



The East Carolinian



CHECK OUT OUR SPECIAL BOWL PREVIEW, PAGE B1

VOLUME 82, ISSUE 37

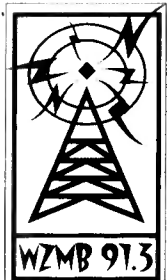
{ www.theeastcarolinian.com }

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 2006

Project HEART ships out goods for the holidays



The Great Smokey Mountain Railroad has teamed with Warner Brothers to put on a Polar Express here in North Carolina. Read more.....Page A6



John Bosco's back with another top 10 list, see if your favorite album made the cut.....Page A6



The Lady Pirates stayed out of UNC Wilmington's just long enough to inch out a five-point win Wednesday at Minges Coliseum. Read the sports section for a game recap and box score.....Page A9



Volleyball was the most attended women's sport during the fall semester, but was 36,728 fans behind the football team. Benjamin Lloyd compares ECU's women's sports to men's sports...Page A9

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Test your skills at SuDoKu.....Page A11

- NEWS.....Page A2
- PULSE.....Page A6
- SPORTS.....Page A9
- OPINION.....Page A4
- CLASSIFIEDS.....Page A11



ECU students and Boys and Girls Club members help Americorps' Project HEART collect school supplies.

Members and volunteers package school supplies

SHANDA STATON
STAFF WRITER

This holiday season Project HEART members and volunteers give back in a big way. Members have been collecting school supplies and donations since their initial service project in mid-October. During the last week of October, Project HEART members and volunteers set up booths and collection tables in various areas of the campus to collect money and school materials. The members also hosted two Spaghetti Dinner Fundraisers, at College Hill Suites and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, all in an effort to raise money to ship to the school as well. The project was so successful that they decided to extend their school supply collection efforts through the end of November.

enough school supplies to provide holiday treats for every child in the school," said the director of Project HEART.

The Orleans Parrish Schools was contacted in order to designate a school. The Parrish chose James Johnston Elementary school, one of the many schools that were greatly impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Members and volunteers alongside the kids from Fire Tower, Ayden, South Greenville and Farmville Boys and Girls Club, made Christmas cards and stuffed bags with holiday goodies and school supplies to be mailed to the each classroom at James Johnston Elementary School. In addition, Project HEART sent a \$500 check to the school to be used to purchase uniforms for those children who needed them.

Project HEART, also known as High Expectations for At-Risk Teens, is an AmeriCops tutoring program housed in ECU's college of Education, and works to help at-risk students in eastern North

"Our goal was to collect

see HEART page A2

North Carolina Arts Council awards \$123,176 in four counties

Pitt County receives funds

GENERRA CORNWELL
STAFF WRITER

The North Carolina Arts Council will make an investment of \$126,176 in grants for art programs and projects in Beaufort, Greene, Martin and Pitt counties during 2006-2007.

These funds will be distributed throughout various community organizations, public schools and county programs.

The Arts Council uses art programs to develop more productive and creative citizens. They also encourage excellence in arts programming services, to promote diversity, access and education of the arts to the citizens of North Carolina.

Mary Regan, executive director of the North Carolina Arts Council, states, "We estimate that last year, more than 13 million people

participated in projects funded by the Arts Council including children's programs, arts exhibitions, performances and projects at senior centers. We are grateful to the General Assembly for their funding support."

The Arts Council has three primary program areas of focus: Community, participation and artists and organizations.

The Arts Council values the importance of the arts in the economic development of communities.

They help assist and implement projects that improve local arts resources.

They also promote the advantages of participating in arts.

They believe that it is a valuable component to the well being of citizens and helps arts organizations build civic commitment.

Finally, they provide service to cultural organizations by helping to build audiences and programming. They also help with connecting local artists with professional

opportunities. Across the state, \$6,589,660 was distributed through 390 grants to 281 grantees.

"The grants were used to help local organizations finance programs," said Jessica Orr, communication manager for the North Carolina Arts Council.

"The North Carolina Arts Council gives the funds to a local arts council, then the local arts council decides which local organizations will receive funding," Orr said.

The North Carolina Arts Council is a division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. They serve as an economic catalyst, they use state funding to invest into local communities and offer assistance to local artists and organizations.

The Arts Council uses funding to build up the arts, and the arts are used to improve our communities.

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

ECU Police Department to undergo assessment for national accreditation

CALEA to perform on-site assessment throughout December

ELISA BIZZOTTO
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to achieve national recognition through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, the ECU Police Department is gearing up to undergo an on-site assessment throughout this month.

The on-site assessment, which is one of the final steps in the process for accreditation, will provide assessors of the accrediting authority, the information they need to make the decision to accredit the police department.

Accreditations are based on an agency's ability to comply with approximately 450 different standards in four basic areas: Policy and procedures, administration, operations and support services.

"These standards are like the best business practices," said Maj. Frank Knight. "These standards are nationally recognized standards, procedures, equipment, that a police department should have. They come in to make sure that we are meeting the nationally recognized best police practices."

According to the police department's Accreditation Manager, Lt. Curtis Hayes, CALEA sends three on-site assessors not affiliated with the ECU community in any way who review accreditation files the department is obligated to maintain, perform an agency tour which allows them to walk through the facility to ensure it meets accreditation standards and conduct a panel interview session in which selected police department personnel meet with the assessors individually.



Officers T.L. Biggs and M.R. Perkins of the ECU police department.

In 2003 the police department made the decision to seek accreditation in order to obtain a greater sense of professionalism and to do so by following guidelines that are nationally recognized and accepted. Not only does CALEA deal with law enforcement agencies on campuses throughout the country, but it is also the accrediting authority to municipal, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

"We wanted to be able to provide the best law enforcement services to the campus community and we felt like meeting these high standards was the best thing we could do to achieve that goal," said Hayes.

An additional step in the on-site assessment process is a public information session which allows assessors to gain feedback about the police department from people within the campus community, the Greenville community or anyone interested in offering their opinions about the departments' services.

"There is a public forum Monday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. which

gives the public a chance to make any comments they wish to about the agency's ability to comply with accreditation standards," said Hayes.

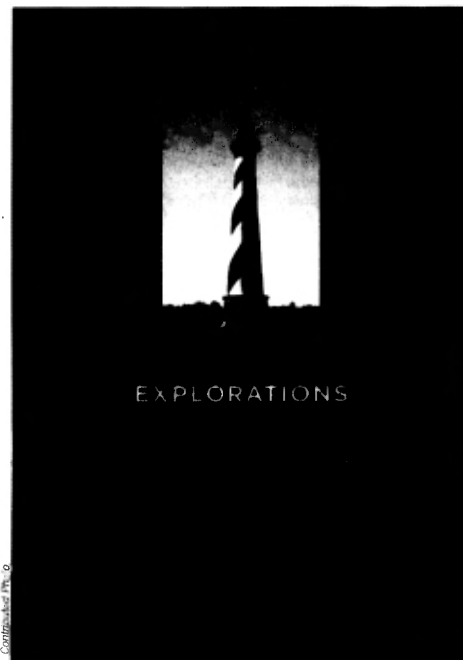
In addition to the information session which will be held on Monday, Dec. 11, the public is encouraged to offer their comments through telephone by calling 252-787-1580 that same day between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Written comments may also be sent to CALEA at Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc., 60302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, VA 22030-2215.

According to Knight, the final decision of the four-year process should be announced in March of next year.

Both Knight and Hayes stressed that if the department does receive accreditation it will not be the pinnacle of their improvement; the department recognizes their services will always be a work in progress.

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



The cover of Explorations, N.C.'s first undergraduate research journal.

First undergraduate research journal in state debuts at ECU

Students from across the state encouraged to submit

RACHAEL LOTTER
MULTIMEDIA WEB EDITOR

ECU is now home to the state's first publication of undergraduate research conducted by students across the state.

Explorations: The Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities for the State of North Carolina offers undergraduates at any North Carolina college or university the opportunity to be published in a peer-reviewed journal.

"I'm really proud of the students and what they were able to do. Years ago, undergrads never did research but the quality of the research they're now doing... is excellent," said Dr. Michael Bassman, ECU associate vice chancellor and *Explorations* editor-in-chief.

One hundred and fifty submissions from across the state were received for the inaugural issue of the publication. Once received, entries were sent, without names, by discipline editors to three reviewers. The articles were then judged by faculty and advanced students, according to Bassman.

"The journal runs the gamut of all disciplines, we want to show that our students are pursuing studies and research in all areas, which includes creative activity," said Bassman. "Students from all over N.C. were encouraged to submit their research. We were very satisfied and we received

very good feedback."

Explorations contain 11 articles in the categories of art and design, mathematics, creative writing, natural sciences, humanities and social sciences. Of the 11 articles published, four were written by ECU students. Students from UNC Greensboro, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Asheville, UNC Charlotte and N.C. State University were also featured.

"It's an honor [to be published]," said senior ECU English major Ellen Brake. "It's a new experience for me, and not something most people are able to do as an undergraduate."

Brake's piece *Socioarchitecture in Practice: A New Look at Leste Marmon Sitka's "Gardens in the Dunes"* was written after a semester long study of literature.

The inaugural issue of *Explorations* is available both in print and online due to funding from private donations raised by George Bartholomus, director of the office of undergraduate research at N.C. State, according to the press release.

Future issues of *Explorations* will only be available online.

Students are encouraged to visit Jovner Library to pick up one of the 750 available copies. The publication, as well as information on how to submit research for next year's journal is available online at explorationsjournal.com

Rachel King also contributed to this article.

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

News

{ Campus & Community }

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Project HEART
The Children of New Orleans still need our help. Project HEART will continue collecting school supplies through Dec. 6. The goal is to provide each child at James Johnson Elementary School with a holiday gift bag full of school supplies. Contact the director, Dr. Beacham at 328-1B49 or AC Leader Shanda Staten at 328-4357.

Dance 2007
Thursday, Feb. 1 through Wednesday, Feb. 7 in McGinnis Auditorium at 8 p.m. except Sunday at 2 p.m. Sometimes serious, sometimes funny, sometimes lyrical and sometimes eccentric, this annual dance showcase has become an immensely popular event. Sure to have something for dance aficionados and newcomers alike, this is a fast-paced and unpredictable cornucopia of dance styles. Visit theatre-dance.ecu.edu for more information. Ticket required.

"Urinetown"
Thursday, Feb. 22 through Tuesday, Feb. 27 in McGinnis Auditorium at 8 p.m. except Sunday at 2 p.m. One of the most uproariously funny musicals in recent years, *Urinetown* is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. Book by: Greg Kotis, lyrics by: Greg Kotis and Mark Hollmann, music by: Mark Hollmann. Visit theatre-dance.ecu.edu for more information. Ticket required.

"The Tempest"
Thursday, April 12 through Tuesday, April 17 at 8 p.m. except Sunday at 2 p.m. in McGinnis Auditorium. Prospero lives on a desolate island with his virginal daughter, Miranda. He's in exile, banished from his duchy by the king of Naples. Providence brings these enemies near, aided by his vassal the spirit Ariel. Prospero conjures a tempest to wreck the Italian ship. The king's son, thinking all others lost, becomes Prospero's prisoner, falling in love with Miranda and she with him. Prospero's brother and the king wander the island, as do a drunken cook and sailor, who conspire with Caliban, Prospero's beastly slave, to murder Prospero. Prospero wants reason to triumph, Ariel wants his freedom, Miranda a husband; the sailors want to dance. By William Shakespeare. Visit theatre-dance.ecu.edu for additional information. Ticket required.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday, Dec. 5 through Saturday, Dec. 10

Holiday Gift Wrap
Humanity Society needs volunteers wrap gifts at the mall for donations. Shifts are available Monday through Saturday starting at 10 a.m., and Sunday 1 - 6 p.m. at Colonial Mall in front of Belk. Contact Vicki Luttrell at 353-8833 or vluttrell@unitedwaypittco.unity.com.

Saturday, Dec. 9

Habitat for Humanity information table and fundraiser
Volunteers needed to hand out flyers and encourage Lowes customers to donate to Habitat at cash register. 100 percent of the donations made will go directly to our local Habitat Chapter. Shifts are from 9 - 11 a.m., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., 1 - 3 p.m. Contact Paulette White at 758-2947 or pwhite77@earthlink.net.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Special Populations Christmas Dance
Volunteers needed to set up/clean up and assist with dance activities. Dance will be held at CM Epps cafeteria from 5 - 9 p.m. Contact Deitra Crandol at 329-4541 or dcrandol@greenvillenc.gov.

7 Thurs

Reading Day

Coffeehouse/Open Mic
Pirate Underground
9 p.m.

*Day of Relaxation
Mendenhall Student Center
12 - 5 p.m.

Make-up Day
Contact your professors for Friday classes concerning the optional hurricane make-up day schedule.

8 Fri

Final Exams Begin

9 Sat

Men's Basketball
Campus recreation and Wellness Basketball Game Night
Children and adults will have the opportunity to experience an exciting ECU Pirates basketball game together. The event will include interaction with Pee Dee the Pirate and the ECU. This year's game will be against South Florida. Cost is \$5 per person. Williams Arena and Minges Coliseum
7 p.m.

10 Sun

Weekly Mass
The Newman Catholic Student Center next to Fletcher Recital Hall
All are welcome to weekly Mass every Sunday at 7 p.m.

11 Mon

Greenville Youth Council
There will be a Greenville city council meeting in the third floor conference room of City Hall on Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
6 - 8 p.m.

12 Tue

Greenville Utilities Commission
At the GUC Board Room, on 401 South Greene St.
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

13 Wed

Want to see your event here?
Submit the date, time and location online at theeastcarolinian.com/calendar.

*Featured Event: Day of Relaxation

Mendenhall Student Center
12 - 5 p.m.



BRIEFS

Metropolitan areas now taking up 'English only' proposals
(AP)—A Houston suburb is contemplating a referendum on the issue while small towns elsewhere in Texas, Nevada and Pennsylvania already have ordinances cracking down on immigrants.

But in a city of half a million like Nashville, a proposal seen as hostile to foreigners' faces opposition from more than immigrants' rights groups. Many members of the business community, including the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, oppose the legislation out of fear it will give Music City a bad name, hurting both tourism and investment.

7 foot 9 China native hopes surgery will allow pursuit of NBA career

(AP)—Sun Ming Ming's hands are enormous. He catches a basketball with one hand, as a baseball player might with a mitt. They are hands with the skills of a shooting guard, able to release one made 20-foot jumper after another.

Sun is no guard; at nearly 7-foot-9, the Chinese immigrant would be the tallest player in NBA history.

But the pituitary tumor that led to his extraordinary size is also threatening his life and keeping him away from a career on a professional basketball court. He recently underwent a second sur-

gery, but it could be years before Sun and his doctors find out if it was a success.

So late last month, Stieber and Tatter performed a second, knifeless surgery on Sun called gamma

knife radiosurgery.

It involved beaming a targeted dose of radiation through the skull, and it's hoped that within one to three years the tumor will dissolve and his hormone levels

will be normal.

"I hope I will feel much, much better so I can play basketball, get strong and make some team," Sun said.

"That's what I hope."

HEART continued from A1

Carolina. This program is an ECU partnership with the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, community colleges, Boys and Girls Clubs, faith based organizations and school systems in eastern North Carolina. From 2000-2006, Project HEART, recruited more than 500 tutors to serve approximately 6,000 students in elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and after school programs, with the bulk of its members being ECU students.

ECU and community college students provide nine hundred hours of service at a school or an after school location in a twelve-month period. Members work with students, grades 3-12, who score below the state standard in several academic subject areas, and mentor them to improve inside and outside the classroom. AmeriCorps members also participate in at least three major community service projects, one in October, one in

January and one in April. The Katrina Relief Project is an example of one of many service projects completed throughout the year. Members receive a monthly stipend and at the end of their service year are eligible for an education award.

Former Project HEART member Jermaine Johnson, an AVID high school tutor at North Pitt High School, said, "This project helps students excel in school," and they get to see where they'll be if they excel academically. The AmeriCorps mission is to strengthen communities. ECU Project HEART members continue to make a difference in communities in eastern North Carolina with the support of it's students, faculty and partners. For additional information, you may contact the Director of the Program, Dr. Betty Beacham at beachamb@ecu.edu.

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

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- Sunday - \$2.75 Pints Guinness, Bass, Stella Artois, Black and Tan

Professor writes book on jihad, first of its kind

Explains issues with jihad and security of nations

VANESSA CLARKE
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Jabil Roshandel, associate professor and director of security studies, recently wrote a book with fellow Middle Eastern scholar Sharon Chadha called *Jihad and International Security*. The book focuses on the nature of jihad and how it relates to the security of nations and is, according to the author, the first of its kind.

"It is about two different major issues. The first is the

identity of jihad in Islam... and how it has been used as a war strategy by a group of believers called "jihadists," said Roshandel. "The second focus is how jihad is being waged and who is fighting jihad."

He went on to explain exactly what jihad meant in Islam. He said that there were actually two different jihads: The more important or greater jihad, and the smaller or lesser jihad.

The greater jihad is a "struggle within your own self, own spirit, in order to purify self from doing evil things," he said. This greater jihad, he added, directly contradicts what the terrorists are doing.

The lesser jihad is to defend the territory of Islam from

unbelievers or infidels. Roshandel, along with several other Muslim scholars, have argued that this lesser jihad is an issue of the past. He said that there are a couple of conditions that need to be met for the lesser jihad to be undertaken and that those conditions were nearly impossible to meet in today's society. The lesser jihad needs a just leader, such as a prophet. It is impossible, he said, to prove that one is a prophet unless there is some kind of divine intervention.

Roshandel also argues with the use of the Arabic word that translates in English to "jhd" or "jihad" for the kind of armed conflict the terrorists are using it for. "The word for waging war" is a different verb

from jihad," Roshandel said.

The book puts forth a convincing argument that, "the jihad that is being waged by groups of jihadists is in fact a religious concept taken away from its origin and used as a war strategy," Roshandel said.

Internationally, jihad did not become a problem until 1996, when terrorists started bombing Western embassies in Africa, and especially after 9/11.

"The United States has not had any serious plan to confront this movement," he said. "Perhaps they underestimated it."

Interestingly, the book is written in non-scholarly language. This means that students and government agencies will be able to use the book to understand more about this movement that

is garnering more and more attention for itself on the world stage.

"Both for its overview and its practicality, this book will stand apart from others. It deserves a wide readership, not just in government circles, but for all those concerned to understand how the war on terror is to be fought and won," wrote Bruce Lawrence, a professor of Islamic Studies at Duke University in a review of the book.

Perhaps most importantly, this book clarifies the difference between what a Muslim thinks of jihad and how the terrorists have twisted it.

"Because I was born and raised in a Muslim family, my personal take on jihad was dif-

ferent than what I saw, especially within the last 30 years," Lawrence said. He wanted to show how different his conception of jihad was from what the jihadists were doing.

Roshandel came to ECU in August, according to a press release. He is originally from Iran and is internationally educated. He is an expert in weapons of mass destruction, Middle Eastern security, jihad and international security. Next semester, he is teaching an undergraduate class, National Policy Security, as well as a graduate level class called Changing Nature of National Security.

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

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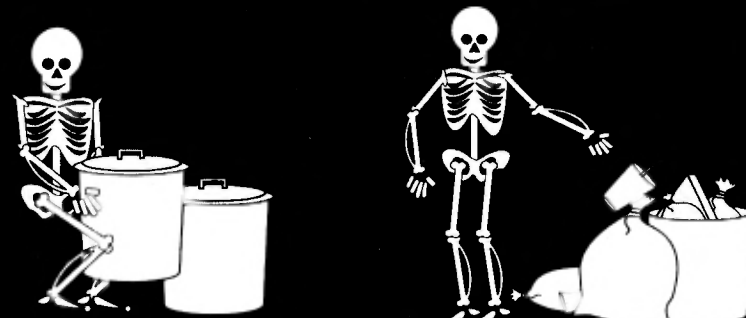
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2BR \$445-\$470
- Forest Acres - 1BR, IBA \$345
- Gladiolus/Jasmine - 1BR \$375 / 2BR \$435
3BR, 2BA \$600
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- Verdan Street Duplex - 2BR, IBA \$460

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Opinion

{ The ultimate opinion machine }

Letter From The Editor

Just one more day of classes (should you be observing the makeup day) and a few finals until we're done - with this semester at least. The inevitable craziness of the holidays, however, will be a welcome relief after balancing a hectic school schedule with work and life in general.

This fall has been a whirlwind, and although I'm looking forward to kicking back for a few days and letting my mom cook for me, I can't help but wish I had a little more time.

Despite my best intentions at the start of the semester to attend every class (I'm paying for them, after all) and to get involved with as much as possible, life always gets more complicated than expected.

Week after week, new challenges arise that can obscure our original goals, consume the time previously budgeted for other activities and make us lose sight of our priorities. Life can require so much focus on the little details of getting things done that we forget to step back, look at the big picture, and reflect on our choices.

As students and young adults, we are a force to be reckoned with. The old adage "there's strength in numbers" rings especially true when those numbers make up a young, passionate and creative generation committed to its dreams.

Our generation has the ability to utilize new technologies that previous generations could only dream of. We can communicate faster and in more ways than ever before, yet we seem to continuously choose to use these tools for trivial purposes instead of causes that matter.

Students freak out when Facebook.com adds a newsfeed, yet many choose to ignore the AIDS pandemic, the war in Iraq, genocide in Darfur, and instances of police brutality, poverty and illiteracy closer to home.

Everyone seems to have a MySpace page, filled with paragraphs of pointless information about music preferences and favorite television shows updated constantly, personal blogs that must take hours to keep up with - hours that could be spent doing something productive to help others.

Our generation has the power to make an enormous impact on current events and issues if we only choose to voice our opinions and work for change.

This holiday season, think about the causes that are important to you and what you can do to help. Choose to make a difference and give your time and energy to something greater than yourself.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bell
Editor-in-Chief

Guilty Pleasure: Celebrities

JESSICA DUNLOW
OPINION WRITER

Everyday something happens in the world of the rich and famous that intrigues us. Jennifer broke up! OMG. Tomkat got married and are fighting on their honeymoon! Did you see how skinny Britney Spears is after she has had two babies? Paris Hilton has a new sex tape!

There are television programs, even television networks devoted to the life and times of celebrities. The E! Channel researches individual celebrities' lives and form an hour-long program about every little detail, called True Hollywood Story. VH1 produces "Fabulous life of..." which chronicles the possessions of each celebrity. For instance, how Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie spend thousands of dollars on their teeny-tiny dogs.

"Celebrity Fit Club," "The Surreal Life," "The Simple Life" and "Fear Factor: Celebrity Edition" are all examples of our extreme desire to grasp a look into the lives of these worshipped people. What is the big deal? Yes, celebrities get fat, they play stupid on television for attention, and they do gross things to be back in the spotlight.

Why do we leech onto their lives and hunt the Internet for the latest gossip concerning Tom Cruise's obsession with Scientology or the picture of the girl that Adam Brody slept with?

It is a way to escape our own personal drama. Celebrity drama and problems always appear to be more important and more drastic than our own. Psychologists call this specific thing projection. We convert our anger and sad feelings of our own problems onto the things that occur in the celebrities' lives.

For most people it is a guilty pleasure to find out dirt on celebrities. People magazine publishes pictures of our favorite actors and musicians out doing all the "normal" things that regular people do. For instance, like grabbing a \$400 purse at a local store. Right. We envy their freedom.

They have unlimited money supplies. They receive free clothing and accessories from famous designers! In our mind, we can act and sing better than celebrities. This is another reason we follow them, we get the chance to make fun of them. "That movie she did was horrible!" "Did you see how much fat she has on her thighs now?" "He totally needs to shave that, it's disgusting."

"South Park" and "Family Guy," both of these two television shows constantly mock the actions of the "famous ones." For example, "South Park" produced an episode with R. Kelly singing his infamous "In the Closet" to Tom Cruise, who was sitting in the closet, to tell him to come out! "Family Guy" consistently chooses a celebrity of the week to taunt with the main characters' antics.

It is obvious that it is part of our culture to look up to those with more money and more power than us. It is our guilty pleasure to fantasize about being these people and being famous. But, there is no need for entire magazines and television networks to be dedicated to the somewhat mundane then dramatic lives of the rich and famous.

Right-wingers address AIDS in typical fashion

Financial greed and religious beliefs fuel Bush's emergency plan

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

We are an entire generation into the AIDS pandemic, we have seen the horrible toll on human life AIDS has taken on the world and the stunning advances in research that have been made over the past few years. Seen as a death sentence in years past, we now have the medicine and treatments available to combat the illness and to help fight the spread of HIV.

The problem is that U.S. policy makers are not utilizing these advances. AIDS policy should consist of a critical balance of medicinal treatment for the infected and education about how to stop the spread of HIV. Currently, the U.S. policy, called President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, is a despicable prioritization of pharmaceutical industry profits and irresponsible prevention programs mandated to promote "abstinence only" education.

After another three million AIDS deaths this year, the Bush Administration is looking out for their buddies in the pharmaceutical industry rather than ensuring peoples access to medicine. Patents permitting drug companies based in the U.S. and Europe, dominate the market, which prevents countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America from providing people with cheaper, generic drugs. With an estimated 95 percent of people with AIDS living in those regions of the world it is essential for them to be able to obtain AIDS medicines at a reasonable price. The current policy in the U.S., enacted by Bill Clinton, is to bargain with pharmaceutical companies for reduced prices and donations for ailing countries.

Depending on the charity of mega-corporations is obviously not the way to combat the worst epidemic in recorded history. Medicine should be excluded from WTO patent rules like food and water, so that poor

countries can supply them to their people. In 2001, the U.S. agreed to do this in Doha trade talks, but the Bush administration has yet to make good on that promise.

Worse than not providing medicine to those already infected, the Bush administration may actually increase the spread of HIV by irresponsibly advocating "abstinence only" education rather than condom use. One third of all U.S. AIDS funding goes toward abstinence only education even though there is absolutely no scientific evidence that proves that moralizing about abstinence can prevent future spread of HIV. Research that has been done on this issue showed that in Uganda, it took only two years for the HIV rates to double after U.S. missionaries/policymakers effectively shifted the countries AIDS prevention program from condom use to abstinence.

Even after these studies were conducted, the Bush administration continues to favor right-wing Christian organizations to disburse federal AIDS funding rather than scientific ones. Take Herbert Lusk for example, he is an outspoken anti-gay, anti-contraceptives pastor from Pennsylvania with absolutely no AIDS/HIV experience or knowledge who was appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS in March. Or the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda, who was awarded a 15 million dollar grant after they removed the information that used to be included in students' books about condom use.

Christian fundamentalists and the organizations they represent fail to see the differences in our culture and the cultures of those most affected by the AIDS epidemic. How can abstinence only education help the hundreds of thousands of women who are raped every year? How can abstinence help the millions of sex workers in Ethiopia and all over the world? Abstinence for sex until marriage is great, but what if your spouse already has AIDS? Rather than the fundamentalist wet dream of eliminating premarital sex, AIDS policies must be founded on what is proven to be effective: Education, cheap access to condoms and medication within a structure that promotes responsible and educated sexual behavior.

The Bush administration must stop its ideological conquest on the world and do what is right, help those in need, not just those who make campaign contributions.

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The ECU 1 Card Office is moving to G-521 Old Cafeteria Complex on TUESDAY, DEC. 12th. The 1 Card Office will be closed that day. Please visit us in our new location beginning WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13th when we will open at 12 noon.

The new office is on the ground floor.
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We will also have a NEW PHONE NUMBER effective with the move:
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Horoscopes:

Aries

Household chores demand your attention. This is not simply an annoyance. It's an opportunity for you to consider your options, in a familiar setting.

Taurus

Do the reading. Don't wait around for your friends to bail you out. You're more likely to come up with the right answer than they are.

Gemini

Figure out a way to make your job take up less of your time, without taking a cut in pay. Get your boss to help.

Cancer

You're working overtime but you're good at the job and it's satisfying. If you're not, change jobs. At this time of year, everyone needs your help.

Leo

Gather up the goodies and stash them away in a safe place. You'll find you already have almost everything you need.

Virgo

New pressures develop as you put your plans into action. Hurry and get everything ready, down to the tiniest detail.

Libra

You're very imaginative now, regarding your job. You'll come up with innovations that can save a lot of money. Write them down.

Scorpio

You're gathering respect and confidence as well as the money. This is more valid, of course, if you're doing business. If you're not, you should be.

Sagittarius

Travel conditions are good for this weekend, so get packed and prepared. Make your lists now and check everything twice, you won't have time later.

Capricorn

You could be holding on to something more valuable than you realize. Better get a new appraisal before you offer to sell.

Aquarius

Finish up early - you'll want to get started on the celebration. So many friends, so little time. You'll have to pace yourself.

Pisces

Although all the problems have not yet been solved, folks are in a better humor, generally speaking. You certainly are, and that's a good place to start.

Drink Recipes:

Spiced Cider

- 1 quart apple Cider
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 cup dark rum, optional
- Thinly sliced apples for garnish
- Cinnamon sticks for garnish

Pour apple cider into a large saucepan. Add cinnamon sticks and lemon zest. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Remove from heat and strain. Add dark rum. Serve warm into coffee mugs and garnish with an apple slice and a cinnamon stick.

Sparkling Punch

- 2 cans cranberry juice concentrate
- 1 liter bottle sparkling wine
- 2 liter bottles Lemon-lime Soda

Combine all the ingredients in a punch bowl. You can add an ice ring with cranberries in it.

Fans have plenty of bowl travel options

Your guide to getting to the game

SARAH BELI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Pirates are invading Birmingham for the Papajohns.com Bowl and they'll need a strong fan presence in the stands.

The bowl has already sold between 12,000 and 14,000 tickets within the Birmingham community, according to Mark Meadows, the bowl's executive director. Bowls are required by the NCAA to average 25,000 fans over a three-year period, and each team is allotted a minimum of 10,000 tickets.

Although the Papajohns.com Bowl takes place just before the holidays on Dec. 23, ticket sales are an important factor in the selection of teams for future bowl games.

ECU took approximately 12,000 fans to its last bowl appearance in Mobile in 2001, while South Florida brought 5,000 fans to the Meineke Car Care Bowl in Charlotte last year.

To ensure students who want to attend the game have the opportunity, the Department of Student Experiences is sponsoring a bus trip to Birmingham, leaving from Mendenhall Friday, Dec. 21 at 11:50 p.m. and returning immediately after the game

on Saturday. Space is limited to the first 50 students who turn in applications, which must be accompanied by a completed university code of conduct form.

"I'm extremely excited about this great opportunity for students to show their Pirate Pride... it's going to be a fun time watching all of Birmingham turn purple," said Ken Robol, director of student media and trip chaperone.

The cost of the university-sponsored trip ranges from \$100-200 and includes transportation to and from the bowl, hotel accommodations for one night at the Courtyard by Marriott Birmingham and one bowl game ticket.

"We heard a lot of students wanted to go [to the bowl] but couldn't afford it. We saw there were a lot of [travel] packages but they were expensive, especially around the holidays," said Corey King, associate vice chancellor for student engagement.

Other travel packages, available through the Pirate Club, range from \$295 to \$595 and up, depending on the mode of transportation and number of people. Pirate fans can choose to travel to the bowl and back in a same-day charter flight from Kinston, or arrive by coach or car on Dec. 21 and stay for two nights at either the Amerisuites Riverchase or the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The packages include transportation

and from the stadium on Saturday, but tickets must be purchased separately.

Pirates who prefer to travel independently can make the approximately 10-hour, 630-mile trip via U.S. 264-W to I-95 S, pick up I-20 W in South Carolina and follow I-20 W through Georgia into Birmingham. The route passes through several major cities including Columbia, S.C., Atlanta and Augusta, Ga. and offers plenty of interesting stops along the way, should seasoned road-trippers want to explore

beyond the interstate.

Once in Birmingham, hotels abound. South Florida's team will shack up at the Sheraton downtown while ECU's team will be at the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover and the Hilton Perimeter Park. So far, the cheapest lodging to be found is at the Sun Suites of Birmingham (3.8 miles from Legion Field), with rooms starting at \$49.99. The Days Inn Birmingham, however, is the closest to Legion Field (8 miles) and has rooms starting at \$71.99. Closer to home, Pirate fans

can join in a pre-bowl pep rally on Saturday during halftime at the men's basketball game. Ironically, the basketball team will face South Florida at 7 p.m.

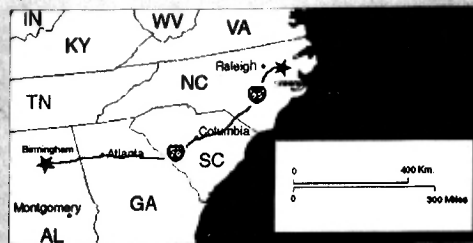
The Papajohns.com bowl game will air on ESPN 2 at many local restaurants and bars in Greenville, and the *East Carolinian* will provide coverage of the game and its festivities online at theeastcarolinian.com starting Dec. 20.

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

Directions from Greenville to Birmingham, Al.

Take U.S.-64 W to I-95 S
Follow I-95 S through South Carolina, merge onto I-20 W toward Columbia, S.C.
Continue on I-20 W through Georgia and into Birmingham

Estimated Time: 10 hours
Estimated Distance: 640 miles



Nicknamed the "Magic City," Birmingham is Alabama's largest city with a population of almost one million people.

The city offers range of attractions, including the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Birmingham Zoo, Sloss blast Furnaces National Historic Landmark and the Southern Museum of Flight. Birmingham is the birthplace of Condoleezza Rice, President George W. Bush's national security director; Courtney Cox Arquette, star of "Friends"; Bart Starr, NFL Hall of Fame quarterback; Paul "Bear" Bryant, Alabama's legendary football coach; and Nell Carter, gospel singer.

Catch a ride on the Polar Express

A North Pole adventure is brought to N.C.

STACY DAIL
STAFF WRITER

Christmas caroling, plays and viewing Christmas light displays are some of the many activities that families do together during the holiday season. It seems as though year after year, the holidays are filled with many of the same old activities and traditions. This Christmas why not shake things up a bit?

The Great Smoky Mountains Railroad has teamed up with Warner Brothers Consumer Products to produce the ultimate Christmas experience: A real life Polar Express.

For those of you who have been living in a hole the last few years and don't really know what the Polar Express is, now is your time to be enlightened.

The Polar Express, starring none other than the amazing Tom Hanks, was released in theaters Nov. 10, 2004. The movie, which was based on the book by children's writer Chris Van Allsburg,

told a story of a boy who, after doubting Santa's existence, takes a train ride to the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

The book quickly became a holiday must-read and has sold over six million copies. The Great Smoky Mountains Railroad recognized how popular the story had become and decided to make their own real life version of the Polar Express.

GSMR has been running the event all through November and will continue through December as Christmas approaches. Depending on how much you want to spend on this exciting adventure, there are two trains to choose from: The Polar Express or The Polar Express Dining Train.

The Polar Express train departs in Bryson City and takes passengers on a magical journey through the quiet wilderness. As the anticipation on getting to the "North Pole" rises, guests will take part in listening and reading the classic Polar Express story, all while drinking hot chocolate and eating yummy Christmas cookies.



The Polar Express is brought to life in the animated classic voiced by Tom Hanks.

see POLAR page A7

'The Fountain' overflows with creativity

The most innovative film of 2006

BEN HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

This year has been a phenomenal year for movies. It seems as if an explosion of creativity suddenly erupted from the minds of the movie gods and landed upon the screenwriters. The pinnacle of this creative mountain is found in *The Fountain*.

The film is perhaps the most creative film of the decade, rivaled in the 1990s only by *Pulp Fiction* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Directed by acclaimed director Darren Aronofsky, who previously put his creative genius to work in *Requiem for a Dream*.

The film follows three timelines. One, set in the 1400s, follows Spanish conquistador Tomas on his quest to find the Tree of Life in the middle of Central America. The other takes place in present time and follows Tommy, who is trying to find a Fountain of Youth like cure-all that will save his wife Izzy.

The last timeline, and unfortunately the most confusing, is set in 2500 where supposedly Tommy is the last surviving human floating on a piece of Earth inside a bubble heading toward what is presumably God.

In each timeline, Tommy has a love named Isabella. The first timeline deals with the beau-



Actor Hugh Jackman offers a phenomenal performance in *The Fountain*.

tiful Spanish Queen Isabella, the second with Tommy's ill wife Izzy and the last with Izzy's ghost. Each Tommy is on a quest to find eternal life and the salvation of their love.

The film beautifully expresses the desire of every man to live forever. It reminds the viewer of

up a camera for the first time. It inspires a thousand different thoughts, during and after one watches it. I even found myself questioning my entire existence while stuffing my face with Milk Duds.

The film stars Hugh Jackman, Rachel Weisz and Ellen Burstyn. Jackman has grown exponentially as an actor since I first gained notice of him in *X-Men*.

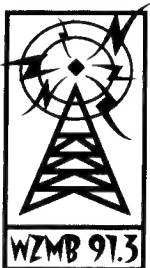
He expresses so much emotion that the viewer finds it hard to believe they are watching a film in the first place, rather than a well-placed secret camera following this man's every move.

This year was filled with so many great leading male performances, but so far I have never been so sure of someone's Oscar nomination as I was with Jackman's.

Weisz is stunning as Queen Isabella and as convincing as a brain tumor patient; however I believe that she was miscast. Weisz has consistently been a great actress in all of her films, but the script did not do any of this justice. Her character is underused and underdeveloped. I hate to admit it but it seems as if she only got the part because her husband is the director.

Burstyn is another underused character. The actress, who won an Oscar for her brilliance in her role as the terrified mother in *The Exorcist*, plays Tommy's boss

see FOUNTAIN page A8



Just in time for shopping

Music year in review

JOHN BOSCO
STAFF WRITER

I was surprised this past week when a few people I knew, and a few I didn't, had plenty to say to me about my last week's 10 albums to listen to.

I've never really had so much feedback on a list, but some argued that those 10 album picks were just too obvious.

Others criticized, claiming that there wasn't enough unheard stuff on the list - everyone knows who Dylan and the Beatles are.

One student said there should have been more Springsteen on the list!

Well, you can't please everyone, so I've come back for another top 10 list - this time, I'll narrow the field a little bit, and focus on my favorite 10 albums from this year.

1. *Born Again In The USA* by Loose Fur: As a huge Wilco fan, I'm sort of impartial to Jeff Tweedy's songwriting and really anything he does. "Hey Chicken" and "The Ruling Class" are easily two of the best-written songs this year.

2. *Bitter Tea* by The Fiery Furnaces: After interviewing Matt Friedberger about this album and his solo albums (also released this year), I decided I needed to hear this album. A huge, very different step beyond *Rehearsing My Choir*, *Bitter Tea* is an amazing rapture of brilliant melodies and great lyrics.

3. *...And The Battle Begun* by RX Bandits: No one else today pushes music quite like the RX Bandits. They take ska and punk and make it sound Mars Volta-esque, except a hundred times less forced and with far better, socially focused lyrics.

4. *Modern Times* by Bob Dylan: Look, I love Bob Dylan. Regardless of the controversy surrounding the copywriting and song credits on this album, Dylan proved he's got what it takes to both write and perform songs. And he's still the man.

5. *Meds* by Placebo: Singer

see WZMB page A8

Happy Holidays!

From the staff at The East Carolinian. See you next year!

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POLAR continued from A6

Once the passengers arrive at the North Pole, Santa himself, as well as his reindeer of course, will get on the train and greet each child with his or her own sleigh bell.

After visiting with Santa, the train will return to Bryson City. Since everyone will be in the Christmas spirit after visiting the real Santa Claus, passengers will take part in singing Christmas carols on the way home.

Yes, the Polar Express train does sound exciting, but if you want to step your trip up a little more, the Polar Express Dining train is for you.

Passengers experience the

same story as the regular Polar Express train, except this train departs from Dillsboro and guests will enjoy a three-course meal in refurbished dining cars from railroads all over the nation.

Hazelnut pumpkin bisque, brown sugar spiral baked ham, green bean casserole and famous desserts are some of the items that grace the adult menu. More typical things, such as chicken fingers, macaroni and cheese, and Jello, are the foods that the kids will get to enjoy.

As on the Polar Express train, hot chocolate and cookies will be served, and the trip will conclude with a visit from Santa and Christ-

mas carols on the way home.

It is encouraged to make reservations since space is limited. Tickets for the Polar Express are \$29 per adult and \$17 per child. Tickets for the Polar Express Dining Train run \$60 for adults, \$32.50 per child and \$10 for babies two and under.

Although the train runs most days in December, to be safe and sure that the train is running the day you are traveling, call 800-872-4681 and let the adventure begin!

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

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WZMB continued from A6

Brian Molko brought his lyrical A-game on this album, and the result is a musically accessible album with lyrics that border the poetic.

6. *You In Reverse* by Built to Spill. After a five-year recording hiatus, Doug Martsch and company is back and just as good as ever. This album is as good, if not better, than *Keep It Like a Secret*, what some consider their finest work.

7. *The Eraser* by Thom Yorke. Yeah, he's in Radiohead, and yeah, he's amazing. Sitting around listening to *The Eraser*, I wonder how Yorke managed to do the impossible with his vocals time and again. His knack for impossible melodies and off-beats is brilliant.

8. *Magic Potion* by The Black Keys. While I really couldn't get into Wolfmother's faux-Osbourne style throwback rock, the Black Keys sound impressive for a duo. Recorded in the group's basement,

the album really got me into what they are doing.

9. *You Do The Company Proud* by Belles of Skia City. Insane both musically and lyrically, this album is by far the most original sounding release of the year, and the band manages to step way outside the box.

10. *I Will Write You Love Letters If You Tell Me To* by The Envy Corps. Though only an EP, this self-released gem is a pure avalanche of indie melodies galore. Lyrically, some tracks miss, but every song hits right on musically, and the EP does its job - it makes you excited for future releases.

Be sure to look out for my next list, the biggest disappointments of 2006... coming soon to The East Carolinian. Remember to stay tuned to the WZMB for a variety of music sure to please any music connoisseur.

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

FOUNTAIN continued from A6

in the pharmaceutical lab he is desperately trying to find a cure in. Despite only having very few lines, Burstin brings them across with stunning emotion.

Overall, the movie is carried by Jackman who is in every scene of the movie and carries it like Atlas carrying the Earth on his shoulders. *The Fountain* raises the question: Is originality synonymous with brilliance? In this case, the answer is most definitely yes.

The Fountain's originality is the catalyst in making the film a permanent classic. Aronofsky is quickly making a name for himself as this generation's Stanley Kubrick and hopefully our many expectations will not be in vain.

Head to your local theatre over the holiday break to behold a new classic.

Movie Grade: A+

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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

3

Consecutive games that ECU has lost to USF in the three-game series; the Pirates were defeated at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium twice (2002 and 2003) and once in Tampa, Fla. (2004) before USF joined the Big East from Conference USA

0-4

ECU's all-time record at Legion Field; the Pirates lost 17-12 to UAB this season; the Blazers sent ECU their second loss in a 36-17 upset in 1999 and derailed ECU 36-29 in 2002; Alabama, who used to play Auburn at Legion Field beat ECU 23-22 on Oct. 17, 1998

\$100

Minimum amount of money that it would cost a student to travel to the Papajohns.com Bowl and stay at hotel (Courttyard by Marriott-Birmingham, Ala.) for one night with three friends; the 55-passenger bus will depart from Mendenhall on Dec. 21 at 11:50 p.m. scheduling to arrive midday Dec. 22; after the game the bus will leave immediately and is scheduled to arrive back in Greenville on Christmas Eve

100

Approximate number of tickets donated to the Student Pirate Club by alumni unable to attend; an e-mail was sent Dec. 1 to seniors, who have been SPC members for the past four years; in order to receive tickets, students must contact a Pirate Club official with priority now open to all students; the tickets will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis and pick-up will be on Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. at the Minges Ticket Office window

\$300,000

Payout of the Papajohns.com Bowl, which is the lowest of all 31 bowls; the money is allocated to Conference USA and then dispersed equally to all 12 teams; the New Orleans Bowl gives out \$325,000 while the Liberty Bowl hands out \$17 million; the five BCS bowls give out \$17 million each

0.01

Difference in average points in favor of USF (22.9) over ECU (22.8); the Bulls scored 275 points while ECU scored 273 points; USF is ranked tied for No. 67 nationally while the Pirates are 69th

37

Games since ECU has had two 100-yard rushers in a single game; Vonta Leach had a career-high 111 yards and Marvin Townes tallied 107 yards in a 38-37 overtime loss to USF on Nov. 8, 2003; Leach's 1-yard touchdown with 21 seconds to play forced overtime; coincidentally then-redshirt freshman quarterback James Pinkney began his consecutive starting streak on the same day

Men and women's sports don't match up

Football scholarships alone almost equal women's totals

BENJAMIN LLOYD
STAFF WRITER

Minges Coliseum's 8,000-seat capacity is usually half-full for a men's basketball game.

No, seriously.

The men's basketball team is averaging 4,269 fans per game through three contests against relative unknowns.

Through the same number of games, only 3,983 total fans have come to see the women's basketball team.

The men were picked last in the conference, while the women enjoyed their best season since last year and were picked seventh in Conference USA. The men have just four returnees with 10 new faces while the women return nine letter winners, including C-USA's Co-Freshman of the Year in Jasmine Young.

Yet fans remain interested in the men's team and ignore the women. What gives? Why is there such a large separation between male and female sports?

Perhaps it has to do with the fact that most men feel that women put in as much effort as men, but are just not as capable at physical activities.

"For a select few, women are able to play near the same level as the men," said an ECU male athlete, who chose to remain unidentified. "But for the most part, women are not as skilled. This comes mainly from physical limitations, not a lack of hard work or dedication."

All male athletes do not share this sentiment and over the years, more men have come to realize that women are just as capable and are sometimes even better at sports than men.

The controversial introduction of Title IX happened in 1972. The law adopted by President Nixon which clearly states, "no person in the U.S. shall, on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal aid."

How is it that women's sports still don't get the same recognition as male sports?

"Right now female professional sports are not what the public wants to watch," said an ECU female athlete, who wanted to keep her name and sport anonymous. "Male sports get more money and attention because people want to see them play. Of course I wish they would want to see females play just as much, but this isn't reality."

Another female Pirate felt the same way.

"Sports are still highly male dominated, and this is largely because society tells females that being a strong athlete isn't feminine or attractive," she said. "Attention and money go to sports that sell tickets."

The football team generates revenue for the athletic budget, which in turn helps the Olympic sports. Money does have a lot to do with the separation of male and female sports. The more money a team receives is proportional to the equipment offered. Better facilities and equipment relate to what levels of athletes are recruited.

However, the football team averaged 37,168 fans over six games, while the leading women's draw was volleyball with a paltry 440 person average despite a six-game home winning streak.

"I would definitely say that men's and women's sports are equally as competitive," the female athlete said. "However, as you move down the ranks, from top-50 ranked, from D-I to D-III, etc., the men's and women's programs begin to grow farther and farther apart in competitive nature. The men's programs are still rather competitive, whereas the women's teams get less competitive. This has to do with the number of women playing."

Ninety-nine grant-in-aids for the women's sports ECU fields are allowed by the NCAA maximum. ECU handed out 85.44 scholarships for eight women's sports for the 2006-2007 school year. In just football, 85 grants-in-aid are awarded.

According to the Rosie Thompson, ECU's compliance officer, the athletic department supports 86.3 percent of the NCAA maximum for women's sports and 95.5 percent of the men's.

"I don't think gender should be used to determine funding, but it is typically the men's sports that bring in revenue," said an anonymous male athlete.

But will society change? Women were embraced athletically 50 years ago the way they are currently. More than ever, males and females are starting to get a chance to compete with each other.

"I have played intramural indoor soccer that was co-ed. I had no problem sharing the floor with a woman and would gladly do it again," said an ECU male athlete. "I think if women are willing and they have the ability, they should be encouraged to try and compete with men."

Even the men are starting to see the progress that women have made.

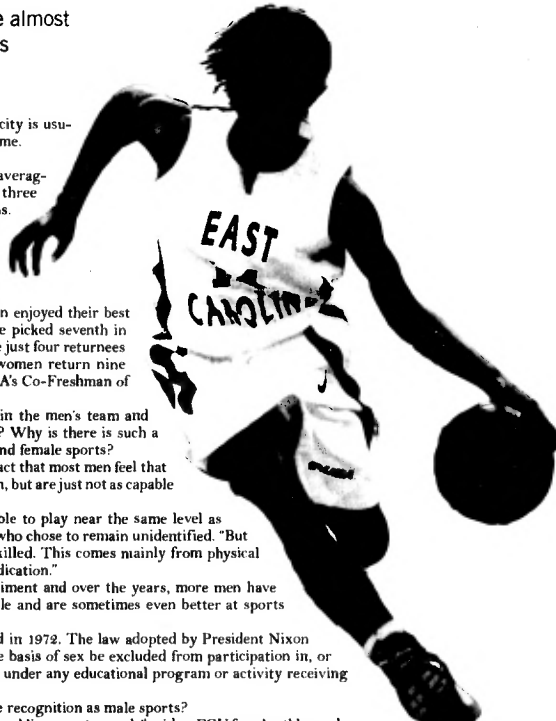
"As more women emerge as competitive in the male dominated arena, more people will begin to give more attention to women's sports, which they rightly deserve," said another ECU male athlete.

Title IX was meant to combat the discrepancy between male and female sports. But 34 years later, even Minges Coliseum continually shows the differences.

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



Photos by Terrell Gonyea



ATHLETICS GRANT-IN-AID AWARDED FOR 2006-2007

MEN'S SPORTS

SPORT	GRANTS AWARDED	NCAA MAXIMUM	PERCENTAGE
BASEBALL	11.69	11.7	99.9
FOOTBALL	85	85	100
BASKETBALL	11	13	84.6
TRACK	12.28	12.6	97.4
GOLF	4.19	4.5	93.1
SWIMMING	6.97	9.9	70.4
TENNIS	3.78	4.5	84
TOTALS	134.91	141.2	95.5

WOMEN'S SPORTS

SPORT	GRANTS AWARDED	NCAA MAXIMUM	PERCENTAGE
BASKETBALL	12	15	80
TRACK	14.46	18.0	80.3
GOLF	6.0	6.0	100
SOCCER	9.38	14.0	67
SOFTBALL	11.8	12.0	98.3
SWIMMING	11.8	14.0	84.2
TENNIS	8	8	100
VOLLEYBALL	12	12	100
TOTALS	85.44	99	86.3

CHART ACCORDING TO ECU COMPLIANCE OFFICE

Late free throws ice win over UNC Wilmington



Nicole Days grabbed 11 rebounds and breaks away from a UNCW defender.

Win gives Lady Pirates four of last five against Seahawks

JARED JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

After a lackluster performance on Sunday against Florida State to snap a two-game winning streak, the Lady Pirates welcomed former Colonial Athletic Association rival UNC Wilmington to Minges Coliseum.

ECU (4-5) proved to be too much for the Seahawks (4-4) even on a poor shooting night, winning in a nail biter 57-52, after being up by as many as 13. The win gives ECU four wins in their last five against UNC Wilmington.

The game wasn't without drama, however. UNCW made numerous runs in the game. ECU led 46-34 with 16:27 left in the second half but UNCW cut it to three by the 12:11 mark in the game. The Lady Pirates pulled away once again, grabbing a seven-point lead with 9:29 remaining.

A cold streak prevented the women from scoring again until the 2:14 mark, a span of over seven minutes. ECU held on to make clutch free throws down the stretch for the five-point margin.

The Lady Pirates finished a horrid 35.6 percent (21-of-59) from the field. UNCW wasn't much more efficient, shooting 42.9 percent (18-of-42) from the floor.

ECU dominated in the paint and on the fast break points in what



Jasmine Young went 6-of-9 from the charity stripe to hold off UNCW.

turned out to be the contributing factors. The Lady Pirates outscored UNCW 34-18 in the paint, while scoring outscoring the Seahawks by 14 points on the break. ECU held a noticeable size difference down low but were only able to out rebound UNCW by four, 37-33.

ECU Head Coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener thought limiting the transition baskets and dominating in the paint were key contributors to the Pirates win.

"It was a pretty big factor," said Baldwin-Tener. "They push the ball pretty well. I thought we did a good job limiting their transition baskets. That was a key for us going in and also a key for us everyday to just push the ball and get some layups. I thought we shot the ball pretty well the first half but the second half we didn't shoot it so well. Our post players just kind of threw it, they weren't shooting the ball."

The Lady Pirates were led by the duo of sophomore guard Jasmine Young and senior center Cherie Mills, who combined for over half of ECU's points. Young finished with 18 points, five assists, four steals and four rebounds to go along with only one turnover. Young was also only 2-of-5 from 3 point range, but hit a buzzer beating midcourt shot to give ECU a 39-30 advantage at intermission.

Baldwin-Tener thought Young played better after coming off one of her worst performances Sunday as a Pirate.

"I think she settled down a little bit tonight," Baldwin-Tener said. "I don't think she was forcing her shot as much. There were times when we didn't make good decisions, but I think her decision making was a little bit better tonight."

see WOMEN'S page A10

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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

WOMEN'S continued from A9

Mills didn't start for the first time this season after violating a team policy. The decision didn't seem to hurt Mills game as she finished with 18 points and seven rebounds. Nicole Days, a junior forward backed Mills up in the post, totaling 11 rebounds, including seven off the offensive glass. Days finished with four points, three steals and three assists to complement her 11 boards.

After the game, Baldwin-Tener didn't think her team played exceptionally well, but was happy just to collect a win.

"I really thought that in the first half we played very well," Baldwin-Tener said. "I thought we played together well. I thought we took good shots and shot a good percentage. In the second half, we jumped on them a little bit and I thought we were playing well. Then I think we relaxed a little bit and also they hit a bucket or two, and we played, maybe panicked. We were playing maybe a little bit nervous, playing not to lose instead of playing to win."

Baldwin-Tener didn't question her team's heart.

"These players want to win really badly, and it shows out there in some of the hustle plays we made at the end of the game," Baldwin-Tener said. "They definitely want to win, but you have to cool down when there are 10 minutes left. The next play is not going to win or lose the game. We just have to settle down and play better."

ECU returns to action on Saturday taking on the N.C. State (7-2) at Reynolds Coliseum.

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

ECU (4-5)

	FG	FT	REB	PT
DAYS	2-6	1-3	11	5
YOUNG	5-10	6-9	4	18
SLACK	2-8	2-2	0	6
TERRY	2-6	1-1	3	5
MUSAROVA	1-3	0-0	5	2
COCHRAN	1-2	0-3	0	2
FRANKS	0-3	0-0	1	0
MANNING	1-2	0-0	2	2
PERSON	2-4	0-0	1	4
MILLS	5-15	3-4	7	13
TOTALS	21-59	13-22	37	57

UNC WILMINGTON (4-4)

	FG	FT	REB	PT
PAPACH	1-3	1-2	2	3
LUKSYTE	0-2	0-0	4	0
DRAKE	4-11	7-9	11	16
FERNALD	6-9	0-0	2	14
SAWHOOK	0-1	0-0	0	0
SMITH	1-3	0-0	1	2
MENKINS	3-4	6-7	3	12
LAWRENCE	0-1	2-2	0	2
STEWART	2-4	3-6	6	6
TAYLOR	4-7	0-0	5	8
STRANGES	0-1	0-0	0	0
TOTALS	18-42	13-19	33	52

HALFTIME—ECU 39-30. 3-POINT GOALS— ECU 2-9 (YOUNG 2-5, MILLS 0-1, SLACK 0-3), UNC WILMINGTON 3-12 (FERNALD 2-3, DRAKE 1-4, SMITH 0-1, LAWRENCE, 0-1, STRANGES-1, LUKSYTE 0-2). REBOUNDS— ECU 37 (DAYS 11), UNC WILMINGTON (DRAKE 11). ASSISTS—ECU 12 (YOUNG 5), UNC WILMINGTON (SMITH 4). A—1,365.

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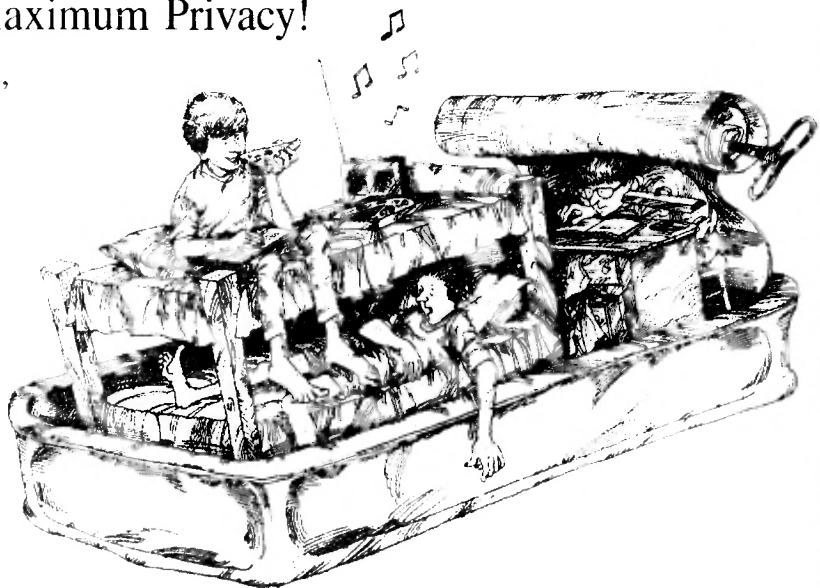
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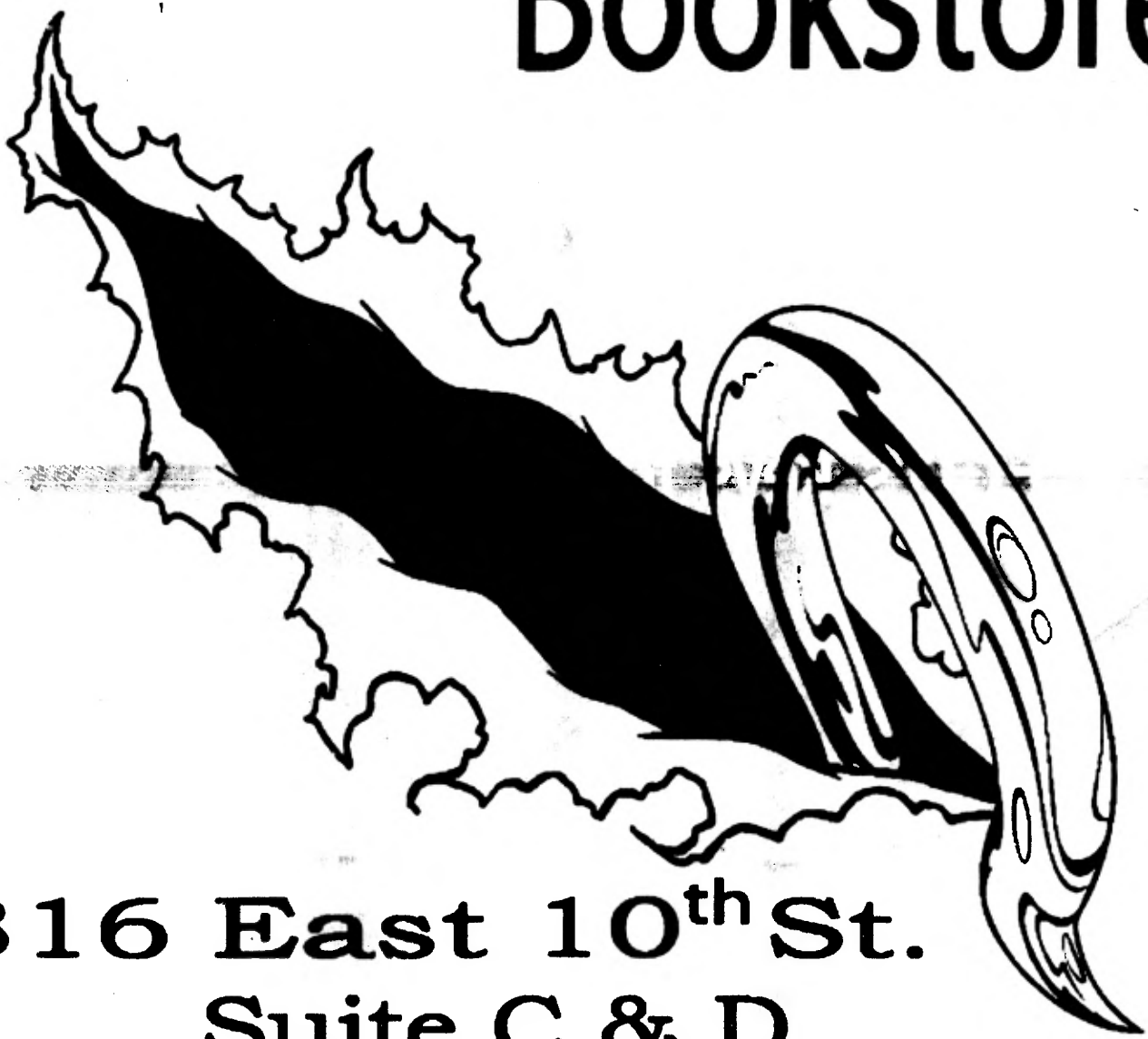
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THE EAST CAROLINIAN
BOWL GAME PREVIEW

ECU vs. USEF

INSIDE:

Game preview

Seniors' rocky ride

A look into the future

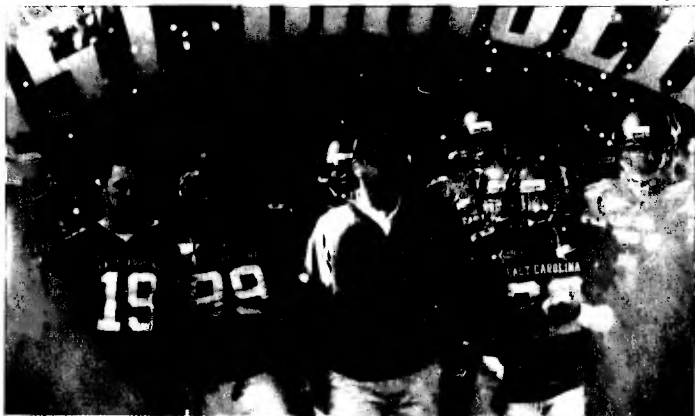
Henry seeks redemption

ECU's keys to the game

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BOWL



Pirates to battle Bulls, and history



Skip Holtz will lead ECU to Birmingham, Ala. looking for his first career bowl win in the Papajohns.com Bowl.

Papajohns.com Bowl will be third Alabama bowl for ECU

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

The ECU football team will be taking on more than just the South Florida Bulls in the Papajohns.com Bowl on Dec. 28. The Pirates will be taking on history, and not a good one.

Making their first bowl appearance since 2001, ECU will be facing an opponent it has never beaten in a state it has never won. Including their 17-12 loss at UAB earlier this season, the Pirates are 0-8 all-time in the state of Alabama and are winless in three meetings with the Bulls.

Junior offensive linemen Josh Coffman said that history is not something the team will be thinking about.

"Those are just stats," said Coffman. "Stats don't really mean a whole lot with the current team we have now. Maybe in the past we haven't had success against South Florida or in Alabama, but you can't think about that going into a game. We just have to go out there and play like we have and try to get the 'W'."

The eight losses include two previous bowl games, both in Mobile, against TCU and Marshall. The Pirates lost, 28-14, against LaDainian Tomlinson's Horned Frogs in the 1999 Mobile Bowl and nobody can forget ECU's last bowl appearance—a second-half collapse and a 64-61 double-overtime loss to Marshall in 2001.

The bowl appearance for the 2006 Pirates will be the first in the careers for all of the ECU players and senior safety Pierre Parker said ending the Alabama skid with a win takes top priority.

"This is my first bowl game and I just want to end it with a bang," said Parker. "A win would be great and we're gonna do everything we can do to win."

To win, the Pirates (7-5, 5-3 Conference USA) will have to stop a balanced offense led by



Freshman quarterback Matt Grothe is 12th in the nation in total offense.

redshirt freshman quarterback Matt Grothe that is ranked 41st in the nation and a solid defense that ranks 24th nationally. USF (8-4, 4-3 Big East) won at then-No. 7 West Virginia, 24-19, to end its regular season, but linebacker Pierre Bell said the Bulls are just the next team on the schedule.

"It's nothing we haven't seen before," said the sophomore from West Craven High School. "We had our opportunities against West Virginia, but we just didn't capitalize on them."

Grothe is the USF offense. He leads the team in rushing and total offense, and has accounted for 23 touchdowns. The Lakeland, Fla. native has rushed for nearly 800 yards and passed for 2,500 more.

"He's a good quarterback, but if you get pressure on him and make him do what he doesn't want to do, then he might do something stupid," said ECU safety Jamar Flournoy. "We have to contain him and slow him down. We have to keep him inside the pocket and put pressure on him and make him throw where he doesn't want to throw. We'll probably blitz some more so that he won't have time to pick us out."

Grothe has thrown 14 interceptions to go along with his 14 touchdown passes.

While Grothe will be making his first bowl appearance in his freshman year, ECU senior quar-

see BOWL page B4

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Final game for seniors caps roller-coaster careers



The football team sings the fight song with the student section after ECU's 33-20 win over Marshall.

Seniors turned around one-win program into bowl team

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

James Pinkney's first career start at ECU on Nov. 8, 2005 was against South Florida. On Dec. 23, 2006, Pinkney will make the final start of his ECU career against those same South Florida Bulls in the PapaJohns.com Bowl.

For Pinkney, coming full-circle and finishing his career against the same team with which he began it is almost a surreal feeling, and he knows it will be an emotional day.

"I'm sure there are going to be a lot of emotions that day being my last game for ECU," said Pinkney. "It'll be like Senior Day, but then at least we knew we had a couple of more games left. This one, this is it."

The loss in 2005 was one of 11 for the Pirates as they suffered through a dismal first season under Head Coach John Thompson, and the loss to USF was even more exasperating as ECU lost by a point in double overtime on a blocked extra point.

Thompson's second, and final, season at ECU was not much better as the Pirates went 2-9 and finished with an embarrassing 52-14 loss to N.C. State.

"It was difficult because we didn't

win, and it didn't seem like anybody cared," said senior safety Jamar Flournoy of the Thompson years. "I'm a winner and just going out to practice for no reason was like there was no purpose. It was frustrating being around that environment."

The 2005 season brought promise to the once-proud ECU program and a new attitude with new Head Coach Skip Holtz. Holtz had the pedigree of coaching, following in his legendary father's footsteps, and his name alone restored confidence to the players and fans.

Pinkney turned in the second-best passing season in school history and the Pirates fell one game shy of bowl eligibility by turning in a 5-6 season. With all that was good with the ECU program, one player who was left out of the celebrations was Flournoy.

Holtz suspended the former linebacker for a violation of team rules, a move that got the attention of Flournoy and the other ECU players. Flournoy said it was hard for him to practice with his teammates, but then not be able to play in the games.

"It was hard, but as the year went on, it got easier because I was practicing and was just trying to get better in practice," Flournoy said. "Watching my teammates go out there and play and knowing that next year was going to be better, so it was hard, but it did get easier."

"I broke a team rule and Coach

Holtz, it was his first year here, and he wanted to make an example out of me," he said. "He got a lot of respect for that from me because I didn't think he'd do something like that. After that I was like, 'This guy's for real.' Everybody saw that and you haven't heard anything about a player getting in trouble at East Carolina."

Flournoy isn't the only senior who was forced to spend time away from the program.

During his sophomore season, Pinkney had to sit out of spring practice because he was academically ineligible. He came back in the fall after working as a bus boy at Logan's Roadhouse and ended up winning the starting job. Not blaming anybody but himself, Pinkney praised the current staff for what they do to ensure the players keep academics first.

"I made a mistake," said the 6-3 senior from Delray Beach, Fla. "It was me not passing or going to class. I had to get through that and these coaches have been on us. They think more about just football. They have class checks and they stay on top of things."

Both Pinkney and Flournoy were recognized as all-conference selections and Pinkney will be playing in the All-American Classic on Jan. 15 in Las Vegas.

"It really hasn't even hit me

see SENIORS page B5



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BOWL continued from B2

terback James Pinkney will also be making his first bowl appearance. The game will be Pinkney's 38th consecutive start at ECU and the Delray Beach, Fla. native will be facing the same team that he began his streak against.

The responsibility of protecting Pinkney against a team averaging 2.5 sacks per game will fall on an offensive line that is expected to get senior tackle Eric Graham back from a knee injury. Coffman, who is from Palmetto, Fla., is looking forward to the challenge.

"One of my first starts was against them also," Coffman said. "I always enjoyed playing against them being from that area. It's going to be fun playing against them on Dec. 23."

Considering where the ECU

program was just two years ago, finishing a 2-9 season and winning just seven games in a three-year span, head coach Skip Holtz has turned the program around as the Pirates won seven games this season for the first time since 2000 and have a chance for an eighth win.

"It's a big accomplishment for us," Coffman said. "It was one of our preseason goals. Obviously none of the guys currently on this team have been to a bowl game, so it's good to be able to do something new and accomplish some of our goals."

Bell said getting to a bowl game isn't enough.

"We're happy to get to the bowl game, but we can't be content with just that, and what we've done this season," said Bell. "We want to get

that ring on our fingers."

The ECU turnaround under Holtz led by the defense, which has gotten better each week, has gotten national attention. Schools with coaching vacancies like Cincinnati and N.C. State have been rumored to be interested in luring Holtz away from Greenville. ECU defensive coordinator Greg Hudson did interview from the head coaching job at Cincinnati before the Bearcats named Brian Kelly as their new head coach.

"When Coach Hudson came here, he brought a great defense to the university, and a great scheme," said Parker, who added that the national attention is good for the program. "This program has turned into one with a defensive mentality and big ups to Greg

Hudson and the coaching staff for what they've been able to do."

The Bulls have the nation's 26th-ranked pass defense and are 41st against stopping the run while ECU was able to run for 124 yards against an N.C. State defense with similar numbers in the regular season finale. The difference is that USF's offense is much more balanced than N.C. State's and the Pirates know they'll have their hands full.

"South Florida is a great team," Parker said. "The only thing we can do is just come out and give them our best shot and they'll give us their best shot and may the best man win."

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



South Florida's Josh Julmiste (91) and Jerome Murphy (3) celebrate with fans after their 24-19 upset of West Virginia to finish the season.

Waiting for redemption



Philip Henry is looking to atone for his fumble at the 2-yard line at UAB.

Fumble at UAB still haunts former walk-on

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

Philip Henry still remembers his last trip to Legion Field in Birmingham. It's a memory that's hard to forget.

Having a career day and the opportunity to be a hero, Henry instead became an immediate scapegoat to some fans. Others felt empathic toward the junior who fumbled the ball away as he was going in for a game-winning touchdown against UAB on Sept. 9.

Down 17-12 with a minute remaining, Henry caught a third-down pass from James Pinkney and sprinted 50 yards toward the end zone. Just before he reached pay dirt, Henry had the ball stripped from behind by safety Chris Felder. UAB recovered the ball for a touchback and ran out the clock to win the game.

The loss hit Henry hard as he blamed himself, but said his teammates would not let him take the blame.

"My teammates have helped me to overcome that," Henry said. "It really hasn't been a big thing. I feel like I got the monkey off my back when I scored against Marshall, but that was a big game and it came back to bite us in the end. I'm just happy to go back there because I felt like I did pretty good the last time we were there."

Henry finished that game with six catches for 133 yards. This time around, Henry and his ECU teammates won't be facing UAB, but a USF defense ranked 24th in the nation and 19th against the pass.

The 8-4 Bulls finished their season with an upset road win of then No. 7 West Virginia and Henry knows the challenges they'll present when ECU faces USF on Dec. 23 in the Papajohns.com Bowl.

"They've got a good defense," the former walk-on said. "I hope we can be put in good situations where we can make plays and help this team win."

Turning adversity into success is not anything new to Henry.

Although he got some interest from former ECU coach Steve Logan's recruiting staff, Henry ended up attending Shaw University in Raleigh as a freshman out of Northeastern High School in Elizabeth City.

Henry never saw the field during his freshman year at Shaw, a Division II ministry school and member of the CIAA, but knew he could compete on a Division I level. He made up his mind to transfer to ECU and try out for the football team.

"I knew I was gonna come to ECU and try out for the team and knew that I had a good chance of making it," the 22-year-old junior said. "I've been playing football all my life and I just needed a chance for somebody to look at me and I got it."

"I came to a Carolina game versus ECU and (ECU) was a couple of big plays away from winning and I said I can come out here and play for this team. I felt like I was just as good as anybody else and that it was a good opportunity for me, so I took it."

Henry said the program's lack of success in the two years under John Thompson did not factor into his decision to come to what he called his "dream school."

"I really didn't know their overall record," Henry said. "I just wanted a chance to play at a Division I level where my talents could be seen. I knew that the team was struggling at the time, but I wasn't involved in the organization, so I really didn't know all that was going on. I just wanted to go somewhere close to home."

Henry wrestled with the idea

see **REDEMPTION** page B5

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REDEMPTION continued from B4

of going to UNC, where his step-brother Jacques Lewis went, but felt like ECU was the better fit.

"I'm so happy to be a part of this team," Henry said. "This is the best team I've ever been a part of—a group of guys that are a team with just one goal at the end of the day."

Before he could transfer to ECU, he needed to take some summer classes at Elizabeth City State to get enough credits because not all of his classes at Shaw would transfer over to ECU.

"When I pray, I ask God to help me to continue to work hard and do good in school," Henry said. "My mom told me that you can get whatever you want, just continue to work at it. At first, I went to Shaw and it didn't look like I'd be coming here, but I always had it in my mind that I would have a chance to go to another school and I just happened to land here and I'm thankful for that."

While being part of ECU's turnaround under Skip Holtz has been a "life-changing" experience for Henry, he still has respect for his former teammates at Shaw.

"Some of the best guys I've

played against to this day have come from that school," Henry said. "The year after I left, they won the CIAA championship, so they got some things going on there, too."

With Aundrae Allison most likely bound for the NFL, Henry knows he may be the team's big-play receiver next year and will be looked to as a leader on offense.

"I've learned a lot from Aundrae, and I'm going to continue to watch what he does," Henry said. "I'm gonna miss the seniors when they leave, but I know it's going to be my time to step up and I'm going to have to continue to work hard this off-season to get better and help build this program up to an even higher level than it is now."

While not the biggest or fastest receiver in Division I football, the 6-foot, 180-pound Henry said he looks up to smaller NFL receivers like Carolina's Steve Smith or Washington's Antwaan Randle El who have found success despite their lack of size.

"It doesn't really matter how big you are," Henry said. "As long as you know how to play this game and have it in your heart that you're

gonna go out and work hard to help your team win, I know those players in the NFL have that in their mind and play with a lot of heart."

"When you're a little guy and you make a big play, it creates a lot of extra excitement with the team and the players because they look at you like, 'I can't believe he's doing that.' Making those plays to redeem himself for his costly September mistake is something Henry admitted he'll be thinking about when he steps onto the field, but knows he has to block out that memory and make a new and hopefully good one.

"It's going to be in the back of my mind to make sure I keep the ball wrapped up tight and I won't fumble it," Henry said. "I'm gonna play hard and just go from there. The only thing I want to think about is helping this team to win. I don't want to go down there and just play in a bowl game, and I know this team feels the same way. When you get out there, you're not thinking about anything else."

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

SENIORS continued from B5



Staff photo

Brian Rimpch can't believe that ECU lost 38-37 to USF on a blocked extra-point on Nov. 8, 2003 during John Thompson's first season.

yet because we still have to finish the season," said Pinkney. "That'll hit me after the season and after everything's over."

Pinkney and Flournoy were just two of nine Pirates recognized by the media and coaches as all-conference selections. Seniors Eric Graham, Aundrae Allison and Ryan Dougherty were all second-team selections by Conference USA coaches while Dougherty and junior kick returner Chris Johnson were first-team selections by the media. Flournoy was a third-team all-conference selection by the media, and he said the selection was an unexpected honor.

"Things like that mean a lot to

me because I only played safety for one year," Flournoy said. "Those other coaches had me at linebacker. Last year when (Holtz) came in, they moved me to safety. But, with my first year I was kind of rusty at first, but I'm just real happy to be third team."

Should he be fortunate enough to get an interception in his final game against the Bulls, Flournoy said that would make the bowl experience even more memorable for the 6-foot, 210 pound senior from Valley, Ala.

Pierre Parker, who was a second-team all-conference selection at free safety by the media, said the recognition is a reward for the work the team has put in.

"This senior class is filled with a lot of talent and we just kept working hard to get this program turned back in the right direction," the senior from Wilson said. "I think we've done that."

The personal achievements of the senior class are easy to see. Pinkney will finish his career as the school's second all-time leading passer with over 8,000 yards. His start against USF will be his 38th consecutive start, second all-time in school history. Dougherty will end his career as Conference USA's all-time leading punter. Allison has set team receiving records in his two years at ECU after transferring in from Georgia Military Academy.

For the seniors, going through what Holtz called "the lean years" was difficult, which is why finishing their careers in a bowl game is so special.

"Having the opportunity to play in a bowl game is exciting and having the opportunity to win a ring is exciting, too," said Flournoy, who is second on the team in tackles. "For this program and the opportunity to get a ring is just exciting. We want this senior class to be known as the one that got this program turned around by winning a bowl game."

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Pirates

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Extra practices give Pirates glimpse of the future

Bowl preparations set to begin Friday

RON CLEMENTS
SENIOR WRITER

While the ECU seniors had last weekend off, the rest of the team practiced last weekend without yet knowing their bowl opponent. Head Coach Skip Holtz used that time to get a look at some younger players to catch a glimpse of the future.

Now that the opponent for the Papajohns.com Bowl at Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala. on Dec. 23 is known, the Pirates are eager to get back to game preparations for the USF Bulls.

"I'm looking forward to practice this Friday," said senior safety Lamar Flournoy. "We've been out for two weeks, had these last two weeks off. Coming back, knowing that we've got another game to play because usually at this time, we're just going home, but we're preparing to play another game and that's exciting."

While playing in a bowl for the first time since 2001 and for the first time in the careers of the ECU players is exhilarating, they know that they can't get caught up in the hype.

"Once you get out there, it's just another game," said senior safety Pierre Parker. "Of course, until the game, people will say how big this game is, but it is just a football game. Once our jitters are gone and after the kickoff, it's just a football game."

ECU receiver Phillip Henry said the coaching staff does a good job of keeping them focused.

"Our coaches help us do that and just treat these practices like spring practice," said Henry. "There's a lot of excitement around this campus, and we're glad to be a part of it, but it's one of those things where you can't think about the big picture and just going 1-0 like we've been doing all year."

Another distraction the team has had to deal with is the attention some ECU coaches are getting from other programs. Holtz has been rumored to be sought by several schools, including N.C. State and defensive coordinator Greg Hudson interviewed for the head-coaching position at Cincinnati before the school hired former Central Michigan head coach Brian Kelly.

"We got some coaches that are highly wanted," Flournoy said. "A lot of people see how Coach Holtz turned around this program, and that brings a lot of attention to

the program. We're starting to earn respect in this program."

Flournoy, who is one of just two Alabama natives on the team, said the interest in Hudson is a compliment to the program and to the defense that Hudson designed along with defensive backs coach Rick Smith.

"It's a team thing," Flournoy said. "Defense wins games, but the offense does their thing and we play our role."

Junior linebacker Danny Muhwezi said he was impressed with how the younger quarterbacks looked in last weekend's practice without the seniors, especially freshman Dwayne Harris. Harris was red-shirted this year and ran the scout team offense while 6-4, 250-pound freshman Rob Kass was James Pinkney's backup quarterback this season.

The Pirates have been running and lifting all week, but will return to a somewhat normal practice routine Friday. The entire team will practice Friday, Saturday and Sunday before taking time off to concentrate on final exams and resume the practice schedule on Dec. 15 before leaving for Birmingham on Dec. 19.

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



Rob Kass will get an early spring practice with the extra bowl practices.

KEYS TO THE GAME

ECU

1. No Grothe spurt: USF freshman quarterback Matt Grothe is 12th in the country in total offense and leads the Bulls in rushing and passing. He has accounted for 23 touchdowns this season, so the Pirates cannot allow him to make big plays.

2. Eliminate turnovers: The Pirates must play mistake-free ball without being too conservative in order to beat a balanced USF team. The Bulls are good on offense and defense, so the Pirates cannot give USF extra possessions and must capitalize on their own opportunities. If ECU does not turn the ball over, it should win the turnover battle because the Bulls were next-to-last in turnover margin in the Big East and 85th nationally at minus-5.

3. Field position: The Pirates cannot give USF a short field. Following the 21-16 win over N.C. State, ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz said the punting unit was the difference in the game. Senior punter Ryan Dougherty was able to flip the field on the Wolfpack and force them into long-drive situations. The special teams unit will need a similar outing against USF. The Bulls were last in the Big East in net punting yards.

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