



ECU remembers Coretta Scott King



The life and times of Coretta Scott King were fondly remembered Friday by a variety of people, including Congressman G.K. Butterfield.

Memorial held in Hendrix
CLAYTON BAUMAN
STAFF WRITER

ECU students, faculty and area officials gathered in remembrance of the life and work of Coretta Scott King Friday morning in Hendrix Theater.

The near hour-long ceremony began with a Microsoft Power Point presentation. The presentation included famous voice clips of King complete with famous pictures of the civil rights activist.

"Today we assemble to remember the first lady of the civil rights movement," said Taffye Benson Clayton, assistant to the Provost EEO/ADA Compliance Officer. Clayton played a key role in the presentation taking place.

Dr. Marilyn Sheerer, dean of the College of Education and interim vice chancellor for insti-

tutional advancement, provided opening remarks.

"She and Dr. King had such power in their words," said Sheerer.

"She knew who she was and understood her purpose in life," M. Cole Jones, president of the Student Government Association, introduced the keynote speaker.

The keynote speaker was Congressman G.K. Butterfield of the first district. The representative had recently returned from King's funeral.

"It's good to be back and see all of you," said Butterfield.

"When you talk about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., out of necessity, you must talk about his wife and life mate Coretta Scott King."

The congressman went on to talk about many historic moments of the civil rights era, namely the passage of the equal

voting rights act. He emphasized its historic significance and Coretta's motivating demeanor.

"Coretta Scott King was key in motivating Martin Luther King, Jr., in his endeavor for equal voting rights," said Butterfield.

He went on to discuss how the first district is one of the poorest in the country.

"We have a lot of work to do in eastern North Carolina. We've made tremendous progress. We have work to do."

The congressman cited President Bush as part of the reason, emphasizing the huge sum of money that is spent in Iraq every week.

"The president refuses to talk about tax cuts," Butterfield said.

The congressman was followed by the ECU Gospel Ensemble, who provided a spirited and soulful selection fitting for the event. A personal reflection was then provided by Regina Twine, presi-

dent of the Black Student Union. She discussed that despite her age, she can still appreciate Coretta Scott King.

"I am not too young to understand the mark Coretta Scott King made. We, as a young generation, need to take up the torch for peace," said Twine.

Following Twine was Dr. Glen Gilbert, dean of the College of Health and Human Performance, with closing remarks.

"Clearly Coretta Scott King was a woman of courage," said Gilbert. Dr. Gilbert discussed some of the more personal moments in Mrs. King's life, such as how Dr. King had to wait six months for Coretta to accept his proposal.

The presentation thereafter concluded with refreshments provided to all who attended.

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



Dried fruit is a beneficial alternative to mountains of chocolate.

Celebrating Valentine's Day with candy or carrots?

Some things to consider

CLAIRE MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

It is very important to many college students to maintain a healthy lifestyle while living away from home. We all know you need fruits and vegetables, but when it comes to the holiday of chocolates and fancy dinners, what can you do instead of going on a candy binge? Simply having chocolate covered strawberries, cherries or bananas is better for you than chocolate covered caramel or marshmallows.

Eating healthy seems to be difficult when your mom isn't making you do it, but it is a crucial way of life. A balanced diet gives you energy, helps you concentrate, helps maintain healthy weight and reduces your risk of many diseases such as type-two diabetes, obesity and some cancers. Keep portion sizes small and don't go overboard with the fried food. Grilled and baked options are a much better

choice. When it comes to going out on a dinner date with your valentine, go for a salad with grilled chicken and a diet soda. You can get full and not fat. It's a dream come true.

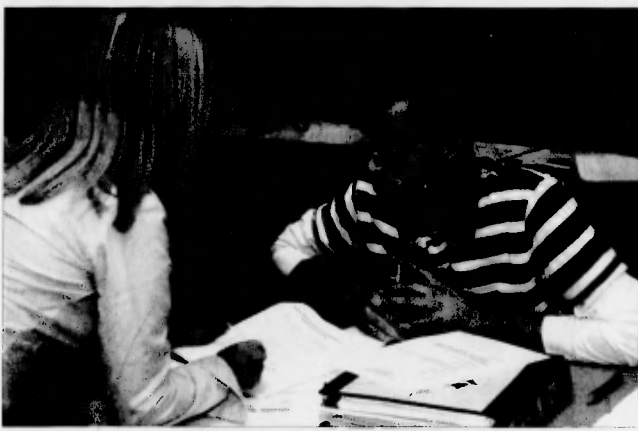
Fish is also packed with vitamins and minerals. Even if you think it tastes like wet sand, I find that ketchup can fix almost any problem (unless you are in need of hair gel, then forget I mentioned it). If you have to get the chicken fingers, go with broccoli instead of fries and water instead of sweet tea.

This is the time of year when everyone wants to shed some baggage, so why not start feeling hotter and healthier while having fun with the one you love?

Take a jog instead of a nap and drink skim milk instead of whole. Even if you don't see physical results immediately, you will feel on top of the world.

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SGA encourages student involvement and proposes ideas for the near future



A new proposal may bring music downloading to campus through a program called Ruckus.

Undergraduate students are being presented with many opportunities

CLAIRE MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU Student Government Association held their 15th meeting in the Mendenhall multi-purpose room yesterday. Many important issues were discussed and recognized by all of the senators. Four new senators were officially sworn in at the beginning of the meeting.

There were many opportunities to ask questions. Several people took advantage of this time. There are a lot of issues being processed that I had no idea were happening here.

Dr. Al Smith was one of the first speakers and discussed the "pirate connection." This idea proposed a way for ECU to retain more students from their freshman year until graduation. The answer seemed to

simply be to "get the students more involved," said Dr. Smith. Steps have been taken to send out information about all of the organizations on campus to upcoming freshmen. It was also suggested to send this information to all undergrads and transfer students. Any ideas can be given to Dr. Smith at his office in room 214 in Mendenhall.

One of the main proposals of the evening was the idea of providing free music downloading for ECU students. ITCs and Campus Living have already met and are excited to try a Ruckus pilot starting after spring break. Ruckus is an online music library with more than 1.5 million songs available. It will be available for free to students living on campus and for \$10 per semester for off-campus students. There will also be a movie subscription that will only be available on campus for \$15 per semester. The movies you can download are full screen

with good quality. Ruckus is compatible with almost all portable players except for the iPod. This is because of iPod's strict policy with Apple.

Most of you know that ECU uses Apple products and provides a discount on iPods. It was mentioned at the meeting that it is very possible for the school to do the same thing with other devices in the future to enhance the convenience of Ruckus. There will also be a faculty music subscription available for \$5.99 a month from any location. Subscriptions have to be updated regularly and must be canceled if you do not want it anymore, are graduating or are not returning to ECU.

If there is an organization that you are a part of that you know is not represented by SGA, you can go to 109 Mendenhall and make sure your group is included.

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

ECU Folk and Country Dancers co-sponsor contra dance



Contra dance is a form of dancing with English and Scottish roots, similar to the square dance.

Dances held every second Saturday and fourth Friday each month

ELISA BIZZOTTO
STAFF WRITER

Last Saturday night, the ECU Folk and Country Dancers and the Folk and Arts Society of Greenville sponsored a contra dancing event, which included a potluck dinner, concert, beginner's lesson and a two-hour long dance session. The event was held

at the Willis Building in downtown Greenville and was one of six bi-monthly contra sessions to be held this spring. The contra dances, which are one of several types of dances put on by these two organizations, are held on the second Saturday and fourth Friday of each month and have been taking place throughout the year.

Contra dancing derives from English and Scottish country dancing and holds some resemblance to American square dance-

ing. The basic structure of the dance calls for two parallel lines of participants, requiring that one be accompanied by a partner. Participants move through the lines with their partners and follow a simple dance sequence, repeating with a new set of partners every rotation. This repetition allows for each participant to dance with every individual in both lines and, essentially, every individual in the room. The

see DANCE page A3

Enron proceedings underway as the blame is examined

Who is responsible?

LEE SCHWARZ
STAFF WRITER

Surely four years after the second largest corporate accounting scandal in Corporate American history, nearly everyone has at least heard of Enron. What a shame Enron's fall from power was. Enron was founded in 1985 in Houston, Texas and looked to potentially be placed on the prestigious Dow Jones 30, which is comprised of the 30 largest companies in America.

However, through the use of offshore entities, which are subsidies that a company places out in other companies to avoid taxation - there are more than 60 countries in the world that charge little or no corporate taxes on foreign subsidiaries - Enron hid its losses from mismanagement of the business. Enron's stock price climbed as high as \$90 per share in August 2000 based upon inaccurate earnings which failed to reflect losing entities. Former Enron CFO Andrew Fastow was in charge of creating these virtual "dummy" companies. New

accounting legislation called the Sarbanes-Oxley act was passed in 2002 to impose tighter regulation on accounting and to crack down on white-collar crimes.

Former CEO Ken Lay is charged with using insider trading, which occurs when a corporate officer uses non-public information in stock trades for his own benefit, to make \$70 million. The Insider Trading Act 135 of 1998 in addition to the SEC act of 1934, strictly prohibits these practices as part of the sweeping

see ENRON page A3

Announcements

Buccaneer Photo Sessions

The ECU yearbook staff would like to invite all May 2006 graduates to have their photo taken for the next edition of the Buccaneer. Sessions will be held March 22 at Hendrix Theatre from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and March 23 and 24 at Ledonia Wright Cultural Center from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call 328-9236 to reserve your time slot. Reservations are strongly encouraged, but not required. For more information, visit buccaneer.ecu.edu.

Art Sale

The School of Art and Design's annual Valentine sale will take place Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. in the front foyer of Jenkins Fine Arts Center. The Small Metals Guild and Painting Guilds will be displaying their jewelry, small metals and paintings. Students and faculty are encouraged to remember someone special in their life or treat themselves to a creative gift.

Salsa Dance

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a salsa dance on Friday, Feb. 18 at the Willis Building, located downtown at 1st and Reade Streets. Instruction will be provided by Procopio and friends at 7:30 p.m. with the dance following at 8:30 p.m. Music by DJ Harmon. Fees are \$3 for students, \$5 for FASC members and \$8 for the public. This is a non-alcoholic, non-smoking event. For more information, call 752-7350.

Career Fairs

The Technology Career Fair will be held Wednesday, Feb. 15 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Minges Coliseum. The Science Fair will be held Friday, Feb. 17 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Science and Technology Building. The Business Career Fair will be held Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Minges Coliseum. The Education Fair will be held Friday, Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. in Minges Coliseum. The Health Fair will be held Thursday, March 2 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Carol Beik Building.

Teachers and Applied Linguistic Students Conference

A student-run conference offering opportunities for grad students and public school teachers to present their work, both practical and theoretical, in the areas of applied linguistics and TESL will be held in the Bate Building on Saturday, Feb. 18. This year's workshop features Dr. Melissa Cahnmann of the University of Georgia, who will present "Rehearsing the Revolution: Using Theater of the Oppressed to Address Identity and Power in Language Education." Dr. Cahnmann will give an additional presentation titled "The Study and Use of Metaphor to Understand Bilingualism and Bilingual Education" on Friday, Feb. 17 at 3:30 p.m. in Bate 3008. Fees are \$10 for ECU students and faculty, and \$15 for all others. For more information, visit core.ecu.edu/engl/taigs/conference/registration.htm.

"Godspell" Performance

The musical "Godspell" will begin performances on Thursday, Feb. 16 at 8:00 p.m. in McGinnis Theatre. The show uses songs to bring the parables of Jesus Christ to life. The story utilizes various theatrical traditions such as clowning, pantomime, acrobatics and vaudeville and is based on the book by John Michael Tebelak. Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. For more information and other shows, call 328-6829 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

Scholarships

The College of Human Ecology announces the availability of four scholarships for the 2006-07 academic year. Awards are for tuition and fees, and all applicants must meet scholarship criteria. The application deadline is Feb. 20, 2006. For more information see your department office or contact Sandy Jackson at 328-5754.

Valentine's Dinner

Today at the Rock Springs Center from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. The annual fundraiser sponsored by the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series will consist of dancing, music and French-themed cuisine. For more information call 830-8900.

News Briefs

State

Nearly two feet of snow falls on N.C. mountains, border towns
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) - A weekend snowstorm brought nearly two feet of snow to the mountains of western North Carolina by Monday morning, with a few more inches expected before the end of the day. In Buncombe County, western North Carolina's biggest city, Asheville, got only an inch of accumulation by Monday morning, according to the National Weather Service in Greer, S.C. Much more fell in the nearby higher elevations, with 24 inches reported near Banner Elk. Glade Mountain, eight miles north of the Haywood County town of Canton, reported 18 inches, and even towns near Asheville in Buncombe County got their fair share. 9.5 inches in Weaverville and 7 inches in Candler, meteorologist John Tomko said. The state Highway Patrol reported no fatal incidents on slippery mountain roads as of Monday morning. No significant power outages were reported by Progress Energy and Duke Power as of Monday morning. With snow continuing along the Tennessee border and another couple of inches of accumulation in the forecast, the Greer office was preparing another winter weather advisory at mid-morning, Tomko said. In the state's southwestern mountains, Robbinsville got 20 inches of snow. Heavy snow with drifts to six feet deep closed the Cherokee Skyway scenic route from the Tennessee border to U.S. Highway 129 near Robbinsville.

Navy plans test flights at landing field site

PLYMOUTH, N.C. (AP) - The Navy said it will conduct more flight tests this week at a landing field site in Washington and Beaufort counties as it gathers more environmental information as ordered by a federal judge. Flights Monday and Wednesday

will begin about 9 p.m. and last about an hour. Flights on Tuesday will start in the afternoon over the Navy's preferred site for an outlying landing field.

"These flights are designed to collect empirical data on aircraft noise levels and responses of migratory waterfowl to visual and/or noise stimuli from F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet flight operations," a Navy statement said. "Data collected will support the assessment of potential impacts on migratory waterfowl from construction and operation of an OLF at sites near migratory waterfowl populations and to observe noise effects of jet aircraft on waterfowl."

The field would be used by jets stationed at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Va., and at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in North Carolina. The planes would use the strip to simulate night landings on aircraft carriers. More test flights and environmental studies were conducted by the Navy after a judge said the service hadn't sufficiently studied the impact of the field on a nearby wildlife refuge that is the winter home for thousands of geese and swans. The Navy said it plans to complete the new study in August.

National

Five agencies reviewing classified evidence in White House aide's case

WASHINGTON (AP) - Five government agencies are reviewing classified evidence that I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby may want to use at his trial to fight perjury and obstruction-of-justice charges, according to a court transcript made public Monday. During a Feb. 3 hearing, Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald told a federal judge that the review of classified materials is being done by the CIA, National Security Council, National Security Agency, State Department and several components within the White House, including the offices of the president and vice

president.

The outcome of those reviews will determine whether the case against Libby, Vice President Dick Cheney's former chief of staff, gets bogged down in a legal battle pitting the government's desire to protect national security secrets against a defendant's right to a fair trial. Libby, 55, was indicted late last year on charges that he lied about how he learned CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity and when he subsequently told reporters. Plame's identity was published in July 2003 by columnist Robert Novak after her husband, former U.S. Ambassador Joseph Wilson, accused the administration of twisting intelligence about Iraq's efforts to buy uranium "yellowcake" in Niger. The year before, the CIA had sent Wilson to Niger to determine the accuracy of the uranium reports. Libby's trial is set for January 2007. The case against Libby is on two tracks one public, one secret. U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton and lawyers for both sides went into a secret session after a public hearing Feb. 3 to discuss classified evidence that could play a role in the case.

Ga. woman who married teenager gives birth to couple's baby, lawyer says
ATLANTA (AP) - A woman accused of molesting a 15-year-old boy she later married gave birth to the couple's child over the weekend, the woman's lawyer said Monday.

Lisa Clark, 37, gave birth to a 7-pound, 9-ounce boy Saturday, Daniel Sammons said. The baby could be put in state custody unless Clark can arrange the necessary paperwork for a friend to take temporary custody before Clark is discharged from the hospital and returned to jail, where she will be held without bond, Sammons said. "Right now, she's struggling with the trauma of having the child torn loose from her arms and possibly placed in foster care while she goes back to jail," Sammons said in a telephone interview. Clark's teenage husband turned

up in Ohio earlier this month after disappearing from a juvenile home in Georgia. It was not immediately clear where he was Monday.

District Attorney Lee Darragh did not return calls seeking comment. A spokeswoman for Georgia's Division of Family and Children Services said the agency was not currently involved in the case. Clark and the boy she is accused of molesting married in November. Georgia law allows children regardless of age to wed if there is a pregnancy. Clark had been free on bond, but was arrested again last week after authorities said she had been communicating with her husband in violation of a condition of her release. Arraignment was set for Feb. 24.

World

Saddam back in courtroom, lashes out at Bush, judge
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Prosecutors tried to link Saddam Hussein directly to torture and executions, producing documents with his orders and handwriting and putting one of his closest confidants on the stand Monday.

The former Iraqi leader and his co-defendants were forced to attend the session. Saddam appeared in a traditional Arab robe and bedroom slippers instead of his usual crisp suit, arguing vehemently with the judge and shouting "Down with Bush!" as he waved his finger. His top co-defendant and half brother, Barzan Ibrahim dressed only in long underwear struggled with guards as he was pulled into the courtroom. Ibrahim, the former chief of intelligence, then sat on the floor with his back to the judge in protest for much of the session. The defendants have rejected court-appointed attorneys named to replace their own lawyers who walked out of the trial last month, and are demanding the removal of chief judge Rofiq Abdel-Rahman. In Jordan, Saddam's chief defense lawyer said there were no plans to

end the boycott and denounced the court for forcing the former leader to attend.

"This is a cheap attitude," Khaled al-Dulairi told The Associated Press. After the raucous start, prosecutors made their strongest attempt yet to prove Saddam's role in a wave of arrests and executions that followed a 1982 attempt on his life in the Shiite village of DuJail. Twenty-six prosecution witnesses have testified since the Saddam trial began Oct. 19, many providing accounts of torture and imprisonment in the crackdown, but they could not directly pin them on Saddam.

Pro-Preval protests erupt in Haitian capital; at least one dead

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - Supporters of Haitian presidential candidate Rene Preval erected smoldering roadblocks across the capital and occupied a luxury hotel Monday. At least one protester was killed, but U.N. peacekeepers denied witness accounts that they had shot him.

As Port-au-Prince descended into chaos, Preval returned to the capital for the first time since Tuesday's election. He was the clear winner with about 90 percent of the votes counted, but supporters claimed electoral officials were tampering with results to prevent him from getting the majority he needs to avoid a runoff. Barricades made of old tires were abiaze across the capital, sending plumes of acrid black smoke into the sky. Protesters let out journalists and Red Cross vehicles pass.

"If they don't give us the final results, we're going to burn this country down!" a protester screamed. The election will replace an interim government installed after President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted in a bloody rebellion two years ago. A popularly elected government with a clear mandate from the voters is seen as crucial to avoiding a political and economic meltdown in the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation. Gangs have gone on kidnapping sprees, and factories have closed for lack of security.

Five must-haves for new grads

Helpful tips for making a good impression

LAURA MORSCH
 CAREERBUILDER.COM WRITER

After four (or more) years of college, that diploma is so close you can taste it. And that means a bitter reality: Ready or not, it's time to find a job.

Fortunately for this year's seniors, 62 percent of hiring managers plan to recruit recent college graduates in 2005, and 28 percent say they will be increasing starting salaries over those offered last year, according to a recent survey by online job board CareerBuilder.com.

Still, competition will be tight for jobs in many industries, and to get an edge on their classmates, candidates should leverage every advantage they have. CareerBuilder asked hiring managers for the top five things they look for when hiring new graduates. Here are their answers, and some ways college seniors can use them to maximize their job search.

1. Relevant Experience
 Twenty-eight percent of hiring managers cited relevant experience as their most important factor in the hiring decision. "Unfortunately, college graduates often underestimate the experience they have through internships, part-time jobs and extracurricular activities," said Matt Ferguson, CareerBuilder's CEO.

According to the CareerBuilder survey, 63 percent of hiring managers say they consider volunteer work to be relevant experience. For students without much direct experience, a functional résumé, which highlights a student's abilities rather than work history, is a good choice.

2. Professionalism During the Interview
 If new graduates want to be treated as professionals, they need to dress and act the part. A first impression can make or break a candidate, so col-

see **JOBS** page A3

Got something to say?
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Finally, TV is in living color in US households

Jobs from page A2

(KRT) — When "My Name Is Earl" star Jaime Pressly traveled to her native Kinston, N.C., for the holidays last December, she didn't know exactly what kind of reaction she'd elicit among the red-state citizenry. After all, her sitcom character Joy, a brassy blonde bombshell, is married to Darnell (aka Crab Man), a laid-back black guy and, well, she was braced for at least a little flak.

Instead, she was smothered with enthusiastic inquiries about her onscreen mate, played by Eddie Steeples.

"Everywhere I went it was, 'Hey, where's Crab Man? Is he coming to visit?' 'Oh, he's cool.' 'That's a good 'fro he's got going,'" she recalls. "Yeah, they just love Crab Man."

Similarly, Steeples says he doesn't hear much feedback about the interracial pairing from the public. "To be honest," he says, "I usually get 'Man, she's hot, huh?'"

This matter-of-fact acceptance comes as good news to television writers and producers who are shrugging off hoary concerns about alienating viewers and advertisers as they allow love to bloom between characters of all races and cultures. Of course, anyone who has seen "I Love Lucy" or "The Jeffersons" knows this isn't exactly groundbreaking stuff, but with Valentine's Day upon us, it's worth noting that TV's portrait of romance is, more than ever, one of blended colors.

A highly compelling coupling on the hit medical drama "Grey's Anatomy" involves a black man and an Asian woman. The critically acclaimed sitcom "Scrubs" features a marriage between a Latina and a black man. On "ER," which has long been a monument to diversity, a woman of Indian descent is married to a black man.

And those are just a few examples involving key characters. Toss in all the various and far-flung tangential depictions and the interracial canvas becomes even broader. One of the most touching scenes on "Lost" this season featured the surprise reunion of Rose, a black woman, and Bernard, her white husband. On "Gilmore Girls," the Korean teen, Lane Kim, just went through a messy breakup with her white boyfriend. Meanwhile, there's "Will & Grace," which recently had Will planting a big smooch on a black man played by Taye Diggs.

Several industry observers are applauding the trend. Lillian Jackson, who writes a "Diversity

Detail" column for the publication Television Week, spotlighted it as one of TV's major "breakthroughs or advances" of the 2005-06 season. And Dr. Todd Boyd, a professor of critical studies at the University of Southern California's School of Cinema-Television, said recently in an interview with National Public Radio that he thinks Hollywood is being "more open-minded and perhaps more progressive and willing to represent things" differently than they have in the past.

Of course, in the not-so-distant past, such onscreen couplings occasionally stirred up markedly different reactions. In 1999, for example, Eriq La Salle, then one of the main stars of "ER," made headlines when he prodded producers to end his character's interracial romance with a white woman, played by Alex Kingston, because he was "not comfortable" with the message sent to black people. And Aaron Sorkin, creator of "The West Wing," has spoken of the hate mail he received when he introduced a story line that had the president's young white daughter kissing a black presidential aide.

But 38 years after Captain Kirk raised eyebrows by kissing the sexy — and black — Lieutenant Uhura on "Star Trek," people generally are making less of a fuss about interracial relationships on television and in real life. In the past 20 years, the number of interracial marriages has climbed from fewer than 700,000 couples to 1.7 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That number is likely to rise because, as sociologists point out, the world is becoming more of a melting pot, and young people tend to be more blind to race when it comes to relationships.

Wanting to be in tune with what's going on in the real world, television writers — along with their feature-film counterparts — not only have become less hesitant to cross the color line, but they're mostly handling interracial relationships in an offhanded manner, refusing to make race much of an issue.

On "Grey's Anatomy," for example, other differences between live-in mates Cristina Yang (Sandra Oh) and Preston Burke (Isiah Washington) have been emphasized: He's neat; she's messy; he's quietly arrogant; she's openly abrasive; he has a sense of spirituality; she doesn't.

"It's incredibly encouraging that our viewers haven't gotten hung up on the race thing," says "Grey's Anatomy" creator Shonda Rhimes, the only black woman

currently running a major network drama. "It's not about the fact that she's Asian and he's black. It's about the fact that she's a slob, and he's a neat freak. That's what the whole relationship is all about."

Washington, who plays opposite the Golden Globe-winning Oh, echoes that sentiment. "That's beautiful, right? The fact that we've got (fans) hooked on the humanity of these characters — I dig that. Interracial relationships have been happening since the beginning of mankind, and it's great to see television becoming less conservative when it comes to the subject."

The "Grey's Anatomy" approach is prevalent throughout prime time. A recent episode of "Supernatural" featured a sizzling sex scene between one of the show's white male leads and a black guest star. Later, the characters acknowledged that their hot-cold relationship had its pitfalls, but race wasn't mentioned as one of them.

Similarly, Joy and Darnell occasionally lock horns on "Earl," but skin color hasn't been a factor so far. As for "ER," producer David Zabel recently told USA Today that "we don't even talk about (race) or consider that it's an interracial relationship" when they deal with characters played by Parminder Nagra and Sharif Atkins.

While some consider this color-blind treatment to be noble — a way of normalizing such relationships — others consider it to be a cop-out. They insist that the medium is too reluctant to wrestle with the challenges and complexities of such unions.

"Face it, some writers are just afraid of going there," says Eric Deggans, a media critic for the St. Petersburg Times. "Taking on cultural differences isn't easy, so they simply make believe they don't exist."

Deggans, a black man, has been married to a white woman for nearly 15 years. He says that even in the most cosmopolitan of American cities, many citizens remain race-conscious, and that interracial couples continually confront various forms of discrimination when in public and/or when families mingle.

"When I see shows that dwell in a universe that doesn't actually exist, it feels somewhat artificial and it takes me out of the show," he says. "In the future, I'd like to see producers take more chances and take the blinders off. To me, that would make for great drama."

He might get his wish, because TV has more interracial subject

matter on the way. Comedian George Lopez recently struck a deal with ABC to produce a sitcom starring Lisa, Christina and Tanya Vidal about an interracial family of three adult sisters and their spouses. Meanwhile, the forthcoming WB drama "The Bedford Diaries" features scenes of a black college freshman struggling through a relationship with a pregnant white girl still in high school, and an FX drama called "Thief" places Emmy-

winning actor Andre Braugher in a marriage with a white woman.

Norman Morrill, creator and executive producer of "Thief," says he wrote an interracial coupling into the show long before the current wave of diversified unions hit the air. Asked why he felt compelled to cross the color line, Morrill, who is married to a Mexican woman, replied, "Because it feels real to me — because it's part of the American experience."

lege students should invest in a good, conservative business suit and arrive at the interview well-groomed and on time. Before the interview, students should have thoroughly researched the company and prepared answers to common interview questions.

3. Fit Within the Company Culture

Every company has its own style, and hiring managers want to be sure a candidate's personality and work style will blend seamlessly into the organization. Before the interview, job seekers should visit the company's Web site to read up on the organization's culture and mission. New grads should also try to talk to as many people as possible who work for the company to try to get an insider's perspective.

4. Education

Employers do consider where a candidate went to school and his or her degree, major and GPA — so it's important to resist slipping into senioritis. If students have finished courses that directly relate to the position, they can include it on their résumé in a special "related coursework" section.

5. Enthusiasm

New graduates should clearly express their interest in the position and convey the energy they would bring to the job.

When college graduates finally land that coveted first job, it's important to recognize that the first 90 days at work are really an extended interview. During this time, it's crucial to make a positive, professional first impression to management and co-workers.

But because many new graduates aren't accustomed to a corporate environment, they can cost themselves credibility or even their jobs. According to hiring managers, the biggest mistakes new graduates make on their first three months on board are:

- Coming in late for work
 - Presenting negative attitudes to co-workers and customers
 - Spending too much time on personal business at the office
 - Not asking questions
- Laura Morsch is a writer for CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

A rundown of a few inter-ethnic moments on television:

- 1951
- In mulling whether to produce "I Love Lucy," CBS honchos worry that viewers will never believe Cuban-born Desi Arnaz as Lucille Ball's husband — even though they're married in real life. "I Love Lucy" becomes an instant hit.
- 1957
- Alan Freed begins hosting a weekly rock 'n' roll show on ABC, but the program is abruptly canceled shortly after black singer Frankie Lymon is seen dancing with a white teenage girl.
- 1968
- Captain Kirk (William Shatner) of "Star Trek" makes history when he plants a smooch on Lieutenant Uhura (Nichelle Nichols). It's heralded as network television's first black-white kiss.
- 1968
- While taping a duet with Harry Belafonte for an NBC special, Petula Clark smiles and briefly touches his arm. Nervous sponsors, fearing the segment would rile Southern viewers, request that it be cut. Clark stands her ground and the special airs intact to big ratings.
- 1975
- "The Jeffersons" introduces America to George's married neighbors — an African-American woman and white man (Roxie Roker and Franklin Cover).
- 1998
- "Aly McBear" dishes out a double-dose of interracial romance as the show's heroine (Cristina Flockhart) falls for Greg (Jesse L. Martin), an African-American doctor. Meanwhile, Richard Fish (Greg Germann) cozies up to Ling Woo (Lucy Liu).
- 1999
- "ER" actor Eriq La Salle, whose character on the show is dating a white woman (Alex Kingston), pushes producers to halt the story line because he's uncomfortable with the message it sends to African-Americans.
- 2000
- On "Will & Grace," Debra Messing's Grace dates guest-star Gregory Hines in an ongoing story line.
- 2001
- "Six Feet Under" brings a twist to TV's portrayal of interracial romance with a gay couple consisting of a white (Michael C. Hall) and a black (Matthew St. Patrick) man.
- 2003
- "Friends" often criticized for its lack of diversity, introduces Charile (Aisha Tyler), a black woman who catches the eye of Ross (David Schwimmer).

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NATIONAL GUARD

Enron from page A1

stock market reform following the Great Depression.

Four years after these allegations were made public, the beginnings of the trial of these officers begins. There is a plethora of criminal charges leveled against Lay, his wife and former CEO Jeffrey Skilling. In addition to the criminal charges, the SEC seeks to collect compensatory damages as well as punitive damages against the accused. Both officers could receive decades in jail if convicted while paying millions of dollars in fines.

Several former officers have already confessed and been sentenced such as former Chief Accounting Officer Richard Causey, who received 10 years in jail and forfeited \$23.8 million. He received a reduced sentence in exchange for testifying against Lay and Skilling. Lay continues to perpetuate his innocence saying "I think the primary reason for Enron's collapse was Andy Fastow and his little group of people and what they did."

Skilling has a similar mindset saying "Quite frankly, there is nothing I can come up with that I would think I would do different given the facts I had at the time."

While who is to blame in the management of the business Enron is also used as an example of stock trading gone awry. During the late 1990s during the "Tech Bubble" many small internet companies were trading for incredibly high prices when in fact that had no earnings to speak of.

"How can Amazon.com trade for more than Ford and GM combined? Amazon has never made a dime. This does not even make sense," said Warren Buffett, the second richest man in the world.

Buffett was criticized at length for his refusal to enter the tech bubble, as he is notorious for selecting low-tech companies, but it seems that Buffett was right about the tech bubble as he emerged unscathed when many Enron's stock price was grossly inflated on false news but the hype was promulgated by overeager and greedy investors who wanted to make a quick buck. It is unfortunate that stock prices are decided more so on news and demand than on actual performance such as earnings growth, asset management and efficiency. Too many times are a stock's fundamentals overlooked in favor of the sexy stock pick which may not have substance or value.

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

Dance from page A1

heavy person-to-person involvement reflects the basic function of the dance, which is to promote a communal atmosphere that is friendly and welcoming.

Roger Rulifson, ECU biology professor, described contra dancing as a means of gathering and, especially years ago, a way for young people to court each other and participate in a fun activity that provided an atmosphere for being intimate in a legitimate manner.

The dance movements involved in contra dancing include dos-a-dos and swing, hence the square dance comparison.

The dance is accompanied by live music, which can vary between events, but usually consists of some form of old-time, Celtic or blue grass according to ECU Folk and Country Dancers president, Leanne Smith. Smith confessed that she has even contra danced to jazz music and that as long as the music has a beat, it can be applied to contra dancing.

What is known as a caller is also customary at contra dances and is similar to a guide by whom he/she teaches the dance movements to participants before the music begins? The caller continues to guide participants throughout the dance and may or may not cease teaching if the participants seem to have learned the movements.

Individuals of all different ages and from all different backgrounds are drawn to the dance, and newcomers and experts alike take part. Actually, those who are unfamiliar with the dance are welcomed and expected as there are introductory sessions almost always held before a contra dance.

Contra dancing is especially popular in New England, where it was initially brought to the country, but has gained a significant following throughout the U.S. Rulifson let on that the Triangle area of N.C. is host to many contra dancing activities and that contra cruises have just recently been created in which the theme of the cruise would be everything contra.

According to Smith, contra dancing has been an activity at ECU since the 1970s and while it is somewhat underground, the events have grown in popularity over the years. Different callers and musicians are featured at the bi-monthly events, and the organizations are able to work with regional bands in addition to the local musicians.

Smith encourages students to participate in the events and welcomes all regardless of their familiarity with the dances. The next contra dance will take place Friday, Feb. 24 at the Willis Building.

To access more information on contra dancing or any of the other dances that the organizations host, visit geocities.com/ecufolkandcountrydancers.

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

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Attention ECU Sophomores

If you have earned 45-60 hours and at least 30 of them were completed at ECU (not counting Math 0001 or 0045), you are required to respond to the

Sophomore Survey

before you can pre-register for either Summer or Fall 2006 courses.

If you earned credit hours fall within these limits you will receive a message at your ECU Exchange email address asking you to participate in the survey, and your record will be "tagged" so that you cannot register until you have responded to it. If you do not receive the email notice, it means that the survey and registration restriction does not apply to you.

When you are taking the survey, as soon as you submit your responses the "tag" will be removed from your record so that you can pre-register. Registration staff can verify that your responses were received and that the tag was removed.

Note: Although we really want your feedback to the survey questions, you may choose to opt out by submitting a blank form. Opting out will also remove the sophomore survey tag that would prevent you from pre-registering.

The survey period is March 2 – April 24. During that period you can complete the survey by going to the ECU "One-Stop" web site, entering your ECU Exchange email userid and password to sign on, and clicking on "Sophomore Survey" in the box labeled "Surveys." You can also access the "One-Stop" from:

Mendenhall Computer Lab, Wright Place Cafeteria, the Austin Building, and Joyner Library East.

For this survey you are emailed an announcement on March 2. Later you are sent an email reminder, and then a postcard, if you have not responded to the survey.

Please respond to the survey as soon as possible after the survey opens on March 2 and certainly before sophomore pre-registration begins on March 23. This will also help you avoid delays during pre-registration when the workload on ECU computers is at a peak. All remaining tags for this survey will be removed from student records on April 25, the day after the survey closes.

Guys from page A5

It seems that many people share the sentiment of a commercialized holiday created by the Hallmark Card people working together with the Easter Bunny.

Then I asked John Keefe, a guy in a serious relationship, what his thoughts were about the special day. "It is about celebrating the relationship and trying to expand into new areas all the time," said Keefe.

That is one great way to look at the day, as an event to get one another closer in the effort to grow together or at least trying something new.

Now, why don't we hear what the married guy has to say about the day? I asked my father about what Valentine's Day meant to him. He stated, "Over the years it has meant to me how much love I have for your mother and also how much love she has for me."

This profound statement is no more evident in the recent celebration of my parents' silver anniversary—something I will hope to strive toward and be a part of one day. One day ladies, one day.

For now, I will take the lesson of their enduring love and selfless sacrifices for each other as a big lesson on what growing up and finding someone special to share time with is all about. In my case, it might be finding someone who is great enough of a person to put up with my shenanigans. I bid everyone a sincere Happy Valentine's Day and hope it all works out for you and your endeavors. Guys, try doing something unique.

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

Gals from page A5

mine and orchids, it automatically means you had a bad Valentine's Day and a night full of nothing but ice cream and re-runs.

Of course, if you are in a committed, loving relationship, even if you know Valentine's is a franchise holiday, you are still accustomed to receiving and giving a gift. Let's not kid ourselves, we all love gifts, but we shouldn't base whether we had a good day or not on the fact that we got a gift. We should be happy to have at least one person who loves us ... not just on Valentine's Day but every day—whether it's a parent, boyfriend, girlfriend or friend.

Being single on Valentine's Day can be extremely depressing if you choose to sit and wallow in the fact that no one has realized your wonderful personality and attributes yet. I've spent a Valentine's Day or two wondering what it was that I was missing or lacking, then I got over it. Valentine's Day isn't just for lovers ... it's for friends and family too. I had to figure that out for myself.

My mom and dad each send me a bouquet of flowers. Dad sends roses and mom sends wildflowers. My friends, who are also single, call me and we talk for hours or have some kind of girl's night in. So even though Valentine's Day is about making money, it's a gentle reminder that no one is promised tomorrow and rather than just showing our love one day a year, we should show it every day.

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

Gifts from page A5

ates, jewelry, iPod accessories, video games, bath stuff, magazine subscriptions and DVDs. While it's great that many can afford these gifts, remember it's not the price that counts. What does a gift like this say? Will your boyfriend/girlfriend love you more if you buy them pricey things? Does the gift truly represent how you feel? Store-bought gifts are nice, but keep in mind that you don't have to spend tons of money to let someone know how you feel. Around days like this, stores raise prices and customers become greedy when they are shopping; they want the last box of chocolates or the only pink teddy bear left in town. If you don't want to be caught in that crowd, hopefully you've finished your shopping and already have plans.

"I like things that come from the heart. You can't buy true love, so thoughtful gifts mean the most to me. Homemade cards are the best and the gifts that have been thought out and are personalized really make me feel like someone cares," said LaLille Jones, sophomore art major.

Roses and chocolates are favorites, but nothing can replace a sweet card. Bring out the markers, scissors and glue and express your feelings through art or simply print a cute card from the Internet, both are free and easy ways to begin the gift. There are tons of ideas online and in magazines that can help create that perfect gift. Valentine's Day seems to be keeping up with the pace of technology, so creating CDs has been extremely popular over the past few years. If he/she likes poetry, gathering some love poems and creating a small book would be ideal. Valentine's Day has a long history, but seems to have evolved over time and has become a day that makes people stress and not really focus on the main idea. Express your true feelings this year the right way.



It's not the gift's cost, but the thought that matters.

One of the most popular gifts on Valentine's Day is a dozen roses. Their beauty and fragrance make them a traditional gift, and the red ones are a symbol of love. Whether you get a dozen or a single rose, they convey the depth of your feelings.

Nothing melts one's heart like chocolate. Truffles, milk, dark or nutty, none of them last long, but the memory will last a lifetime. Valentine's Day gifts reflect your thoughtfulness and express your feelings, so be sure to demonstrate them in the right way on this very special day.

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

Wherever You Go, Go With All Your Heart. ~Confucius

Pre-Med Week February 13-17, 2006

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5:00-6:00 pm
Great Room 1
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

Preparing for the MCAT and Future Test Changes

Anna Vaillancourt, Kaplan, Inc.

Tuesday, February 14

4:00-4:45 pm
Great Room 1
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

Writing a Personal Statement

Karen Floyd, Assistant Director
Academic Enrichment Center

4:45-5:30 pm

Great Room 1
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

The Medical School Application Process

Shelly Myers, Director
Academic Enrichment Center

Wednesday, February 15

4:00-4:50 pm
Room 244
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

Brody School of Medicine Information Session

Dr. Angela Kidd, BSOM Academic Support &
Enrichment Center

5:00-6:00 pm

Room 244
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

Medical Student Panel

Medical Students from the Brody School of Medicine

Thursday, February 16

4:00-5:00 pm
Room 244
Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)

Doctors Panel

Doctors from the Brody School of Medicine
(Doctors include: Dr. Janice Daughtery, Family
Medicine, Dr. Sangnya Patel, Internal Medicine and
Dr. Joseph Zanga, Pediatrics)

Friday, February 17

8:00-10:00 am
Brewster B-104

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ECU's staff, under year coach what they by capturing division title World Pow at the Bey weekend T under the Factory" a number of individual the compete basis lifts and dead competing age divisi the highes of the thr was allowe event with counting to Golden W Factory fr Danny Wh (Sports), Na condition Jason Spi (intern) at (equipment circle. In volunteer, Simmons finishes. G coach Mic is current in the O for her c ECU Pirat and devel percent Ra is drug-fre supportiv wraps in it

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For the to a perfe and the FA senior Ash Harrell w USA Hittel Week, res her honor Angel Sha Oregon in Quick, wh winning hi 3-0 in the were insti Pirates to batted 45 helping lea Worth Inva senior deli hits during season. Qu 0 victory o a two-run, 3-1 victory 3-0 with o over Beth and South on route to the FAU W fanned 21 pitched, su strikeout m player in C that feat. H of the Wel who limite one hit as with a cor the Wilson, sophomor her seven i a perfect q before allo

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Sports Briefs

Strength and Conditioning take championship

ECU's Strength and Conditioning staff, under the direction of second-year coach Mike Golden, practiced what they preach on a daily basis by capturing the mixed men's team division title at the 100 percent Raw World Powerlifting Championships at the Beyond Fitness Gym over the weekend. The squad, which competes under the team name "ECU Pirate Factory," accumulated the highest number of total points based on individual performances throughout the competition, which included three basis lifts - the squat, bench press and dead lift. Individual champions, competing in different weight and age divisions, were determined by the highest combined sum of each of the three lifts. Each competitor was allowed three attempts at each event with the heaviest successful lift counting toward each athlete's total. Golden was one of six ECU Pirate Factory first-place winners, joining Danny Wheel (Director of Olympic Sports), Nate Barnes (strength and conditioning graduate assistant), Jason Spruiell (intern), Mike Yartin (intern) and Kevin "Twitch" Ferrelli (equipment room) in the champion's circle. In addition, weight room volunteers John Fisher and Bill Simmons earned second-place finishes. Golden also cited assistant coach Michelle Clayton-Boswell, who is currently ranked third nationally in the Olympic Lifting category, for her contributions assisting ECU Pirate Factory's preparation and development efforts. The 100 percent Raw Powerlifting Federation is drug-free and prohibits the use of supportive lifting suits, knee or wrist wraps in its competitions.

Harrell And Quick earn Weekly C-USA accolades

For their efforts in leading ECU to a perfect 5-0 weekend record and the FAU Worth Invitational title, senior Ashley Quick and junior Keli Harrell were named Conference USA Hitter and Co-Pitcher of the Week, respectively. Harrell shares her honor with Houston sophomore Angel Shamblin, who one-hit No. 22 Oregon in her first start of the season. Quick, who delivered two game-winning hits, and Harrell, who was 3-0 in the circle with 21 strikeouts, were instrumental in leading the Pirates to the championship. Quick batted .455 (5-for-11) with five RBIs helping lead the Pirates to the FAU Worth Invitational championship. The senior delivered two game-winning hits during the Pirates' 5-0 start to the season. Quick had the lone RBI in a 1-0 victory over FAU and also delivered a two-run, seventh-inning double in a 3-1 victory over Purdue. Harrell went 3-0 with complete game victories over Bethune-Cookman, Purdue and South Carolina on the weekend en route to earning MVP honors at the FAU Worth Invitational. The junior fanned 21 batters in 21 innings pitched, surpassing the 500 career strikeout mark. She is only the ninth player in C-USA history to achieve that feat. Harrell shares the Pitcher of the Week honor with Shamblin, who limited No. 22 Oregon to just one hit as she opened her season with a complete-game shutout at the Wilson/DeMarini Invitational. The sophomore fanned eight Ducks in her seven innings of work and carried a perfect game into the fifth inning before allowing a walk.

Shortt agrees to plead guilty in steroids case

A doctor accused of writing illegal steroid prescriptions to football players has agreed to plead guilty to one federal conspiracy charge as part of a plea agreement, according to court documents. Alternative medicine physician James Shortt, 59, will plead guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute anabolic steroids and human growth hormone. In exchange, prosecutors will drop 42 similar counts against the West Columbia doctor, according to papers filed Monday in U.S. District Court in South Carolina. Shortt faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. A spokeswoman for U.S. Attorney Johnny Gasser said in these types of cases, sentencing usually occurs two or three months after the plea agreement has been reached. Shortt has been free on bond since he was indicted last September. The indictment didn't specify who received the drugs Shortt prescribed but a person familiar with the indictment said they were current and former members of the Carolina Panthers, bodybuilders and at least one police officer. The source spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing and did not name players. Last week, U.S. District Court Chief Judge Joe Anderson said he would allow some parts of Shortt's interview on HBO's "CostasNow" program to be shown to jurors. In the interview, Shortt said he treated about 18 NFL players with anabolic steroids or human growth hormones.

Pirates squeeze series from Terrapins

Billy Godwin starts ECU career with two wins

BRENT WYNNE
SENIOR WRITER

It all happened so fast. After Adam Hodges hit a sacrifice fly to knot the rubber match between Maryland and ECU at four in the bottom of the ninth, ECU Head Coach Billy Godwin proved he belonged at the Division One level.

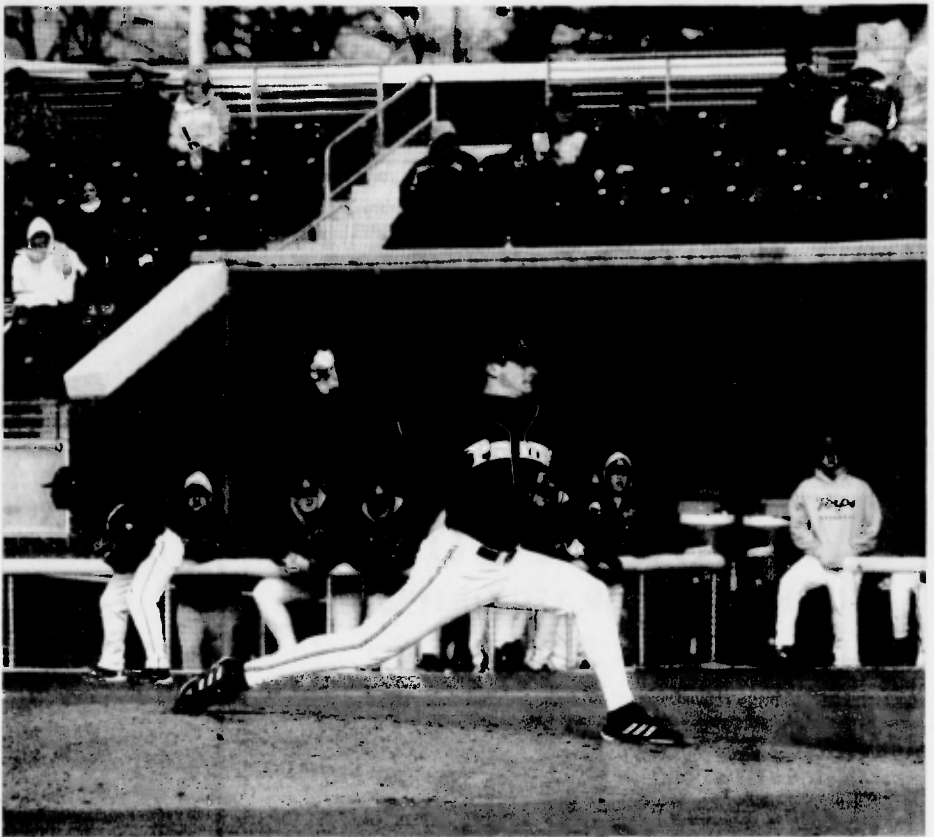
On the very next pitch, he gave sophomore shortstop Dale Mollenhauer the sign for the squeeze play and it was executed to perfection, as the lefty laid down a perfect bunt to bring home Stephen Batts for the game and series winner Sunday afternoon at Clark-LeClair stadium.

"I just thought the momentum right there was on our side," said Godwin.

"To react quickly on the first pitch is a thing I've done in the past. I just thought it was the right call."

Maryland Head Coach Terry Rupp sure didn't think it was the right call. However, the call he disagreed with was the one made by home plate umpire Larry Howard. It looked as if Terrapin catcher Chad Durakis had the plate fully blocked, but Batts apparently found an open spot and slid in safe.

The Diamond Bucs opened the series with a 6-1 win and it looked as if they would cakewalk through their opening series, but Maryland responded strongly, beginning Sunday's double-



The Diamond Bucs took two of three from ACC foe Maryland and will play next against the always-tough College of Charleston.

ECU hangs tough, eventually falls, 72-64

Pirates off to worst-ever start in Conference USA

ERIC GILMORE
SENIOR WRITER

The Pirates are still trying to find the right pieces to be consistent in Conference USA. The puzzle wasn't solved, as evidenced by ECU's 72-64 bow to a talented UAB team in front of 6,365 fans at Bartow Arena. UAB guard Marvett McDonald scored 15 of his 18 points in the second half to notch the Blazers' 13th win in 15 games. Starting small forward Wen Mukubu and sophomore guard Paul Delaney scored 12 points apiece for UAB (17-5, 7-2 C-USA). Freshman forward Lawrence Kinnard added

10 points.

Cory Rouse dominated the interior by notching 18 points and adding 13 rebounds. The senior tallied his 13th double-double of the season on 8-for-11 shooting. Freshman guard Sam Hinnant connected on four treys and a field goal for 14 points, while Jeremy Ingram totaled 13.

ECU (7-15, 1-8 C-USA) led by as many as six in the early going as both teams struggled to find the basket. However, UAB clawed to a 28-25 halftime lead despite a dismal 29.6 percent shooting.

"We didn't make any shots," said UAB Head Coach Mike Anderson in a press release according to UAB's Web site.

"I didn't think we were attacking. We were tentative. We had

some guys come off the bench and do some good things for us. We had a lot of guys doing a lot of things, and they gave us some quality minutes and allowed us to get the lead before halftime."

UAB built a 10-point lead due to seven consecutive points out of the gates in the second frame. The Blazers built up a 14-point margin with 13:58 remaining, but ECU, losers of eight of their last nine games, showed flashes of resiliency.

The Pirates pulled within four points on four different occasions, but couldn't manage to inch closer. A Rouse dunk brought ECU to within 52-48, but McDonald's jumper and free throws from UAB senior forward Brandon Tobias sealed the Pirates' fate.

ECU's turnover bug-a-boo continued as the Pirates committed 26 unforced errors leading directly to 32 Blazer points. Point guard Courtney Captain and sophomore Tom Hammonds were guilty of five apiece, while two others committed four each.

Rouse and the Pirates dominated the glass, out-rebounding the guard-oriented Blazers by a 41-28 margin. However, the Pirates early shooting woes and UAB connecting on 53.8 percent (14-for-26) in the second half spelled doom.

ECU played without Japhet McNeil and Jonathan Hart, who remain suspended due to a violation of team policy. The suspended players combined for 20 starts and deprived Pirate Head

Coach Ricky Stokes of 27.4 and 16.7 minutes per game respectively. Eight players combined for double-digit minutes while all eligible players entered the game.

The Pirate loss continued ECU's sole possession of last place in C-USA, while UAB remained in third. The Pirates are one game behind both Marshall and Southern Mississippi.

ECU, which is off to its worst start ever in five years of C-USA play, will travel to Houston to take on Rice. The midweek game will be nationally televised on CSTV Wednesday. Tip-off is scheduled for 8:05 p.m.

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



The Lady Pirates lost a heartbreaker to UAB in triple-overtime.

Lady Pirates end week in dramatic fashion

ECU falls to UAB in triple-OT thriller

JOSH FERNANDEZ
STAFF WRITER

The past week was just one of several bumps in the road that is the 2005-06 season for the Lady Pirates basketball team. Now sitting at middle ground in the Conference USA standings with only a handful of games left in the season and the C-USA tournament fast approaching, it's in the hands of the Lady Pirate players to shape how this season ends.

In the three games played during the week of Feb. 6-12, ECU (14-9, 6-6) picked up one substantial 20-point victory over Memphis, but dropped a couple later in the week.

ECU began the week with a trip to Houston to take on Rice (11-12, 7-5). From the start, Rice out-paced the Pirates and got out to an early 17-point lead, 25-8.

After shooting 45 percent (13-of-29) during the half to ECU's 17 percent (6-of-36), the Owls entered halftime leading comfortably, 48-23. They would hold at least a 20-point lead until the final nine

minutes when Jessica Slack hit a three to put the Pirates behind by 19.

The play jump-started a 14-2 Pirate-run, which cut Rice's lead to seven. However, with only a minute left on the game-clock, the only thing ECU could do was foul and hope for missed attempts on the part of Owl shooters.

Rice guard Latrice Elder, the primary target of the late game fouls, came up big for the Owls by connecting on 9-of-10 tries from the line, sealing the 73-65 win for the home team. Rice's win can largely be attributed to their bold performance at the free-throw line, hitting 36-of-41 attempts, a school record.

ECU's potent force of freshmen guards Jasmine Young and LaCoya Terry each recorded a team-best 15 points with Slack adding 10. Terry also grabbed a career-high seven boards.

Friday night, the Lady Pirates looked for redemption at Williams Arena in Minges Coliseum as they took on bottom-of-the-barrel Memphis (3-19, 1-10).

Less than four minutes into the game, ECU had

see WOMEN page A12

America's gold standard: no price too high

(AP) — Americans are great at sports the rest of the world can barely afford.

Sure, it's not the most honorable, most satisfying or even the most cost-effective way to become a Winter Olympics superpower, but guess what?

It works. And with an American TV network still picking up the lion's share of the Olympic tab and exerting just as much influence on the roster of sports included

in the games, that isn't going to change anytime soon.

Through the close of play Monday, two of the four golds and four of the six medals claimed by Americans at these Olympics have been won by snowboarders.

"This," Gretchen Bleiler said moments after nailing down the silver half of another 1-2 U.S. medals punch in the halftip, "is absolutely unbelievable."

That just might hold up over

the next two weeks as the overstatement of these Olympics. The only thing unbelievable about what happened in halftip Monday is that Norwegian Kjersti Buass managed to wedge herself between all the other Americans - Hannah Teter (gold), Kelly Clark (fourth) and Elena Hight (sixth) - to steal the bronze.

Honestly now, who else did Bleiler think was going to win? Paulina Ligocka of Poland, a country with one halftip venue,

and a square one at that?

Svetlana Vinogradova of Russia, a country with two more halftips than Lenin's Tomb? Please.

"Medaling at the Olympics," Bleiler added, "has been a dream of mine since I was a little girl." Good thing that Bleiler wasn't born until 1981, since snowboarding didn't become part of the Winter Olympics until eight years ago at Nagano. Before becoming a shredder, Bleiler tried

swimming, diving, soccer and then women's hockey, another one of those sports that has been the equivalent of an ATM machine for a U.S. team looking to cash in medals.

For all the fuss made over the best-ever U.S. effort at Salt Lake City four years ago, it's worth noting that nearly half of the haul - 16 of 34 medals - was in sports that cost a lot to play

see PRICE page A9

U.S. women go 1-2 in halfpipe

(KRT) — Hannah Teter has spent her life trying to keep up with her three snowboarding brothers. On Monday, she quit following.

Teter, 19, won the gold medal in the halfpipe, while her U.S. teammate, Gretchen Bleiler took the silver. Only Norway's Kjersti Buaas prevented an American sweep, stealing the bronze from defending Olympic champion Kelly Clark.

"(Hannah) was always the rag-tag little tom girl, kind of following around and trying to keep up with her older brothers and do her thing," said Amen Teter, who manages the professional snowboarding careers of Hannah and brothers Elijah and Abe.

"Hannah's always been about keeping up with the boys. It shows. She's always like, 'I can do that.'"

Snowboarding has been the best news for the U.S. Olympic team thus far. The U.S. won four of the six medals awarded in the all-American sport. Shaun White and Danny Kass won the gold and the silver respectively Sunday, with Mason Aguirre finishing fourth.

"We set some high goals," U.S. coach Bud Keene said.

"We wanted to sweep everything. Our actual stated goals were two medals for men and two medals for women, which is exactly what we got. We're stoked about that."

Riders get two trips down the chute in the halfpipe final, with only their best score counting. On Clark's final run, knowing she was in fourth place, she went for broke with a go-big run. Clark had the gold medal until losing her balance on the

landing of a 2 1/2-spin jump at the end. "She would have won with that run," Keene said.

Clark, who scored a 47.9 out of 50 to win the gold in Salt Lake City in 2002, had a 41.1 on her first run Monday. Buaas scored a 42 on her second attempt for the bronze.

But Clark was the first to congratulate Teter and Bleiler and stayed around to watch the flower ceremony afterward.

"I really went for it," said Clark, who was born in Newport, R.I., and now resides in Mammoth Lakes, Calif. "I figured I might as well leave here not regretting anything, and that's how I'm leaving today. There was amazing riding thrown down today. The people who are on the podium are the people who should be on the podium ... I'm so happy for my friends."

It was Teter's day from the start.

The Belmont, Vt., native had the gold medal won on her first run in the finals, with a frontside 900 scoring her a 44.6. But her victory lap was even better.

Teter turned "Strive Roots" on her iPod and put on a show.

Jumping into a crystal-clear blue sky, Teter hit a frontside 540 followed by a frontside 900 to wow an estimated crowd of 7,000 and the judges. She scored a 46.4.

"I was standing up there, and Gretchen went and just threw down so hard, and I thought she had me," Teter said of Bleiler, who had her final

see SNOWBOARDING page A12



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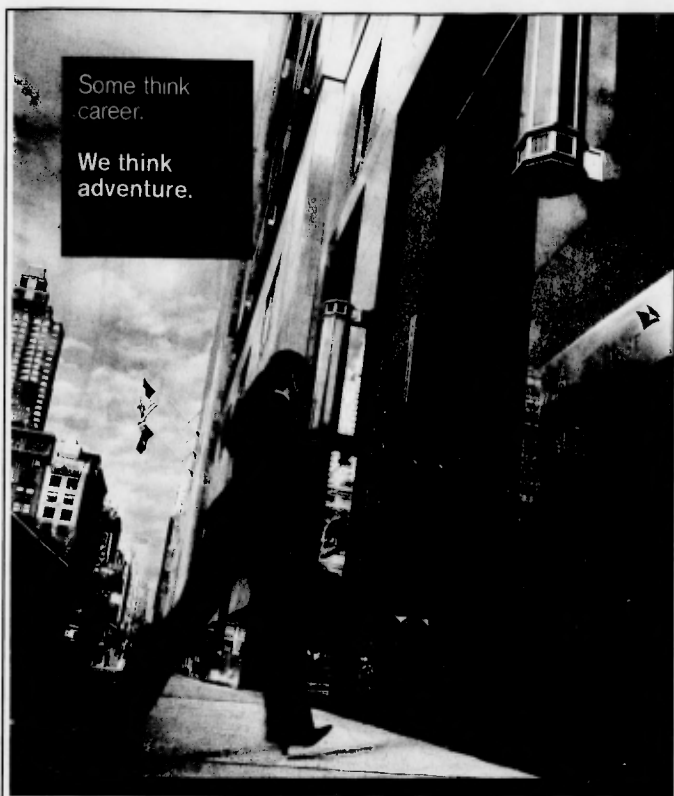
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Baseball from page A7

header with a 1-0 shutout, and after running out to a 4-0 lead in game three, things were not looking good for Purple Nation.

"We lost that first game 1-0 and won the second game after being down 4-0," Godwin said.

"We could have packed it in and folded up at that point, but they didn't. I was real proud of the club from the standpoint of the character of our players."

Maryland pitchers held the Pirates scoreless for 15 innings straight dating back to game one, but finally in the sixth inning of game three down four runs, the bucs found their stride at the plate again.

Freshman Drew Schieber singled to begin the inning. After Mollenhauer struck out, Jay Mattox stepped to the plate and delivered a two-run job, cutting the Terrapin lead down to two. Jake Smith later scored in the inning on a Jake Dean sac fly.

Shane Matthews, in his first start since the first series of 2005, was shaky at times, going 4.2 innings, giving up four runs off of four hits and two walks. Scott Andrews and Kevin Rhodes combined to hold Maryland scoreless for the rest of the game, allowing the Pirates to steal the game in the ninth.

Rhodes was the beneficiary of the ninth inning rally as he picked up his first win of 2006.

In game two, redshirt sophomore Dustin Sasser was the hard luck loser as he dazzled the Terrapins for seven innings only to watch Brett Tidball and Brett Cecil one-up him as the Pirates fell 1-0.

Sasser, making his first start since undergoing Tommy John Surgery at the end of the 2004 season, was very impressive, going 7.0 innings. The southpaw surrendered only five hits while striking

out the same number.

"Dustin was great today," Godwin said. "I was certainly encouraged by that."

The one run Maryland mustered was unearned in the fifth inning, after freshman second baseman Chris Buss committed an error that later led to the only run of the contest.

The story of game one was the pitching performance of sophomore T.J. Hose. Hose struck out eight and walked only one batter, leading the Pirates to a 6-1 win to open the 2006 campaign. The Maryland native had the Terrapins wishing he were wearing red and black, as he pitched six strong innings before giving way to freshman Josh Dowdy.

Maryland looked as if they would get to super sophomore in a big way as they began the fifth with runners on second and third with no one out after a throwing error by catcher Jake Smith.

Hose, however, showed the poise of a major leaguer as he responded by striking out the next three Terp hitters to end the fifth.

Infielder Stephen Batts was converted to outfielder just hours before game one, and he immediately made his presence felt, as he took a homerun away from leadoff batter Steve Braun to open the game. Batts then led the team at the plate on the day, collecting three hits.

Adam Witter and Smith both homered for the Pirates (2-1).

ECU returns to action Friday as they host the College of Charleston at 3 p.m. at Clark-Leclair Stadium.

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

Price from page A7

(think freestyle skiing) and weren't even part of the Olympic program as recently as 1988.

Sixteen nations were represented on the start list for halfpipe, which says more about the tenacity of an American entrepreneur named Jake Burton than it does about the quality of the competition worldwide. As a teenager in Vermont in the late 1960s, he figured there had to be a more entertaining way to get down a mountain than strapping on skis.

Burton didn't invent the snowboard. A rough version, essentially two skis strapped together, was around almost 100 years ago. When Burton started shredding, it was on something called a "Snurfer," a board with a rope attached to the front that surfers adopted to pass the time between days when it was too cold to ride waves.

Convinced he was on the verge of the next big thing, Burton moved into the barn on a farm in Vermont, hired some friends, looked after the livestock to pay the rent and started manufacturing 50 snowboards a day. He sold 300 the first year.

"Some genius I was," Burton laughed Monday, about two hours before the U.S. women and plenty of the other competitors zoomed down the halfpipe on boards with his name writ large on the tips.

Back then, few ski resorts in the U.S. allowed snowboarders on their slopes. First, they raised liability questions and then what Burton called "behavioral issues." Lift operators weren't crazy about long hair and baggy clothes, and they liked the attitude least of all. But grudgingly, once the

people in charge figured out kids who accompanied their parents would spend more money on the slopes than on the video games in the arcade, they started to come around.

Burton's sales more than doubled every year for 15 straight years after that first one. His forays into Europe went nearly as well, and Japan and China are the latest frontier. As the number of skiers continues to drop steadily, the number of snowboarders has zoomed to the point where they make up one-third of all the visitors to a ski resort today. Almost overnight, as Burton likes to say, shredders went from being a threat to the saviors of the industry.

But worldwide popularity isn't the same thing as worldwide competitiveness.

As the gold and silver medalists enlightened and entertained a roomful of reporters with their take on American dominance, "USA! Representing!" Bleiler called out at one point, or their taste in music, "Communicate" was the song Teter played on her iPod while shredding toward gold, "by a band you probably never heard of, called Strive Roots," one of their coaches counted up the number of first-rate halfpipe venues back in America. He stopped at 20.

The only halfpipe back in Poland, on the other hand, was constructed by a former engineer who quit his job to become that nation's coach and build it. His name is Wladyslaw Ligocki, and his

see PRICE page A12

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Craig Marberry



Craig Marberry is author of *Cuttin' Up: Wit and Wisdom from Black Barber Shops*, *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats*, and *Spirit of Harlem: A Portrait of America's Most Exciting Neighborhood*. A former television reporter, Marberry has written for *The Washington Post* and *Essence* magazine. He's a graduate of Morehouse College and earned his Master's from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

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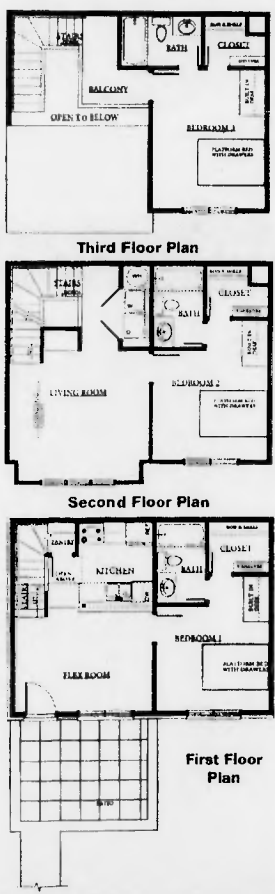
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Women from page A7

already pulled ahead to an 8-0 lead, but within a few more minutes, gained even more ground and sat 16-points ahead, 22-6.

Memphis, however, wasn't going to go home quietly; a formidable 23-15 run closed the gap to eight as the score stood at 37-29 at halftime.

The second half began with momentum still on the side of the Tigers as they cut the lead even thinner, reaching to within five points of the Lady Pirates. However, ECU tore off a 15-4 run lead by freshman forward Jessica Honesty and Cherie Mills, the night's leading scorer with 21 points accompanied by eight boards.

The Lady Pirates were stingy on defense from that point on, holding the Tigers at bay and allowing a mere 12 points in the latter part of the second half. ECU would never look back, winning the game 74-54.

Capping off the week was a seemingly normal game against UAB (13-10, 6-6) that turned in to one that Pirate fans don't see on a regular basis.

Never parting by more than six points but changing leads 17 times, the Pirates and Blazers fought until the final horn - four times.

During regulation, the two teams played on par with each other, entering the half tied-up at 38-38. Both teams scored 35 points in the second half, sending the game to overtime with the score at 73-73.

The first two overtime periods ended with both teams scoring six and nine points in each period respectively. Both teams had a chance at the win in each period; UAB's Crystal McFadden missed a mid-range jumper in the first period, ECU's LaCoya Terry hit the front of the rim on a six-footer in the second.

In the third overtime period, senior guard Ebonee Downey came up big with 24 seconds to go, hitting a three to tie the game at 94-94. On the ensuing possession, UAB's Carmen Guzman drew a foul from Cherie Mills with 0.6 seconds left to send her to the free throw line for two shots. She converted both and sealed the win for the Blazers, 96-94.

Mills captured her 20th double-double of the season in the losing effort and was one of four Pirates to reach double figures. Senior LaToya Horton grabbed a game-high 14 rebounds and Terry reached a career-high in assists with six.

The Lady Pirates are on the road again this week. They travel to El-Paso Friday to take on UTEP (13-11, 5-7) and face Tulane (11-10, 5-7) Sunday in New Orleans. Only two games remain before the C-USA tournament, both of which will take place in Greenville.

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

Snowboarding from page A8

run immediately before Teter. "So I was like, 'Whoa, I'm going to have to step it up.' Then, my coach, Bud, was like, 'OK, victory lap.' I was like, 'No way, a victory lap.' I just wanted to step it up and do my thing and go as big as possible and totally represent. My brother, Abe, has helped me with my style so much throughout my career. Thank you family."

Bleiler's 43.4 on her final run allowed her to leapfrog Buas. The Snowmass Village, Colo., resident, had been in third place after Buas surprised

even herself by knocking Clark off the medal stand with the run of her life.

"All of us were hoping for a (U.S.) sweep," said Bleiler, who was kept out of the 2002 Olympics on a tiebreaker.

"But Kjersti stepped it up. She rode an amazing race. She deserves it. It's disappointing because Kelly and Elena (Hight, who finished sixth) are amazing riders, too... On any given day, any of us could have gotten on the podium."

Buas admitted she "never

thought it was possible" to prevent an American sweep. The U.S. team had the rest of the rider's right where they wanted them.

"We definitely were in the other teams' heads," he said. "When these girls come rolling into a halfpipe competition, we're rolling in like a freight train. It scares the crap out of everybody. You see the way they ride. It's head and shoulders above the rest of the competitors."

It was Teter who led the way Monday.



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daughter and nephews fill out the Polish squad.

Vinogradova, meanwhile, considers herself lucky to have grown up in Novosibirsk, Russia, where there was a halfpipe already built by the time her gymnastics coaches suggested that at age 15 she find another route to the Olympics.

"It is maybe half as long as this one," she said wearily, nodding in the direction of the Bardonecchia venue, "but better than none at all."

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