of the second inning, but the Pirates made a furious comeback as they scored 11 of the final 13 runs in the game to win the 10-inning thriller, 11-10; the Pirates will try to bounce back after losing their last four games tonight, when they play at UNCW at 7 p.m.; ECU has played UNCW more than any other opponent, and has the overall edge in the series, 62-52

.826

Winning percentage for the ECU softball team at home this season; the Pirates have a 19-4 record in the friendly confines of the ECU softball field; the Pirates have six home games left in the regular season, as they host Memphis, who is last in C-USA, this weekend and Houston, who is first in C-USA, the weekend of April 28

2

ECU programs that will host their first ever C-USA Tournament Championships; C-USA recently announced that ECU's Clark-LeClair Stadium will be the site for the 2007 C-USA Baseball Tournament; ECU was originally scheduled to host the 2008 event, but ECU switched years with Tulane because Tulane's stadium is still going through renovations from Hurrican Katrina; also, the ECU women's basketball team will host the 2008 C-USA Women's Baseball Tournament for its amazing success in the 2007 season; Minges Coliseum will be the host site since the ECU women's team won the 2007 tournament, as it won its final 10 games of the C-USA season to earn the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament

Pirate softball down but not out

Softball falls twice in UAB Series but holds second place in C-USA

JOSEPH MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team lost both ends of a doubleheader with the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers last Friday in Birmingham, but the team bounced back with a victory Saturday to hold onto second place in Conference USA. Currently the Pirates are 29-14 overall and 7-5 in conference play behind only the 13-2 Houston Cougars. UAB is tied with Tulsa for third at 7-7 in conference.

The Blazers defeated the Pirates 2-0 in game one last Friday at George Ward Park and 5-2 in the second game. A loss Saturday would have dropped the Pirates into fourth and would have allowed the Blazers to leap frog them into second place. "We knew where we stood in the conference," said Head Coach Tracey Kee, "we had already figured it out that if we won on Saturday that we could maintain second place."

With the game's significance in mind, the Pirates literally and figuratively stepped up to the plate and delivered. Freshman Charina Sumner blasted a two run homer in the fifth inning and junior Vanessa Moreno knocked in a RBI single to account for the scoring in the Pirates 3-2 win.

Freshman Toni Paisley earned her 12th win of the season compared to only four losses, and Senior Kelli Harrell pitched two and 2/3 innings in relief to earn her second save of the season.

"After losing two games it really pushed us to work even harder on Saturday and just come together and get our timely hits so we could score," said Sumner.

"The kids really stepped up to it," said Kee. "A lot of times when you drop the first two its easy to just roll over but they show a lot of persistence and intensity in those third games."

Kee also spoke highly of Sumner and Moreno's hitting.

"That's just [Sumner] coming up big in her case, it's not the first time that she's done that. I thought Vanessa Moreno probably swung the bat better than anybody the entire weekend. She came into her element, she was seeing the ball really well."

Moreno went 5-10 from the plate for the series in addition to her RBI single in game three.

The Pirates were scheduled to face non-conference foe UNC Wilmington today but the games were postponed until next Tuesday due to the possibility of inclement weather. The unexpected break comes at a good time for the road weary Pirates.

"It's good," said Kee of the postponement. "We need a break. We also needed a little bit more practice time. We have some things to fix offensively and some things we need to fine tune defensively."

Sumner added, "We've been traveling a lot and I think that this will be a good time to get everything together."

The softball team has reached a crucial juncture in the season; they are at the midway point of the conference season with four key series' ahead, including a series beginning April 28 here in Greenville against first place Houston.

"We know the entire first half we have struggled offensively and to be able to struggle and maintain second place says a lot about our pitching as well as our defense," said Kee. "We haven't had a timely two out hit [since] I don't

see SOFTBALL page A7

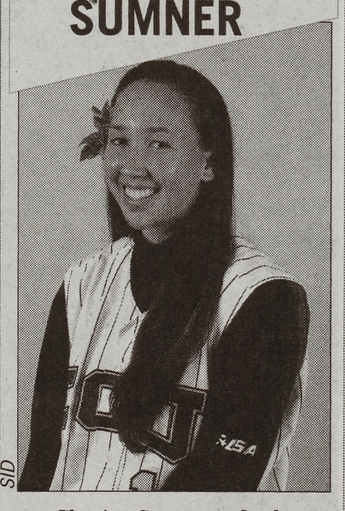
Photo by Terrell Gordy

The Pirates held up defensively, but struggled to hit against UAB. ECU scored a total of two runs in the DH.

Most Valuable Pirate

Weekly ECU Baseball Award

SUMNER



SID

Charina Sumner, a freshman from Kailua, Hawaii, launched a critical two run homer against UAB that led the Pirates to a 3-2 victory. On the season Sumner is hitting .282, she leads the team with 32 runs and in triples with six. She is second on the team in hits with 40 and is tied for second in home runs with six.

"I was really happy that we were able to keep the lead and we just came together as a team and pulled it off so I was happy," said Sumner.

"Charina's home run obviously it was a huge spark that we needed," said Coach Kee regarding home run. "We actually were trying to [get] her [to] bunt the first two pitches and she didn't get it down to move the runner to second so we took the bunt sign off. One way to get out of the dog house real quick is to take the next pitch over the right field fence, and thank God she did because I was not happy when she wasn't able to move the runner up, but she answered it."

OPINION

Upcoming year crucial for ECU athletics

SID

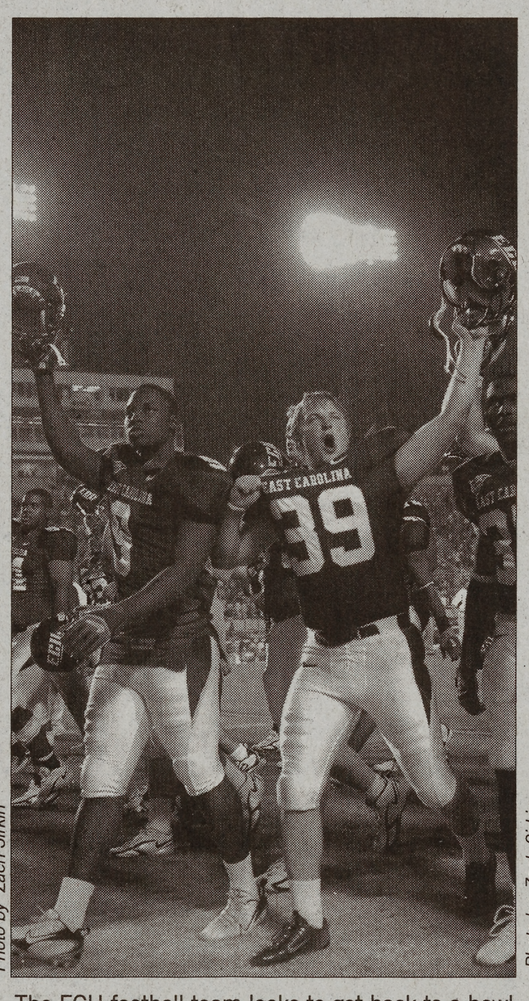


Photo by Zach Sirkin

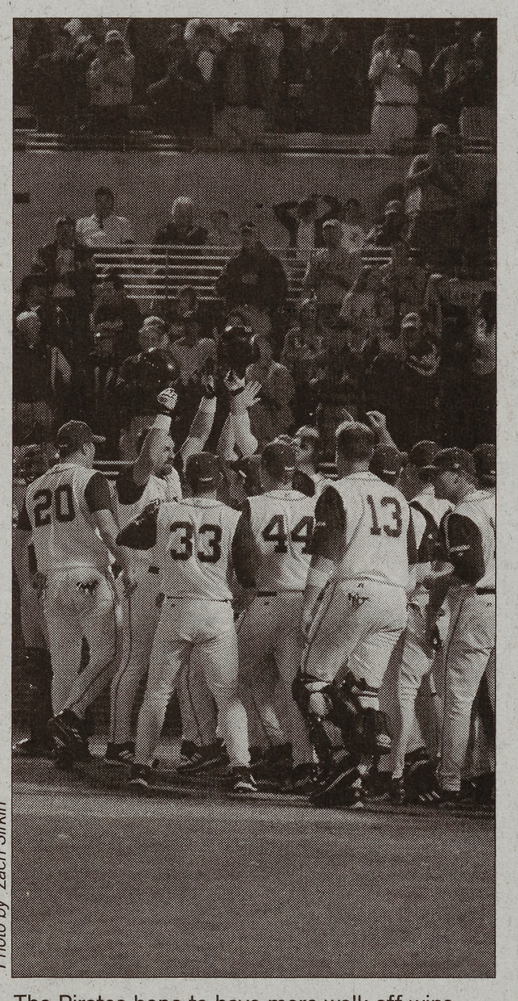


Photo by Zach Sirkin

The Pirates will be defending their title in 2007. The ECU football team looks to get back to a bowl. The Pirates hope to have more walk off wins.

Pirates to host two Conference USA Championships

GREG KATSKI
SPORTS EDITOR

In the year of ECU's Centennial, the Pirates' athletic programs have celebrated a rebirth of their own, ushering in a new era under Athletic Director Terry Holland.

Throughout the past two semesters, ECU sports programs have achieved overwhelming success as well as utter failure.

The ECU football team brought back memories from the glory days of David Garrard and Jeff Blake with another scrappy, athletic quarterback leading the way. Under the tutelage of ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz, James Pinkney guided the Pirates to their first winning season since 2000, when ECU went 8-4.

Although the Pirates were overmatched against an underrated South Florida squad in the Papajohns.com Bowl, losing 24-7, the season was still a resounding success.

The ECU women's basketball team, picked to finish seventh in the preseason Conference USA poll, surprised the league by winning seven in a row to close out the regular season, carrying the momentum to the C-USA championship. Similar to the ECU football team, the Pirates were seemingly out of their league when pitted against Big East powerhouse Rutgers in the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship. In one of the most unfavorable matches in the tournament, the 13th seeded Pirates got the privilege of going up against the hottest team in the country, a Scarlet Knights squad more deserving of a one or two seed.

ECU was upended by Rutgers, who would eventually go on to play in the National Championship game, beating the likes of Duke and LSU along the way.

Lost in the demoralizing 77-34 defeat at the quick hands of Rutgers was the fact that the ECU women's basketball team had its most successful campaign in 25 years.

The ECU baseball team has been streaky so far this season, at one time holding the longest winning streak among Division I schools in the country but also having its share of road woes. Hopes remain high for a Pirates squad that swept former College World Series Champion Cal State Fullerton.

The ECU baseball team might not have to worry about its struggles on the road with the recent news that the 2007 C-USA Baseball Championship has been moved from Tulane to the friendly confines of Greenville.

With a chance to host the C-USA Baseball Championship for the first time in school history, the Pirates should and very well could put on a strong showing.

With the new state-of-the-art stadium in place, the university now has the facility capabilities to showcase to the country. It is time for the Pirate nation to be heard and appreciated.

Not only will this benefit the program, it will generate money for the university. Surely these funds will be appropriated to all aspects of the university, including the athletic facilities.

Its no mystery that the most successful sports program at ECU is football. With the coming of the fall semester, the fresh smell of pigskin will be in the air.

The Holtz era is finally hitting its stride, as the third-year head coach will be looking to repeat the newfound success of last year. The opportunity to compete in a bowl game last season has many placing high expectations on this year's squad.

Not only did Holtz bring the Pirates back to glory, but his squad also brought a wealth of money to the university for their participation. Holtz deservingly received a healthy contract extension, but more importantly the school received additional

see ATHLETICS page A7

Men's tennis splits in last week's games

(SID)—UNC Wilmington rebounded from an early doubles point loss by claiming four singles matches and rallied past ECU, 4-2 in non-conference men's tennis action Saturday afternoon at the ECU Tennis Complex.

The loss, which also concluded a three-match home stand for ECU, dropped the Pirates' overall record to 8-12. The Seahawks improved to 10-5 and have now captured wins in five of their last six matches.

UNC Wilmington quickly erased the 1-0 deficit by posting straight-set victories in the top four-seeded matches to earn the team triumph. Gustavo Bertei initially sparked the Seahawks by defeating Matt Peeler 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2 before Caio Piacentini handed Aleksey Kochetov a 6-3, 6-4 setback at No. 1. Grant Holland and Dennis Myers followed with 6-0, 7-5 and 7-6 (4), 6-3 wins over Stephen Whitwell and Bryan Oakley at the No. 3 and No. 4 slots, respectively, to secure UNCW's 10th victory of the spring season.

The Pirates jumped out to an early lead with a pair of doubles victories. After Sam McSpadden and Oakley teamed up for an 8-4 win over Brian Ford and Henrique Meloni at the No. 3 slot, Peeler and Brian Walters clinched the tally after earning an 8-5 triumph against Gustavo Bertei and Caio Piacentini at No. 2.

ECU used a 6-1, 7-5 singles decision by McSpadden over Ford at the No. 6 position to notch its other point of the match while the No. 5 battle between Walters and Christophe Yee was halted in the third set once the contest was decided because of cold temperatures.

The Pirates scored a win earlier in the week by beating Barton College, 5-2, last Wednesday evening at the ECU Tennis Complex.

Barton was ranked No. 31 nationally at the NCAA Division II level.

ECU opened the match by

see TENNIS page A7

SOFTBALL continued from A6

C-USA Standings

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Houston	13	2	32	12
ECU	7	5	29	14
Tulsa	7	7	23	20
UAB	7	7	26	20
UCF	6	6	29	16
Southern Miss	5	6	14	26
Marshall	6	9	22	20
UTEP	4	8	25	15
Memphis	3	8	23	16

know when, and we're having our opportunities. We're stranding runners on in every inning, so we're hoping that with a little bit more practice time and a little bit more focus on our offense that we'll be able to get that in gear."

Sumner believes the team has room for improvement.

"I think we just have to take one game at a time and just do what we're capable of doing, play together and get it done," she said.

The softball team will be in action this Saturday and Sunday at home against the Memphis Tigers. The teams will play a doubleheader Saturday, with the opening pitch of game one scheduled for 1 p.m. and game two set to begin at 3 p.m. The Pirates will close their series against the Tigers, who are currently dead last in C-USA at 3-8, with a game Sunday at 1 p.m.

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

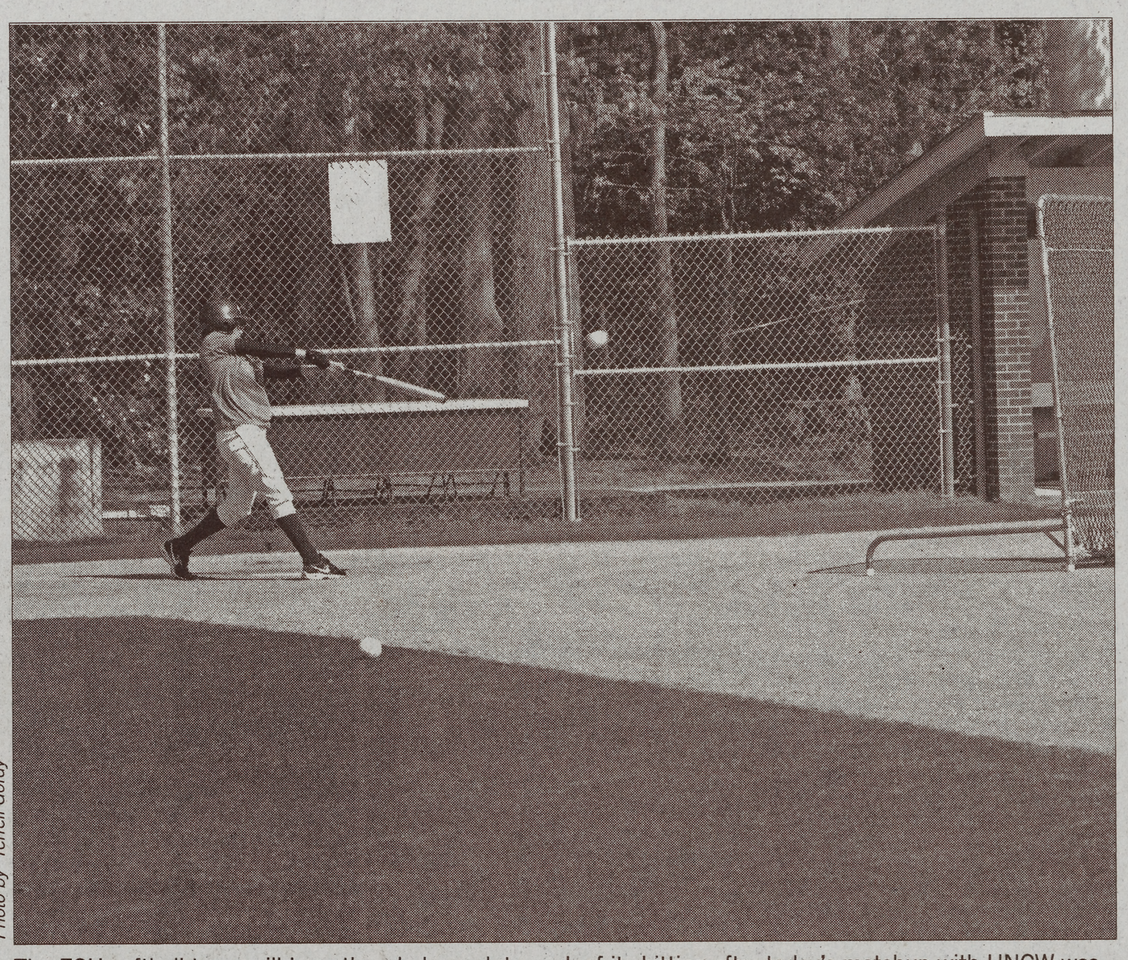


Photo by Terrell Gordy

The ECU softball team will have the whole week to work of its hitting after today's matchup with UNCW was rescheduled for later this month. The Pirates will need the practice as they struggled to get two-out hits.

TENNIS continued from A6

sweeping doubles play and capturing the opening point. Matt Peeler and Brian Walters defeated Nikola Andjelic and Robert Jenner 8-2 at the No. 2 flight before Aleksey Kochetov and Stephen Whitwell handed Brent Ching and Dan Mascall an 8-5 loss at No. 1 to clinch the tally.

The Pirates continued their strong play in the singles competition, winning four of the six matches. Kochetov rallied past Ching (4-6, 6-1, 6-0) at No. 1 and Whitwell handled Andjelic (6-4, 6-1) at No. 3 before Bryan Oakley and Walters added 6-1, 7-5 and 6-3, 6-4 victories over Chris Martel and Mascall at No. 4 and 5, respectively.

The Bulldogs' pair of triumphs came at the No. 2 and No. 6 positions as Jenner dismissed Peeler 6-4, 6-2 and Matthew Jackman outlasted Sam McSpadden 5-7, 6-2, 6-2.

The Pirates will play at Elon College today at 1 p,m. before returning home to host Mount Olive, North Carolina Central and Old Dominion this weekend to close out the regular season.

The ECU Student Media Board invites applications for the 2007-2008 academic year.

EDITOR

The East Carolinian

Applications are available in the Media Board Office
(Self Help Building, 301 Evans St. Suite 205A, Greenville, NC)

The deadline for submitting an application is
FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007, AT 5 PM

For information call the Media Board office at 328-9236

ATHLETICS continued from A6

money from the bowl berth.

The upcoming season could be a struggle for the young Pirates, or a chance to breakout for a program longing for the national spotlight once again. People around the nation are sure to take notice of the ECU football team if it's successful, as next season will feature prominent games against regional foes and schools deep-rooted in football tradition.

ECU home games against N.C. State and UNC will surely draw near sell-out crowds and national attention to the team. Last year the Pirates set a single season-attendance record for Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium through six games with 223,006 total tickets sold, and this year ECU is poised to set the record again.

When the Wolfpack made their first and only visit to Greenville on Nov. 20, 1999, a single game attendance record was set with 50,092 fans donning purple and gold as well as red and white. As many might already know, the purple and gold prevailed, with a resounding 23-6 win. After the game the student section filtered out onto the field, and celebrated with the players.

With N.C. State and the Tarheels coming to Dowdy-Ficklen the goalposts might be coming down again.

Wins over these in-state rivals and strong showings on the road at Virginia Tech and West Virginia could vault the Pirates to another bowl berth. If this is the case, Holtz will have the chance to do what Steve Logan, the last great ECU head coach, did.

In Logan's third year as head coach the Pirates posted a 7-4 regular season record, before being shutout by Illinois in the St. Jude Liberty Bowl, 30-0.

In Holtz's second year at the helm the Pirates went 7-5 in the regular season before being pummeled by the South Florida Bulls, 24-7.

The 1995 season ended much more to Logan's liking, as his Pirates went back to the St. Jude Liberty Bowl, beating Stanford 19-13. Holtz's squad has a similar chance for redemption next season.

This brings us to the ECU men's and women's basketball programs. This season the squads were polar opposites. While the ECU men's basketball team struggled for a conference win, the women's team achieved the type of success missing from the program for a long time.

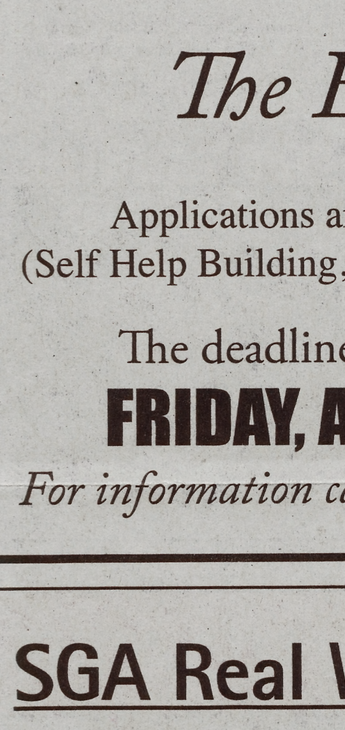
As defending C-USA champions, the Pirates will host the 2007-2008 C-USA Women's Basketball Championship. ECU has a strong chance to defend its title as the young nucleus of the team, sophomore point guards Jasmine Young and LaCoya Terry, are returning.

With so much exposure Greenville is sure to be once again recognized as a Great American Sports Town by *Sports Illustrated*. The fun and excitement of Pirate Pride has returned to ECU.

So at the end of this school year let us toast to another one hundred years of storied history and tradition.

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

SGA Real World Workshop Series



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Financial Director
Wednesday, April 11, 2007
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Ledonia Wright Culture Center

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Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. $6.25/ hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, visit our website at www.ecu.edu/telefund and click on JOBS.

Food delivery drivers wanted for Restaurant Runners. Part-time positions $100-300/week. Perfect for college students!!! Some lunchtime (11am-2pm) Mon-Fri advantageous and weekend availability required. 2-way radios allow you to be anywhere in Greenville when not on a delivery. Reliable transportation a must. Call 252-551-3279 between 2-5pm only. Leave message if necessary. Sorry Greenville residents only.

Chiropractic Office needs PT Office Assistant, Mon-Thurs 2-7, some mornings. Must be computer literate with knowledge of Microsoft Office. Only warm, caring, people-oriented undividual need apply. Call 756-6111

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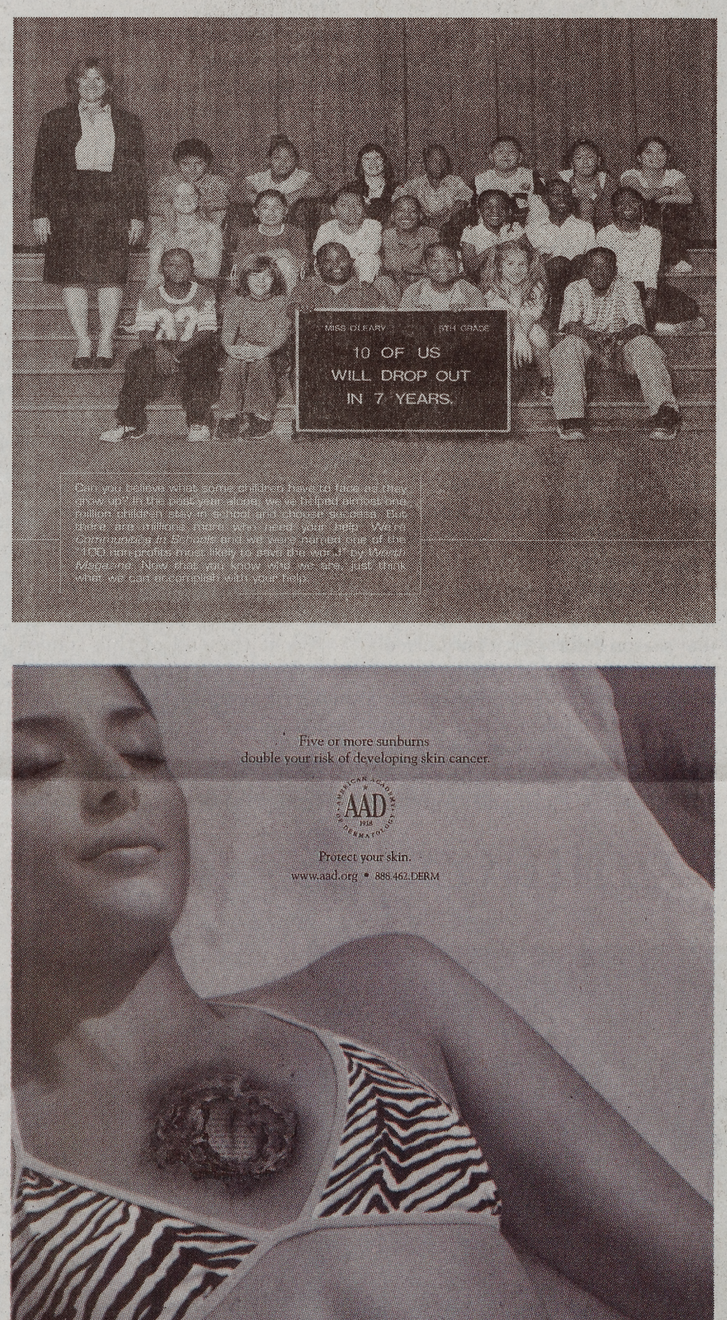

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8	2		1				4	
		4	6		2	9		
	5				3		2	8
		9	3				7	4
	4			5			3	6
7		3		1	8			

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CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE

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Intramural Sports Update

Softball Playoffs
Start Monday, April 9 at Blount Fields.
Dynasty of the OK goes for their 4th straight Men's Gold title.
Championship games for all leagues will be held on Wednesday, April 18 (Weather permitting).

Disc Golf Tournament
Register and play on-site Thursday, April 12 between 3:00-6:00pm
West Meadowbrook Park
For more information and directions to the course, please visit the Intramural Sports website at http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/crw/programs/intramurals.

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