



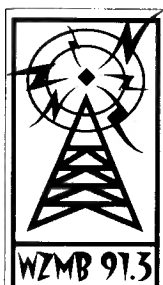
The East Carolinian

YOUR SOURCE FOR CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1925

VOLUME 82, ISSUE 35

{ www.theeastcarolinian.com }

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2006



If you're looking for a great album to listen to read about 10 of John Bosco's picks.....Page A5



Will Ferrell star in the new film 'Stranger than Fiction' with surprising results, read a complete review.....Page A5



The men's basketball will look for their fifth win of the season at Liberty on Saturday. Check out the front-page game preview.....Page A7



The sports staff voted on the five best male and female athletes of the semester. Read the sports section to see who got voted as the premier student-athletes.....Page A7

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Downtown dress codes, policies allow discrimination



Students have reported feeling wrongfully turned away from clubs in downtown Greenville on the basis of violating clubs' dress codes or not having a valid student I.D.

Clubs deny access to those who are going to be 'rowdy'

VANESSA CLARKE
STAFF WRITER

At some clubs in downtown Greenville, appearance is everything. Stories abound about people that have been denied entry into these clubs because of their clothes, their military identification cards, their affiliation with a Greek organization or even, some say, because of their race. The dress code of one of downtown Greenville's clubs, The Element, cites that anyone wearing "excessively baggy clothing, bandanas or 'any form of the 'do rag'" will be refused entry. People

without a college identification card and driver's license will be denied entry, as people wearing baseball caps pointed to the back or side will also not be allowed in. They also "obtain the right to refuse any person entrance," according to the dress code posted outside the main entrance to the club. "I think the challenge is that in Greenville itself, we have a lot of local people and visitors looking for stuff to do," said Lon Outerbridge, director of Greek Life. "And some of the clubs do not understand urban wear. It's not thug wear, it's just style." Outerbridge says he has heard from students that discrimination has been a problem in the past. In fact, two or three years ago, Outerbridge's college fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma, staged a march on

downtown to protest the clubs' de jure discrimination. He said it was a diverse march, which included people of various ethnicities who felt a policy that kept people out was wrong. Still, Outerbridge said that despite the need for the clubs to change, Greek organizations and all those having these kinds of problems need to change their image so that they are not targets. "It's just educating the community to stop stereotyping people," he said. "I mean there are plenty of college students [in a fraternity or sorority] who have a 3.5 GPA." A lot of these students feel so unwelcome at the downtown clubs that they now go elsewhere, to Dynasty or Club Fusion, Outerbridge said.

Sophomore Kate Rice, an occupational therapy major, has also heard about the discrimination that goes on downtown, she has seen it in action. "[The clubs] do not let a lot of guys in sometimes," she said. "They show extreme amounts of favoritism. For some people, they make them show a license, and others, a school I.D." Rice has especially seen how the clubs often will not allow those in with military identification. She has experienced this first hand. She tried to get into a club last year with four Marines. "Three of them [the Marines] were not allowed into what was formerly known as Cabanas," she said. Though Cabanas no longer exists, several of the other clubs

that still line the downtown streets continue this practice. One of the bouncers, who would give neither his name nor that of the owner, said that his hands were tied by the dress code and that the club did not have any kind of active discrimination policy. "If they don't meet what's on the door placards, we don't let them in," he said. He would say nothing other than this, except to clarify what kind of person clubs reserve the right to deny entry to. "It's just the fact that if you're too intoxicated or being an overall ass, we reserve the right not to let you in." This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

College of Business students meet with Warren Buffett

Students travel to Nebraska, meet world's second richest man

BY LEE SCHWARZ
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Nov. 16, graduate and undergraduate students from Dr. Sam Tibbs' finance classes departed Greenville for Omaha, Neb. The students' objective was to attend a question-and-answer session with Warren Buffett and to visit some of the businesses owned by Buffett's holding company, Berkshire Hathaway. "He's like your grandpa, except that he has billions of dollars. He will answer any question except about the stocks he will trade," says Tibbs of Buffett, who is known for his congenial and unpretentious candor. Buffett met with business students from ECU and Mississippi State University. He also posed for photographs and shook hands. Second year MBA student Molly Maxson, who got to ride in Mr. Buffett's car on the way to the lunch he treated student to, said of Buffett, "He is very generous and genuinely interested in us as he asked us lots of questions pertaining to what we want to do

after we graduate." Additionally, students from both universities visited Weitz Mutual Funds and two companies owned by Berkshire Hathaway: Nebraska Furniture Mart and Borsheim's Jewelry. At Borsheim's Jewelry the students listened to CEO Susan Jacques explain about how Borsheim's is able to compete with other jewelry stores because of low prices, very low operating expenses and loyal customers. She indicated that Borsheim's operating costs were approximately half of the industry average. Mrs. Jacques also spoke of the importance of doing a job every day that one loves doing and how that makes a big difference in performance. Mr. Buffett spoke on an array of issues such as the trade deficit, weapons of mass destruction and the importance of selecting a good spouse. The students asked questions which Mr. Buffett enthusiastically answered saying, "I enjoy meeting college students and being the Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway. I can't wait to get to the office every morning. I enjoy answering your questions and I have no doubt that all of you will do very well financially."



An ECU business student stands with Warren Buffett in Nebraska.

Mr. Buffett announced in June, that he will give away \$30.7 billion of his money to the Gates Foundation at 5 percent annually every July starting in 2006. The Gates Foundation helps to enhance healthcare

and education. Mr. Buffett also invited the students to the annual Berkshire Hathaway shareholder meetings in Omaha, Neb. This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Phi Beta Sigma hosts benefit ball

Donations go to various Pitt County organizations

WHITNEY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

The Xi Nu chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., at ECU will sponsor their second annual Benefit Ball: "A Night Under the Pure White Stars," from 8 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. on Dec. 2 in Mendenhall Student Center Great Rooms. The event is to increase the awareness of homelessness in the Greenville community and to attempt to make the holidays better for the less fortunate. Admission is free and the attire is semi-formal. The donations will be given to various Pitt County organizations, such as The Little Willie Center, Howell Center, Safe Haven and The Greenville Homeless Shelter. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., is one of the four National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities represented here on ECU's campus. NPHC is the governing body for the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities. Visit ecu.edu/org/pbs/ for more information on the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Xi Nu Chapter at ECU. "We are asking your see BENEFIT page A2

News

{ Campus & Community }

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVOLUTION Benefit Fashion Show

Nov. 28 until Dec. 2
Location: Hendrix Theater
This is the second annual benefit fashion show sponsored by Aycock Residence Hall and Residence Hall Association. This year all monetary donations will go to the non-profit organization, Christmas for Kids. We also will be taking nonperishable foods and gently worn clothing. Other Details: Models will be on the yard Tuesday Nov. 28 and Wednesday Nov. 29 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Come by and check us out!

Human Performance Laboratory

Research Study Investigating the Effects of Endurance Exercise on Differences in Skeletal Muscle and Fat Cell Metabolism Between African-American and Caucasian Women. Subject criteria: Overweight and non-overweight women, ages 20 - 45 years, inactive exercise less than two days a week, less than 30 minutes a day for at least six months. Contact: The Human Performance Laboratory. Procedures include body composition assessment, blood fat, sugar, and insulin testing, 10 days or eight weeks of supervised exercise and four or six muscle biopsies. Benefits include percent body fat and free aerobic fitness assessment, health benefits of supervised training, and up to \$400 payment upon completion of the study. Call 328-2575 for more information.

Tutor positions available

The ECU Department of Athletics, Office of Student Development is looking for qualified students to fill tutor, mentor and study hall monitor positions. We hire tutors for any subject offered in the ECU catalog as well as mentors to work with student athletes on building academic skills to aid them in becoming more successful students. Study hall monitors are employed to supervise our structured study halls. Work hours are usually during the evenings. Pay rate for undergraduate students is \$7/hour. For graduate students and those possessing a bachelor's degree, pay rate is \$10/hour. To apply or for more information, contact Jennifer Bonner at 244C Ward Sports Medicine Building or at bonnerj@ecu.edu.

Graduate Assistantships

ECU Project HEART will have two full-time graduate assistant positions for Spring 2007. Responsibilities are to assist staff in managing the office and to assist program coordinators in maintaining member files. If you are interested in this position, please contact our staff at 328-4357.

Yearbook student positions available

Buccaneer Office, Self Help Building The Buccaneer, ECU's official yearbook, has several positions available for students interested in working on this year's centennial yearbook: Two positions are available for graduate students studying marketing and/or public relations. Several positions are also available for qualified student writers. This is a wonderful opportunity to research and write about ECU - recapturing its past, present and future in the pages of the Buccaneer. For more information or to receive an application, call Mary Ruth Helms at 737-1553 or e-mail her at helmsm@ecu.edu.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts. Each front seat occupant who is 16 years of age or older and each driver of a passenger Except as otherwise provided in G.S. 20 137.1, each occupant of a motor vehicle shall have a seat belt properly fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion on a street or highway in this State.

30 Thu

***Healthy PIRATES Holiday Ornament Sale**
Wright Plaza

ECU School of Art Holiday Exhibition Opens: ECU's School of Art and Design holds the annual holiday exhibition sale. Wellington B. Gray Gallery Jenkins Fine Art Center 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

ODK hosts Deans and Issues forum
Omicron Delta Kappa's Leaders and Issues Forum is an open discussion about current ECU issues and related leadership topics. Invited guests include: Dr. Virginia Hardy, Brody School of Medicine; Dr. Al Smith, First Year Center; and Dr. Lathan Turne. Students, faculty and staff are invited. Refreshments will be served.
Bate 3009 5 p.m.

Coffeehouse/Open Mic: Pirate Underground 7 p.m.

1 Fri

11th Annual Festival of Trees hosts "Bedtimes with Santa"
Greenville Convention Center Greenville Boulevard 6 - 7 p.m.

ECU School of Art Holiday Exhibition
Wellington B. Gray Gallery Jenkins Fine Art Center 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

World Fest
Recognition and celebration of various and traditional holiday celebrations. Displays and speakers will be available to illustrate the celebrations and to answer questions. Co-sponsored with the ECU Student Activities office. For more information, call 328-6495.
Mendenhall Student Center 4 p.m.

Uptown Greenville ArtWalk
Emerge Gallery & Art Center 404 South Evans Street 6 p.m.

The Neveer
Pirate Underground 7 p.m.

2 Sat

ECU School of Art Holiday Exhibition
Wellington B. Gray Gallery Jenkins Fine Art Center 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Greenville Annual Christmas Parade
Downtown Greenville 10 a.m.

3 Sun

11th Annual Festival of Trees hosts "Storytimes with Santa"
Greenville Convention Center Greenville Boulevard 3 - 4 p.m.

4 Mon

Housing Authority Meeting
Central Housing Authority Office 1103 Broad St. 5:30 p.m.

5 Tue

Redevelopment Commission Meeting
Second Floor Board Room of Bank of America Building 201 West First St. 5:30 p.m.

6 Tue

Classes end. Last day for submission of grade replacement requests.

Last day for graduate students to remove incompletes given during Fall 2005.

Community Appearance Commission Meeting
Third Floor Conference Room of City Hall 200 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive 5:30 p.m.

Russian Film Series: "An Unfinished Piece for the Player Piano"
Movies have English subtitles or dubbing.
Bate 2011 6:30 p.m.

BINGO
\$500 Cash in Prizes
Destination 360 9 p.m.



***Featured Event:**
Healthy PIRATES Holiday Ornament Sale
All day sale at Wright Plaza.

BRIEFS

Pope urges leaders to renounce violence

(AP) — Pope Benedict XVI urged leaders of all religions Tuesday to "utterly refuse" to support any form of violence in the name of faith, while Turkey's top Muslim cleric complained to the pontiff of growing "Islamophobia" in the world. As he began his first visit to a Muslim country — a trip that drew extraordinary scrutiny but few onlookers — Benedict sought a careful balance as he extended friendship and brotherhood to Muslims, hoping to end the outcry from many Muslims over his remarks linking Islam to violence.

He expressed support for Turkey's efforts to join the European Union, moving away from opposition he voiced when he was a cardinal. But the German pope also hammered away at key points of his 18-month papacy, telling diplomats that leaders of all religions must "utterly refuse to sanction recourse to violence as a legitimate expression of faith."

He avoided mention of any specific religion, even as he decried terrorism and the "disturbing conflicts across the Middle East."

Bush says U.S. won't withdraw from Iraq

(AP) — Under intense pressure to change course, President Bush on Tuesday rejected suggestions Iraq has fallen into civil war and vowed not to pull U.S. troops out "until the mission is complete." On the eve of his visit to Jordan for meetings with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, Bush portrayed the battles in both

Afghanistan and Iraq as central fronts in a war "against the extremists who desire safe havens and are willing to kill innocents anywhere to achieve their objectives."

The stakes in Iraq are huge for Bush. His war policies were repudiated in U.S. midterm elections that handed control of Congress to Democrats. A bipartisan blue-ribbon panel is about to issue a report proposing changes in the administration's approach in Iraq. And al-Maliki's government itself sometimes seems to be at cross purposes with Washington.

Bush set the stage for the Jordan talks with a speech at the NATO summit here and at an earlier news conference in neighboring Estonia. The president said he was flexible and eager to hear al-Maliki's ideas on how to ease the violence.

"There's one thing I'm not going to do, I'm not going to pull our troops off the battlefield before the mission is complete," Bush declared in his speech. There are about 140,000 U.S. forces in Iraq.

Questionable Judgments

(AP) — Frank Williams, 48, filed a lawsuit in Pittsburgh in August, accusing the state Department of Corrections of improperly punishing him four years ago when he was immediately ordered back to prison for missing a parole appointment. Williams said he was not able to contest the decision then because he was hospitalized, unconscious, having been shot on his way to the appointment, and in the intervening years, his medical condition has worsened because of inadequate medical care in prison.

BENEFIT continued from A1

organization and its members to come out and support our cause," said Marlon T. Nolen, chapter vice president.

"Your organization can assist our efforts by making a monetary donation in the form of check or cash," said Nolen. "We will also be contacting community and

campus organizations to help with this event. We thank you in advance for your participation."

For more information concerning this event, contact Nolen at mtno609@ecu.edu.

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

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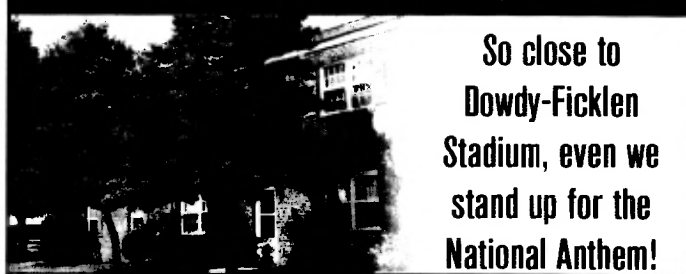
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Iraqis seek refuge in Jordan's capital

(MCT) — Retired doctors in the dapper black hats of old Baghdad slap down dominoes in smoky cafes. Construction cranes operated by Iraqi workers dot the skyline.

And when the dancing begins after midnight at Cafe Sultan, a sweaty singer gives a shout-out to Iraqi patrons, calling them by their home towns. "Where are you, Fallujah? Where are you, Karbala? Where are you, people of Baghdad?"

The answer is: Amman. More than 600,000 Iraqis have fled the war next door to settle here, leaving behind their homeland's civil war. Shiites and Sunnis mingle easily, filling this city's downtown streets with the guttural dialect of Iraq, not the sounds of gunfire.

When President Bush and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki meet here Wednesday and Thursday, they'll do so in the midst of a thriving community that has everything the Bush administration promised Iraqis before the beginning of the war: a flourishing press, building contracts, a renaissance of civil society and a vibrant arts community.

Lower-income refugees struggle to get by in dreary downtown apartments, overstaying their visas for peaceful nights, while middle-class Iraqis say life here is better than at home.

"I bought a house better than my house in Baghdad. My daughter is in a very good school here," said Amman Elias, a Christian businessman sharing breakfast with a Sunni friend at an Iraqi diner.

"Of course, I miss my country, but what can I find in my country now? When I look at Iraq, I cry."

Both men reached for tiny cups of ultra-sweet, dark tea made the Iraqi way. It was a chilly day in



Iraqi men who have fled the war play dominoes together to relax.

Amman, the weather made Elias and his friend long for a winter breeze off the Tigris River.

"This is Baghdad now," Elias said with a rueful smile. "I've been here three years, and I don't think I've talked to a Jordanian. My street is all Iraqi, my neighbors are all Iraqi. I don't feel like I'm in Amman."

A Human Rights Watch report released ahead of Bush's visit called on the president to help Jordan cope with the stream of refugees to prevent "sending them back into mortal danger." Jordan hasn't issued a formal plea for help, but strains are evident. Immigration officials have stepped up enforcement against Iraqis who've overstayed their visas, leading Human Rights Watch to ask Jordan to grant them refugee status.

Many Jordanians regard the influx of refugees with wariness. They complain of Iraqis snatching up the good jobs, driving up housing prices, dragging war into their stable host country. They're quick to point out that last year Iraq suicide bombers blew up three luxury hotels in Amman, killing at least 56 people and wounding 100 others.

Entrepreneurs, however, regard Iraqis as a growing market that's injected new life into Jordan's

economy. Downtown Amman is now peppered with storefronts that evoke Iraq, many of them copies of shops found in Baghdad.

The green and white Iraqi Airways office has a new facade. Imported Iraqi dates sell for 10 times the price at home. Phone cards are named after Iraq's ancient Sumerian civilization. Iraqi newspapers and TV stations keep offices here.

One of Amman's hottest new nightspots is Tigris, an elegant bar with a three-page wine list and an Iraqi folkloric ensemble. Foreign diplomats schmoozed with Iraqi and Jordanian officials at the gala grand opening last year. Asaad Mohammed, the Basra, Iraq-born manager, laughed as he recalled how some non-Iraqi guests thought "Tigris" was an animal.

He smiled as the guitar notes drifted across the restaurant and took him back to the country he has left behind.

"When you hear these songs, you remember the life you used to lead, the good old days," Mohammed said. "Practically, we've started new lives here, with shops and restaurants and companies. But if you talk about feelings, 99 percent of me is still in Iraq."



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Counting down Nine hours down, 21 to go

ELIZABETH LAUTEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This week the newsroom has been abuzz discussing how long one should wait before they sleep with someone else, as prompted by Wednesday's "Just Ask Jane" question. And, it's safe to say that I'm in full agreement with Jane and I don't think, under any circumstance, that one should plan to have sex on the first date, even though I know it happens.

OK, so I think most people can agree - no sex on the first meeting or date. That's simple enough. But, when is the right time to hit the sheets? There's no right or wrong answer here. Yes, there are moral and religious issues that come up for many people, and that's completely respectable, but what about those people who don't have those kinds of holdbacks?

Here in the *East Carolinian* we've come across the idea of waiting 30 hours before getting down and dirty. So you might think we're crazy, equating a number with how long you should wait before taking it to the next level, but let's just ponder the idea for the fun of it.

Here goes: You have to spend 30 hours with someone before sleeping with them. It can be anything from going to dinner, the movies or even the mall. As long as it's "getting to know you time" instead of "getting up close and personal" time. And, the idea makes sense - if you're actually looking to enter into a meaningful relationship with the other person that is. Jumping the gun too early can make things awkward or change the relationship into something physical, leaving behind its emotional potential. This way, you give suitable time to building the relationship up to something more before moving on.

Now onto the idea of 30 hours. It can be a bit more than you're used to, if you're not one to think before acting. If you think about the average date lasting around three hours, you'd have to go on 10 dates before getting busy. Considering most people don't go on dates back to back, that could take the better part of a month before you'd be sleeping with the other person. Quite the deviation from the norm for many ECU students, I'm sure. But really, what could it hurt? Spending more time with someone that is. Absolutely nothing.

So, instead of rushing into bed, consider spending at least 30 hours with the other person. And, if that doesn't seem right to you, at least take the time to create some sort of standard. For something that has the potential to be such a big deal between two people, don't let your hormones get the best of you and take away from it. And for our girl - we hope you enjoy the final 21 hours. It should all be worth it in the end.

Book buyback time is traumatizing

Are you ready for the pain?

AARON BORREGO
OPINION WRITER

As the end of the semester approaches, one indelibly ponders: How much can I sell my books for? Well my friends, if you are like me, you want to get the most out of your books that you aren't going to need anymore.

So, you are thinking that you spent \$500 on books, maybe you can get about 300 bucks back for those bad boys, or maybe even more? Wrong. Think again kids, it's time to learn a lesson on being taken for what you are worth.

As students at a university, you would think we might get a break from the rising costs of schooling. Rising tuition, book costs, parking permits, library dues, gas prices, food prices, student fees, rent and overall cost of living has made being a student harder than it should be.

Honestly, what is next? Taking students for walking across campus? Or perhaps just charging people to use the bathrooms in the buildings? I know, a per word service charge for reading books, signs, maps or newspapers from the creators of the materials.

What I'm really getting at is how the book manufacturers take students hostage by our wallets knowing we have to get these books. Rising costs include very little, if any real new material in these books.

I have seen many books that are completely new. These books are mainly in the realm of the technology sector. Therefore, I am mainly concerned with my scorn toward inactive topics and areas.

As an example of this, let us try to look at say, Western Civilization. Well, there are no new examples of how to do a problem in math. There are not any relevant discoveries happening everyday as in computer technology.

There may be new discoveries of artifacts, but nothing that would suggest a world-changing find such as the knowledge that the Romans knew the answer to the question of why we are here. So, what else is there?

There are new diagrams and a few new lines about how the origins of bubble gum and hair braids started with some previously unknown culture in Antarctica. I really just feel that the people who make the books are just trying to make too much money.

Even having said that, our school and teachers are requiring "new" books to be used every semester. Why can't there be any kind of relief to end the crafty wielding of our money? There is only one reason: Money is everything.

There is no money in keeping a seemingly good book in bookstores to be sold at used book prices. It is just like how there is no money in curing disease; there is only money in treating ailments.

For heaven's sake, we as a race of human beings are talking about sending people to Mars. Now I understand that book selling is only near the level of physics required to send a metal bubble through space to another neighboring planet, but why is it so hard to understand?

I just want to point out Web sites such as eBay and half.com as alternatives. These Web sites and many others offer books that are searchable by all sorts of fields. The drawback is the wait for delivery, but since we sign up for classes well beforehand, we can plan accordingly.

Even alternative bookstores are starting to pop up around Greenville and might provide another cheaper alternative to overpriced campus stores. I imagine that the bookstores might have something to do with this overcharge, but I wouldn't accuse our bookstores of such a travesty.

I do hope some other people are as upset now, at book-selling time, as I am about the ridiculous prices that we pay for our education. The price for higher learning shouldn't be getting higher for students across the nation.

If enough people look to alternatives across the board for their books, maybe we can make a dent noticeable to the book-selling economy. Perhaps people could also check the library for their books. Sometimes they have just what you need if you pay student fees.

{ Magically delicious }



PIRATE RANTS

General Education harder than the courses throughout your major? Good luck with that glorious Communication degree.

I know we've already tried it once and things didn't quite work out. But now that we're like best friends and hang out a lot, I think I'm falling for you again!

Where are all the Christmas lights around here?

If the robes change from the nice black to purple, I'm skipping my graduation.

The term is African American not "black," freaking idiot!

Researching and writing a six-page paper in two nights? Kill me now.

We understand that racism will never be over, so why do you continue to remind us.

The thought of having to possibly wear a purple robe for graduation makes me want to transfer to another school immediately, oh yeah, and puka. Black robes are classic and astute. If they change to purple before I graduate, you will never see me walk across that stage.

I'm so glad Jane said no to sleeping with someone you've just met. At least someone around ECU still has good judgment.

Just graduate and if you still want to stay here, go to graduate school.

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands.

Why men are evil - because they only want sluts.

Red is red, right is right, green is green, black people used to be slaves, women used to not have rights. Do you think history justifies anything? And by the way, in ancient Rome, gay sex was encouraged among troops to build closeness. So, pick up a history book everyone once in awhile.

All joking aside - where can I find a counselor? I think I'm depressed. It's only the first semester and I hate it here! It seems like I'm always crying!

If you love her, let her go, right? If she comes back, I'll make a respectable woman of her.

Did anyone else find Wednesday's Sudoku impossible?

I never planned on loving you.

Only a best friend will procrastinate and take pictures in the library with you.

I wish I was skinny just for one day. I diet, workout and eat right, but I'm still pigger! You would have no idea how it feels to go to a club and all your girls are getting the looks. I get so depressed!

Boys are cheaters and liars, they're such a big disgrace.

JUST ASK JANE

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

I've found the love of my life and I'm getting to the point where I want to ask her to marry me. The problem is that I have herpes and I don't know how to tell her. We've not slept together yet and I really don't want to turn her away from me for something that I can't do anything about. I know herpes isn't sexy, but I really do love this girl!

Signed,
Ill-fated and in love

Dear In Love,

I'll admit, yours is a difficult question to answer. Since you have decided you've met the love of your life, and you're thinking about marriage, I'm guessing it's safe to assume you've been in this relationship for a while. You've (hopefully) learned to trust this

I have never gone to bed with an ugly woman, but I sure have woken up next to a few.

We need a statue of Jack Sparrow in front of Wright Auditorium!

I bleed purple and scab gold!

Can we stop with the Chuck Norris rants please? They are old already.

For three years, I have been trying to get in-stata tuition and every year if am denied. The letter I get back always says that the school can't tell me why I was rejected. What's up with that?

I just want to get married, have a family and be successful!

My parents spend \$15,000 a year on my tuition and ECU can't afford to have any free parking on campus?

I should have never slept with him. He doesn't even talk to me!

Don't get me wrong, I love music. I just don't like it when it keeps me up until all hours of the morning while horrible singing joins it.

What is up with this weather? It's going to be December, and its over 75 degrees this week? I want some cold weather!

Maybe if you would stop saying the Opinion articles were boring, maybe you could understand that they are issues important to the writers. That's why it is an Opinion.

"To all the girls at ECU who dip, wear cowboy hats and drive trucks..." Go back to N.C. State where you belong.

Is it wrong that every time I read the Rants I want to get in an argument with nearly every person who sent one?

I am sorry I didn't recognize you on campus. It's not my fault that you have huge sunglasses covering your face, even when the sun wasn't out.

I hope we get free pizza from Papa John's if we go to this bowl game!

Anyone want to get in on a three on three basketball game on the Chancellor's court. I don't think that goal has ever been used.

These new drinking laws suck.

Am I the only one not offering my hymen up on a platter?

It's not alcoholism until you're out of college!

Teaching Fellows - I'm tired of being told that because I'm white, I'm prejudiced. This latest speaker taught us nothing new. Can we please have a speaker one year that doesn't talk about "diversity" in terms of color?

I can dream about you, if I can't hold you tonight.

person, and vice versa, but what you need to tell her about your sexual health is going to make her question that trust. Although she will be relieved that you are being forthcoming with her now, she will wonder why you put off telling her for this long, especially something that will affect her life too.

Before you even broach the subject with Miss Marriage Material, I'd recommend talking to your doctor first. Your physician will be able to advise you about what specific precautions you and your girl need to take to make sure you both stay healthy, and having the information fresh in your mind will help you answer your girlfriend's inevitable questions.

As far as explaining that conversation goes, be brave and explain everything as much as she needs. Be forewarned - she may freak out. No matter how she reacts, she may need some time to fully trust you again, but she'll be glad you told her. Undoubtedly, facing facts together will make your relationship stronger in the long run.

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Serving ECU since 1925, the *East Carolinian* prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. The *East Carolinian* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com or to the *East Carolinian*, Self-Help Building, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353. Call 252-328-9238 for more information. One copy of the *East Carolinian* is free, each additional copy is \$.1.

RANT OF THE DAY

My daddy thinks PB's is a restaurant... keep my tab open please!

If I could be a freshman again...

Freshmen need to value time, experiences

ERIC GILMORE
SPORTS EDITOR

As I sit and compile my portfolio and tweak the resume, I can't help but wish that I could go back to that muggy August afternoon nearly seven semesters ago.

I was a skinny kid dripping sweat in un-air conditioned Tyler Hall, arguing with my overbearing dad. Stacking the microwave on top of the fridge really was "rational." I had no idea how to connect buses to get to the Allied Health Science Building or where Rawl was. Heck even, Cabana's was a foreign term.

Simply put, I was clueless. And I do anything to go back. Now, I'm dealing with apartment leases, cable bills and preparing to be "cut off." Internships don't fit with class schedules while still trying to maintain lasting friendships. There just isn't enough time.

As an 18-year-old, Father Time didn't matter. It was normal to stay up talking to roommates or watching pointless movies until 3:30 a.m. with an early morning class looming. I actually worried about the grade on my English 1000 essay and how it would affect my overall GPA. The daily activities involved setting up a slip-n-slide in the third floor of Aycock with a couple of high school friends or passing around the community hamster (I still contend it was a gerbil) that lived in the bottom drawer of the desk.

Sprinting down the bottom of College Hill in the freezing cold trying to catch the commuter bus that would hop me a ride to Joyner was a morning ritual. Strolling home at 2 a.m. after the graveyard shift at WZMB was tolerable.

Life's major stressors included worrying about getting caught smuggling beer and getting girls past the resident advisor after hours. That public breakup that your friends had and their constant drama was a big deal. Now, planning for graduation and a career make the old stressors seem trivial and oh so, refreshing.

I'd do anything to get back to the day when someone with their single beds pushed together made them automatically cool. That day when road trips were easily accessible and a spur of the moment midnight trip to Raleigh was feasible. Instead of grocery shopping and cooking three food groups, the dining hall was a few paces and a to-go plate away. It was great.

Adjusting to a new town with thousands of new classmates and love interests going through the same experience. It won't happen again. The carefree attitude, the hangovers and teenage metabolism were a perfect mix of stories. Ahh, those were the times.

Freshmen, realize the opportunities you have. Take it from an old guy, who at least I feel that way, that this year is the time of your life. Live it that way.

Democrats must rise to the challenge

ALEX LAROCCA
OPINION WRITER

The Iraq war has been going on for three years under the invasion plans of the UK and the US. Now with those three years going with no hope of an exit or a solution, the Neo-Con rhetoric of "stay the course" is losing its foothold in the American public and the war is becoming an everyday apathy.

The next task on the American people's mind is a solution to the Iraq war. Unfortunately, most people cannot accept the fact that there will be no solution and this puts much pressure on the newly elected Democrats. Many arguments about the recent elections and solutions for Iraq need to review certain facts that shed a morbid light on the situation.

I have been reading some interesting comments in the *East Carolinian* such as that the Democrat's first act in Congress was to increase spending by \$58 billion and that the Democrats are gloating. I would like to keep hearing about what the Democrats are doing in office right now especially since the newly elected officials have yet to take office.

So now, it has come time for the Democrats. The Iraq Democrats are coming into it worse than when it was part of the so-called "Axis of Evil." With no secure national defense system, the country has become a safe haven for discriminatory terrorists, such as for the now dead, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, whose mission was to slaughter Shia Muslims.

The problems of Iraq are rooted in an ideology, which we do not understand in our culture. Our presence in Iraq just simply means we are another enemy of the various terrorist organizations that are there. If we were to leave Iraq in a year, the organizations that want control will fight under their banner of ideology and kill those who they deem worthy. If we stay and try to "fix" our mistake, the organizations, which want control will fight under their banner of ideology and kill those who they deem worthy.

When America was involved in Vietnam, it realized that it had put itself into a situation it couldn't win in the end. Our solution back then was to pull out and wipe our hands clean. The outcome was the communist north taking power and around 1,000,000 civilian deaths. If history can teach us anything it is that we need to perfect our faulty military and political strategies before we have to fix yet another mess.

So America is left having to fund the Iraq war, including things such as Iraq police uniforms, Iraqi guns and our own military. Is it so odd then for the Democrats to want to raise the spending? The war is a drain on our society but we are stuck in it and have to repair it best we can.

Beyond giving out guns to "protect" themselves, a new solution of dividing Iraq into specific cultural boundaries is just asinine. The Middle East already owes its countries idiotic boundaries to the West. This caused a maze of problems, which we are still dealing with today. Yet, our best solution so far is to divide it up again? Due to racism in the US, should we divide into a Mexican territory, a Black territory and so on? This is simply not a realistic long-term solution.

Then what are some solutions? Well I believe that we are left with something that will scar the country for decades to come just as Vietnam did. The newly elected Congress along with the president will try to jade the American people with apparent solutions. What everyone needs to understand and accept is that no matter what the government and military come up with, it is simply a band-aid on a broken leg.

With the mess left by Bush and the mighty Neo-Cons, the American people must now rest their hopes in the Democrats and the hope that one day America can uphold its reputation again as the greatest country in the world.

Pulse

{ Arts & Entertainment }

Horoscopes:

Aries

Being patient and planning carefully pays off, as you'll soon discover. You can move even more quickly now. Put on a great performance.

Taurus

Pay back favors and debts you owe, and get rid of stuff you've outgrown. You're getting into shape, in more ways than one, and it looks good on you.

Gemini

In a situation like this, you need a leader who has the strength and courage to be bold, and the support structure to be right. Help provide the facts needed.

Cancer

It's a tough job but that's why it pays so well. Don't take any chances. Before you say you'll do it, get a very comfortable contract.

Leo

You're lucky now in love and games, and whatever else you try. Don't be an idiot about it. Try stuff that pays off well if you win.

Virgo

If you already have a home, fix it up. If you don't, start seriously saving. Real estate can help finance the lifestyle you're going to acquire.

Libra

You're very enthusiastic but don't be impetuous. Your odds of success are good now, if you don't trip over your own feet.

Scorpio

There's plenty of work, and the more you can do of it, the more money you'll rake in. Move quickly, and prosper.

Sagittarius

You're lucky now, and you'll soon discover a new truth about yourself. With that in mind, what are you willing to risk?

Capricorn

You're a very busy person, so you don't have time to fuss over others very much. If you're feeling low, it's a good tonic. Get somebody a funny card.

Aquarius

Cut through the fluff and get to the substantial part of the information. This isn't easy but it's important. You don't want all that trash in your head. Edit out the spin.

Pisces

Use money to make money. You can figure out how. Sure, work is required, but you're in the mood for that. Knock 'em dead. Break a leg.

Top 5:

Top 5 Movies:

1. *Happy Feet*
2. *Casino Royale*
3. *Deju Vu*
4. *Deck the Halls*
5. *Borat*

Top 5 Albums:

1. The Game: *Doctors Advocate*
2. Akon: *Konvicted*
3. Various Artists: *Now 23*
4. Josh Groban: *Awake*
5. "Hannah Montana" Soundtrack

Historic ballet comes to eastern North Carolina

Nutcracker ballet performance at Wright Auditorium

KORRI-LEE SMITH
STAFF WRITER

In regards to the upcoming holiday season, I feel it is safe to say that the majority of you have at least heard of *The Nutcracker*, regardless of whether you're ballet fans. For the few of you already scratching your heads, I feel it is important that I take the time to fill you in.

For over 100 years now, *The Nutcracker* ballet has been attracting audiences everywhere. This popular production was first presented at the Mayinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, on Dec. 17, 1892. Renowned choreographer Marius Petipa commissioned the famous Russian composer Peter Tchaikovsky to compose a ballet score based on Alexandre Dumas' adaptation of E.T.A. Hoffman's tale, "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." Unfortunately, the first production was a failure; neither critics nor the audience found it alluring.

Luckily, this initial disappointment didn't impede future productions. In 1944, The San Francisco Ballet Company obtained the honor of being the first company to perform *The Nutcracker* in the United States.

William Christensen directed this momentous production.

Over the next several years, *The Nutcracker* underwent several changes to which George Balanchine is credited. His work is said to have brought new life to *The Nutcracker*. This enhanced production was first created for the New York City Ballet.

Today, Balanchine's work has become a sort of institution in holiday tradition. The majority of productions done today are still rooted in the version created by George Balanchine.

So now that I have everyone on the same page, I can share some good news. Clara, Herr Drosselmeyer, Mouse King, the Nutcracker Prince and the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy will all be taking the stage this December on the campus of ECU. Tchaikovsky's classic ballet will be brought to life in three performances that will each benefit the children of eastern North Carolina.

The Dance Arts Theatre of Greenville will be joining professional dancers from the Carolina Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Joffrey Ballet and young members of the community with the Eastern Symphony Orchestra for this spectacular production. The group will be under the direction of Jorge Richter. Artistic Director of Dance Arts Theatre, Sherryl Tipton, has coordinated the event.

Audiences will be able to



The Nutcracker Ballet will be performed right here on campus in a few short weeks.

enjoy a magical journey to a place where toy soldiers come to life and the Sugar Plum Fairy welcomes a young girl to the land of candy and sweets.

Since 2001, Dance Arts Theatre has raised thousands of dollars for University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina's Hospital. For the sixth straight year, proceeds will go directly to The

Children's Miracle Network to benefit programs and services for the Children's Hospital and the 29 counties the hospital serves. For those of you interested in attending this exciting event, performances are set for Saturday, Dec. 9 and Sunday, Dec. 10 at Wright Auditorium here on campus. Ticket prices are \$24 for students, \$28 for adults and

groups of 20 or more can benefit from group rates. Please call ECU Central Ticket Office at 328-4788 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS. If you plan to attend, be sure to get your tickets soon because both matinee and evening performances tend to sell out quickly.

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

'Stranger than Fiction' produces disappointing results

Don't waste your \$7.50

AARON BORREGO
STAFF WRITER

The movie *Stranger than Fiction* is a feature film starring Will Ferrell, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Dustin Hoffman, Queen Latifah and Emma Thompson. While being very star heavy, this movie lacks any true direction apart from the obvious and has a terrible plot.

Another terrible thing about the movie is the way that it drags on. This film seems to last an eternity due to its subdued undertones of humor beneath a heavy storyline. Stating that the plot and movie are terrible is an understatement. However, the actors involved do act their parts well. That is the only thing saving this one from being a box office refund candidate.

Ferrell is finally stepping away from the just plain stupid comedies that kept us all laughing in the past into a more dramatic performance, which he manages to pull off.

Do not be fooled by the really good commercials and trailers for this movie. They make the movie out to be what it isn't - entertaining. The entire point of the approximately two-hour movie can be summed up in a few sentences.

Will Ferrell is a lonely, tired, detached man with a severe case of OCD who works for the I.R.S. His life is dictated by psychobabble from writer Thompson who is facing a mental block, a serious smoking addiction and an acute form of paranoia.

His life is meaningless until he meets and falls in love with rebellious, opinionated and visually repulsive Gyllenhaal. But his character is too slow to know it until the eccentric, intelligent and insightful professor Hoffman lets him into the know.

The one thing that could have saved the movie was the ending. The original ending would have been death at the end of this story, but instead an alternate ending is formulated to bring a conclusion to the movie.

Happy endings are great and all, but even in the movie, the ending to the story is discussed. To be a great and poetic ending, Ferrell needed to die. I was hoping this was the case just so the movie would end soon.

Even in reality, if he would have died, the story



Dustin Hoffman offers Will Ferrell some advice in *Stranger than Fiction*.

would have been much better than the alternate ending which leaves the ending of the story a bit flaccid. The overall concept of the movie's plot is great, but the execution of it was flawed.

Overall, this movie gets a D+ for its waste of a great idea, terrible plot development and horrible utilization of characters.

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

Penguins provide a toe-tapping good time



Happy Feet will leave you with a smile on your face and a tune in your head.

'Happy Feet' sure to please

SARAH CAMPBELL
FEATURES EDITOR

If you are in the mood for some light-hearted fun as a distraction to sooth your stress from impending final exams then

the perfect solution may be just a short drive away. The release of the new movie *Happy Feet* has people everywhere tapping their toes to the infectious music and people left in amazement after various dance sequences performed by none other than penguins themselves.

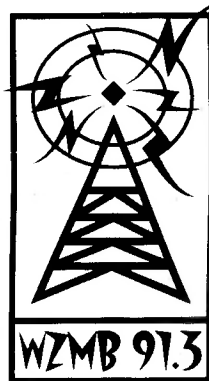
Often animated features are primary voiced by nameless C-

list stars, but not *Happy Feet*. For those of you who want to see a movie with an all-star cast look no further. The likes of Elijah Wood, Nicole Kidman, Huge Jackman, Robin Williams and Brittany Murphy all lend their voices to bring to life these precocious penguins.

The premise behind the movie is that when baby penguin Mumble is born he instantly takes to tap dancing, which doesn't sit well with the other penguins considering that fact that penguins are bred to sing not dance. In fact, it seems evident that he is the first tap dancing penguin. After he begins his education his teacher insists that he can sing. He argues otherwise, and believe me you'll take his side on this debate. This poor penguin can't carry a tune to save his life. However, being able to sing is essential to him finding his "heartsong" and in turn finding his mate. Throughout the movie Mumble struggles to find a way to fit in, but in the end standing out may be the main source of his redemption.

see FEET page A6

Something old, something new



10 albums you should hear

JOHN BOSCO
STAFF WRITER

While it's still too early in the year to go into my picks for the top 10 albums of 2006, as we're getting in gear for the holiday season that's fast approaching, I thought it'd be timely for some sort of a list.

And what better than a list of 10 albums everyone should at least, in my opinion, be exposed to and give a good listen to?

I'm not claiming that these are the greatest albums of all time (though, true, many of them may rank high on that list, too). They're just, in no particular order, 10 albums that I've learned to love, and albums that I'd want to tell my friends about if they've never heard them.

1. *The White Album - The Beatles*: While most people say *Revolver* is The Beatles album that started their experimentation with sound and opened up what they'd develop on later albums, in my opinion, it doesn't matter. This album is two discs worth of raw experimental, psychedelic songs that hit hard.

2. *Blonde on Blonde - Bob Dylan*: This is my personal favorite Dylan album because every single song is my "favorite Dylan song" at some point. If you've never heard any of his stuff and are trying to jump into the thick of Dylan, this has it all; love songs, word play, mind-bending harmonic riffs, etc.

3. *Born to Run - Bruce Springsteen*: From the first track to the last, Springsteen delivers it all on this album. He develops elaborate musical arrangements and showcases his insane lyrical delivery on songs like "Thunder Road," "Born to Run" and "Backstreets."

4. *Grace - Jeff Buckley*: The only full-length album Buckley lived to see made, *Grace* showcases the young musician's vocal ability and what could have been.

5. *Murmur - R.E.M.*: Just listen to this album and remember that it was made 16 years ago. Way ahead of their time, R.E.M. paved the way for tons of today's indie music.

6. *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness - The Smashing Pumpkins*: *Siamese Dream* is a great album, but this one is two discs of Corgan's genius. It's that simple.

7. *A Ghost is Born - Wilco*: If you don't know who Jeff Tweedy is, it's about time you learned. Arguably one of the best songwriters of our time, Tweedy's Grammy-winning *A Ghost is Born* lives up to the hype, lyrically and musically.

8. *Daydream Nation - Sonic Youth*: This album is definition of post-punk, art-rock and fans of almost every kind of rock music can find something

see WZMB page A6

Movie picks

★ Outstanding
 ■ Worthy effort
 ▼ So-so
 ● A bomb

New review
 Local critic
 Chicago Tribune
 Dallas Morning News
 Detroit Free Press
 Miami Herald
 N.Y. Daily News
 Philadelphia Inquirer
 San Jose Mercury News
 Seattle Times

Movie	Rating	Local critic	Chicago Tribune	Dallas Morning News	Detroit Free Press	Miami Herald	N.Y. Daily News	Philadelphia Inquirer	San Jose Mercury News	Seattle Times
Bobby	R	▼	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Borat	R	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Casino Royale	PG-13	★	★	★	■	■	■	■	■	■
Deck the Halls	PG	●	-	-	●	●	●	●	●	●
Deja Vu	PG-13	■	-	■	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
The Fountain	PG-13	▼	-	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
Happy Feet	R	■	■	▼	★	★	■	■	■	■
Tenacious D	R	▼	▼	■	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼

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WZMB
continued from A6

to love in this album - from the intricate guitar work to Thurston Moore and Kim Gordon's great vocal performance.

9. *Kid A* - Radiohead: Electronic, artistic, profound and really, really good. Every album Radiohead kicks it up a notch and front man Thom Yorke proves here that he's so clearly the man.

10. *Pink Moon* - Nick Drake: Drake's final album, and widely considered his masterpiece is stripped down to its bare essentials. A guitar and his voice. Even more impressive about the peaceful, crisp and creative sound on this album is that it only took him two nights to record.

Whether you're downloading or buying these albums, don't you think it's about time you started listening to them? Remember to tune in to the WZMB for a daily dose of great music from artists past and present.

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

FEET continued from A6

This movie is not only a heartwarming tale of a penguin, it is also packed with tons of laughs. There was hardly a time throughout the movie when a smile wasn't on my face. Williams kept the laughs coming with his portrayal of two penguins, Ramon and Lovelace.

Despite the lighthearted nature of this film, there were some real environmental issues incorporated into the plot. The fact that fishermen are catching many of the fish that penguins depend on for survival was brought to the forefront. Also, the issues of global warming found a way to creep in.

Another great part about this movie is the stellar music throughout its entirety. Kidman and Jackman belted out Prince's "Kiss" while Murphy gave a phenomenal rendition of Queen's "Somebody to Love." The music throughout *Happy Feet* made me not only want to sing along, but jump to my feet and bust a move.

I expect that this movie will still be playing in homes for years to come and will become a classic among children and adults alike. I recommend *Happy Feet* for anyone who is looking for a carefree way to spend an afternoon enjoying a movie with a great plot that is jam packed with comedic relief.

Just don't forget to grab your dancing shoes on the way out of the house, you may need them to dance your way home.

Movie Grade: A++

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



**Omicron Delta Kappa Presents...
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Thursday, November 30, 2006
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 College Retention Rates and Success Strategies

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Meet with:
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 Dr. Al Smith, First Year Center
 Dr. Lathan Turner, Intercultural Student Affairs
 Dr. Jim Westmoreland, College of Business

Students, faculty and staff are invited. Refreshments will be served. ECU is your community. We hope you will take this opportunity to participate. Thank you for your support.

**You drank.
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You had sex**

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 Forest Acres - 1BR, IBA \$345
 Gladiolus/Jasmine - 1BR \$375 / 2BR \$435
 3BR, 2BA \$600
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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

635

Miles between Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium and Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala. via the road according to mapquest.com

4,269

Average home attendance through three games for the men's basketball team; the men are undefeated at home after wins over Morgan St., Limestone and N.C. Central; ECU ranks fifth in Conference USA behind Memphis, UTEP, Tulsa and UAB

5

Major statistical categories that point guard Darrell Jenkins ranks in the top 10 of C-USA; the junior is 10th in scoring average (14.8), first in assists (7.4), fifth in three pointers per game (2.2), fifth in assist-to-turnover ratio (2.64) and eight in minutes played (32.2)

6-2

All-time record for the women's basketball team in the Lady Pirate Invitational; the Lady Pirates won the championship in 2002 and 2005; this year will mark the fifth annual when North Dakota St, Fairfield and Florida St. all travel to Greenville

1ST

Conference ranking of the women's basketball team in offensive rebounds; the Lady Pirates have grabbed a league leading 118 offensive boards in six games to average 18.8 per contest

93.8

Free throw percentage through six games for sophomore combo guard Jessica Slack; the sharpshooter has made 15-of-16 attempts and her percentage trails only Janji Montagino of Tulane

9

Pitchers that signed early national letters-of-intent to play baseball; Rigoberto Lugo of Puerto Rico Baseball Academy in Gurabo, Puerto Rico is one of 11 players inked and the first ever ECU commit from the country; Lugo is a right-handed pitcher known for his hard breaking ball; he has been

They said it

"I haven't heard from anybody and nobody on my staff has come to me to let me know that I should be expecting a phone call. Right now, we're trying to build this program and I believe we were brought here to do a job and we're in the midst of doing that right now. I think it's an honor when you're name is being brought around in the internet chat rooms because it means that they think you're doing a quality job here, but that doesn't always equate to jobs."
-Skip Holtz, ECU head coach

ECU vs. Liberty

PLAYER #1 DARRELL JENKINS

Jenkins leads the Pirates in scoring and assists from the point guard position. He cannot afford another five-point outing, however, like he had in the loss to Richmond when he got into foul trouble early.

PLAYER #2 JOHN FIELDS

The 6-9 freshman has become ECU's Sultan of Swat. The lanky freshman from Fayetteville averages four blocks per game and needs a similar outing against a smaller Liberty team.

PLAYER #3 GABE BLAIR

Blair has been a monster on the boards for the Pirates and, while knocking around with Liberty's 6-11 junior center, Russell Monroe, Blair has to hold his ground.

PLAYER #4 JEREMY INGRAM

It seems every game, the Kinston native comes up with a momentum changing play for the Pirates. While averaging just eight points per game, Ingram manages to score at the most opportune time.

PLAYER #5 COURTNEY CAPTAIN

ECU is 1-1 on the road this year and Captain's leadership is a reason why the Pirates have played well this young season. In ECU's other trip to Virginia this year, Captain led the team in scoring, and he will need another big effort and he must help keep the younger players focused for their third road game of the season.

KEYS TO THE GAME:

Defense:

Shoot the ball better:

Blanket Blair:

TEAM SCHEDULE

NOV. 11	VS. MORGAN ST.	W, 86-67
NOV. 14	AT RICHMOND	L, 71-67(OT)
NOV. 18	AT UNCG	W, 72-64
NOV. 21	VS. LIMESTONE	W, 80-54
NOV. 26	VS. NC CENTRAL	W, 68-47
DEC. 2	AT LIBERTY	7:00PM
DEC. 5	AT UNCW	7:00PM
DEC. 9	VS. USF	7:00PM
DEC. 18	AT MORGAN ST.	7:00PM
DEC. 21	VS. WINTHROP	7:00PM
DEC. 28	AT NC STATE	7:00
JAN. 2	AT WAKE FOREST	7:00PM
JAN. 6	VS. CHOWAN	7:00PM
JAN. 10	AT TULSA	8:05PM
JAN. 13	VS. RICE	7:00PM
JAN. 17	VS. TULANE	7:00PM
JAN. 20	VS. MEMPHIS	6:00PM
JAN. 24	AT SOUTHERN MISS	8:00PM
JAN. 27	VS. UAB	7:00PM
JAN. 31	AT MARSHALL	7:00PM
FEB. 3	AT RICE	8:05PM
FEB. 7	VS. UCF	7:00PM
FEB. 10	AT HOUSTON	8:00PM
FEB. 14	VS. SOUTHERN MISS	7:00PM

STATS

TEAM STATS	ECU	LIBERTY
SCORING	373	350
POINTS PER GAME	74.6	87.5
SCORING MARGIN	+14.0	+25.3
FIELD GOALS-ATT	132-293	126-260
FIELD GOAL PCT	.451	.485
3-POINT FG-ATT	36-100	33-85
3-POINT FG PCT	.360	.388
3-PT FG MADE PER GAME	7.2	8.3
FREE THROWS-ATT	73-120	85-89
FREE THROW PCT	.608	.730
REBOUNDS	220	191
REBOUNDS PER GAME	44.0	47.8
REBOUNDING MARGIN	+9.0	+15.0
ASSISTS	78	80
ASSISTS PER GAME	15.6	20.0
TURNOVERS	65	56
TURNOVERS PER GAME	13.0	14.0
TURNOVER MARGIN	-0.6	-0.5
ASSIST/TURNOVER RATIO	1.2	1.4
STEALS	26	33
STEALS PER GAME	5.2	8.3
BLOCKS	26	7
BLOCKS PER GAME	5.2	1.8

Men's basketball hits the road to take on Liberty

Pirates looking for second road win

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

The 4-1 ECU basketball team will head to Lynchburg, Va. Saturday evening to take on the Liberty Flames. Both teams are riding a three-game win streak. ECU has won three straight since an overtime loss at Richmond. Since then, the Pirates have won at UNC Greensboro and have home wins over Division II foes Limestone and North Carolina Central. Liberty's schedule is not much better. After a season-opening 74-48 loss at Oklahoma, the Flames have home wins over Cincinnati Christian, Houghton and Southern Virginia. Liberty has scored more than 100 points in two of those wins and

has three players averaging double digits in scoring, including senior guard Larry Blair. Blair averaged nearly 23 points a game last season, and is right at the clip this year through four games. Blair ranks seventh all-time on the Big South scoring list and is third in school history. Anthony Smith, a 6-4 sophomore from Plano, Tex., is averaging 13 points per game while 6-foot-8 junior forward Alex McLean scores nearly 18 points per game and leads the team with 10 rebounds for every outing. The Pirates have two players that are solid double-digit scorers in guards Darrell Jenkins and Courtney Captain. Jenkins, a 5-11 junior transfer, is averaging 15 points to lead the team and the point guard also averages seven assists per game. Captain, who led the Pirates in scoring at Richmond

and against N.C. Central, is averaging just over 18 points per contest. ECU hasn't lost to Liberty in five meetings, including an 80-56 drubbing of the Flames the last time. "The best thing about this team is we only have one senior so the future is bright for these young guys." RICKY STOKES
ECU HEAD COACH

of ECU's big freshmen trio of Gabe Blair, John Fields and Justin Ramsey. The 6-foot-8 Blair had a season-high 15 rebounds in the loss to Richmond and leads the team with eight rebounds per game. Ramsey has 13 rebounds in 46 minutes of play this season and Fields has ripped off 18 from the glass while averaging almost 10 points per game. The biggest thing Fields brings to the table for the Pirates is his natural shot-blocking ability. With his 6-foot-9 frame, long arms and instincts, Fields has blocked 20 shots through five games and has nearly triple the amount of blocked shots that Liberty has as a team. "I came here to rebound and play defense," said Fields following the win over NCCU. "I feel like I am maturing as a player offensively. Now I feel like I'm adding a scoring threat to my game." The game will be a litmus test

for both teams, who have played fairly easy schedules apart from their one loss. Liberty is coming off a 7-23 campaign in Randy Duntor's fifth season as head coach. ECU went 8-20 a year ago, but both teams have a lot of new inexperienced players that should continue to get better. "The best thing about this team is we only have one senior so the future is bright for these young guys," said ECU head coach Ricky Stokes. The game is ECU's last out-of-state game of the year as the Pirates will play six straight games in North Carolina, including three home games versus South Florida, Winthrop and Chowan. The in-state road games will be at UNC Wilmington on Tuesday, N.C. State and Wake Forest. Tip-off for Saturday's Liberty game is set for 7 p.m. This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

ECU Baseball team inks 11 recruits in early signing period

(SID) — Eight high school seniors, two junior college players and a pitcher from Puerto Rico have signed early national letters-of-intent to play baseball at ECU in 2008. Head Coach Billy Godwin announced recently.

"I am real excited about the talent that we have pulled together for this recruiting class," said Godwin. "Each of these players has the ability to step in and compete at the highest level and help us reach our goal of getting to the College World Series in Omaha."

The junior college transfers inked are Derrick Conatser, Rigoberto Lugo and Daniel Holder.

Conatser (RHP, 6-1, 180) will transfer from Tallahassee Community College in Tallahassee, Fla., where he posted a 7-2 record with one save as a freshman. Conatser finished his freshman campaign with a 2.92 ERA, which ranked among the top-30 in Florida JUCO baseball.

Holder (RHP, 6-3, 215) is transferring from Lurleen Wallace State College where he had a 43-18 overall record and a third place finish in the 2006 Region XXII tournament as

a freshman. Holder compiled a 7-3 record, struck out 64, walked 20 and posted a 1.82 ERA en route to earning Region XXII All-Tournament honors for the Saints.

Cameron Freeman, Matt Hancock, Dustin Harrington, Matt Laney, Seth Maness, Brad Mincey, Stihl Sowers and Trent Whitehead are the eight high school players that have signed.

Whitehead (OF, 6-0, 165) plays for near-by Washington High School in Washington, N.C. He earned All-Conference and Team MVP honors as a sophomore and junior. Whitehead is rated by Impact Baseball as one of the top-20 players in N.C.

Mincey (RHP, 6-0, 175), another product of Eastern North Carolina, plays for New Hanover High School in Wilmington, N.C. Mincey compiled an 11-6 record in two years on the mound. During his junior season Mincey struck out 92 batters in 73 innings, while only walking 11.

Laney (LHP, 6-4, 240) is a three-time letter winner at LC Bird High School in Chesterfield, Va. Laney tossed four complete games in seven

starts in his junior season, finishing with a 5-3 record on the way to second-team all-district. He was selected by Major League Baseball to pitch in the East Coast Professional Showcase in the summer of 2006.

Hancock (C/ Corner INF/ OF, 6-2, 210) is a versatile player from Xavier High School in Middletown, Conn. In two seasons Hancock has collected 11 homeruns and posted a .397 batting average.

"Matt is a strong power hitting catcher / third baseman that we saw at one of our camps that jumped out right away," said Godwin.

Freeman (INF, 6-1, 170) helped Cape Fear High School in Fayetteville, N.C. compile a 32-18 record over the past two seasons, which included the Two-Rivers Conference championship in 2006. He earned first-team all-conference accolades as a junior after posting a .380 batting average and leading the conference in hits (33).

Harrington (INF/ RHP, 5-10, 175) is a five-tool player from Alexander Central High School in Taylorsville, N.C. As a junior he hit batted an astounding .489 with 1 home

run, 14 doubles and 18 stolen bases. Maness (RHP, 5-11, 168) was named Mid-Southeastern Conference Player-of-the-Year and to the first-team all-state as a sophomore. As a junior he posted a 1.44 ERA with 127 strikeouts and six walks in 87 2/3 innings.

Sowers (RHP, 6-2, 155) has helped North Lenoir High School in LaGrange, N.C. to back-to-back state championships. Sower went 13-0 with a 0.75 ERA as a junior. He picked up team MVP honors as well as Conference Player-of-the-Year, MVP of the State Championship and all-state honors.

Godwin also signed Lugo as the first ever commit from the Puerto Rico Baseball Academy.

"We are excited about the signing Rigoberto Lugo," said Godwin. "He is a power throwing right-handed pitcher with a hard, late breaking ball that has also been clocked at 92 mph."

The Pirates, who begin spring practice on Jan. 10, 2007, will host Liberty in the season opener on Feb. 9 at Lewis Field inside Clark-LeClair Stadium at 5 p.m.



Courtesy of Washington Daily News

Trent Whitehead signs a letter of intent at Washington High School.

Steelers' Cowher has no interest in N.C. State job

(AP) — Bill Cowher is not interested in coaching alma mater N.C. State, even though the Super Bowl-winning Pittsburgh Steelers coach has only one season left on his contract.

Cowher, a former N.C. State linebacker, has seen his name mentioned prominently in speculation since Wolfpack coach Chuck Amato was fired last weekend.

Asked if he had any interest in going back to his former school, Cowher said, "No."

"I've been getting a lot of contacts about it; I've heard about it," Cowher said Wednesday. "But I've got a job here."

Cowher and his family bought a luxury home in Raleigh, N.C., less than a year ago, adding to the rumors he might be ready to leave Pittsburgh. Cowher's wife and youngest daughter are living in Raleigh this season, while his other two daughters are attending Princeton University.

"I'm very flattered to hear some of the things that have been coming out, but I'm not a candidate," Cowher said. "I have a job here and my focus really is on this job right here, so you can take me off the list."

Cowher did not suggest any possible replacements for Amato, who had a 49-37 record while leading N.C. State to five bowl games in seven seasons.

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Conference USA announces postseason awards

(SID) — The league office announced its 2006 Media Players of the Year, Coach of the Year and Freshmen of the Year Wednesday, as selected by a panel of media members in each conference city.

Houston senior quarterback Kevin Kolb was named Offensive Player of the Year. He has completed 68.2 percent (247-of-362) of his passes for 3,165 yards and 25 touchdowns with just three interceptions. His yardage total is second in Conference USA and his TD total ranks third, while his interception is the second-lowest of any Division I-A player. Kolb has started all 48 games of his collegiate career, more than any I-A quarterback and is C-USA's all-time leader in total offense with 13,109 yards.

Defensive honors went to Marshall sophomore defensive end Albert McClellan. A first team All-Conference USA selection, McClellan leads C-USA in sacks with 11.5, in tackles for loss with 19 and ranks second in forced fumbles with four.

He has been credited with 77 total tackles and turned in his top performance of the season in a loss at ECU on Nov. 11 when he registered nine tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss, 3.5 sacks and forced two fumbles.

The Special Teams Player of the Year award went to UTEP senior punt returner/kicker returner Johnnie Lee Higgins. He has returned two punts for touchdowns, tied for second-most in a season in C-USA history. As a kick returner, Higgins averaged 15.3 yards on 18 returns. He earned first team All-Conference honors as a wide receiver and punt returner.

Redshirt freshman QB Justin Willis of SMU was named the league's Freshman of the Year. He re-wrote the Mustangs' single-season passing records during his first year on the Hilltop, setting a new school record for touchdown passes with a league-high-tying 26. For the year, he completed 182-of-270 for 2,047 yards and just six interceptions, ranking 10th in the nation in passing efficiency.

Rice's first-year head coach Todd Graham was named the C-USA Coach of the Year. The former Tulsa defensive coordinator led his team to the largest improvement in Division I-A this season.

Graham took over the reigns of the Rice football program on Jan. 1 and less than one year later transformed a team that finished 1-10 last season into a squad that will play in the school's first bowl game in 45 years. On Dec. 22, the Owls will play in the R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, ending the second-longest bowl drought in college football.

Rice will enter its bowl game on a six-game winning streak, the longest in C-USA. After opening the season at 0-4 and dealing with the tragic death of freshman defensive back Dale Lloyd on Sept. 24, the Owls posted an emotional 48-14 victory at Army on Sept. 30. Following a loss at Tulane on Oct. 7, Rice has not lost a football game, including posting three victories on its final offensive play.



TODD GRAHAM

After being picked to finish in last place in the West Division, the Owls finished in second place with a 6-2 league ledger. Only a one-point loss on opening day against Houston prohibited the Owls from playing in the C-USA Championship game.

This is the second year in a row that the C-USA Coach of the Year has engineered the largest regular season turnaround in Division I-A, as UCF's George O'Leary accomplished the feat last season.

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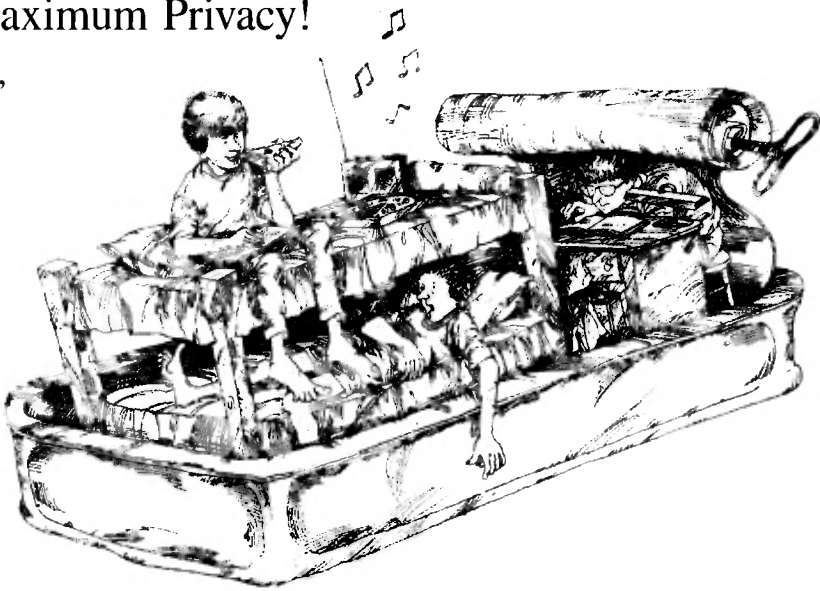


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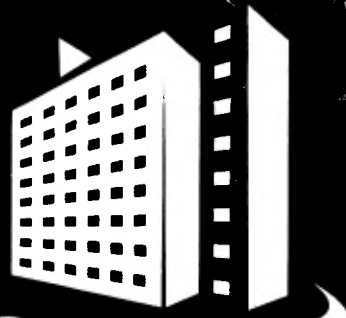
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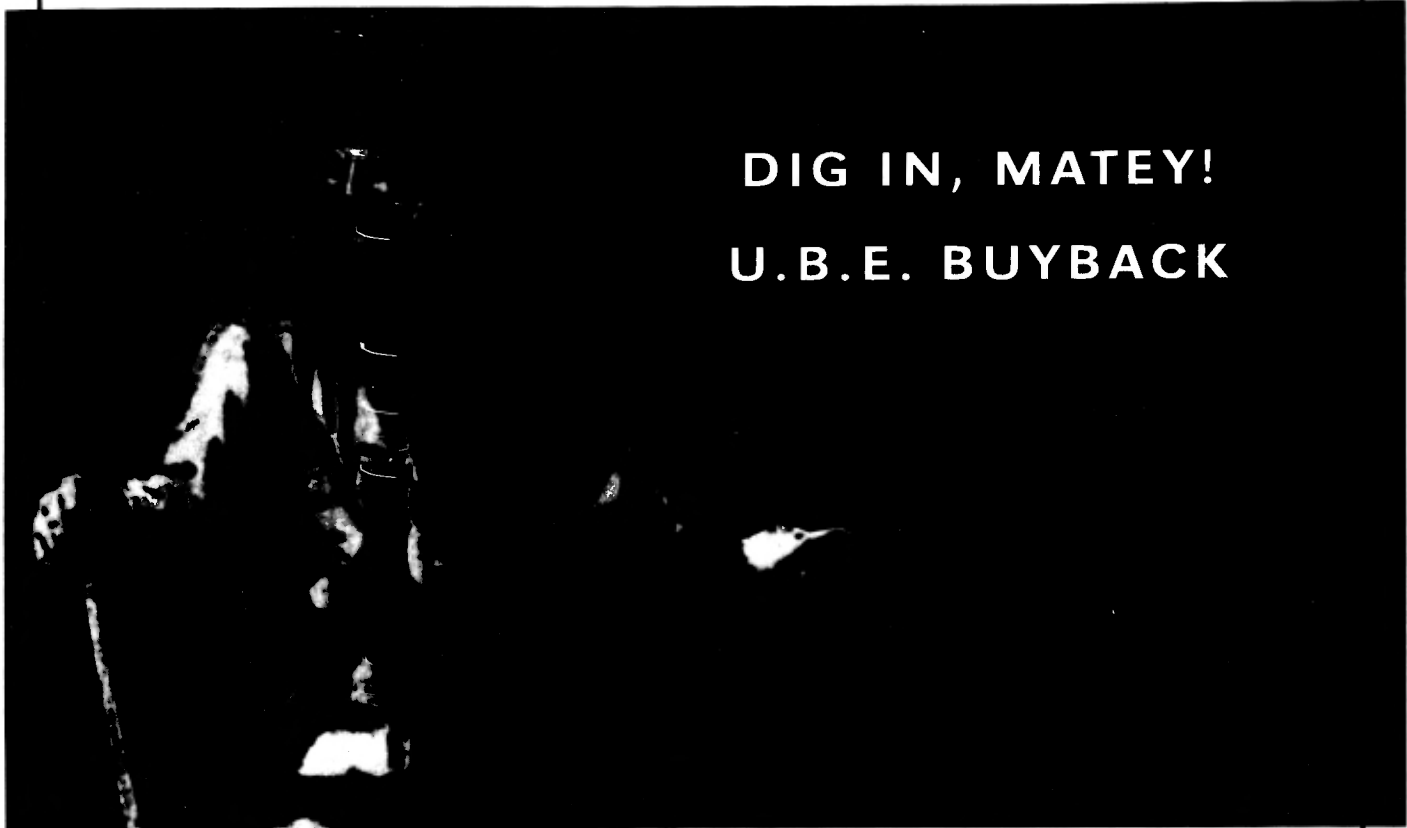


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