

The ECU baseball team is on a 13-game winning streak and back into the Top-25. See what weekend jumpstarted ECU's current hot streak..... **PAGE B1**

Chancellor Ballard kicks off leadership lecture series



Chancellor Steve Ballard speaks to audience about gaining leadership skills.

Series open to all students and faculty

YAZID FINN
STAFF EDITOR

Chancellor Ballard spoke at the first of a series of leadership lectures hosted by the department of construction management on Tuesday night.

Ballard spoke in Hendrix Theater to a receptive audience, detailing accounts in his life that led him on his path to where he stands today as the chancellor of ECU.

Introducing Ballard was a member of the current Board of Trustees, Mark Tipton, who spoke briefly about his personal experience with the chancellor and the leadership he offered.

"There is a saying that goes: 'Lead,

follow, or get out of the way," Tipton said as he welcomed Chancellor Ballard to the stage.

"Ballard has put ECU on the right path, and I will follow him."

Chancellor Ballard began in thanking those in attendance for having him, as well as congratulating the department of construction management on their Gold Star program.

"ECU was given a grant to establish a Gold Star program and now we have other universities contacting us on how to establish their own," said Eric Connell, assistant professor of construction management.

The lecture covered a host of subjects in terms of leadership, speaking from Ballard's personal experience

see **CHANCELLOR** page A4



The NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament begins today. Turn to the sports section to see keys to filling out your bracket, staff predictions and much more..... **PAGE B1**

ECU trades their purple and gold colors for Carolina blue in remembrance of Eve Carson

Students mourn the lost of UNC student body president

More sightings of Carolina blue could be seen on campus on Tuesday, March 18 due to students wearing the color in remembrance of Eve Carson, UNC-CH student body president.

Carson was the victim of a senseless crime that has impacted many throughout the nation. Carson was murdered on Wednesday, March 5 in a neighborhood near the UNC-CH campus.

The Dowdy Student Store as well as the SGA office passed out Carolina Blue ribbons to students to pay tribute to her.

"We bleed 'purple and gold,' however, during this difficult time for our peers at UNC-CH, we would like to support their efforts to heal by wearing their colors on Tuesday," said Keri Brocket, SGA president in an email to the student body.

Others celebrated Carson's life on Tuesday as well. Thousands of people gathered for a memorial service held at the Smith Center at 4:00 p.m.



Eve Carson, UNC-CH student body president.



Student wears shirt and ribbon to pay tribute to Carson.



Poster encourages students to wear Carolina blue.



Emerge Gallery will be showing its annual Barbie Show until April 4, with unique designs based on the iconic Mattel doll..... **PAGE A7**

Alternative Spring Break trip offers a variety of experiences

House frame constructed after just one short week

NATALIE JURGEN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students returned from Phoenix City, Alabama this past weekend after attending Alternative Spring Break's program, the Collegiate Challenge, sponsored by Habitat for Humanity.

Ten students and two faculty members participated in this trip, making it ECU's ninth year involved.

The Collegiate Challenge is a program that provides opportunities for students to spend a week focusing on community

service and outreach.

The student's project this year consisted of constructing a house all the way up to the truss for the roof.

"The goal was to get most of the frame work done for eight houses," said Mandy Plucker, Alternative Spring Break advisor.

"We started with a concrete slab and then built the house from there. It was pretty amazing to see the structure of the walls go up, then being able to put up the plywood and finally the truss for the roof."

ECU students worked hand-in-hand with students from all over the US and Canada. There were 30 Canadian students, 20 from Boston and a handful of others from both the Midwest

and Southeast.

"It was nice to interact with those students and hear about how school is going and things that they struggle with," Plucker said.

"As an advisor it was really good to see students giving back their time."

Success can't come without its fair share of challenges, however. Students faced long hours in the sun and also had to develop carpentry skills that most had little knowledge of.

Thankfully for the citizens of Phoenix City, however, the students were able to pull through.

"I also got the chance to see the house that I started working on last year and also got to meet the family that live in that house

see **ASB** page A2



Alternative Spring Break participants stand in front of the finished frame of a house built on the trip.

Another Voice art exhibit comes to ECU

Artwork aim to create political awareness

NIA RICHARDSON
STAFF WRITER

The ECU School of Art and Design will host "Another Voice," an art exhibit that illustrates political voice and difference.

The exhibit will display in the Mendenhall Student Center Gallery March 20 through April 18. "Another Voice" features 50 artists from all over the country and over 150 pieces that exemplify the tradition of political expression through art.

In light of the ongoing political elections, the sponsors aim to spark political interest amongst students and to encourage them to express themselves politically.

"We want to get the students engaged in politics and the political process," said Lisa Beth Robinson, coordinator for the event.

"We want them to think carefully about the decision that they will make that will affect their future."

"Another Voice" is curated by Patrick Flynn, award winning illustrator and former art director for *The Progressive* magazine. Flynn gave the artists free reign to express their political views through their work.

Students from the school of art and design chose the exhibit to come to ECU as a reflection of their interest in politics and visual expression.

"This exhibition provides an important opportunity for school of art students and the greater university community to be exposed to and learn about political illustration and the role of political illustrators as social informers, commentators and galvanizers," said Sarah Searcy, president of the ECU Painting Guild.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Flynn along with artists Sue Coe and David McLimans, will be featured in a panel discussion on April 3.

The discussion will be held in Hendrix Theater at 6:30 p.m. Filmmaker and professor in the school of communication, Ken Wyatt, will moderate the discussion that will address the topic of art and politics.

"I've seen the artwork and I was impressed and I think others will be as well," Wyatt said. "These artists have created top-shelf material."

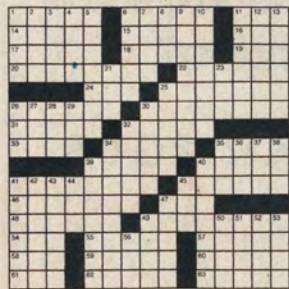
Sue Coe will also host an artist talk at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 4 in Speight Auditorium.

Both Coe and McLimans will be available to sign their books and meet with art students and faculty.

For more information on the "Another Voice" art exhibition and political art, visit anothervoice.org and graphicwitness.org.

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

Crossword



..... **Page A10**

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© Puzzles by Pappocom



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{ Campus & Community }

PIRATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Egg hunt
Saturday, March 22, 2008
10 a.m.
Campus Mall
ECU will hold its annual Easter Egg hunt. Activities include games, prizes, face painting, and a special visit from the Easter Bunny.

Exhibit features political illustrations
Wednesday, March 26- Friday, April 25
Mendenhall Student Center
The political visions of fifty artists will be on display at East Carolina University. The exhibition, Another Voice, will feature over 150 political illustrations that challenge and celebrate politics and political difference. Curated by Patrick Flynn, former art director for The Progressive magazine.

Mountain Dew Green Label Art Event
Thursday, March 27
11 p.m.
The Element
Come get Mountain Dew's NEW Green Label Art Bottles that are LIMITED EDITION. Free samples. Raffle: a new iPod Shuffle.

AIMO Fashion Show
"A Day in the Life of..."
Friday, March 28
5:30-11 p.m.
Greenville Convention Center
~Shop participating boutiques before the show
~\$1 raffle tickets on sale for fabulous prizes
~Cash bar and free snacks

Test Fest 2008
Saturday, March 29
2-6 p.m.
Bate 1031/1032
Trained professionals from the Princeton Review will be on the ECU campus to help you prepare for the GMAT, LSAT, MCAT or GRE exam.
Workshop times and locations are listed below:
* GRE strategy session will be held in Bate 1031 from 2-4 p.m.
* GMAT strategy session will be held in Bate 1032 from 2-4 p.m.
* MCAT strategy session will be held in Bate 1031 from 4-6 p.m.
* LSAT strategy session will be held in Bate 1032 from 4-6 p.m.
Each session costs you only \$10! Purchase tickets from the ECU Central Ticket Office in the Mendenhall Student Center.

Strikes for Tikes
Sunday, March 30
2-4 p.m.
Outer Limitz-MSC

The brothers of Beta Theta Pi will be holding their annual "Strikes for Tikes" fundraiser to benefit the Children's Miracle Network and Children's Hospital of Eastern North Carolina. Brothers will be taking flat donations or donations based on the number of bowling pins they knock down in three games. All money raised by this fundraiser and through the local CMN office stays right here in eastern North Carolina to provide much needed equipment and services for the children in all 29 eastern North Carolina counties.

Muscle Bound
Monday, March 31
7-10 p.m.
Wright Auditorium
Muscle Bound is a one-man show blended with an original film documentary of three men and their journey to alter their appearance in different and destructive ways over the course of one year. This program discusses males and what they secretly think about their bodies, steroids and supplement abuse, and disordered eating in both straight and gay life.

Pulitzer-winning poet to read at ECU
Wednesday, April 2
8 p.m.
Hendrix Theatre-MSC
2007 Pulitzer prize-winning poet, Natasha Trethewey, will visit ECU to give a public reading of her work.

Engineering and Technology Day
Friday, April 4
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Science and Technology Building
The overall goal for Engineering and Technology Day is to showcase exciting engineering and technology careers through fun and challenging competitions. Throughout the day students and faculty will learn about potential careers and tour a variety of laboratories and facilities before squaring off in a Popsicle stick bridge competition and an egg drop competition.

20Thu 21Fri 22Sat 23Sun 24Mon 25Tue 26Wed

Live Music: Beside the Fire 11 p.m. The Corrier	Women's Tennis Davidson 9:30 a.m.	Easter Egg hunt 10 a.m. Campus Mall	Baseball Houston 11 a.m.	Food Fight For Your Health 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Student Recreation Center	Faculty Recital: Keiko Sekino Piano 7-9 p.m. A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall	Women's Tennis Richmond 2 p.m.
	Men's Tennis Drake University 1 p.m.	Baseball Houston 7 p.m.	Baseball Houston 3:00 PM Greenville, NC	The Dating Dahling Presents: How To Impress Your Date Everytime! 3-4:30 p.m. Taylor Slaughter Alumni Center		Baseball Campbell 6 p.m.
				First Annual Bach Birthday Celebration 8-10 p.m. St. Paul's Episcopal Church		Faculty Recital: Jon Wacker and Chris Nappi 8-10 p.m. A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall

FEATURED EVENT:

Easter Egg hunt
10 a.m.
Campus Mall



ASB continued from A1



Students work diligently to help build a house for a family.

now," said Abey Dessie, ECU attorney general of the judicial branch of SGA and Alternative Spring Break participant. "It felt really good to see the completed project and how happy it made the family." Students had the opportunity to have dinner at a different church each night. "Those churches took good care of us," said Joy Fitzpatrick, a student participant in Alternative Spring Break. "Since Habitat is a Christian organization, one night a church had a Christian rap group perform for us. It was fun to see how others worship differently." Students gained more from the trip than they could have ever anticipated. "We got to find out a lot about ourselves and the group

while overcoming some obstacles as a group," Dessie said. "There's something about sleeping on cots in a gym and taking showers in a locker room; it makes you feel like you're at summer camp all over again. We accomplished more than we set out to do; we not only built a house, but friendships too," Fitzpatrick said. All considered the trip to Phoenix City a success. Advisors and participants as well hope that more ECU students will volunteer their time next spring break, and experience for themselves just how rewarding volunteer work can be. This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com

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MSC art gallery plans to work closer with Visual Arts Forum

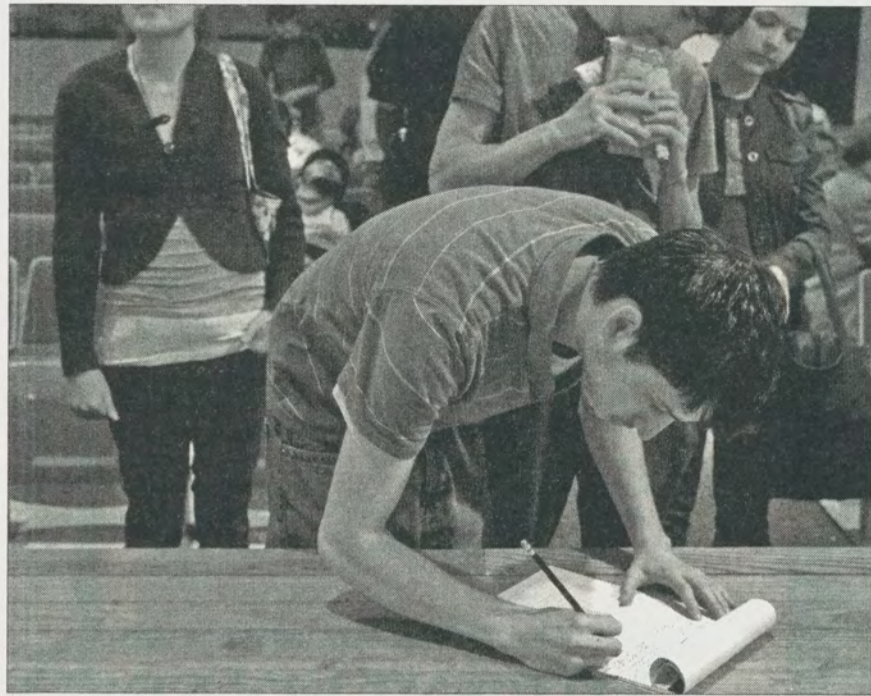


Photo by Jessi Braxton

Students sign a petition to improve the treatment of artwork hung in MSC.

Gallery and art students mend broken relationship

NIA RICHARDSON
STAFF WRITER

The Visual Arts Forum and the coordinators for the Mendenhall Student Center (MSC) art gallery met Thursday, March 6, to address concerns over the handling of student artwork displayed in various exhibits in the MSC gallery.

Members of the Visual Arts Forum presented their grievances to Ameena Mohyuddin, who serves as assistant director for student activities and major events.

Together they resolved the ongoing issue of damages to the student work displayed in the gallery.

Students claimed that artwork was improperly displayed, mishandled during storage and unprofessionally labeled, particularly in February's Body Image Art Exhibition.

"The Body Image show represented the final straw," said Austin Sheppard, graduate student in the school of art and design. "The mishandling and abuse of the artwork was so blatant that everyone had finally had enough."

The art exhibits are setup by the visual arts committee and hosted by the MSC gallery. Mohyuddin expressed to the Visual Arts Forum the need for more students to serve on the visual arts committee.

"As of now there are two students on the visual arts committee," said Mohyuddin.

She has encouraged students in the school of art to become involved with the committee in order to provide a more experienced insight of how to properly handle the artwork that goes up in the exhibits.

"The plan is to create active involvement from the school of art and design so that we are the ones responsible for how our work is

presented," said Daniel Rhys Cook, president of the Visual Arts Forum.

"I can't think of a better way to ensure a high quality exhibition than to let the artists who made the work put it up."

The gallery coordinators also discussed the possibility of installing a curator to monitor the activities in the MSC gallery following the renovations to the MSC facilities.

According to Cook, a permanent arrangement to handle future art exhibits will be reached by the end of the semester.

"As an artist, I would have no problem displaying my work in Mendenhall. I feel that the misunderstandings that led to previous problems are being addressed," Cook said.

"Mendenhall is a good space to display work, and there is no reason that students shouldn't take advantage of it."

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

LeaderShape institute offers students important skills to excel

Students return from spring break as stronger leaders

NADIAH SARSOOR
STAFF WRITER

Thirty-six students return to campus riding on a wave of leadership after spending their spring break at the LeaderShape Institute.

Krista Wilhelm, assistant director of student involvement, said students had their hearts in their boots while waving their goodbyes to fellow mates after spending six days in an intensive leadership-developing program designed to help youth "lead with integrity." Wilhelm said on the final day of the program, students were given a pebble to toss in the water. The pebble affects the water by forming ripples.

Those ripples represent the students, signifying the affect they will contribute to the world, Wilhelm said.

This cradle for leadership carried ECU graduate and undergraduate students to the Caraway Conference Center in Asheboro, NC.

Wilhelm said the program consisted of students ranging from 18-40 years old from different majors.

"It takes all different backgrounds," Wilhelm said.

The main question students were approached with was, "How can one person make a difference in the world?" according to Wilhelm.

"Participants followed a leadership curriculum. They had different manuals and worksheets and reflected on each day activities," Wilhelm said.

Each day posed a different theme. Activities

started at 7:30 a.m. and ended at 10 p.m.

Program participants created a blueprint of what they viewed should be implemented as soon as they leave the institution.

All 36 students were divided into smaller groups called "Family Clusters."

These clusters form a supportive environment for students to work on their vision statements.

The idea is to encourage students to produce extraordinary results within the next nine to 12 months of their departure.

ECU picked up this program last year. So far, over 20,000 students globally have graduated from the LeaderShape Institute.

Termayne Smith, a sophomore who embarked on last year's trip, described the program as a "beautiful retreat."

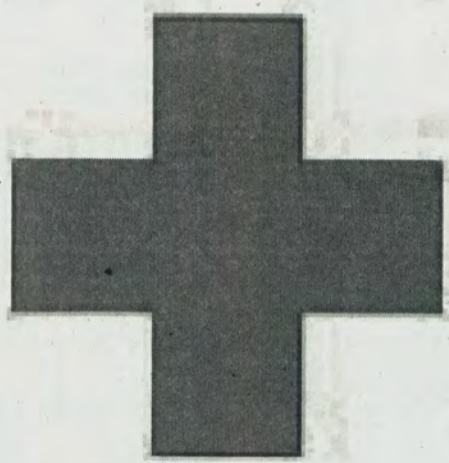
"Meeting all the people and each of them from some sort of an organization, you get tapped into a lot of leadership that you need," Smith said.

Senior Bhavini Vasoya, feels students aspiring to carry the mind of a leader should consider joining the program.

"It is powerful, exciting, and highly effective. It is a great program for anyone and everyone who wants to be an effective leader," Vasoya said.

The LeaderShape program is expanding nationally and there are 60-100 facilitators trained to assist the program, two of which were sent to run the six-day session for ECU students.

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



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Pitter Patter

“When Enough is Enough” march received support from community members

More marches planned for the future

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR

Despite the rainy weather and the large amount of students that were out of town for spring break, the “When Enough is Enough” march still drew big numbers.

Marchers gathered at the Intergenerational Community Center on Friday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. to begin their route through the West Greenville neighborhood to raise awareness about juvenile violence.

Although the crowd started off as mainly workers from the center, community and family members that knew the victim being honored and a few students, the crowd grew larger by the conclusion of the event.

“As the march progressed, more and more people from the community came out and joined us,” said Levinia Tyrrell, student volunteer for the Intergenerational Community Center.

The turnout was also larger than a previous march held on Dec. 14 that brought awareness about the same type of issues.

“We had twice as many people at this march than we had at the first one,” said Chris Taylor of the Intergenerational Community Center.

A stop was made on Imperia Street in which Ida Andrews, mother of Kenneth Andrews and victim of murder in July 2007, recited her own poetry in remembrance of her son.

Students dedicated a poster and flowers to Andrews.

While marching through the streets, participants chanted “Enough is Enough, that’s what’s up,” according to Taylor.

Taylor said the phrase “that’s what’s up” was a statement that Kenneth Andrews said frequently.

The students involved in planning the march feel that this event was an effective way of bringing the issue to the light.

“Residents of West Greenville were especially made aware when



Marchers held candlelight as they marched through the streets of West Greenville.



Photos by Natassia Negron

The marchers paid tribute to Kenneth Andrews who was murdered in July 2007.

they came out of their houses to see what was going on,” said Bridget Rimpf, student volunteer at the Intergenerational Community Center.

“I definitely feel as though we at least have people in the community talking about the issue,” said Ashley Bailor, student volunteer at the Intergenerational Community Center.

Organizers of the march would still like to see more people come out and support the cause in the future.

“I would like to see more elected officials, students of Pitt county schools, Pitt Community

College and ECU, especially more community members,” Bailor said.

Other marches are in the process of being planned to continue spreading the word about juvenile violence in this area.

The Intergenerational Community Center has aspirations of creating a 12-month agenda for the marches, according to Taylor.

“The more marches we hold and when our number of supporters increase, the more people will take action instead of just sitting idle and letting the problem persist,” Bailor said.

Other efforts to stop juve-

nile crime are encouraged by the students who have been involved with this effort.

“If these youths are mentored and given opportunities for bright futures, they will stop hurting each other,” Rimpf said.

If you’re interested in volunteering at the Intergenerational Community Center, you can stop by the center, located on 1100 Ward St. or call the center at 328-5800.

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

CHANCELLOR continued from A1

and those close to him. This included Ballard’s belief that he was not predestined for his current position and never thought he would be where he is now.

“I do not believe in genetic predisposition for leadership,” Ballard said as he spoke on his family and lineage.

“No one would expect a leader from the Ballard clan,” Ballard said.

One event in Ballard’s life that he believes started his path to ECU was time spent at the University of Maine.

During his years spent at the University of Maine, Ballard says he found a mentor in the leadership at the university that really impacted his life and his outlook on leadership.

“Find a mentor, someone older, wiser or tougher than

you and seek their advice,” Ballard said.

“Then do the same thing and be a mentor and care for someone else.”

Ballard also spoke on his opinion of books that are marketed to individuals in the field of leadership.

“There are many books about leadership and a lot of them are not worth their cover,” Ballard said.

“As for about every twenty poor ones I read, you’ll find one good one.”

The lecture concluded with a short question and answers session, followed by a reception open to the students, faculty and guests.

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

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Elections will take place Tuesday, March 25
& Wednesday, March 26 between 9AM-5PM

RANT OF THE DAY

I'm so glad Lent is almost over. I really miss gummy worms.

Legalize it!

The prostitution pickle

LARA OLIVER
OPINION WRITER

So, unless you've been living under a rock for the past week, you've heard all over the news, radio and comedy shows about New York Governor Eliot Spitzer's girl on the side. The news lead to his resignation and a slew of news stories about prostitutes and the seedy world revolving around them.

All this attention being brought to the illegal act of prostitution got me thinking. You know, I know I'm not going to make myself any more popular by asking this, and I'll probably get my feminist card (and all rights to own Volvos, hemp soap and Birkenstocks along with it) taken away, but why exactly is prostitution still illegal in the rest of the United States outside of Nevada?

We all know that prostitution is the "oldest profession." Many of us have also heard the urban legend that the term "hooker" came from Union General Joseph Hooker for the ladies who would follow his platoon for business. Prostitutes are a constant plot point in film and literature. They're far more accepted in pop culture in terms of seediness than acts such as murder, drug abuse or gang violence that often go hand in hand with prostitution. Dolly Parton never starred in "The Best Little Crackhouse in Texas," and I've never seen the cliché of drug addicts raising a kid, used in place of one being raised in a brothel.

Morality aside, there's no need for prostitution to be illegal. It has existed for thousands of years and will continue to exist for thousands more. Why do we fool ourselves into thinking we're stopping it by making it illegal? Stripping, pornography and even buying a girl dinner just to get in her apartment are still legal, so why pretend we're making America more pure by outlawing the act?

If prostitution were legal the way it is in the Netherlands, New Zealand, Japan (well, it's half illegal there. I'll let you figure out which half) and other countries, I guarantee you the only people who would suffer from it would be the drug peddlers and pimps who benefit off of the illegality of prostitution. Instead of relying on pimps to protect them from the law like so many are forced to do — a protection that often means regular beatings, theft and rape on behalf of their pimps — they would be registered with whichever state they're in and able to continue their work without being involved in other illegal activities.

Registered prostitutes could also mean a slowing of the spread of AIDS and other STD's. If America legalized prostitution, we could have the same stringent rules applied that other countries adhere to. The male and female prostitutes would have to have regular checkups and would not be allowed to conduct business if they caught anything. As it now stands, many prostitutes avoid the necessary health precautions a person who is sexually active should take.

If the law pulled its focus away from prostitution, wouldn't it free up resources for other, more dangerous problems? I've never had a friend who suffered from worse consequences than embarrassment with a prostitute, but I've had numerous friends suffer from drugs, gun violence, gangs, domestic violence, rape and other crimes the law could focus on instead of these various stings for prostitution.

We're fooling ourselves if we ever think we'll be able to successfully get rid of prostitutes, and turning a blind-eye to them — until someone famous is tied to one — is only endangering the lives of the men and women who go into that profession. You may say that legalizing prostitution will only increase the amount of people involved in it, and that may be true, but who are we to judge? Every day we all do things we don't want to do for the sake of making money. How are we any different than those involved in prostitution? Maybe we're just jealous they found an easier way to make money? Either way, I agree with people when they say there's a problem with prostitution in America; I just think the problem is with us, not the prostitutes.

This writer can be reached at
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PIRATE RANTS

The *East Carolinian* does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to J.D. Lewis, Opinion Page Editor, at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

Wow! All this time I had no idea that Lucky's downtown is a gay cowboy bar.

I see so many gorgeous guys on Facebook that supposedly go to ECU. Where are they on campus?

If you don't like the articles, stop reading the paper. No one's holding a gun to your head, moron.

Favorite spring break moment, Panama City: My straight fraternity buddy goes to a bar, gets so drunk and brings home a gay man.

I was lost this past Tuesday and Thursday without my Pirate Rants!!!

When you're making out with a girl and she stops to put her hair tie on, you know you're in for a good time.

Do you really change your "Top Friends" according to who you're mad at that day? Get a life.

Where is the water fountain? High Point University has two of them and they are extremely impressive. Since when do we take a back seat to HPU?

I think my dog could watch episodes of "ER" and do a better job than the student health center.

I feel like I'm playing "Frogger" when I walk to class across 14th Street.

What happened on spring break stays on spring break!

I am dreading moving home in May only because I have enjoyed my freedom a bit too much.

Drinks, a beautiful beach, and Marines in the beach house next door... this was the best girls' spring break trip ever!

Where are all the good looking lesbians on campus?

I had hoped that people could actually change, but I've just realized how wrong I am.

I miss college. Grad school is a Pirate Rants-less hell.

To those students at NCSU and USC: I graduated from ECU three years ago and I still read the rants religiously. Thank you, TEC!!!

What exactly is this AFTERdark thing I keep hearing about anyway?

I love that my car got hit by a drunk driver more than a month ago and the Greenville police have done nothing about it. Too busy yelling at the kids with fake ID's, I guess.

Please don't come out here and TELL us to go to bed at 10 pm. I'm sorry that you are 30 and still live in a dorm.

I hope that your drawers being empty means you are moving out.

To the Galley employee: 11:57 is not 12:00; you're still open. Stop whining and do your job.

Why is it that strangers come up to me every day and tell me that I'm gorgeous, but my boyfriend of a year never has?

I just read that one out of every four teen girls has an STD. I can't help but wonder if some of that might somehow be my fault.

If I could, I would marry Monk.

During spring break, I really missed my crappy ECU-provided mattress.

Pirate Rants should have been published during spring break. It's not like we quit complaining during these breaks.

I'm so glad Lent is almost over. I really miss gummy worms.

I am 19 years old... and I still collect TY Beanie Babies.

In my student observations, I saw education going downhill fast! It scares me.

I think Chuck Norris beat up my computer.

What happens to the dance team now that basketball season is over?

The Mac Attack is back! McCain '08!

Has anyone else noticed the homeless people hanging out in Joyner all day?

I wished his hand had fallen off when he threw his cigarette package on the ground. Litter bug!

I think facilities services need to just start mowing, weed-eating and leaf blowing right in front of Joyner next time one of those "evangelists" comes to yell at us. I bet they can't shout over that!

It was loads of fun waiting on the bus for an hour in the freshman lot the other day. Thank you, student driver, for not showing up!

Flip-flop season = cute, sexy, girl toes.

Life is like a Pirate Rant; you never know what you're going to get.

The phone number for TEC is in the newspaper like three times and it is also in the phone book.

Yes, I am from New Jersey, and yes, I do think I'm better than you.

I love it when you lie around my room naked.

I'm out of witty things to say.

I agree, ECU's parking SUCKS!

When did tucking sweatpants into boots become a fashion trend?

Is it bad that I left ECU and the only thing I miss is the Pirate Rants?

To the white guy with blonde dreadlocks and yarn in your hair: I think it's hilarious how famous these rants have made you, and even more hilarious that you probably have no clue.

Hannah Montana is sexy. Arrest me, but she is sexy.

Wearing Ugg boots with a mini skirt is like wearing mittens with a short sleeve shirt; you just don't do it.

Don't mask your body odor with feminine perfume. Girls stink too, so take a bath!

What does it say about me that I'm failing three out of five classes, and one of the classes I'm passing is "walking"?

My new vitamins made my pee lime green. It's pretty awesome.

My creative writing teacher brutally critiqued my most recent piece, and because of it, I don't plan on ever writing again. Thanks for being the push I needed!

Okay, I have taken a poll, and all of my friends and classmates agree that if Obama loses and Clinton wins, we are voting for McCain.

A woman President

America isn't ready

ANDREA ROBERTSON
OPINION WRITER

America: a country of equality where everyone's opinion counts and that has rejected all prejudices. We reside in a country that, in its short life, has overcome many obstacles and developed a form of government that has proven to be beneficial for many of its citizens. However, we have not completely risen above certain stigmas; specifically, America is not ready to be led by a female.

Many women are strong and ambitious, and would be just as capable of governing as a man; however, we have not reached the maturity level as a whole to introduce such an idea. Too many issues arise, and insecurities materialize. It almost seems that a female president would be a detrimental blow to the country instead of a stride in equality.

With our soldiers overseas and war enveloping our nation, by replacing a male president with a female, no matter how strong she is, our people will be fearful of our military forces deteriorating. During a time of combat, a country that has always been controlled by men should not be turned over to the sex that is viewed as nurturing and caring. We need a leader who may plan to do everything in his power to end and prevent the possibility of war, but who also appears intimidating to America's adversaries.

A common opinion of America is that we are a big bully who gets into other countries' business. This is somewhat true; we have aided in wars that originally had nothing to do with us. But by entering those wars and, with few exceptions, winning, we have formed a reputation that promotes fear. With the lack of respect toward women in many Middle Eastern countries — and let's face it, most people view those countries as a threat to our way of life — our enemies may view a woman leading our nation as a prime time to attack, and we would be engulfed by yet another war.

The citizens of America have suffered from the damaged economy spawned from war since 2001. If we were to elect a woman president, and more war ensued, then it would be even harder for the people to ever consider electing another woman as president.

Not only would foreign policy in the Middle East suffer from a lack of respect for a woman president. Japan, the second highest monetary contributor to the United Nations, does not revere women as leaders. Japan, a country staunch in tradition, would probably find it hard to seriously consider the advice of the United States if it were to be led by a woman. Fear of a loss of power among other nations, is something the American people would have to face if a woman were elected president.

It's true that America could probably handle the change of power from man to woman, but taking into consideration the opinions and repercussions from other countries is something we must deal with before we can take that step. In this country, sexism is largely an issue of the past, but it has not been conquered in much of the world. The day will come when equality of the sexes has spread to every nation, but until that day, we are not prepared to take on the challenges that will come from electing a woman president.

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Features

{Campus Scene}

Horoscopes

Aries
Caution is advised in workplace environments. Your basic routine is apt to be disrupted, perhaps severely. Don't use this as an excuse; win in spite of it.

Taurus
It's nice to have others depend on you. You're used to this by now. Don't allow them to become a burden, though. Set limits and enforce them.

Gemini
There's still a lot of confusion, but you're getting your team together. Align with a group who share your goals and support a strong leader.

Cancer
Fantasies are wonderful, if you leave them that way. When you start to act on them, new difficulties are encountered. Leave well enough alone.

Leo
You're starting to get your seasonal wanderlust by now. You want to go places, but how will you be able to afford the journey? Great imagination is required.

Virgo
Maybe it's better if you take control of the financial situation. You're most likely to make good purchasing choices for a while.

Libra
You're becoming more of a manager than a hands-on doer. There are a few adjustments to make, but you'll be fine. You have natural talent for administration.

Scorpio
Emotional people could be super-sensitive now, to put it mildly. If you know somebody like that, be prepared for a meltdown.

Sagittarius
You're under a bit of tension, but you're handling it well. You might even think it's funny, and that's a very good thing. Make the rearrangements that work well for you.

Capricorn
Spend more time on domestic projects during the next few weeks. Picture your place the way you want it to be, and then make it happen.

Aquarius
A financial setback may have you worried. Don't stress about it. You're very good under pressure. You, or one of your advisors, will think of something.

Pisces
Competition makes you more creative. In this situation it also increases your ability to make a profit on what you're doing. This is a good thing.

Mendenhall Movies

August Rush
Friday 3/21 @ 9 p.m.
Saturday 3/22 @ 7 p.m. and midnight

Did you know: Easter facts?

For a time, legendary actor John Barrymore was considered particularly devout for his re-enactment of the Easter story, in which he feigned death on Friday evening, remained confined to his bed throughout Saturday, and finally rose and publicly re-emerged on Sunday morning.

Before hitting on the idea of chocolate bunnies, chocolatiers marketed candy effigies of religious figures, including a crucified Jesus Christ, though these proved unpopular with the public. However, a tradition developed of commemorating the decapitation of Jesus' cousin and forerunner, John the Baptist, by heartily biting off the head of his chocolate figure.

Had the Gregorian calendar not been introduced in 1582 to correct increasing inaccuracies in the earlier Julian calendar, within a century, Christians would have found themselves in the confusing situation of commemorating Jesus Christ's rebirth on Easter Sunday three days before his death on Good Friday, rather than the other way around.

Marshmallow Peeps candy is chemically similar to those novelty business cards made of compressed sponge that expand dramatically in water.

The name "Easter" is thought to be derived from the name of an Anglo-Saxon goddess called Eostre, who is in turn sometimes linked to the better known Babylonian goddess Ishtar.

In England, a popular children's game involves players striking each other's hard-boiled Easter eggs.

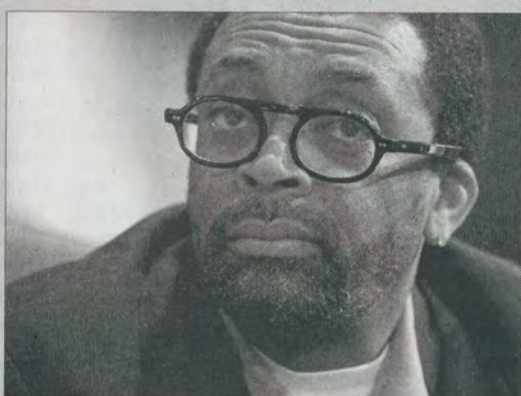
Today in history...

1852



Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is published in Boston.

1957



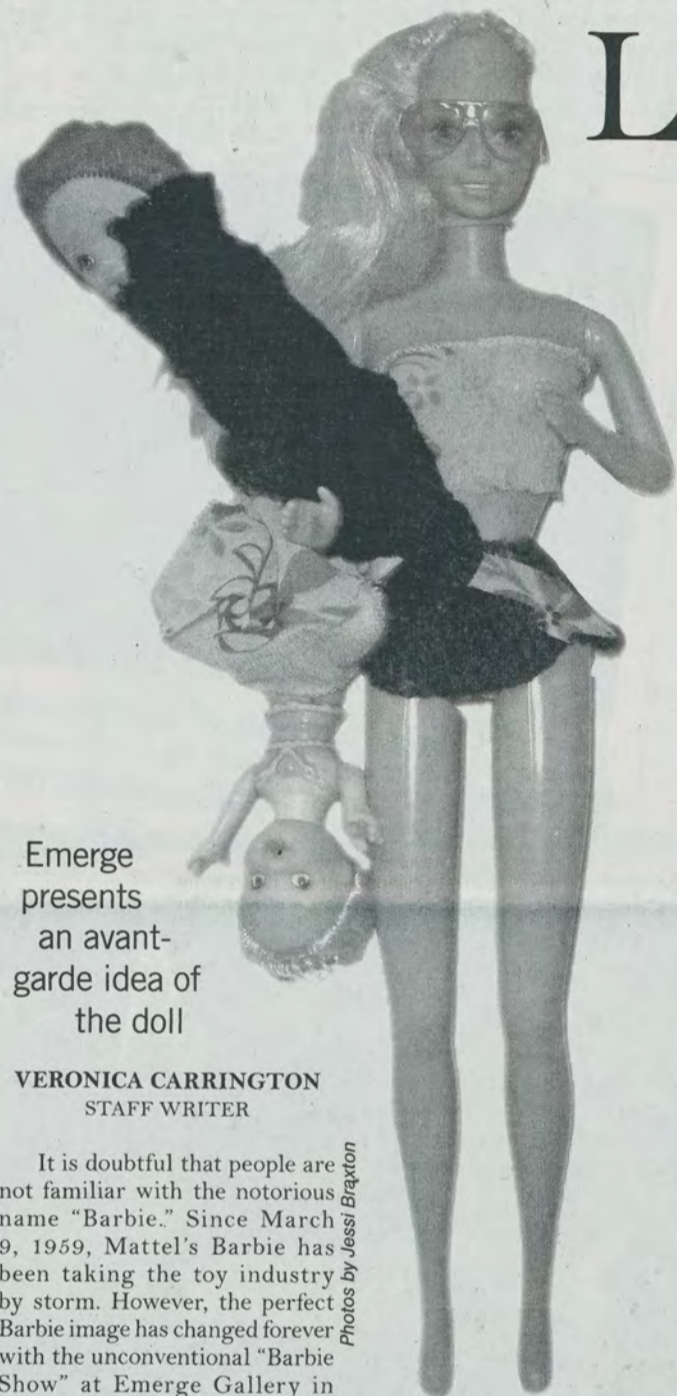
Spike Lee is born in Atlanta, GA.

1965



27th NCAA Men's Basketball Championship: UCLA beats Michigan 91-80.

Land of the Barbie



Emerge presents an avant-garde idea of the doll

VERONICA CARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

It is doubtful that people are not familiar with the notorious name "Barbie." Since March 9, 1959, Mattel's Barbie has been taking the toy industry by storm. However, the perfect Barbie image has changed forever with the unconventional "Barbie Show" at Emerge Gallery in Greenville. The exhibit started when local artist Victoria Sexton approached the gallery and suggested an avant-garde way to display Barbie dolls, and since the initial opening of the exhibit in 2002 it has become one of the most popular exhibits at the gallery. Participants have free reign as to what they would like to do with their Barbie or Barbie's;

some choose to make a satirical statement, while others seek only to entertain. The only rule when submitting a Barbie is, there are no rules and creativity is king.

"The exhibit is unique in the fact that people start with Barbie's and end up making a bold statement," said Holly Garriott, art director at Emerge.



Designs by Nancy House, Jan-Ru Wan, Lauren De Serres, Cassidy Magee, Joellen Beamon, Corinna Aiken and Ashley Pierce.

Garriott has been with Emerge since 2000 and has seen the popularity of the exhibit grow and burgeon within the community.

"The Pirate community has a lot of fun, and this exhibit has a pretty big reputation for being unusual and entertaining," said Lara Parks, a student intern at Emerge and a textile major at ECU.

The amount of diversity within the exhibit is incredible and the Barbie has truly become an extension of the inventiveness of its creators. This year's Barbie's range from "Britney Spears Barbie," complete with shaved head and two tots in tow, "Melanoma Toxic Nail Glue Barbie," who sports a

Tang-tinted fake-and-bake tan, and a seemingly divisive Barbie who has been stuffed inside a bottle representing the bottled up anguish her "perfect" life and figure have caused many women over the years.

Although some Barbie's make see **BARBIE** page A9

It's not awful; it's the Internet



Somethingawful.com provides strange content for its users

MICHAEL MCANDREW
STAFF WRITER

When Al Gore and the military-industrial complex originally conceived the series of tubes known as the information superhighway in the late 1980s, they envisioned a radical, efficient and quick way to share information. Today it is a haven for hard-core pornography (some quite

disturbing), self-important people to post minutiae details about their lives and hilarious videos. The Web site somethingawful.com (where the Internet makes you stupid), lampoons the Internet and the subcultures and perversions it has spawned.

Somethingawful was founded by Richard "Lowtax" Kyanka in 1999 as a personal Web site in which users could largely review awful video games, hence the site's name. Somethingawful has grown by leaps and bounds in both content and contributors. At any time there are roughly a dozen front-page contributors, as well as over 94,000 active mem-

see **AWFUL** page A9

Local theater will put on Jesus Christ Superstar

Show will include several ECU students

ELISE PHILLIPS
FEATURES EDITOR

The Farmville Community Arts Council will take the stage on April 10-12, with its production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Directed by an ECU faculty member, Jason Myers, the show is sponsored by the Grassroots Program of the North Carolina Arts Council and Emerge Gallery. The Farmville Community Arts Council chose the musical last year, and the cast and crew of the musical started practicing for the show earlier in the year.

"[Practices are] very grueling. [They are] four nights a week and soon to be five nights a week. After April 1 we will work every night until

the opening of the show," said Myers.

Myers encourages students to not only attend the show, but participate in art related activities in Pitt County.

"There is so much theatre happening in Pitt County from the Farm-



ville Arts Council to the Magnolia Arts Council to Ayden community theatre... all of these theaters

are looking for experienced ECU students to help and participate," Myers said.

Several current and former ECU students will be starring in the play, including Von Lewis as Jesus, Bruce Young as Judas and Rachel Dennis as Mary Magdalene.

"ECU has a fine drama department and we are very fortunate that so many students auditioned for the play. We also

see **JC** page A9

A unique spin on college apparel

ECU student crafts distinctive designs

SARAH CAMPBELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Spending hours surfing Facebook, heading to a local bar for a night of drinking and dancing and working unruly hours at a part-time job are all things that typical college students do on a daily basis.

For Taylor and Rachael Smith, a typical day could range from creating a new design to updating their Web site.

Since the summer of 2007 the brother and sister duo have been working tirelessly to create a new clothing style that appeals directly to the college apparel industry.

Rachael is a senior finance major at ECU, while Taylor attends Mercer County Community College where he is majoring in digital media arts.

"We want our designs to stand out from the rest. It's unique clothing for unique people."

"We also create designs that will reach every age group. I've seen parents wearing the shirts before and that's great to know we can be that diversifiable," said Rachael.

When browsing through various student bookstores located near campus Rachael noticed most of the clothing



Contributed Image

The novel UNVERSITEE T-shirts can be found at U.B.E.

was typical and boring, which sparked the idea for UNVERSITEE apparel.

"My brother came up with our company name and logo design. UNVERSITEE apparel is our trade name and Smith & Smith, LLC is our actual company name," Rachael said.

After the company was created, the next step was finding a local retailer to sell the merchandise. The two decided to contact University Book Exchange (U.B.E.) and the rest is history.

U.B.E. began carrying their designs, which target ECU students with catchy slogans such as "pirate country" or "spirit of the east," since they do not have a license to use the school name or trademarks. "My brother and

I own the company, but my parents have been there the whole way with us. They each play a great part in helping run the company."

"They have helped us with getting started financially, learning the whole business aspect, contacting the right people and just helping us sell the shirts by promoting them constantly," Rachael said.

Those interested in purchasing UNVERSITEE merchandise can stop by U.B.E. located on Cotanche Street during normal store hours Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or log on to their Web site, unversiteeapparel.com.

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

10,000 B.C. promises big special effects extravaganza

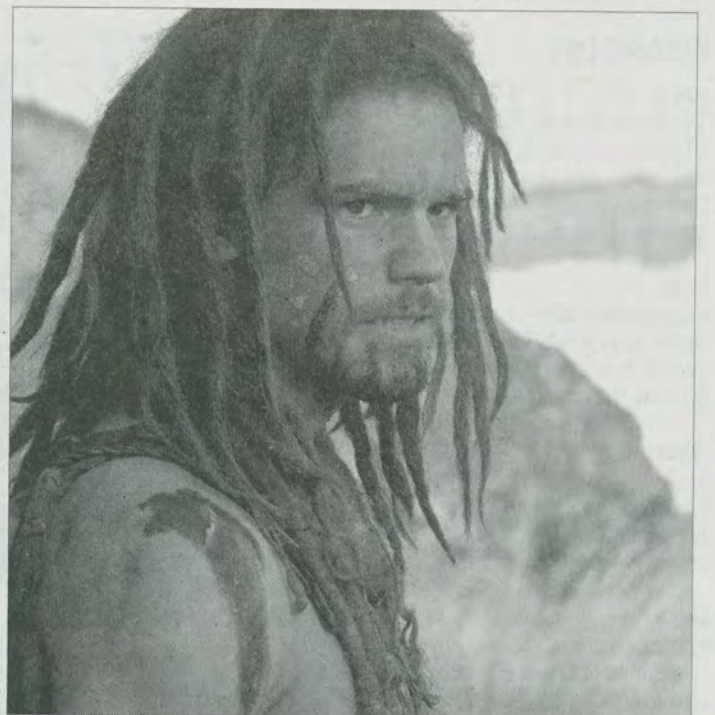
Does 10,000 B.C. live up to its hype?

BRIAN MAZUROWSKI
STAFF WRITER

The title of *10,000 B.C.* would lead moviegoers to believe that it is a movie based on historical rhetoric and facts. The movie is rather a fantastical whim from the imagination of its creators Roland Emmerich and Harald Kloser.

10,000 B.C. follows the struggle of a nomadic hunter and gatherer tribe known as the Yagahl. Early into the movie, the protagonist of the story has his love interest taken by bandits on horsebacks. It is at this time that any real discernibly interesting storyline in the movie is lost for the most part.

Even with the shoddy attempt at a storyline of *10,000 B.C.*, the visuals of the movie still manage to keep it genuinely interesting to watch. The vast array of texture featured in the special effects, creates hypnotizing backgrounds that pull the



Steven Strait played D'Leh in the much anticipated movie release.

viewer deeper into the movie.

Although the special effects in the movie are quite impressive, they still fail to live up to what the movie trailers for *10,000 B.C.* promised. All the previews boasted these big

name stars involved in visually spectacular films, creating a notion that this movie is some sort of special effects masterpiece.

see BC page A9

Bands battle it out



The Jealousy Game took the title at Battle of the Bands last night, winning cash and a spot at Barefoot.

Photo by Natassia Negron

Hats Available at The Bicycle Post
(Uptown Greenville, next to U.B.E.)
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WANNA GET FRESH?

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AWFUL continued from A7

bers of the Web site's worldwide forums, which charge a one-time fee of \$10 for access. The one time fee was suggested to keep "undesirable" users off the forums.

Somethingawful is primarily a comedic Web site, though its highly cynical and scatological humor might not appeal to everyone. It features daily updated content on its front page by a stable of talented and extremely literate writers, though the (mostly male) writers themselves would probably disagree with that assertion. Past articles have dealt with "The Lesser Wisdom of Benjamin Franklin," with sayings of Franklin's of "questionable merit," "Three States That Just Shouldn't Be Allowed To Vote" based on some state's past electoral failings in the last two elections and "Profiles

in Scourging," which is kind of self explanatory.

Aside from the regular front-page updates, Somethingawful offers an extraordinary amount of other content. Chief among these is Photoshop Phriday, a collection of photo shops from the site's forum members, with various themes such as "Door-knob Signs," "Unlikely Political Campaigns" and "Time Magazine's Person of the Year."

It's not just all funny pictures, flash movies and articles are on Somethingawful too. In August of 2005, the Web site went offline due to flooding in New Orleans (where it's servers were located) caused by Hurricane Katrina. Richard Kyanka, or Lowtax, as his fans, detractors and minions refer to him, was able to bring up a semi-functioning site with a PayPal account for regular users and

other visitors to donate money to the victims of the Hurricane Katrina through the Red Cross. Lowtax donated \$3000 of his own money, as well as a promise of free Somethingawful merchandise to any user who donated \$10 or more. In less than 24 hours, visitors to the makeshift site had donated approximately \$27,695.41.

The dedication of Somethingawful users can sometimes border on the fanatical; indeed they have come to be known as their own separate Internet subculture, calling themselves "goons."

Somethingawful is an excellent (and weird) Web site if you like fringe political humor, flash cartoons, amusement at the expense of others and flamewars.

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

JC continued from A7

have one faculty member at ECU in the play," Myers said.

The original *Jesus Christ Superstar*, a rock opera introduced in 1970, outlined the last few weeks of Jesus' life. Although it received criticism from religious communities, the opera was captured in the Oscar-nominated film in 1973. *Jesus Christ Superstar* still attracts viewers all over, and is still being shown in cities all over the globe.

Ticket prices for the Farmville production of the play are \$12 for members of the Farmville Community Arts Council and \$16 for the general public. *Jesus Christ Superstar* will be shown from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. each night at the Paramount Theater in Farmville, NC.

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

BARBIE continued from A7

a statement against the unrealistic perfection the doll has been known to represent, some are just witty such as "Shrimp on the Barbie," which truly has to be seen to grasp the magnitude of the humor involved. Bidders can participate in a "silent bid" throughout the exhibit, where they place their name beside a desired doll. For patrons enamored with the iconic doll, they will be auctioned off during the "Barbie-Q" Friday April 4 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., an annual

event in conjunction with the exhibit.

Tickets to the "Barbie-Q" are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children. Children under four are admitted free. The exhibit will be open until April 4 during Emerge's normal operating hours. Emerge Art Gallery and Art Center is located at 404 South Evans St. in Greenville.

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

BC continued from A8



D'Leh is attacked by a saber-toothed tiger in a 10,000 B.C. scene.

The majority of the film is filled up with monotonous dialogue from a love-struck caveman who vows to recapture his love from her kidnapers with the help of his mentor known only as Tic-tic.

In theory, *10,000 B.C.* is an interesting story if you are avoiding watching anything

that might constitute any sort of rationality but rather something easy to follow and entertaining. *10,000 B.C.*, however, fails to deliver on what it builds itself up to be in previews.

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

Held over by request... Enjoy these past favorites For a limited time!



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A delicious blend of creamy cheese, diced tomatoes, onions, cilantro and Mexican chorizo sausage. Served with tortilla chips.

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Pescador

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1983 **25** 2008
YEARS

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2000

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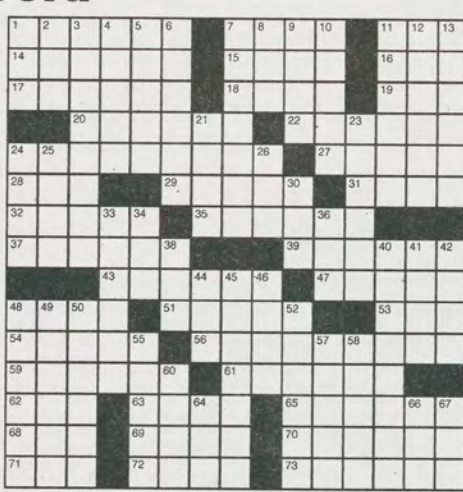
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Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Anti-knock number
7 Q-tip
11 Part of B.S.
14 Up and about
15 Corduroy characteristic
16 Light brown
17 Keypuncher
18 Columnist
19 Bombeck
19 H.S. subject
20 Parody
22 Francis or Dahl
24 Installs paneling
27 Comic Soupy
28 Mined mineral
29 Fencing tools
31 Sunset direction
32 Musical pauses
35 Being
37 of honor
39 Madrid nap
43 Paradigms
47 Hunter constellation
48 Rear position
51 Threesomes
53 Bo Derek's number
54 Preminger and Kruger
56 Halftime show, e.g.
59 Batting posture
61 Actress Loren
62 Brood
63 Comic Johnson
65 Like some windshields
68 Actor Wallach
69 Planted explosive
70 Make lovable
71 Former USAF defense grp.
72 Dispatch
73 Browned bread

- DOWN
1 Mare's morsel
2 ... Me a River
3 Superlatively soured
4 Mongolian, e.g.
5 Aeries
6 Lure
7 Add sugar to



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3/20/08

Solutions

8 Simple card game
9 mater
10 Chicago
11 Co-founder of "The Tatler"
12 French resort
13 Gobble up
21 Catch with a tasso
23 Attorney
24 Angler's bait
25 Domain
26 Harden
30 Bro's sib
33 Spiral-shell mollusk
34 Instant grass
36 Yucatan uncle
38 Seine
40 Positions
41 Drove (a nail) obliquely
42 Beheaded
43 Boleyn
44 "Exodus" hero
45 Flax product
46 Buddhist sect

- 48 Setbacks
49 the Hun
50 Having no motion
52 Group of seven
55 Con-man's cons
57 Tanklike animal
58 Singer Ronstadt
60 Pennsylvania port
64 SPIKE formerly
66 your heart
67 GPs

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	4	2					



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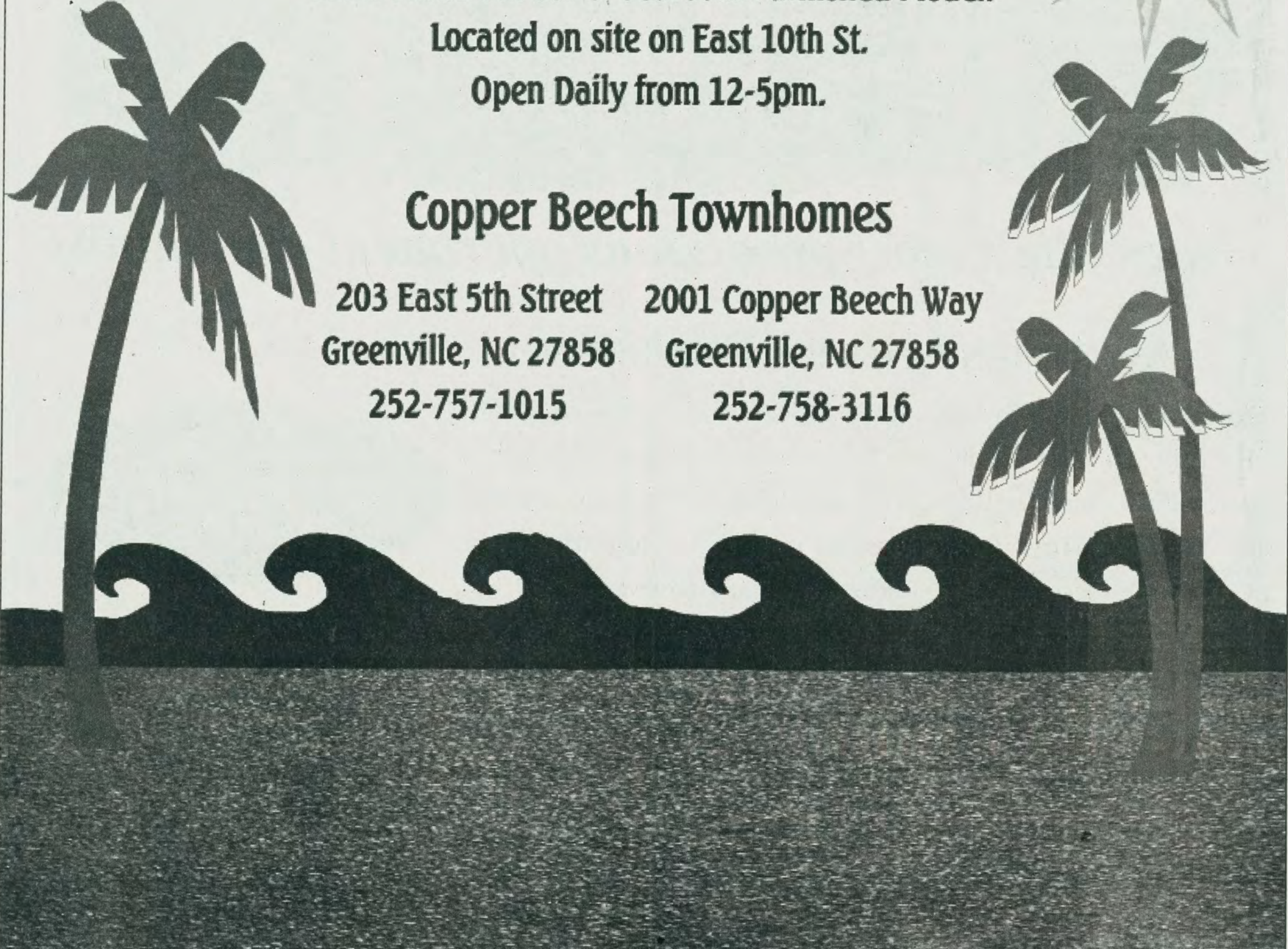
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Greenville Recreation and Parks Department (City of Greenville) Positions at Bradford Creek Golf Course: Cart Attendant- Assures all carts are clean and ready for customers' use. Performs routine maintenance such as filling gas and oil. Cleans carts after use. Runs range picker and picks up balls on the range,

washes them and place in baskets as needed. Hours vary but applicants should be available after 2:00 p.m. weekdays and any time on weekends. Weekend work is required. Pay is \$6.15 an hour. Applications accepted until positions are filled. Apply at the City of Greenville, Human Resources Department, 201 Martin L. King, Jr. Drive, PO Box 7207, Greenville, NC 27835. Phone 329-4492.

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Babysitter Needed. Variable daytime hours (15-30 hr/wk) from May 27 - August 15 to watch two children ages 7 & 11. Non-smoker with a car and a safe driving record required. Must be energetic, fun, responsible, and enjoy swimming. Prefer student in a child-oriented field. Responsibilities include playing with and supervising the kids, driving them to activities and

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Panhellenic would like to remind ALL GREEKS to wear their letters on LETTER SHIRT WEDNESDAYS! Go Greek!

Undergraduate Scholarship available for 2008/2009: Children of East Carolina University Faculty (active or retired) are invited to apply for the ECUFA Undergraduate Scholarship. The amount of the award for 2008/2009 will be \$1,600 (\$800/semester). Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled full-time. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is April 18, 2008. For more details, call Vicky Morris at 328-9559.

Children of current SPA or CSS employees at ECU are invited to apply for the Children of SPA Employees Scholarship. The scholarship award for the 2008/2009 academic year will be \$1,500. Students must be full-time and pursuing their first undergraduate degree and have a projected or actual collegiate GPA of at least 3.0. The application deadline is April 18, 2008. For more details, call Vicky Morris at 328-9559.

Panhellenic would like to congratulate Delta Zeta Kinsie Howell for getting Ms. Johnston County, NC and wishes her the best of luck!

The Daily Reflector is making two \$2,500 annual scholarships available to undergraduate students at ECU who are interested in pursuing a career in a media-related field. The recipients of the scholarship are also invited to compete for a possible internship with the newspaper. Applicants/recipients must be at least a junior at ECU with a minimum of two full-time semesters remaining until graduation, and have a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last academic year and no grades below a C in their major. The application deadline is April 14, 2008. Please contact Mrs. Vicky Morris at 328-9559 or morrisv@ecu.edu

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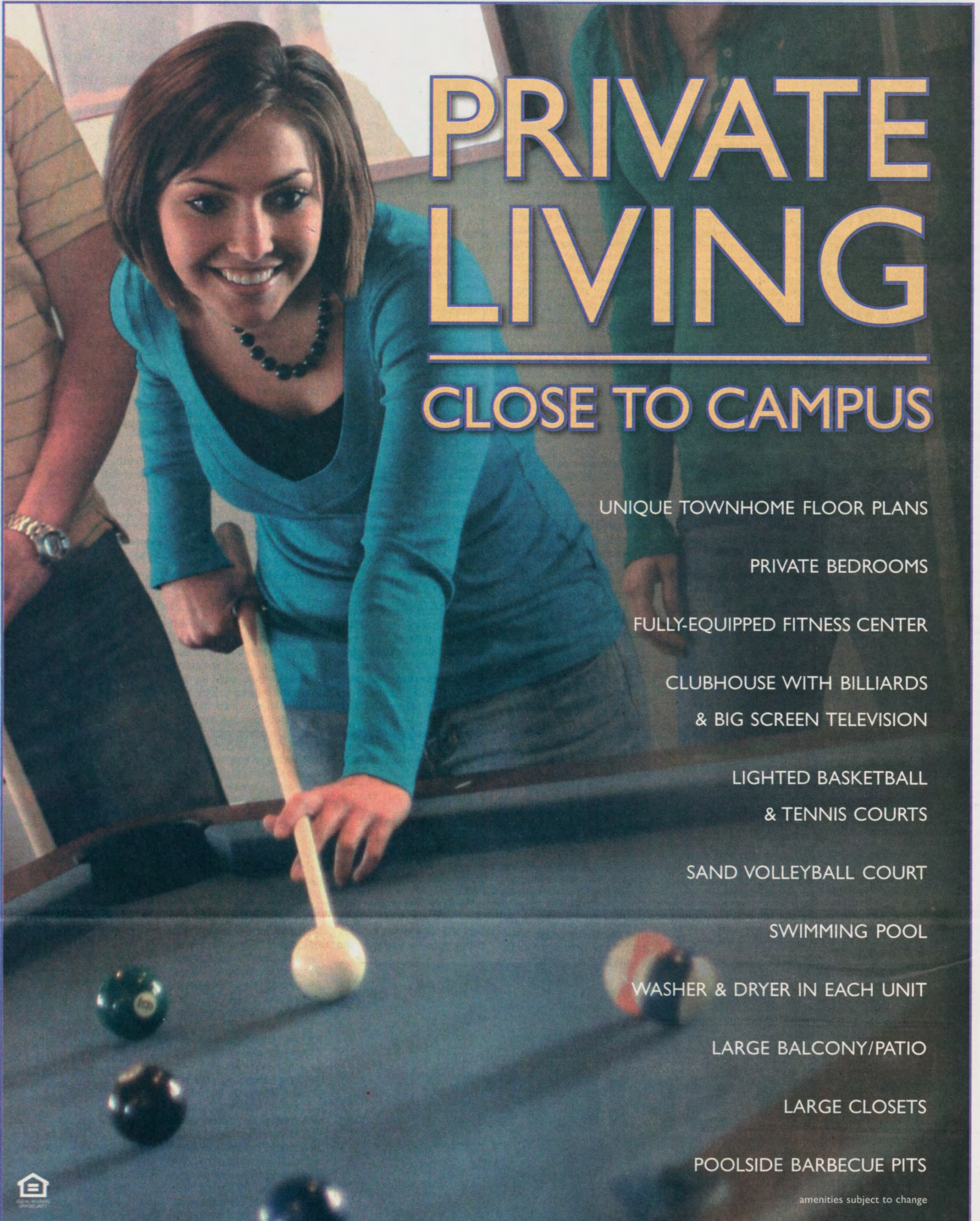
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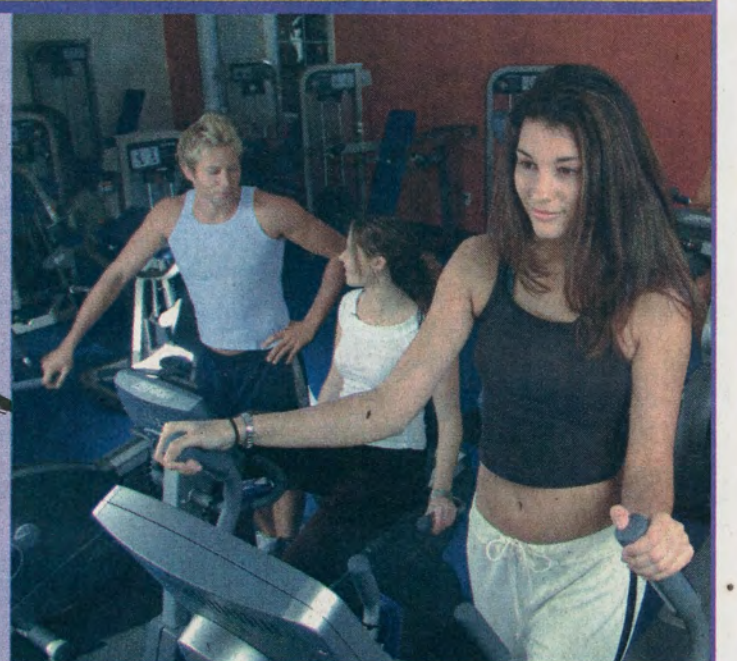
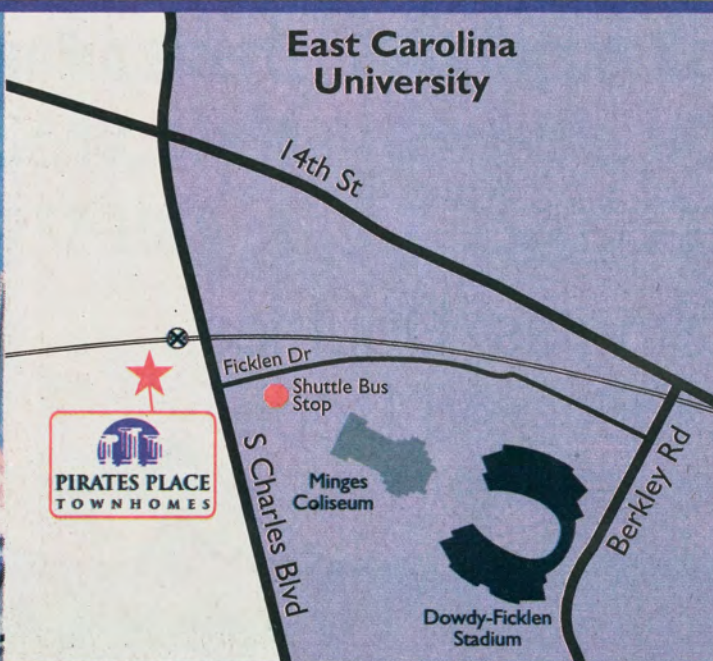
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ON TAP...

A look ahead to the weekend in sports

Baseball

Friday
vs. Houston
7:00 p.m.

Saturday
vs. Houston
3:00 p.m.

Sunday
vs. Houston
11:00 a.m.

Softball

Stanford Invitational II
at. Palo Alto, Calif

Friday
vs. BYU
3:00 p.m.

vs. Princeton
5:00 p.m.

Saturday
vs. Princeton
1:00 p.m.

vs. Wisconsin
3:00 p.m.

Sunday
vs. Stanford
3:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Friday
vs. Drake
1:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Friday
vs. Davidson
9:30 a.m.

Track and Field

Friday
at. Wake Forest
All Day

Saturday
at. Wake Forest
All Day

LeClair title sparks winning streak

Pirates prepared for conference play

KELLEN HOLTZMAN
STAFF WRITER

In a tournament marred by inclement weather, ECU claimed the Fifth Annual Keith LeClair Classic title two weeks ago, in a field that included Georgia Southern, Pittsburgh, and No. 15 Michigan.

And the winning didn't stop there.

After winning the fifth annual tournament, the Pirates (14-4) have now won 13 in a row and made their way back into the Top 25, at No. 23.

Day one of the LeClair Classic was cancelled due to a rain-soaked Lewis Field at Clark-LeClair Stadium; each team was forced to play two games on a cold and blustery Day Two.

The Pirates doubled up Pittsburgh, 10-5, before holding off Michigan, 6-5, in a Saturday doubleheader.

ECU then closed out its weekend with a 9-3 victory over Georgia Southern to claim its eighth win of the season.

After stumbling out of the gate with a 1-4 record to start the season, the Pirates' depth is playing a major factor in the team's turnaround.

"We've got some depth and that's what we're going to utilize," ECU coach Billy Godwin said. "Some guys are struggling. We had to insert some guys and they came through for us. That's the sign of a good club."

Seth Maness, Josh Ruhlman and Justin Bristow picked up wins for the Pirates.

The win against Michigan proved to be the most dramatic game of the weekend for ECU.

The Pirates and the Wolverines battled back and forth for the first five innings before Michigan pulled ahead 5-3 in the seventh, the largest lead of the game for either side.

ECU answered in the bottom of the inning with clutch performances from a pair of freshmen at the bottom of the lineup.



Freshman outfielder Trent Whitehead (above) hit a two-run homer against Michigan that tied the game. He finished the game with 3 RBIs.

Photo by Jessi Braxton

After true freshman Dustin Harrington singled to right, fellow freshman right fielder, Trent Whitehead (2-for-4, 3 RBI), took Michigan pitcher Zach Putnam deep for a two-run homer into right-center field to tie the game.

"It was everything I could imagine it to be," said Whitehead, of his first homerun as a Pirate. "It felt like I was walking on air through the bases—a memory I'll never forget."

Senior Corey Kemp knocked in the winning run with an opposite field single into right, to score second baseman Stephen Batts. Batts reached base with a single and advanced to second on a Jamie Ray sacrifice bunt.

Daniel Holder replaced

starter T.J. Hose in the sixth inning. Ruhlman, a Michigan native, worked the final two innings to pick up the win for the Pirates.

Maness (2-0) struck out a career-high 10 batters in five innings of work against Pitt. The freshman allowed four runs (three earned) on 10 hits.

Brandon Henderson's two-run home run highlighted an explosive third inning for ECU. Ryan Wood's double in the third inning opened up the scoring.

Wood easily strolled in to up the lead to 3-0 after an errant attempt to throw Batts out stealing second. Henderson connected on what looked like nothing more than a deep fly ball that managed to blow its way over the right field fence, giving the

Pirates a 5-0 advantage.

"The elements are what they are," Godwin said of the squally conditions. "They are the same for both teams, so you have to adapt and adjust to them the best you can. I've never played in anything quite like that. It certainly was a factor; Henderson's ball was a fly ball, I thought, and it just kind of blew out."

ECU built its lead as large as 8-2 before the Panthers rallied to cut it to 8-5. Two runs in the sixth by way of a Henderson double and a Corey Kemp RBI groundout, put the game out of reach.

Seth Simmons and Ruhlman pitched two innings each in relief of Maness.

On Sunday, the Pirates grabbed the lead early against

Georgia Southern and never looked back.

Jamie Ray lined a two-out, two-RBI single just out of reach of Eagle shortstop Brian Pierce to get things started for ECU in the second inning.

Georgia Southern cut the Pirates' lead to 5-2 in the fifth, but would get no closer.

Ray, Harrington, and Whitehead each finished with two hits.

Bristow gave up just four hits and two runs in seven innings of work. Brad Mincey and Daniels finished the game off for ECU.

"I think we're finally meshing as a team," Henderson said following the Georgia Southern win. "We've got different guys

see **BASEBALL** page B5

How to fill out your bracket

Keys to picking the right teams

RONNIE WOODWARD
SPORTS EDITOR

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FILLING OUT THEIR BRACKETS ALL WEEK, AS THE NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BEGINS TODAY. SINCE FILLING OUT A BRACKET ISN'T EASY, HERE'S YOUR "FINAL 4" KEYS TO GETTING THE THING RIGHT:

4 Don't pick last year's bracket

Everyone remembers the 2006 NCAA Tournament when 11th-seeded George Mason defined the term Cinderella by beating Michigan State, North Carolina, Wichita State and Connecticut en route to a magical Final Four berth. No one remembers that in 2007, that same George Mason team didn't even make the NCAA Tournament. Also in 2006, fourth-seeded LSU made a surprise trip to the Final Four, and just like its Cinderella counterpart, didn't make the tournament the following year.

In 2004, Georgia Tech made it to the national championship game as a No. 3 seed. The following year, the Yellow Jackets didn't make it past the first weekend. Fifth-seeded Indiana pulled off the same feat recently, making it to the title game in 2002, followed by a second-round loss in 2003.

The point is, if a team made "a run" farther than expected in last year's tournament, you can expect an early exit this year, so don't pick them.

On the flip side, a team that historically does well in the tournament that got upset last year is very dangerous.

For example: Duke lost in the Sweet 16 as a No. 1 seed in 2000. In 2001, the Blue Devils cut down the nets as national champs. More recently, second-seeded Ohio State was upset in the second round in 2006. In last year's tournament (2007) Ohio State made it to the championship game.

A lot of teams have the tendency to do the opposite of the year before, for better or for worse.

Pick: Wisconsin, Texas, Washington State
Avoid: UNLV, Vanderbilt, Georgetown

2 Coaches matter

Some coaches just know how to win NCAA Tournament games, and some just don't. Coaching in the regular season is so much different from in the NCAA Tournament, and it's because of preparation.

In the regular season, a team's entire schedule is laid out well before the season, and there is always multiple days for a coach to prepare a gameplan for each team on the schedule. In the tournament, a team might play Friday night and then have to turn around and play again Sunday afternoon, which gives its coach one day to prepare for a team that it probably hasn't played before. This makes in-game coaching greatly important. Every substitution, every playcall, every halftime adjustment by a coach could make or break a team.

Coaching is the No. 1 reason why there are so many upsets in the NCAA Tournament. History shows that some coaches are out-coached almost every year in the tournament, and some have a knack for taking its team as far as it can possibly go. The lesson is: it's not all about the players.

Pick: Uconn, Louisville, Michigan State
Avoid: Kansas State, UNC, Kansas

3 Look at where the games are being played

The tournament committee rewards the higher-seeded teams by letting them play as close to home as possible. The problem is setting up these 64-team brackets isn't easy, and some teams consequently get distinct advantages or disadvantages when it comes to travel.

Travel plays a huge role in these games. Just think about it: Team A has to board a plane and fly hours, or even across multiple time zones, to play Team B, which grabbed a bus and is playing in a familiar state, with a huge contingency of its fans right behind the bus. Even though teams get to their playing location usually days before the game, the player's bodies aren't going to get used to the time change in enough time, not to mention the kind of weird stuff that can happen when you try to fly an entire basketball program across the country.

Just ask the Arizona Wildcats how tough this can be. In 2004, Arizona lost its first round game, played in Raleigh, N.C. Last year, Arizona, a preseason top-5 team, lost again in the first round, this time in New Orleans. This year, the Wildcats made the return trip to Raleigh.

Be wary of teams from the west, especially in the Pac-10, that are forced to play their first round games on the east coast.

On the other hand, some teams don't even have to board a plane. North Carolina has only lost one NCAA Tournament game played in the state of N.C., and this year, the Heels won't have to leave the state until the Final Four round, if it makes it that far.

Also, Texas has to play its first two games in Little Rock, Ark., but after that, the Longhorns will get to play every single game, including all Final Four games, in the state of Texas.

Pick: South Alabama, Davidson, Texas
Avoid: Gonzaga, Arizona, Pittsburgh

1 Guards win NCAA Tournament games

The NCAA Tournament is all about guard play, and if you can't name your national championship team's point guard, you're in trouble. Post players win NBA titles, guards win college basketball championships, it's that simple.

A point guard in college basketball is the extension of the coach, and that shows as the tournament goes on. So many tournament games come down to the last minutes and it's the point guard's responsibility to get the best shot possible for his team during that time. Players like Maceo Cleaves, Miles Simon, Khalid El-Amin, Gerry McNamara and Bobby Hurley never made great NBA players, but they all led their teams to national titles.

Teams that are dependent on their big man will not go as far as expected. Teams must have consistent, and most importantly, dependent play from its guards to make a run at the Final Four or national championship.

Pick: Xavier, Texas, UCLA
Avoid: Kansas State, Georgetown, UNC

N C A A Men's basketball tournament 2 0 0 8

EAST REGION

Round	Teams	Location
FIRST ROUND March 21	1 UNC, 16 Mt. St. Mary, 8 Indiana, 9 Arkansas	Raleigh, N.C.
SECOND ROUND March 22	5 Notre Dame, 12 G. Mason, 4 Wash. St., 13 Winthrop	Denver
REGIONALS March 27, 29	6 Oklahoma, 11 St. Joseph's	Charlotte, N.C.
FIRST ROUND March 21	3 Louisville, 14 Boise St., 7 Butler, 10 S. Alabama, 2 Tennessee, 15 American	Birmingham, Ala.

SOUTH REGION

Round	Teams	Location
REGIONALS March 28, 30	Memphis, Tex.-Arl., Miss. St., Oregon	Little Rock, Ark.
SECOND ROUND March 22	March 20: Mich. St., Temple; March 21: Pittsburgh, O. Roberts	Denver
FIRST ROUND March 21	March 20: Marquette, Kentucky, Stanford, Cornell; March 21: Miami, St. Mary's, Texas, Austin Peay	Anaheim, Calif., Little Rock, Ark.

MIDWEST REGION

Round	Teams	Location
FIRST ROUND March 20	1 Kansas, 16 Portland St., 8 UNLV, 9 Kent. St.	Omaha, Neb.
SECOND ROUND March 22	5 Clemson, 12 Villanova, 4 Vanderbilt, 13 Siena	Tampa, Fla.
REGIONALS March 28, 30	6 USC, 11 Kansas St., 3 Wisconsin, 14 Cal St. Full.	Detroit
FIRST ROUND March 21	7 Gonzaga, 10 Davidson, 2 Georgetown, 15 UMBC	Raleigh, N.C.

WEST REGION

Round	Teams	Location
REGIONALS March 27, 29	UCLA, Miss. V. St., BYU, Texas A&M	Anaheim, Calif., Tampa, Fla.
SECOND ROUND March 22	March 21: Drake, Western Ky.; March 20: U. Conn., San Diego	Phoenix
FIRST ROUND March 20	March 20: Purdue, Baylor, Xavier, Georgia; March 21: W. Virginia, Arizona, Duke, Belmont	Washington, D.C.



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Region Breakdowns

RONNIE WOODWARD
SPORTS EDITOR

EAST

This is the region that most of the so-called experts are calling the toughest one. Even though UNC won't have to leave the state of N.C., there are many teams that could present challenges to the top-seeded Tar Heels. No. 2 Tennessee is a very streaky team, and if the 3-pointers are falling, the Volunteers could make a run. Watch out for third-seeded Louisville also. Louisville was one of the hottest teams in the nation the last half of the regular season and lost early in the Big East Tournament, which means it is well-rested and looking for revenge. No. 4 Washington State is led by its guard and plays great defense, but playing in Charlotte doesn't help the Cougars.

MIDWEST

The Midwest region is the region of sleepers. There are four or five teams that have a legitimate shot at making the final four from this region. Top-seeded Kansas is the most talented team in the nation, but head coach Bill Self hasn't been the best NCAA Tournament coach lately. On the other hand, No. 3 Wisconsin is very well-coached and always seems to play well in the tourney. Also in the mix is No. 2 Georgetown and No. 5 Clemson, both led by its big men. Two sleepers to watch out for are No. 7 Gonzaga and No. 13 Siena. Gonzaga has the history of playing the role of Cinderella so don't rule out the 'Zags making a surprise trip to the final four, while Siena has the perfect makeup of a Cinderella team, as it loves to shoot the 3-pointer and knows how to play defense. This region is very compelling and should be very exciting to watch.

SOUTH

Conference USA's Memphis heads the South Region, but winning it will not come easy. No. 2 Texas is playing very well right now, and the Longhorns will get to play their Sweet 16 and Elite 8 games in Houston. No. 4 Pittsburgh is also playing well, as it won the Big East Tournament last week. Third-seeded Stanford has a strong low-post game, and is very battled-tested, as it played in the PAC-10, which was the best conference in basketball this year. Another team that could make a run in this region is No. 5 Michigan State. The Spartans have been great at time this year, but very inconsistent. If MSU coach Tom Izzo can figure out how to make them play well, the Spartans are capable of beating anybody.

WEST

This region sets up perfect for UCLA...on paper. The Bruins, along with UNC, are one of the top-2 teams in the nation and UCLA gets to play to its first two games in Anaheim. Real trouble for UCLA might not present itself until after the first two rounds. The X-Factor in this region is the coaches. The top four seeds (UCLA, Duke, Xavier, Uconn) are all extremely well coached and any of those four teams could win the West Region. Coach K (Duke) and Jim Calhoun (Uconn) have the experience edge over Ben Howland (UCLA), so don't think that the Bruins will easily breeze through this region, even though they are clearly the best team.



JARED JACKSON
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

EAST

This region is by far the most difficult on paper. The overall No.1 seed North Carolina could be tested in the second round by either Arkansas or Indiana but will defiantly have the upper hand by never leaving the state of NC until if they reach the Final Four. The other top seeds in No.2 Tennessee and No.3 Louisville are both very capable of winning the region. The Cardinals are the better pick however as Tennessee has been pushed to the edge over the last couple of weeks and may have peaked too soon. As for upsets, I like No.11 St. Joseph's to get to the second round before being defeated by Louisville. But my major upset in this bracket is Butler over Tennessee in the second round.

MIDWEST

This region is definitely the hardest to pick. While everyone is high on Kansas [myself included], the Jayhawks have been anything but consistent when it comes to the Big Dance since Bill Self arrived in 2003. Wisconsin also seems to be a team that is a tad bit over rated going into the Dance. Sure they won the Big-10 tournament but the Badgers lack a consistent offense. No. 2 Georgetown and No. 5 Clemson are both playing great basketball heading into the tournament and should prove to be a tough outing for anyone. My two sleepers in this region are No. 10 Davidson and No. 11 Kansas St. This region in my opinion will feature the most exciting matchups, especially the opening round games between Kansas St.- USC and Gonzaga -Davidson.

SOUTH

Conference USA member Memphis anchors the South Region and will have a punchers chance of making in to the Final Four in another region that features 4-5 teams realistically having the chance of making a run to San Antonio. The No.2 Texas Longhorns stick out the most in this region as they will be able to play their second weekend of games in Houston assuming they get by the first and second rounds. No. 3 seeded Stanford has a great low-post game and will be very tough to beat. The No.5 seed Michigan State Spartans usually make a run this time of year and this year seems to be no exception. Just add No. 4 Pittsburgh to the mix you have yourself one fine bracket that surely anyone will expect the unexpected to happen.

WEST

The West region is set up perfect for the UCLA Bruins. In fact, I would almost call them a lock to be in the Final Four if there ever was one in March. The only two teams that could possibly give UCLA any problems are No.2 Duke and No. 4 Uconn. I don't see Duke making it very far as they seem to be running off fumes going into the tournament and Uconn peaked a couple weeks ago. This region should be quite the cakewalk for the Bruins to get to the Final Four for the third straight season.



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Softball improves conference record



Photo by Jessi Braxton

Sophomore left-hander Charia Summer swings at a pitch at ECU's Softball field this past weekend.

ECU wins series with USM

SETH STRINGER
STAFF WRITER

With Brooke Swann on the mound, the ECU women's softball team took two of three this past weekend against conference foe Southern Miss, improving its overall record to 21-10 and conference mark to 4-2.

The Pirates entered weekend play on a mini-slump, being losers of four of their previous five games and coming off two heartbreaking losses to a ranked Georgia squad earlier in the week.

Undaunted by a staggering offense and depleted pitching rotation, ECU responded early in the series with a double-header sweep on Saturday. Brooke Swann came out the winner in both contests, allowing three earned runs in 10+ innings pitched, striking out nine batters and proving why she's ECU's workhorse on the mound.

At the plate, Cristen Aona proved to be an impossible out as she went 5-for-7 on the day, scorching the Golden Eagles pitching staff for six RBIs and providing the spark ECU's lineup needed for key wins against a tough Southern Miss team.

ECU began Saturday's first game in a pitcher's duel, but Charina Sumner's single in the fifth inning broke up the scoreless affair. Aona added an insurance run in the sixth with an RBI single up the middle to stretch the lead up two runs in the top of the seventh, Swann yielded a two-run double to Megan Hill of the Golden Eagles, drawing the game even. ECU responded with an RBI single from pinch hitter, Sissy Jimenez, to bring in the winning run and give Swann and the Pirates the hard fought victory, 3-2.

The Pirates continued their momentum at the plate in the second matchup of the double header. Highlighted by a bases loaded triple from catcher, Vanessa Moreno, ECU scored five runs in the first. Southern Miss fired back with five runs of its

own over the next four innings, chasing ECU Pitcher Britt Howell and tying the game at five apiece.

ECU responded in the fourth inning with a three-run homer from Aona, who would later double in two more runs in the fifth, and Swann came in and silenced the Golden Eagles lineup, allowing one run on four hits over 3 1/3, earning the 11-6 victory.

ECU's offense erupted for 13 hits, breaking out of their offensive slump and providing the run support Swann has been looking for all year.

"When you look at this roster, we have 22 home runs that are scattered throughout several players," ECU coach Tracey Kee said. "I think that shows that we have the pop in this lineup. We're not sitting there waiting for that one big swing, because we know we can get it from any one of our players, 1-9, but we need that production day in and day out."

Looking for the sweep, Sunday's rubber match featured Swann once again on the mound, but did not yield the same results. Coming off 10+

innings pitched the previous day, Swann did all she could to keep ECU afloat, taking the 1-0 lead into the fourth inning before surrendering four straight singles to set up a four-run outburst from the Golden Eagles. Southern Miss took the lead into the seventh inning, where they would tack on three more runs to extend the lead to six runs. With two outs in the bottom of the seventh and the game in Southern Miss's grips, ECU fought back. After a Jessica Johnson RBI single brought in the first run, Erin St. Ledger unloaded on a 1-0 fastball down the middle for a grand slam, her fourth home run of the year. ECU followed up the grand slam with two straight singles, but Stacey Andrews was stranded

at second base, leaving the Pirates just short of a miraculous comeback.

Despite Sunday's loss, coach Kee only had positive things to say about her ace pitcher.

"Brooke is having to carry our pitching load but has done an unbelievable job for the season," said Kee. "What got us Saturday was when we had to bring her in early in game two. We wanted to give our team the best opportunity to win the series and that meant bringing her in early without rest. We knew it would affect her for the third game but we were out of options."

Swann went 2-1 on the weekend, stretching her record to 12-8 for the season. With Toni Paisley sidelined, Swann has seen her workload improve,

notching 18 of the Pirate's 31 starts. In comparison, Freshman Britt Howell has only started seven games as the team's only other option on the mound.

St. Ledger and Aona provided the bulk of ECU's run support this weekend as the pair combined to go 11-20 from the plate, scoring six runs and collecting 11 RBIs.

ECU looks to continue its success on the West coast, as it travels to Palo Alto, Calif. for the Stanford Invitational II, hosted by Stanford. The Pirates will face a tough schedule as the team plays BYU, Princeton, Wisconsin and a Stanford squad ranked seventh in the nation.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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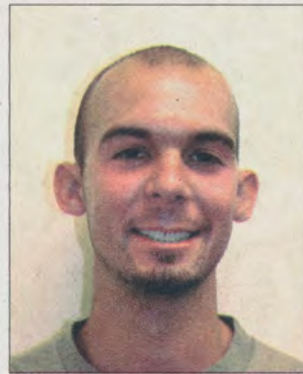
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BASEBALL continued from B1

stepping up at different times. Dustin Harrington and Trent Whitehead stepped up last night and had big games for us. It's just a team effort. We're finally clicking."

Henderson's hitting display was good enough to be tops of the tournament; the Alpharetta, Ga. native led the entire field with a batting average of .556 and 10 total bases.

Overall, Georgia Southern made a good showing in the tournament with wins over Michigan and Pitt. Michigan finished with a 2-1 record and Pitt failed to earn a victory.

Following the tournament title, ECU swept Rhode Island, while recording midweek victories over VCU, Quinnipiac and Elon.

The Pirates got some revenge on Elon, which beat ECU in Burlington, N.C. earlier this season, Tuesday night by pounding the Phoenix, 18-3.

ECU's designated hitter, Kyle Roller, smashed two home runs, including his first-career grand slam in the victory. He also tied a career-high with six RBIs, while four others each recorded multiple RBIs.

The game was close until

the Pirates broke things open in the bottom of the sixth.

With the bases loaded and one out in the sixth, Brandon Henderson singled with the bases loaded, followed by Roller's grand slam, which put ECU up 8-2.

The Pirates added 10 more runs in the seventh, putting the game well out of reach.

ECU will try and continue its winning streak, and offensive outburst, this week against Houston in its first conference series of the season.

"It's our second season now, and that's when it really starts," Godwin told The Daily Reflector after the Elon win. "I challenged them to refocus themselves when things are going good, and let's dig a little deeper and get a little better."

ECU swept Houston at Houston last year.

This year's series will begin Friday at 7 p.m. at Clark-LeClair Stadium. Saturday's game is scheduled for 3 p.m., and the two teams will play at 11 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

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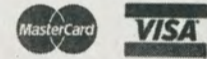
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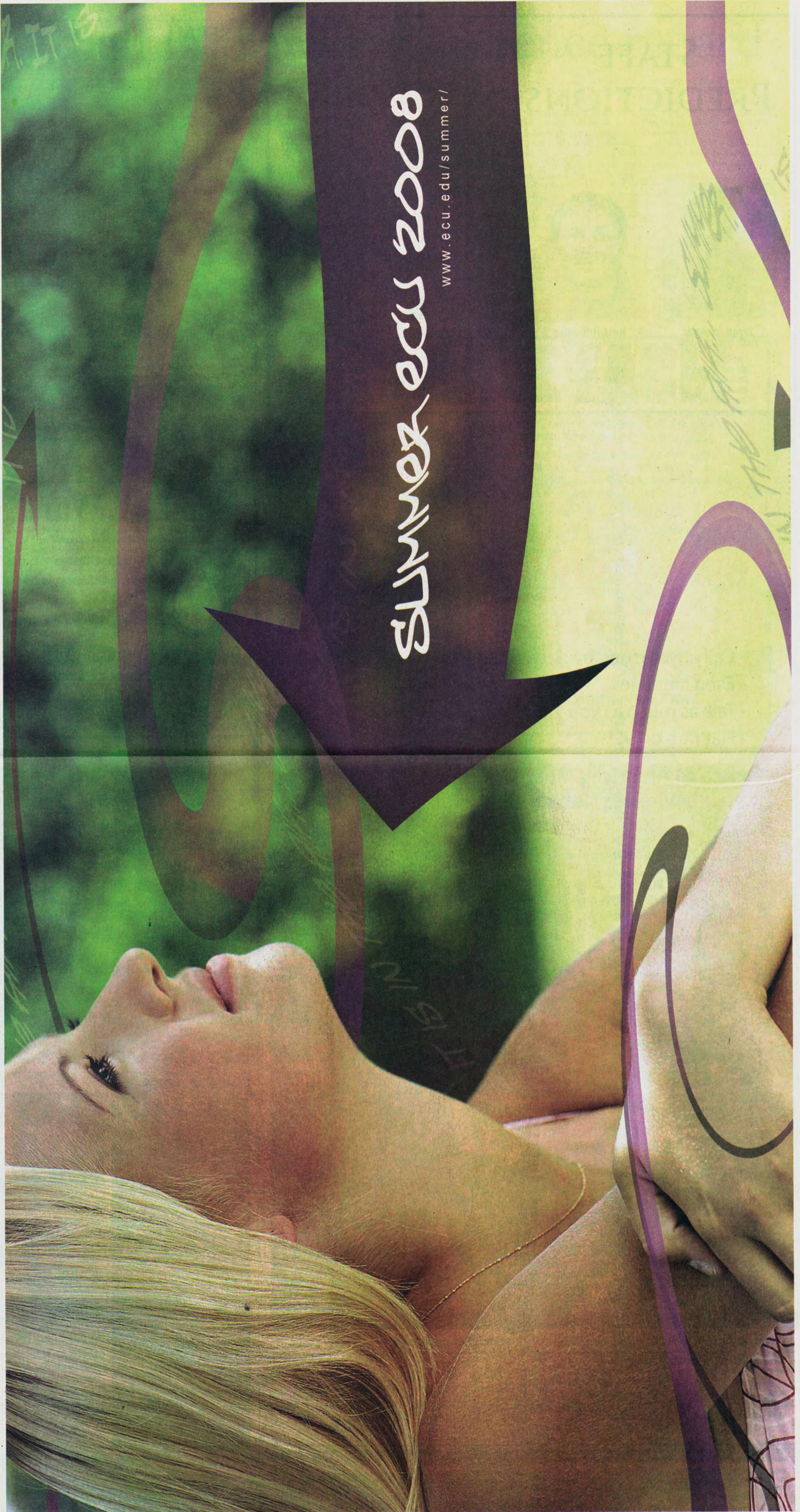
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