



Females outnumbering males at ECU drastically

How did the female-male ratio change from 2000-2004?

	FEMALE	MALE
2000	59%	41%
2001	59%	41%
2002	59%	41%
2003	60%	40%
2004	61%	39%

Factors contributing to high female population

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
STAFF WRITER

Since the establishment of ECU in 1907, there have been a number of factors that contribute to the high female population.

The university opening as a teacher training school was one of the first factors that attracted a large number of females to ECU. As the university grew, more development and emphasis on programs such as teaching and nursing brought in more females to the school.

Rob Lange, associate director of undergraduate admissions, notices that some areas of study that are female-dominated are chosen as a concentration more than others.

"Prospective students often decide to major in programs such as nursing and teaching," said Lange.

Other factors that may bring in more females than males are the high school graduation rates.

"The ratio of female to male high school graduates may also contribute to the large female population," Lange said.

The amount of female students has been higher than

males throughout ECU's history and has slightly increased even within the last five years. The female student enrollment for the entire university increased from 59 percent in the 2000-2001 school year to 61 percent in the 2004-2005 school year. The male student enrollment decreased from 41 percent to 39 percent in the same time frame. The percentages may fluctuate in the future, but it is likely that females will still outnumber males at the university.

From 2000 to 2002, the percentage of female to male students didn't rise or fall. The university consisted of 59 percent female and 41 percent males for three consecutive years.

One factor that doesn't play a part in the amount of female and male students is the admissions department. They don't focus on gender when considering who will be admitted to ECU.

"Gender is not taken into account in the admissions process. We're more interested in who has an interest in attending ECU," Lange said.

"We are interested in getting more students, making better students and building more diversity in the student population."

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

'Great Decisions' returns



Duke University professor Scott Sillman presents his lecture "Human Rights in the Age of Terrorism" Saturday, Jan. 28 in Rivers Auditorium. The lecture was the second in the Great Decisions series, a community forum on international affairs, national security and U.S. foreign policy. Lloyd Novick, director of Masters in Public Health at ECU will present the next lecture in the series Saturday, Feb. 4.

Unthinkable happens in the West Bank

Islamic militant group wins half of votes

LEE SCHWARZ
STAFF WRITER

The world is very surprised that the Hamas won more than 50 percent of the votes in the Palestinian Leadership Council in Ramallah, which is roughly equivalent to the U.S. House of Representatives. The Hamas is an Islamic militant group that has announced its intention of destroying Israel and the U.S. Generally, the election upset is attributed to growing dissatisfaction of the incumbent Fatah party, known for corruption, which was started by the late Yasser Arafat. Arafat himself began the Fatah's apparent legacy of corruption by having amassed approximately \$1.3 billion in public Palestinian funds for his personal investment portfolio. It seems that the corruption with Fatah did not end when Arafat's life did.

What may be the most particularly demoralizing thought for the rest of the world is that all peace progress in Palestine that has been gained since the death of Yasser Arafat, who some believe to be an equal culprit of chaos in the Middle East as Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein. Former U.S. President Bill Clinton once remarked how Arafat "missed his chance" to bring his people to peace and just how frustrating it was because how hard Clinton worked to make peace in the Middle East.

It was Arafat who stated once that "The commitment still stands and the oath is still valid: that we will continue this long jihad, this difficult jihad via deaths, via sacrifices" and "Our nation is a nation of sacrifice, struggle and jihad." Jihad is Arabic for "holy war," and under Arafat's leadership the Palestinians turned to violence to achieve their political goals. The loss of his influence was seen as an opportunity to achieve peace through the emergence of a more moderate Palestinian regime. With the victory of the Hamas, it will be as though Arafat is still alive and dictating the actions of the Palestinians.

U.S. President George Bush stated "a political party, in order to be viable, is one that professes peace, in my judgment, in order that it will keep the peace, and so you're getting a sense of how I'm going to deal with Hamas if they end up in positions of responsibility. And the answer is: not until you renounce your desire to destroy Israel will we deal with you."

The good news is that the Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas has said publicly declared that he wants the Hamas to disarm now that their views will be made public through politics and that bloodshed is no longer necessary considering the political exposure they will have with the legislative clout they have won. Israel has backed off of the stance they made in late October about not dealing with Hamas at all. It seems that if Hamas renounces and disarms, there is a chance at peace because Bush will get Israel and Palestine talking again, albeit an incredible, very improbable achievement.

Many analysts believe that this election move on the part of the Palestinians is not so much an aggressive stance toward Israel as it is a punishment of the incumbent Fatah party for corruption. Angry Fatah supporters who rioted said "We don't want to join the Hamas government! We don't want corrupt leadership! We want reform, and we want to fire all the corrupt!"

Perhaps the Palestinian thirst for ethical leadership will include peaceful leadership as well.

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

Car chase ends in shooting in Greenville



The intersection Greenville Boulevard and 14th Street was the site of a traffic block that caused delays for several hours.

Suspect killed in pursuit

ZACK HILL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

By 9 a.m. last Thursday much of the Greenville Police Department had already experienced more action in one morning than they often do during an entire week.

Kerry Turner, 34, was shot and killed by three police officers after a chase that ended after Turner's car rammed several other vehicles, including several police department vehicles. Officers then shot Turner on Greenville Boulevard near 14th Street.

The pursuit began after officers attempted to serve Kerry with involuntary commitment orders. Kerry, who had long suffered from bipolar disorder, had hours before committed himself to the psychiatric section of Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

He soon left however, and was suspected of barricading himself

in the residence with weapons. Kerry fled when law enforcement officials attempted to take him into custody at his home.

Kerry was convicted of drunk driving in 1987 at the age of 16. More than a dozen charges appear over the next years with the most serious coming in May, when he was convicted of assault inflicting serious injury and communicating threats.

Kerry was put on house arrest and forced to live with his parents. At this time, Kerry also began receiving treatment for bipolar disorder.

He was sent to prison in August after violating his probation by staying out past his curfew and being intoxicated. He was released in November.

Police blocked off streets for several hours, causing delayed traffic through much of the area near where the incident took place.

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

Winter Blues nearly absent from ECU

SAD ranks low in cases of depression

CLAYTON BAUMAN
STAFF WRITER

With the winter months come feelings of gloom to Americans across the country. Not so much at ECU.

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, is a form of depression that takes place due in part to the winter months. The lack of sunlight that spring and summertime are full of produces what many would refer to as the "winter blues."

SAD is categorized as a mood disorder. There does not seem to be a very large percentage of students who suffer from SAD on campus.

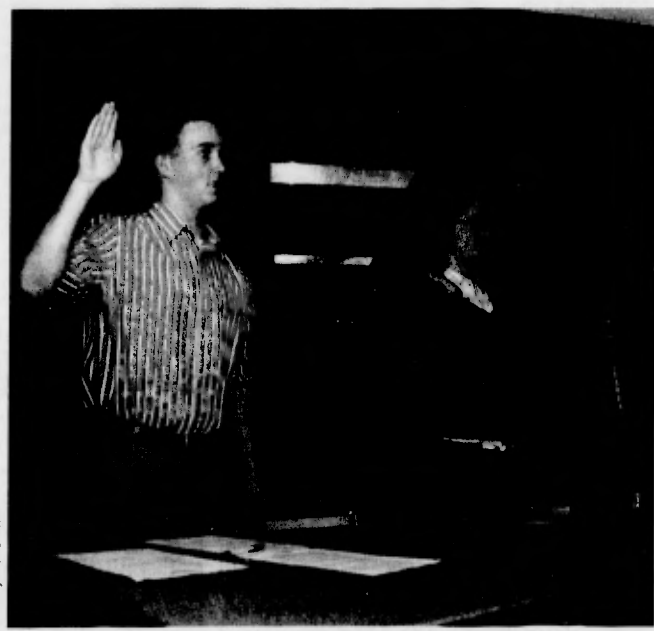
"We have some people but not a lot," said Assistant Director Valerie Kissler-Van Reea.

She went on to say that a majority of cases involve depres-



Students' winter woes may be caused by seasonal changes in light.

SGA Senators sworn in at meeting



During Monday night's SGA meeting all members of the SGA Senate were officially sworn in by Attorney General Nick Genty. Corey King presented the Diversity Action Plan on behalf of Chancellor Ballard and Vice Chancellors Moore and Smith. Several senators spoke about a constitutional presentation and several appropriations were passed. The March of Dimes meeting, originally scheduled for Feb. 6, will be rescheduled at a later date.

Announcements

Correction

A few corrections need to be made for an article entitled "Undergraduate research: a viable opportunity for students" that ran Wednesday, Jan. 25. The opening statement of the article states that "Undergraduate research is an option to basically all students." This statement is misleading because undergraduate research is an option that is open to all undergraduates.

Paragraph nine states that "If a student decides to participate in research through Undergraduate/Creative Activities committee, they must have a GPA of 2.5." Students do not actually participate through the committee, but the committee does ensure increased opportunities and visibility for undergraduate research on campus. The final paragraph on page one is misleading in that Research Assistantships are not assistantships for the students who are assisting faculty with their research.

The first paragraph on page two is misleading in that students are not required to apply for and be awarded the grants to present at the symposium. Any undergraduate student who would like to showcase their own research or inquiry-based project is welcome to submit a proposal.

Open Mic Benefit

"Until the Violence Stops: An Open Mic Benefit" will take place Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. at the Topsy Teapot located at 409 Evans St. A \$5 donation is suggested with all money benefiting V-Day. The event is being sponsored by the Women's Studies Program and VOICE. For more information, e-mail our ECU voice@yahoo.com.

Dance 2006

Dance 2006 continues in the week of Jan. 29 through Feb. 4. Highlights include choreography by School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists. Sometimes serious, sometimes funny, sometimes lyrical and sometimes eccentric, this annual dance showcase has become an immensely popular event. Sure to have something for dance aficionados and newcomers alike, this is a fast-paced and unpredictable cornucopia of styles. For more information visit ecueducation.com/cs-studentlife/mcgrinnis/playhouse.cfm.

Groundhog Day Concert

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a free acoustic music concert performed by Folks Arts Society of Greenville members and guests Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. at Muddlinger's Coffee Co. located at 409 Evans St. downtown. Admission is free. For more information, call 752-7350.

Elite Pirates

Applications are now being accepted for induction into this premiere recognition program designed to honor the top student leaders at ECU. Only 10 student leaders will be selected for this honor based on their academics, leadership and community service. "The Elite Pirates" selected will receive a university plaque, induction into "The Elite Pirate Student Hall of Fame," a \$150 leadership honorarium, and receive recognition with other campus/community leaders during ECU Founder's Week 2006.

Applications are available in 207 Mendenhall Student Center. The deadline is Friday, Feb. 10 at 4:30 p.m. For submitting your application, interviews will be conducted Feb. 20 through Feb. 24. The Induction Program will take place March 29 at 2:30 p.m. in MSC Hendrix Theatre. (Founder's Week is March 27 - 31). For more information, contact the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Experiences at 328-4702.

Student Homecoming Chair Applications

The Homecoming Committee is currently looking for a person to fill the 2006 position of Student Homecoming Chairperson. The position calls for the applicant to oversee seven subcommittees, manage a \$19,000 budget, process expenditures in a timely fashion and chair all student homecoming bi-weekly meetings. To apply for the position, all applicants must be full-time students in good standing with the university, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and have a class standing of sophomore or higher. This is a paid student position. All applications must include a letter of interest and resume of related experience and should be e-mailed no later than Feb. 10 to adega@ecu.edu. You may also drop off your letter of interest and resume to 218 Mendenhall Student Center Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

News Briefs

State

Wind gusts of 200 mph at NC mountain peak won't be 'official'

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN, NC (AP) — Wind gusts of at least 200 mph at the visitor's center won't be accepted by some groups including the National Weather Service because they don't control how the wind-measuring equipment on Grandfather Mountain is set up.

"We would not record it because (the wind gauge) is not sited according to standards," said Ryan Boyles, an associate climatologist with the State Climate Office of North Carolina.

Larry Lee, a science and operations officer for the National Weather Service's Greenville-Spartanburg office in South Carolina which covers Avery County, said something similar: the weather service has no information about the anemometer or wind gauge on Grandfather.

It was late Tuesday and early Wednesday morning when Grandfather Mountain's wind gauge got stuck at 200 mph, where it tops out. That's the highest wind speed measure at the 5,964-foot peak since readings began in 1955. The visitor's center sits about 700 feet below the peak, which is a travel attraction and nature preserve.

The previous record of 196 mph was set in 1997.

The wind knocked out reinforced glass from the visitor's center and carried it 278 yards while chunks of a wood-and-metal window frame were blown 224 yards down the mountain.

One problem with the equipment at Grandfather Mountain, the experts say, is that the wind gauge is mounted on the visitor's center's roof, which they say is a no-no because of the way that location affects wind speed.

"The winds get amplified around objects and over objects," Boyles said.

"It can really get amplified going over a roof," Crae Morton, the president of Grandfather Mountain Inc., said he understood the official position.

"Maybe that's something we can do scientifically," she said of the mountain's wind speed measurements.

Missing Alzheimer's patient dies shortly after being found

CHARLOTTE, NC (AP) — An Alzheimer's patient who disappeared for four days was found in a storage room of the nursing home where she lived, but the woman later died at a hospital.

Mary Cole, 66, had disappeared Monday from Liberty Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, authorities said. She was found Friday under a table in a storage room at the center, said her daughter, Tammy Terry.

At that point, she was dehydrated but had a heart beat and pulse, Terry said. But she died soon after she arrived at Presbyterian Hospital. An autopsy will be performed.

A police investigation will focus on why the storage room wasn't locked and why Cole wasn't found after six searches, said Charlotte-Mecklenburg police spokesman Keith Bridges.

Terry was perplexed as well. "The people in that nursing home were wonderful to us. They sat up all night with us. They searched from 7 a.m. to nightfall with us. They cried with us," Terry said.

Police arrested the baby's mother, 27-year-old Simone Cassiano da Silva, on Sunday and charged her with attempted homicide for putting the baby into the plastic bag, setting it on a board and pushing it into the lake.

Da Silva denied she set the child adrift. She claimed she gave the baby to a group of homeless people because she did not have enough money to raise the child.

The wooden board attached to the bag apparently kept it from sinking in the lake, 210 miles north of Rio de Janeiro.

The child was not registered or named, but the mother told the media she had wanted to name her lara, the deity of waters, in Brazilian Indian belief.

National

Brazilians race to adopt abandoned baby floating in lake

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Doctors released a 2-month-old girl from a hospital Monday, two days after she was found in a black plastic bag floating in a lake in southeastern Brazil.

Scores of Brazilians mobbed the Odilon Behrens Municipal Hospital hoping to adopt or at least catch a glimpse of the child whose dramatic rescue was filmed by an amateur cameraman and broadcast worldwide.

Authorities said it was the same Belo Horizonte hospital where the infant was born prematurely two months ago, which helped authorities locate the mother, who allegedly set her adrift on nearby Pampuiha Lake.

The baby was released into the care of local child-protection authorities.

"She's doing great, in perfect health," said Rosana Alves, a hospital spokeswoman. "Now the Juvenile Court will decide whether she goes to a family or to a shelter."

Alves said the commotion over the infant and the flood of adoption offers had interfered with hospital routine.

Blues from page A1

sion with SAD ranking low. Symptoms of the disorder take place at the beginning of fall. They range from extreme fatigue to excessive sleeping and difficulty staying awake. Five to six months later, symptoms seemingly disappear, only to return the next fall.

According to Patricia Anstett, a writer for the *Detroit Free Press* who did an article concerning SAD, there are currently three known options for relief to choose from. These consist of antidepressant drugs, light or phototherapy and counseling known as cognitive behavioral therapy, or CBT. CBT is essentially a therapy session involving taking negative thoughts and transforming them into realistic ones.

Antidepressants work in approximately 50 to 60 percent of people dealing with SAD. Medication is essentially the most convenient option for people, though the expense can become quite high.

Light treatment seeks to have the patient conduct activity in well-lit areas. This eliminates the gloomy atmosphere that often results in the symptoms brought on by SAD.

If students suspect that they may be suffering from depression or SAD, they can visit the counseling center located on the second story of Wright auditorium where they can find options about dealing with the depression.

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ABC News co-anchor Woodruff, cameraman seriously injured in Iraq explosion

(AP) — ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff, seriously hurt by a roadside bomb in Iraq, has shown signs of improvement and may be airlifted to the United States as soon as Tuesday, the network's news president said Monday.

A hospital official said body armor likely saved the journalist's life. Cameraman Doug Vogt, also hurt in the explosion, is in better shape than Woodruff but doctors were pleased with how both handled the transfer to a U.S. military base in Germany, said ABC News President David Westin.

"We have a long way to go," Westin said. "But it appears that we may have also come some distance from yesterday."

Vogt was filming a stand-up report with Woodruff and both were standing in the open hatch of an Iraqi military vehicle when the bomb went off. They underwent surgery in Iraq before being flown to Germany.

"They're both very seriously injured, but stable," said Col. Bryan Gamble, commander of the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in western Germany. He said both men were heavily sedated and under the care of the hospital's trauma team.

Their body armor likely saved them, "otherwise these would have been fatal wounds," Gamble said.

Woodruff, the new co-anchor of "World News Tonight," had serious head wounds and broken bones, and Vogt also suffered head injuries, ABC News said. The network said the men's wives were at the hospital and talking with doctors Monday.

Former "NBC Nightly News" anchor Tom Brokaw said Monday that he had spoken with Woodruff's wife, Lee. "The doctors had told



In this TV image released by ABC, news anchor Bob Woodruff, center, talks with U.S. soldiers Sunday, Jan. 29, prior to him and his cameraman Doug Vogt being injured in a roadside bombing in Iraq.

them once they arrived that the brain swelling had gone down. In Bob's case, that had been a big concern. Yesterday they had to operate and remove part of the skull cap to relieve some of the swelling," Brokaw said on NBC's "Today" show.

The doctors didn't know for sure whether shrapnel penetrated Woodruff's brain, but they were removing additional shrapnel from his neck area, Brokaw said. He said Woodruff's family had also learned more details about the explosion from witnesses.

"Immediately after the explosion he turned to his producer and said 'Am I alive?' and 'Don't tell Lee,' and then he began to cry out in excruciating pain," Brokaw said.

Woodruff and Vogt, an award-winning cameraman, were embedded with the 4th Infantry Division and traveling in a convoy with U.S. and Iraqi

troops near Taji, about 12 miles north of Baghdad when the device exploded. An Iraqi soldier also was hurt.

"Doug was conscious, and I was able to reassure him we were getting them care. I spoke to Bob also and walked with them to the helicopter," said ABC senior producer Kate Felsen, who had been working with Woodruff for the past two weeks.

The injuries were a blow to ABC News, still recovering from the cancer death of Peter Jennings in August. Woodruff and co-anchor Elizabeth Vargas assumed Jennings' old job at "World News Tonight" earlier this month.

"Bob and Doug were in Iraq doing what reporters do, trying to find out what's happening there up-close and firsthand. All of us are mindful of the risks and the dangers," Vargas said Sunday night in a closing note.

U.S. fighter jet crashes into the sea off Australia's east coast

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — A U.S. fighter jet crashed into the sea off the eastern coast of Australia after failing to land on an aircraft carrier, officials and media reports said Sunday. No one was injured.

The pilot ejected Saturday after the unsuccessful landing attempt about 120 miles southeast of the Queensland state capital, Brisbane, according to Rhylia Morgan, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Consulate in Sydney.

The pilot was trying "to land on the flight deck. Something went wrong (so) the pilot ejected," she said Sunday.

The Australian Broadcasting Corp. said the pilot was pulled from the water by a ship helicopter, but the \$28 million F/A-18 Hornet strike fighter was unlikely to be recovered.

The ship, the *USS Ronald Reagan*, had been due to conduct naval operations in support of the war on terror as well as security commitments in the western Pacific, the ABC said.

Italian daily: Berlusconi's latest promise no sex until April 9 elections

ROME (AP) — Premier Silvio Berlusconi has promised Italians he would lower taxes and raise pensions. His latest campaign pledge is rather personal: no sex until April 9 elections, an Italian newspaper reported Sunday.

Il Giornale, a conservative Milan daily owned by Paolo Berlusconi, the premier's brother, reported that the no-sex vow was made during a campaign rally in Cagliari, Sardinia, on Saturday with a popular TV preacher on the island and his followers.

The clergyman, Rev. Massimiliano Puscaddu, praised the premier for what he described as a defense of family values and promised that his followers would

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Our View

Super Bowl about the game, not sex appeal

Ever since the Pittsburgh Steelers and Seattle Seahawks stamped their tickets to Detroit for Super Bowl XL, many people's outlook of the game has been anything but Extra Large. Some say the teams have "no sex appeal."

And why would they? Neither of these teams boast quarterbacks on the cusp of individual greatness, championship ring in their immediate future or not. As recognizable as Shaun Alexander and Ben Roethlisberger may be, neither team has a Tom Brady or a Peyton Manning - guys who are the center of attention 24/7.

But when are people going to understand that the Super Bowl, though it's for all the marbles, is still a football game? This is not about sex appeal. It's about the two best NFL teams coming together and playing a 60-minute football game to determine the best team in the land. The bottom line is, whether these two teams have any sex appeal or not, they have certainly proven their best two squads in the league, not to mention great stories.

Pittsburgh is the lowest seed to make it to the title game, winning all three of their playoff games on the road, not to mention beating up on the mighty Colts. Their defense is as formidable as it has ever been, even back to the days of the Steel Curtain when the Steelers were dominant and made regular appearances in the Super Bowl. They also have one of the best young quarterbacks in the league and one of the most storied running backs in NFL history.

Seattle, on the other hand, has never even sniffed at a Super Bowl, but thoroughly dominated the NFC this year after a slow start. They have the NFL MVP in their backfield and a quarterback who studied under one of the all-time greats (Brett Favre) for most of his career in Green Bay and is dying to prove himself.

You have two completely different teams, two completely different backgrounds, the two BEST teams in the league, meeting to decide who takes home the hardware. In all of that, how on earth is sex appeal necessary to have a great football game?

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Opinion Columnist

We should consider abolishing Black History Month

The time has come to move forward

DANIEL BROCK
OPINION COLUMNIST

Guess what. There shouldn't be a Black History Month. You heard right. No Black History Month. Appalled by the idea? Shocked by the suggestion? Troubled by the thought? Well you shouldn't be. You also shouldn't be running to get your hood and gasolene out of the closet either.

Let me begin by saying that black people have contributed many important things to our nation's history. The value of their work should not be overlooked or undermined, and that is in no way my intent. In fact, I believe that because they have contributed so much and are interwoven into the fabric of this land, having a designated Black History Month is condescending in the first degree.

America is a melting pot where people of every nation and creed have come to live under a banner of peace and justice. For many years, and even today, that banner does not fly everywhere across this land. Nonetheless, great strides have been made, beginning in the last century and continuing into this one. Today there is more racial equality in America than at any time in our history. Equality is what black people have courageously sought and steadfastly continue to seek. That is why I am exasperated that they take this pandering with open arms. Although I'm not entirely surprised (see our nations welfare system).

Black History Month is an annual review of African American history and, at times, a mean spirited rehashing of rhetoric. It seems to stir up more feelings of ill will than those of peace and reconciliation. Blacks across the nation often take a militant and defiant tone during this month (watch TV in February if you disagree), not one of reverence and celebration for all that they and their ancestors have achieved in American culture.

That is exactly what Black History Month is supposed to be - a celebration, not the argument that is inevitably devolves into every year. Each February, black heroes of the past are

paraded across television screens in a manner akin to rubbing something in someone's face. Disputes erupt and talk turns to reparations and all sorts of nonsense. Harsh words and insults are traded, which turns white people off to the idea of BHM.

BHM has become a ploy to distract black people. If black people want to continue their march toward equality, they need to wake up and realize that BHM is holding them back. Our schools are desegregated and our calendars should be as well. If a black person's achievement, character or courage is worthy of historical mention in February, then it is worthy too in September. History is history whether it's black or white, and it should be on the same pages at the same time. If the schools are integrated, then the curriculum should be as well.

Academy Award Winning Actor Morgan Freeman feels similarly. In a recent interview with "60 Minutes," he said that the concept of a BHM is "ridiculous." He went on to say, "You're going to relegate my history to a month? I don't want a black history month. Black history is American history."

People make an issue of the absence of a White History Month. Well what tone of white do you want? Porcelain skinned Norwegians? Olive skinned Italians? The descendants of these people came to America and made a joint history. It is true that for many years black history in America was lonely and painful, but circumstances have changed. We should celebrate our history and future together - not look at the past with an air of distrust and harbored resentment, with a sense of accomplishment and victory that we are advancing together in an evolving society. Racism is a large stumbling block that has slowly been chipped away at over the years and we need to move forward.

Historian Carter G. Woodson, the man who in 1926 established Negro History Week, the celebration in which Black History Month has its roots, said he hoped the week could one day be eliminated. He pointed to a day when black history was a fundamental part of American history. That is why I move for no BHM. It's

a repressive barrier to the equality African Americans call for. If they choose to remain shackled to this antiquated tradition it will only serve to keep up the walls of segregation and racism, and to facilitate feelings of ill will and animosity.

If BHM were eradicated, I would suggest as a gesture of goodwill and intent that Columbus Day be renamed George Washington Carver Day. Carver certainly deserves a place in the pantheon of celebrated Americans (which we all are) and is a much worthier candidate to be honored than the power hungry, egomaniacal Columbus. Plus, he gave us the modern day manna of peanut butter.

Black people, in their struggle for equality and social justice, must take responsibility and pride in their culture that goes beyond the superficial celebrations of memorial services and parades. They must, as a people, work to reduce the behaviors and attitudes that perpetuate negative stereotypes. I speak specifically of the recent assaults and thefts made on and around the ECU campus. A majority if not all of the suspects and perpetrators have been African-American. That's not racism. It is a fact.

I'm sure that these statements will appall some people, but if they would take the time to analyze the situation they may come to feel differently. African Americans should spend more time working to reduce crime, unemployment and poverty in their neighborhoods as opposed to taking militant stands on past wrongs. Past wrongs that are opened fresh each year during a month that is supposed to celebrate achievement, not bemoan historical injustices and current plights.

Black History Month just doesn't fit anymore. It tethers the people that it's supposed to honor and pigeonholes what could and should be a much broader historical perspective. White people should not celebrate the dissolution of Black History Month as the end of acknowledgement and black people should not fear it for that reason either. Black History is a misnomer and an unnecessary label. The past is the past. It's not black history or white history. It's our history.

In My Opinion

(KRT) - Bye-bye, newspapers. If you're reading this on this paper that folds and crinkles, has many other things on oversized pages and gets ink on your fingers, then you are helping stem the decline of an endangered species. Sorry to say it, but you may be a dying breed yourself. Between 1998 and 2005, weekday newspaper readers dropped from 58.6 percent to 51 percent of all adults, according to Newspaper Association of America figures. For 18- to 24-year-olds, the drop was from 43.5 percent to 38.4 percent, and for 25- to 34-year-olds, readership fell even further, from 45.9 percent to 36.8 percent. Younger non-readers are undoubtedly unmarried, since married people read newspapers more often than singles - perhaps to hide behind at breakfast.

Bye-bye to young audiences. Good riddance, some contrarian analysts say. The fact that newspaper readers are older, more educated, more affluent, less likely to be black or Hispanic, and more prevalent in the Northeast makes them a higher-quality target for advertisers. The Washington Post's Paul Farhi argues. But consider whether that profile represents America's future or its past.

I agree that newspapers won't disappear soon. An industry producing something so disposable

(good for wrapping fish) has proved rather durable. Still, newspapers must reinvent themselves - beyond putting classified ads on the Web.

As an expert on managing change, I've participated in two-decades' worth of conferences discussing the need for creative solutions for the future of newspapers. Yet the physical product has hardly changed. The bulkier the better, publishers think.

Newspapers don't have to ignore disinterested potential readers. Niche publications grab young audiences that newspapers lose. For example, School Sports magazine has been growing in local markets while newspapers have reduced coverage of high-school sports.

Wave bye-bye to broadcast television, too. As mass media become niche media, TV suffers from similar afflictions. New media audiences want to be more engaged and in control. They want to:

- Direct the action (video and online game players).
- Produce the package (on-demand viewing - content recorded for replay).
- Create the content (short Web films - blogs).
- Develop their own networks (e-mail communities with pirated content - news spread virally by

hitting "forward").

These consumers are not just the young. A British Broadcasting Corp. brainstorming session on the future of the BBC that I attended included a role-playing grandmother who finds video games more interesting than television.

Of course, every trend contains a possible counter-trend. ("Here's an innovative idea. Why don't all of us in our online community watch a movie at the same time every week!")

In my 2001 book *Evolve!: Succeeding in the Digital Culture of Tomorrow*, I pointed out that new media rarely eliminate old media - they learn to live side by side. The virtual hasn't replaced the physical. Far from eliminating physical stores, established retailers have taken advantage of e-commerce to reach more customers and serve them flexibly through multiple channels.

Newspapers have been pretty good at developing an Internet presence. The problem is that they haven't yet answered the question of whether a newspaper is the news or the paper. Will they keep saying bye-bye to their journalists and not to their printing plants? Will they keep focusing on which channel of distribution to favor rather than on the quality of their content? Those would be unfortunate choices.

Pirate Rant

I would like to just thank ECU for giving all its students access to free newspapers throughout campus. It's nice not to have to beg my friend for a USA Today from his dorm before class anymore.

Would it be too much to ask to fix the back exit to the Croatan so I am not embarrassed by choosing the locked side door (that's never unlocked), stumble over the elevated step and hit in the face by working door due to its broken door closer?

I can't say thank you enough to the 23,000 plus students here at ECU who did not take my bag while I left it in Wright Place since Friday! It really shows that people can be trusted these days! However, I am wondering why the heck the employees of Wright Place didn't put my bag in the lost and found after seeing it in the same place for four days! Anyway ... thanks again ECU!

Thank God *Brokeback Mountain* is finally playing in Greenville ... about freaking time!

I'm on a mission to have the most "Fun" before I graduate in May!

Our school truly has more hot guys and girls than any other campus in North Carolina. So congratulations, boys and girls, because I love looking at all of you fine people.

My roommate is addicted to eBay and now I am as well. So much for my resolution of not procrastinating.

I am probably one of the biggest Pirate fans here at this university, but the only real "Carolina" is, of course, the University of South Carolina. So all you Clemson, UNC and State fans can get over it! Go Pirates and go Gamecocks!

Got spell check?

The cashier's office is the sorriest department at ECU. I go in to ask one simple question, there are no other students around, four employees working and I still had to wait five minutes for one of those people to help me. What really got me was that she acted upset that I disturbed her from conjugating with the other employees. In three years, I have never had a pleasant experience working with them.

A recent study shows secondhand smoke sharply increased risk of breast cancer in young women exposed to secondhand smoke. It also links drifting smoke to premature births, asthma and heart disease, other cancers and numerous health problems in children.

Kudos to Kanye for his *Rolling Stone* cover! Awesome statement.

The bus rides coming back from downtown are the coolest. Last Friday I had the best bus ride ever on them. Whoever was on that bus knows what I mean. We need all bus drivers to be cool and more drunk female entertainment!

So yeah the last time I checked I was paying ECU to get an education not to pay unqualified professor to attempt to teach a class in which they have no idea what they are doing. Plus interns who force me to teach myself. So remind me why am I paying ECU?

Does anyone know what happened to the Hybrid Bus that was at ECU for like ... a day?

Is anyone else obsessed with Simon Cowell from American Idol? I think I just have a thing for jerks!

Since when did PB's become the hub of all the Greek rednecks?

I love Joyner this time of year, there is actually a place to study and a study room available when you need it!

Can we please keep the rants under a 100 word minimum, my teachers are starting to catch on that I am reading the pirate rants during class because its taking me the whole 50 minutes to get through one persons personal anecdote on why they hate life.

Why is it so hard to study abroad? First you have to get 100 signatures from 100 different places, pay \$150 to even get it considered, get 12 teacher recommendations, three official transcripts, and write four essays only to find out that the classes you will take overseas won't even transfer to ECU! Wow, whatever happened to simple travel?

If you want a pizza brought to you tip the guy who brought it to you at least \$2 or \$3. Gas is expensive, the weather is cold, and some of us work to pay our tuition. The people living in dorms (especially Unstead, Green and White) should pay particular interest to this. This goes for food and beverage servers of any kind.

I'm sick and tired of seeing all these girls walking around campus wearing these huge sunglasses. They are not classy - they are not cool. So give your glasses back to your grandma. Please.

I'm a straight guy and I think I've fallen in love with my best friend ... who is also a straight guy.

Rants rock!

Why is it that the vast majority of girls on campus feel compelled to tote around a Vera Bradley bag? Not only are they hideous and closely resemble diaper bags, but every other girl has one. Just another reason why all of the girls on campus look the same.

Thank God for Mongolia House. It is the best restaurants in the entire world. I would eat there everyday if I could find a two hour block to commit to it.

Editor's Note: The Pirate Rant is an anonymous way for students and staff in the ECU community to voice their opinions. Submissions can be submitted anonymously online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, or e-mailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.

Names in the News:

Abdul feeling lonely

Choosing the next American Idol can wreak serious havoc on the social life. Just ask Paula Abdul. The former dancer-singer-cheerleader will team up with Dr. Phil to find her latest beau on "Love Smart," a CBS prime-time special scheduled to air on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. Dr. Phil and Abdul will "explore the life of an unmarried international celebrity who is looking for love." Hopefully, they won't find it in the herds of wannabe idols singing their hearts out in front of Ms. Abdul, Randy Jackson and Simon Cowell. Remember, idolators, Abdul was cleared earlier this year of allegations she had an inappropriate relationship with ex-"Idol" contestant Corey Clark. With Dr. Phil at her side, Abdul will open up about her problems finding a guy who's comfortable with her level of success and who isn't "overwhelmed by her emotions." Yikes.

Hasty puddin' time

Both the American Gigolo and Catwoman will get a severe roasting next month at Harvard University. Actor Richard Gere, famous for playing the heartthrob in movies like *Pretty Woman* and *An Officer and a Gentleman*, was named "Man of the Year" by Harvard University's irreverent Hasty Pudding Theatricals on Thursday. He will receive the group's golden Pudding Pot award on Feb. 24. Halle Berry was named "Hasty Pudding's Woman of the Year." The Oscar-winner, who starred in *Monster's Ball* and *Catwoman*, will lead a parade of male students in drag through Harvard Square on Feb. 16 when she receives her award. The awards are presented annually to performers who have made "a lasting and impressive contribution to the world of entertainment," according to a statement.

Spelling sued

Octogenarian TV mogul Aaron Spelling is creating some steamy "reality" programming of his own these days. The producer of sex-saturated series such as "Beverly Hills 90210," "Melrose Place" and "Dynasty" is accused of groping and demanding sexual favors from a nurse hired to care for him, a lawsuit alleges. Charlene Richards, who cared for the ailing entertainment exec at his Beverly Hills mansion from November 2004 to April, claimed Spelling "grabbed or attempted to grab her breasts...exposed himself," and put his hands a few other places they shouldn't have been, according to papers filed Friday in L.A. Superior Court. Richards seeks monetary damages for sexual harassment, sexual battery, wrongful termination and other offenses. Spelling's Los Angeles attorney, Bert Fields, called the lawsuit a "nasty piece of work" and said, "Anyone who knows Aaron knows he is a complete gentleman."

Local Concerts:

Johnny Dollar will be at the City Hotel and Bistro in Greenville Saturday, Feb. 4.

Nada Surf will be at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro Friday, Feb. 10.

The Pietasters will be at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro Saturday, Feb. 11.

Matsuyahu will be performing at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro Wednesday, Feb. 15.

Keith Urban and Pat Green will be performing at the Charlotte Bobcats Arena Thursday, Feb. 16.

O.A.R. will be at Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club and special guests Elephant will be at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro Wednesday, Feb. 22.

G. Love and Special Sauce will be performing at the Lincoln Theatre in Raleigh Friday, March 3.

Jerry Seinfeld will be performing at the Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts in Raleigh Friday, March 10.

Martina McBride will be at the RBC Center in Raleigh Sunday, April 2.

Fun Facts:

The ancient Egyptians bought jewelry for their pet crocodiles.

It is illegal to purchase or consume Jack Daniel's Whiskey in the town in which it is produced!

Bacteria that causes tooth decay, acne, tuberculosis and leprosy can be medicated with cashews.

When young and impoverished, Pablo Picasso kept warm by burning his own paintings.

Taken from hookedonfacts.com.

Love at Krispy Kreme

Give a sweet Valentine to your Valentine

MEREDITH STEWART
SENIOR WRITER

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching and girls are beginning to fantasize about their perfect day while guys are trying to plan something unexpected and thoughtful for that special someone. For some, it's too early to even be thinking about the day of love. For now, you can just relax and not only think about your Valentine, but your friends too. Krispy Kreme has created an offer so simple that you and twelve of your friends will find it deliciously satisfying.

It's called the "Share the Love" Valentine's promotion. Now through Feb. 14, you can purchase a dozen doughnuts and receive 12 Krispy Kreme Valentine's Day cards. Each card features a Krispy Kreme message on the front and a free doughnut coupon on the back (the free doughnut offer will be good in Krispy Kreme retail stores only). "Share the Love" will give fans of Valentine's Day a head start on the occasion: "This is a fun way to surprise that someone special



with a Valentine card and a doughnut," said Amanda Tilley, market manager of Krispy Kreme.

Founded in 1937 in Winston-Salem, Krispy Kreme is a leading branded specialty retailer in quality doughnuts, including the company's signature Hot Original Glazed.

Anyone who has been down 10th Street and experienced the irresistible "HOT NOW" sign knows exactly what I'm talking about. The red hot lights catch your eye, you imagine the taste and then you just have to stop and treat yourself.

With more than 350 stores and 60 satellites in 45 of the United States, Australia, Canada, Mexico, the Republic of South Korea and the United Kingdom, Krispy Kreme makes an estimated 5 million doughnuts each day.

The designs shown here are just some of the options available with this promotion. What friend or significant other would not feel special when they receive one of these? Be sure to stop by Krispy Kreme before Feb. 14 to get a dozen for yourself and cards for your friends. You can also find Krispy Kreme on the web at krispykreme.com.

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



Women's Studies Program

Many worthwhile upcoming events

SARAH CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

For more than 20 years, ECU's Women's Studies Program has offered students curriculum with the primary focus on the importance of gender, race, ethnicity, class and sexual orientation in defining women's place in society.

The program offers a 36-semester-hour Bachelor of Arts Degree, as well as undergraduate and graduate minors. Co-directors of the program Christa Reiser and Cheryl Dudasik-Wiggs are dedicated to the program and its advancement.

According to the Web site ecu.edu/wost, "with a Women's Studies major, minor or double major, a student has the opportunity to enhance personal and career goals through interdisciplinary study."

Completing these programs enhances career preparation. In the next few years, the majority of the workforce will be women and/or members of a minority group. The knowledge and awareness of cultural and gender diversity fostered in Women's Studies prepare a student to apply for positions in human services, health and wellness professions, national and international business and human resources."

Next month the Women's Studies program is teaming with various other organizations to sponsor several educational, informational and entertaining events related to women's studies.

On Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m., the Tippy Teapot will host "Until the Violence Stops: An Open Mic Benefit." The cost for this event is free. However, a \$5 donation is suggested, with the proceeds benefiting V-Day, an organization fighting against the abuse of women and girls. The Tippy Teapot is located at 409 Evan St. beside Mudslingers. For more information about this event, contact ECU VOICE at our ecu_voice@yahoo.com.

Attorney Peter Romary will be on hand in Bate 1031 Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 5:30 p.m. to present a workshop entitled "Conflict Resolution: The Essential Skill of Leaders in Life, the Classroom, the Board Room and the International Halls of Power." Romary holds both British and American law degrees and is admitted to the bars of North Carolina, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

In order to register for this event, contact Cheryl Dudasik-Wiggs, co-director of the Women's Studies Program, at 328-1539 or dudasikwiggsc@ecu.edu.

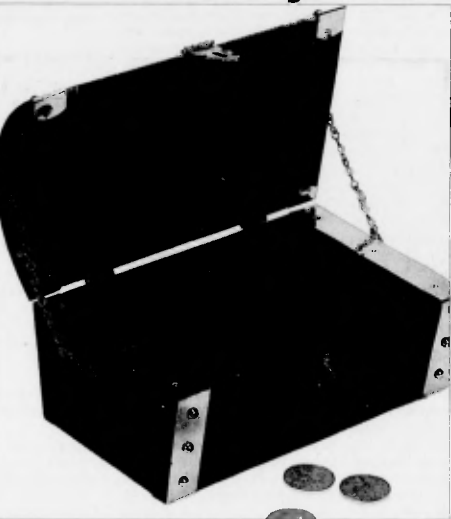
The Vagina Monologues will be performed in Wright Auditorium Feb. 10 - 12 at 8 p.m. Proceeds from each night's performances will go to the Family Violence Program. To receive ticket information, call 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

ECU's sexual assault victims' advocate Sue Molhan will show a video on acquaintance rape followed by a discussion on preventing and surviving sexual violence Monday, Feb. 13 and Thursday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. in Bate 1013. For more information, contact Molhan at molhans@ecu.edu.

On Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. in Bate 1031, award-winning author Joy Castro is set to speak. Castro is the author of *The Truth Book*, which is an autobiographical account of her abuse at the hands of religious zealots. For more information visit joycastlero.com/TruthBook.htm.

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

Buccaneer yearbook returns to ECU



Yearbooks will be available August 2006

MARK ROMANO
STAFF WRITER

The Buccaneer, ECU's yearbook, is once again going to be available for students to purchase. The Buccaneer has been out of production for several years and will be offered starting August of 2006.

Ken Robol, director of student engagement for the media board, lobbied for the return of the Buccaneer through SGA along with the chair of the student media board, Ryan

Campbell Wiggins and succeeded. Funds for the Buccaneer will be obtained from a \$4 increase in tuition which will be implemented the fall semester of 2006.

ECU's rapid expansion over the past five years is bringing it up to par with colleges in the research triangle, especially in the nursing and medical fields of study. Having a quality yearbook would increase the school's image and would also be a highly cherished item for a graduating senior. The overall cost of producing the yearbook is \$26,000, putting the individual

see **YEARBOOK** page A5

Spotlight of professor



Alison Miller, a talented professor in the School of Communication.

Who is who at ECU?

SHANNON DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

ECU is a university with a diverse campus of students, faculty and staff. Everyone contributes to the renowned reputation and Piratepride. Alison Miller, an instructor for the School of Communication, is an incomparable member of the ECU community. Miller is a first year instructor at ECU, an advisor for communication majors, a last semester student in the doctorate program at the University of Southern Mississippi and a single parent of two young boys.

TEC: Why did you come to ECU?
Miller: I saw many opportuni-

ties at the School of Communication and the faculty is collegial.
TEC: How did you discover ECU?
Miller: A job advertisement on aejmc.org, which is the Association for Education for Journalism and Mass Communication.
TEC: How did you become involved with Video Production?
Miller: I think it is a cool subject to teach because of the creative freedom for students and it is very hands on. Lectures are important, but so is the experience and knowing how to do what is being taught.
TEC: Why is it important for you to have a Ph.D.?
Miller: For me, getting my Ph.D. is important because I can

see **PROF** page A5



Go Red for women love your heart
American Heart Association.

Loving your heart

National wear red day to support efforts in fighting heart disease

SHANNON DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

The American Heart Association launched an awareness campaign in 2004 along with Macy's and Pfizer raise awareness about the increase of heart disease in women. "Go Red for Women" encourages everyone to wear the color red Friday, Feb. 3 to draw attention to the

issue of heart disease. According to Karen Warren, director of Campus Wellness, "This is not a woman's movement - it is intended to cut out heart disease and improve national health."

Since 1924, the American Heart Association has been committed to reducing disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke nationwide. Their objective is to help people learn about heart disease and improve their chances of living longer, stronger lives.

see **HEART** page A5

Women's studies information:

For more information about the Women's Studies Program or any of the listed events, please contact:

Cheryl Dudasik-Wiggs (328-1539)
Christa Reiser (328-4895)

You can also learn more about the program or any of the classes that are involved in the program by visiting their Web site at ecu.edu/wost.

Heart from page A4

Coronary heart disease is the number one killer of women over the age of 25. One in four females and one in four males in the United States suffers from some form of cardiovascular disease (CVD). An American dies of CVD, on average, every 34 seconds. These are deplorable statistics, which could improve if both men and women lead healthier lives. Warrep's recommendations for ECU students to help improve their own risk for heart disease are, "Stop smoking, maintain a healthy weight, eat well and manage stress." College students are notorious for their bad habits, which could have harmful, long term effects on their health. The earlier you work to reduce your risk of heart disease, the better off you will be long

term. Women start to develop clogged arteries as early as their 20s. Spreading the "Go Red for Women" message raises awareness of heart disease and empowers women to reduce their risk. The American Heart Association's message for Wear Red Day is, "Love your heart - make red the color of a pulsing, vibrant life." Participation in heart-healthy living will contribute to the elimination of heart disease. On Saturday, Feb. 4, there will be a local program at the Hilton for people to get their cholesterol checked and learn about heart disease. For more information about the "Go Red for Women" movement, visit americanheart.org/red. This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

Prof from page A4

present the research and knowledge to students. Without my doctorate, I would be limited in my ability to do so. It is a long process and I cannot wait for it to be over. **TEC:** What is your dissertation about? **Miller:** The cultural values, narratives and myths in reality television. **TEC:** Wow! Why did you pick that? **Miller:** I am a reality TV junky, and it is a hot topic. **TEC:** What is it like to be an instructor, student and single parent? **Miller:** It is difficult, hard, overwhelming and all worth it. My children come first - they are the most important people in my life. Everything I do is for them. There needs to be a healthy balance and time management. The key to college, and to life really, is time management. **TEC:** What do you do in your spare time? **Miller:** Spare time? I do not really have any spare time. I run errands in my "spare time." **TEC:** Where do you see yourself in five years? **Miller:** No one can predict the future. In five years, I see myself continuing growing as a parent and a teacher. Allison Miller, soon to be Dr. Allison Miller, is an admirable liaison between her students and the staff. It is difficult to be a student, a teacher and a single parent, but somehow she is able to be all of the above and more. This educator is among the many hidden treasures on the staff at ECU.

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

Personal Trainer

Obstacles for the overweight

Moderate exercise, combined with a sensible, low-calorie diet, is excellent for weight loss; how to get over the hurdles and get going:

Difficulty	Possible solution
Low motivation or	Exercise with a partner or group; keep an exercise diary, celebrate your progress and physical improvement
No time to exercise	Write down weekly exercise goals; get support from friends or family
No facilities or	Do daily activities in way that boosts calories used; try walking
Previous bad experience	Walk or do other low-intensity exercise; try to overcome your negative thinking; get support from friends, family
Difficulties from weight	Choose activity suited to larger bodies, like biking; remember that activity will become easier with practice
Poor balance	Try swimming, other non-weight-bearing activities
Anxiety, worry	Go slowly; keep your exercise fun; do it with a friend

© 2006 KRT
Source: The Physician and Sportsmedicine
Graphics: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap

Yearbook from page A4

cost around \$30 - \$50. The \$4 increase in tuition will likely be replaced by revenue generated through ad space, which will be offered to local businesses. The company producing the yearbook will help with marketing. Past yearbooks can be found and even checked out in Joyner Library on the fourth floor.

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

The ECU Media Board welcomes applications for **DAY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

The board is seeking fulltime students interested in serving as the day student representative on the Media Board, the 11-person board which governs student media at ECU, WZMB, The Rebel, The East Carolinian, Expressions, and Buccaneer.

To qualify, you must be a student living off campus who is not a member of a sorority or fraternity and you will be expected to attend a late afternoon meeting monthly.

For information, contact: ECU Media Board Office
205A Self Help Center
301 S. Evans Street
Greenville, NC 27858
328-9200

Applications due Friday, February 10th at 5p.m.

- Cozy One & Two Bedroom/One Bath Units
- Free Water and Sewer
- Central Heat & Air in Two Bedrooms
- Wall A/C Unit & Baseboard Heat in One Bedroom
- Washer/Dryer Connections
- 1st Floor Patio with Fence
- 2nd Floor Front or Back Balcony
- Pets Allowed with Fee
- Energy Efficient
- On ECU Bus Route

- Spacious Two Bedroom/One Bath Units
- Free Water and Sewer
- Central Heat & Air
- Washer/Dryer Connections
- Dishwasher
- Ceiling Fan
- Each Unit has a Patio or Balcony
- Pets Allowed with Fee
- Energy Efficient

*in some units

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Dollar Menu
i'm lovin' it

Sports Briefs

ECU football to host Signing Day Fan Fest

ECU Head Football Coach Skip Holtz will officially display his second signing class to all Pirate fans Wednesday, Feb. 1 during a special "2006 Signing Day Fan Fest" from 4 - 5 p.m. in Harvey Hall at the Murphy Center. Holtz will announce the newest additions to the Pirates' program and provide details on each signee before capping the segment with assorted highlight video footage. In-depth biographical capsules of all ECU signees will be distributed to fans upon entry while complimentary light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be available throughout the event. Representatives of the ECU Ticket Office will also be on hand to answer any inquiries about 2006 season ticket packages. ECU's official athletic Web site, ECUPirates.com, will provide hourly updates on ECU's signing class throughout the day beginning at 10 a.m.

Hurricanes acquire Weight from Blues



The Carolina Hurricanes acquired veteran center Doug Weight from the St. Louis Blues Monday, adding another important piece in their pursuit of the Stanley Cup. Weight, a four-time All-Star and a member of the U.S. Olympic team, is scheduled to join the Hurricanes Thursday. The 35-year-old Weight led the Blues with 33 assists and 44 points in 47 games this season. He was named to the U.S. team that will be led by Hurricanes coach Peter Laviolette next month in Turin. Weight is in the last year of a five-year contract that pays him \$5.7 million this year, with Carolina picking up \$2.1 million of that salary, Rutherford said. The Hurricanes also received the rights to left wing Erkki Rajamaki, currently playing in the Finnish League. They sent right wing Jesse Boulerice, center Mike Zigomanis and the rights to unsigned draft pick Magnus Kahnberg to the Blues, along with three draft picks, including this year's first-round selection. With the trade, Weight goes from the worst team in the NHL with 30 points to a Carolina team with a franchise-record 76 points through 51 games. The Hurricanes have won 13 of 14 heading into a four-game road trip that starts Tuesday in Montreal. They also travel to New Jersey, Boston and Tampa Bay before returning home to play Pittsburgh Feb. 10. Rutherford said the team, which had extra draft picks, "didn't consider the price too hefty to add depth as it heads into next month's Olympic break." He said the Hurricanes first discussed acquiring Weight two months ago, and pursued the matter further in the past two weeks. Those negotiations picked up speed in recent days, with Weight waving a no-trade clause to join the Hurricanes. The move comes several weeks before the March 9 trade deadline, which gives Weight time to settle in with his new team before the two-week break.

Plazza agrees to one-year, \$2 million deal with San Diego

Mike Plazza's days as a catcher aren't over, after all. The 12-time All-Star agreed Sunday to a \$2 million, one-year contract with the San Diego Padres, giving the defending NL West champions a marquee player they think can still contribute. After being released by the New York Mets, the 37-year-old Plazza had been interested in signing a free-agent deal with an AL team to become a designated hitter. Instead, he'll stay in the NL and return to the West Coast for the first time since the Los Angeles Dodgers traded him to Florida in 1998. Plazza holds the major league record for most career home runs by a catcher (374). He has 397 homers overall and is a career 311 hitter. Plazza gets a \$1.25 million salary this year, and the contract includes a mutual option for 2007 at \$8 million with a \$750,000 buyout. He can earn an additional \$750,000 this year in performance bonuses. Plazza became a free agent after last season, when he hit 251 with 19 homers and 62 RBI in 113 games for the Mets. It was his lowest batting average since he hit .232 in 69 at-bats with the Dodgers in 1992, his first season in the big leagues.

Pirates defend home court, beat Tulsa 59-45

ECU grabs first Conference USA victory

ERIC GILMORE SENIOR WRITER

Once again, ECU faced off against an unfamiliar opponent in the revamped Conference USA. But for the first time in six tries during the Ricky Stokes' era, ECU ended up victorious, upending Tulsa 59-45 inside Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum Saturday night.

"I'm just happy for the players and happy for the fans," said first-year ECU Head Coach Ricky Stokes following his first C-USA win.

Corey Rouse notched a game-high 16 points and added nine rebounds as the lone interior threat against a taller Tulsa squad. The senior forward narrowly missed the 13th double-double of his career.

Freshman guard Sam Hinnant broke out of a recent scoring slump by tallying 12 points on 4-of-9 shooting while grabbing six rebounds. The Charlotte native found the basket early on en route to reaching double figures for only the first time in five games.

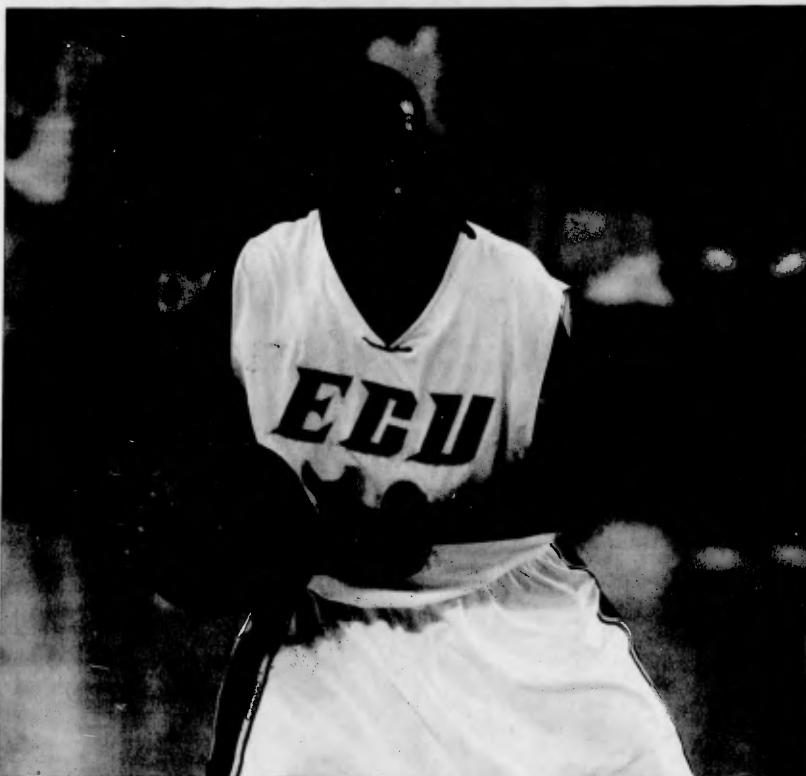
"I was getting down on myself," said Hinnant. "The coaches kept telling me to keep my head up and keep shooting the ball. And I finally started knocking them down, which got my confidence up."

The Pirates shot 41 percent (21-of-51) for the first time against a Division I opponent since Dec. 21. In five C-USA consecutive losses, the Pirates (7-12, 1-5 C-USA) averaged just 34 percent, including a dismal 24 percent against Tulane.

"It helps when the ball goes in the basket," said Stokes following the game.

Hinnant, who notched three 3s cited an influence between his shot and that of his teammates. "Each game, we shoot well, it seems like if someone knocks one down, we all start knocking them down," Hinnant said.

"If we keep missing, we all miss. I think it was somewhat of a snowball effect."



JaPhet McNeil dished out nine assists and contributed four points en route to the Pirates' first C-USA win this season.

see C-USA WIN page A7

Women's hoops split weekend match-ups

ECU defeats SMU 75-63, fall to Tulsa 74-52

(SID) — As the critical month of February fast approaches, several teams are still jockeying for position in the Conference USA standings, notably the Lady Pirates and their two opponents from this past weekend's home games.

Tulsa (16-4, 7-2) and SMU (11-10, 6-3), the first and second-place teams respectively, weren't going to leave Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum without a fight. Each came in to their meeting with the Lady Pirates possessing consecutive-game win streaks to complement their top spots in the standings.

ECU (12-7, 4-4) first squared-off against SMU Friday in a contest that saw Pirate-center Cherie Mills lead all scorers with 22 points along with eight boards.

SMU, not oblivious to Mills' presence in the paint, keyed



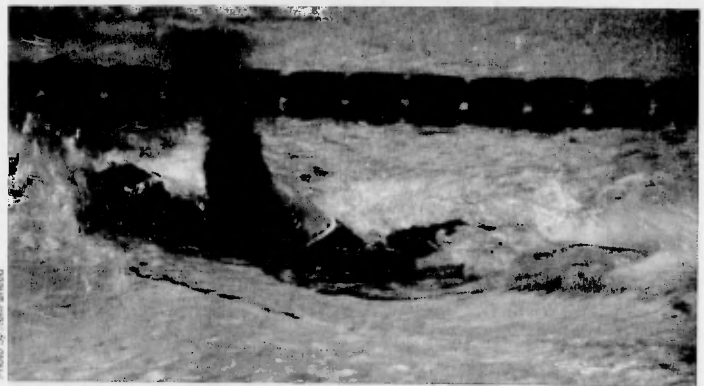
The women's team drew even in Conference USA after winning one of their two home games this past weekend.

see WOMEN'S page A7

Pirates pound UNC, 4-2



The Pirates faced off against UNC Chapel Hill at home Friday night and defeated the Tar Heels 4-2. UNC notched the first goal of the game early in the first frame, but the Pirates responded with four unanswered, scoring three times in the first period and adding another in the second. Mike Ormsbee added to his season total with two goals while Mark Linzer and Tyler Facion scored a goal apiece. ECU resumes play against in-state rival N.C. State next weekend in Raleigh. The puck will drop Friday at 7 p.m. for the first matchup and at 4:45 p.m. Saturday.



The women's team dominated Duke from start to finish and are now 9-1 for the year.

Swimmers sweep Duke

Men and women roll to victory over in-state rival Blue Devils

RON CLEMENTS SENIOR WRITER

The ECU men's and women's swimming and diving teams each pulled out wins against in-state ACC rival Duke Saturday afternoon at Minges Aquatic Center. The women rolled over

the Blue Devils with a 144-99 win while the men squeezed by Duke, 130-113.

"It was a nice win," said ECU coach Rick Kobe.


"We swam an outstanding meet today and beat a very, very good Duke team. Last year, at their place, we split. The girls lost, but this year the girls dominated and the men won a nice tight meet. It's always nice to beat an ACC team."

The women, now 9-1 on the

season, can match the school record for wins in a season by knocking off UNC-Wilmington next weekend in Wilmington. They were led Saturday by Megan Pulaski. The sophomore from Greenville shattered her own school and pool records in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:09.74, beating her old mark of 10:13.22.

"I don't know what it was," said

see SWIMMERS page A7

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C-USA Win from page A6

Tied at 16 apiece, Hinnant's 3-pointer from the right corner with 3:58 remaining ignited a 10-0 ECU run. Sandwiched between another Hinnant 3 was a crowd pleasing left-handed throw down by junior forward Tyrone Beale.

During the decisive swing, ECU's defense held the Golden Hurricane to no field goals for seven minutes, 51 seconds.

"I think defense played a big part in this game," said Rouse. "Last week, we went very hard in practice, real intense. It just paid off for [Saturday's] win."

Tulsa (7-11, 2-3 C-USA) shot just 27 percent (17-of-49) from the field, including a less than stellar 7 percent (1-of-14) from behind the arc. Doug Wojcik's club never found a rhythm after the Pirates took a 32-19 halftime advantage.

ECU used a 17-6 run over six minutes, 31 seconds in the second-half to extend the lead to a game-high 22 points. During the spurt, Hinnant and Tom Hammonds notched consecutive 3s while Rouse added seven.

"I really think the result of this game was how hard they worked last week," echoed Stokes. "I really think we've had a pretty good 10 days of practice. I didn't

know when we would win. But I just knew that if we continued to bring the same attitude [and] continued to work hard that sooner or later, we would get a win. It's a great testament to this group of young men who had a great attitude - continue to work and stay the course."

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

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Women's from page A6

on her throughout the match, opening the door to other scorers, namely guards Jessica Slack and Jasmine Young. Each posted double-digits in points and Young led all players with seven assists.

"We knew ... that someone else had to step it up since they were keying in on Cherie," said Lady Pirate Head Coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener in a quote from ECU Sports Information.

"That is what Jasmine and (Jessica) Slack did tonight." Although the Lady Pirates

held only a one-point lead at the half, they managed to pull-off the 12-point win and secure their seventh straight win when leading at the half.

"I thought we played extremely well tonight," said Baldwin-Tener.

"We knew this was going to be a big game."

But that wasn't the end of the big games for the Lady Pirates as they faced the multi-faceted Tulsa Sunday.

The Golden Hurricane, led by

junior forward Jillian Robbins, who after Sunday's game is just three points shy of becoming Tulsa's all-time scoring leader, dominated the paint, out-scoring the Lady Pirates 36-16.

Mills and Young cracked double-digits in points once again for the Pirates. However, it was points off turnovers that sealed the fate of the Lady Pirates as they were outscored 34-9.

After trailing for most of the contest, the Pirates did manage one final comeback attempt with

a 10-0 run during the final 10 minutes of the game, cutting the Golden Hurricane's lead to six. However Tulsa countered with a 16-6 run to seal the victory.

Sitting two games out of first in the C-USA standings, the Lady Pirates continue their pursuit for the top spot in the conference Saturday as they face Marshall (10-9, 5-3) in Greenville.

On Monday, the Lady Pirates travel to Houston to take on Rice (8-11, 4-4) in another pivotal conference match-up.

Swimmers from page A6

Pulaski. "(The record) was completely out of the blue. I worked my butt off. You put so much work in that you want it to pay off."

Pulaski finished 12 seconds faster than the second-place swimmer, Duke's Jackie Rodriguez. Rodriguez beat Pulaski last year in Durham, which was something Pulaski wanted to

avenge. Pulaski also finished first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:01.38, beating her closest competitor by nearly five seconds.

Sophomore Rebecca Perry posted victories in each of her events, winning both the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle races. Senior Adrienne Williams

also won the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 24.52.

ECU's Ryan Hunt and Christie Icenhower were winners in the one-meter and three-meter dives, respectively.

Other Pirate winners on the men's side were Charlie McCannless in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:46.16 and Bryan

Yasinac in the 50-yard freestyle with a mark of 21.71.

The Pirates have their final dual meet of the season Saturday at UNC-Wilmington before the C-USA Championships, which will be Feb. 22 - 25 in Houston.

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

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