



VOLUME 82, ISSUE 32

The East Carolinian

{ www.theeastcarolinian.com }

HAVE A SAFE, HAPPY
THANKSGIVING BREAK

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2006



Having a Thanksgiving feast is great, but having a Thanksgiving feast for less is even better. Find alternative ways to enjoy a delicious meal.Page A4



Surviving family members can be tough during the holidays. Check out some simple ways to cope with the drama.Page A4



James Pinkney needs to rebound from a poor performance against Rice to lead ECU into the postseason on a winning note. Check out the full-page football coverage heading into the season's biggest game.Page A6



Jeremy Ingram quietly helped the men's basketball team to a win over UNCG on Saturday night. The men take on Limestone and N.C. Central over Thanksgiving Break.Page A6

22 Wed

Thanksgiving Break starts Wednesday. Find more upcoming events on our calendar.Page A2

NEWSPage A2
PULSEPage A4
SPORTSPage A6
OPINIONPage A3
CLASSIFIEDSPage A8



The Medical Student Council hosted a talent show at the Brody School of Medicine auditorium on Thursday.

Students compete to be the 'Brody Idol'

Medical students show off their talent

SHANNON DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m., the lights went down and the stage was lit for the Medical Student Council Talent Show at the Brody School of Medicine.

The opening video read, "They came from all over the Brody School of Medicine for one shot... to become the Brody Idol." The talent show was a parody of American Idol having three judges making remarks similar to what Paula, Randy and Simon would say and the irresistibly likable host.

The host was played by Chris Brock and the three judges were played by Paige Clark, Khalief Hamden and Ryan Murray. Although they did an excellent job paralleling their counterparts of American Idol, they forgot to turn their microphones off while behind stage, which took away from the talent performing on stage.

The first act of the night was Ricky Bloomfield, playing an outstanding version of "In the Mood" on the saxophone. Ryan Murray, pretending to be Simon Cowell, commented after the performance. "You're not ready for Hollywood because Hollywood is not ready for you," he said.

Act III was Medical School Jeopardy, performed by second year medical students. They made fun of the enthusiasm of the first year medical students by introducing two actors pretending to be first year medical students as being "bright-eyed and bushy-tailed."

The other contestants were students dressed as their professors. Amidst the humor of this skit, students also had a few educational moments. The categories for Medical School Jeopardy consisted of capillaries, anatomy words that end in -urples, warts, procrastination and other topics.

Another act for the night was the performance of Jerrod Felder, who sang, "Oh Danny Boy." His performance evoked a standing ovation from the audience. Khalief Hamden,

pretending to be Randy Jackson, told Felder, "That was beautiful, man."

A portion of the proceeds went to support Camp Rainbow, a summer camp experience for children with cancer and hemophilia.

Erin Ashton, a first year medical student, talked about her act.

"We're doing the 12 days of med. school, instead of the 12 days of Christmas," she said.

"We are all first year medical students. And I think it's great that our proceeds are going to a good cause."

When asked about the medical program at ECU, she responded with, "It's a friendly environment where everyone is supporting you. The faculty and students get along so well. We're like a big family. People think it is competitive but it's not."

The 13 performances for "Brody Idol" featured the various talents of the medical students and faculty. The students invested a lot of time and efforts into making the night a success.

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



Photos by Zach Sabin

College of Education gains recognition

Chairman David Powers receives award

LISA URAM
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 6, Dr. David Powers, chair for the ECU College of Education's Department of Curriculum and Instruction, was awarded with the Exceptional Children Division Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

The award was presented at an annual luncheon that was held at the Koury Convention Center at the Four Seasons in Greensboro.

Dr. Sandra Warren, coordinator for the Special Education Program at ECU, nominated Powers for the award.

"His commitment to students and public school teachers... is evident as one considers the impressive array of undergraduate programs developed and expanded through his leadership," said Warren.

Powers was one of twelve people selected to receive the prestigious recognition for his continuous commitment, dedication and contributions he has made to the education of students with disabilities.

"It's a phenomenal career... incredibly fulfilling... It allows you to really make a difference," said Powers.

According to Powers, that career started in high school, when he worked for the Cumberland County Shelter, assisting with vocational training for disabled adults.

Powers went on to receive his undergraduate and graduate degrees in special education from ECU and then completed his doctorate from the University of Alabama. In 1977, Powers came back to eastern Carolina and joined the faculty at ECU.

"I liked the university and surrounding area so well that we moved back here," Powers said about the decision to move his family back to eastern North Carolina.

During his career at ECU,



POWERS

Powers has guided the merger of seven separate departments into what now makes up the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. He has also expanded teacher training opportunities through the development of graduate MAEd Cohorts across eastern North Carolina.

"His vision and leadership have resulted in the state's only online MAEd program in Special Education and additional online graduate certificates in assistive technology and autism," said Warren.

Powers also established the Assistive Technology Lab at ECU, which allows children and adults with disabilities in eastern North Carolina access to advanced assistive technology, along with extensive faculty support.

"He is a remarkable educator who cares about his students, the faculty with whom he works, the department which he leads, the college in which he works and teachers in public schools," Warren said.

At the closing of the fall semester, Powers will begin the end of his 30 year career at ECU, because of his decision to start phased retirement. Powers will remain a part-time faculty member for the next three years.

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

Plans for Housing and Dining presented at SGA meeting

Fee increases to aid projects

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

Representatives from housing and dining gave a presentation to the congress about the plans for fee increases to aid projects related to campus living and dining on Monday.

Wintre Clark, housing and dining liaison, gave a PowerPoint presentation that outlined how much the fee increases will rise, what projects the increases will

provide funding for, and what the current fees have provided for the student body.

Housing will mandate an increase of six percent or \$240 for the 2007-2008 academic year while dining is set to have a five percent or \$180 increase according to Clark.

These increases will provide funding for a number of projects that will enhance the overall experience of living and dining on campus. Some of these projects include revamping College Hill by renovating facilities there.

see SGA page A2

First Talk-It-Tuesday held in West End Dining Hall

Opportunity for students to learn more about SGA

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

SGA hosted the first Talk-It-Tuesday in West End Dining Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 5 to 8 p.m.

The purpose of Talk-It-Tuesday was to promote SGA by giving the students the opportunity to learn more about SGA and how they serve the student body.

Keri Brockett, SGA secretary said, "One of the goals for SGA was to become more visible and accessible and this is one of the ways that we're trying to accomplish this goal."

This event was also initiated to encourage more involvement in SGA and in other activities and organizations on campus as well.

Todd Johnson, associate vice chancellor for Campus Living and Dining said, "I think it is very important for students to get involved in student leadership positions. One of the goals at ECU is to make the institution known for student leadership."

Members of the executive branch and cabinet members came to the event at various times throughout the night to support the effort

of making their duties, responsibilities, and goals more known.

A few of the members that were in attendance included Keri Brockett, SGA secretary, Brandy Sherrer, director of Student Affairs, Jon Masachi, speaker of the congress, Joel Banjo-Johnson, SGA chief of staff, and Brianne Meagher, SGA advisor.

A large display board was setup that contained information about various positions in SGA, the roles of these positions, and different branches and programs in SGA such as the Judicial Board and Shipmates.

Sign-up sheets were also near the display board for students that were interested in participating in SGA.

"This is one of the ways we get students to speak one-on-one with SGA representatives to voice their questions, concerns, and suggestions," Brockett said.

Giveaways such as pens and T-shirts also helped attract more students over to the area that the event was being held.

WZMB, 91.3 FM, was also present at the event to promote their radio station and to bring a fun atmosphere to the setting by playing music live from their radio station throughout the dining hall and getting students involved in various contests such as the taco-

eating contest.

Many students appeared to be interested in Talk-It-Tuesday and came over to talk with SGA members and to participate in events with WZMB.

"Programs like Talk-It-Tuesday and others sponsored by SGA will help better the overall experience students will have at ECU," Johnson said.

Talk-It-Tuesday will be held once a month and the locations of the event will be rotated between West End Dining Hall and Todd Dining Hall.

Brockett said that the goal is to make to event bigger and better each time they give students the opportunity to learn more about SGA and how we represent them.

Different branches, organizations and members will also be rotated at each Talk-It-Tuesday event to provide a better overall idea of the programs and staff that SGA has according to Brockett.

The next Talk-It-Tuesday will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5 in West End Dining Hall. Students are encouraged to come to the event, learn more about SGA, and voice their opinions and suggestions.

To learn more about SGA, visit ecu.edu/sga or call the SGA office at 328-4742.

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



Students celebrate Heritage Week

Kathryn Pedersen (left), senior elementary education major, and Brittany Pierce, senior music education major are both members of Campus Living's Diversity Education Team. "We are here celebrating Native American Heritage Month on behalf of Campus Living with a flag memorial commemorating the suffering of the Native Americans through the Trail of Tears," said Pedersen. For Native American Heritage Week, ECU sponsored several events on campus including a smudging workshop, benefits of herbal medicine speaker and a flute and dance demonstration in Brody School of Medicine.

News

{ Campus & Community }

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students urged to show sportsmanship

Margaret J. V. Olszewska, director of the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, approached both the Student Government Association and Terry Holland, ECU athletics director, to compose a letter reminding students about good sportsmanship and appropriate behavior during Saturday's football game against N.C. State. SGA has drafted a letter reminding students that "any inappropriate language, action or behavior could result in disciplinary or legal actions" to be taken against them. The full letter can be viewed online at theeastcarolinian.com.

Campus Wide Recycling Drive
Nov. 14 through 26 at Wright Plaza at 10 a.m. In celebration of American Recycling Day.

Dowdy Student Stores annual holiday sales

Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 4 until 8 p.m. in the Wright building. The event features great discounts on ECU apparel and gifts as well as free gift-wrapping, refreshments and entertainment, with special guests including the ECU Softball team and coach, ECU Baseball Coach and more.

Study Abroad Information Session

Thursday, Nov. 30 in Bate 1028 at 7 p.m. Phi Sigma Pi will be hosting an information session for students interested in studying abroad. A few students within the organization of Phi Sigma Pi will speak about their experiences in such places as Russia, England, Scotland, France and Nigeria. This event is open to everyone. Contact Anna Logemann at all217@ecu.edu (have the subject of the e-mail be "Study Abroad").

Thursday, Nov. 30

Protecting Intellectual Property at the Hilton at 5:30 p.m. The law office of Myers Bigel will provide expert speakers including the number one Patent Attorney in North Carolina 2004 in *Business Week* magazine, Ken Sibley. This is the first of eight seminars that educates entrepreneurs on how to take an innovative product to the market. More information is available online at ecu.edu/cs-acad/rds/ei under the Innov8r series link. Cost is \$25 for early registration, \$10 for students with ID, \$30 at the door.

ECU School of Art Holiday Exhibition

Thursday, Nov. 30 through Saturday Dec. 2 in the Wellington B. Gray Gallery of the Jenkins Fine Art Center. ECU's School of Art and Design holds the annual holiday exhibition sale. Nov. 30, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Dec. 1 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Gil Leebrick, 252-328-6336 for additional information.

21 Tue 22 Wed 23 Thu 24 Fri 25 Sat 26 Sun 27 Mon

Greenville Utilities Commission Meeting
Board Room of Greenville Utilities Commission Building, 401 S. Green Street 6:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
Council Chambers, Third Floor of City Hall, 200 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive 6:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving Break Begins

Native American Heritage Month Movie Night
5 - 8 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day State Holiday
City Offices closed

Thanksgiving Break

Ballroom Dancing
Amateur Ballroom Dancers
Willis Building, First and Reade Streets
7:30 p.m. lesson
8:30 - 11 p.m. open dance

Men's Basketball
ECU vs. NCCU
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum

Women's Basketball
ECU vs. Florida A&M
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum
2 p.m.

Classes resume.

Last day for graduate students to drop courses without grades.

Thesis Show Opens
Will run through Dec. 8
Mendenhall Student Center Gallery

Greenville Youth Council Meeting
Third Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 200 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
6:30 p.m.

BRIEFS

Smithfield workers return to slaughtering plant after walkout
(AP) — Employees at a Smithfield Foods Inc. slaughtering plant returned to work Saturday after walking off their jobs the previous two days to protest the recent firing of immigrants.

In all, about 1,000 nonunion workers, mostly Hispanic, participated in the walkout, and company officials have said they won't be disciplined. The agreement to return to work came late Friday after Smithfield representatives met with leaders from a Roman Catholic Church to discuss the workers' grievances.

On Tuesday, Tar Heel plant manager Larry Johnson is scheduled to meet with Smithfield employees to discuss the issues.

The plant in Tar Heel, located about 25 miles south of Fayetteville, employs 5,000 workers and slaughters up to 32,000 hogs a day. Smithfield, Va.-based Smithfield Foods is the world's largest pork processor.

Officials estimate \$500,000 in North Carolina tornado damage

(AP) — A tornado that left eight people dead in southeastern North Carolina caused at least \$500,000 worth of damage, officials said Saturday.

Kip Godwin, chairman of the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, said damage assessment teams have determined that 13 homes in the Riegelwood area were destroyed. One home had major damage and a couple dozen more had minor damage, he said.

The damage estimate could go up after officials check and analyze tax values, Godwin said.

Cleanup efforts continued on Saturday as victims tried to uncover some of their belongings. Also Saturday, a disaster assistance center opened to help storm victims apply for state disaster grants and loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Four children remained in critical condition at hospitals on Friday,

but Godwin said Saturday there were no updates on their conditions.

An estimated 100 people were displaced by the storm, and most have arranged to live for now with family or friends.

The tornado was part of a devastating line of thunderstorms that killed 12 as they swept across the South. Riegelwood is a small town on the Cape Fear River about 20 miles west of coastal Wilmington.

Camping PlayStation gamers robbed at gunpoint

(KMTR) — Robbers targeted three men who had been waiting in line overnight for the release of a new game system at a Springfield electronics store. Now police are looking for two suspects.

It happened at Springfield's Gateway Mall area in near the Circuit City store at about 3:00 a.m. Thursday.

Police said the victims had left the line and were walking by a nearby Target store when two men wearing some sort

of masks confronted them and they follow their instructions.

The victims said one of the suspects had a small semi-automatic pistol.

David Dardano, one of the victims, said, "One cocked a gun and said, 'Don't move! Don't reach for anything.' And after that he led us to this back entrance to Target and they separated us, me and Taylor, here. One guy had a blunt object, took our stuff. Alex, over there, got taken at gunpoint and they took his wallet and then ran off."

Police were able to follow the path of the robbers with the help of Gateway Mall's surveillance video cameras. Officers recovered some of the stolen items, including a wallet.

Mile High Couple Arrested For Overly Friendly Skies

(KMTR) — A California couple whose in-flight friskiness on the way to North Carolina was a bit much for the other passengers are facing federal charges for harassing the flight

attendant who asked them to stop.

Carl Warren Persing and Dawn Elizabeth Sewell are scheduled to go to trial Dec. 11 at the federal courthouse in Wilmington, N.C., for their behavior during a Sept. 15 flight. The indictment states that, "the defendants repeatedly engaged in overt sexual activity in the cabin of the plane to such an extent that the flight attendant had to direct them to stop."

Things deteriorated from there, according to Sutton's affidavit: The flight attendant refused to serve them alcohol. Persing called the flight attendant "a punk." Persing kept asking for alcohol. Sewell told the flight attendants that she worked for a lawyer and it was illegal not to serve alcohol to them. The flight attendant told them to stop asking for alcohol. Persing said, "You and I are gonna have some serious confrontation when we get off this plane."

When the couple got off the plane, law enforcement officials were waiting..

SGA continued from A1

Todd Johnson, associate vice chancellor of housing and dining, said that air conditioning will be put into Belk residence hall.

Plans for Belk also include making it a single occupancy residence hall for upper division students.

About a 2.5 million dollar renovation is in the works for Todd Dining Hall which will bring the facility up to modern day standards and will equalize the appearance and services available with that of West End Dining Hall.

"A one and half year dining facility is in better shape than a 14 year old facility and we would like to bring Todd Dining Hall up to level of West End Dining Hall," said Johnson.

The positioning of the building won't be altered, so it will provide the same outside viewing areas but the renovations will make the dining areas more open and accessible.

Other plans include expanding the Croatan, bringing a Starbucks to campus, and initiating a service that will allow you to order what you want to eat online, when you would like to pick it up, and also pay online.

One of the major points stressed by representatives from housing and dining was encouraging students to provide feedback on the hours of operation they would prefer for dining facilities, foods that are offered that they like or dislike and customer service from employees.

About four surveys are completed each year by housing and dining to find out how students feel about the services that have been provided to them according to Johnson.

About 1,500 students participated in a recent survey that was given about three weeks ago.

Students can voice their opinions about housing and dining by visiting the administrative office in Jones residence hall, going to dining.ecu.edu, putting comments in suggestion boxes throughout campus, or personally e-mailing Johnson at johnson@ecu.edu.

Students are also encouraged to join the Food Service Advisory Committee which gives you the opportunity to make decisions about the food services that are currently on campus and what you would like to see come to the university.

Other issues discussed at the meeting included plans to initiate a grading appeals process to get the grade you deserve rather than given another grade you didn't earn.

Patrick Sabastian, freshman class officer, introduced the freshman council members and talked about the possibility of having a freshman social and movie night. Sabastian hopes that these events will unify the class.

"That's what I am here to do and that's what I'm going to do throughout the year. I want to bring the freshman class closer together," Sabastian said.

Sabastian also mentioned that the freshman class will be endorsing a program called "Making the Grade" on Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. This event is open to everyone and will provide tips on studying and relieving the stress from final exams.

To find out more about SGA, visit ecu.edu/sga or call 328-4742.

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

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Dr. James O'Donahue



Opinion

Horror movies are dead

GREG KATSKI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

So, I saw the 2006 version of *The Hills Have Eyes* over the weekend and was severely disappointed. This has become a recurring theme for me when watching recent, post-modern horror movies. At first, I questioned whether I had just grown out of horror movies scaring me. Then I watched the original Stanley Kubrick version of *The Shining* and was entertained and admittedly scared, even though I've seen the movie many times.

It is my opinion that famed horror icons, such as Wes Craven, have run out of good ideas and are recycling what worked 20 years ago because they know it will sell at the box-office. There is no other explanation for redoing *The Omen*. The original was a perfectly good horror movie and the recent version is far less than that. Nevertheless, the 2006 version of *The Omen* did well at the box office. Who knows, soon there might be a redone version of *The Omen II* twice as bad as the original.

Let me vent for a minute and name some other laughable horror movies I have seen in recent years: *Exorcist: The Beginning* (why oh why?), *Freddy vs. Jason* (Busta Rhymes? You've got to be kidding me), *Bride of Chucky* (probably found in the comedy section at Blockbuster), *Jason X* (ditto), *Alien vs. Predator* (this could have been a classic, but no), *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* (killed what little respect I had for Jennifer Love Hewitt as an actress), and *Halloween H20* (obviously Jamie Lee Curtis really needed the work).

This list does not even include such comedy-horror classics, which I would never dare suffer through, as *Leprechaun in the Hood*, *Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning* and *Killer Klowns From Outer Space*.

But, there is still hope for post-modern horror movies because of its unique premise and haunting, hyperactive zombies. *Hotel* and the *Saw* trilogy work because they get underneath your skin with the life or death torture situations and have surprise endings. There's also *The Blair Witch Project*, which worked on many levels because you were left wondering how the demise of the hikers was going to come about, although the ending did anger me a bit.

What horror filmmakers have to realize is there are still new approaches to take in the genre. I am so tired of lame remakes of classic horror movies. The originals were so good there should be no reason to remake them, unless you are strictly looking to make a quick buck. I guess that's what the problem is with the movie industry nowadays. The art of movie making has been lost to the profit. But, as Wes Craven proved himself with the *Scream* trilogy, horror movies can be done using the same guidelines as there always were, but with new and interesting twists.

This is why I encourage everyone to pass on seeing crappy remakes like *The Hills Have Eyes* and *The Omen* at the box office. Instead, wait for a good scary movie to come out that is worth taking your significant other to. If people keep going to see these movies, then movie companies will keep pushing for similar ones. If no one goes to the box office then movie companies will be forced to reconsider their strategy in tackling the genre. And, who knows, maybe our generation will get to enjoy classic scary movies as past generations have.

Out of Iraq

U.S. military must end occupation of Iraq

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

We are in our third year of occupation in the distant war zone that is Iraq and the picture is not a pretty one. Violence and sectarian killings in massive numbers are being carried out against Iraqis daily and the American military casualties are increasing. Everyone in Washington is ready for some degree of change in the way things are being handled in Iraq and based on the election results, the American people are too. Though he has said change is needed in Iraq, Bush guarantees our presence through his term and into the far future, some say 2010. I think that one more year in Iraq is one year too long — the time for withdrawal is now.

Withdrawal of all military troops and funding from Iraq has to be a priority for the new Congress even if it is going to be difficult. Senator John McCain and many other Republicans think that we must increase troop levels and re-deploy tens of thousands of Americans before we can make an exit. These men think extending the killing for another two to five years will somehow stabilize the region and our occupation of their country will be tolerated.

On the other side of the idiot spectrum, the Democrats' first act in Congress was to increase military spending by \$8 billion and they haven't established any firm stance on the Iraq issue. What are we doing? We want change but are incapable of achieving it; we must suck it up and accept that Iraq was and will be a mistake and that any further occupation in that country is going to cost us the lives of our brave soldiers and \$400 billion a year borrowed from the Chinese.

Many of you will say that the occupation of Iraq is an important part of the War on Terror and that packing up and leaving will be seen as a victory for radical Islamic militants everywhere. Many of you will also say that if we leave Iraq, it will become a killing zone and a haven for terrorist groups. Well to that I must say you are probably right. Some jihadists and radicals will think they have defeated the Yankees and violence may increase after we leave. Starting the war in Iraq has created a terrorist state in Iraq and until we leave Iraq it will remain chock-full of terrorists. Even with these difficulties, we must look towards the exit if there is to be any progress for Iraq.

First line of order would be to review military spending in Iraq and correct how they are spending our money. Currently we are being taken by corporate leeches that are earning billions in profits from the war and have made little to no progress in rebuilding all that we have destroyed. We must revise and cut military spending to ensure a withdrawal and also to ensure there are no other wars on the horizon. Before we leave we must also establish a community of Arab nations and get involved with the U.N. to establish a reconstruction and peacekeeping force in Iraq. Finally, we must withdraw in a timely manner and not simply "cut and run." We must pull out troops in a precise tactical manner within an allotted time line.

Eighty percent of Iraqis think the U.S. plans to maintain permanently in bases around country even if the newly elected Iraqi government asks American forces to leave. Can we please prove them wrong?

WE'VE GOT OT SIMPSON PRACTICALLY CONFESSING TO GETTING AWAY WITH DECAPITATING HIS WIFE AND BURNING HER FRIEND! NATURALLY, WE REWARDED HIM HANDSOMELY!

NOW THAT'S TV PROGRAMMING! LET'S DO A PROMOTION INTERVIEW!



PIRATE RANTS

I love the Geico cavemen.

You didn't invite us to the movies, so we didn't invite you to the party.

What the heck is up with Sudoku. Both of the ones on Thursday were stupidly easy. Could you put something challenging in there. Or how about putting a skill level beside the game.

And these three remain — faith, hope and love. The greatest of these is love.

When I went Greek a year ago, we stayed great friends. Now that you've done it, you won't speak to me. That sure makes me feel all warm and fuzzy about your sorority.

My boyfriend forgot to pick me up after class because he was playing video games.

I just want a boy that will watch football with me on the weekends. Is that too much to ask?

TEC probably won't print this since it's not a liberal opinion but... South Africa legalized gay marriage. In other words, they took something sacred and redefined it to mean something that it has never meant, so that the minority population who thinks two dudes hooking up is a "marriage" can be appeased. That's not called progression, that's called regression.

To the person who giggled at the fifth year senior football players — it's called red-shirting. The fifth year seniors were red-shirted for a year and didn't play for that year. Don't insinuate that our players aren't smart enough to graduate in four years. Learn what you're talking about and support the seniors that have turned this program around.

With all the new rules and regulations, Greek life sucks. I feel like it's just turning into another social club where people can just write their name down and become a member. Bad decisions ECU, Greek life is now doomed.

To the guy in front of me, please stop playing World of Warcraft during class. It's very distracting, especially when you are attempting to chat up some elf.

Once a cobra bit Chuck Norris' leg. After five days of excruciating pain, the cobra died.

I really wanted to hook up with you on Saturday night.

I'm ready to gain 10 pounds on Thursday. Anyone with me on that one?

Did anyone see the game Saturday? Our guy dropped the ball T.O. style.

If you think that South Africa is a "more progressive" nation, you are definitely mistaken. If you like "progressiveness" why don't you move there because we sure don't need any more gay rights liberals in this nation.

My dog is better than your dog.

Stuffing, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, turkey and passing out while watching football. I am so ready for Thanksgiving break!

I hate when people raise their hands in class and when they get called on they say "I have a question."

My grandma came to visit me this weekend, and ended up at a frat party doing a keg stand. Man, can that woman hold her alcohol!

Sometimes I wonder about Jane... Is she hot? Is she a he? Is he hot?

Whoever calls the offensive plays for the football team needs to be fired!

I just like to smile! Smiling's my favorite!

I got kicked out of Alfredo's for talking in a fake language to some stupid person. When the guy pushed me out I went into the wall and fake fell down. Who is kicked out of Alfredo's? Really.

I hate how I have so much work I need to get done during break but I know I will do none of it until the Sunday before classes begin.

I don't have a condom, but I do have this snickers wrapper.

I guess the sorority house isn't the only place you got fat. You should really work on that beer gut honey.

Not to ECU. Pay Skip more money so that he will not leave us soon!

The Devil and God are raging inside me.

Kasey Ross > Champ Bailey

Greek Life is for those who lack a real life.

ECU Football has the best fans! During our home games, the stadium is filled nearly to capacity, yet Rice only had about 5,000 people in attendance for the ECU at Rice game, in a stadium that seats about 70,000 and it was their Homecoming! How sad is that?

I got really excited a little while ago when I read a rant that said the Rants were online every day... but boo... these are yesterday's Rants!

I hate when guys go to the Rec center and don't work out their legs.

Just for the record... I wear big sunglasses because I'm too lazy to put on makeup in the mornings. And the worse the hangover, the bigger the sunglasses — the more of my face that is covered up... and I think I am speaking for a lot of us "sluts" out there who are really just being considerate of others!

To the person who said South Africa is more progressive than the U.S. — if you want to marry your gay boyfriend that bad, then you can fly there for around \$1,400.

Sororities only make you pretty on the outside. I guess in this world that counts for something.

I hate that a quarter of Greenville is busy shoving cocaine up their noses. If you're going to kill yourself, just take an entire eight ball at once this way the rest of us don't have to deal with your idiotic behavior. What winners.

Owning a Jag and having British Tags is not cool. You are also not a real BMX biker. Stop trying to be something you aren't.

I can't wait until you move out.

I step aside when you come to the club... because you take up more than half of it.

Where's MacGyver when you need him?

Let's do the time-warp again.

Check out the eastcarolinian.com Thursday for a special online only edition of Pirate Rants — now that's something to be thankful for!

RANT OF THE DAY

It's not premarital sex if I have no intention to marry you.

Can you hear me now?

Yes, but I'd rather not

RYAN COBEY
OPINION WRITER

As I walk around campus on any given weekday, I usually experience one of two scenarios. In the first one, I'm stuck in the middle of a war, which seems to be made evident by all of the walkie-talkie sounds chirping in my ear after the people walking past me finish each sentence.

However, if I listen in to their conversations for more than a few seconds, which is all too easy to do, I quickly realize that these people are discussing how they went about finding the perfectly promiscuous girl this past weekend. In one quick moment, I'm thrown from what seemed to represent a war zone into a scene from the next American Pie movie.

Ah, the 'chirp' by Nextel. Perhaps instead of adding such an annoying button that promoted two-way chats, they could have donated that money to Sprint, so maybe I could hold a full phone conversation without losing reception in this town.

Honestly, there is absolutely nothing appealing about a couple on the verge of having phone sex in front of Wright Plaza in between classes. What makes this even worse? When, even though only one person is present, you can hear both professing their lustful desires to each other. In particular, I love hearing those conversations when I'm either walking into my classroom or into West End to get a bite to eat.

The second scenario I'm faced with on a day-to-day basis is perhaps my favorite. While strolling through campus, I see people talking to themselves. I chuckle to myself, but right before I hold out my index finger toward the guy and call him crazy I notice a small blue earpiece attached to his right ear.

Time stops for a moment. Am I stuck in some futuristic business complex? How long did I really sleep for? Frankly, these people scare me because they seem like they're simply too busy to ever talk to. After all, someone who doesn't even have time to hold the phone to his ear has to be a very important person, right?

As interesting as it is to hear about what Sam Suave is planning tonight for his girlfriend, I'd rather not hear about it while on my third pasta bowl at the Olive Garden. But, these situations are inevitable now. Because the average Joe can afford a nice little gadget that allows his hands to be free while conversing over the phone, he will take advantage of it in every possible way.

With the introduction of two-ways and the Bluetooth, which is now an actual word according to Microsoft Office, conversations are becoming more public. The scary thing is that people honestly don't seem to care. Personally, I don't care if plans with my girlfriend were as G-rated as a typical dinner and movie date; I still wouldn't want everyone knowing where I was going to be at 9 p.m. on Friday.

It seems with the introduction of these annoying, and downright rude communication devices, the world and all of its occurrences are becoming increasingly public. Because most of us carry a cell phone everywhere we go, we no longer know how to function properly, or keep occupied while by ourselves. We always have to be talking with someone, whether we use little futuristic ear pieces or simply hold the cell phone up to our heads — I mean, come on, who does that anymore?

In a way, don't we lose a bit of our identity when we become so immersed in the need to be with others? These devices make it near impossible to ever be alone, and I believe that... hold on a second, I have a call.

Ban the burka?

BRIDGET TODD
OPINION WRITER

Recently, the Dutch cabinet has supported a proposition by the country's immigration minister to ban Muslim women from wearing burkas in public places. The burka is an all-enveloping cover traditionally worn by Muslim women of Central and Southeast Asia. The ban would prevent women from wearing the burka on the streets, in any public building, and on buses and trains.

At first, I thought this idea was a good one. The burka is arguably part of the fundamentalist Muslim regime that endorses the notion that women are inferior to men and should be told what to wear. Banning it would be a big leap in furthering the human rights of women, right?

Not necessarily. The Dutch government's reason for banning the burka is because the garment obscures people's faces, it promotes public disorder. I have a hard time believing that an article of clothing could cause such disarray. I understand the need for people to identify themselves, especially at a bank or a courthouse. However, banning women from wearing burkas while just walking down the street is excessive. If the Netherlands are going to make a ban on burkas, it shouldn't be an extreme blanket-ban that bars them from all public places.

Also, because the law solely refers to Muslim women, it seems an awful lot like they are being targeted singularly. There is no ban on big sunglasses, beards, or low hats — all of which conceal the face. Why are burkas the only article of clothing that the Dutch government thinks may promote public disorder? Maybe it's because the government officials aren't used to burkas and are quick to associate the traditional covering with terrorism.

The Netherlands have been renowned for its laissez-faire approach to government policies. Their government has lenient policies involving euthanasia, prostitution and drug use. However, the proposed public ban on burkas tramples the right to freely express religion.

In light of recent sociopolitical climates, this law would only heighten Muslim feelings of alienation and suppression. Just because what they want to wear is different from what the people of the Netherlands are used to, they shouldn't be able to ban it. If Muslim women want to wear burkas, then they should be allowed to do so. The government shouldn't make a blanket law to force them not to.

JUST ASK JANE

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

I'm having a problem with my ex-boyfriend wanting to get back with me. Begging me, guilt-tripping me, saying to give him a second chance and that things will be different this time around. And I'm not wanting to go back out with him, and I've made this verbal, yet he still asks and begs. What should I do? It makes me feel really bad because I still care about him as a friend and I hate hearing him calling me frantic, crying and begging me to take him back. I've kept my resolve so far but I can only take so much. How can I be assertive about this?

Dear Unsigned and unwavering,

I'm impressed by your resolve. We've all been there, and everyone knows just how difficult overcoming the temptation to return to an old flame can be (even after it's really no more than a burnt-out old candle), just for the sake of some easy lovin'. Of

course, such a breakdown usually does nothing more than reinforce said puppy-dogging ex's beliefs that you are indeed meant to be together, even though you have an entirely different take on the subject.

That said, I urge you to remain a strong-willed, elusive ice-queen. Refuse, one last time, to reunite with him, and tell him that if he continues to badger you, you will cut him off entirely. And then do it.

Take him off your buddy list. Block him if you must. Set your Facebook and Myspace profiles to private and then remove him from your friend list. You will probably need to be ruthless; screen your phone calls, don't reply to voice mails or text messages. I understand you still want to keep him as a friend, and putting up a wall will be painful for you — but think of it as a temporary loss for a more permanent gain. Putting him in the deep freeze for a few weeks will force him to gain some perspective and realize if he cares about you that much, he'll want to stay in your life no matter what your terms are.

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{ Campus Scene }

Horoscopes:

Aries

It's not quite time to go yet, although you're getting impatient. Actually, you've always been impatient. This time, if you stay cool, you can make it happen.

Taurus

You can afford to throw an expensive celebration. Do have the party but don't spend the money. Stash that away in the bank.

Gemini

Yes, you're still busy enough for two or three people. Don't let that scare you. Get one person who will do what you don't like to do, and you'll be fine.

Cancer

Taking care of business today is more fun than it is a burden. You do well when your clients do well. It's a win-win situation.

Leo

Ideas are coming fast and furious but not all of them are good. Some are downright ridiculous. Wait until tomorrow to decide which is which.

Virgo

There are a few things you'd like to change about your living conditions. Get tough and get organized. And get your family to help.

Libra

The more you learn, the more questions you want to ask. This is good but don't do everything the others suggest. Use your own common sense.

Scorpio

You're in line for a nice bonus. This could be for work already done, since it doesn't look like the job's very difficult now.

Sagittarius

You don't even know how powerful you are or what you can accomplish. Make a wish list, and not just for yourself.

Capricorn

Push hard now, while you can. Conditions are changing. You can relax after then. You'll know when it happens because you'll fall in an exhausted heap.

Aquarius

Take time to run a survey of your group, and all the others. It's always good to know what they think, especially if you intend to change it.

Pisces

You can pretty much write your own ticket, and design your own career. What would you like to be, do and have? And who would you like to serve?

Turkey Facts

Ben Franklin, in a letter to his daughter, proposed the turkey as the official United States bird.

In 2000, the average American ate 17.75 pounds of turkey.

A 15 pound turkey usually has about 70 percent white meat and 30 percent dark meat.

Turkeys can see movement almost 100 yards away.

Forty-five million turkeys are eaten each Thanksgiving.

Male turkeys gobble. Hens do not. They make a clicking noise.

Gobbling turkeys can be heard a mile away on a quiet day.

Feast on a frugal Thanksgiving dinner

Making the most of what you have

JENNY AYERS
STAFF WRITER

It's that time of year again; the time when bank accounts never seem full enough and bellies can never get full enough. That's right folks, the holidays are here and most of us college students don't exactly have the funds to throw together the type of Thanksgiving dinner that would make our mamas proud. Have no fear though, you can still put together a great dinner without having to hash out tons of dough.

Whether you live in a dorm, apartment or house, most cannot afford to spend extravagant amounts of money on one meal, so here are a few tips to help you create a fabulous dinner without having to break the bank.

First come the decorations. A quick trip to any craft and/or discount store can solve all your decorating woes. For only a couple of bucks, you can invest in a bag of silk leaves and add a touch of fall to your dorm room or apartment that will put your guests in the thanking and



Photos.com
Sure a huge feast on Thanksgiving is a tradition for many, but students can still enjoy a delicious meal on a budget.

giving mood. On the same note, flowers and fruit make inexpensive and excellent Thanksgiving centerpieces that will make it look like you spent a lot of time and money preparing for your meal.

Now we come to the really important thing: The food. You can make a delicious and plentiful feast that won't require slaving all day in a kitchen, but it will still look like you did. The biggest obstacle

in the cooking of a Thanksgiving feast is the turkey. Since you won't need a gigantic bird for only a few guests, invest in a turkey breast that is easier to cook. If you want to kill two turkeys with one stone,

you can combine several side dishes in one effort by using the featured turkey breast/cranberry stuffing recipe from busycooks.about.com.

Perhaps you find yourself in the dorms without the luxury of a kitchen and turkey is just not a feasible option. If that's the case, you could always go with chicken wings. Very affordable and tasty, they are found in the frozen section of your grocery store and can be easily cooked in the microwave.

Everything else can be knocked out with relative ease and little worry thanks to the vast amounts of prepackaged and prepared foods on the market. For less than \$20, you can get the rest of your meal easily with a quick trip to the grocery store.

Mashed potatoes are easily made since the simplest recipe only requires that you boil potatoes, mash them and then add milk, butter and seasonings to taste. If that is still more effort than you can afford or you don't have access to a stove, there are several tasty options already cooked for you. Mashed potatoes, macaroni and other side dishes

see FRUGAL page A5

Turkey Breast with Cranberry Stuffing

FROM LINDA LARSEN

INGREDIENTS:

1 (5-7 lb.) turkey breast, bone in, skin on
salt and pepper to taste
1/2 cup butter
3/4 cup chopped celery
1 onion, chopped
4 cups oatmeal bread cubes,

dried in the oven

1/3 cup dried cranberries
1/2 tsp. dried sage leaves
1/2 tsp. dried thyme leaves
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
melted butter for basting

PREPARATION:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Rinse turkey breast and pat dry with paper towels. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and set aside. In large skillet, melt butter

and cook celery and onion until tender. In large bowl, combine remaining ingredients except butter for roasting.

STUFFING RECIPE:

Pour celery mixture over ingredients in bowl. Toss gently with two spoons to coat.

There are three ways to 'stuff' the breast. You can place some of the stuffing in between the two halves of the breast, then use kitchen string to loosely tie the

breast closed. Or you can just put about half of the stuffing in a foil-lined roasting pan and place the breast, skin-side-up, on top. Or you can loosen the skin from the turkey neck area and stuff with part of the stuffing. Any leftover stuffing should be placed in a casserole dish, drizzled with some melted butter, and refrigerated. It will bake the last half hour the turkey is roasting.

Whichever method you choose, coat the turkey with

melted butter, and roast the turkey and stuffing at 350 degrees for 2 to 2 1/2 hours until an instant-read meat thermometer inserted into the meat reads 170 degrees. Baste once or twice during roasting with pan drippings. Place leftover stuffing in the casserole, covered, in the oven for the last 30 minutes of roasting time. Cover turkey with foil when it comes out of the oven and let rest 10-20 minutes before carving. Serves four to six.

Survive the family circus on Thanksgiving



Photos.com
Family feuds are sure to ensue if you plan to spend time with your family this Thanksgiving.

Need some help maintaining?

AARON BORRERO
STAFF WRITER

Yes indeed, ladies and gents, the circus is in town staring your family P.T. Barnum himself couldn't have scripted a better freak show than the one happening in millions of homes across America this week.

Various activities are needed by many people as a way to escape from the mental instability of their families. As a rule of thumb, if anything at the gathering gets a bit too heavy for your liking, there are options for us to use as

our reprieve.

Movie theaters tend to make a great spot to get some alone time without the family clan. Never underestimate the power of a few hours watching a movie alone.

If a family member is getting on your nerves about anything, try ignoring them all together or even just moving away from them. A MP3 player is great for this.

As the name implies, this is the time to be thankful. However, if Aunt Ester tells you to do the dishes, fear not, you haven't played the trump card.

When using this card you have to be smart, crafty and cunning. You have to set up its potential use early, but then you can fall back on it for the dura-

tion of the vacation.

The card I'm talking about is the homework card. If you start complaining early and continue to do so often by stating that you are swamped with classwork, many doors will be left open for you as an escape.

Also, if your family is outgoing, try dragging along one of your friends. Unless your family member is severely damaged, they won't be too nasty with an "outsider" in their midst. Conversely, they may see your friend as fresh meat. Either way, you won't be the primary target of their aims.

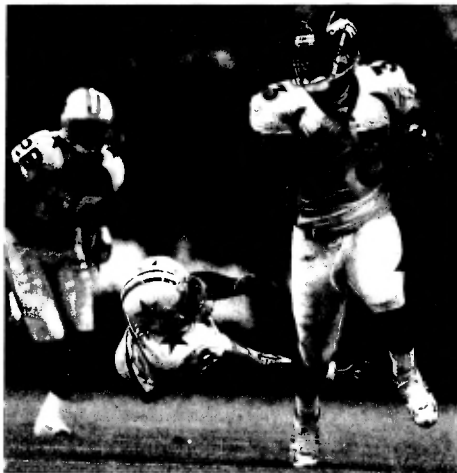
Wherever you are, your cousin is your new best friend as they have places to go and people to see. Find them early and stick to them like glue.

Honestly though, how bad can it be? I understand I am lucky to have a great time with my family because they are funny, senile and not completely all there. This is a potent cocktail for a lot of fun, even if the village is constantly calling my house.

Not everyone has a pleasant family. Just recognize two things: This is the only family you get and you should be thankful for what you have together. So if trying to ditch them is your thing, more power to you, but many don't have that option of being with family.

Thanksgiving is one of the true holidays still about the gathering

see SURVIVING page A5



Enjoying football is part of the Thanksgiving tradition for many families.

Don't turkey with tradition

Thanksgiving offers time to celebrate family traditions

SHANNON DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

It is that time of year again when families gather from all across the country to share a day filled with good food and family fun. For generations, families have looked forward to or dreaded this day where extended family members appear out of the wood works and kitchens are filled to the brim with dirty dishes and leftovers.

The tradition of celebrating thanks dates back nearly 400 years to a three-day harvest festival celebrated in 1621 by the pilgrims and Native Americans in Plymouth, Mass.

The centerpiece of most Thanksgiving feasts in the United States is a large roasted turkey, appropriately giving the holiday the nickname, "Turkey Day."

As times have changed, so have many of the Thanksgiving Day traditions. For the health fanatics, tofu turkeys are available along with organic vegetables and healthier alternatives.

The most notable tradition is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. The traditions of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade began in 1924, and it has grown into an annual event of balloons, band and floats enjoyed each year by nearly 46 million people braving the cold streets of New York, and by those who prefer to take it in a la television from the comfort of their homes.

Does your family fight over the wishbone from the Thanksgiving

turkey? Known as a "lucky break," the tradition of tugging on either end of the turkey bone to win the larger piece and its accompanying "wish" dates back to the Etruscans of 822 B.C. The Romans brought the tradition with them when they conquered England and the English colonists carried the tradition out to America.

"We have a typical Italian Thanksgiving spread, which is the normal stuff plus baked ziti and some kind of other pasta dish. Me and my dad watch football while the women cook," said Danny DiNicola, graduate accounting student.

The most common family activities of the day are taking photos, watching sports, early-morning hunting, playing touch football in the yard, playing games and visiting loved ones.

Americans love Thanksgiving because it is about family gatherings, family traditions and a big meal. It is not about shopping and commercialism; unlike the holidays that follow seem to be. Many believe that Thanksgiving is the only time throughout the year when they can take time out of their hectic lives to show appreciation for all that they have by expressing their love and gratitude to family and friends.

November 23 will be a day full of overstuffed family members and high-strung hosts. The highways and byways will have bumper to bumper traffic as people head off to their various destinations. Good old family fun and tradition makes the hassles of the holidays worthwhile.

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

Find Thanksgiving day alternatives

If you aren't in favor of the typical Thanksgiving flavors

JENNY AYERS
STAFF WRITER

Whether it's thanks to your taste buds or your personal choices, not everyone enjoys the items typically found on a Thanksgiving spread, so here are a few ideas of food alternatives that you can bring to the family table this year. They definitely stray from the norm when it comes to family feasts, but I guarantee that you will not be the only one partaking of their goodness.

For the vegans and vegetarians of the world, there are several traditional recipe substitutes out there. For your main dish, you could try a stuffed butternut squash or a hearty vegetable stew. Recipes for Thanksgiving "meat" loaf, vegan gravy and tofu pumpkin pie can all be found at vegweb.com/thanksgiving, along with several other alternative options.

As for the rest of us who are just plain picky, you should consider putting your own little spin on Thanksgiving dinner by showing up with some homemade hamburgers, hotdogs or even pizza. Chances are you aren't the only picky eater and your efforts will be greatly appreciated by fellow family members.

There are several classics that might not receive enough attention on your family's spread but are easily

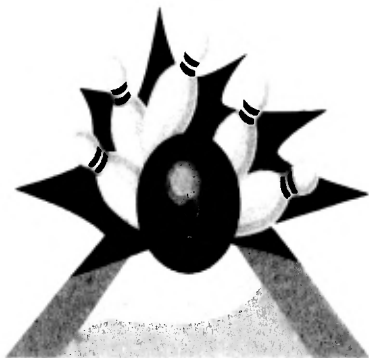


Photos.com
Meal options can still be creative on Thanksgiving.

see ALTERNATIVES page A5

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FRUGAL continued from A4

are available in the refrigerated section of the supermarket for a couple dollars apiece.

As for the veggies, you can buy the frozen bags and heat them in the microwave or on the stove and add your own seasonings for a little extra zing. You can also go the cheaper and sometimes tastier route by buying canned vegetables, which also increases your options.

Bagged salad is always a hit and only requires some dressing and/or croutons to make it

complete. Add bread to your meal in the form of canned biscuits or pre-made rolls that are ready to eat when bought.

Unless you're really keen on baking and have a lot of time to spare, the easiest way to go about dessert is to take advantage of the cakes and pies already concocted by someone else. There are frozen options, but most grocery stores have several pie options in the bakery that are easier and won't leave you worrying about freezer burn or over-cooking.

So you see, it is definitely possible to have a yummy Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings and without all of the hassle.

Imagine if everyone contributes something, you can have grand meal without feeling broke afterward. You might want to spend a couple of extra dollars on plastic ware because the leftover food will have you covered for the next week.

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

ALTERNATIVES continued from A4

concocted and pleasing to most anybody's taste buds. You can follow in the footsteps of Chandler from "Friends" and make a Thanksgiving dinner that consists of a simple salad, macaroni and cheese, grilled cheese sandwiches and lemon pie. It doesn't get much simpler than that, and none of these dishes should be too harsh on your palette.

Some other simple dishes that might not seem to go hand in hand with Thanksgiving but are indeed popular are spaghetti, fried chicken and tacos. Combine these with the traditional mashed potatoes and corn, or even toss in some chips and salsa for good measure. No one said Thanksgiving had to be boring.

If you really want to mix things up, you could have an entirely Italian Thanksgiving with chicken parmesan or spaghetti carbonara as the main dishes. For the sides, you could make Italian seasoned bread, stuffed mushrooms, ravioli and the featured Italian Frosty Dessert or even Italian ice from the grocery store.

Whatever your tummy desires is fair game this holiday season and you should take full advantage of the freedom to freak your family out when you show up to Grandma's with tofu cutlets or

a giant plate of grilled cheese sandwiches. The options are endless so use your imagination and don't come to me with complaints of there being nothing edible on the table come Thursday.

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

Italian Frosty Dessert

FROM LINDA LARSEN

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup crushed shortbread cookie crumbs
1/3 cup ground walnuts
1/3 cup butter, melted
1 cup vanilla yogurt
1 cup ricotta cheese
1 can chocolate frosting
1/2 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips

PREPARATION:

Combine cookie crumbs, nuts and butter; reserve two tablespoons. Press rest in bottom of nine inch square pan. In a large bowl, combine yogurt, ricotta cheese and frosting and beat until smooth. Fold in chocolate chips. Pour over crumb crust and sprinkle with reserved crumbs. Cover well and freeze for three hours or until firm. Let stand at room temperature for five to 10 minutes before cutting. Serves 12.

SURVIVING

continued from A4

as opposed to the materialism. It gives us some many wonderful memories and time to just be yourself.

Seriously, where do you go to see all the males in your family revert to a series of primal grunts, body scratches and Cro-Magnon bellows resembling two month old monkeys? Where else can you go and hear all the women talking about absolutely nothing for five hours? Well, maybe this isn't limited to just Thanksgiving, but it is so much better with the smell of turkey, stuffing and scotch in the air.

If everything goes completely a rye, some bars stay open in order to cash in on those people feeling the need to self medicate after spending the day with their family. Hopefully no one has a family gathering that bad, but if you do, just remember it's about celebrating all your blessings... all of them!

Lastly, if you have exhausted all your options, you can pull a T.O. That's right, sometimes a turkey overdose is just what you need in order to dull your mind, body and soul of the dreadful memories of the day and knock you out until it's all a distant memory.

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



"Before giving, I always look for the Humane Seal."

NOAH WYLE, Star of NBC's hit show ER

The Humane Charity Seal of Approval guarantees that a health charity funds vital patient services or life-saving medical research, but never animal experiments.

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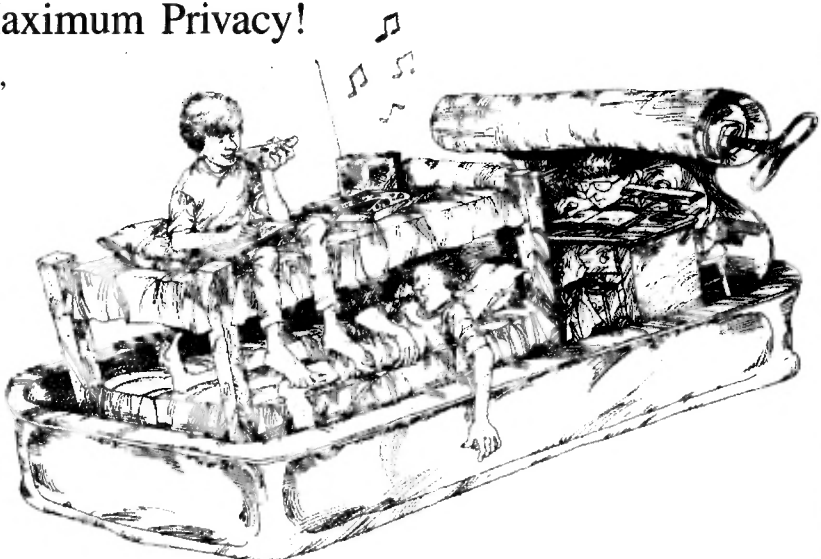
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BY THE NUMBERS

83

Total yards passing by James Pinkney against Rice, which was a career-low for a game that he wasn't knocked out due to injury; it was also the individual rushing total by both Brandon Franchious (10 carries) and Chris Johnson (12 carries).

Years that Skip Holtz lived in Raleigh while his father was coaching the Wolfpack (1972-1975) when Skip Holtz was age 8-12; coincidentally N.C. State Head Coach Chuck Amato earned his first job as secondary coach for Lou Holtz during that same time

49,344

Average attendance in the ECU-N.C. State 23-game series, which began in 1970; N.C. State hosted the first 18 games at Carter-Finley Stadium and packed in 58,650 fans during a 38-10 blowout win in 1980; ECU set an attendance record with 50,092 fans during the Wolfpack's only trip to Greenville, which ended in a 27-6 Pirate win

Point differential in one year for the men's basketball team against UNC; ECU lost 78-70 at home in 2005, but rebounded for an eight point road win (72-64) on Saturday

59

Free-throw percentage (46-of-78) through three games for the men's basketball team, which is down from 64.1 percent (102-of-157) during last season; freshman forward John Fields is shooting 15.4 percent (2-of-13) from the charity stripe

More yards per game that former ECU running back Tony Baker (1982-1985) averaged than his son, N.C. State's Tony Baker; the elder Baker ran for 2,825 yards in 44 games while the younger Baker has 1,182 through 22 games; Tony Baker, who is the state's all-time leading rusher, shares the backfield with Greenville native Andre Brown

They said it

"The goal that we were trying to accomplish was to go 1-0. The bottom line is we failed and we didn't get it done. I failed as a head coach, we failed as a team, and we failed as an offense and a defense."

-Skip Holtz, ECU head coach

"Right now we are definitely looking forward to Marshall beating Southern Miss. I heard some of the guys talking about e-mailing Ahmad Bradshaw to tell him that we need his best performance coming up. We're definitely rooting for Marshall."

-Aundrea Allison, ECU wide receiver

Either you can have a pity party for yourself, feel sorry and howl your head, keep your eyes to the ground and mope around or you can pick yourself up and brush yourself off. Stick your chin up and chest out, stand tall with what you are trying to do."

-Skip Holtz, ECU head coach

{ECU's Inside Source}

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

N.C. STATE VS. ECU

Pirates look to rebound against Wolfpack

ECU travels to N.C. State for regular-season finale

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

N.C. STATE SCHEDULE

SEPT. 2	VS. APPALACHIAN ST.	W, 23-10
SEPT. 9	VS. AKRON	L, 20-17
SEPT. 16	AT SOUTHERN MISS	L, 27-17
SEPT. 23	VS. BOSTON COLLEGE	W, 17-15
OCT. 5	VS. FLORIDA ST.	W, 24-20
OCT. 14	VS. WAKE FOREST	L, 25-23
OCT. 21	AT MARYLAND	L, 28-20
OCT. 28	AT VIRGINIA	L, 14-7
NOV. 4	VS. GEORGIA TECH	L, 31-23
NOV. 11	AT CLEMSON	L, 20-14
NOV. 18	AT UMC	L, 23-9
NOV. 25	VS. ECU	7:00 PM

KEYS TO THE GAME N.C. STATE

1.) Red-zone productivity
N.C. State, like ECU, has struggled in the red zone. The Wolfpack have scored 22 times in 28 trips inside the 20, but only 14 touchdowns. ECU has 30 scores in 38 trips and 19 touchdowns. State must win this battle to put points on the board.

2.) Ball control
Rice beat ECU by running 82 offensive plays to ECU's 52, keeping the ball away from James Pinkney, Aundrea Allison and company. If N.C. State can establish the running game against a Pirates defense that was gouged for 458 yards of total offense last week, the Wolfpack could come away with the win.

3.) One dimensional
If N.C. State can be balanced the Jekyll and Hyde ECU dimensional, the Pack may have been inconsistent in the run and pass in the same way the pass and forcing a patchwork and young should be the game plan for

Coming off what he called the "most difficult loss" of his coaching career, Skip Holtz now must get his team ready for its intra-state matchup with reeling N.C. State.

The Wolfpack, who are on a six-game losing streak, lost Saturday to 9-9 North Carolina, but Holtz said his team cannot afford to take the Wolfpack (5-6, 2-3 ACC) lightly because ECU's postseason chances are riding on the game.

"I know they've lost six games in a row, but they're in every game," said Holtz. "They're a very talented football team."

Holtz said N.C. State's offensive line is aggressive in its run blocking for Tony Baker and former Greenville native Andre Brown. Baker and Brown have rushed for a combined 1,300 yards and all nine of State's rushing touchdowns.

"The two tailbacks are two very talented players and great players and playmakers," Holtz said. "They make an awful lot of things happen. What makes it very difficult to defend them is they have five wide receivers that are very good."

The Pirates (6-5, 5-3 C-USA) had trouble getting the Rice offense off the field last week as the Owls racked up 458 yards of total offense, a season high for the ECU defense. The 18-17 loss to the Owls puts the Pirates in a must-win to secure a bowl bid with a seventh win.

"It's got bowl implications," Holtz said. "Getting to seven wins almost guarantees you one. Six wins makes you bowl-eligible, but doesn't get

you into one. That's why number seven is so important because 7-5 guarantees you a winning record and there are going to be a number of teams with six wins.

ECU safety Pierre Parker said the added factor of proximity makes the game even more important.

"It's a must-win, I mean an in-state rival," Parker said. "We marked the game on our calendar the first week of the season. We just gotta go out and get this win."

Bouncing back against the Wolfpack won't be an easy task. ECU has defeated N.C. State just nine times in 23 matchups, including a 52-14 drubbing the last time the two teams met in 2004. Holtz said his coaching staff met for a "roundtable" discussion with Athletics Director Terry Holland to discuss the best ways to overcome the frustrating loss at Rice and prepare for another emotional game in Raleigh.

"We met for two hours Sunday night to discuss how to handle this," Holtz said. "We just sat around a table and talked about how to overcome things like this... I thought we made a lot of progress on how to handle it."

Rumors are circulating that N.C. State coach Chuck Amato may be coaching his last game and questions about his coaching future at his weekly press conference Monday prompted the coach to leave the room. The Pirates may be able to take advantage of the distractions surrounding the State program, but Holtz said his team is only focused on what they can control.

"I think it'll be an emotional game for [State]," Holtz said. "This is very talented team that's lost some close games. They're playing hard and they're not laying down. Some years you have a horseshoe sitting

see STATE page A7



ECU SCHEDULE

SEPT. 2	AT NAVY	L, 28-23
SEPT. 9	AT UAB	L, 17-12
SEPT. 16	VS. MEMPHIS	W, 35-20
SEPT. 23	VS. WEST VIRGINIA	L, 27-10
OCT. 7	VS. VIRGINIA	W, 30-21
OCT. 14	VS. TULSA	L, 31-10
OCT. 21	VS. SMU	W, 38-21
OCT. 28	AT SOUTHERN MISS	W, 20-17 (OT)
NOV. 4	AT UCF	W, 23-10
NOV. 11	VS. MARSHALL	W, 33-20
NOV. 18	AT RICE	L, 18-17
NOV. 25	AT N.C. STATE	7:00 PM

KEYS TO THE GAME ECU

1.) Momentum
The Pirates cannot afford to let the expected raucous crowd at Carter-Finley Stadium get into the game. ECU must score early to swing momentum its way and keep the Wolfpack fans sitting on their hands.

2.) Push the ball downfield
Skip Holtz has been conservative in his play-calling on the road this season, and it came back to bite him at Rice. Holtz must open up the playbook and be aggressive against the N.C. State defense if the Pirates want to get their seventh win.

3.) Pressure Daniel Evans
ECU ranks 90th nationally in sacks with 17. Evans has just six touchdown passes to 11 interceptions so the Pirates must force him to throw the ball when and where he doesn't want to. Conference USA with 25 and 15 interceptions.



Rice slips away from Pirates grasp

Loss to Rice changes bowl outlook

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

When Clark Fangmeier's 40-yard kick sailed through the uprights Saturday to seal an 18-17 win over ECU for Rice, ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz said it capped the "most difficult loss" he's ever been through as a head coach.

"What made this one so hard was everything that was on the line," said Holtz, who disclosed that some players were still emotionally upset and crying at the team's meeting on Sunday. "This was a very painful loss for the team

for what they wanted to accomplish. They're not satisfied with where we were with six wins."

With the loss, ECU (6-5, 5-3 Conference USA) must now hope for a Marshall win at Southern Miss next week to land the Pirates in the C-USA championship game on Dec. 1. Marshall (5-6, 4-3 C-USA) beat UTEP, 49-21 Saturday while Southern Miss (7-4, 5-2 C-USA) held on to beat UAB, 25-20.

Things started out well for the Pirates, as they were able to take a 7-0 lead on a five-yard James Pinkney touchdown pass to Davon Drew after both teams traded missed field goals.

Rice (6-5, 5-2 C-USA) would tie the game midway through the second on a five-yard fade pattern from

Chase Clement to Jarrett Dillard, who out-jumped Travis Williams for the touchdown. A Robert Lee field goal gave ECU a 10-7 lead at halftime.

The Pirates had their opportunity to score more points in the first half, and throughout the game. A deep pass from Pinkney to Allison was picked off by Andre Downs. ECU attempted just 17 pass attempts, and the Downs interception was the only time the Pirates attempted to push the ball downfield through the air. Holtz said the Rice defense changed their coverage schemes and held Pinkney to a season-low 83 yards on 10-of-17 passing with two interceptions.

The Pirates ran for 218 yards as a team, but Allison

said the lack of a passing attack was frustrating.

"It's frustrating, especially to a receiver," said Allison, who caught six passes for 39 yards. "We felt like we not having that many opportunities to make plays, we let the whole team down. At the end of the day, it's a team thing, but the guys on the receiving corps felt like we let everybody down."

Holtz said there was enough blame to go around.

"We had our opportunities, and I say we because we as a staff, we as an offense, we as a defense, I don't think anybody can point a finger at anybody," Holtz said. "There's enough blame to go around. We had the

see RICE page A7

RICE

opportunity but we just closed. I give the made stretch to win.

No play Rice's four sion with remaining V ing to a 17- faced with a their own back John Dillard completion to ning kick.

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"I had a big play, a with it," Pa teammates d and we just looking at it would've just it happened."

Rice had lead to a poi from a holdi zone. "The O ing possessi and a Clemen inside the on Pinkney Lance Neis holding. N pound sen was fill injured Eric The Pir

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Lowery tackles with les for a los Garland H the team w stuffs the i tackles, with

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RICE continued from A6

opportunity and we were that close, but we just didn't get that door closed. I give Rice a lot of credit. The made the plays down the stretch to win the game."

No play was bigger than Rice's fourth-and-10 conversion with under a minute remaining. With the Pirates clinging to a 17-15 lead and the Owls faced with a fourth-and-10 from their own 24, backup quarterback John Shepherd found Dillard for a 40-yard completion to set up the game-winning kick.

Dillard and ECU safety Pierre Parker each went up for the ball. Parker, going for an interception, had the ball go through his hands and Dillard caught it on the deflection. Parker said had he to do it over again, he would have just slapped the ball to the Rice Stadium turf.

"I had a chance to make a big play, and I didn't come up with it," Parker said. "I let my teammates down, the whole down and we just got to bounce back. By looking at it again, yeah, I wish I would've just knocked it down, but it happened and it's over."

Rice had cut ECU's 10-7 halftime lead to a point on a safety resulting from a holding penalty in the end zone. The Owls took their opening possession into ECU territory and a Clement pouch punt settled inside the one. The next play, with Pinkney in the shotgun, Lance Neisz was flagged for holding. Neisz, a 6-4, 317-pound senior from Raleigh, was filling in for an injured Eric Graham.

The Pirates extended their

lead to 17-9 on a Chris Johnson 43-yard run. Brandon Fractious and Johnson each ran for 85 yards, with all of Fractious' yards coming in the first half. Holtz said he felt Johnson gave the team more options against Rice in the second half.

"We made the change just because of what they were doing to take away the passing game," Holtz said. "It was kind of a scheme point. Brandon Fractious had run for a lot of yards at that point, but I expected a little bit more. I tried to raise the bar and set a standard for Brandon Fractious that it's not about just running for yards, and I would have liked to see him break some more tackles. We went with Chris Johnson in the third quarter for a little bit more of big-play ability guy with his speed. Then we got into the fourth quarter and I just never went back to him."

Rice clawed back on a Joel Armstrong run with 2:28 remaining. The two-point conversion failed and ECU recovered the onside kick. The Pirates were unable to gain a yard before punting the ball back to the Owls for their final game-winning possession.

"I feel like we had a lot of opportunities to put the away, but we just didn't capitalize on some of the things that we had," Allison said. "At the end of the day you look back and Rice is well-coached and just executed better than us. Athletically-wise, they don't match up with us, but they came up with the big plays at the end."

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

STATE continued from A6

on your backside and sometimes everything goes against you. This year they've kind of had everything go against them, but you don't look at them and say they're not very talented.

Holtz cited the Wolfpack defense as a sign of their talent. The Wolfpack are 46th in total defense nationally and are led by 300-pound defensive tackle Tank Tyler and senior linebacker Pat Lowery.

Lowery leads N.C. State in tackles with 95 and has 8.5 tackles for a loss. Senior linebacker Garland Heath is second on the team with 60 tackles. Tyler stuffs the middle and has 47 tackles, with 7.5 tackles for a loss

and a pair of sacks. Martrel Brown, a 6-2, 290-pound junior defensive end from Maxton, leads the Pack with six sacks.

"I look at Tank and these linebackers, and their safeties at 6-2, 230, running downhill with linebacker size at safety and I don't see a lame team sitting over there," Holtz said. "I see a very talented team with one heck of a challenge right now for us as a program with where we are and where we aspire to get to."

Kickoff to the game has been moved from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. to accommodate for a national ESPN broadcast.

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Pirates return home to face the Saints

Basketball team splits two-game road trip

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

Following a two-game road trip in which the ECU basketball team lost an overtime game at Richmond before beating UNC Greensboro Saturday night, the Pirates return home tonight to face Limestone College.

Head Coach Ricky Stokes said he is encouraged by the way his young team has played through three games, but knows there is still a lot of room for improvement.

"I'm encouraged that they competed hard," said Stokes. "Naturally, we made some mistakes, but I think each game gives them more opportunity to get better, gain some experience and learn. We're having different guys step up different nights, which is good. The more we have more guys step up on a particular night, the better we'll become."

The Pirates fell at Richmond, 71-67, in overtime last Tuesday before going on the road to defeat the Spartans Saturday night, 72-64. Courtney Captain led ECU in scoring at Richmond with 22. Darrell Jenkins, who led the team with 22 points and 12 assists in the season-opening home win over Morgan State, rebounded from a five-point effort against the Spiders to score 19 at Greensboro. Jenkins, along with junior Jeremy Ingram, led the team in scoring.

"Jeremy has done very well," Stokes said of the junior, who transferred from Wake Forest last year and is averaging 12 points per game. "He's come off the bench and given us a boost with some instant offense and rebounding. More than that, he's given some leadership both on the court and in the locker room."

Ingram has not shown any effects from his fourth knee surgery of his college career, something the 6-3, 190-pound guard said he wanted to display.

Jenkins had eight rebounds while Captain added 10 points and seven rebounds for the Pirates, who out-rebounded the Spartans, 46-37, and held them to 35-percent shooting.

One of the reasons the Pirates were able to keep UNC's shooting percentage low was the defense of 6-9 freshman John Fields. The big frosh from Fayetteville has been a flyswatter for the Pirates, blocking five shots in the win over the Spartans after rejecting four against Morgan State. His pres-



Darrell Jenkins, a junior point guard has sparked the Pirates to a 2-1 record. During the two wins, Jenkins is averaging 20.5 points in 27 minutes per game. In ECU's only loss, Jenkins scored five points and fouled out.

ence, along with 6-10 freshman Gabe Blair, has the coach pleased.

"[Fields] is 6-9, he's long-armed, he's athletic and I think he has great timing and he's quick off his feet," Stokes said. "All those things help him and he also has a good mindset about it, protecting the lane, patrolling the lane. He and Gabe give us a nice compliment inside and

some stability as they get better."

Tonight, the Pirates will face a team they beat 87-54 a season ago with Ingram going off for 25 points. Despite the success of last season against the Saints, Stokes said they are a team with talent.

"Limestone really spaces the floor well and they have a tremendous point guard who is averaging about

20 points a game," Stokes said. "They have three guys who are averaging double figures. They can really shoot the basketball and are well-coached. We're gonna have to defend the three and get back in transition, and force them to put the ball on the floor."

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

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