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Simulation defense training for students, faculty and staff

Photos by Jessi Mock

The self defense class, Rape Aggression Defense Systems held its final session for the semester April 12, but more classes will be held in the future. Students can register online for free, as well as faculty and staff. Classes normally hold no more than 25 participants.

Last R.A.D. class of the four-part series

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
STAFF WRITER

The final session for ECU's self defense class, Rape Aggression Defense Systems, took place Wednesday, April 12 from 7 - 10 p.m. in Mendenhall Great Rooms.

The attending students learned simulation training in which the students practiced defense tactics with their instructors who were dressed in protective suits.

R.A.D. was a four class series that lasted for approximately three hours each meeting time for a total of 12 hours.

Among instructors who participated in teaching R.A.D. students were Amy Davis, Curtis Hayes, Janel Drake, Tandy Dunn, Stephanie Carnevale, Tedd Biggs, Scott Pollard, Justin Guthrie and Michelle Lieberman.

The classes strive to increase student knowledge of risk awareness, risk reduction, risk recognition and risk avoidance.

Davis said that they felt that these classes were very appropriate with April being sexual assault month.

R.A.D. classes are broken into categories, which consist of a R.A.D. for women and a R.A.D. for men, that are both offered at the university.

"R.A.D. for women is designed for women as an educational program for them to grow emotionally and physically against their attacker," said Davis.

Among completion of the class, each student receives a certificate that says that they have successfully completed the 12-hour course.

Students also receive a participant manual that allows them to participate in any R.A.D. program being offered anywhere for free.

The R.A.D. program started in 1989 and it just recently became available to students, faculty and staff at ECU.

The classes are only available to this group of people at the university but according to Davis, it's a possibility that the classes might expand the eligibility for possible participants.

"Hopefully in the future, it may open up to the outside, but right now we're keeping it in house," Davis said.

The classes are offered completely free to students, staff and faculty and they can register online.

The classes usually consist of no more than 25 students per class. To secure a spot in the class students should register early.

Anyone interested in taking one of these classes is encouraged to visit the Web site at ecu.edu/cs-admin/police/RAD.cfm for more upcoming classes.

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

Wings and laughs

The Axis of Stevil presented the Swash Improv Group yesterday in a hot way, eating 100 'blazin' wings in two hours. Below, the group gives a short performance to promote their "Plaque Attack Tour."

Photos by Zach Sirkin

Is China easing up on monetary regulation?

Chinese government to allow more foreign investing

LEE SCHWARZ
STAFF WRITER

China is one of the few communist states left in the world. China has been communist since the government of General Chiang Kai-shek was ousted from power during the Chinese Civil War. Mainland China has been communist since and the remnants of the opposition formed a democracy on Taiwan. In the past few decades the number of democracies in the world has increased and communist states have dramatically decreased. Generally communism has failed in places like Russia and Eastern Europe because of poor economic responsiveness on the part of the government.

The collapse of these communist states has led to a financial windfall as wealth is now more evenly distributed. The Russian capital of Moscow now has the most billionaires of any city in the world as a result of the privatization of businesses formerly owned by the state. Possibly the most famous of these is Mikhail Khordovsky, who is now in prison allegedly for tax evasion, but many feel that his political inspirations threatened the Kremlin.

China has had far more success with communism than Russia, however there is still considerable restriction on financial freedom. However China would like to show that it is taking steps to correct that. Now Chinese people can invest $20,000 per year in foreign currencies and investments, while the amount used to be only $8,000. Perhaps with this new investing freedom, the currency advantage China enjoys with the United States will not be so pronounced.

Due to similar developments, Microsoft feels it is close to capitalizing on China's enormous market, which has been kept at bay by China's software pirates. China is notorious for copyright violations of international goods mainly because they have very relaxed laws on such things themselves. Due partly to Microsoft's lobbying, the Government has recently been cracking down on piracy.

Boeing has had similar difficulties selling aircraft in China as the strict regulation of Chinese airlines has kept sales at bay. The deregulation has been slower than anticipated and some companies are growing impatient.

China has also agreed to lift the ban of U.S. beef and was applauded by Commerce Secretary Carlos Guttierez. The former CEO of Kellogg said, "As in everything else, the numbers will ultimately tell the story." Guttierez spoke not only of the lift on beef ban but also on China's economic liberation of its people and the general leveling of the trade playing field.

While these changes are good for China and for the world economy as a whole, there are still a lot of changes to be made for China to pull its massive population out of poverty and to escape the perils that plagued past communist regimes.

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

Survey, forum to address issues in Pitt County

Pitt County Voices

Top Issues in Pitt County:
Crime
Gangs
Violent Crime
Family Violence, Abuse of Children and Adults
Health
Prescription Medication Cost
Mental Illness and Emotional Illness
K-12 Education
High School Dropout Rate
Overcrowded Classrooms
Illiteracy
Poverty
Lack of Jobs and Unemployment
Poorly Prepared Workforce
Affordable Housing
Substandard Housing
Homelessness
Public Transportation
Youth
After-School/Summer Programs for Youth
Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children
Underage Drinking
Teen Pregnancy

Issues may affect ECU students

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU Center for survey research conducted a survey called Pitt County Voices to address important issues in Pitt County.

The survey was commissioned by the United Way of Pitt County and sponsored by the Pitt Community College Foundation, Pitt County Memorial Hospital Foundation and the Poverty Committee.

The survey was created to help policy makers and Pitt County citizens become more aware of the community, its needs and issues that must be handled immediately to improve the community according to Donna Jacobs, communications director for UWPC.

"We think this report will provide valuable information for groups and individuals to come together and coordinate action to improve the quality of life for residents of Pitt County," said Ron Nowaczyk, associate vice chancellor for economic and community development.

The results of the survey identified six issues that need immediate assistance which include crime, health, K-12 education, poverty, public transportation and youth-related issues.

Theses issues have also been divided into sub-categories. An example of this is the issue of K-12 education with sub-categories such as high school dropout rates, overcrowded classrooms and illiteracy.

All these issues were big topics addressed by residents of Pitt County, service providers and UWPC campaign donors through earlier surveys that were conducted in September through November according to Mandee Foushee, project manager for ECU Center for Survey Research.

"Since no one issue dominated the findings and all of these issues were viewed as critical to improving life in Pitt County, they are presented alphabetically and unranked," said Foushee.

These issues are destined to affect ECU students if they are not resolved. An example of an issue that will directly impact ECU students is education and the high dropout rate in Pitt County, according to Jacobs.

"The issues that affect part of the county affect all of the county. None of us are isolated," Jacobs said.

Three public forums were held to release the results of the problem areas found by the surveys on March 15, March 28 and April 4. A meeting was also held March 3 to talk about the results of the survey with community leaders.

Leaders that attended the meeting March 3 include State Representative Marian McLawhorn, Senator John Kerry, Pitt County Commissioners Chairman Jimmy Garris, Greenville Mayor Pro-Tem Mildred Council, Pitt County Chamber of Commerce Board President Suzanne Sartelle and Pitt County Sheriff Mac Manning.

see **VOICES** page A3

Living proof of modern-day slavery shares valuable lesson

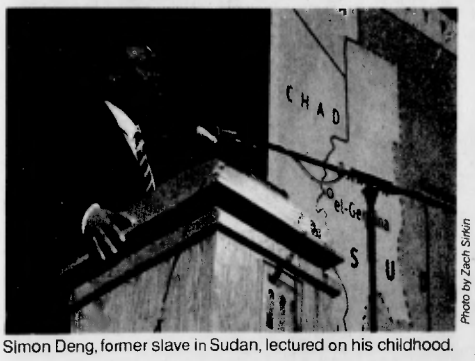

Photo by Zach Sirkin

Simon Deng, former slave in Sudan, lectured on his childhood.

The frightening truth of his past

CLAIRE MURPHY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Simon Deng, former Sudanese child slave gave a lecture about his childhood in Hendrix Theater on Monday. The evening opened with an introduction by Dr. Kenneth E. Wilburn. In his introduction, he emphasized that Abraham Lincoln did not free the slaves of the world, and that there are still governments that enforce slavery today, including Sudan. There is also genocide going on that remarkably, is similar to the Holocaust, but is not talked about.

The capitol of Sudan, with its corrupt government, is in Khartoum. Khartoum is 70 percent Sunni Muslim. There have been two devastating civil wars that imposed domination over the Sudanese.

Simon Deng was very kind and open about his past.

"i am not ashamed to call myself a slave, but at the same time I am not proud," he said.

Deng is from Darfur, Sudan. Everyone in Darfur is Muslim with similar features and complexion. Deng is a Christian. He has been banned from pools for being both a slave and a non-Muslim because he was told he would contaminate the water.

As a child, he was also told that if he ever saw troops, to run and not stop because his life was on the line.

One day the Soviet troops came and opened fire. He ran among the people of his village, as he was told. He saw two of his friends shot and killed before his eyes. He had a pregnant relative who could not keep up with the group. She was eaten alive by wild animals, which she was fed to by the Soviets.

There were also the two Eldesters of his hometown, whom were highly respected. People went to them to hear stories of earlier times. They were both burned alive that day.

At the age of seven, Simon Deng was kidnapped into slavery. He was given as a "gift" to an Arab Muslim family and became their personal slave. He ate the leftover scraps of their meals, and slept with the animals in the yard.

The people got their water from the Nile River, and he was responsible for carrying buckets of water to the family. If there was not enough water for everyone, he was beaten. He was often punished for things he did not do, and never refused an order from the family he belonged to. Even when he wanted to say "no," all he knew how was to say "yes."

Deng was later asked by the family to join them as their son. He had a loving family that he remembered well. His father offered ten cows to anyone who knew anything about his son. They assumed he was dead, but had no proof.

One day he met someone during his chores, which knew a man of his village. The man promised to come back to that same spot to meet him the next day. Deng did not believe him, but went anyway. The man kept his promise and was there with a man Deng recognized from home. That man freed him from his three and a half years of slavery.

Simon Deng now resides in New York City. He believes that America is the strongest country that can save his home of Darfur from the ongoing genocide today. Deng said, "I do not know how to thank a nation that has opened its doors and accepted me as a human being," referring to the United States.

Deng has completed the Sudan Campaign Freedom Walk. It was a 300-mile walk from NYC to the streets of the White House. He completed the 300 miles on Constitution Ave. Despite knee problems, he was the only participant to not take a break.

For anyone who wants to help fight against the terrorism in Sudan, you can get involved with Students Take Action Now in Darfur. There are also numerous sites, such as darfurgenocide.org, savedarfur.org and darfurinfo.org.

The evening ended on a powerful note with an active question and answer session. Since there have been over two million people slaughtered in the Sudanese genocide, Simon Deng is an obvious enthusiast of the involvement STAND is hoping for. Deng says, "The actions you take today, could save a life tomorrow ... unless you would rather sit and do nothing."

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

INSIDE | News: A2 | Classifieds: A7 | Opinion: A5 | What's Hot: B1 | Sports: B3

NEWS

Announcements:

Last chance for Buccaneer Photos

Wednesday, April 26 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Mendenhall Great Room One. Cap and gown may be taken separately and packages are available for purchase. Contact 328-9236 to reserve a time. Walk ins are also welcome.

Interactive seminar for non-profit board members

April 27 from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. in the Willis Building on East First Street. ECU and the United Way of Pitt County have partnered to host a free Legal and Financial Accountability Seminar for board members and staff of eastern North Carolina non-profit organizations. Must register by April 21 at 737-1345

'Guys and Dolls'

Tuesday, June 27 through Saturday, July 1.
8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday in McGinnis Theater
Set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City, this oddball romantic comedy introduces us to a cast of vivid characters who have become legends in the canon: Sarah Brown, the upright "mission doll," out to reform evildoers; Sky Masterson, the high-rolling gambler who woos her on a bet and ends up falling in love; Adelaide, the chronically ill nightclub performer whose been engaged to the same man for 14 years; and Nathan Detroit, her devoted fiancé, desperate to find a spot for his infamous floating crap game. Everything works out in the end, thanks to the machinations of Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling's hilarious, fast-paced book and Frank Loesser's bright, brassy, immortal score, which takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and into the sewers of New York City. Funny and romantic, *Guys And Dolls* is ideal for all audiences.
Tickets are required and are $20-$30 Contact 328-6829 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS for additional information.

'The Fantasticks'

Tuesday, July 11 through Saturday, July 15 at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday in Mcginnis Theater.
Try to remember a time when this romantic charmer wasn't enchanting audiences. *The Fantasticks* is the longest-running musical in the world, and with good reason: at the heart of its breathtaking poetry and subtle theatrical sophistication is a purity and simplicity that transcends cultural barriers. The result is a timeless fable of love that manages to be nostalgic and universal at the same time. With its minimal costumes, small band and virtually non-existent set, *The Fantasticks* is an intimate show which engages the audience's imagination and showcases a strong ensemble cast. It's moving tale of young lovers who become disillusioned, only to discover a more mature, meaningful love is punctuated by a bountiful series of catchy, memorable songs, many of which have become standards. Tickets are required and are $20-$30 Contact 328-6829 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS for additional information.

Summer Drama Camp

Monday, July 24 through Saturday, July 29 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. at Studio Theatre, Messick Theatre Arts Center. This is a fun-filled program emphasizing growth and discovery through theatre arts. Classes include: Beginning Acting Technique for student aged 14-18; Character Development for students aged 11-13; Creative Dramatics for students aged 7-10. $100 per child. Contact Patch Clark at 328-1196 or email her at clarkp@mail.ecu.edu.

Wake County Public School System Spring Teacher Job Fair

Saturday May 20, from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at Forestville Elementary School and Knightdale High School If you are fully licensed, have completed your student teaching or are eligible for a valid teaching license, join hundreds of other candidates at the Spring Teacher Job Fair. School administrators will be on-site to conduct interviews and to offer contracts to select applicants. All candidates must pre-register and receive confirmation to attend the job fair. Pre-register online from May 1 - 17, at wcpss.net/signup/job-fair/. For more information contact by e-mail: hrrecruitment@wcpss.net. Phone: (800) 346-3813 or (919) 854-1690

News Briefs:

State:

North Carolina officials take advantage of No Child loophole
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)–When it comes to telling parents in North Carolina about the performance of their children's schools, state officials proudly share all sorts of detailed information.
But when the federal government asks North Carolina for information based on a school's test scores broken out by racial group, state officials take advantage of a legal loophole to hold back. Concerned that the scores of a few students could keep an entire school from demonstrating academic progress under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the state does not separately report the test results of thousands of students, even though most of those results are published publicly on the state's NC Schools Report Cards.
An Associated Press review found that in the 2003-2004 school year, North Carolina officials didn't report to the federal government the test scores of 53,074 students broken down by racial group. On the state's school report cards, however, officials only left out the scores of 5,302 students in racial groupings.
Without such pressure, the state picked a group size of five students for the state report cards, settling on the much lower number because that is high enough to ensure student privacy. Reporting the results of a subgroup with just one or two students would make it easy to identify the test performance of individual students, officials said.
Beamon, the district administrator in Johnston County, said students aren't hurt because their scores are not included in information provided to the federal government for No Child Left Behind.
"Does it mean that those kids get slighted in any way? I don't see how," Beamon said.
"The whole notion of different or special strategies just because of an ethnic group, there is no bag of tricks out there for that."

Federal judge refuses to stop scheduled execution
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)–The state of North Carolina has taken sufficient precautions to ensure that an inmate scheduled to die this week will remain asleep during his execution, a federal judge said Monday in ruling that the execution could proceed.
Lawyers for condemned inmate Willie Brown Jr., 61, had objected to the state's procedure, saying there was a chance that Brown could awaken but be paralyzed and suffer pain. The state said there would be a physician and a registered nurse present and that they would watch over a brain wave monitor that would help determine whether Brown remained asleep.
"It is now clear that plaintiff will not be satisfied with anything less than an experienced, licensed, board certified anesthesiologist standing at his bedside in plain view of attending witnesses," U.S. District Court Judge Malcolm Howard said in a seven-page order denying a stay of execution.
"Plaintiff attempts to force a conflict of medical ethics by taking the issue of the positioning of medical professionals in and around the execution chamber and dressing it in constitutional clothes."
The state's use of the brain monitor raised complaints from the manufacturer and anesthesiologists, who said the machine wasn't intended for executions. The monitor hasn't been used in any previous North Carolina execution, a state spokesman has said.

Nat!onal:

Stocks slide as oil, gold climb
NEW YORK (AP)–Surging gold and energy prices dragged stocks lower Monday as inflation fears curbed Wall Street's enthusiasm over solid first-quarter earnings from financial services firm Citigroup Inc.
Although Citigroup's upbeat results fed optimism about corporate earnings for the latest quarter, investors again fixated on inflation and interest rates after Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago President Michael Moskow said he feels the central bank must remain "vigilant" in its policy of boosting rates to stem price increases.
Without new data to help gauge the economy's health, Wall Street turned its attention to the commodities markets, where oil prices reached $70 a barrel and gold lingered at a 25-year high. But despite the threat of rising raw material costs, the inflation picture has remained somewhat positive recently, said Russ Koesterich, portfolio manager at Barclays Global Investments.
Citigroup's earnings grew 4 percent to reach $1.12 per share for the quarter, with strength in stocks and fixed-income returns helping it beat analysts' average estimate of $1.02 per share. Citigroup climbed 26 cents to $48.31.
Elsewhere in the banking sector, Wachovia Corp. said its quarterly profit gained 7 percent on higher overall revenue and fees. Adjusted earnings of $1.12 per share matched Wall Street's target, but Wachovia nonetheless slid 86 cents to $54.99.
The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies declined 5.67, or 0.75 percent, to 745.44.
Overseas, Japan's Nikkei stock average lost 1.35 percent. The markets in Europe were closed for Easter Monday.

Former Illinois governor convicted of racketeering, fraud
CHICAGO (AP)–Former Gov. George Ryan, who drew international praise when he commuted the sentences of everyone on Illinois' death row, was convicted of racketeering and fraud Monday in a corruption scandal that ended his political career in 2003.
Ryan, 72, sat stone-faced as the verdict was read and afterward vowed to appeal.
Ryan faces up to 20 years in prison for racketeering conspiracy charge alone, the most serious against him in the 22-count indictment. The jury found him guilty of all counts, including fraud, obstructing the Internal Revenue Service and lying to the FBI.
Co-defendant Larry Warner, a Chicago businessman and Ryan friend, was found guilty of racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud, attempted extortion, illegally structuring bank withdrawals and money laundering.
Prosecutors accused Ryan of steering big-money state contracts and leases, including a $25 million IBM computer deal, to his friends and political insiders while he was secretary of state in the 1990s and then as governor starting in 1999.
In late March, months of testimony nearly went down the drain when the judge discovered two jurors had failed to mention past arrests on their court questionnaires.
Even as he faced federal charges back home, Ryan accepted speaking invitations across the country and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his criticism of the death penalty.
In 2000, the Republican governor declared a moratorium on executions in Illinois after 13 death row inmates have been wrongly convicted. Then, days before he left office in 2003, he cleared death row, commuting the sentences of all 167 inmates to life in prison. He declared that the state's criminal justice system was "haunted by the demon of error."

International:

Palestinian suicide bomber kills 9 in Tel Aviv, setting up confrontation with Israel
TEL AVIV, Israel (AP)–A Palestinian suicide bomber struck a packed fast-food restaurant during Passover on Monday, killing nine other people and wounding dozens in the deadliest attack in more than a year.
"It is a despicable act of terror for which there is no excuse or justification," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said.
"Defense or sponsorship of terrorist acts by officials of the Palestinian Cabinet will have the gravest effects on relations between the Palestinian Authority and all states seeking peace in the Middle East."
The European Union, which has cut off aid to the Hamas-led government, also denounced the bombing and called for restraint by both sides.
Islamic Jihad, which has close ties to Israel's arch enemy, Iran, claimed responsibility for the attack, the first in Israel since the Hamas Cabinet took office 2 1/2 weeks ago.
The suicide bombing took place about 1:40 p.m. when the bomber, carrying a bag stuffed with 10 pounds of explosives, approached "The Mayor's Falafel" restaurant in a busy neighborhood near Tel Aviv's central bus station. The restaurant, which had been the target of a bombing in January, was packed with Israelis on vacation during the weeklong Passover holiday.
Hamas says it will turn to Muslim countries to make up its budget shortfall. Iran and Qatar have each pledged $50 million.

Afghanistan's capital mostly in the dark despite billions spent in foreign aid
KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)–For 12-year-old Kefaya Nabi, the worst thing about not having electricity in her home is not being able to watch her favorite Bollywood soap opera on TV.
The concerns of her 50-year-old shopkeeper father, Ghulam, are more serious: How will he heat their tiny house? How can his four children study without light? How will his wife cook?
Such worries are common for many people in the Afghan capital. Some 40 percent of Kabul's 4 million residents don't have access to the electric grid, Deputy Energy Minister Mohammed Amin Munsif says.
Foreign donors have spent billions of dollars rebuilding infrastructure since the Taliban were ousted in 2001. But progress has been especially slow in restoring electricity, with almost all power lines and power stations destroyed during a quarter century of war.
High-voltage lines are being built to connect the city with hydroelectric dams in Uzbekistan, about 190 miles over rugged mountains to the north. But they aren't expected to be up for two more years.
For now, those in Kabul who can afford it rely on small, diesel-fueled generators.
Others buy electricity from neighborhood businessmen who use big, noisy and polluting machines to power a few homes.
"Some months I can pay for the light, but the cost of running our television is too high," Ghulam said as the family's small TV sat idle on a table.
The city's few street lights rarely shine at night. Key government departments, including the police headquarters and the defense ministry, suffer repeated blackouts. Schools and clinics built by international donations close before daylight fades.

Biggest egg hunt becomes obsession

KRT

"The World's Largest Easter Egg Hunt" takes place in the town of Homer.

(KRT) — Nothing in this small town of sprawling green pastures and white picket fences distinguishes it from any other rural community in America, except for the sign posted at the Homer city limits proclaiming it the "Home of the World's Largest Easter Egg Hunt."

Never mind that the city of 950 people set the coveted Guinness World Record in 1985 or that it has been broken many times since. When it comes to Easter egg hunts no place, it seems, does it quite like Homer.

For 47 years, the 10-acre horse pasture on Mack Garrison's farm has been the site of the most popular Easter egg hunt in the South. About 5,000 children, with their parents in tow, come from Atlanta, about 70 miles south, and from as far away as North Carolina and Alabama to trample through the grass in their Easter Sunday best in search of 100,000 candy eggs. Buried among them are 125 prize eggs that can be claimed for a live rabbit, a stuffed rabbit or an Easter basket filled with goodies.

"This is a family tradition that began when I was a kid," said Garrison, 51, whose grandfather started the hunt for children of people who worked in his sawmill.

"We are going to keep doing it for as long as I am around."

The event is as much a part of the Easter tradition in the South as sunrise service at the Baptist church. But in the competitive world of Easter egg hunting, Homer has fallen behind the times. Twenty-one years ago, it won the title by hiding 80,000 eggs, brought in fresh from a farm on Easter morning and boiled in cast iron pots over an open flame. These days it takes a lot more eggs than that. Last Sunday, Georgia's Stone Mountain Park set the Guinness World Record with 301,000 plastic eggs, stealing the title from the reigning record-holder, the Rockford, Ill., Park District, which hid 292,686 eggs last year.

The modern Easter hunt, which is more likely to involve candy eggs or plastic ones stuffed with candy than hard-boiled eggs, has grown into one of the biggest rituals of spring, with cities trying to outdo each other in how many eggs they can hide and how many people show up to look for them.

Just as Georgia and Illinois have battled over who has the busiest airport and the biggest aquarium, there is likely another fight on the horizon over which can hide the most Easter eggs. Organizers in Rockford said they are thinking about trying to regain the title next year. If they do, Stone Mountain will be standing by to challenge them the following year.

"We all know that records are meant to be broken," said Christine Parker, a spokeswoman for Stone Mountain, a scenic park near Atlanta.

"If someone breaks our record, we will probably go for it again."

The obsession over hosting the biggest Easter egg hunt is an example of what some economists call a "winner-take-all" society. Everybody wants to be in first place because there is little regard

see **EGG HUNT** page A3

Got something to say? Send us your Pirate Rants!

cultural awareness
2nd Annual
Polynesian Luau
Wednesday, April 19th at 5pm
Mendenhall Brickyard
Live band, Hula dancers, fire and knife dancers, free food, games, giveaways and hula dance lessons.

Sunscreen isn't a panacea, so be aware of danger on the beach

KRT

People are debating the effectiveness of sunscreen and whether it gives you the protection that's promised

(KRT) — Like a lot of blond-haired, fair-skinned people, 34-year-old Jonjon Baus slathers on sunscreen before he heads outdoors. As a bicyclist and runner, he opts for the sweat proof formulas, and because he rarely gets sunburned, he figures he's safe.

"That's really how I gauge how effective my sun protection is," says Baus, a manager for Track Shack, an Orlando, Fla., running store.

But in the wake of a lawsuit filed recently in California against sunscreen manufacturers, claiming they have fraudulently exaggerated the effectiveness of their products, Baus has started to wonder.

In fact, although dermatologists still recommend the liberal use of sunscreen, they warn that it's entirely possible for the sun to damage skin without burning it, and that most of the sunscreens currently on the market do a better job preventing sunburn than they do at preventing other problems, including premature wrinkles, age spots and even skin cancer.

And neither sun protection factor (SPF) ratings nor the labeling of a product as "broad-spectrum" gives consumers any information on how much they'll be shielded against ultraviolet A rays, which don't cause burning but do cause aging of the skin and potentially cancer.

"I wish sunscreens were better. That would be terrific. But they're not," says Dr. James Spencer, a St. Petersburg, Fla., dermatologist and clinical professor of dermatology for Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

"But they are a useful tool, and like any tool, if you don't use it properly, it doesn't work."

The problem is that many people may expect too much from a sunscreen, Spencer says, putting them at risk for skin cancer by spending too much time in the sun.

The confusion comes in part because there are different types of sunlight responsible for skin damage, mainly UVA and UVB. Because UVB is what causes sunburn and has a well-established link with skin cancer, it is generally considered more harmful. But scientists now believe UVA causes much of the premature aging of the skin and, more critically, much of the skin's genetic damage, which may also lead to skin cancer. UVA rays can even penetrate windows to reach people indoors.

So far, there's no way to measure the UVA-screening ability of a given product, and scientists don't know how much UVA contributes to the alarming rise in skin cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the death rate from melanoma in the United States has climbed about 4 percent a year since 1973.

Though researchers have discussed a rating system for UVA, so far there has been no action on the matter. And that's only part of the problem.

Some experts say that claims for UVB protection could be inflated, too. In 1999, under orders from Congress, the federal Food and Drug Administration drafted a slate of regulations on

see **SUNSCREEN** *page A4*

Egg Hunt *from page A2*

for those who come in second or third. And cities are no exception.

"Cities see themselves as competing with one another for corporations, for a labor force, for baseball and football teams and for tourists. They are trying to get attention wherever and however they might get it," said Glenn Altschuler, a professor of American studies at Cornell University.

"One way to do that is what we might call the Guinness Book of World Records strategy, which is to have the largest cake manufactured in your city or setting the record for hiding Easter eggs. It is a way to put your city on the map and getting another 15 minutes of fame."

The problem, according to Altschuler, is that Easter, like other religious holidays such as Christmas, has become too commercialized.

"Easter is becoming increasingly unmoored from its religious foundation," he said.

"It has become so overwhelmed by commerce that we risk losing the very purpose for which we are supposed to be celebrating the holiday."

Though there are many theories of how the Easter egg hunt began, it is widely believed that it started as an annual ritual in ancient Europe, where hunters searched the woods looking for the nests of wild birds so they could remove the colored eggs to make talismans. This gradually evolved into the Easter egg hunt, with painted eggs instead of birds' eggs and woven baskets replacing the nests.

Hosting the annual Easter egg hunt, or roll in the case of the White House, has become an unofficial duty of the first lady and the wife of just about every governor. And Easter egg hunts are not just for children anymore. There are Easter egg hunts for dogs, underwater Easter egg hunts for adults and nighttime Easter egg hunts for teenagers. The stakes are higher too. To attract big crowds, big prizes are often awarded – things like CDs, bicycles, season passes to parks or amusement sites worth $100 and $50 Easter baskets.

Setting a world record is not easy. A Guinness official flew in from London to observe the event at Stone Mountain and handed over the certificate on site. But in most cases, the event must be videotaped and well documented to prove that everything is accurate. It takes more than 100 volunteers and thousands of dollars, though no one would say exactly how much, to pull off a feat worthy of the Guinness Book of World Records.

For Stone Mountain, which attracted more than 10,000 people to its event, the Easter egg title is just the latest in a list.

Voices *from page A1*

"Based on the March 3 meeting, the United Way is helping to organize an oversight committee of community leaders to take the report to the next level and begin making changes in Pitt County to improve the quality of life for residents," said Marilyn Williams, UWPC executive director.

The survey and the efforts that UWPC are making to improve these issues will contribute to a better quality of life for Pitt County residents as well as students.

"This health and human services needs assessment will play an important role in determining where Pitt County leaders and organizations need to focus both resources and collaboration to effectively address the critical issues facing our county," Foushee said.

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

Did you know?

Deciding to be an Organ Donor will not affect the quality of medical care you receive, and an Organ Donor can have an open casket funeral.

Organ recipients are not selected based on their fame or wealth; organ matches are based on blood and tissue type, organ size, medical urgency, geographic location and waiting time.

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Organs are not sold in the United States; federal law prohibits buying and selling organs, and violations can result in prison sentences and fines.

Anesthesia is used during marrow donation to ensure donors do not feel any pain. Discomfort is typically limited to post-donation stiffness and/or soreness during the week after the donation is made.

April is the month of Organ Donation Awareness and the Students for Organ Donation Awareness will provide all daily facts. Look for a fact about organ donation in each April edition of *TEC*.

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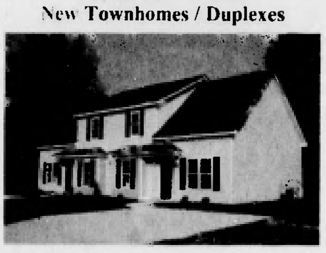
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Sunscreen *from page A3*

sunscreen manufacturers but never formally adopted them. Critics say the agency bowed to pressure from the sunscreen lobby.

Representatives of the FDA did not respond to requests for an interview on the subject.

The proposed rules would have prohibited "unsupported, absolute, and/or misleading and confusing terms such as 'sunblock,' 'waterproof,' 'all-day protection' and 'visible and/or infrared light protection.'"

Yet doctors agree that those terms, still widely employed in sunscreen advertising, are misleading at best.

No product, experts say, is truly waterproof, sweat-proof or capable of lasting all day.

"If you read the fine print," says Dr. John Meisenheimer, chief of dermatology for Orlando Regional Healthcare System, "it does say that you have to reapply them."

Meisenheimer, a competitive swimmer and occasional surfer, says that each time you dive in the water or perspire, you'll need to put on more sunscreen afterward, at least every 60 to 80 minutes. But he still recommends the waterproof variety.

"They tend to stay on a little bit better when you sweat," he says.

He also advises his patients to use products that offer an SPF rating of 30 or higher as well as those that claim broad-spectrum protection, even if there's no way to measure how much. After all, the doctor notes, some UVA protection is better than none.

The bottom line, dermatologists say, is that the more you can stay in the shade, cover up or liberally apply a good-but-imperfect sunscreen, the better off you'll be.

"We're not going to tell people to hide in a cave and only come out at night," Spencer says.

"it's not realistic."

Meisenheimer agrees. "I realize I'm not going to get patients who are lily-white down here in Orlando," he says.

"So I tell them, 'Listen, use your sunscreens, protect yourself as much as you can, and then just enjoy being in Florida.'"

Against: the makers of five major sunscreens, including Coppertone, Banana Boat, Hawaiian Tropic, Neutrogena and Bullfrog.

Claim: that the manufacturers used deceptive advertising and labeling to promote their products, even though they knew "or should have known" their products weren't capable of doing everything they were advertised to do.

Seeking: an injunction against the allegedly fraudulent claims, compensation for consumers and other remedies, including a public education program on sun protection paid for by the industry.

Response: The companies have vigorously denied the allegations.

When possible, wear a broad-brimmed hat, long-sleeved shirt, longpants and UV-light-blocking sunglasses.

Try to stay in the shade between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun is most intense.

Apply sunscreen liberally to all exposed skin, using a product with an SPF of 15 or higher and one that advertises both UVA and UVB protection. Reapply every two hours, more often after swimming or sweating.

Use extra protection for children. Melanoma is thought to be linked to early childhood sunburns. Also use extra caution near water and sand as they reflect the sun's damaging rays.

Avoid tanning beds. The UV light used causes skin cancer and wrinkling. Self-tanning lotions and sprays are a safe alternative, but wear sunscreen for protection outdoors.

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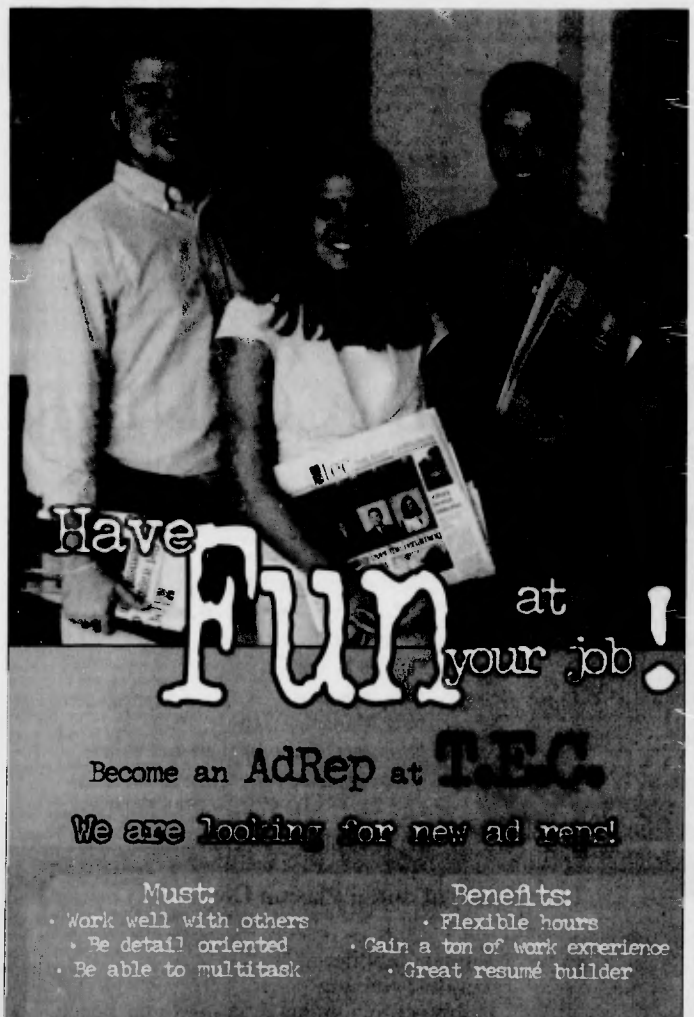

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Our View

Laughter is the best medicine, after all

In 1995, an Indian doctor, Madan Kataria, discovered a new way to get your exercise and center yourself. It's called "Laughter Yoga."

It doesn't require jokes or a sense of humor, so virtually anyone can do it, even if you aren't exactly a born comedian. It revolves around yoga's traditional breathing exercises and simulated laughter, and it only takes 20 minutes. When done in a group setting, the simulated laughter quickly turns into very real, contagious laughter that "flows out like a fountain."

Described as "simple, gentle, empowering and tension-releasing," and between giggles, stretching exercises help promote health.

This type of yoga can be done regardless of age, language, culture, religion or political beliefs because laughter, an exclusively human expression, is the same in every tongue. Laughter Yoga, by the way, is not just utilized for health benefits, it is reputed to be good for the soul, as well. Which is not really surprising, considering that laughter is associated with happiness, satisfaction and peace, among many other positive things.

Amazingly, after Dr. Kataria and his wife came up with the idea, they tested it out in a local park and it became an overnight success. Soon, there were "laughter clubs" popping up all over Mumbai, India. He dedicated his life to Laughter Yoga in 1997 and in the first 10 years, Laughter Yoga had spread like wildfire "through a grass-roots movement" into over 40 countries.

As of June 2005, a foundation, Laughter Club International, had been established to coordinate and support the "exponential growth" of this new exercise. Here are a few statistics on Laughter Yoga as of June 2005. There are over 100 certified Laughter Yoga Teachers who have trained over 5,000 certified Laughter Yoga Leaders, who in turn train others. There are more than 5,000 Laughter Clubs established to practice Laughter Yoga worldwide and over 250,000 members currently practicing.

It sounds like a great way to relax and have a good time, but of course, I laugh out loud sometimes just because I see someone else laugh, I certainly don't have to have a reason. The great thing about Laughter Yoga is, you don't need a reason.

A word of caution, though, medical specialists say that performing this exercise for more than 30 minutes per session is very dangerous, and that's no laughing matter.

All information comes from laughteryoga.org – check it out.

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Opinion Columnist

Censorship out of fear is not justifiable

Feel Free to Laugh

BENJAMIN CORMACK
CASUAL CORNER

I know this is kind of an old topic, but after watching "South Park" over the past two weeks I finally have the confidence to talk about an issue that has been bugging me to no end.

With this war on terror there has been a great deal of need to be sensitive to Islam and Muslims who are not a part of the extremist/terrorist movement. Even I have tried to understand Islam. I accepted a copy of the Quran from a Muslim group of students that had a booth set-up here on campus some months ago. I've tried to read it as much as I could, but things have gotten in the way. From what I have read though, I feel that I at least grasp some of the aspects of Islam; however I do not completely understand it. I say this in order to make the point I'm about to make very clear.

The biggest challenge and stereotype that I think Muslims face today is that they can't take criticism and they have no sense of humor. However, what may be a stereotype carries a gruesome air of truth.

Some of you may remember a story about a Dutch cartoon depicting the Muslim prophet Mohammed. Reaction to this cartoon was a sense of "displeasure" to say the least. Property was destroyed, people were injured and hundreds of people died worldwide in the responding riots.

The truth is that this whole thing may have started as something positive or at least somewhat innocent. A Danish author of children's books wanted to produce a book about the life of Muhammad, but he couldn't find a willing artist. This could have been because many Muslims believe that illustrations of Muhammad are forbidden by the Koran. Yet many religious scholars claim that this is not true. The other reason many authors refused to take the job may have been because of a story you may not have heard about.

Theo van Gogh, Dutch filmmaker, television producer, publicist, actor and a man I can only describe as an active practitioner of free speech, produced a film titled *Submission*, a film which deals with the topic of violence against women in Islamic societies; telling the stories of four abused Muslim women. The title itself, "Submission," is the translation of the word "Islam" into English. In the film, the women's naked bodies are veiled with semi-transparent shrouds as they kneel in prayer, telling their stories as if they are speaking to Allah. Quranic verses unfavorable to women are painted on their bodies in Arabic. After the movie was released in 2004, both Theo van Gogh and Hirsi Ali, the script writer, received death threats.

While Van Gogh was known as a friendly and tolerant character, in the 1980s, he became a newspaper columnist, using his column over the years to vent his anger at politicians, actors, film directors, writers and other people he considered to be part of "the establishment."

On November 2, 2004 at the Amsterdam East borough office, Theo van Gogh was shot eight times, his throat was slit, he was stabbed in the chest and left for dead with two knives planted in his torso. Pinned to his body with one of the two knives was a note that included this translated statement, "Islam will be victorious through the blood of martyrs. Only the death will separate the truth from the lies."

The Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* reported this story and initiated a debate over how much Danes should censor themselves. The paper's editor requested a cartoon about Muhammad from Denmark's 40 syndicated cartoonists, 12 accepted the invitation. This is how these infamous cartoons came to be, and were published last September.

This is how certain extremist Islamic nations and individuals responded:

in Iran, a suicide bombing course was created to exact revenge on the Danes. Their applicants were Iranian students – men and women – who registered for "martyrdom-seeking operations" training.

Around the same time, a prominent Iranian newspaper sponsored a competition for fresh cartoons about the Holocaust as a test for the west's commitment to free speech.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad banned Danish imports and halted all trade and business ties with the country in an effort to place Iran at the head of the anti-Denmark campaign. Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and other countries stepped in line behind the boycott.

Protesters in Syria and Lebanon firebombed Danish embassies.

Muslim journalists were arrested for republishing the cartoons in Jordan, Algeria and Yemen.

I was raised as a Christian, and as such I have respect for God and Jesus, among other religious figures, and images of them. However, I'm not so blindly faithful that I assume that God looks like Santa Claus or that Jesus looked as white as he is classically portrayed because other people say so or because of numerous pieces of artwork. Many experts who have conducted anthropological research believe that Jesus was dark skinned and, being that he was said to be a carpenter, more muscular than the image he is so often represented by. Some even claim Jesus was black. For all we really know James Caviezel, who played Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*, is the spitting image of him.

Also, I've watched episodes of shows like "Family Guy," "The Simpsons," and Adult Swim's "Robot Chicken" that have depicted God and Jesus as characters in skits as well as the subjects of skits. In one particularly memorable episode of "Robot Chicken" there was a parody of *Kill Bill*, called *Kill Bunny*. In which Jesus pursues the Easter Bunny for having him crucified, fights with Santa Claus, spars with George Burns and even fights several rabbis with a sword. What was my reaction? It was the same as when I saw God pour a beer in midair and accidentally zap a woman he was trying to pick up with a lightning bolt on an episode of a "Family Guy," I laughed. Sure i could see how it could be offensive, but I could also see the humor in it. I guess I'm just open minded enough to see things as being funny for the sake of being funny and not done with the purpose of being offensive or necessarily critical of society. Truthfully though, I think that what Jesus, Mohammed, Buddha, Moses or any other religious figure looked like isn't as important as the message they send.

Going back to the episode of "South Park," I think it is important to make note of something that happened during this episode. While the executives at Comedy Central were unwilling to show an image of Mohammed, they had no qualms, issues, or trouble with running a clip that featured Americans, President Bush and even Jesus defecating on each other. So this is OK, but just showing an image of Muhammad is not? Why? Because it may incite a terrorist attack? Like we don't live with that fear everyday already.

A cartoon was not the motivation behind using planes full of innocent people as weapons. A cartoon did not start a conflict that has been going on for thousands of years. Frankly a cartoon inciting anyone to do anything is practically insane and illustrates a very weak ego. Anyone who is willing to kill over something as trivial as a cartoon needs to be stopped. That's why, aside from the first amendment, I think in our society it feels OK to make jokes and cartoons, because we've shown no tolerance for people who kill for their message. That's why instead of spending a couple of cents on a bullet, we instead spend thousands of dollars to prosecute people like Timothy McVeigh, Eric Rudolph and other activists who feel justified in bombing abortion clinics and places of business. That's why we attach the term "hate crime" to racially motivated crimes. That's why Zacarias Moussaoui and Saddam Hussein are being prosecuted instead of just being killed like they thoughtlessly did to others. I also believe it's why we're pursuing people like Osama bin Laden.

Living a life where you are afraid to have a rational opinion about something because you're afraid of being harmed physically, emotionally or in any other way is not right. Living in a society where the feelings of one group is prioritized over others is not right. Living in a society where people are afraid of what a cartoon might cause, who it might offend or what it may incite is ridiculous. If someone does something wrong, we should not be afraid to punish them or be timid about punishing them. Our society does still have a long way to go, and i wish I could always feel strong enough to speak-out as i am now, but at least we as a society believe that killing innocent people is never justified and that those that do should pay for it.

In My Opinion

(KRT) — Denial is an amazing thing. It can keep you curled up on the sofa, munching chips.

Nine of 10 adults recognize that America has a weight problem, a Pew Research Center survey has found.

They've seen the saddlebags – on somebody else. They know about the serious health consequences – for somebody else. They're worried about the potential drain on the health-care system – from somebody else.

But when they look in the mirror or at their friends, everything is fine.

Seven of 10 adults told researchers that someone they know is fat. But only four of 10 admitted that they, too, needed to shed some pounds.

Government statistics suggest otherwise. In 2004, the National Center for Health Statistics found that the number of obese Americans had more than doubled in 20 years, to 31 percent. Another third was classified as overweight.

Either researchers need to recalibrate, or a lot of Americans are kidding themselves.

Pew researchers did encounter some self-realization. Adults said dieting is hard, and exercise is the key to success. But they're not excited about doing either.

To tackle the obesity epidemic, Americans need a more realistic scale.

Pirate Rant

To the guy who rides the loud, red crotch rocket through Pirate's Cove, there's really no need to rev your engine so loud that I can't even hear my TV or music. Trust me, no one is impressed by you doing that anyway.

I'm been in love with you for the last seven months and have never known how to tell you, and now it's too late because you are graduating.

To the girl on the second floor, shower shoes were on the list of items to bring while living in the dorms. Oh and by the way, please put on some clothes when you decide to leave your room. We're tired of seeing you in your bra and underwear while our friends are visiting.

Boy in my psychology class, if you want to sleep that's cool by me. You may want to consider a pillow instead of bobbing for apples throughout a lecture that I'm actually trying to listen to.

To all you guys out there that have ex-girlfriends, they are your ex-girlfriends for a reason. Remember that when a beautifully awesome girl comes along that likes you. Don't let your ex talk you into getting back together just because she sees you with someone else. She doesn't want to be with you, she just doesn't want you to be with anyone else.

To the girl in the gray Honda Accord, learn how to drive because if I would have been in my truck, I would have rammed your rear.

The student workers for Campus Living put up with a whole lot from other students, faculty, staff and parents. They are able to deal with issues like the Clement fire (which included relocating 700 residents immediately), and put up with students who still think they are in high school by have their parents call anytime something goes wrong and they still have a great attitude! Keep up the good work guys!

Girls that are constantly walking/eating alone on campus and talking on their cell phones are insecure. What else could possibly explain your obsession with putting a phone to your ear the minute you are alone?

Yes *TEC* I do agree that most of the anti-*TEC* rants have come from SGA members. I heard someone who I know is on SGA bragging about submitting the one about the tuition increase that was published in today's paper, and the guy who did it is rude and dumb. The person didn't even spell medal right. So don't take it too personally.

Why does CNN news need to tell how much Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty's parents estimated tax value is on their homes in N.J. It only suggests that the dancer has other motives behind her allegations. Here is another example of how being poor and being rich is brought in to racism. The whole case is messed up and the dancer knows it.

To the guy I met on the drunk bus a few weeks back, even now that I'm sober, i have the weirdest attraction to you!

Roommate – if you're never here and i move your stuff that you have thrown all over the floor don't get mad ... and also don't preach to me about how "Godly" you are when you spend the week with your boyfriend ... I really don't care to hear it!

To the girl who came to me for help with her Pirate Login. Paraphrase does not equal passphrase. I do not make the password policies because if it were up to me the minimum would be 16 characters. You were cursing at me because you tried using your name for the password, which you typed wrong because of your two inch long nails. And yes passphrase requires all that because you have all that important information in your e-mail. BTW You're Welcome!

To the guy in love with a librarian, i'm in love with you too! Please come say hi.

Please learn the difference between me and I. Do not say, "Between you and i." Do not use "myself" when you mean "me."

Is it just me or is the entire guys tennis team beautiful! it's so worth risking my life walking down that hill to watch you boys in action!

Wright Place is now selling Naked Superfood Juice and it is amazing. The "Green Machine" kind is the best thing that has ever happened in my life. Everyone should try it, now!

Pease learn to use capital letters when you write e-mails. The word "I" should be capitalized.

Maybe it's just me, but on a warm day the campus smells like dog doo.

When you break up with a person who still likes you, it is not possible to just be friends ... so if you have no intention of getting back together with her, leave her alone!

Yes, i knew you had a humongous booger sticking out of your nose, and I didn't tell you.

I'm about to graduate and have no desire to pursue a job in my field of study. Anyone else in the same boat?

It's about time someone called out the yankees who think they bankroll our school by paying $14,000 a year. What you pay is barely enough to cover your fees and nothing else. When you know what you're talking about, then you can say something.

Why are people so jealous of fraternity guys and sorority girls. It's not our fault you can't be us.

To all the girls who have been sporting the white all winter ... i will not look at you funny anymore when you think you look really cute in your white skirt, because Easter was Sunday and you can wear your white now! Just keep in mind that you are in the south and we do have rules that must be taken into consideration!

Why is my best friend such a whiner?

Why are you so obsessed with cleaning? Oh wait, I forgot you have no life.

Why do the old guys at the SRC feel its necessary to play shirts vs. skins? Yeah, your old, I'm sorry, but nobody wants to see your old, flabby skin. Try wearing matching shirts or something.

My room mate isn't doing his paper right now because he's too busy sending in rants to *TEC*.

If all three parking meters in front of Tyler are broken, and we can't park in the A2 or B2 spaces, where are we supposed to park to pack our cars? Grow a heart and use some common sense before you give me a ticket.

Slower traffic keep right. This means that if you're going to go slow get in the right lane so other people can get by. Get it? Got it? Good! Now do it.

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

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Bradford Creek Apartment available. Close to ECU. Free Rent and Pet Fee for June. 3bd, 2.5 ba. $795 a month. Short or Long Term Lease. Early May move also negotiable without added rent for a grand total of 1.5 mos + pet fee free to move in by May 15th. Interested? Please call Yolanda at 252-328-2259 or email: hollingsworthy@ecu.edu

Wyndham Circle Duplex: 2 bedroom/ 2 bath, washer/dryer hookups, huge yard & deck *Desirable Student Location! $625/ month. Available summer or fall.

Walk to ECU, Pre-leasing For May, June, July, August, All size homes, view details at collegeuniversityrentals.com -or- call 321-4712

Two, three and five bedroom houses. Starting at $550 - 2 bedroom, 3 bedrooms $600-$850. Most fenced, with central HVAC, Security systems, W/D or hookups, all Pets OK! Call Tilley Properties 830-9502

Now accepting applications for summer and fall at Captains Quarters, University Terrace, Tower Village, The Trellis. Call Hearthside Rentals 355-2112 or 355-5923. Visit our website at www.hearthsidemanagement.com

Sublease for June and July. Willoughby Park Condo 2Bd/2Bth. Pool and Tennis Courts. Cable/ Water/Sewer incl. $625/mth. For more info call 252-327-2060

For Rent: Very nice 4 br, 2.5 bath house with 2 zone, central heat/air; off street parking; close proximity to ECU campus. Completely renovated. 25% rent discount for prompt pay. Call 752-1000, ask for Murrell.

Townhomes avail now! Over 1500 SQ ft. Enjoy your own private floor! Rates starting at only $340.00. Lease today & get One Month Free! Call University Suites @ 252-551-3800

2 Bedroom 1 Bath Brick Duplex, Central Air Stancil Drive Walking Distance to ECU $540/month Pets OK w/fee Call 353-2717 or 355-5439

Walk to campus 3 BR 1.5 BA Recently Renovated Meade St. Hardwood Floors, ceiling Fans, W/D, All Kitchen Appliances Large Front/Back yard & storage shed. $675/month Aug. 1st 341-4608

Brand new 2 & 3 bedroom townhouses for rent. 1.5 to 2.5 baths. Dudley's Grant off Firetower Rd. All appliances. Washer/Dryer hook-ups $695-795 per month. Call 341-0223 for more information.

House for Rent near campus on Charles Blvd. 3/4 bedroom house, front living area, central heat/air (completely closed in front & rear porch), 2 full baths w/ washer & dryer in main bath. Refrigerator, range, rolling bar/counter in kitchen. Rear deck, large backyard. Clean Pilley Properties 830-9502 $850/month

FOR SALE

The Buccaneer is back! The ECU yearbook has returned so make sure to reserve your copy. Order online at www.yearbookupdates/ecu or call 1-888-298-3323 Hurry! Deadline to order is 5pm 4-24-06

SERVICES

Interested in coaching boys lacrosse? If you've had past experience as a player or coach please contact Lydia Rotondo at (252)329-8080 for more information.

Area high school seeking field hockey coach for fall 2006. Afternoon availability 3-5 pm If interested, call Lydia Rotondo at (252)329-8080

HELP WANTED

Nanny Needed Greenville Family is in Need of a Full time Nanny. Good Pay with benefits. We will provide a vehicle and Possible Living Arrangement. You must be energetic, responsible, and be able to spend time summers at the beach. This is a great opportunity For the right person. Please call 714-8824 to set up your Interview.

Mobile waitstaff wanted for Restaurant Runners. Part-time positions 100-150/week. Perfect for college student!! Some Lunch Time (11a-2p) M-F and weekend availability required. 2-way radios allow you to be anywhere in Greenville when not on a delivery. Reliable transportation a must. Call 551-3279 between 2-5 only.

FedEx Ground 8AM to 6AM Mon-Saturday

Is looking for PACKAGE HANDLERS to load vans and unload trailers for the AM shift hours 3 AM to 8 AM. $8.00/hour,tuition assistance available after 30 days. Future career opportunities in management possible. Applications can be filled out at 2400 United Drive (near the aquatics center) Greenville.

HIRING NOW

Looking for a great summer job? McLawhorn Crop Services needs reliable, honest, energetic people work outdoors, monitoring crops from May through August. Work near Kinston, Greenville, New Bern. Let us train you. HURRY! HIRING NOW! Must be 19 or have one year of college and need reliable vehicle. Full time hours. We train! Excellent pay + mileage.
Mail or fax resume to:
MCSI
PO BOX 370
Cove City, NC, 28523
Fax: 252-637-2125

Sorry Greenville residents and year around dorm residents only. Leave message if necessary.

Lifeguards and swim instructors needed for outdoor pool June 1-August 20. Candidates must be certified in Lifeguarding, AED, First Aid and CPR/PR. $7.50 per hour. Apply at www.greenvillenc.gov or call Jessica at 329-4043 for more information.

Mgrs. and Lifegrds at Pools and Beaches in Greenville, Atlantic Beach, and Wilson. Call Bob 714-0576

Active Handicapped Male Needs Personal Attendant M-F, 7-10am And Every Dther Weekend. $10/ Hr. Duties Include Bathing And Dressing. Please Call 756-9141.

Bartenders wanted! Up to $250/day. No experience necessary. Training provided. Call (800) 965-6520. ext. 202

Live this summer at the Beach and work with Telescope Pictures/Sunrays Studio in Ocean City, MD/Virginia Beach. VA. Earn up to $10,000. Housing is Available. For more information visit our website and Apply On-Line www.sunraysstudio.com or call 1.724.322.1858. E.O.E

VA Beach based Comm GC in business for 22 years is seeking a construction estimator. Ideal candidate should have the ability to prepare and review bid packages, perform material takeoffs and cost comparisons. Sign on bonus and relocation expenses paid for right candidate. Forward resume to: melissa@brownbuild.com or fax: 757-456-5395. EDE

Need Extra $$?? Variety of positions open @ a new downtown restaurant. Call Anne @ 252-757-1716 or 252-327-6375

Want_ed: Stud_ent to ass_ist kids ages 14, 13, and 9 with homwork . Must be math major with GPA of 3.4 or bet_ter. Strong in sci_ence a plus. Must be non-smoker, flexi_ble hours, trans_por_ta_tion, avail_able to work af_ter_noons, nights, and some wee_kends. Call 252-917-6787 or 252-752-1572 for in_ter_view.

OTHER

Retreatmyrtlebeach.com Spring Break/Grad Week 1-800-645-3618 We Have What You're Looking For! $100 Per Person & Up!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last chance for yearbook photos! All Spring and Summer 2006 graduates should come to Mendenhall Great Room #1 on April 26th from 9am-5pm. Call 328-9236 to schedule a time.

Spring is in BLOOM... at the Dowdy Student Stores

Sidewalk Sale!!!

Same day as Barefoot on the Mall, stop by!!!

Thursday, April 20

10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Student Plaza

ECU Ronald E. Dowdy Student Stores
Where Your Dollars Support Scholars
Wright Building • 328-6731
www.studentstores.ecu.edu

Apparel, tradebooks, in addition to all you can carry textbooks for $5 (old edition)!!!

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The New Campus Bookstore is open for buyback!

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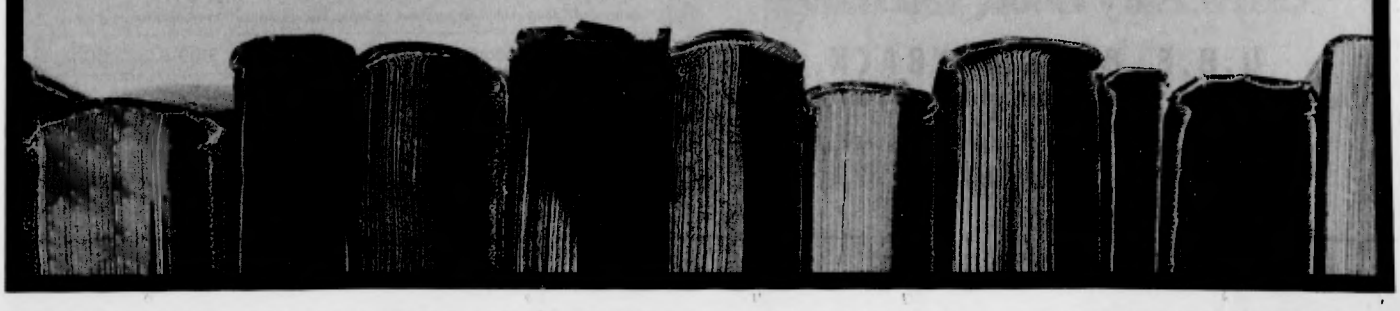
(Across from El Ranchito)
Hours: 8AM-6PM
Telephone: 439-2665
Reserve your textbooks for fall, e-mail us your schedule at
piratetextbooks@yahoo.com



Get more cash for your books at U.B.E. buyback.

U.B.E. Uptown Greenville • 516 South Cotanche St.

HOURS	
Monday - Wednesday, April 24-26	9:00A.M. to 6:00P.M.
Thursday & Friday, April 27&28	9:00A.M. to 7:00P.M.
Saturday, April 29	9:00A.M. to 6:00P.M.
Sunday, April 30	CLOSED
Monday - Thursday, May 1-4	9:00A.M. to 7:00P.M.
Friday, May 5	9:00A.M. to 6:00P.M.

We're Open on Commencement Day
Do some Pirate shopping before heading out of town!

HOURS	
Saturday, May 6	9:00A.M. to 6:00P.M.

U.B.E. Remote Book Buyback at the Alpha Phi House
(Bottom of College Hill) Just jog down to Alpha Phi and trade those books for cold cash!

HOURS	
Monday - Friday, April 24-28	9:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.
Saturday & Sunday, April 29 & 30	NO REMOTE
Monday - Thursday, May 1-4	9:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.

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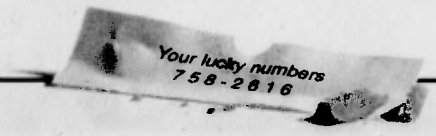


What's Hot

Top 5s:

Top 5 Movies:

1. *Ice Age: The Meltdown*
2. *Inside Man*
3. *ATL*
4. *Failure to Launch*
5. *V for Vendetta*

Top 5 Albums:

1. Rascal Flatts
2. LL Cool J
3. Toby Keith
4. Pink
5. The Fray

Top 5 TV Shows:

1. "American Idol-Tuesday"
2. "American Idol-Wednesday"
3. "Desperate Housewives"
4. "CSI: Miami"
5. "60 Minutes"

Top 5 Books:

1. *Two Little Girls in Blue*
2. *Gone*
3. *The Da Vinci Code*
4. *Shiver*
5. *The 5th Horseman*

Top 5 Movie Rentals:

1. *King Kong*
2. *Derailed*
3. *Memoirs of a Geisha*
4. *Chicken Little*
5. *A History of Violence*

Coming Soon:

1. *American Dreamz*
2. *The Sentinel*
3. *Silent Hill*
4. *Stick It*
5. *Akeelah and the Bee*

Horoscopes:

Aries- Stand up straight and accept a challenge. It's OK if you won't get paid much at first. You'll gain enough in fringe benefits.

Taurus- Go to a person who has too much, and it won't be long before you find a way to reach your goals. There is one.

Gemini- You're getting to the point in the discussion where money must be considered. You'd better figure out how much you have, and how much you're willing to give. Do it before the meeting.

Cancer- The controversy rages, and you could be caught in the middle. Hold out until tomorrow, and the problem will solve itself.

Leo- Hurry and do an important household job before conditions change. Your career will take up a lot more of your time after tomorrow.

Virgo- Others begin to realize how much work you've done. Accept their appreciation. You've earned it.

Libra- Thinking about the topic counts as mental preparation. Get your friends to help; don't try to do it all by yourself.

Scorpio- If you have experience, draw on it now and get much more for your efforts. If you don't have much experience, consult somebody who does.

Sagittarius- Invest in finishing a project you've had hanging around for too long. It'll cost you a few bucks, but you'll make that much back, and more.

Capricorn- An obstacle you've been struggling with for weeks is beginning to fade. The next phase is easier, and a lot more fun.

Aquarius- No more procrastination. Do what you promised. Don't worry you will be well rewarded for your efforts.

Pisces- Consult people who have more experience. They'll put you on the right path. Learn from their mistakes and save yourself a lot of time.

Fun Facts:

In an average lifetime a person will walk the equivalent of three times around the world.

New York's Central Park is nearly twice the size of the entire country of Monaco.

A Blue whale's heart is the size of a Volkswagon Beetle.

The average American consumes nine pounds of food additives every year.

Black bears are not always black. They can be brown, cinnamon, yellow and sometimes white.

The venom of the king cobra is so deadly that just one gram of it can kill 150 people.

Exploring a warm, wet trend: Soap

No longer just for your mouth!

AARON BORREGO
STAFF WRITER

People, how many times have you sat next to the kid whose general stench is comparable to that of a small piece of death smothered by south of rancid? As the scope of this week shifts from toilet paper to soap, I am going to uncover some hidden secrets about this product that everyone needs to use on a daily basis.

It seems as though a students have forgotten about our little friend so we will start with a definition.

Definition: Soap is a cleansing agent made from the interaction of fats and oils with alkali. Oils and fats for soap are compounds of glycerin and a fatty acid. When oils are mixed with an alkali, they form glycerin and the sodium salt of the fatty acid.

Most soap removes grease and dirt because some of their components are surfactants (surface-active agents). Surfactants have a molecular structure that acts as a link between water and the dirt particles.

Enough chemistry, I know you aren't reading this to learn. Records mentioning the use of soapy materials date from ancient times about 2,000 years. Soap making was common in Italy and Spain during the eighth century.

So there you go, absolutely no excuse for not getting chummy with this product. There are two people who don't shower, dirty hippies and small children. Unless you are one of the preceding two, get off your butt nancy boy (or girl for that matter) and get in the water.

Not showering prepares you for the rapture of the second coming, the mass contamination of the sewage system and possibly the 1960s, but that's it.

Sometimes everyone smells, including yours truly. However, that is nothing a little bit of fatty oil loving can't solve. You must use water when using soap and just as the directions on shampoo say, lather thoroughly, rinse and repeat.

Although I understand this task can be a little daunting, consider this. You stink and it may hurt someone's feelings. Just the other day some guy with an apparent phobia of showering gave new meaning to "the business end of a wildebeest."

i felt sad that this individual felt it not important enough to spare the world from smelling like a urine-drenched onion. Those crazy kids and their poor hygiene practices. i must confess that the girl next to you actually gagged once. Way to go buddy with your wonderful use of impressionable people skills.

As this article proves, you must not fear the soap. You must use the soap ... wet the soap ... and love the soap.

Hmm, it seems as though we could all use a little bit of this soap in our lives. I'm not saying to go overboard but there is only so much cologne one can wear before becoming a sensory hazard in need of a prompt hose down.

see **SOAP**| page B2

Photos.com

Lathering up with some kind of mild soap at least once daily is recommended for everyone.

Time to shed that winter skin

How to get a perfectly bronzed body

MARIANNE BARROW
STAFF WRITER

Photos.com

Tanning on the beach is dangerous and not the route to choose.

It's the end of the school year and for a while there, it was already feeling like the middle of summer. Looking around campus it's easy to see that skirts, shorts and tank tops are slowly making their seasonal appearance. So maybe you want to wear more skin-baring clothing but you have one pesky little problem: you're so pale that you're afraid once the sun hits your legs it'll blind everyone around you.

Don't worry, I know where you're coming from and I'm right there with you. This is the awkward time of year where winter skin has been uncovered and that can be intimidating. However, thanks to years and years of research and technology you no longer have to worry about being the pasty kid.

We've got three major choices for you to get that golden glow that you're looking for. First, there's the tanning bed. This method has become so popular that apartment complexes come with free use of tanning beds. I'm assuming that most of you have tried this route. Based on recent studies and facts, tanning beds have proven to be extremely detrimental to the health of users. Its high levels of concentrated UV radiation makes risks of skin cancer and premature aging very real.

Although tanning salons tell customers that the new mixture of UVA and UVB rays in the beds are safer and simulate the sun's rays, it's always going to be bad for your skin. Sure you may feel great now and through your 20s but the long-lasting effects of frequent visits to the tanning bed are going to show up eventually.

I admit to being a tanning junky, I used to work in an upscale salon and tanned several times a week. It was then that I began to realize how dangerous it was and after seeing women come in with leather looking skin, I stopped.

Thankfully, new advances have come through for self-tanning. If you're like me and first tried this when you were in seventh grade, I know you're worried. When self-tanners were first introduced their consistency for streaky, orange limbs was pretty amazing. I recall going to my middle school gym class with legs that can only be described as oompa loompa orange and silently cursing the genius at

see **SKIN** page B2

Photos.com

Not all girls are looking for a proposal

We just want to have fun

SENSIBLE PARTIER
TRUTH WRITER

Generally speaking, guys are quick to label girls. She's too needy, always wants to talk about feelings, freaks out about the tiny things and you know the rest. While some of this might be true about some women, I personally find it offensive to be classified into a giant group of whiney girls.

The best way to express this false generalization is through the classic college guy motto, which should be tattooed to their foreheads, so no other girl has to waste her time. "Hey listen I'm in college and I don't want a serious relationship." Shocker.

Listen boys, we know that you're in college – surprise, we're there too. Here's another eye-opener, not every girl is trying to marry you as soon as she shows interest. I know you're busy with classes and that you're trying to go out to party with your friends ... believe me, so are we.

It's the 21st century and the ladies are going places, we don't want to be held down anymore than you do. If Carrie Bradshaw has taught her dedicated viewers anything, it's that women can play the field just as fiercely as men. Don't get me wrong, dating is (hopefully) enjoyable. Going out to a nice dinner and enjoying a good conversation never gets old. However, just because we go out on a few dates it doesn't mean we expect a ring within the next month. Relax already, we want to have fun and experience as much as we can, too.

But the sad thing is, college life usually doesn't add up to an extremely romantic situation. Sharing meals at the dining hall and switching dorm rooms based upon roommates' schedules doesn't exactly bring spark to a new relationship. Also, stum-

see **FUN** page B2

Globe trot like a pro this summer

The best bets for some great international summer travel

LIZ FULTON
STAFF WRITER

Breathe deep. Take a moment and reflect.

Spring semester is almost over and it's time to take advantage of all those upcoming class-free days and spend them traveling the unknown and undiscovered. After all, soon we'll be out in the real world and the time for taking the beaten path will be about as relevant as sleeping in on a Tuesday.

If you couldn't get enough of my previous travel plans article, then brace yourself for a whole new batch of adventures.

Is backpacking through Europe the ultimate outing? Then I would like to suggest a quick stop in Ireland. Drop into Dublin not only for the shopping and the sheer beauty of the country's largest city, but for the Guinness Storehouse. There you will experience unbelievably good beer that tastes fresher than any you have ever tasted. Even better is the fact that it's complimentary following the paid tour of the storehouse.

It's not every year that the greatest international sporting event takes place. For some reason the United States has not jumped on the soccer bandwagon with the rest of the world, but if you are in the Gelsenkirchen or Nuremberg area during June, cheer the Americans to victory as they take on Czechoslovakia and Ghana.

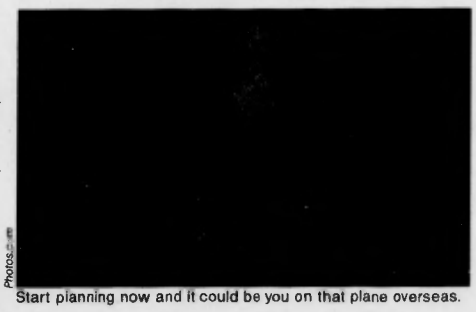
Speaking of Ghana, if you are lucky enough to be a history major, work some magic to secure a spot to their two week excursion through the country during the first two weeks of June. Notable spots on the trek include Kumasi, the past capital of the Ashanti Kingdom, Aburi's Botanical Gardens and Herbal Medicine Institute. Just make sure you're immunized against malaria.

If you have a fear of flying, head North to the underrated and often overlooked land mass that is Canada. Stop in Vancouver to take a stroll down the Capilano Suspension Bridge. Similar to the bridge in Grandfather Mountain, it is minutes from downtown Vancouver and connects to a series of other bridges that hang 100 feet above the forest floor.

Once your feet are planted back on the ground, head down to Robson Street, Vancouver's most eclectic collection of specialty stores and restaurants. The street's Web site promises an "opportunity to 'people watch' as the world shops the street." As a very infrequent visitor to our "neighbor to the north" i can only hope for an Avril Lavigne or Celine Dion sighting.

If seeing one of Canada's favorite crooners isn't enough, then catching a music festival

see **TRAVEL** page B2



Photos.com

Start planning now and it could be you on that plane overseas.

Skin *from page B1*

Neutrogena who had tricked me into using their lotion.

After that I swore off the stuff until this year, when to my surprise others who tried new formulas raved about it. Personally I have been using Jergens' natural glow daily moisturizer and am extremely pleased with the results. This kind of tan in a bottle is unique because you apply it day by day and begin to see your skin darken gradually. They also come in three different shades such as fair, medium and dark skin tones which allows you to match up your perfect color. Not only does it make you tan in a more natural way, but the moisturizing half gives your skin a healthy shimmer as well.

Sometimes there's a special occasion that you need to look stunning for and gradual self tanning won't do. In this case I highly recommend Mystic Tan. It's a booth that you stand up in (naked or in a bathing suit, that's up to you) while a machine sprays your body with a fine mist, producing an amazing and realistic tan in hours. The whole process takes about 10 seconds and you're left with natural, beautifully bronzed results. Before experiencing Mystic Tan it's recommended that you exfoliate thoroughly so your tan lasts longer, but besides that the act of getting a golden tan from this method is flawless.

Over 15 million people have used Mystic Tan and been pleased with the results, and it's hard to argue with numbers like that.

There are several ways to get a tan and this is the perfect time to experiment to get your perfect just-on-vacation glow. With all the new studies and testing done on self-tanner I honestly believe that it's safe to use now, much safer than lying in a tanning bed for 20 minutes.

Now you don't have to be afraid to get out that cute skirt and the rest of your killer summer clothes, it's time for you to uncover your freshly bronzed skin.

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

Soap! *from page B1*

Oh, to the people who say our obsession with soap is caused by a conspiracy, Johnny Vegas, cry me a river and peddle those hippie wares somewhere else where someone cares. Might I make a suggestion, if you want to smell like a wet dog when you get up, be careful that someone doesn't roll up some newspaper and put your nose in it.

So can we try to actively contain one's personal "aroma?" I will recommend only one soap, any kind. We all know you're proud and think your own stink is magic but get a clue Bruno, you smell like the far reaches of the inner sanctum of a tuna's tail pipe.

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

Fun *from page B1*

bling home after a night of drinking only to wind up, oh yes, lying on a single bed and "watching a movie" isn't the most magical way to spend an evening. By the way, we know where you are going with that idea, we aren't that stupid.

So maybe your girlfriend keeps complaining about the small things. Well here's the best hint I can give you, it's all about the small things. Where's the finesse? The typical girl isn't expecting jewels and fancy outings every night, just a little well-deserved attention and a compliment every now and then.

When it comes right down to it, men and women mostly look for the same thing. A person to have fun with, make them feel appreciated and someone who's willing to be there when you need them. Although women are more sensitive than men on average, it doesn't mean that all of them are looking to drag you into a life-long commitment. They're also not asking for too much when we tell you to put a little more effort into a relationship once it's gotten past the initial infatuation period. If that's too hard for you to handle, then you should re-evaluate why you're in the relationship and stop dragging her around with false hopes.

Regardless of your gender, take a second to stop and think about what the other person's thinking or the messages they're sending. If you can't understand them, then just ask. Though sometimes it seems like men and women are from opposite sides of the spectrum, I really think we're much closer than everyone wants to admit.

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

Travel *from page B1*

not on your home turf could turn out to be the ultimate music experience. Starting July 20th, Spain will host its 12th Festival Internacional de Benicássim featuring Depeche Mode, Echo and the Bunnymen, The Strokes and a whole bunch of acts no one in the United States has probably heard of before.

In August, hop across the pond to Great Britain for the Reading and Leeds Festivals. So what if you've seen Pearl Jam, or my new favorite, The Arctic Monkeys, before? The more important question is if you've ever seen them play in England?

As a final hurrah of the summer, tell all of your friends that you visited Savoca, Sicily, the location used in *The Godfather* where Michael is exiled after killing Sollozzo and McClusky in the restaurant. There you can walk the same streets that the wedding party took to the Bar Vitelli.

Wherever your travels may take you this summer, remember to enjoy the scenery, take lots of pictures and know how to say "where is the toilet" in five different languages.

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

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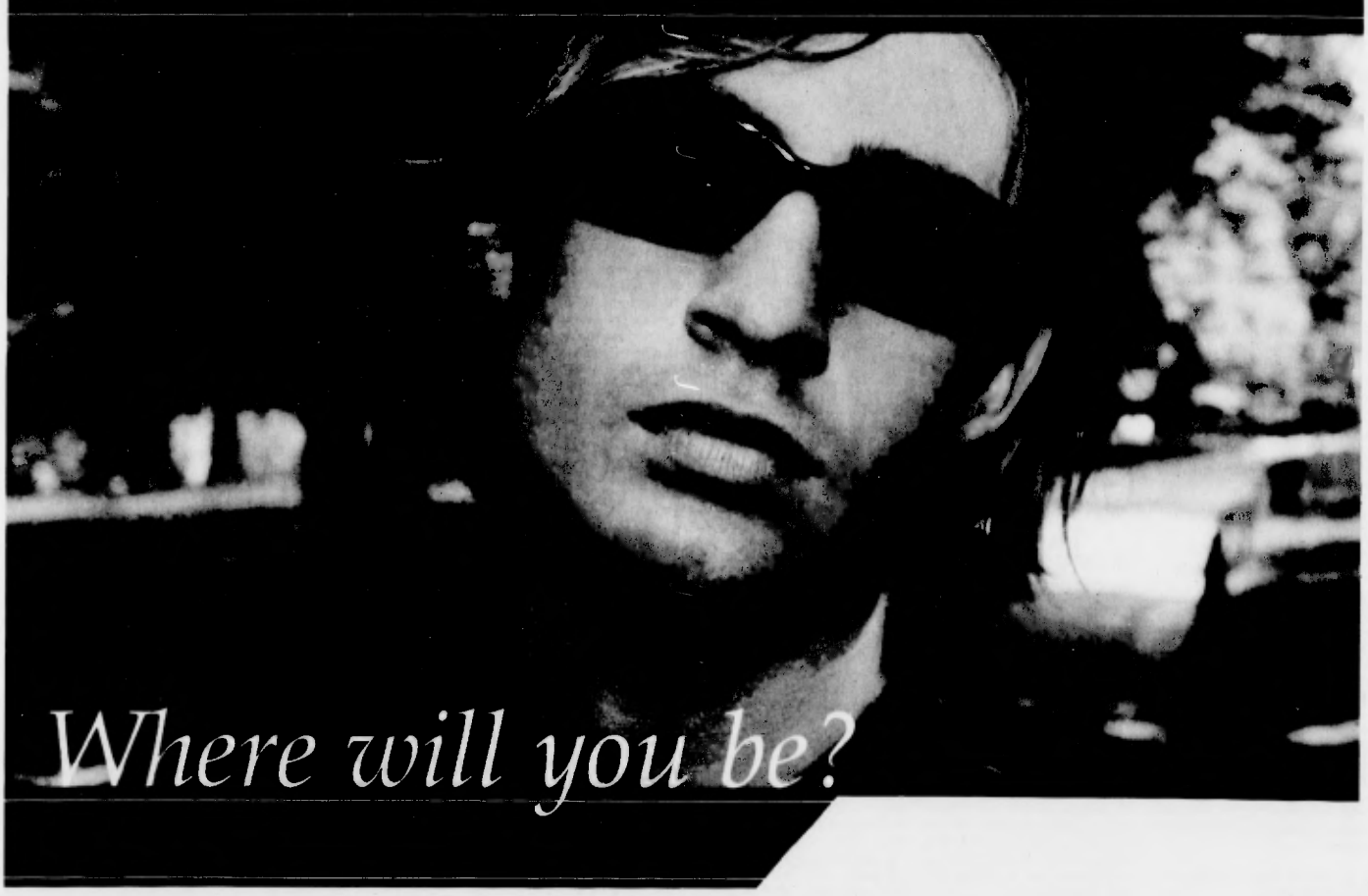


Get Started. Get Ahead. Live.
Summer School 2006

Once a Pirate, always a Pirate

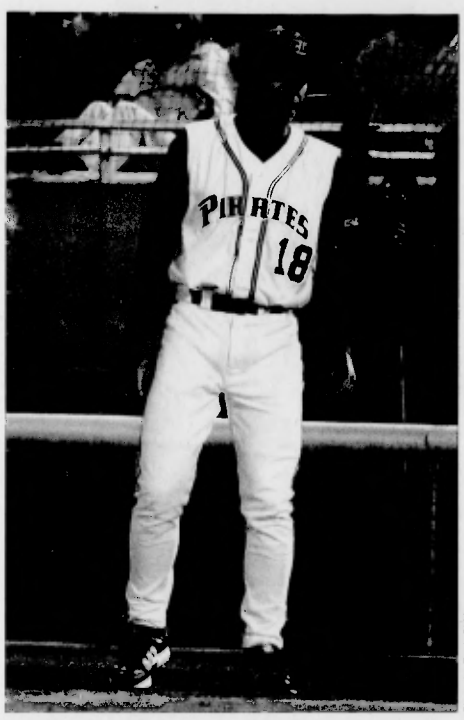


Photo by Zach Sirkin

McCullough csn be found at first base for the Pirates on gameday.

Former player's return to ECU has been 'rewarding'

RON CLEMENTS
STAFF WRITER

At some point in 2005 Clayton McCullough realized that his dream of becoming a Major League Baseball player wasn't going to happen. So, after spending four years bouncing around the minor leagues, he decided to return to ECU to complete the necessary nine credits he needed to earn his bachelor's degree in Communication. But, he just couldn't stay away from baseball.

Reuniting with his former ECU pitching coach, Tommy Eason, McCullough volunteered to help Eason with the Pitt Community College baseball team. Eason was on Keith LeClair's staff in 2002, the final season for McCullough (and LeClair), and is now the head coach at PCC. In November McCullough received a phone call from one Billy Godwin.

"Coach Godwin called me and asked me would I think about coming to ECU to help them out, work with catchers," said McCullough.

"They needed somebody who specialized in working with catchers and kind of give them a hand in hitting and pitching and whatever else. And it's just worked out great. I can finish school and get a chance to get some good experience at coaching over here at ECU, where I played."

Growing up around baseball, his dad was a professional scout; the former Pirate All-Conference catcher cannot see himself with a "normal" job. Although his coaching duties are on a volunteer basis, McCullough said just being involved with the ECU program he saw grow first-hand while LeClair was the coach is "rewarding."

ECU has qualified for the last seven NCAA baseball tournaments, a streak that began in McCullough's freshman year. During his four years at ECU, he saw the Pirates get better year in and year out and his productivity increased as well. Following his senior year, the Cleveland Indians drafted McCullough. He spent the summer of 2002 playing Rookie League ball in Burlington before joining Cleveland's single A team in Lake County, Ohio. He came back to North Carolina in 2004 to join the Kinston Indians and, over the course of the next two years, would get called up to AA and AAA teams before going back to Lake County.

"It was great to play different levels, see different stadiums and different brands of baseball. It was very worth while," McCullough said.

In the end, it was his career goal that brought McCullough back to Greenville.

"My dream growing up was to play in the Major Leagues," McCullough said.

"I played at a high level in college, high levels in the minor leagues, but I just saw that my opportunity was probably not going to be a Major League Baseball player. I could have stayed and gone back and bounced around the minors for a few more years, but I was so close to my degree and coaching was what I ultimately wanted to for my career, for the rest of my life. There was no better time than now to start that and go ahead and get done with my "school."

"I just realized that I wasn't going to be a Major League player and once you start telling yourself that, it's tough to go out there everyday and get after it. So it was time for me to come back and start something fresh."

Returning to Greenville during the inaugural season of Clark-LeClair Stadium means something special to McCullough.

"Coach LeClair embodied this program so well – his work ethic and his determination," McCullough said.

"He set the stage for all this to be here. Coach LeClair came in here and took this program to a new level to where we're contending for a chance to play in the College World Series and play for a national title. The school hasn't gotten there yet, but we feel like we're on the cusp of that."

While LeClair continues to struggle with Lou Gehrig's Disease, he remains a positive influence on McCullough and LeClair's coaching traits and ability to "create an atmosphere of fun" are something McCullough wants to emulate.

"He was great at handling every kind of player," McCullough said of LeClair.

"He didn't have special treatment for the best player on the team and didn't treat the last guy like he was the last guy. Everybody felt like they were important and they were part of something special. His biggest quality was making everybody realize that they had a role on that team, and it may not be to start every game and pitch every Friday night, but those guys on the bench felt just as important as the guys playing. He was just so good at communicating and making guys feel comfortable."

LeClair's dedication to an off-season weight lifting regimen helped build the Diamond Bucs into a national power, but not just through conditioning.

"He felt like it was a tremendous part of this program, that team continuity and chemistry you build working out together, running together, going through some of the toughest thing you'll ever have to, so that when get into the games, It'll be easy because that guy sitting next to you did the same thing you did," McCullough said.

McCullough sees some of those same traits and dedication in ECU's current first-year coach, Godwin.

"He has a tremendous desire to win. He's so competitive," McCullough said.

"He asks these guys to just play hard. We'll get you guys ready to play during the week in practice and then just go out and give it your 100 percent and things will work out for themselves. I think these guys have really responded to that."

With a sweep of Albany this past weekend and a 2-1 win over in-state rival N.C. State last week, the Pirates (25-13, 4-5 Conference USA) have now won six straight and built some momentum as they head back into conference play with a three-game set against Marshall beginning Friday.

Qualifying for an eighth straight NCAA tournament is an obvious goal for the 2006 Pirates and breaking that streak is not something the new coaching staff wants to do.

"All the guys realize that's part of this program, to carry on the tradition," McCullough said.

"You don't want to be the team that stops that."

While ECU has started 4-5 in C-USA, McCullough is confident the Pirates have gotten things turned around and should be able to build some more momentum with a home series against Marshall before playing host to nationally ranked Tulane the following weekend.

"If you look too far ahead, then you can stumble on some games that you should win, so the old cliché, you just gotta take care of today and the rest will take care of itself," McCullough said.

"That 40-win mark has kinda been, 'If you get to 40, you're in.' But with the schedule we've played, having played at the number one team in the nation, at the number two team in the nation, three games against N.C. State, UNC Wilmington, three games, you throw in Houston, Tulane and Southern Miss – it's a pretty demanding schedule.

"You would hope that end of the end of the year, if we're not at that 40-win mark, that magical number, they'll look at us and say, 'East Carolina played a real tough schedule and beat some good teams.' We got one on the road against Rice. We've beaten some good teams, College of Charleston is ranked. We've had some good games against tough teams, so we hope that will carry some weight."

Once May comes, and McCullough has his degree in hand, he, and the rest of the Pirates, will hopefully be planning for a trip to Omaha. Because, of course, it would be a nice addition to McCullough's coaching résumé.

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

Mr. Bush, the Texans await you

Houston is set to take USC's Bush with the first pick

RON CLEMENTS
STAFF WRITER

Before Reggie Bush declared himself eligible for the NFL Draft, the Southern California junior running back was already considered a lock to go to the Houston Texans with the first pick of next week's NFL Draft. Nothing has really changed as Bush has been solid in his workouts and the nation's best college player from the last two seasons should relegate the oft-injured Domanick Davis to a backup role.

There were three running backs drafted within the first 10 picks in 2005 – Ronnie Brown, Carnell Williams and Cedric Benson. Bush is the lone top running back in this year's class, but this year's class may have more talent and certainly has more depth than last year. Bush's teammate at USC, LenDale White, DeAngelo Williams of Memphis and Minnesota's Laurence Maroney could all be drafted in the first round and will certainly all be off the board by the end of round two.

Bush did everything at USC – played wideout, returned punts and kicks and, of course ran the ball for an incredible 8.7-yard average per carry. Bush scored 16 rushing touchdowns for the potent USC offense, while scoring two more via passes from Matt Leinart. He also returned a punt for a score against Washington. In his three seasons with the Trojans, the 5-11, 200-pound Bush scored a total of 42 touchdowns, 25 on the ground, 13 through the air, three via punt returns and one kickoff return for a score against UCLA in 2003. He even threw a touchdown pass in 2004 versus Arizona State.

With elusiveness like Barry Sanders and the speed and versatility of Deion Sanders, the 2005 Heisman winner is a perfect fit for a Texans team without a great offensive line. His playmaking ability should take some of the pressure off the newly re-signed David Carr, so that Carr will have time to get the ball out to Houston's now outstanding trio of receivers in Corey Bradford, Andre Johnson and Eric Mouids.

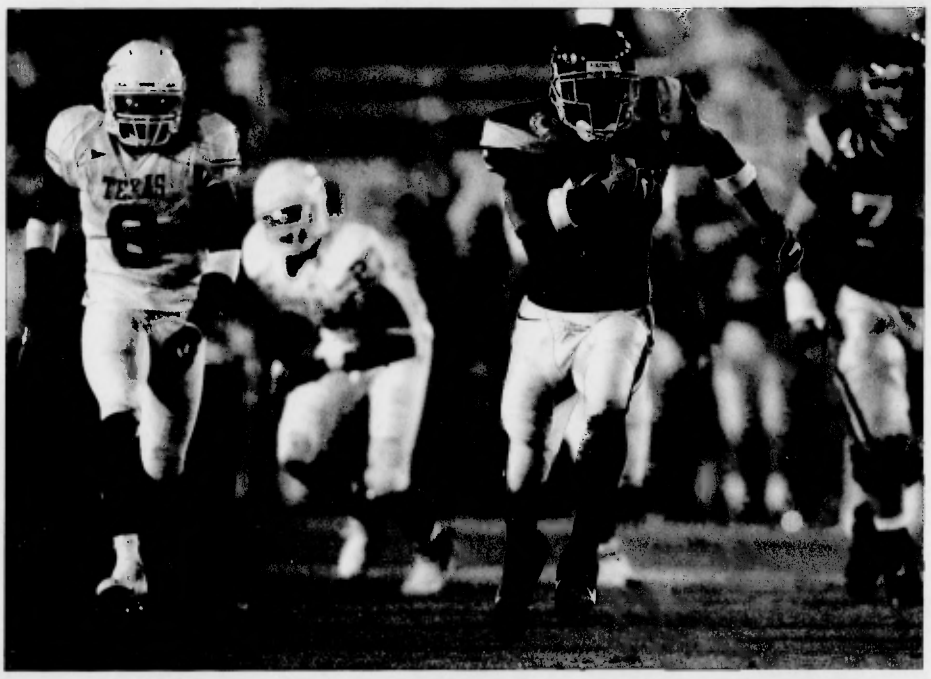
After Bush, we probably won't see another running back taken until the Baltimore Ravens at 13 or the Minnesota Vikings at 17. Baltimore does have Jamal Lewis, but adding depth behind Lewis with a guy who could step right in would make sense. The Vikings lost Michael Bennett to New Orleans, but added Chester Taylor. Taylor's not exactly a top-notch NFL back.

Regardless of who drafts the next running back, that running back will be DeAngelo Williams. Williams led all college backs in rushing in 2005 with 1,964 yards and is the NCAA career leader all-purpose yards. He is fourth in career rushing yards, trailing only Heisman winners Tony Dorsett, Ricky Williams and Ron Dayne.

The 217-pound Williams was a workhorse in college and a team that's been missing an every-down back from its offense like Minnesota would love to land the Memphis senior, who ripped ECU for 226 yards last October.

Former Minnesota Gopher Laurence Maroney will come off the board shortly after Williams. Maroney is one of the biggest backs in this draft and really came into his own after being part of a 1-2 combination in 2004 with Marion Barber III. Maroney led the Big Ten in rushing and was fifth in the nation despite splitting time in 2005 with Gary Russell. He is big and fast with surprising breakaway ability. Carolina could use a guy like Maroney in the backfield to give the Panthers and DaShaun Foster a similar combo to 2004 when they had a healthy Stephen Davis and Foster.

Many draftologists figured USC's LenDale White could go as high as 10 to Arizona. Then several things happened, none of them good for White's draft stock. First, the Cardinals signed free agent Edgerrin James away from Indianapolis. Then, speaking of Indianapolis, White's performance at the combine was far from stellar. The largest running back in the draft only did 15 reps in the bench press and his 40-time was unimpressive.



KRT

After coming off two stellar years with the USC Trojans, Bush is expected to be taken by the Texans with the first pick of this year's NFL Draft.

The 6-foot-2, 235-pound White earned a reputation as a Jerome Bettis-type finisher in 2005, leading the nation in touchdowns with 24. His off-season workouts, however has dropped his stock from a potential top-10 pick to the late first round, with Pittsburgh being a likely spot, to replace the retired Bettis.

One player whose combine workouts did not hurt him was Louisiana State's Joseph Addai. Addai saw himself rise from a low-second-round pick to a possible late first-rounder. His blistering 40-time of 4.37 seconds shot his draft stock off like a rocket, propelling him high on the draft boards of teams in search for a running back. He has good hands, catching 20 balls for 180 yards and a score in 2005. Addai may have passed White on some boards and could see himself in New England or Indianapolis as a third-down back.

Despite sitting out in 2004 due to transfer rules, Wisconsin junior Brian Calhoun made himself a early Heisman candidate in 2005 by rushing for more than 600 yards and nine touchdowns in Wisconsin's first four games. Calhoun finished second in the Big Ten and sixth in the nation with 1,636 yards and 22 touchdowns. He should be the sixth running back taken in this draft, somewhere early second round.

Calhoun's teammate at Wisconsin, Matt Bernstein is the best fullback in this 2006 class. Bernstein helped pave the way for three 1,000-yard back in Madison – Michael Bennett, Anthony Davis and Calhoun. Described as a "guard in the backfield," the 270-pound Bernstein can run if needed. Getting the bulk of carries in a 2004 game against Penn State because of an injury to Davis, "Bernie" ran for 123 yards on 27 carries in a Badger win. A much-underrated player, Bernstein could and should go on the first day of the draft.

The other fullback who could go on day one is Colorado's Lawrence Vickers. At 6-foot-1, 245 pounds, Vickers is big enough to play fullback, but light enough to line up at tailback in short yardage. He is strong, but not exactly a blazer – as demonstrated by his 4.86 40-time.

Some other backs to keep an eye out for on day one of the draft are UCLA's Maurice Drew, Florida State scat back Leon Washington and Chris Barclay of Wake Forest.

This is the fifth of my NFL Draft previews. In Tuesday's edition of *TEC*, I will preview the quarterbacks and Thursday, I'll have my mock draft. The NFL Draft is April 29-30 in New York City.

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

ECU Ice Hockey 2006:
The Inaugural Season

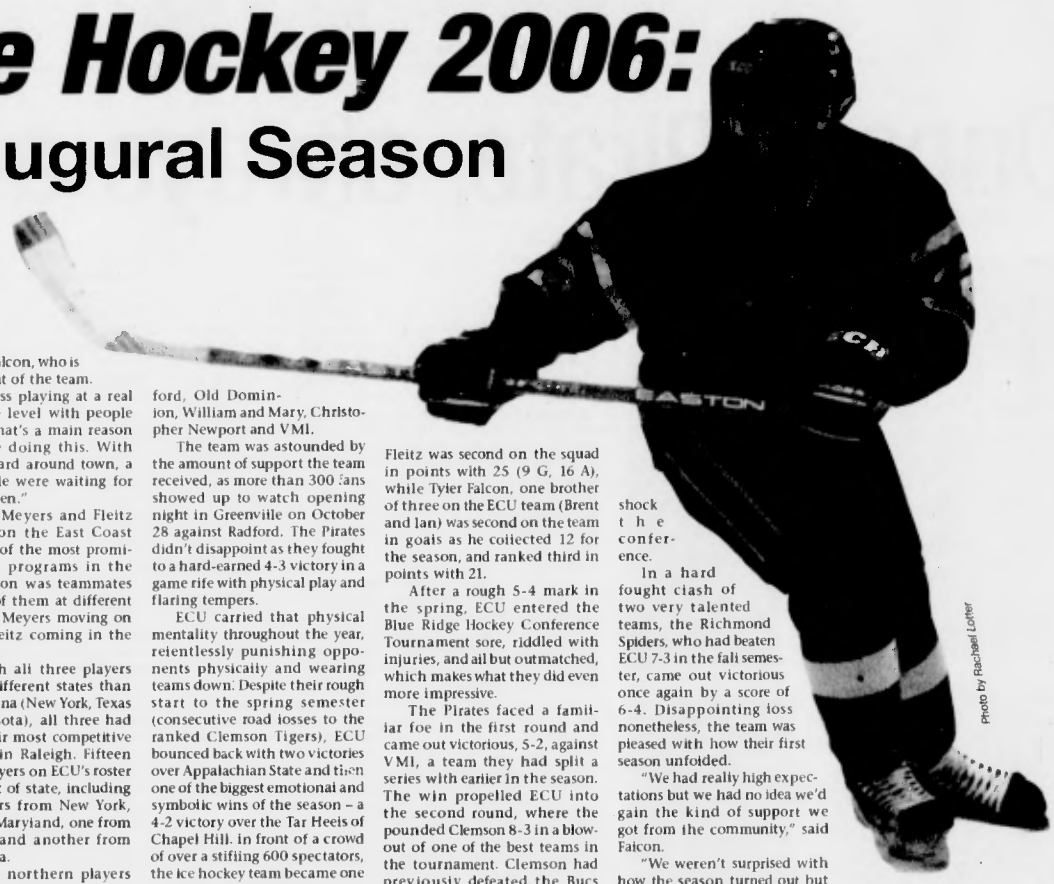


Photo by Rachael Loffer

Pirates make statement in first year of ECU Ice Hockey

TONY ZOPPO
SPORTS EDITOR

There was a time when ice hockey and the South mixed about as well as oil and water. It was as if there was a great dividing line (much like the Mason-Dixon) that separated the good hockey regions from the sub-par, or where hockey flat out barely existed. Massachusetts, New York, Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Vermont – basically anywhere in the Northeast and Midwest, hockey thrived and was played on streets or patches of ice wherever an ample surface could be found. There was simply no room for hockey in the southern regions of the United States.

However, hockey has grown widespread across the country, visiting and taking hold in places that once would have never played host to the sport. One of those places is North Carolina.

Transplanted northerners in areas such as Cary, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Durham and Charlotte (along with the Carolina Hurricanes of course) helped bring interest to the south and built the foundation for the popularity of hockey in the south as it is now. Until last year, ice hockey had no place in Greenville with very little public interest and no legitimate facility to host a team. However, there was certainly interest in the area.

Enter Brent Falcon, Jordan Meyers and Corey Fleitz (plus a new ice rink, "Bladez on ice") and suddenly there was not only hockey in Greenville, there was a team at ECU.

"After I stopped playing with the East Coast Eagles, I had very few options if I still wanted to play," said Falcon, who is the president of the team.

"You miss playing at a real competitive level with people your age. That's a main reason that we are doing this. With what we heard around town, a lot of people were waiting for this to happen."

Falcon, Meyers and Fleitz all played on the East Coast Eagles, one of the most prominent travel programs in the region. Falcon was teammates with both of them at different times, with Meyers moving on first and Fleitz coming in the season after.

Although all three players hail from different states than North Carolina (New York, Texas and Minnesota), all three had some of their most competitive experience in Raleigh. Fifteen out of 18 players on ECU's roster are from out of state, including seven players from New York, three from Maryland, one from Minnesota and another from Pennsylvania.

"I think northern players have brought talent and a lot of interest in hockey to the southern regions and the sport grew a lot," Falcon said.

"The popularity has taken hold and there is a better crop of southern players year by year. I feel like there's much more opportunity for kids in the Carolinas to play hockey than there was before."

That opportunity turned to success this past year for Falcon and the other members of the newly formed ECU Ice Hockey team as the Pirates finished their first full year of action with a record of 14-7 overall and 9-3 in the Southwest Division.

ECU hit the ice and didn't look back during the fall semester, blazing a path to a 7-2 start by the beginning of December, with victories against VCU, Radford, Old Dominion, William and Mary, Christopher Newport and VMI.

The team was astounded by the amount of support the team received, as more than 300 fans showed up to watch opening night in Greenville on October 28 against Radford. The Pirates didn't disappoint as they fought to a hard-earned 4-3 victory in a game rife with physical play and flaring tempers.

ECU carried that physical mentality throughout the year, relentlessly punishing opponents physically and wearing teams down. Despite their rough start to the spring semester (consecutive road losses to the ranked Clemson Tigers), ECU bounced back with two victories over Appalachian State and then one of the biggest emotional and symbolic wins of the season – a 4-2 victory over the Tar Heels of Chapel Hill. In front of a crowd of over a stifling 600 spectators, the ice hockey team became one of the few athletic programs at ECU to have topped UNC in any sport, varsity or club, in recent memory. The Pirates took that game in convincing fashion as they wore the Heels down, as they did with so many teams, with merciless physical play.

However, the Pirates didn't boast just the ability to set the tone physically; they had their fair share of scoring talent as well.

Mike Ormsbee recorded 42 points in the regular season (24 goals, 18 assists), good for a top five finish in the conference. Ormsbee was dominant on the offensive side of the ice, which was never displayed more accurately than when he scored six goals in a single game against UNC-Wilmington.

Sophomore forward Corey Fleitz was second on the squad in points with 25 (9 G, 16 A), while Tyler Falcon, one brother of three on the ECU team (Brent and Ian) was second on the team in goals as he collected 12 for the season, and ranked third in points with 21.

After a rough 5-4 mark in the spring, ECU entered the Blue Ridge Hockey Conference Tournament sore, riddled with injuries, and all but outmatched, which makes what they did even more impressive.

The Pirates faced a familiar foe in the first round and came out victorious, 5-2, against VMI, a team they had split a series with earlier in the season. The win propelled ECU into the second round, where the pounded Clemson 8-3 in a blowout of one of the best teams in the tournament. Clemson had previously defeated the Bucs 6-5, and 7-3 in ECU's opening spring series.

The team now found themselves staring an opportunity to win the BRHC Tournament dead in the face. In just their first year of existence, ECU had made a statement simply just getting to this point, and had a chance to shock the conference.

In a hard fought clash of two very talented teams, the Richmond Spiders, who had beaten ECU 7-3 in the fall semester, came out victorious once again by a score of 6-4. Disappointing loss nonetheless, the team was pleased with how their first season unfolded.

"We had really high expectations but we had no idea we'd gain the kind of support we got from the community," said Falcon.

"We weren't surprised with how the season turned out but we were definitely pleased that all our hard worked came to fruition at the end of the season."

Looks like there's room for hockey in the South after all.

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

Sophomore Corey Fleitz leads the way with a pep talk before the game against Clemson in the Blue Ridge Hockey Conference Tournament, held in Wilmington, N.C.

Nathan Buhr (above) takes a rest on the ECU bench during the UNC Chapel Hill game. Buhr finished the season with 11 goals on six goals and five assists. Head Coach Wayne Cox (below) walks through the locker room during intermission of one of the Pirates' games this past season. The first year coach led the team to a 14-7 overall mark.

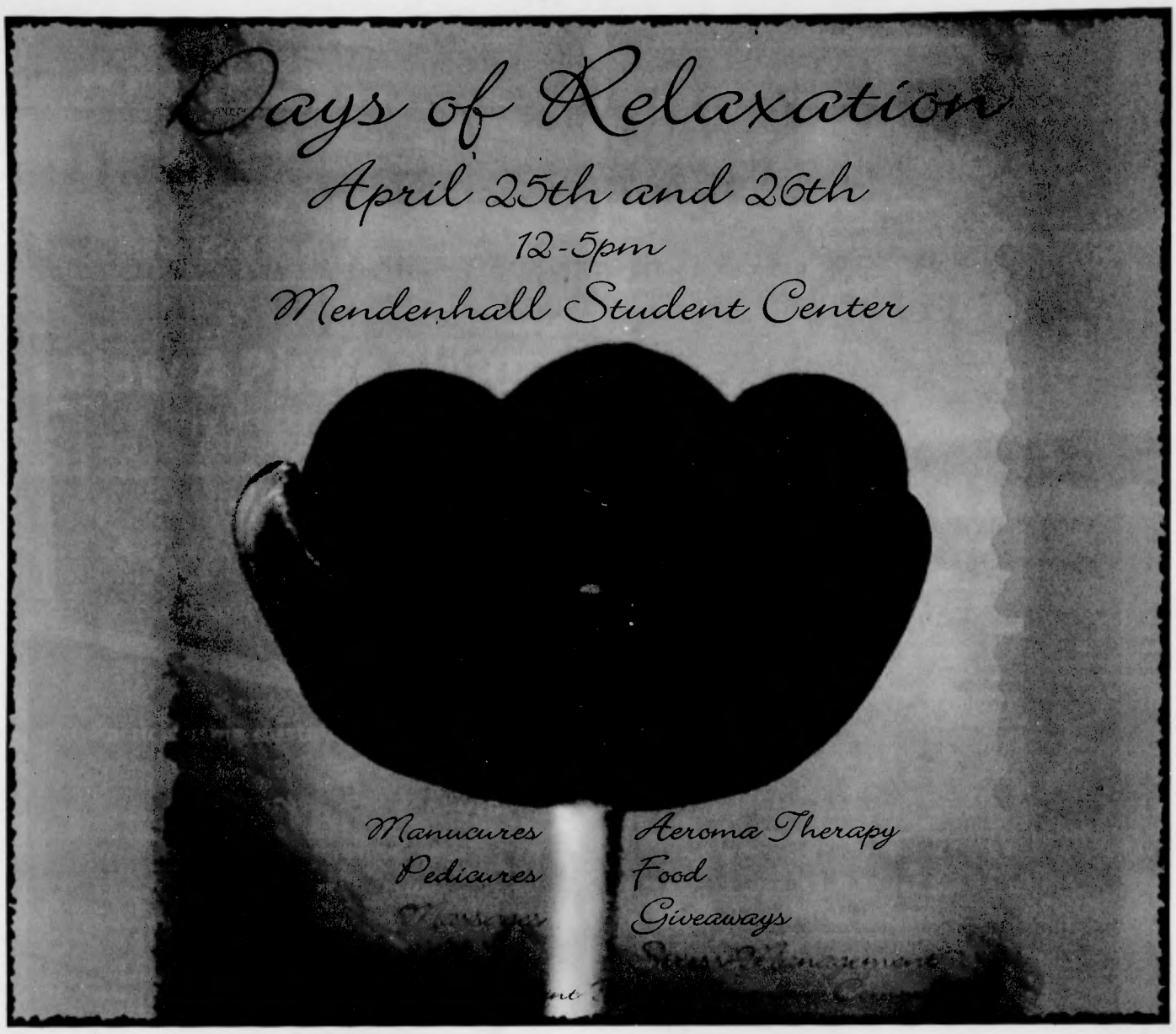
Defensemen Jon Huck and Jordan Myers make a joint effort in stopping an offensive attack from VMI during the Pirates 5-2 win in the BRHC tournament. Huck is a sophomore transfer from Appalachian State University and is one of seven players on the team who hails from New York. Meyers is an Austin, Texas native and played for the East Coast Eagles AA squad.

The Pirates warm up before one of their home games at Bladez on Ice. ECU compiled a 7-1 record at home, bringing in over 300 fans to each game on average and a stunning 600+ for the game against UNC Chapel Hill.

Defensemen Jordan Meyers flattens a Clemson forward during the Pirates match up with the Tigers in the BRHC Tournament while Tyler Falcon cleans up the mess and gathers the puck. ECU went on to win the game in convincing fashion, 8-3, which propelled them into the championship game against the Richmond Spiders.

Freshman forward Ian Falcon concentrates as he plays with a practice puck before the game. Falcon, brother of Brent and Tyler (Tyler's twin), finished the season with 17 points on five goals and 12 assists and also led the team with 75 penalty minutes. Coach Cox (below) speaks with the prospective members of the team when ECU held tryouts near the beginning of the 2005 fall semester.

Photos by Kyle Fisher



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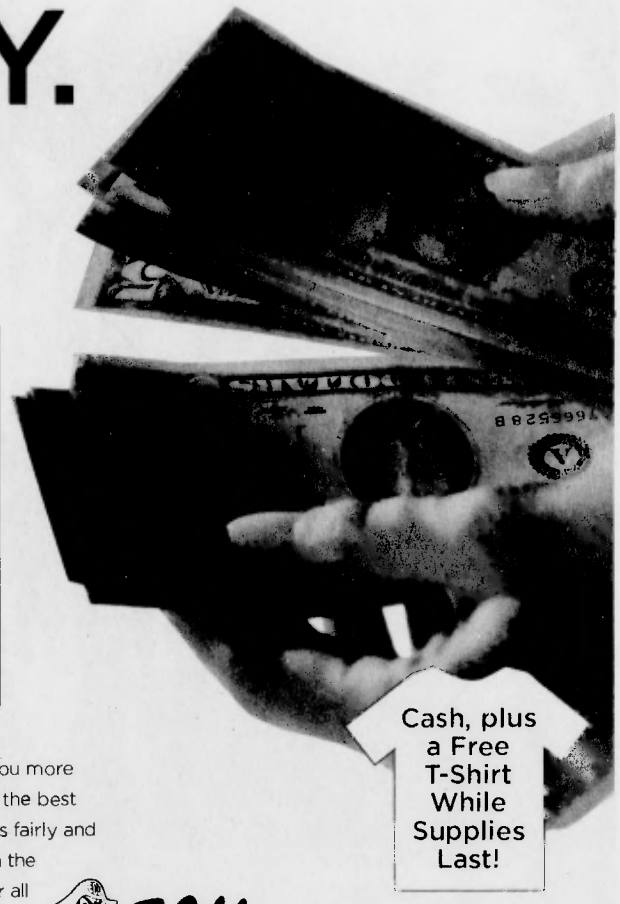

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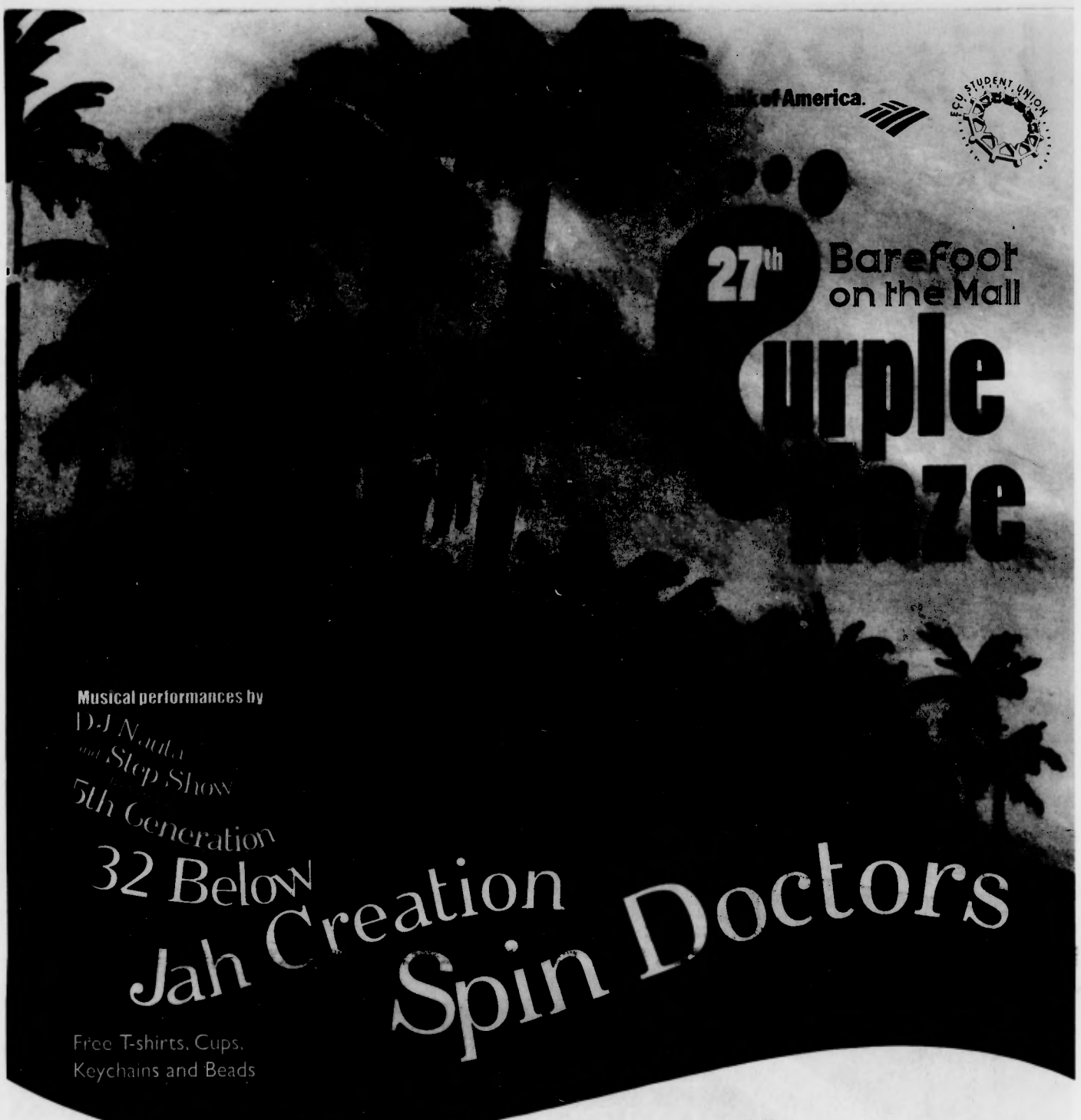

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