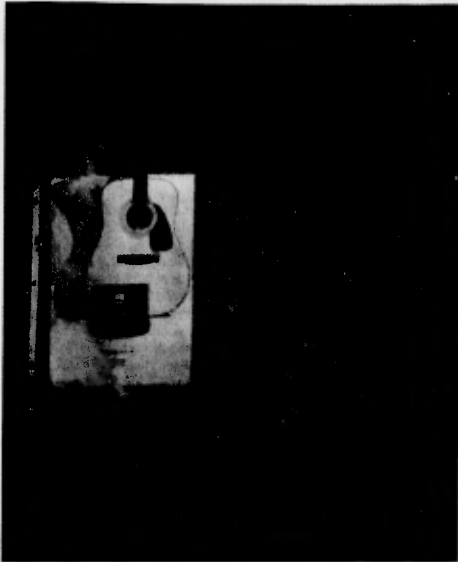




# Nutrition last subject in campus series



Barber speaks in Greene Hall for last lecture in the Achieve series.

## Nutritionist explains diversity in body shape, size for college students

ZACK HILL  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Good nutrition is a topic that is often on the minds of many, but rarely put into practice in everyday life once the eyes and stomach get involved.

Tara Barber, nutrition counselor for Student Health Service, touched on some of the more troublesome aspects of a healthy diet Tuesday night in the Greene Hall lobby as part of the Achieve series of programs at ECU.

One of the biggest obstacles to achieving a healthy diet is recognizing when you are hungry and when you are full.

"One way our body regulates itself is hunger and fullness cues," Barber said.

"Having an understanding of what your body is saying is one of the best tools you can have."

A nerve at the top of the stomach sends a message to the brain that the stomach is full. The problem is that this message can sometimes take 15-20 minutes to reach the brain, and most people have no problem finishing a large meal in this time.

Barber recommended setting the fork down between bites to slow down the eating process and give the brain more time to recognize if the stomach is full.

Barber said that because college students don't usually have regular eating habits they might not get reliable hunger cues.

Another key to better diet management is knowing when the body has eaten enough to be satisfied.

"When you are satisfied, you have eaten enough, but the meal is not sitting heavy on your stomach," Barber said.

"When you eat like this, it's OK to feel hungry again in four hours."

Barber pointed out that problems arise when more calories are consumed than are used. The body then stores these extra calories, eventually leading to weight gain.

"You only gain weight if you take in calories you don't use," Barber said.

This can occur when people eat when they are not hungry.

"Eating when you are not hungry, like when you might be bored, will also prevent you from getting reliable cues," Barber said.

Barber said that many students have come to her

see NUTRITION page A2

# Scene from central campus



Drizzly weather yesterday morning made for a quiet day at Wright Plaza. One activity in the Plaza included ECU's Hillel group giving away free Krispy Kreme doughnuts to students on campus.

# New GRE test undergoes major changes

Changes set to be applied October 2006

RACHEL KING  
NEWS EDITOR

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE), the admissions exam for most graduate level programs, has undergone several major changes, including alterations to the length, scoring and difficulty of the exam.

"This will affect nearly 500,000 future teachers, psychologists, journalists, scientists and other graduate school applicants who take the test annually," said Victoria Grantham, senior communications manager for Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions.

"It is undergoing its biggest overhaul ever."

The change was announced last year, but details had not been released until now. These changes will impact important aspects of the test such as score range, the types of questions asked, how the officials will evaluate the scores and more.

According to kaptest.com, there are primarily 10 things students planning to take the GRE should know about the new version.

The first is that there will be "untimed question types," meaning that there will be question types that have never been seen on this exam until now. An example of this would be sentence completion questions that "ask test takers to select two of the six answer choices that best represent the same meaning."

The second change is the new scoring delay - the scoring scale will not be finalized until after the first three administrations of the exam.

The third is that the GRE is going to become more expensive.

The fourth has to do with foreign students and verbal questions. The difficulty level of verbal questions is going to become "substantially more difficult."

The fifth concept in the exam change impacts the "Admissions X factor." The new scoring scales create uncertainty among admissions officials who want to compare old test scores with the new test scores because the test will be so different and the changes so drastic.

The sixth change is to the test's length. The new GRE will nearly double in length, from two and a half hours to at least four hours.

"There will be two 40-minute verbal sections, two 40-minute quantitative sections and two 30-minute analytical writing essays," according to kaptest.com.

The site also says the extra time is necessary because, "The test will change from a computer adaptive test (CAT) to a linear computer-based test (CBT), which means that more questions are needed to test varied difficulty levels."

The seventh alteration affects those with crazy schedules and those who can only take the test at certain times. The number of times the test will be offered annually is decreasing to only 30.

The eighth change will be to the verbal section. Analogies and antonyms will be replaced by critical reading exercises. Also, the previously 30-minute section is becoming two 40-minute sections.

The ninth affects mathemat-



All GRE test changes are available online for easy access.

ics. Data interpretation is now "in," but, on the flipside of that, the geometry section will be considerably lighter. As with the verbal section, the new test will now feature two 40-minute sections. The hope is that students will have the opportunity to "apply mathematics to real-life scenarios."

The tenth and final change applies to essays.

Admissions officers will now be able to see full writing samples, and essay timing and prompts are also changing. Previously, admissions officers only received an essay score.

Why all the changes? According to a press release on ets.org, the test is being overhauled in

order to make it more useful to students and graduate schools.

ETS expects the changes to increase the validity of the test. The changes will also provide graduate schools with better information on an applicant's performance, address security concerns and maximize technology to make better use of computer-enabled questions.

All information appearing in this article comes from kaptest.com, ets.org and Kaplan Test Prep itself. For more useful information on the GRE changes, students can visit kaptest.com/graduate.

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

# Judge Alito sworn in



President Bush shakes hands with Judge Samuel A. Alito after the Senate voted to confirm him as the 110th Justice of the Supreme Court.

## Newest Supreme Court justice confirmed Tuesday

ZACK HILL  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Judge Samuel Alito, 55, was on hand Tuesday night in the House chamber for President Bush's State of the Union Address as the newest member of the highest court in the land.

Alito will be sworn in Wednesday in the East Room of the White House after being confirmed Tuesday in the Senate by a 58-42 vote, the closest call since Clarence Thomas was confirmed by the same margin in 1991.

Alito had been heatedly opposed by most Democrats, who had on Monday attempted in vain to start a filibuster to block the nomination. In the end, four Democrats crossed party lines to vote in favor of Alito.

Democrats had been wary of

Alito's strong conservative voting record, and many in the party believe that if an abortion case comes before the court now, there is a chance that Roe v. Wade (1973), the landmark case that legalized abortion, could be overturned.

Alito also failed to satisfy many Democrats during confirmation hearings with vague responses to questions regarding civil liberties.

But Republicans countered that Democrats were getting caught up in partisan politics, and that Alito had a proven record of more than 15 years on the Third Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Alito will take the seat of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman appointed to the court, who is retiring. O'Connor was known as a moderate during her time and often carried the deciding vote in controversial cases.

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

# ECU receives over \$200,000 in grants for post-Katrina research

## Reconstruction, economic impact research

KIMBERLY BELLAMY  
STAFF WRITER

The Center for Natural Hazards Research received two grants totaling more than \$200,000 from the National Science Foundation for two separate research projects concerning the impact of Hurricane Katrina nationally.

The first grant will involve research from three different departments at ECU. The economics, planning and sociology departments received the first grant, totaling \$172,596.

The research for this grant will involve research investigating the national attitude about rebuilding the New Orleans area and how much taxpayers are will-

ing to pay to salvage the area.

Jamie Brown Kruse, director of the Center for Natural Hazards Research and professor of economics, felt that rebuilding would be a good idea, but that it is also a good idea to find out the opinion of the general public.

"Certainly it is a good idea to restore the city, but I also think we need input and information from New Orleans, from the affected areas and from the rest of the United States on what are the things about this city that they value highly and are willing to pay for," said Kruse.

"There is a tremendous amount of money that is going to be spent on the rebuilding efforts, and it makes sense to direct that money in a way that makes sense."

The second grant involves the economics department alone at ECU but does involve other universities. Texas Tech University,

Stephen F. Austin College and Southern Mississippi at Long Beach are partnering with ECU to gather information for this research project.

The research will focus on the economic impact of the people in that area and on the host communities that took in evacuees.

"When a region plays host, there is an economic impact. North Carolina and Texas took in thousands of evacuees," Kruse said.

Some of the research will try to measure if there will be any positive economic side effects from the storm that changed the lives of many nationally.

"It is possible that with the federal funding available for the evacuees, there may be a positive economic impact to offset the drain on the host region's resources," Kruse said.

They will also try to find out the number of jobs lost, jobs created and jobs sustained post

Katrina.

Approximately 14,000 surveys, along with some face-to-face interviews, will be given to help them retrieve this information. Individuals who lived in areas impacted by Katrina will be used for concentrated sampling for the surveys.

NSF funded the economics department of ECU and the other partnering universities \$29,881 to do this research project.

Harold Stone of the planning department, Kenneth R. Wilson of the sociology department and Okmyung Bin and Craig E. Landry of the economics department will be the professors researching these issues.

Also, John Whitehead, a former ECU professor now at Appalachian State, will be a researcher in one of the projects.

see RESEARCH page A2

## Announcements

### Dance 2006

Dance 2006 continues in the week of Jan. 29 - 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 [ecuedu/cs-studentlife/mcgrinnis/playhouse.cfm](http://ecuedu/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 Mudslingers 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 11 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 Pirates" Student Hall of Fame, a \$150 leadership honorarium and receive recognition with other campus/community leaders during ECU Founder's Week. Applications are available in 207 Mendenhall Student Center. The deadline for submitting an application is Friday, Feb. 10 at 4:30 p.m. Interviews will be conducted Feb. 20 - 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.

### Take My Picture

Joyner Library is looking for students who are interested in volunteering as models for photos to be used in library publications and other materials. Interested individuals should contact Bill Bunting at [buntingw@ecu.edu](mailto:buntingw@ecu.edu).

### 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 Adeea Rogers at [rogersa@ecu.edu](mailto:rogersa@ecu.edu). You may also drop off your letter of interest and resume to 218 Mendenhall Student Center, Mon. Fri. from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Undergraduate Research Opportunities

As you know, undergraduate research is not only a priority for the Office of the University Honors Program, ECU Scholars and Undergraduate Research, but also an important experience for students, particularly those wishing to continue to graduate or professional schools. It's not too early to begin thinking about projects you may wish to pursue with the assistance of an Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grant. This grant can help you pay for supplies or materials, project expenses and even a stipend for yourself. All you need is an original project, a faculty mentor and the application form. Applications are open to all interested undergraduates pursuing an independent research or inquiry-based learning project. Applications and guidelines are available through the Honors Program Home Page at [ecuedu/honors](http://ecuedu/honors), click on "Undergraduate Research" Application deadline is Feb. 15. Mark your calendars and open your minds.

## News Briefs

### Local

**NC Central professor missing**  
DURHAM, NC (AP) - An associate professor at NC Central University is missing, and while police say they've found no signs of foul play, co-workers said her abrupt, mysterious departure is uncharacteristic. Seong Hee Oak, 36, who teaches hotel and restaurant management in the university's business school, has missed three weeks of classes. She was last seen in Durham on Jan. 21, and gave no indication she planned to be away. She was officially reported missing Thursday.

"She was always at work, and there were no problems with anyone," at NCCU, university police Capt. Victor Ingram said. Oak's car, a 2005 silver Toyota Camry, is also missing. But, Ingram noted, "We don't feel there's anything to indicate a crime has been committed at this point."

Youngil Cho, associate dean of NCCU's business school, last saw Oak at a faculty meeting Jan. 19. "We are worried very much about it," Cho said. "We hope that she will return safe."

Oak, a native of Korea who lives in Crossdale, spent a month visiting family in Korea last year, but left word of where she was going and phone numbers where she could be reached, neighbor Marie Pierce said. She also telephoned Pierce from Korea. "It's not like her to go off like this," said Pierce.

Police said Oak is 5 feet tall and weighs about 110 pounds. Her Camry had a North Carolina license plate with the number SZH-3296.

### UNC-Chapel Hill composer dies

RALEIGH, NC (AP) - Roger Durham Hannay, a composer who wrote more than 120 pieces of music and served as a mentor while he worked at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has died after complications from open heart surgery. He was 75.

### National

**Ex-postal employee kills six, commits suicide at Calif. mail plant**  
GOLETA, Calif. (AP) - A female ex-postal worker opened fire at a mail processing plant, killing six people and critically wounding another before committing suicide, authorities said early Tuesday.

Deputies responding to a report of shots fired about 9:15 p.m. Monday found two people dead outside the plant. Two wounded women were located inside and were taken to Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. One died and the other was listed in critical condition early Tuesday with a gunshot wound to the head.

Nearly five hours later, deputies found four additional bodies, including one believed to be the female shooter, Santa Barbara County Sheriff Jim Anderson said. The shooter, who was not identified, died of an apparent

### World

**OPEC keeps output unchanged, oil ministers say**  
VIENNA, Austria (AP) - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed Tuesday to hold crude-oil production steady at 28 million barrels of oil a day, members said Tuesday. The decision had been widely expected after two days of informal meetings by the cartel's 11 members.

Qatari oil minister Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah said a cut in output would be discussed at OPEC's March meeting. "We're very pragmatic," he said, adding that talks about any cuts would take place later. But Saudi oil minister Ali Naimi, one of the most influential voices in OPEC, said he didn't believe a cut in output would be needed at the next meeting, a sentiment shared by OPEC President Edmund Daukoru of Nigeria.

Naimi also said the decision was unanimous and added that at no time did concerns about Iran's likely showdown with the West over its nuclear ambitions factor into the decision. The possibility that Iran could be referred to the United Nations Security Council for economic sanctions over its nuclear program has overshadowed this week's meeting.

Iran, OPEC's second-largest oil producer, insists the program is aimed at generating electricity, while the U.S. and some European nations fear it could be used to develop nuclear weapons. The International Atomic Energy Agency is to meet to discuss Iran on Thursday.

**Reports: Putin boasts Russia has missiles capable of piercing missile defense**  
MOSCOW (AP) - President Vladimir Putin boasted Tuesday that Russia has missiles capable of penetrating any missile defense system, Russian news reports said. "Russia... has tested missile systems that no one in the world has," the

### World

ITAR-Tass, Interfax and RIA Novosti news agencies quoted him as saying at a news conference. "These missile systems don't represent a response to a missile defense system, but they are immune to that. They are hypersonic and capable of changing their flight path."

Putin said the new missiles were capable of carrying nuclear warheads. He wouldn't say whether the Russian military already had commissioned any such missiles. He said he had shown the working principles of the missile systems to French President Jacques Chirac during a visit to a Russian military facility.

In April 2004, Chirac became the first Western leader to visit Russia's top-secret Titov space control center, which is also involved in launches of its intercontinental ballistic missiles. Putin said that the new missiles were capable of changing both the altitude and the direction of their flight, making it impossible for an enemy to intercept them.

"A missile defense system is designed to counter missiles moving along a ballistic trajectory," Putin was quoted as saying. Putin and other Russian officials have boasted of the new missiles in similar comments in recent years, but they haven't identified them or given any further details other than about their ability to change their flight path on approach to a target.

Most analysts viewed the earlier announcements about "hypersonic" missile systems as Moscow's response to U.S. missile defense plans. Military analysts have said that the military had experimented with a maneuvering warhead during a missile launch several years ago, but voiced doubt about Russia's ability to deploy such weapons anytime soon.

Analysts said the new warheads, designed to zigzag on their approach to targets, could be fitted to new land-based Topol-M missiles and the prospective Bulava missiles, now under development.

### Gravestones overlooked for years



The gravestones at the Prospect Cemetery in the Queens borough of New York are shown covered in weeds, vines and other vegetation, Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2006. All across New York's five boroughs, old cemeteries are tucked away, some visible but ignored by passersby, some in the shadow of latter-day highrises, some so remote as to be overlooked entirely.

### Nutrition from page A1

expressing difficulties in trying to maintain a healthy diet on campus. She said that one of the reasons for this is the vacant position of nutritionist for Aramark here at ECU, a job that has been unfilled since last year.

Barber recommended students try to find healthy snacks to keep in their rooms as well as letting Aramark and the administration know how they feel about food on campus.

One of the main themes to Barber's presentation was natural diversity in body shape and size. "We have an ideal shape that everyone should be," Barber said.

"Nobody is made to look exactly alike. Everyone has a pre-set body weight and shape to some degree, and we can't control that." Barber said that the labels attached to foods like fruits and candy denoting them as "good" or "bad" are misleading.

"What you eat in one meal or one day will not alter your health or weight," Barber said. Ultimately, size and weight are not perfect indicators of health.

"Everyone has the belief that thin is healthy and overweight is unhealthy," Barber said. "This is not true - you can be healthy at any size."

This writer can be contacted at [news@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:news@theeastcarolinian.com).

### Research from page A1

Kruse said that they plan to release the results of the two research projects in scholarly journals, to the legislature and to the general public.

The Center for Natural Hazards research has also proposed research projects to look at the economic effects of areas affected by major or minor hurricanes in past years and the behavior and perceptions of individuals who are located in areas where natural disasters are likely to occur.

This writer can be contacted at [news@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:news@theeastcarolinian.com).



Firewise tip: Landscaping with water-retaining plants helps protect your home from wildfire. Find other useful tips at [Firewise.org](http://Firewise.org).

Got something to say?  
Send us your  
Pirate Rants!



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## My Random Column

### Welcoming February with wacky weather

The bizarre weather trend continues. Highs in the 50s and 60s for the next week leave me wondering where the winter has gone.

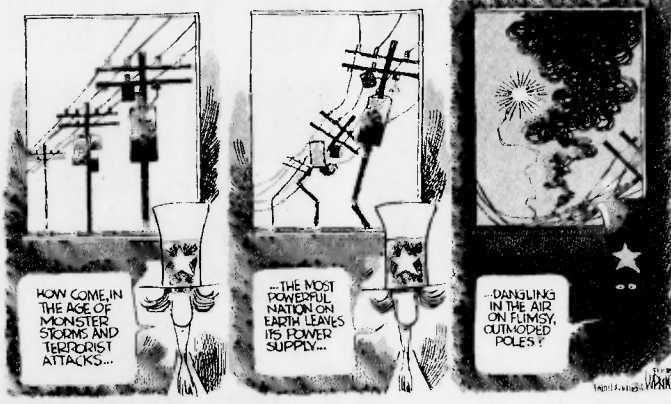
Wind and rain yesterday morning led to rain boots and heavy jackets, which replaced the T-shirts that had been prevalent across campus lately.

A brief thought that it might stay cold crossed my mind. That is only because for the first time in several days, I could feel the winter creeping in. To my dismay, Weather.com said it shouldn't last long.

By the afternoon it felt like it had been for the last week, chilly but not unreasonable. To the standards we have grown accustomed to lately, that is. Donning a T-shirt, I ran errands and left my jacket behind because there was no need to wear it for the short amount of time I was actually outside. I knew I would not freeze and was quite comfortable.

That leads me to the debate I have had lately, that bad weather will eventually catch up with us and we will wish that we had time to prepare. Or that we'll have to make up for it by enduring an extra-warm summer. With temperature rising in the winter, should we expect the summer to be more than 100 degrees? If that is so, I want snow now. Because if any of you know, summers here are hot and humid and somewhat unbearable at times. I can't imagine them being worse.

So I hope that if it snows, we have some warning because I know that with the way Greenville is, we will be stuck if we get a little bit of snow. It is a good thing that we don't get more than we do. I hope everyone enjoys the warm weather this next week. And good luck when it starts getting colder.



## Opinion Columnist

### The Boondocks: Controversial But Funny

Unique TV show inspires thought

BENJAMIN CORMACK  
CASUAL OBSERVER

"Jesus was black, Ronald Reagan was the devil, and the government is lying about 9-11."

Those were the words uttered by young Huey Freeman which caused some of us to either eagerly await or dread the premier of the new animated television show "The Boondocks" on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim line-up. The show is based on Aaron McGruder's controversial and highly acclaimed comic strip.

The series revolves around the lives of two brothers named Huey and Riley Freeman, who have moved from Chicago to live in the suburb of Woodcrest with their grandfather, Robert Freeman, who they often refer to as "Granddad." Other characters in the series include Thomas and Sara Dubois, an interracial couple, their daughter Jazmine and Uncle Ruckus (no relation), a man who can best be described as a mentally disturbed neighborhood handyman and acquaintance of the Freemans who dislikes his own race and constantly, but often illogically, praises white people.

I enjoy watching this show because it isn't something that you just sit and watch. It makes you think about real life issues, and because of this show, I've begun to think about some things in other ways. This show also doesn't make me feel the same way every time I watch it. The truth is I experience a kaleidoscope of emotions when I watch it.

I also like this show because it is something different. This isn't the familiar type of family we see on television, and these aren't the typical characters you see on most syndicated sitcoms. Not to mention that it is one of the only animated series I've ever seen to be focused on, based in and influenced by African American culture. However, the show does not appear to let this be its

only defining element because it focuses on other issues like terrorism, education and addiction to name a few.

Probably one of the most powerful episodes was about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The episode focused mostly on what things might have been like if Dr. King had survived his assassination and what he would have to say about the world we live in today. Dr. King's remarks ranged from something as trivial as which iPod he should own to what he thought of Black Entertainment Television. While it wasn't the real Dr. King's voice I was hearing or the real man I was seeing, what was said was so powerful that I couldn't help but feel like I was listening to the real man.

It was after this episode that I thought I would delve deeper into the show to find out more about it and the people who make it happen. The creator, Aaron McGruder, was born in Chicago, Ill., and moved to Columbia, Md., as a child (similar to the story of his characters Huey and Riley). He attended the University of Maryland, where "The Boondocks" comic strip first debuted in 1997 in the campus newspaper, *The Diamondback*. In 2002, the Green Party asked McGruder to run for president under their party ticket. McGruder was forced to decline the offer because he was 28, too young to serve as president. Today, when he's not working on "The Boondocks," McGruder frequently speaks on political and cultural issues.

One thing I have to say about McGruder, which is also something that I personally highly admire about him, is that he is certainly not afraid to speak his mind to anyone. Whether it is to normal people, celebrities or authority figures, McGruder doesn't appear to like to sugarcoat things. Apparently at the 2002 NAACP Image Awards, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice asked McGruder if he would include her in his comic strip. McGruder's alleged reply was, "I don't draw mass murderers." Although, she was

included in a strip for May 20, 2004.

"The Boondocks" has also had its share of celebrity guest stars, including Charlie Murphy (who some of you may know as Eddle Murphy's older brother), Samuel L. Jackson and veteran actor Ed Asner. On an interesting side note, while Ed Asner may be associated with characters like Ed Wuncler, a greedy, white business man from "The Boondocks," and the character of Captain Davies from *Roots*, the man who kidnapped Kunta Kinte into bondage, Asner couldn't be farther from the images of the men he has portrayed. Asner has dedicated his time to fight against racism, serving as the spokesman for the 2004 Racism Watch. Asner also wrote a letter to "peace and justice leaders" demanding "full 9-11 truth" through an organization known as the "9-11 Visibility Project."

"The Boondocks" is a truly unique show, with a unique creator, incorporating a unique cast of characters, and is in a one of a kind position to reach people with its own messages. My hat is off to the people who made this series possible and to those of you who give this series a chance. The show has recently been renewed for another season, and reruns can be seen on Saturdays and Sundays at 11 p.m. on Cartoon Network/Adult Swim.

Finally, here are some things I thought should be known about the show: McGruder originally piloted "The Boondocks" along with one-time collaborator Reginald Hudlin. According to an article at Wikipedia.com, there was difficulty in making the series acceptable for broadcast on television. Apparently the antics of Huey, Riley and Granddad weren't good enough for Fox, but those of Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie were. Although Hudlin left the project after the Fox deal fell through, McGruder and Sony Television, the company that produces the show, are contractually bound to give credit to Hudlin as an executive producer.

## Pirate Rant

To the straight guy who has fallen in love with his straight "friend." Write a book about this infatuation you have. Hollywood will make a movie out of it. You'll both be very rich and famous. Chicks really dig rich, famous, gay men. So I've been told. Not that I'm rich or even gay. No really, I'm serious.

To the person who is frustrated with student instructors, they are at every college. That is how professors learn how to teach. If you do not want a student instructor, drop the class.

Go Steelers!

I may carry a Vera Bradley, but at least I don't have a "Support Our Troops" sticker on my car, or wear a livestrong band, or wear bug glasses and UGGs. Fads come and go, so get over it.

Why does the Croatan not have Pavdays? Some of us are allergic to chocolate but would like a candy bar as a pick me up before classes. Give me a break!

Last Saturday I got a ticket for possession of alcohol. I was at a party, and no one else got a ticket. I think it is absolutely ridiculous for a cop to call one person out in the whole party and give them a ticket. I mean, the people who live there didn't even get a ticket. I just don't understand!

It bothers me that the SRC is so busy now, around Thanksgiving and Christmas there was no one in there, and now frat has games and people are trying to keep petty New Year's resolutions, and the place is packed. Don't get me started on the older people being there. That just creeps me out. I know you guys need exercise too and all, but it's weird.

Why don't guys have the guts to ask for a girl's number straight up anymore? Why do they need to get it from a friend or off Facebook. Are they that afraid of rejection? It's not a big deal, you get her number or you don't get her number and shrug it off.

I know I may be a bit partial on this, being a brunette, but what is with all of the bleached blondes wearing the exact same clothing, whether or not it's attractive?

Kanye West is the least intelligent human being that I've come to be aware of thus far in my short life. Now he thinks he's Jesus? Please... someone send that arrogant guy on a one-way peacekeeping mission to Baghdad.

Why is it that in my health class no matter what subject we are talking about, it always eventually leads to the topic of sex?

Has anyone else seen the girl who looks like Angelina Jolie on campus?

To the Marcus Vick lover, at least our football players act like students and don't pull guns on kids in McDonald's.

If you don't like my driving stay off the sidewalk!

Why do Campus Living advertisements lie to us? In reality, the washing machines are always broken, and if you're lucky enough to wash your clothes, people steal them. Oh, and thanks for the desk and dresser with chipped paint and hardened gum all over it. The air-conditioning units are filled with dust and mold. And if I have to attend one more RA event, I'll scream. So long Campus Living! Hello off-campus apartment!

I am already counting down the days until Spring Break... is that bad?

When will everyone on campus realize that it is Christen-bury (like the girl name Kristen) not Christian-bury (like believe in Christ) Gymnasium. Let's give ECTC's, now ECU's only undefeated basketball coach, John B. Christenbury, some respect.

I do not know why my English teacher is making us study the *New York Times* and the *News and Observer*. On top of my pre-med biology degree, the last thing I really need is English and I am only in there because I have to be.

Anybody else think that the campus confessionals are almost as cool as the rants? How do I submit a confessional?

I read about how someone hates it when I drink from a straw so I tried sucking the soda through the little x-hole without the straw inserted. Needless to say, I made lots of disgusting noises, spilled my drink all over myself and drew lots of unwanted attention. Gee thanks. I'll be keeping my straw from now on and I don't care what anyone thinks!

Why do people show up for class and have conversations while the professor is talking? Shut up already! If the class is in session and the professor has the floor then have some respect - if not for the professor then at least for your fellow students who are trying to listen to the lecture! Take it to the hallway or go home.

What ever happened to good old-fashioned dates? Inviting me to your boy's private party does not count as a date. Hey guys, we girls still like to be picked up at our door, walked to your car, and taken to dinner and a movie. Having a guy ask, "Hey would you like to go to dinner Friday night?" It is the cutest thing ever!

To everyone who is in the ROTC Program, you guys look hot in your uniforms! Keep up the good looks... I mean work!

I don't know if anyone else caught UCF's number 22 crossing his arms during the National Anthem at last week's game, but I did. And I'm sorry, but if you don't want to put your hand over your heart, leave them by your side, don't cross your arms! That's so disrespectful!

Who cares that you ran for mayor? I know I could care less. You lost because you thought the college community would stand behind you. Seems like you forgot that most ECU students aren't registered voters in Greenville.

To the person who paid \$80 for their "real" Lacoste shirt. I'm sure your parents would be glad to know that their money is being put to good use. Even if it is "real" or "fake" they are both just shirts with an alligator sewn onto it. Congratulations, you paid too much.

To the person who commented on the guy in the band pep band, what does he play? Some of us in the band would like some clarification...

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](http://www.theeastcarolinian.com), or e-mailed to [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com). The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.

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## In My Opinion

(KRT) — "The Trouble With Boys," blares the cover of last week's *Newsweek*. There's a crisis we all need to be worried about, the inside tells us, and the magazine is not alone in sounding the alarm. Boys are failing behind, academically and in terms of general achievement.

The stats are upsetting: Girls are overtaking boys on college campuses, where they now outnumber male students by 56 percent to 44 percent. Boys don't do as well in school, where their internal wiring makes them less comfortable with sitting still and absorbing knowledge through talk. They mature more slowly. Fewer of them have dads (an astounding 40 percent — no matter what their background — have their natural father at home). More of them are diagnosed with learning disabilities and maladies like ADHD.

It looks bad, but I have two problems with this crisis du jour. The first is this. There's a sneaky part of me, when I read such a headline, that says, "Great! Now maybe women will have a chance of catching up in the real world!"

After all, women may outnumber men on college campuses, but once you get out of college, things are not looking a whole lot different. Look at the makeup of the U.S. Senate. Out of the 1,884 people who have served there, 33 — or 1.75 percent — have been women. There are now 14, which makes for precisely 14 percent. Whoopee!

Liddy Dole and Hillary Clinton, capable as they are, are preceded in

politics by highly successful husbands, as was Jean Carnahan, who sat in the seat of her late husband. (Mel Carnahan, you may remember, is the guy who performed the amazing feat of defeating from the grave his Republican opponent, none other than John Ashcroft.)

In the House of Representatives, 229 women have served out of a total of more than 9,000. Of those, 36 were elected to fill the terms of dead husbands, and only 15 of the widows were returned by voters. There are now 67 out of 435, or 14.5 percent. There are precisely eight female CEOs of Fortune 500 companies. The number is actually falling; in 2004 there were nine. According to a New York research firm, women are in charge of just 14 of the country's 1,000 top publicly traded companies.

One reason is obvious: Even wealthy, powerful women want families; domestic politics and maternal priorities haven't changed enough to make motherhood as compatible with careers as fatherhood.

Another reason isn't so obvious: Apparently women are more willing to risk taking the helm of struggling companies. That old maternal instinct still gets 'em.

Closer to home and much further down the ladder, my own grown daughter faces exactly the same tensions I faced when she was young: lack of good, affordable child care, and the death of flexible jobs that pay a decent wage and bring in any benefits.

No matter what the reasons, I'd say we still have some catching up

to do. I wish today's high-achieving schoolgirls well and hope they can translate their academic success into life success. I'm not counting on it.

But I have another problem with this alleged crisis.

Have a girl who has all the characteristics that supposedly dog the boys.

She's a kinetic learner — hates sitting still. She learns much better by doing than by listening. She's happier taking things apart to see how they work than absorbing theory. At nine, she could disassemble our VCR (remember those?) and fix it in a few minutes, but she struggles with getting her homework from her bedroom to her backpack to her locker to her teacher.

Hours of homework are torture to a kid who needs big-muscle activity to feel sane.

Teachers recognized early on that she was smart and took her troubles with classroom concentration and homework performance as a sign of defiance. This is just the sort of misunderstanding, we're told, that dogs the boys.

Some commentators have latched onto the alleged Boy Crisis as proof that feminism has run amok and that now boys are oppressed by the system.

I think that's a load of horse humus. I think the system has become a lot less friendly to any kid who doesn't do well with the ever-more-regimented teaching demanded by increased emphasis on test scores, by overloaded classrooms, by the flight of fathers from families.

## Mendenhall Movies:

### Saw II

Wednesday at 9:30 p.m.  
Thursday at 7 p.m.  
Friday at 9:30 p.m.  
Saturday at 7 p.m. and midnight  
Sunday at 3 p.m.

### Stay

Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
Thursday at 9:30 p.m.  
Friday at 7 p.m. and midnight  
Saturday at 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday at 7 p.m.

## Top 5s:

### Top 5 Movies

1. *Big Momma's House 2*
2. *Nanny McPhee*
3. *Underworld: Evolution*
4. *Annapolis*
5. *Hoodwinked*

### Top 5 Pop Albums

1. Jamie Foxx
2. Mary J. Blige
3. Eminem
4. Carrie Underwood
5. Johnny Cash

### Top 5 TV Shows

1. "American Idol"
2. "Football: Seattle vs. Carolina"
3. "American Idol"
4. "CSI"
5. "Desperate Housewives"

### Top 5 DVD Rentals

1. *Lord of War*
2. *Wedding Crashers*
3. *Two for the Money*
4. *Transporter 2*
5. *Hustle and Flow*

## Horoscopes:

**Aries** - There's a nagging suspicion that you'd better fix something now before it breaks. You know what it is, too.

**Taurus** - At first it seems like the task you're facing is impossible. As you get into it, however, you will find a way.

**Gemini** - Don't make assumptions or rely on others, especially early. Too many changes are going on.

**Cancer** - An unexpected development related to your work disrupts your travel plans. Watch out for that.

**Leo** - Not a good time to travel, not a good time to gamble. Wait until tomorrow.

**Virgo** - Conditions are unstable now. Others seem to be in control. It's up to you to keep things going in the right direction.

**Libra** - Creative work pays especially well now. Crank out as much as you can while the market is in your favor.

**Scorpio** - You're feeling lucky, but take care. Just the opposite is more likely. Don't gamble, shop or lead a loved one to think you're made of money.

**Sagittarius** - You've been stirring things up lately, so don't be surprised if you get a lively reaction. You asked for it.

**Capricorn** - Don't believe everything you hear today. Even reliable sources could have the facts wrong. Don't gossip, either.

**Aquarius** - There's something unusual about the money in your pocket. Check your change for rarities and your pockets for holes.

**Pisces** - You're very imaginative now, but try not to start any trouble. Don't ask for money either, until tomorrow.

## Television Recaps:

### "The Bachelor"

The bachelorettes try to impress the Bachelor's two best friends, flown in especially for the occasion. The women are asked to demonstrate a unique talent. Jehan makes clicking noises with her tongue, like the Kalaheari Bushmen. Sarah from Tennessee puts her entire fist in her mouth. Jennifer stands there in a bikini top. And we have a winner! (10 p.m. Mondays, ABC).

### "Beauty and the Geek"

Cher is not dumb enough to be on this show. No self-respecting "beauty" knows how to put together a computer, hook it up to the Internet, download a song and burn a CD. That's what boys are for (9 p.m. Thursdays, WB).

### "Gastlineau Girls"

Twentysomething-year-old Brittany decides to throw herself a Sweet 16 birthday party in Miami. (Where's the MTV crossover episode??) Not to be outdone, Lisa throws a tantrum worthy of a 12-year-old in the middle of the street in Miami Beach. Lisa: "I don't think of age as a number. I think of it as a spirit." And by "spirit," she means "tequila." (10 p.m. Tuesdays, E).

### "The Gauntlet 2"

Ace: "I've been driving stick shifts since I was born. I pretty much know how to drive a stick shift about as good or better than anybody." Ace, let me introduce you to something called a "clutch." And now you can drive yourself home! (10 p.m. Mondays, MTV).

# Never forget that first love

The flame will always burn for them

MEREDITH STEWART  
STAFF WRITER

Somewhere in your house I'm sure you have a collection of old love letters, pictures, cards, stuffed animals and movie stubs from your first love. Diane Ackerman once said, "Everyone admits that love is wonderful and necessary, yet no one agrees on just what it is." Young love seems to be sweet, innocent and carefree. Everyone's first love began with butterflies in their stomach, nervous laughs, being passionate about everything and thinking that he or she was "the one."

Your first love is something you will never forget. It's the first taste of what you believe is "true love." He or she was the one and only person who could make or break your world. It was the first time you opened your life, heart and soul to another person and trusted them not to hurt you. That's a huge step in the relationship world. When you look through old things, hear certain songs or one day cross paths with your old flame, your heart will race and your emotions will still get the best of you. There's always



When you are as happy as these people seem to be, it is always hard to get over your first true love.

that one guy or girl who captured your heart and will never be forgotten. Whether he or she is still in your life or just a heartache memory, that person will always hold a special place in your heart. "I remember my first love just like it was yesterday. We wanted

to come to college together, get married and live happily ever after. Really set in and he moved states away for a big job promotion. I chose to stay here in Greenville and finish my education. After he left, my heart fell apart," said Katherine Stewart,

sophomore multidisciplinary studies major.

Our first loves taught us the good, the bad and the ugly. After the "lovey dovey" stage passed, the disagreements came. The once perfect love didn't seem so perfect any longer. Young and

naive, some people stuck through it and tried to make it last as long as possible, while others just took the heartache and learned from it. Two young people who believe they are in love endure experiences and learn lessons that will hopefully last a lifetime. Having a first sweetheart is a warm feeling, but thinking about the downs of the relationship can bring much pain to one's soul.

"My girlfriend and I were passionate about everything, loving and fighting with each other as well as hurting each other with jealousy and greed," said Dennis Duffy, sophomore communication major.

Just like Noah and Allie from *The Notebook* or Cinderella and her Prince Charming, it's likely that later in life you will see each other again. When you are least expecting it, you will see the person you once thought was your "soul mate." Of course, over time the both of you have let go of the past, but everyone knows that the spark remains. No one makes you feel the way your first real love did.

"It's been two years since I was with my first love, but when I ran into him over Christmas

see LOVE page A5

## Celebrity Profile: Vince Vaughn

A class clown makes it on the big screen

MARK ROMANO  
STAFF WRITER

Vincent Anthony Vaughn, one of the freshest comedy actors of today, got his start like many of us probably would. He went out to Los Angeles with hopes of "making it" and, like a majority of us would, he failed... several times. After persevering through many failed auditions, Vaughn got his first role in the movie *Rudy*, which was about a tenacious little football player. By embracing Rudy's spirit that you can achieve your life's goal with dedication, Vaughn began to make his mark in Hollywood. It was on the set of *Rudy* where Vaughn met Jon Favreau, who directed *Swingers*, in which Vaughn took a lead role. These two films launched Vaughn's career on the big screen and he soon brought us some of the best deadpan and dry humor anyone has seen in a while.



who played a lot of video games, so we were sort of surprised that *Swingers* was seen as cool," said Vaughn.

"I think any cool in it was a geekiness, an awkwardness that most people can relate to."

Vaughn's ability to bring out the humor and ridicule in characters that are "average Joes"

is part of his charm and wit. He connects with his audience by bringing out humor. Vaughn's earlier and lesser known roles include a supporting role in *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* and as Norman Bates in Gus Van Sant's remake of *Psycho*. These roles showed that while comedy may be his forte, he's still got more than enough talent to play a psychopathic killer.

You can often find Vaughn playing alongside the same crew of actors including Ben Stiller, with whom he appeared in three movies with in 2004 alone. He has also starred with Luke and Owen Wilson and Will Ferrell.

Vaughn was influenced by his father at an early age. While his father was not an actor, he would often comment on the skills of actors in the many westerns he enjoyed to watch, letting little Vince know when an actor was portraying a character in the right or wrong manner. Vaughn developed a sense of actor's intuition through this and began

see VAUGHN page A5

## Coming up short

Forget bird flu, here come jean shorts

DANIEL BROCK  
STAFF WRITER

They are gruesome sights that are as baffling as they are hideous. They are bastardizations of a staple of American clothing. They are a shadow on society and the scourge of modern fashion. I am of course speaking of the abomination known as jean shorts. It's unclear who first fashioned jean shorts or why they unleashed this evil force upon the world. What is known is that they are a pestilence upon the land - the fashion equivalent of leprosy.

Jeans were first fashioned in Genoa, Italy for the sailors of that city. Denim came from France, and Levi Strauss turned jeans into superstars. In the 1950s, kids started wearing jeans as sign of rebellion. By the 1970s, jeans were part of everyday life, and bellbottom jeans were the grooviest thing this side of acid.

Somewhere along the line, someone decided to hack off the bottom part of their jeans and turn them into shorts. Really short shorts. This was a gift from above when the women did it. Daisy Duke titillated a nation in the ludicrously short cut-offs that came to bear her name. Then some ninrod thought it would be cool for men to start wearing cut-off jeans. The disco era and the 1980s were overrun with

exceptionally hairy men wearing exceptionally high socks and exceptionally short shorts.

Thankfully shorts for men in general started to lengthen, and by the beginning of the 1990s they had reached an acceptable length. Then came the grunge music scene. Eddie Vedder started thrashing around in flannel shirts and baggy jean shorts, and a generation of misguided youth followed. Sure, grunge popularized crappy guitar playing and heroin, but ragged jean shorts are its most lasting legacy.

In the mid to late 1990s, jean shorts swept the nation. They were on school buses and street corners. They became the opiate of the masses. Jean shorts were the crack cocaine of fashion, and people were addicted. They went crazy, adding pockets and loops and all sorts of shiny trinkets. But then something even worse happened. A new and greater evil emerged from the jean jungle - cargo jean shorts. Everyone from Nick Carter to Pacey from "Dawson's Creek" was wearing these things. Hey, here's a piece of advice, if the Backstreet Boys and stars of the WB are wearing it, you should probably burn it. It was also about this time that the term "jort" came to light.

As the new millennium dawned, jort's popularity did not wane. Eminem-loving kids in the suburbs wore them, urban hip-hop kids rocked them and

see SHORTS page A5

## City Market is 'market fresh'

Sometimes overlooked Jarvis Street treasure

DANIEL BROCK  
STAFF WRITER

As I stepped to cross the street, I was almost crushed by a garbage truck barreling down the hill and rounding the corner. I wasn't really concerned about the physical harm that would have come my way, but I was worried that it might keep me from my destination, namely, the City Market.

The City Market, you see, is no run of the mill grocery store. Oh no, it is much more than that. Located on the bustling corner of Third and Jarvis Streets, it is a Greenville institution, as well as an ECU institution, but in a different way. The City Market is home to many things - a wide selection of groceries, a fine keg service, several homeless people and the most amazing buffet this side of *Scarface*. For those of you who have not had the pleasure, nay the privilege, of partaking in the City Market buffet, then you are missing a culinary delight.

While some may be lured by the social scene at City Market's neighbors, Christy's EuroPub



City Market is located at the corner of Third and Jarvis Streets.

and Dr. Unks, City Market offers a swinging good time of its own. At any given time before City Market closes at 9 p.m., you can find a motley crew of patrons, employees and loitering bystanders mulling about the place. Third and Jarvis has a Bohemian flair that isn't found anywhere else in Greenville. The area seems to be vitalized by the small shopping strip and local pubs. The shopping center consists of a grocery mart, a self-service laundry, several pay phones and a bar - everything you need to get by in the city.

The City Market has a quaint air and sensibility both inside and out. The ceiling and floors both have a "vintage" feel to them. There are buckets attached to the ceiling to catch any leaks and trash cans are put in place if there are larger quantities of rain. As for a smoking policy, the City Market don't need no stinkin' smoking policy. Ash trays are positioned at the end of each aisle so that customers can shop and smoke in peace. Apparently, the heat doesn't work in the front

see MARKET page A5

## People Poll: Who is your all-time favorite celebrity?

				
Senior, Mark Vitti Jennifer Aniston	Sophomore, Laura Graham Will Ferrell	Sophomore, Morgan Vanderlinden Johnny Dapp	Sophomore, Ashley Batchelor Jake Gyllenhaal	Senior, Matt Sigmon Wu-Tang Clan

Love from page A4

break. I was almost speechless. He was the first person to really break my heart, but deep down I'll always love him," said Catherine Smith, sophomore English major.

Most of the time a first love teaches us things - not saying that everyone wanted to learn all of them, especially the hard way. But the lessons that were taught and the experiences that all of us went through were just part of growing up and becoming wiser about oneself and the way we create and don't create relationships with others.

Without mistakes, confrontations and heartache, lessons will not be learned. You grow through these changes and although at the time it killed you inside, you are now a stronger person because of them. You can now look back on how trivial the fights were, how insignificant it

was that another guy or girl was trying to talk to your lover and how materialistic stuff doesn't really mean everything. Even though not many people can really decide what love is, keep in mind that love is not a thing - it's a feeling.

I believe Helen Keller sums it up best for us by believing that "the best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt within the heart."

It's great to reminisce and keep little things as memories, but remember to look forward and know what's going on in your life now. The past can sometimes get us down, but the first is always the worst. Life is full of changes, heartache, disappointment, good times and bad times.

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

Shorts from page A4

rednecks and country boys wore them as britches on the farm. Jorts were unstoppable.

Today jorts still run rampant. Being in the throws of winter as we are now, jort sightings are rare occurrences. However, it will soon be warming up, and along with balmy weather, foliage and migrating birds, jorts will make a return to campus. It will start slowly, but they'll begin to trickle down the Hill and stream out of buses until the campus is swarming with them. People may be hanging out at the Wright Place, but they'll be wearing the wrong thing.

There are alternatives to these pariahs. Any type of khaki shorts will do. Cargo, painter or pleated khaki shorts trump jorts any day of the week. Why not try to class the place up and rock some seersucker shorts? They're much cooler and comfortable

with everyone from pretentious college students to mumbling whinos. Marisa DeLuca, a junior media production major and cashier at City Market, commented on her employment in helping customers.

"I've worked here for five months. It gets pretty crazy in here sometimes," said DeLuca. City Market is a unique place that has a very collegial feel. It's convenient and provides a steady flow of alcohol to the neighborhoods adjacent to Fifth Street. If you haven't been to City Market before, or if it's been a while, stop by and see for yourself that City Market is truly a "Super Market."

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

Vaughn from page A4

seriously applying his skills after high school in a Chicago improvisation troupe.

In 2005 Vaughn appeared in hits such as *Wedding Crashers*, *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* and the renowned independent film *Thumbsucker*. Vaughn is working on several projects including *The Break Up*, starring alongside his love interest Jennifer Aniston and the comedy *The H-Man Cometh*. Both features are slated to be released this year.

For more information on this funny-man, visit [imdb.com](http://imdb.com), where you can find a full list of the movies he has starred in as well as more biographical information.

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

Market from page A4

of the store, so it can get pretty chilly for the cashiers. One clerk brought a space heater to stay warm, but when she plugged it in she shorted out the entire register. You don't have good times like that at Wal-Mart.

The buffet, of course, is the crown jewel of the City Market. I myself only recently became aware of the delightful confections that it offers. Pork chops, chicken (of all shapes and sizes), a full salad bar and the most ridiculous macaroni and cheese I have ever gotten my hands on make for a more than appealing spread. The buffet is by the pound, so bring your appetite and money and/or food stamps.

Of course, City Market also offers a wildly popular keg ser-

vice. The big seller is the \$63 Busch Light keg, but Bud, Bud Light, Bud Select, Miller Lite, PBR, Yuengling and Killians Red are available every day. You can also get special order kegs like Michelob Ultra and Amber Rock, but you need to do so ahead of time.

City Market also provides other amenities that make it totally awesome. There's a check cashing service with only a nominal fee, an old time soda fountain, a service that lets you send and receive faxes, and you can purchase City Market gift certificates in any denomination. City Market is so student friendly that they sell ping-pong balls individually. That, my friends, is customer service.

What about the employees of City Market? They have to deal

with everyone from pretentious college students to mumbling whinos. Marisa DeLuca, a junior media production major and cashier at City Market, commented on her employment in helping customers.

"I've worked here for five months. It gets pretty crazy in here sometimes," said DeLuca. City Market is a unique place that has a very collegial feel. It's convenient and provides a steady flow of alcohol to the neighborhoods adjacent to Fifth Street. If you haven't been to City Market before, or if it's been a while, stop by and see for yourself that City Market is truly a "Super Market."

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# ATTENTION

**ECU Students, Staff and Faculty**

The ECU Tai Chi Club invites you to attend our upcoming Workshop on Sunday, February 5th from 1-5 PM in room 239 with Guest Instructor, Kathleen Cusick. She teaches Yang style, qigong, push-hands, san shou, and taiji staff with the Magic Tortoise School. Kathleen has studied tai jiquan since 1984 with a variety of teachers, including Gregh Mucci, Jou Tsung Hwa, and Yang Zhen Duo, a 4th generation Yang family lineage holder.

**Club membership is needed to attend the Workshop.**

**Come Join us!**

**Here's how:**

**Attend one of our weekly classes**  
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Wednesday at 7:15 PM  
Thursday at 7 AM  
Saturday at 9:15 AM




Contact Chris Weaver at [weaverch@ecu.edu](mailto:weaverch@ecu.edu) or sign up at the Workshop.

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**JUST PUSH PLAY**

## Rankings cannot be judged on Signing Day



Skip Holtz won five games in his first year as ECU head coach and is bringing in his first full recruiting class this year.

So if John Doe sends his high school tape in and is lucky enough to get scouted, does that automatically qualify him as a two-star recruit? If so, that's hardly a scientific standard.

Consider that JUCO transfers Aundrea Allison and Robert Lee were a few of ECU's one-star recruits from 2005. All Allison did was set - virtually shatter - every receiving record during his junior season, making himself a dark horse Heisman candidate in 2006. And Lee showed his masterful leg, missing only two field goals for the entire season.

Despite its many flaws, credit the rise of the Web-based scout networks with improving the system. But the top editors focus on the nation's premier talent. And more often than not, the nation's top 100 carry enough drama during their recruitment to make middle school girls into saints.

The heavy weight toward top recruits create a blatant big school bias among the so-called experts. While late 2005 signee Jamar Bryant was committed to play at

Georgia, he was a coveted four-star recruit. As soon as Georgia didn't sign him due to questions regarding his eligibility, he was immediately moved down to a pedestrian three stars.

So keep all things in perspective on Signing Day when ECU doesn't grade out as well as other in-state schools. The Pirates aren't signing the same type of athletes currently in the system due to former Head Coach John Thompson's lack of ethical standards. Gone are the days of Russian roulette with a 28-member class full of suspect talent.

Instead, Holtz, in his second year, has secured a foundation by inking quality kids with worlds of potential. In speaking with eight high school coaches of signees, ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz has signed a class full of height, beef and character. The only problem is that the experts don't know yet.

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

### Fans should rank recruiting in five years

ERIC GILMORE  
SENIOR WRITER

*"It's not the X's and O's - it's the Jimmy and Joes."*  
-Coaching Proverb

Mel Kiper, Jr.'s name is synonymous with the NFL draft. Think of ESPN men's basketball analyst Joe Lunday and one immediately conjures up images of bubble teams sweating on Selection Sunday. Both are sports geeks who spend the entire year researching information about just one specific sports event.

CSTV's main football recruiting expert Tom Lemming is certainly no exception. His specialty is the year-long process of college football recruiting, which culminates Wednesday, also known as National Signing Day. He serves the information thirsty fans who dish out beaucoups of money for insider information and premium access.

Lemming, considered the media standard, has been involved in the recruiting process for more than 25 years. According to his biography, the ever-constant evaluator of talent assesses more than 1,000 of the top high school play-

ers. Think he's a busy man?

The Chicago based scout's main rival is the Web based network, Sports Media, Inc. Scout.com, as it's referred to, offers Internet content for more than 200 Web sites while publishing more than 45 magazines annually. Unlike Lemming, Scout.com has a staff of 14 people who are responsible for various territories all over the country.

Whether it's one person or 14, the simple math doesn't add up in order for recruiting services to properly rank all 119 teams. If every Division I-A team awarded their maximum 25 scholarships per year, almost 3,000 kids would have to be evaluated.

Unless the Scout.com editorial staff triples their budget for the class of 2007, virtually half of that will be posted in a single year. Until a standard is set, the recruiting rankings will continue to be a farce. The BCS conferences will continue to draw top 50 national attention with over-hyped recruits who never pan out.

Consider the flaws in the Scout.com recruiting formula. Scout.com's top 50 players are awarded five stars, the next 200 are given four stars, the next 700 receive three stars and everyone else evaluated is a two-star player. A recruit receives one star if the player's tapes aren't evaluated by any of the Scout.com staff.

#### Players expected to sign Letters of Intent on National Signing Day

Name	Pos.	Height	Weight	Hometown
***Norman Whitley	RB	5-8	177	Rockingham, NC
***Melvin Patterson	WR	6-3	205	Alachua, FL
**D.J. Scott	OL	6-6	300	Jacksonville, FL
**Dekota Marshall	CB	6-1	190	Jacksonville, NC
**Nick Johnson	LB	6-1	225	Charlotte, NC
**Willie Smith	DL	6-6	225	Kenly, NC
**Sean Allen	OL	6-5	290	Wilson, NC
**Doug Polochak	OL	6-4	265	Jacksonville, FL
**Javon Brumsey	WR	6-5	188	Elizabeth City, NC
**Dan Wideman	QB	6-2	210	Greenwood, SC
*Travis Melvin	DL	6-6	265	Fayetteville, NC
*Willie Barton (JC)	OL	6-5	330	Milledgeville, GA
Davion Holman	DT	6-4	265	Orlando, FL
Joe Council	DE	6-4	235	Walterboro, SC
Chris Atkins	LB	6-4	235	Greensboro, FL
Lorenzo Osborne	LB	6-3	200	Atlanta, GA
Darryl Reynolds	CB	6-1	190	New Bern, NC
Kevyn Gidrey	TE	6-3	235	Kempville, VA

#### Mid-Season Transfers

***Fred Wilson (JC)	LB	6-2	255	Cross, SC
**Andrew Farr (Prep)	OL	6-4	285	Pell City, AL
Daniel Muhuezi (JC)	LB	6-3	235	Germantown, MD

#### Players enrolled, affiliated with program

***Orlando Farrow (JC)	LB	6-3	235	Lackawanna, PA
***Jamar Bryant^	WR	6-3	200	Hamlet, NC
**Doug Palmer^	OL	6-4	285	Fayetteville, NC
**Jay Ross^	DT	6-3	270	Wilmington, NC
**C.J. Wilson^	DE	6-4	245	Pinetown, NC
*Johnnie McCoy^	DE	6-4	245	Fayetteville, NC
Larry Lease	OL	6-2	260	North Fort Myers, FL

#### Players considering ECU

***Dwayne Harris	QB	6-1	196	Tucker, GA
**Travis Timmons	DT	6-4	285	Gainesville, FL
*Cedric Dickson	WR	6-4	215	Stone Mountain, GA
*Cameron Beard	CB	6-0	175	Ozark, AL

(Stars according to scout.com rankings, recruits with no stars were not evaluated by scout.com, JC indicates Junior College, ^ indicates 2005 ranking.)

## Lady Pirates gearing up for 2006 season

ECU softball team looks to continue success

DAVID WASKIEWICZ  
SENIOR WRITER

As the weather continues to get warmer and spring approaches, students and fans always look forward to the upcoming baseball season. In fact, so much attention is given to the success of the ECU baseball team that few recognize the previous success of the ECU softball team.

In just the last two seasons, the Lady Pirates have compiled a record of 102-43-1. This includes having the second highest number of wins in the entire country last season with 55. Despite the success of the team, few pay attention to it, including the NCAA, which did not invite ECU to the regional tournament last season.

Senior Krista Jessup is very confident of this year's team and is not going to let the disappointment of being snubbed last year affect this season.

"We use that as energy this year to win," said Jessup. "It was a disappointment last year, but the only thing we can do is get the positive out of it and use it as motivation to win this year."

Motivation is not going to be the only thing that helps the Lady Pirates this season, the team has increased its depth at all positions. This is crucial for the pitching position as the team adds freshman pitcher Brooke Swann to the roster. Swann will provide relief to the other three pitchers as the team can increase its rotation by one more player.

With many of the team's power hitters graduating last season, Head Coach Tracey Kee

already understands that the team is not going to be the same hitting as it was last season.

"We are a completely different squad this year," said Kee.

"We graduated a lot of home runs, so we have to realize that we are not going to bang the ball over the fence this year, but hopefully we will hit for average."

With the number of young players on the team, the biggest concern for Kee is the amount of experience the team still has to offer.

"Experience is the big question mark. We have a lot of new players scattered across the field at crucial positions," Kee said.

"It is something that we have to overcome early, but I think we can do it."

One of the players who will be looked upon for experience is junior pitcher Keli Harrell. Harrell has dominated ECU pitching the last two seasons, leading in games won and strikeouts. Last year alone Harrell was 29-13 with 338 strikeouts and an ERA of 1.39.

This year Harrell is planning to continue upon her success.

"I'm just going to go out there and do the best job that I can for the girls that are playing behind me," said Harrell.

"As a team we all want to reach the regionals, so I want to do whatever I can do to help."

With the increase in depth to the roster and the leadership of veteran players, ECU is set to have another great season. Unfortunately, for the Lady Pirates there will be no breaks for the team as they open the season

## USA Hockey's treatment of Granato was simply shameful



U.S. Olympic women's hockey team members Jennifer Schmidgall (left) and team captain Cammi Granato celebrate after the U.S. team's 5-0 win over China at the 1998 Winter Olympics.

### Star cut from women's Olympic hockey team

(KRT) - A fleeting moment of recognition is coming for women's hockey. At next month's Winter Olympics, Americans

will remember, "Oh yeah, we have one of the best women's hockey teams in the world."

And the next question will be, "Where is Cammi Granato?"

The answer should embarrass USA Hockey.

Granato, the most important woman ever to play hockey in this country, was discarded like yesterday's newspaper. Unceremoniously cut in August. Pushed out the door at 34 with no second chances.

The result is a shameful public-relations disaster for the U.S. team.

"I was pretty emotional at first," Granato said from her home in Vancouver recently. "Then I was more angry. I felt completely disrespected by the whole organization ... I still firmly believe I belong on the team. I know that I do."

Granato is the face of her sport, a Mia Hamm on skates. She had been on the U.S. hockey team since its inception in 1990. She captained both the 1998 Olympic team - when the United States won the first women's hockey gold medal - and the silver-medal 2002 effort. She tirelessly promoted her sport and is a classy, poised leader.

The leading scorer in U.S. history, Granato proved she was still elite last April. She was a solid contributor as she captained her team to its first world championship, over archrival Canada.

Yet just four months later, after a camp, she was called upstairs by Coach Ben Smith and cut. Like just another scrub.

"I can't believe the way it went down," said Granato, who was recently hired by NBC and will be a studio analyst in Turin. "It was the most disrespectful way."

Granato said she was never told she was on the bubble. She asked Smith if he really didn't consider her one of the top 12 forwards on the team.

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see **SOFTBALL** page A7

see **GRANATO** page A7

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**Granato** from page A6

"He told me if I wasn't on the first line, I wasn't on the team," she said. "He denies that. But that's what he said to me."

And he told her not to wait by the phone. Sure enough, even when Smith was down to 10 forwards because of injuries, Granato's phone never rang.

The result has been a bitter falling out between USA Hockey and America's first family of hockey. Tony Granato, a former Olympian who is now an assistant coach of the Colorado Avalanche, has publicly called for Smith's dismissal.

"I was completely upset at how my sister was treated," the former Shark said. "To be removed from the program when she's still an elite athlete was a shock."

Tony Granato said he spoke to Dave Ogren, USA Hockey's executive director, who claimed no involvement in the decision. That's shocking in itself, that such a momentous decision could be made without organizational knowledge. The Granato family is trying to bite its tongue out of deference to the team, which has been reeling from the news.

"It was a shock when Cammi was left off," defenseman Angela Ruggiero said last fall at an Olympic summit in Colorado Springs, Colo. "It hurts. She was like a sister to us ... It's tough for all of us. We miss her, and she misses us."

Smith offered up a platitude about "tough decisions" at the same summit. Granato said Smith thought she was too old, adding that he was saying that even in Salt Lake. Yet he never dissuaded her from committing four more years of her life to the team, working toward a farewell in Italy.

We're used to seeing professional athletes shoved out the door when they hit a certain age, so we may shrug and say, "Maybe it was time."

There are two problems with that. One is that Granato, who battled back from injuries, isn't too old. She doesn't have a grueling season like an NHL player. She was still an important, elite contributor.

The other problem is that the Olympics, par-

ticularly for women's sports, are a showcase. They are about exposure and inspiration. And the message USA Hockey has sent with its treatment of Granato is this: We don't really care about women's hockey. We don't care about role models. We don't care about cherishing our tradition. We'll shove the most important people in our sport out the door.

"It's such a bad example for young kids," Granato said. "They'll think, 'If she's treated like that, what about me?'"

There is much speculation from people close to the team about why this was so ugly. Many believe Granato was viewed as a threat. After all, she predates most everyone in USA Hockey, comes from a family that defines American hockey and is married to former NHL veteran Ray Ferraro. That could be intimidating to a coach like Smith, who has made the women's team his own little hockey fiefdom.

In addition, Granato was an outspoken, strong leader. She advised players of their rights, even consulting with the U.S. women's soccer team and its attorney about a financial dispute a few years ago.

The situation is eerily similar to the rude dismissal of Brandi Chastain from the U.S. women's soccer team after the 2004 Olympics. Women like Chastain and Granato are more than just athletes. They are icons who have shaped their sports, devoted their lives and sacrificed their bodies. Without their desire and willingness to fight, their sports would still be in the dark ages.

But they are undervalued by the old boys who run their sports and want to maintain control. "It's so frustrating," Granato said. "It wouldn't happen in sports that are further along. It's so bittersweet."

USA Hockey isn't proud about this. Not long ago at an Avalanche game, Granato was in a hallway waiting to see her brother. Two USA Hockey officials were heading toward her, but when they spotted the greatest woman in their organization's history, they turned on their heels to avoid her.

USA Hockey should be ashamed.

**Saving dilapidated Detroit?**



Ford Field in Detroit is the site for Super Bowl CLXL.

(KRT) — Dignitaries from the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan on Monday said that they are relying upon the Super Bowl to change the perception of Detroit as a hopeless dump riddled with drugs, crime and poverty. Think the Steelers' Ben Roethlisberger, who will become the second youngest quarterback to start a Super Bowl, has a lot of pressure on him? That's nothing compared with the pressure Detroit is facing as host of this country's preeminent sporting event.

"This is the kind of event that spurs revolutionary change," Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick said Monday, accompanied by Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Roger Penske, chairman of Detroit's Super Bowl host committee. "This game has served as a catalyst to move Detroit in a way we haven't moved in 50 years."

Since learning in December 2001 that it would host Super Bowl XL, Detroit rapidly set into motion a plan to revitalize its dilapidated downtown. At the time, the goal was to open 50 new businesses, but 70 opened instead. There are 35 new restaurants downtown and several swank nightclubs that should be hopping by week's end.

There is a \$2 billion plan to develop five miles of riverfront property into a residential haven with hotels and storefronts.

The downtown streets have been repaved, burned-out buildings have been bulldozed, and Super Bowl banners now hang from lampposts. There are three sparkling casinos, a large ice-skating rink, and a snow park that will serve as a focal point for family entertainment this week.

"Detroiters have a pent-up demand to do well," Kilpatrick said. "We want to reintroduce ourselves to the world as the next Detroit, the new Detroit."

That, of course, is easier said than done. People have been fleeing Detroit for decades, to the point that the population has dwindled from 2 million in the 1950s to less than 900,000 today. According to the Census Bureau, more than a third of that population was at or below the poverty line in 2004, and the 2005 unemployment rate of 14.1 percent was more than 2 times the national average.

There were 374 homicides in Detroit last year, and the city is in such financial disarray that nearly 1,400 municipal employees have been laid off, bus service has been slashed, recreation centers have shut down, and bulk trash pickup has been canceled. And then there was that announcement by Ford Motor Co. last week that the automotive giant will lay off at least 25,000

employees and close 14 plants nationwide, with the Detroit area taking a significant hit.

Although the city has moved many of its homeless to shelters, plenty were still walking the streets Sunday night.

As far as Super Bowl cities go, this isn't exactly San Diego, Phoenix or Miami. But at least on Monday, the weather was comparable with Jacksonville's a year ago, when the Eagles arrived for their Super Bowl appearance needing warmer coats.

One thing Detroit does have going for it is that Jerome Bettis is playing. Pittsburgh's veteran running back is a Detroit native, went to high school not far from downtown, and is so involved in the city that he is sinking a lot of his own money into one of the riverfront revitalization projects.

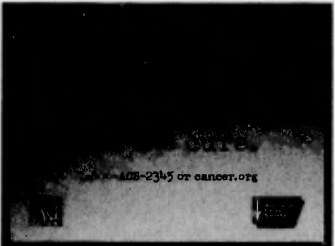
Bettis/Bettors LLC is a joint venture company between Bettis and Pittsburgh businessman Charles Bettors to redevelop a 44-acre patch east of downtown. The site used to house a Uniroyal tire plant and poses environmental challenges because of contamination.

"We are trying to rebuild the city after it's been looked at as a place you don't want to go," Bettis said. "It's important that the thought be changed. It takes an event like this ... for people to say, 'Hey, Detroit is on the up-rise.' We all have bumps in the road ... I'm really trying to put my resources into it."

Bettis' business manager, Jahmat Dokes, who played football with him at MacKenzie High School, would not disclose Bettis' financial investment, but allowed that it was a "multimillion-dollar" project.

"It's meant a lot to the city because a native son is developing it," Dokes said.

"Two years ago, it looked like a bomb went off here," he said of downtown. "There was nothing here ... Two years later, you see the budding of a great renaissance."



**Softball** from page A6

against Bethune-Cookman, a team ranked as high as No. 18 last year.

Kee is looking forward to the opening game as she tries to reinforce the importance of competition to her team.

"Competing is our number one goal, Kee said. The ECU softball team kicks off its season at Bethune-Cookman Friday, Feb. 10. Home games for the Lady Pirates will start Feb. 17 against Army.

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

**CLASSIFIEDS**

Page

WEDNESDAY

2006

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## ARISE Programs

- 2/2 **Wheelchair Rugby**  
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- 2/7 **Wheelchair Dodgeball**  
8-9pm SRC Sports Forum
- 2/9 **Wheelchair Basketball**  
8-9pm SRC Sports Forum
- 2/13 **Wheelchair Rugby**  
8-9pm SRC Sports Forum
- 2/20 **ARISE Committee Mtg**  
7-8:30pm SRC 202
- 2/23 **Wheelchair Basketball**  
8-9pm SRC Sports Forum
- 2/25 **Cultural Arts Festival**  
8am-4:30pm ViQuest Center

## Fitness Programs

- 2/2-4/6 **Power Flow Yoga**  
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- 2/4 **Women on Weights**  
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SRC Classroom
- 2/22 **Winter Blast Power Jamm!**  
SRC Sports Forum
- 2/22 **Lunchtime Lecture: Goal Setting**  
Register by 2/20  
SRC Classroom
- 2/28 **AB-Solutions**  
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SRC Classroom

## Intramural Sports Programs

- 2/6 **Sports Trivia on the Web**  
10am IM website
- 2/13 **Indoor Soccer Team Reg. Mtg**  
5pm MSC 244
- 2/15 **Indoor Soccer Officials' Mtg**  
9pm SRC 202
- 2/19 **Softball Officials' Mtg**  
9pm SRC 202
- 2/20 **Softball Team Reg. Mtg**  
5pm MSC 244



JUST PUSH  
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