



VOLUME 92, ISSUE 7

LOCAL ARTIST SHOWS PASSION THROUGH SNEAKER DESIGNS

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The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Tuesday, 9.12.17

Campus hosts remembrance events for 9/11

Melissa Glen
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University remembered the tragedy of 9/11 during several events yesterday, marking 16 years since the terrorist attacks took place.

The Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) hosted an event on campus for students, partnering with ECU's University Writing Center and the ECU Student Government Association.



Dennis McCunney

The event, which was called "Design For Change," was held in the Mendenhall Student Center sculpture garden from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and allowed students to write down ways they can make positive change in the world and come up with a plan of action.

"It encourages students to be creative about how they can promote positive social change in the face of so many challenges," Dennis McCunney, the director for CLCE said. "When some people want to divide us, this event, in the spirit of remembering 9/11, seeks to unite us."

Junior history education major Mikayla Potkay said it is important for ECU to remember 9/11, because it shows a moment of unity within the nation.

"Here at ECU, we are ambassadors for our community, and it is vital to remember this day that we never want to go back to and that we should keep that same bond as a nation, no matter the political standpoint, race or religious views," Potkay said.

CLCE Associate Director for Curricular Programs Tara Kermiet said in years past, the department has held a reflection event, where students can share their memories of 9/11. She said most ECU students now were too young in 2001 to have any personal memories of 9/11, so the department decided to change the event.

"Now that many of the students likely do not have direct memories of Sept. 11, 2001, we wanted to do something a little different and creative to promote positive change," Kermiet said.

ECU Turning Point also held an event in honor of 9/11 yesterday before classes. The organization put 2,996 American flags down on campus, remembering the 2,996 lives that were lost on 9/11.

Daniel Pearce, president of ECU Turning Point, said the goal of the event was to honor the lives lost that day and bring students' attention to the acts that led up to 9/11 and following 9/11.

"It will hopefully raise awareness about the physical consequences of an interventionist foreign policy, a lack of diplomacy and terrorism," Pearce said.

This writer can be contacted at
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Members of Greenville Fire/Rescue hold their hands over their hearts in remembrance of the lives lost during the 9/11 attacks.

City remembers 9/11 Officials, survivors address community

Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF

The sound of bagpipes filled the overcast afternoon yesterday outside of the Pitt County Courthouse during the city of Greenville's observance ceremony held in remembrance of the 16-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

The Greenville Public Safety Pipes and Drums band played as members of the color guards from the Greenville Police Department and Greenville Fire/Rescue brought out the flag before Mayor Kandie Smith read a proclamation of "A Day to Remember." Smith proclaimed yesterday "as a day to remember in the city of Greenville to memorialize those men, women and children who lost their lives."

Following Smith's reading of the proclamation and the playing of the national anthem, Joyce Mitchell, a member of Greenville's Human



Kandie Smith

Relations Council, recognized members of the community who lost family members during 9/11 and those who were in the midst of the attacks. Members of the military, first responders and law enforcement in Greenville were also honored during the event before Rev. Rod Debs of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greenville delivered a prayer in remembrance of the lives lost on 9/11.

"We are not here to memorialize hate and atrocity, we are here to bear witness to the radiant beauty of the Earth, and of the countless humans who cared for those beings, even at the cost of their own lives," Debs said. "We the people of the United States are connected to people around the globe,

burdened by terror and war... and we pray for international healing and not retaliation."

Douglas Dennard, a survivor of the 9/11 attacks, was one of the event's speakers. He recounted the harrowing experience of being in lower Manhattan in New York as the two towers of the World Trade Center were hit.

"I'll never forget the sounds of steel crashing, and that tower coming down. And the stampede that ensued of civilians running for their lives in hysteria," Dennard said. "I joined them as I ran for my life as well. And then in a matter of seconds, my entire world was gray. I couldn't breathe and I couldn't see...and I was determined by my God

ONLINE |
FULL STORY

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>>WHERE THERE'S SMOKE THERE'S FIRE

City candidates acknowledge GFR allegations

Matthew Prensky
TEC STAFF

Ahead of the November Greenville City Council elections, both current city council members and the candidates running against them have begun to react to the allegations against Greenville Fire/Rescue.

Through a series of public records requests and interviews with a total of 25 current and former GFR employees, The East Carolinian has learned the risks residents of Greenville and students at East Carolina University face.



Calvin Mercer

For East Carolina University, the city council races in district three and four, along with the mayoral competition are especially important because of their proximity to main campus.

In this fall's mayoral race sitting council members Calvin Mercer and P.J. Connelly are competing against each other for the position. Both council members said

Many of these allegations have come up in an already busy season for sitting council members as Greenville city residents head to the polls to elect a new city council this November.

For East Carolina University, the city council races in district three and four, along with the mayoral competition are especially important because of their proximity to main campus.

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Hurricane Irma waves crash onto a seawall in Key West, Florida. Reports indicate Irma no longer poses a major threat to eastern North Carolina.

North Carolina Irma threat subsides ECU officials address hurricane season safety concerns

Jessica Merklin
TEC STAFF

Although now heading west, Hurricane Irma was a potential threat to North Carolina in the early projections. Residents of Greenville turned to East Carolina University for updates and emergency planning.

With the possibility of severe weather, The ECU Parent & Family Facebook page said students living in residence halls will be able to stay on campus.

"Students will be allowed to stay in the

residence hall if that is the safest and best option for them," according to a Facebook live stream the university held on Friday. "There are resources and plans to take care of the students that can't leave."

ECU's Office of Environmental Health & Safety has available resources for both on and off campus students, Lauren Mink, the continuity and emergency planner for ECU, said.

"Those in flood-prone areas should have a plan in place to stay with a friend or family member if the City



Lauren Mink

consider investing in renters insurance as a

were to implement a voluntary or mandatory evacuation for future storms," Mink said.

Mink said those living in an apartment or house off-campus should

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ONLINE

» Women's soccer
undefeated streak snapped

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BRIEFS

ECU promotes positive change through ‘Fall Week of Service’

The East Carolina University Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement kicked off its Fall Week of Service last weekend in order to create a more positive change in the community.

The week of events began Saturday and will end on Friday. The mission of the week-long event is to promote positive change in the Pitt County community through different service projects.

ECU students and staff can find more information by calling 252-328-1554 or emailing kermiett16@ecu.edu to learn about the Fall Week of Service and the projects that are a part of the event.

ECU breaks record with fall enrollment

East Carolina University broke the Fall enrollment record this semester with more than 29,000 students from all 100 counties in the state of North Carolina.

ECU set a record with the most enrolled undergraduates at 23,265 as part of the surge this semester. The freshman Class of 2021 is the third largest class on record at ECU.

One of the areas to see the largest increase was ECU’s nursing program. The College of Engineering and Technology and College of Business also saw a significant jump in its enrollment of 31 percent and 22 percent, respectively.

Along with the undergraduate surge in enrollment, students seeking doctoral or professional practice degrees also jumped. Programs at ECU such as audiology, dentistry, physical therapy and medicine grew to 819 students, which is the largest in the university’s history.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Annah Schwartz at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

Shanahan leads Board of Trustees

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University’s Board of Trustees recently named Kieran Shanahan the chairman of the Board, following Steve Jones’ departure from the position.

Shanahan, who has served on the board since 2011, was elected to the chairman position in July. In addition to serving ECU in this capacity, ECU alumnus Shanahan is managing partner of Shanahan McDougal PLLC, where he practices corporate law.

The position was previously held by Jones, who was elected to the position in 2015. After Jones left the position, it was time to elect a new chairman.



Kieran Shanahan

Shanahan outlined the process of his appointment, saying members are appointed to the BOT by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors or by the state legislature to serve at universities for four-year terms, with two terms being the maximum. After joining the board, members join various committees.

One such committee nominated Shanahan to act as chairman after serving as vice chairman for two years. After the BOT unanimously

voted him in, Shanahan got to work.

“Anyone on our board is certainly well qualified to serve as chair so I consider it an honor to be chosen by my fellow colleagues to serve in this leadership role,” Shanahan said.

With Shanahan being in this position for only a few months now, it seems he has already made an impact on another new member, La’Quon Rogers.

As the Student Government Association President, Rogers serves on the BOT as well. Rogers said Shanahan’s term as chairman has started off very well.

“Chair Shanahan has definitely proven, in the short time that I have known him, to be a quality leader in the fact of engaging the entire board making sure that were abreast to things that we need to know,” Rogers said.

Rogers said Shanahan’s personal interest in the success of the university and its students is a quality that stands out.

“He’s also very personable, someone you can have a conversation with,” Rogers said. “He has a vested interest in ECU. He is an alum, he supports our sports and ECU academics. I think the fact that he’s an alum, he engages the entire board and is concerned about the affairs of ECU, it’s been a blessing.”

Shanahan said this next year will be a very productive one for the Board.

“I’m very excited about the Board,” Shanahan

said. “We brought on a few new members this term, and I think we’re a very cohesive body that supports the chancellor and his vision.”

Shanahan said as advocates for the people of ECU and the state, the BOT works hard to be involved in any way needed.

“The university is owned by the people of North Carolina and through a legislative process we help the general direction of the university, we work with the chancellor to help him carry out the mission of the university and we weigh in on a number of issues with votes,” Shanahan said. “We generally influence the policies the university employs to make our campus a great university for our staff and students to enjoy.”

Shanahan said the Board’s main goal is to make ECU a better place for staff and students, “Whether that’s fundraising, educating the legislators and community leaders about what we do or responding to various issues as they arise.”

Shanahan said BOT can make an impact as they represent the university during the journey to make ECU recognized on the national level.

“The real power of Board of Trustees at universities is as influencers and we are trying to help make ECU the next great American university,” said Shanahan. “That requires us to be proactive and help carry out the mission in a number of ways.”

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COUNCIL continued from A1

they addressed the GFR allegations with Greenville City Manager Ann Wall.

“The city manager is responsible for personnel and the first responder system, Mercer, a professor of religious studies at ECU, said. “She’s looking into the allegations.”

Connelly said he sat down with Wall last week to talk about the allegations.

“It’s definitely something the city needs to look into,” Connelly said. “Those were serious allegations that were printed in the paper. I’ve already sat down and talked with the city manager about her response.”

Both Connelly and Mercer confirmed Wall is looking into the allegations, but no timeline for any

report had been established.

In district three, which includes parts of ECU’s main campus and much of the neighborhood north of the university, both candidates agreed on how they wanted to address the GFR allegations.

“It’s very concerning. It’s a point of concern for me now,” Uriah Ward, a candidate for district three, said. “I want to learn more about the situation before I prescribe any particular remedy for it.”

ECU senior William Bell, the other challenger for district three, said he didn’t want to comment on the allegations themselves, but made it clear first responders should be given the resources they need to perform their jobs.

“I think that it’s extremely important that Greenville Fire/Rescue and all the first responders in Greenville have what they need in their budgets to get their jobs done,” Bell said. “If there is a leadership issue, then we need to take a look at that.”

Unlike district three, where the seat is being vacated, district

four council member Rick Smiley is up for reelection in a crowded race for his position. District four encompasses a lot of the area just south of ECU’s main campus.

Smiley said he has asked the city staff and city manager to look into the allegations raised by The East Carolinian.

Rick Smiley

Smiley said the city council should allow the city to gather all the facts related to the GFR allegations before taking any action. However, while the city manager is looking into the allegations, Smiley said he has spoken with some former GFR firefighters about the allegations.

Similar to Smiley, James Reddick, a challenger for district four, said he has connections to GFR and plans to speak with them about the allegations.

“I’ve contacted several people I know inside of Greenville Fire/Rescue and I’m setting a meeting with them,” Reddick said.

Reddick, a military veteran, said allegations of corruption or low morale are serious and he was shocked to find out about the accusations.

“Anytime you have a high turnover ratio, at the numbers I was looking at being reported and looked into, sometimes that signifies an issue at hand,” Reddick said.

Regarding the allegations against GFR Chief Eric Griffin’s leadership, Reddick said if the accusations were true, that would concern him.

“You lead by example,” Reddick said. “You lead out in front and the one key thing about leadership is getting people to do things they might not want to do.”

The Greenville City Council has a meeting scheduled Thursday. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall and will start at 6 p.m.

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

IRMA continued from A1

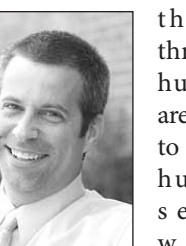
way to help protect lost belongings.

“It is also important for students who live in flood prone areas to research flood insurance and determine whether it is something they should acquire,” Mink said.

Following credible and official news sources is the best way to stay updated with the latest information on Hurricane Irma, Mink said.

“Local TV stations are some of the best sources for local weather information with an active online presence,” Mink said.

Scott Curtis, a professor in the department of geography, said



Scott Curtis

that only three major hurricanes are predicted to form this season, which already seems like an unlikely statistic.

“Jose may become the third major hurricane this year and we are just entering the peak of the hurricane season,” Curtis said. “It is supposed to weaken as it moves north and after making landfall; I think it may be a category one or two storm when it makes its second landfall in South Carolina.”

Regarding the possibility of

seeing floods on par with Hurricane Matthew and Floyd, Curtis said there is no reason to panic.

“It would be helpful to shelter friends and family that may be coming up from Florida, Georgia or South Carolina, where the impacts from Irma will be greater,” Curtis said.

According to Mink, students and residents of Greenville should always have an emergency plan when faced with a tropical storm or any potential disaster.

“Stay informed to upcoming and changing conditions associated with the storm in order to stay safe,” Mink said.

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seeing how the first responders “gave so much.”

“They would get back up and they would go back outside and they would once again serve,” Morris said.

The commemoration ended with the laying of the six wreaths as the bell tolled in remembrance of the victims of Sept. 11.

Mayor Smith had trouble holding back tears following the somber and moving ceremony.

“I don’t really know how I feel right now because it was emotional,” Smith said. “I still mourn for those families who lost loved ones and our first responders, for all those who gave their lives to try to save people.”

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Study Abroad Fair

Come learn about summer, semester, and yearlong study abroad opportunities.

September 13, 2017
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Outside Mendenhall Student Center
(Rain Location: Joyner Library, Second-Floor Gallery)

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OUR VIEW

Early preparation for hurricanes necessary, logical

As Hurricane Irma beared down on the Caribbean and Florida last weekend, many citizens in areas across the southeast panicked at the news, even leading North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper to declare a state of emergency Wednesday night. The fact that a major storm is hitting the country during the peak of the Atlantic hurricane season shouldn't surprise Americans.

It seems too often residents, especially those in areas prone to hurricanes, such as eastern North Carolina, forget about past experiences and leave necessary preparation to the last minute.

According to CNN, Floridians trying to escape the storm faced gas shortages caused by "panic buying," and even Greenville grocery stores had empty shelves as Irma neared the coast.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, encourage disaster preparedness but also urge residents of North Carolina to consider the logic of the situation. Irma, by almost all accounts, will miss most parts of our state. There is no need to rush to your closest grocery store and buy all of the bottled water, bread, batteries and flashlights.

Amassing stockpiles of food, bottled water and other products throughout the year will be a way to lessen the mass panic and hysteria that may wash over the population.

The city of Greenville is etched with a history of flooding due to heavy rainfall and the Tar River. Greenville residents would be better off purchasing necessities throughout the year than in the moments before disaster strikes.

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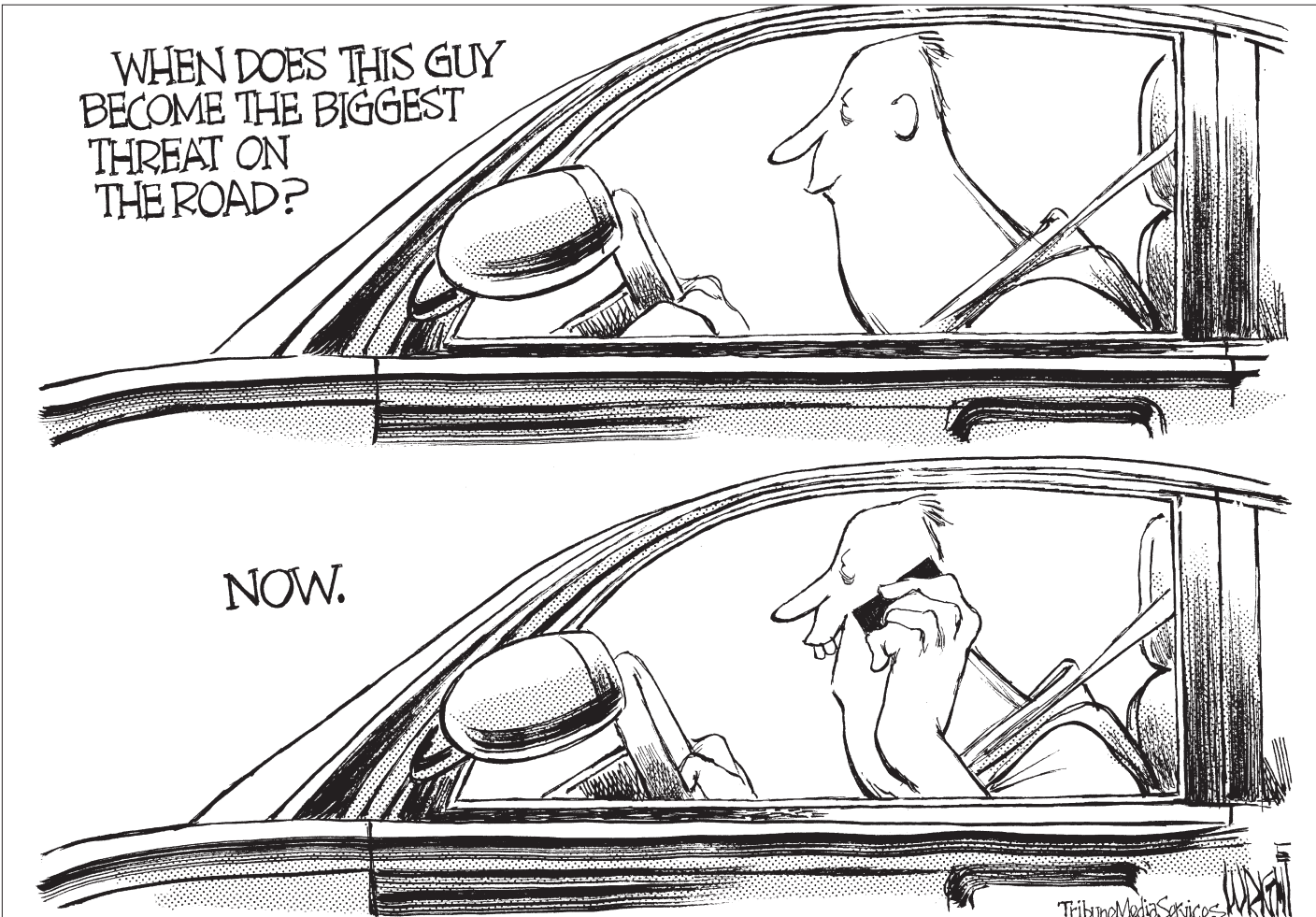
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Letters to the Editor

>> WHERE THERE'S SMOKE THERE'S FIRE
GFR allegations prompt response from citizens

My husband and I were so moved and impressed by Matthew Prensky's article on the Greenville fire department. Thank You, Mr. Prensky! Not only was it well written and interesting, it may well save lives!

This is just the kind of reporting we need as Greenville is poised for growth but still held back by "old school" thinking. I

was so encouraged by Mr. Prensky's article and am hoping for more articles that similarly shine a light on the hidden, encourage positive action, and help our community unpack the deeply complicated issues that daunt our daily lives (e.g. racism, stagnant areas of government, poverty, lack of a walkable city, lack of incentives

for new non-franchised business). Today, after reading Mr. Prensky's article I have a renewed sense of hope and am proud of ECU and Greenville. Hooray! Keep Up the Good Work!

With sincere gratitude,
Lucy Fox

With so much bad publicity about Greenville Fire/Rescue lately, I thought it might be refreshing to hear some positive things especially from a current employee. I have worked at Greenville Fire / Rescue for about eight and a half years now. I love my job. Every day that I come to work, I look forward to the 24 hours I get to do what I love. And I just wanted to take some time to share with you some of the many aspects of the GFR experience that make it special.

First and foremost, we help people. Every day. From EMS calls to Fires, from stranded motorists who need a push out of the roadway to "lift assists" where somebody has fallen and needs help getting up. We do "Standbys" at sporting events and fundraisers. We go to schools for career day. We respond to requests for assistance with smoke detectors too. As I type this letter, the fire engine is pulling into the truck bay and honking the horn for the daycare children

who are our neighbors who chant "Firetruck Firetruck" every time the engine drives by. That's right, we do it all, and with smiles on our faces because we love our job.

This may come as a surprise to you, maybe not, but the majority of our calls we respond to are EMS related. The percentage fluctuates of course but somewhere around 85% of our daily call volume is EMS related. Right now, we are somewhere close to 12,000 EMS calls for GFR. That's quite a lot of calls, but again, we are happy to do it. We love our job. We love helping people. Isn't it reassuring to know that when you feel like you're having the worst day of your life, the first responders headed your way are taking pride in their profession?? I know it makes me feel good to know that a team of professionals is what our organization consists of.

The brotherhood. That's what we call it, even though we have sisters too. We are a diverse group of individuals with one

common goal. To provide our community with a great service. We save lives. We protect property. We rush in when others are rushing out. The comradery at the firehouse is second to none. We are a team. A family. We support each other in ways that other professions can't. It makes us different, and unique, and special. There are times of laughter and times when we fight back tears. I've been on calls where we comfort complete strangers, and calls where we respond to our own. I've experienced every state of emotions with these men and women and we persevere. We are triumphant individuals who would never accept the title of "Hero" even though we have been known to perform heroic acts. I know that I'm no hero. I'm just an ordinary guy who works with some extraordinary people.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Herd

Mental health in hip-hop

Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Bless The Press

The ever growing demands of the music industry do not make those who work in it immune to the grasp of addiction and the mental issues that so often tag along.

With new releases of songs such as "XO TOUR Llif3" by Lil Uzi Vert and "Jocelyn Flores" by XXXTENTACION, suicide is currently a prominent topic in hip-hop. While hip-hop artists have touched on struggles with depression in music for years, mental health has reached new and notorious heights when it comes to the popular music genre.

As seen with headlines of Kanye West's psychological evaluation and Kid Cudi's battle with depression, the reactions when it comes to high-profile tragedies of the mind, tend to be mixed.

On one side, solace is shown. Found on that side are the people sending their support to the artist and their family, and the threads of personal testimonies told in an effort to help others. On the opposing side, ridicule is delivered. Memes and mocking hashtags make their way through social media's cycle of infamy, branding mental health, and the artist who may struggle with it, with a dark cloud for life.

Speaking with disdain for the industry is California rapper Hopsin, who said,

"What I don't like about the music industry is everything. It's very satanic, people are evil, and they talk about things that don't really matter. Competition is everything, and it's either you be tough or open up your spot to someone who will."

Hip-hop is the only music genre where the majority of artists seems to be locked in a battle of the toughest. Whether it's through lyrical content or out-of-studio behavior, rappers are constantly expected to keep up their provocative persona for the sake of their contract and fan upkeep. Such a facade can take a toll on an individual, which explains why many hip-hop artists turn to illicit activity such as heavy drinking and drug use to cope.

Mental health tends to not make it to mainstream media or social media unless it's too late. Gone need to be the days of seeing hashtags with "RIP" after them. No one should want to feel the initial and recurring shock that arises with the memory of a favorite artist's demise.

Wealth and success on the surface does not equate to happiness or good health. Fans of hip-hop artists need to learn how to be considerate of their mental stability. The health of one's mind is almost as essential as the health of one's body.

An artist's mindset and activity tends to reflect in their lyrical content and outward behavior. While criminal antics and cynical wordplay may grab our attention through the use of sensationalized headlines and lyrics we shout at the top of our lungs,

fans shouldn't always be the first to jump to condemn or devalue an artist for showcasing their feelings publicly.

Recently, Logic performed his suicide prevention track "1-800-273-8255" at the MTV Video Music Awards along with featured artists Alessia Cara and Khalid. 24 hours after the performance, calls to the Suicide Prevention Hotline spiked 50 percent, according to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Regarding the moving performance, Director of the NSPL John Draper said, "The calls don't even begin to count the number of people who, just by listening to the song and hearing the lyrics, feel more hopeful and less alone. There's really no measuring that impact."

Music can bridge the gap between a person suffering in silence and the help that they so desperately need. A song's message can speak volumes to the masses, and hip hop artists should be open to using their platform to speak out about the severity on mental health as much as possible.

In turn, fans must be open to accepting a reality of their favorite artists' endorsing conversations about mental health in their music on a regular basis. Through heavy discomfort comes healthy dialogue, and for the sake of the listeners, the tough-and-turf reputation of hip-hop must erode.

Blessing Aghimien is a sophomore majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

EVENTS

TODAY

New Adult Painting and Drawing Classes
Emerge
1 p.m.

Unwined
The Painted Peacock
6:30 p.m.

Intro to Whitewater Pool Session
Student Recreation Center
7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Forum Discussion: Universal Inquiries
Greenville Museum of Art
5:30 p.m.

ECU Wednesday Yoga Series
Student Recreation Center
5:30 p.m.

Cheap Eats

Greenville's Gold Post Cafe dishes up seafood, music

Madison Lawson
TEC STAFF

Editor's Note: This is part three in a 10-part series which aims to highlight 'mom and pop shops' and meal options under \$10.

The Gold Post Cafe combines the soothing sound of music with the delicious flavors of seafood to create one unique customer experience.

Located at 804 W 5th St., pouring out the restaurant windows are timeless jazz tunes with saxophone riffs and foot-tapping beats. Inside, customers are greeted with fresh fish and shrimp that will not only make their taste buds happy, but their wallets as well.

One popular menu item is the fish platter that comes with a piece of white or trout fish fillet, three sides and a drink for only \$9.90. In addition, customers can get a fish or chicken basket with fries for \$6.50, a shrimp basket for 30 cents more or a chicken platter for \$8.50.

Although Gold Post is currently only open on Fridays from 11 a.m.-8 p.m., owner Arthur Wallace said they are extending its hours in late September to accommodate the East Carolina University student population.

"Starting in the fourth week of September, we're going to be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-9 p.m. and offer the \$5.55 meal plan," Wallace said. "We're adding new items to the menu like burgers, fish sandwiches and cheesesteaks that will come with two sides."

Sitting on his wooden swing on the front porch, Wallace said he has seen an influx of students walking and driving by The Gold Post. Near his restaurant are ECU Greek life houses, Zeta Tau Alpha and Theta Chi, which he hopes will draw in a new clientele.

"We're really beginning to gear towards students," Wallace said. "You know at five o'clock you need some brain food and I figured this would be a great place to get some."

What drove Wallace to open up The Gold Post back in 2012 was the lack of seafood restaurants in eastern North Carolina. As a lover of fish and shrimp, Wallace said he wanted to give the community a place to enjoy seafood for a reasonable price.

"A lot of the seafood here wasn't to my liking" Wallace said. "I don't really like the heavy breaded taste, and I wanted to open up a restaurant that was different and something you can't get around here."

While eating a shrimp platter, customers are also taken back into time thanks to the nostalgic music radiating throughout the restaurant. Anywhere from Whitney Houston or Martha and the Vandellas to the Beatles, Wallace said he loves to combine good food with good music.

"To me it makes my food taste better," Wallace said. "Since I could remember I have loved music and how it makes me feel. We have over 1,500 to 1,600 songs on an MP3 in here that we listen to all day, anywhere from the 60's to now."

Holding a similar opinion to Wallace, Shay Rease, server at The Gold Post, said there is just something about the cafe that makes it easy and relaxing to work in.

"It has a great vibe going on, with the dim lighting and great music," Rease said. "A lot of our customers come in here and really enjoy the atmosphere; they say it makes them feel at home."

Born and raised in New Bern, Wallace has always identified himself with music and wanted to make it a big part of his restaurant. Once a month, the cafe will host live shows for the public to come and enjoy. Recently, they have had J.B & Friends, Eric Dawson Band and Dick Knight all visit and play for the community.

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

Local restaurant, The Gold Post Cafe, located at 804 W. 5th St.

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CONTRIBUTED BY PARKER ELLIS

A pair of Parkart Customs shoes. Parker Ellis began the sneaker design company about a year ago.

Parkart Customs shoes makes products personal

Angel De Jesus
TEC STAFF

Greenville's art scene is as diverse as it's ever been, especially with Parkart Customs making some of the most innovative designs when it comes to sneakers.

Parker Joseph Ellis, the artist behind Parkart Customs, has been involved with different kinds of art since high school and started out as an art major at East Carolina University.

"After high school, I decided to go to ECU for art for two years," Ellis, a Greenville native, said. "I later left ECU and went to Pitt... There, the professors really let me experiment with different kinds of art. I definitely felt like I had more creative freedom there. I've always tried to be a well rounded artist."

Matt Amante, who got to know Ellis as his sculpture professor at Pitt Community College said he was really happy with the effort, growth and quality he saw in Ellis' work.

"I think the work with the shoes could go a lot of different directions," Amante said. "Shoes are pop culture icons, fashion statements, certain ones have cultural and historical significance."

Ellis said he decided to combine his love for sneakers and art about a year ago in an effort to create shoes that are expressive, yet fashionable. His Instagram page, Parksart, already has more than 10,000 followers.

"I've always loved sneakers," Ellis said. "They sort of relate to hip-hop culture which is something I am really into. You can say a lot with sneakers and customizing them makes them more personal."

When creating designs for sneakers, Ellis said he gets input from customers who want to customize their kicks, however most trust his eye for making a stellar shoe.

"People will give me an overall idea of what they want done, but from there they trust me," Ellis said. "I use Angelus Paint on shoes because it's used for leather. I also do all of my work free hand. I only use stencils when doing logos, like on the Fresh Prince ones, just because I want that to be perfect."

Ellis said he is all about quality.

"I make sure that all of the shoes are durable because you know, people are going to wear them in all kinds of conditions," Ellis said. "I wear them, try to scratch them and just try to make sure they seem as if they were factory made."

Usually Ellis said it takes about a week or two to make a finished product and from there Greenville locals pick up their kicks. However, Greenville is not the only place where Ellis' artwork is seen.

"I've shipped to New York, California, Florida. I even have someone ordering from Canada," Ellis said. "Later this September, I'm going to Sneaker Con in Atlanta. There I'm going to be wearing some of my shoes to get exposure and possibly get my foot in the door."

Ellis' custom sneakers are available online for purchase at www.parksart.bigcartel.com, with prices ranging from \$250 to \$400 a pair.

Although Ellis has found solid success for just starting a little over a year ago, he said there is always room for improvement.

"Right now one of the things I am always trying to do is to improve durability of my shoes," Ellis said. "I'm also always looking for new ideas for making new designs on sneakers."

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

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 6 -- Distractions abound. No emotional spending, OK? Keep written records, as communication glitches may arise. Hold yourself to high standards. Follow rules and instructions.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7 -- Cash flow may seem blocked. You can see what wasn't working. Learn from another's mistake. Don't get side-tracked. Work with someone who sees your blind spot.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Today is a 9 -- Use your power and confidence for a good cause. Energy surges are predicted. Things may not go as planned. Play by the rules and win.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Today is a 5 -- Rest and recharge. Consider what you want, and what's missing that would make a difference. Meditate on possibilities and choose one to pursue. Recuperate.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7 -- Consider commu-

nity opinions before taking action. Don't go for a far-out suggestion. Resources are available through your network. Share your plans and get feedback.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7 -- Stick to practical, professional objectives. Travel would interfere with work. Organization solves potential problems. Don't fall for a trick. Take one step toward a goal. Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Slow down and double-check the directions. Ensure that you're following the best course of action. For a wider perspective, poll your friends and relations.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 7 -- Slow down and double-check the directions. Ensure that you're following the best course of action. For a wider perspective, poll your friends and relations.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Conserve your money despite temptation. Nebulous illusions vanish. Keep your day job until the night job pays. Disciplined actions pay off nicely.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 -- Together, you and your partner can achieve great results through focused, coordinated action. Patience is required. Collaborate for shared benefit.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Slow down to avoid accidents, especially around sharp objects. For best results, follow rules and instructions rigorously. Listen to your coach. Rest and eat well.

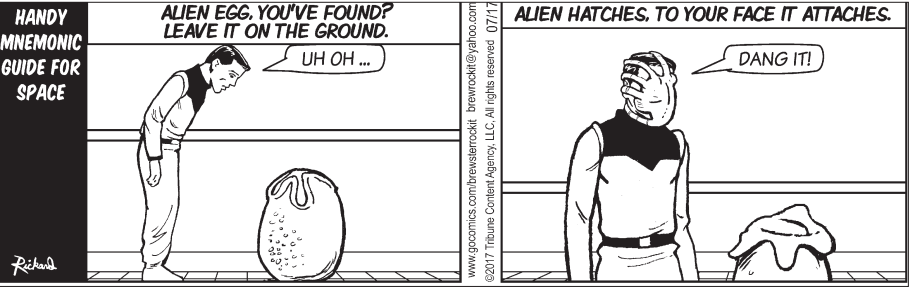
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 5 -- Relax and add artistic touches to a passion project. Abandon lofty ambitions for elaborate details and stick to basics. Get creative to save money.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Focus on home and family matters. Creative efforts bear fruit. Make practical changes, one at a time. Keep your patience with breakdowns or upsets. Solutions unfold.

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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT




BEST IN SHOW



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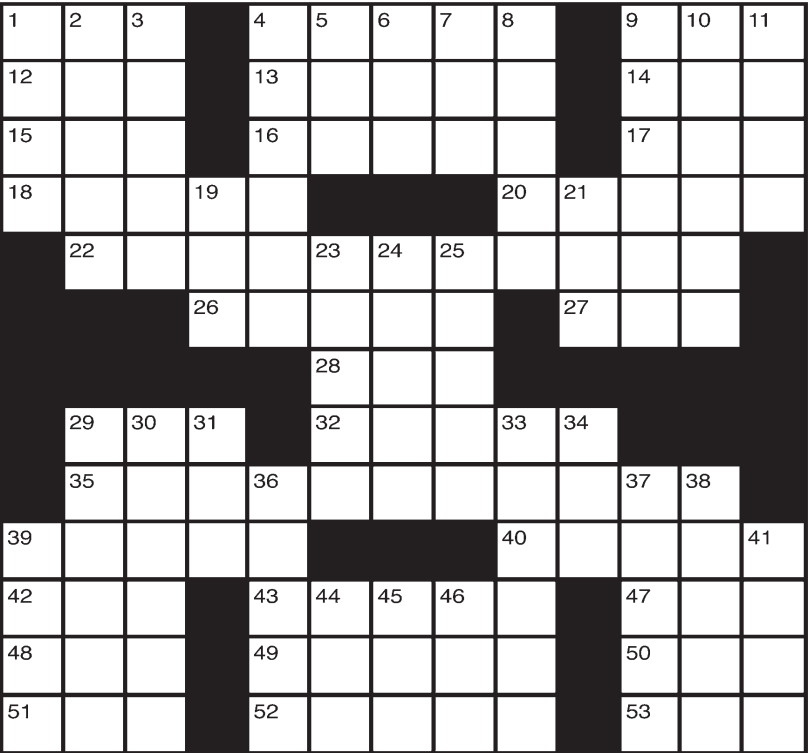
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THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

1 “__ Stop”; Marilyn Monroe film
4 Bacon or Kline
9 Ted Danson series
12 Jillian or Curry
13 Popeye’s love
14 “Blood & __”; Don Johnson movie
15 Suffix for real or idol
16 Tough fibrous tissue
17 Ending for press or text
18 “__ Me”; Tim Roth mystery series
20 Lawn tool
22 “Saving __”; movie for Tom Hanks and Matt Damon
26 “The __ Purple”; Whoopi Goldberg film
27 Trauma ctrs.
28 Rather or Aykroyd
29 Star of “Madam Secretary”
32 Japanese or Chinese
35 “The Late Show __ Colbert”
39 One stroke over par
40 Actor Edward James __
42 Cheerleader’s cry

Solution from Thursday

M	A	J	O	R			O	I	L			
A	L	U	M	S			S	P	A	C	E	
S	P	L	A	T			S	P	I	K	E	S
C	S	I			L	E	A	P				
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			B	O	O	P		R	E	B	A	
D	O	N	U	T	S		S	E	C	R	E	T
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E	R	A	S	E				I	N	A	N	E
D	E	Y						G	A	N	G	S

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43 Means of communication
47 Farrow or Kirshner
48 “The Atom __ Show”; cartoon series of old
49 Part of USNA
50 __ for; request
51 Sullivan and Bradley
52 “A Bell for __”; film for Gene Tierney
53 “We’re off to __ the Wizard...”

DOWN

1 Arrestee’s hope
2 Prepare to take off a jacket
3 Look of contempt
4 Landlocked Balkan nation
5 Wallach or Marienthal
6 Actor Diesel
7 “__ Got a Secret”
8 More modern
9 “__ Town”
10 Blaring devices on ambulances
11 Robert of “The Sopranos”
19 “__ Tac Dough”; game show of old
21 Actor on “Touched by an Angel”
23 Actor Alan and his family
24 Breakfast side order
25 Bert’s buddy
29 “__ a Half Men”
30 Cards that are neither high nor low
31 Feasted
33 “__ 13”; Tom Hanks movie
34 Org. for Penguins and Ducks
36 Wild scavenger that seems to be laughing
37 Samms and Thompson
38 Clamor
39 Scottish hillside
41 “Oh, for Pete’s __!”
44 “__ About You”
45 Wife to Mickey, Artie and Frank
46 Sommerhalder or McKellen

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

		7	6		8		1				
					4						
5	1				2			7	8		
						9					
	2	7					6	5			
				8							
2					1			3	6		
						5					
			3		9			4			

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Level:

1 **2**

3 **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution from Thursday

7	2	4	6	5	3	8	1	9
8	3	1	7	9	4	5	2	6
5	9	6	2	8	1	4	7	3
4	7	3	9	1	2	6	5	8
6	1	2	5	4	8	9	3	7
9	8	5	3	6	7	2	4	1
2	4	7	8	3	9	1	6	5
3	5	8	1	2	6	7	9	4
1	6	9	4	7	5	3	8	2





Quarterback Thomas Sirk (10) attempts a pass against West Virginia. Sirk left the game with an injury in ECU's 56-20 loss to the Mountaineers.

Pirates on wrong end of history

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University football team gave up 49 points in the first half against West Virginia University Saturday to set a new mark for most points given up in a first half in program history.

With less than a minute remaining in the half, WVU's head coach Dana Holgorsen dialed up a pass play and caught ECU's defensive backs sound asleep. Before Korrin Wiggins recognized what was happening, David Sills V was long behind him and on his way to an easy 75-yard touchdown to extend the score to 49-3. When the damaging first half came to an end, the Pirates had allowed the most points in a half in the program's 85-year history.

"Defensively, at the beginning of the game, we just didn't slow them down at all," head coach Scottie Montgomery said. "And if you don't slow them down and they're scoring at will and scoring at will and they're running tempo on us, it makes it hard to stay in the game."

The tempo of the Mountaineers was discussed all week as one of the most significant obstacles ECU would have to overcome in its road opener; but until both teams took the field, it didn't look like Montgomery had any idea how fast quarterback Will Grier conducted his up-tempo offense. The WV offense was perfect on its first five drives, scoring

touchdowns on every drive and never needing more than two minutes and 16 seconds to do so. Before the Pirates blinked, they found themselves down 35-3 and on the fast-track to being 0-2 for the first time since 2011.



Jimmy Williams

While the spotlight is on the defensive struggles for the second straight week, the ECU offense struggled mightily once again. Thomas Sirk helped the Pirates move the ball up and down the field, but once they were in scoring position, either a penalty or turnover would promptly kill the drive. Making things even worse, after the Pirates first touchdown, Sirk took a huge hit and was knocked out of the game. His health will be a question mark entering this week of preparation. Williams, a team captain and focal point of the offense, knows every player has to be accountable every play.

"I felt like we were prepared coming into this game but once we got here guys, again, weren't doing their job," Williams said. "There wasn't too much different in the talent but you see their guys out there doing their job. We can't have one guy not doing their job on every single play."

Even though things couldn't have been worse in the first half, ECU came out of half

time looking considerably more aggressive. After getting outscored by 46 points in the first half, there wasn't much hope for an ECU win, but coach Montgomery and his staff needed to see more balance on both sides of the ball. Grier and the starters for WVU took the field to start the second half, and on their first drive, the Pirates' defense stood strong and forced the Mountaineers to punt for the first time in the game. Eventually, the backups took field for WVU but weren't able to score over the final quarter and a half. The Pirates won the second half 17-7, thanks in part to the 95-yard touchdown pass from backup quarterback Gardner Minshew to Trevon Brown. Unfortunately, 10 points wasn't nearly enough to close the gap, and the game finished 56-20 in favor of the Mountaineers.

"I thought offensively we started with a good drive to go down and score some points," Montgomery said. "After that it felt like our plan was slowing down a little bit. Once we got down so much, it was very hard to do that."

If ECU has any hopes of avoiding an 0-3 start, it will be imperative that the offense puts points on the board early against a highly-ranked Virginia Tech team next Saturday. The Pirates and Hokies will kick off at 3:30 p.m. in the annual "Paint it Gold" game during "Family Weekend" next Saturday.

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

>> FOOTBALL

Defensive coordinator dismissed

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's defense has been lousy at best the first two games of this season and Scottie Montgomery is ready to try something new.

Effective immediately, defensive coordinator Kenwick Thompson has been reassigned to a non-coaching role inside the football program. Robert Prunty, the Pirate's defensive line coach, will replace him as the head of defense. Montgomery announced the change one day after West Virginia's 56-20 thumping of the Pirates. ECU's defense has the second worst total defense in the Football Bowl Subdivision, conceding 90 points and an averaging of 616.5 yards over its first two games.



Kenwick Thompson

Montgomery said according to the team's press release. "We appreciate Coach Thompson's efforts, but I feel a change in direction is needed at this time."



Robert Prunty

ready to face an undefeated Virginia Tech, who will come to Greenville ranked No. 16 in the country. The Hokies edged out the Mountaineers in their first game then crushed Delaware 27-0 last Saturday behind their dual-threat quarterback, redshirt freshman, Josh Jackson.

Thompson will fall into an unspecified position within the program.

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

TAKEAWAYS

FOOTBALL

Defensive Coordinator Kenwick Thompson was removed of his duties as defensive coordinator after allowing 1,232 total yards in the first two games of the season.

The Pirates set a mark for most points allowed in program history after giving up 49 points in the first half against West Virginia on Saturday.

The Pirates are hosting Parents Weekend with a "Paint It Gold" football game against Virginia Tech this Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

The Pirates went 2-2 in the ECU Classic this weekend as Brandee Markwith set a team record in kills with 40.

CAROLINA PANTHERS

The Panthers defeated the San Francisco 49ers 23-3 during opening weekend of the NFL season.

ONLINE



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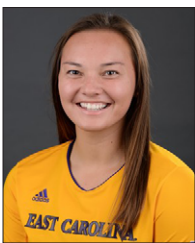


Markwith makes history in Classic

Chase Carroll
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina volleyball team saw yet another record-setting performance from sophomore libero Brandee Markwith, as she set a new ECU single-game record with 40 digs against Gardner-Webb during the ECU Classic this weekend.

For Markwith, setting the school record was something that was very special to her. Despite this, she says her goal is to just go out there and help set up her team for victory the best she can.



Brandee Markwith

you're just out there playing volleyball, trying to do my job, trying to get good ups for our setters to set the ball, and hit our hitters to get some points, so it was really fun."

With Markwith being just a sophomore, she has plenty of room still yet to grow. Coach Torbett has been impressed with the way Markwith has opened up the season so far, yet still feels like she can take her game to another level with more experience.

"She is super solid," Torbett said. "She's just a very calm player out there, makes it look effortless. She's going to continue to get better, she's just a sophomore."

The Pirates hosted their second tournament of the season this weekend, going 2-2,

and were absolutely dominant in each of their two victories, sweeping each opponent, while their two dropped matches came after a full match (five sets). ECU now sits at 6-4 on the year, and yhhave plenty of positives to build off of heading into conference play in a few games.

ECU opened up its weekend in a duel of Pirates, as they faced off against the Pirates of Hampton University Friday morning. Hampton was easily outmatched, as ECU took the game in a straight three-set sweep (25-13, 25-12, 25-19). Senior outside hitter Lael Ceriani continued her strong play this season with yet another great game against Hampton, leading the team with nine kills. Senior middle hitter Natalie Montini and Markwith led the defensive charge for the Pirates, as Montini led the team in blocks with six, and Markwith led the team in digs with 12.

The Pirates faced a much tougher opponent in their second match of the day against Gardner-Webb University, losing in a heavily competitive game that took five sets to determine a winner. The Pirates ultimately were unable to pull out the win, as the Runnin' Bulldogs were able to squeak by in the final set 15-9 to win the match 3-2 (16-25, 25-22, 23-25, 26-24, 15-9). This game was about as evenly matched as it could have been, as both of the teams were tied at 20-20 at one point in each of the second, third and fourth sets. Each team also racked up 14 blocks, and the Pirates won a close battle in digs with an 89-88 edge.



EMMY IRONS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Brandee Markwith (10) pulls the team together after they score a point.

ECU bounced back on Saturday afternoon, easily sweeping The Citadel 3-0 (25-18, 25-21, 25-5). The Citadel kept the game interesting in the first two sets, but the Pirates were absolutely dominant in the third set, giving up just five points. Freshman right side Bri Wood continued a strong start to her collegiate career by earning a team high 11 kills with a .526 hitting percentage.

In their fourth and final game of the tournament, the Pirates fell in a tight five set thriller to Coach Torbett's former program, Winthrop University (16-25, 25-15, 21-25, 25-17, 17-15). Lael Ceriani had yet another great game, posting a team high 22 kills. The Pirates were within one point of closing the game out, as they held a 15-14 lead, but Winthrop was

able to get the final three points to secure the victory.

Overall, the Pirates have plenty to take away from this tournament as they have just two games remaining until they start their American Athletic Conference schedule. While the Pirates have had some difficulty early on with such a young team, Torbett says there is plenty her team will be able to take away from this tournament to help them in the long run during conference play.

"Definitely, we've had some growing pains," Torbett said. "We are a young team out there... We were up and down in our passing, the first contact is always so important... It's just some inconsistencies we need to work out."

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