



Program brings issues about drugs to the forefront

National Pan-Hellenic Council
sponsors educational event

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR



Corey Kemp hit a clutch two-run home run in the eighth inning against archrival NC State Tuesday night. Turn to the sports section to see if it was enough for the Pirates to win.....B1

Students got the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of individuals suffering from drug addictions through a documentary called "Crack Heads Gone Wild."

Crack Heads Gone Wild was also the title of the program in which the documentary was shown. The program allowed the audience to view the movie and then engage in a panel discussion with representatives from the ECU Police Department and Student Health Services.

The event began at 6 p.m. with a welcome from Sheree Hawthorne, president of National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).

The event was sponsored by NPHC, which includes eight of the nine historically African American Greek organizations. ECU doesn't have a chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

Shawntee McMillan of Student Health Services followed Hawthorne by giving statistics about the introduction and evolution of cocaine and averages of cocaine usage among college students.

About 8 percent of college students have tried cocaine, according to statistics from 2005-2006 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site.

A large amount of Americans have experimented with cocaine. According to the Web site, 35.3 million Americans age 12 and older have used cocaine at least once in their lives.

McMillan also shared a personal story about her father's struggle with drugs and the effect it had on his life.

The documentary connected viewers with the reality of drug usage by showing people smoking cocaine, and talking about how the addiction has affected their lives.

The people featured in the movie told stories about how they lost material possessions as well as friends and family during their battle with the addiction to cocaine.

Unfortunately, some of the users also admitted that they live from day to day thinking of ways to get money for more drugs and don't plan to quit smoking. Some even seemed proud that they smoked cocaine.

The documentary also showed the inside of a "crack" house to illustrate where some of the users lived.

The house shown had rooms covered in filth and trash, no furniture, and didn't have clean bathrooms.

In fact, the movie showed defecation on the walls of one of the rooms.

The idea for the event came about by members of NPHC as a way to represent the truth about the consequences of using drugs.

"I truly believe that the seriousness of drug addiction has been masked by comedy and humor which gives all of us a false sense of understanding," said Eric Anthony, secretary/chaplain of NPHC.

"This programs intention was to educate our student population here on ECU's campus about the seriousness and dangers of substance abuse."

Members of NPHC think that the program opened up people's eyes to the need of helping those that face these kinds of problems.

"I honestly think this movie made people see the bigger picture of how we need to reach out and help people with these problems," Anthony said.

"The only way to alleviate this situation is to reach out and help the people in your community."

No other programs such as this one have been confirmed but there are discussions about bringing more pressing issues such as this one to the light.

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

Research and creativity expressed during a full week of presentations

All disciplines
welcomed to present

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

The 2nd Annual Research and Creative Achievement Week began March 31 and will continue until April 4.

The Division of Research and Graduate Studies, the Doctoral Student Association of Brody School of Medicine and societies, including Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi, sponsored the program in a multi-collaborative effort.

Ronald Newton, associate dean of the graduate school, noted how Brody's own research events were the "genesis" of Research and Creative Achievement Week.

"We invited all departments including the fine arts," Newton said.

"This year we had presentations of both sculpture and music, as well as more engineer and social sciences than the year before."

In total, Newton estimated that they had over 225 participants and over 110 judges.

"This is only the second year of our research week and we had 150 poster presentations as well as 75 oral presentations. It is simply astonishing," said Deirdre Mageean, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies.

Mageean recognized the faculty judges who took the time in evaluating the presentations throughout the week.

Among the judges was the chair of the engineering depart-

ment, Paul Kauffmann.

"We look to see what students have learned and if they can convey it, what exactly did they do and the creativity involved," Kauffmann said.

"Some of these are capstone projects which really allow students to demonstrate their experience in engineering."

Capstone projects encompass looking at "real problems" and working with "real clients," giving students the opportunity to interact with the clients'

employees and gain valuable hands-on experience for their intended major.

The various topics presented ranged from "Exploring the Meaning of being a Teen Mom in High School," to chemistry-based "Quantitative Analysis of Metal Deposition During Electrospray Ionization."

Regardless of the department the students represented or their project title, each presenter took the time to introduce their research and answer each ques-

tion in depth, explaining their methodology and results.

Chancellor Ballard expressed positive words at a luncheon on Wednesday, highlighting the achievements of various faculty and their research on campus.

"We are on the road to really building a researching university," he said.

Ballard praised the contributions and great things coming out of every college on campus.

"We are looking at a rewarding and bright future

as we move forward," Ballard said.

Awards for the presentations will be announced and handed out during a luncheon in the great rooms on Friday, April 4.

Winners will include categories stemming from the biomedical sciences to performing and fine arts.

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

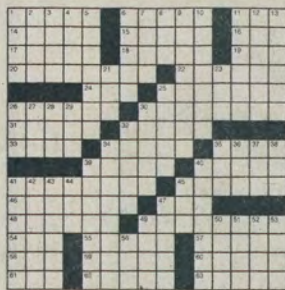


The youthful ECU secondary ranked 114th in the nation in pass defense in 2007. See how the more experienced group is improving this Spring.B1



The Gospel Choir will put on their annual anniversary concert on Sunday, celebrating their 30th year of bringing gospel flavor to ECU.....A7

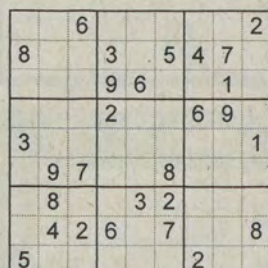
Crossword



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Students have the opportunity to present their research throughout the week at the Research and Creativity Achievement Week in Mendenhall.

Annual Youth Arts Festival comes to campus



Children in the Greenville
community exposed to art

NANCY CROES
STAFF WRITER

ECU will host its 4th Annual Youth Arts Festival on Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will take place on the mall of ECU's campus.

Over 100 artists will be present at the festival to share their artistic work with children in the Greenville community.

The festival will also feature special musical and dance performances throughout the day. Children will have the opportunity to make their own artwork, assisted by the visiting artists and student volunteers.

Artists will be demonstrating the process of work of different art forms, such as working with metals, weaving, creating pottery and many other activities.

Many faculty members in the arts department are participating in the event, as well as several graduate and undergraduate art students. Some artists will be coming in from out of town.

see ARTS page A4

PIRATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BSOM Department of Medical Humanities perspectives lecture
Thursday, April 3
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Brody School of Medicine, 2S-04
"Biomedical Enhancement and Human Development" will be presented by Allen Buchanan, professor of philosophy and public policy, Duke University.

Political illustration exhibit panel/talk
Thursday, April 3
6:30 p.m.
Hendrix Theatre
The panel discussion will address the importance of image and politics, and the relationship between editors and artists, and the challenge of creating work for a political forum.

Career Exploration for Grad School
Thursday, April 3
4-5 p.m.
Bate 1011
Brian Newton from the Career Center will share information on interviewing, internships, resume writing and many other important topics students need to know when preparing for graduate or professional school.

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.

Artist talk
Friday, April 4
1 p.m.
Speight Auditorium
Coe, an activist, painter, author and comic book illustrator whose work has been exhibited at New York's Museum of Modern Art will give an artist talk.

Youth Arts Festival
Saturday, April 5
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Campus mall area
The festival will bring to ECU more than 100 visual and performing artists who will share their creative talents with the children of our community. Varied and talented musical, dance and theatrical groups will also be featured at the festival.

Whichard lecture set
Monday, April 7
7:30 p.m.
Room C-209, Science and Technology Building
Maria Socorro Tabuenca Córdoba, a professor of Romance languages and one of two Whichard chairs, will present "Ghost Dance in Ciudad Juarez: Women's Murders Representations."

Newscaster lecture
Tuesday, April 8
2 p.m.
Hendrix Theatre
CBS National Correspondent Byron Pitts will present "Leading the Way to Social Justice: The High Cost of Failure" for the annual Carolyn Freeze Baynes lecture. Byron Pitts, a former Greenville newscaster, believes the U.S. is experiencing a crisis in leadership. He will discuss leadership in the context of social justice and challenges set before American leaders today. Sponsored by: Carolyn Freeze Baynes Institute for Social Justice in the College of Human Ecology and the Division of Student Life, East Carolina University

Professor holds Tibet 'Teach-in'
Wednesday, April 9
7 p.m.
Science and Technology Building, Room C-209
ECU's Religious Studies department is presenting "Tibet Teach-In: What Happened and Why?" Derek Maher, co-director of ECU's Religious Studies program will discuss the recent violence in Tibet, the Dalai Lama, human rights in China, and the Olympics in Beijing.

3Thu

Career Exploration for Grad School
4-5 p.m.
Bate 1011

BSOM Department of Medical Humanities perspectives lecture
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Brody School of Medicine, 2S-04

Political illustration exhibit panel/talk
6:30 p.m.
Hendrix Theatre

4Fri

Engineering and Technology Day
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Science and Technology Building

Faculty Recital:
Keiko Sekino-piano
Melissa Reardon-violon
7-9 p.m.
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall

Artist talk
1 p.m.
Speight Auditorium

Men's Tennis
South Carolina State
3 p.m.

5Sat

Youth Arts Festival
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Campus mall area

Distinguished Professor: David Starobin
8-10 p.m.
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall

Women's Tennis
Barton
2 p.m.

Softball
Marshall
3 p.m.

6Sun

Men's Tennis
Davidson
Noon

Softball
Marshall
Noon

7Mon

Whichard lecture set
7:30 p.m.
Room C-209, Science and Technology Building

8Tue

Newscaster lecture
2 p.m.
Hendrix Theatre

Baseball
Old Dominion
6 p.m.

9Wed

Professor holds Tibet 'Teach-in'
7 p.m.
Science and Technology Building, Room C-209

Softball
UNC-Wilmington
6 p.m.

FEATURED EVENT:



Engineering and Technology Day
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Science and Technology Building

Pump prices

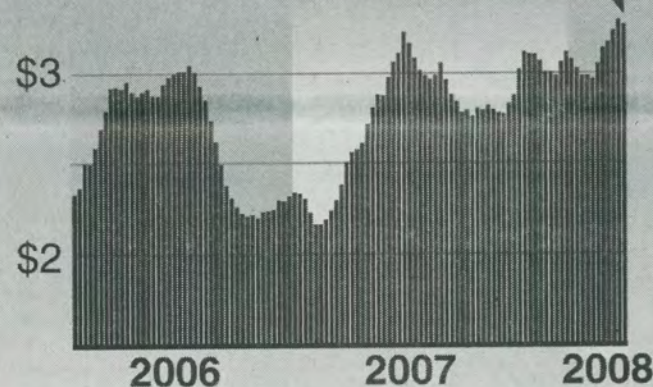
U.S. weekly average retail price for one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline:

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(Self Help Building- Suite 205A, 301 Evans St. Greenville, NC)

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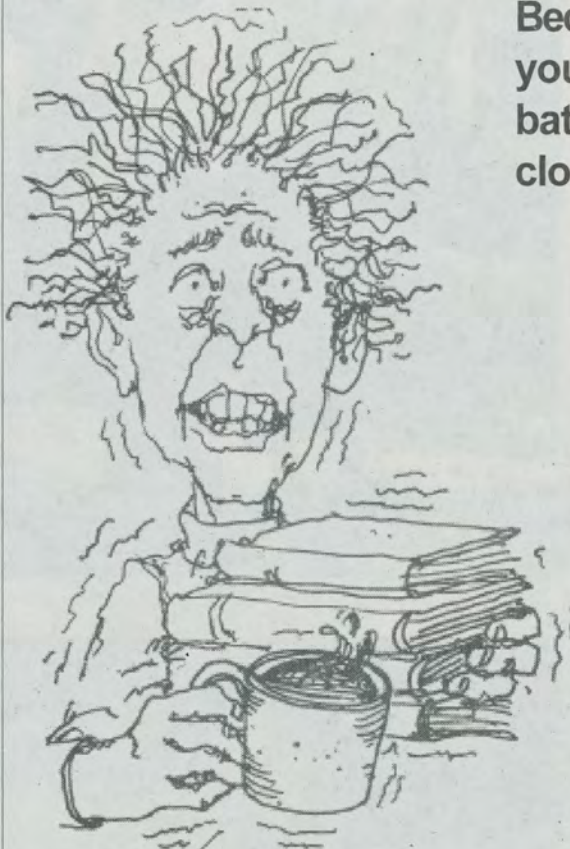
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Black Student Union welcomes new leadership

President of two years
departs

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR

A new executive branch was sworn into the Black Student Union at their meeting on Wednesday, April 2.

New officers were sworn into all of the executive positions including parliamentarian, historian, treasurer, secretary, vice president and president.

Although BSU has the opportunity to spark new programs, ideas and events, the members were still reluctant to say goodbye to their current administration.

One of the hardest farewells was to Patrick Dixon, the president of BSU for the past two years.

Dixon played a vital role in helping the group build committees, initiate programs and increase membership.

The dance team and community outreach were the only committees that BSU had when Dixon assumed leadership in 2006.

Now, BSU has 10 active committees and a membership that has peaked at around 250, according to Dixon.

As the organization reflected the past few years, Dixon shared a goodbye speech with the members.

"It's very difficult to put into words my thoughts about the organization and what we've done," Dixon said.

"I am profoundly grateful to all of you for allowing me to lead you and serve you over these last two wonderful years."

When Dixon concluded his speech, he swore in the new parliamentarian, Brent Richards, who then swore in the rest of the officers.

All of the new officers shared their aspirations of what they would like to see BSU accomplish in the upcoming years.

"My vision for BSU next year is to create a strong leadership base that impacts not only our campus but impacts future lives," said Kyndall' Peele, vice president of BSU.

"I also really want to create an extended family of the community and North Carolina."

Other officers talked about building a strong foundation so that the organization will be recognized by others.

"As the reelected historian, I plan on using media publications to expand our organization by acknowledg-

ing and appreciating it for our current members so that the ECU campus can cherish the BSU legacy for a lifetime," said Generra Cornwell, historian of BSU.

One of the biggest responsibilities for the organization rests on the new president, Allen Thomas.

Thomas shared how he plans to lead the organization and strengthen it in numbers and achievements.

"My job is to make sure you all have all the essential needs to make sure you can be the best person you can be," Thomas said.

"My vision for the next year is to educate the campus on the true mission of BSU which is to empower and unify all students in our community."

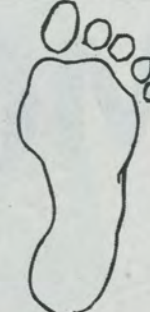
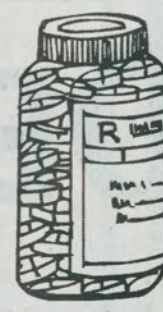
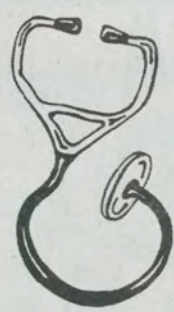
Thomas admitted that he had some big shoes to fill. Dixon not only served as president but was also honored by NAACP, 100 Black Men of America top 100 collegiate leaders and became a member of National Association of Black Student Leaders.

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



Photo by Natassia Negron

Generra Cornwell, historian of BSU, shared her vision for the future of BSU after being sworn in.



Specialized Medicine Showcase

Meet with representatives & obtain resources from professional schools representing these medical careers:

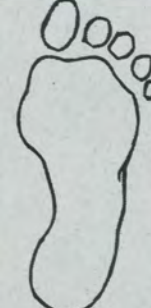
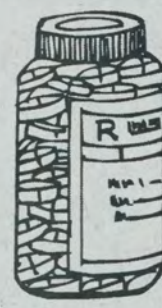
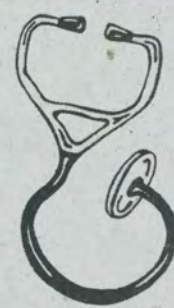
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ARTS continued from A1

Returning to perform this year are the African American Dancers from Durham, NC, who will be performing at 1 p.m.

"We had them [perform] last year, and they were so good, we decided to have them again this year," said Dindy Reich, drawing and design instructor at ECU and coordinator of the festival.

Other performers include ECU Indian dance group Muqabia, the ECU Percussion Ensemble, a mariachi band, and storytellers Mike Hammer and Louise.

Campus Recreation and Wellness will also be participating, and will have parachute games for the kids.

As part of the festival, there is a yearly poster contest, sponsored by Kinko's.

Also of interest, a sculpture group will be creating a giant sculpture on the mall during the festival. Onlookers will be able to view the entire process from start to finish.

The music department of ECU will perform two percussion acts, and will be hosting an instrument petting zoo, where kids will get to play with different instruments.

The festival has been growing larger every year. The first year about 500 kids attended, compared to about 1,500 last year.

The focus of the festival is edu-

cational, according to Reich. The participating artists donate their time and, in some cases, materials for kids to use at the festival.

"It's like a giant service project for the school of art and design," Reich said.

Reich, who has been coordinating the festival from the first year, also teaches a community arts management class every spring, in which students get hands-on experience planning this event. This is one way students can be involved in the festival.

Another way they can help is by volunteering on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to assist in many different ways, including

helping artists attend to the kids' activities.

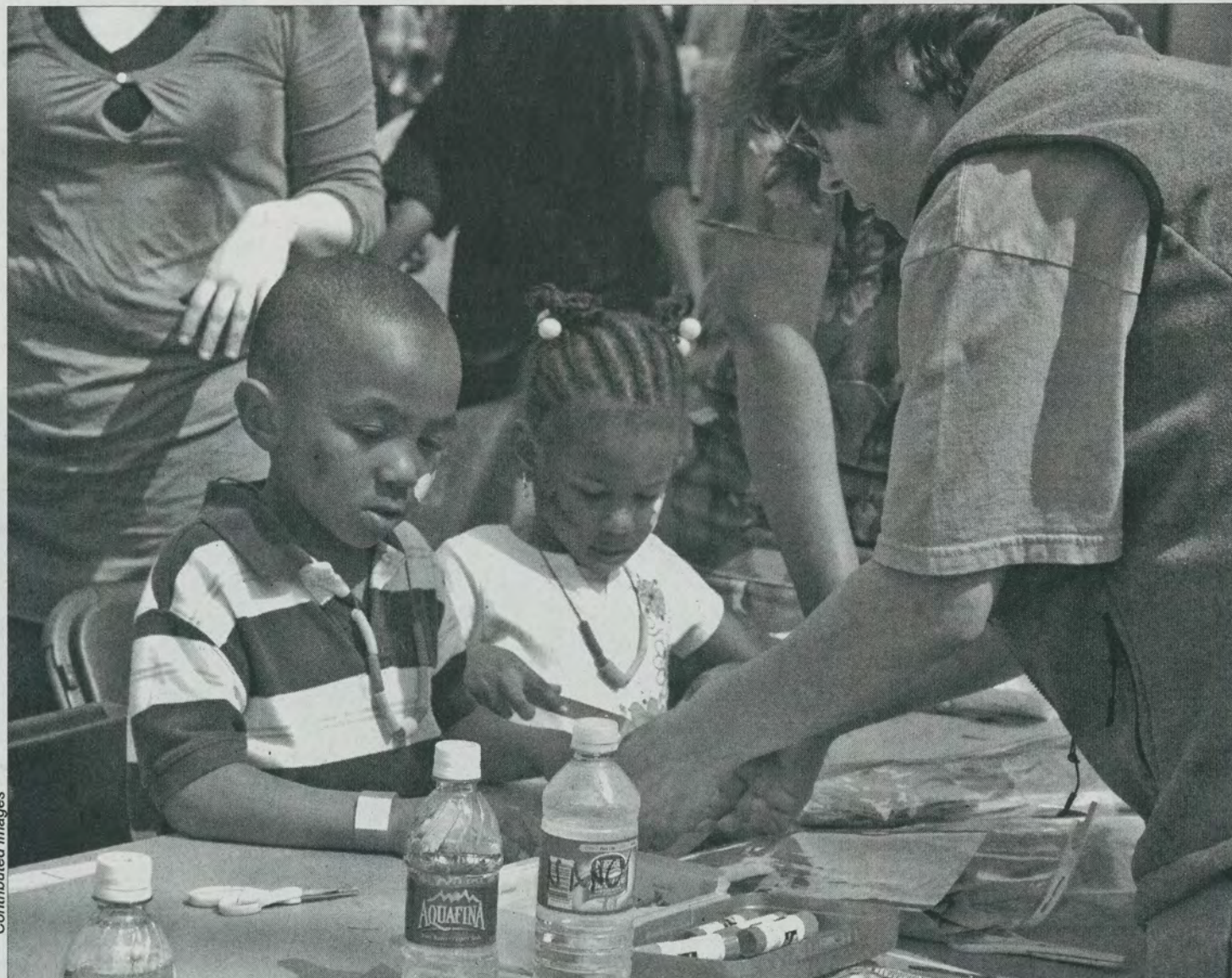
There is still time for students to sign up to volunteer by contacting Reich.

Co-sponsored by the ECU School of Art and Design and Emerge Gallery, the event has also received generous grants from the North Carolina Arts Council, the ECU Arts Enthusiasts and Pepsi.

In case of rain, the event will be held in the Leo W. Jenkins Fine Arts Building on Fifth Street.

All the events are free and open to the public.

This writer can be contacted at editor@theeastcarolinian.com



During the Fourth Annual Youth Arts Festival, artists will give lessons to local children on constructing metal works, weavings and creating pottery, along with a variety of other educational activities.



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Two local high school students awarded scholarships at Krimson and Kreme Ball

Delta Sigma Theta and Kappa Alpha Psi collaborate on annual event

CHAUNTE' RUCKER
STAFF WRITER

It was a night of awards, dancing and inspiration at the annual Krimson and Kreme Scholarship Ball held on Saturday, March 29.

The Kappa Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Eta Psi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. hosted the event at the Murphy Center.

Community residents and college students attended to see the recipients of the scholarship awards and listen to an

inspirational address given by Valerie Gatlin of Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Gatlin, member of Delta Sigma Theta, was invited by members of the sorority to speak of the transition from high school and the importance of a higher education over a light meal.

The scholarships given were in honor of Francis Mebane of Kappa Alpha Psi and Jay Jordan Rock, a former member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Mebane is a brother of the fraternity, who the members felt was most instrumental in chartering the Eta Psi chapter on ECU's campus.

Delta Sigma Theta first dedicated the scholarship in 2005 as a memorial to Rock, a member committed to service that passed in 2004.

Both scholarships are open to qualified Pitt County High School seniors. The scholarship was first implemented in the mid-90s.

One male and female student are chosen to receive a monetary award of at least \$500.

"This is the third one [scholarship ball] we have had, but the first time we have given a \$1,000 scholarship instead of \$500," said Kimberly Weston of Delta Sigma Theta.

"That says a lot about our committee, because we worked very hard to make the scholarship a success."

The award was increased to encourage high school students to apply.

Twenty-four aspirants completed an application of which included an essay section.

A few students were selected for an interview based on their history of community service, extracurricular activities and future goals.

Delta Sigma Theta chose Erika Streeter of North Pitt High School. Nicholas Adams of Farmville Central High School was selected by Kappa Alpha Psi.

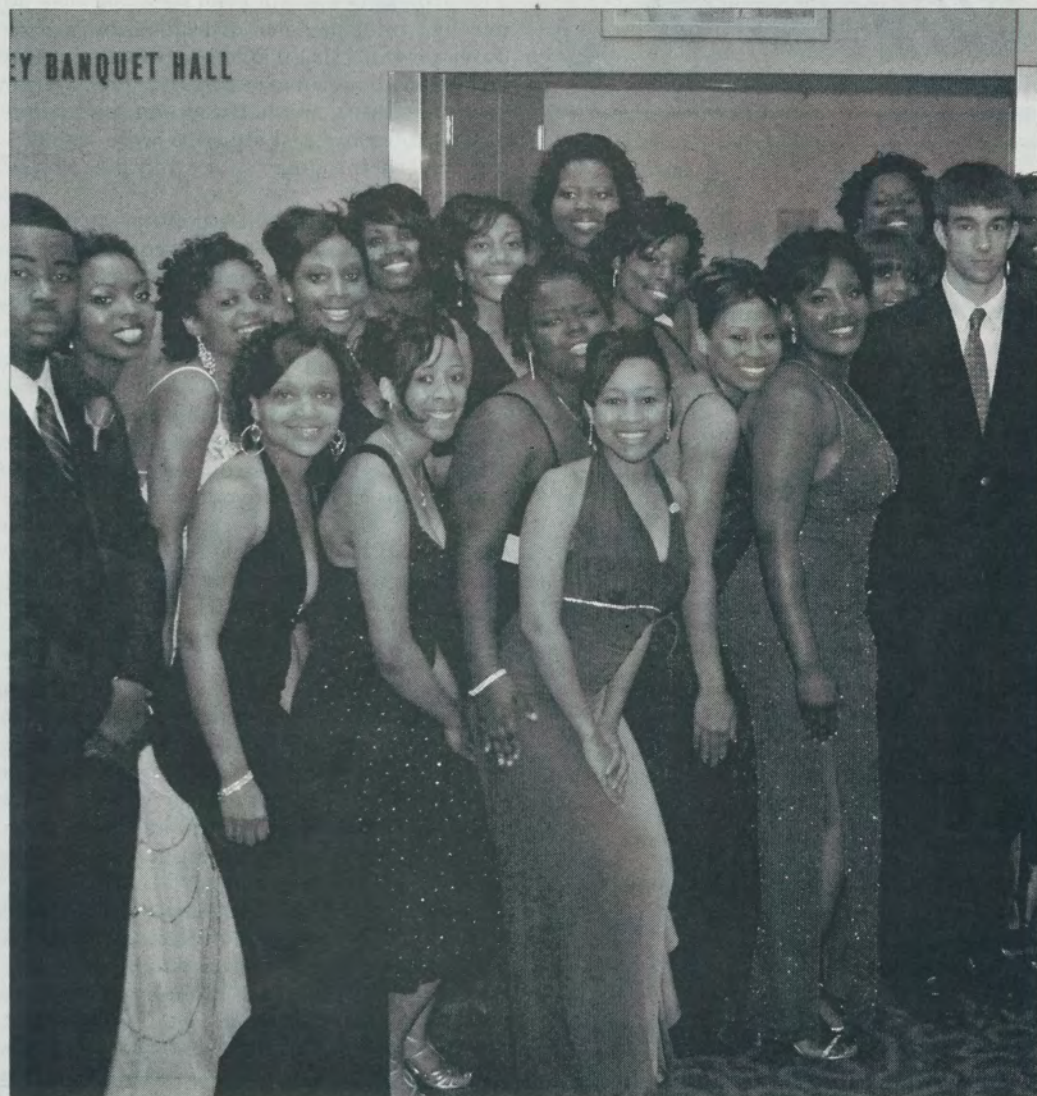
"It really shows a high aspect of service for Delta Sigma Theta, since we believe in giving back to the community," said Ashley Buchanan, senior communication major.

"We are definitely looking for more to come." Sponsors for the event included NOACIN, Inc., ReStart, Inc. and the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

The host organizations began planning and raising additional funds through fundraisers on and off campus during the summer of 2007.

"We would like to thank all those who supported and contributed to the Krimson and Kreme Scholarship Ball," said Kentrell Pittman, senior health service management major.

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



Photos by Robyn McLawhorn



East Carolina University

Tomorrow starts here.

Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series

THOMAS HARRIOT LECTURE



Dr. Mark Nicholls

St. John's College, University of Cambridge

"Sir Walter Raleigh and the Elizabethan World of Thomas Harriot"

Thursday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.
OC-307 Science and Technology Building

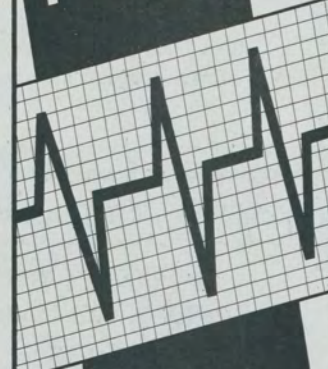
Celebrating the spirit of exploration and discovery in the arts and sciences

The public is invited to attend this free lecture.

For more information, contact Voyages of Discovery by e-mailing tuckerjo@ecu.edu, or call 252-328-1028. Also see www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/harriot/voyageslectures/.

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Opinion

{Your procrastination destination}

It's only a pile of plastic!

How it's harmful to you and the environment

LISA ENSMINGER
OPINION WRITER

We live in a land of trash mostly made up of plastic that is slowly but surely becoming harmful to our environment. One hundred million tons of plastic are produced in the world each year, and the number is rising. It's not just plastic bags from grocery stores that are causing problems, but also every other item made of plastic: bottles, packaging, dinnerware, CDs, toys, household items ... the list goes on and on. Almost everything we use today is composed of plastic. So, why would this be such a problem? Plastic is a non-biodegradable product. In simpler terms, it takes hundreds or even millions of years for many plastic products to degrade.

One of the main concerns with plastic is the problem in the ocean systems. As we speak, there are trash patches almost three times the size of Texas spread across the world's oceans. A major pile of trash was only recently discovered right in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. How is this normal, and how can this be safe for our environment? This is disgusting, yet kind of scary if you think about it.

So, how did this trash pile come about in the middle of the ocean? Litter that is left on the coastlines, especially in California, is swept out into the ocean by currents. The trash then gets dropped into the middle of the ocean due to the way the winds move the currents. Not only is there trash left on the earth by the human population, but spills from ships' cargo and oil platforms also contribute to this major problem. It's the earth's natural phenomena that place the trash piles, but it's the human pollution and carelessness that creates this unnatural pile of garbage.

Some might ask again why this would cause any problems. As mentioned before, plastic takes forever to degrade; that leaves plastic floating in the ocean, harming the surrounding environment. Plastic increases the levels of toxin intake in the surrounding water. Sea life and birds mistake particles of plastic for food and then ingest harmful chemicals that will not digest, leaving them to die due to lack of nutrients and ingestion of unnatural products. This disturbs the natural food web and impacts human health. Not only is plastic causing litter in the earth's environment, it also contains hormone disruptors that can affect human health just by using these products.

So, bottom line, plastic is causing many problems in the earth's systems and surrounding population. The only solution to this ongoing problem is for companies to stop producing as many plastic products, and for us to change our consumption habits. Not only are you harming yourself by drinking out of plastic water bottles every day, but you are also harming the environment around you when you throw them away. Next time you consider getting a pop out of the vending machine, discard it properly by recycling, or start buying glass bottles rather than plastic. Every little bit counts in making the earth a better place.

Sources from this article include

This writer can be contacted at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

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Sit still, 18-Wheeler, sit still

In support of striking truckers

J.D. LEWIS
OPINION EDITOR

This week, independent truck drivers from across the nation are striking, or threatening to strike in protest of rising fuel prices, and I don't blame them one bit. It takes the average Joe \$30-\$40 dollars to fill up a car with gas; it now costs a trucker \$1,000 or more to fill up his truck with diesel. This rape at the gas pump has got to stop, and if the striking truckers can hit the oil executives in their wallets, then I say amen, brothers.

Oil company presidents and CEO's sat before Congress Tuesday, bemoaning the possibility of losing billions of dollars in tax breaks in the face of record profits. They claimed that record profits were allowing them to invest in cheaper, cleaner energy sources. B.S. Now tell us the one about the Three Bears. What have they to show after nearly four years of what amounts to nothing more than petty theft?

The striking truckers may not make a bit of difference in the long run, but at least they have the cajones to try. How can we not stand with them?

This writer can be reached at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com



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.

Must you and your boyfriend study (cram) out loud, minutes before an exam? If you don't have it by then, you're not going to get it.

Would the chatterboxes in comparative government kindly shut up as soon as the professor starts talking and not 10 minutes into class?

Dear ECU, registering for classes is a hazard to my health. It makes my blood pressure go through the roof because NONE OF MY CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE!!!! May I suggest that you FIX IT SO I CAN?!!?! Thanks!

Is anyone else freaked out by the massive man walking around the library just staring at everyone? The library should use high security during the day and not just at night after 11.

I'm so sorry to walk into the computer lab open to all students while your class was in there. You did not have to be so crabby.

I spend my free time thinking up witty Pirate Rants.

Chelsea Clinton is a jerk.

Hillary Clinton is a big dope.

Chocolate chip Pop-Tarts are going to make me fat. And that's okay.

I am jealous of the kids in Umstead.

I think it's funny when people eat a big greasy meal at Destination 360 right after they went to the gym.

I had a skateboard once ... when I was in MIDDLE SCHOOL!

FYI: Cigarettes cause lung cancer.

To the boy with the Buddy Holly glasses: I love you.

I wish people would look and listen to the person and not their race, sex, sexual orientation, political opinions, clothing, age, etc.

My roommate has an STD in her mouth and hasn't told her boyfriend yet ... who she continues to kiss!!!

I love Harry Potter. Sometimes so much I think I want to be Hermione.

I used to think skateboarding was cool and then I turned 10.

"Misremembering" isn't even a word ... although if it was it would mean a lie!

Some people would prefer to watch "LOST" rather than a basketball game!

Iran recently apprehended 14 squirrels on charges of espionage. I knew those furry rats were up to something.

If God wanted us to vote republican, He wouldn't have given us brains.

If God wanted us to vote democratic, He wouldn't have given us brains.

If my future is dependent upon my successfully completing geography, then I think I'll just go live under a rock.

Flipping burgers for a living is starting to look good.

NCSU couldn't pay me a million dollars to attend their school.

To the guys that were throwing each other in the bushes between the library and MSC the other night: We're in college, grow up, but thanks for the laugh!

I would like to thank the AIMO executive board for not putting anyone else's name in the fashion show program but their own. I mean, after all, the regular members who worked with the boutiques just did all the work. How messed up is that?!

I love Nutritionopolis night! Bring it back!

At least with frat houses you can usually count on them passing out eventually. My neighbors ... not so much.

Athletic women are so hot.

I wish I had a pet goat.

You think because you have blonde hair and a fake tan that you're the hottest thing to ever have stepped foot on campus. Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but you look JUST like every other girl at ECU.

Thanks for burning your popcorn and making the fire alarm go off at 3 a.m. Really, we all appreciated it.

I am a beautiful person inside and out because God made me, so no, I will not be going to the gym or starving myself to fit into your 100-pound image of beauty.

I have a problem with low self-esteem, which is really ridiculous when you consider how awesome I am.

I went to a truck stop restaurant with no name, just a big sign on the roof that said FOOD. It wasn't too bad. I had the daily special, MEAT.

Is anyone else aware that there is a

fourth floor in the library?

A clear conscience is just a sign of a bad memory.

Why are there always alumni whining about how they miss Pirate Rants? Okay, they are cool, but get a life.

Just because I don't have sex doesn't mean I don't want to. I do. I just don't think my virginity should be given away to someone who won't remember my name in the morning, let alone care how he treats me in the process.

I like to roofie peoples beer downtown with beef bouillon cubes and then watch their face in disgust due to the aftertaste ... I think I'll try the fish flavor next week.

I love my job. Is that weird?

I wish I would be taken more seriously as a professional. Maybe it's time to retire the cape, and the clown hat, and the feather boa, and ...

If there is a student organization supporting Barack Obama, where is the one supporting John McCain? Am I the only conservative at ECU?

Taking five diet pills a day is NOT considered being on a diet.

Just because we had a class together doesn't mean I am your friend, so stop adding me on Facebook.

Have you ever been alone in a crowded room?

Why would anyone want to be physics major?

Walking to class is one of ECU's greatest simple pleasures.

Is it sad that my ovaries got happy when I walked into Babies R Us??

If Stratford Arms is an official stop on the bus route, why do I have to pull the line for you to stop?!

My friends who drink A LOT are doing better in school than me ... I think I'm going at this all wrong!!!

I now have a nephew named Clyde!

We are in the library. Can you read silently, or did you miss that part of first grade?

Congrats to the ECU Women's Rugby team for an undefeated season and the 2008 South Championship! Good luck in the Elite 8 in New Mexico!

If you get paid to do a job, do it well!

A loud buzzing noise

A story from Bate Building

JESSICA DUNLOW
OPINION WRITER

So, it was an average Tuesday, walking to class in the sunlight, wearing a cute outfit, etc. I get to class in Bate about 10 minutes early as usual, and begin to chat with the people sitting around me. Suddenly, a loud buzzing noise filled the hallways.

Now, most of us had not heard this particular noise since high school, so we just looked around at each other, dazed as to what it was and at what we were supposed to do. The professor was not even sure, because no one had informed her of evacuation procedures for this "fire" alarm! As we all laughed and joked about some idiot pulling the alarm, she looked into the hallway and found that other professors and students were wandering toward the door, so we too meandered that way.

It is appalling to think that the university has not prepared us for the proper ways to evacuate classroom buildings. I mean, I suppose the administration assumes that, since we are all adults, we should know what to do and where to go. This is not necessarily true. We do seem to know how to get out of the residence halls with ease when the alarm goes off, which happens frequently. We take the stairs as quickly as possible and try not to push anyone over during our descent ... although there are exceptions to this assumption. For instance, does anyone remember the girl from the Clement fire that was just not informed of what the loud noise meant? Scary.

Anyway, it surprised me how unsafe I began to feel after all of the students in 9:30 classes in Bate were standing outside just continuing to joke about canceled classes and an extra free hour, until the three fire trucks arrived (even the pretty purple and gold one!). One firefighter had an axe in hand, ready to destroy anything that got in the way of defeating a fire.

So, I propose that students be taught the appropriate escape plans for situations like this. I know we all hated the monotony of monthly drills in grade school, but perhaps something like this should be implemented. Students wandering aimlessly through the hallways can cause a major hazard if a fire actually occurs. I also know that this will take a small part of our classroom time out, but I feel it is important for our own knowledge and safety!

The story ends fine. The firefighters went up to the door and, after about 15 minutes, allowed us back into the building. We dutifully went back to our classes and proceeded to begin what was an average Tuesday ... until the alarm went off again. Now, for those of you who have not had to be evacuated from a classroom building, it's scarier than it sounds, because we were all standing so close to the building that if there had been an explosion, we would have all been consumed. Fires are more common than you would think, and we do have a fantastic fire department and police force keeping watch over us, but look deep down. Do you really feel safe? Do you know the quickest escape routes for your classroom buildings? How far do we stand from the building? How fast do we need to evacuate? Exactly.

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Making tough decisions

Are college students unprepared?

ANDREA ROBERTSON
OPINION WRITER

In high school, a good portion of us probably thought we knew what we wanted to do for the rest of our lives. However, upon entering college many of us discovered that we were entirely unprepared to make life-altering decisions.

No one ever made us seriously consider the amount of time it would take to discover one's ideal career choice or the amount of hard work it takes to obtain a degree and find a job.

Career choices have become extremely specialized, which causes a problem for a generation that appears to be too unprepared to make tough decisions about life.

Higher education begins for most at the age of 18 (you're an adult, but no one wants to treat you like one). More than likely, you're thrown into a different city largely populated by people you have never met before, and you're expected to decide almost instantly what you want to do with the rest of your life.

It's true that you don't declare your major during your first years of college, but it is ideal to pick a course of study. You're handed off to an undergraduate advisor, who coaches you into entering the major you hope is the right choice, just to discover you probably don't want to do what you initially thought.

The problem arises in the school system. Before college, you had very few choices. High school merely required a person to decide whether he wanted to pass or fail. Because we don't learn

to make difficult decisions before we are forced into the real world, we make hasty decisions that either lead to us changing our major or ending up in a career that we don't like.

In high school, due to the lack of specialized classes that could better direct us to the career choice best suited for us or to the lack of serious decision-making in our early to late teens, college students are slowly becoming "Van Wilders."

It's not uncommon to find a fifth or sixth-year senior, and most of the time the reason for being in college longer is because we haven't figured out what we want to do with our lives.

Choices are good, but we need to be more prepared to make them. Once in college, you no longer have someone directing you on the path that you should take, and we need to be more used to deciding things for ourselves. I feel there should be some amendments to the high school curriculum, or to the college requirement of picking your course of study so quickly.

Perhaps the ASVAB Career Exploration Test should be more than just an option; perhaps students should be required to take this test before graduating high school. Even though high school kids get tired of standardized testing, it could at least help our students gain more insight into what major they should aim for in college.

With so many different paths one's life can take just based on the choices made as a young adult, it would be beneficial to our youth if they were given more opportunities to learn of the future, and were allowed to make more choices for themselves before entering college.

This writer can be contacted at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Features

{Campus Scene}

Horoscopes

Aries
You're gaining confidence, but your success depends more upon faith. Be in the right place at the right time and participate in a miracle.

Taurus
Love is the magic that really makes the miracles happen. Friends are doing well, but they'll do better with your support.

Gemini
Stay out of an argument that doesn't specifically concern you. They'll end up friends, so it's not a good idea for you to take sides.

Cancer
A distant loved one can cheer you up when everything looks rotten. Make the call and let go of some of the stress you've been lugging around.

Leo
A review of your assets reveals a little more than expected. You can afford to get a special gift for somebody you love.

Virgo
Don't even bring up a difficult subject in a romantic conversation. You can discuss that another time. Further cement your bond first.

Libra
Offer your suggestion about a domestic matter. Don't be distressed if it leads to a better idea from somebody else. Be happy with whatever works.

Scorpio
Don't worry about a co-worker's rude remark; you don't have time. Quickly finish the job. Then, devote your attention to people who appreciate you.

Sagittarius
You're enthusiastic, but don't push too hard. Give people more time to understand what you're saying. You can go pretty fast, and they get confused.

Capricorn
You're exceptionally creative now. Even a crazy idea could work. You have lots of those. Pick out one and give it a try.

Aquarius
Do the extra reading. You'll go through it very quickly. Take good notes, so you can retrieve the details when you need them.

Pisces
You'll get admiring glances from everyone you meet. Choose the one with whom you want to spend some quality time. It's your call.

Today in history...

1860



First pony express service began.

1974



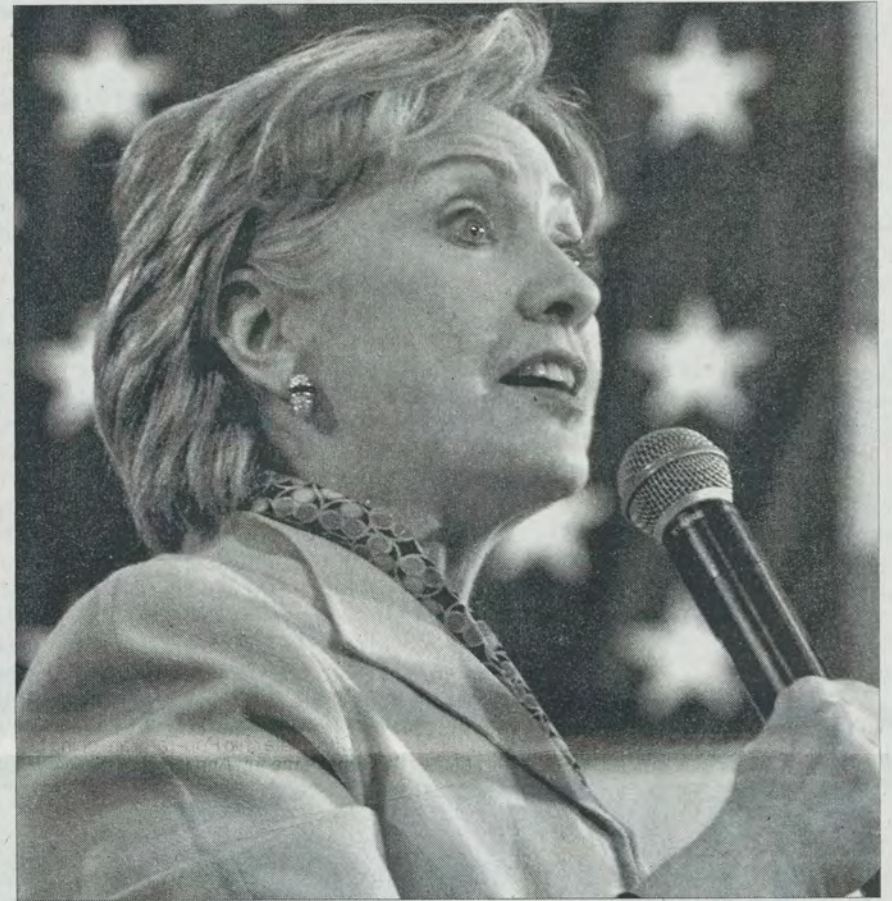
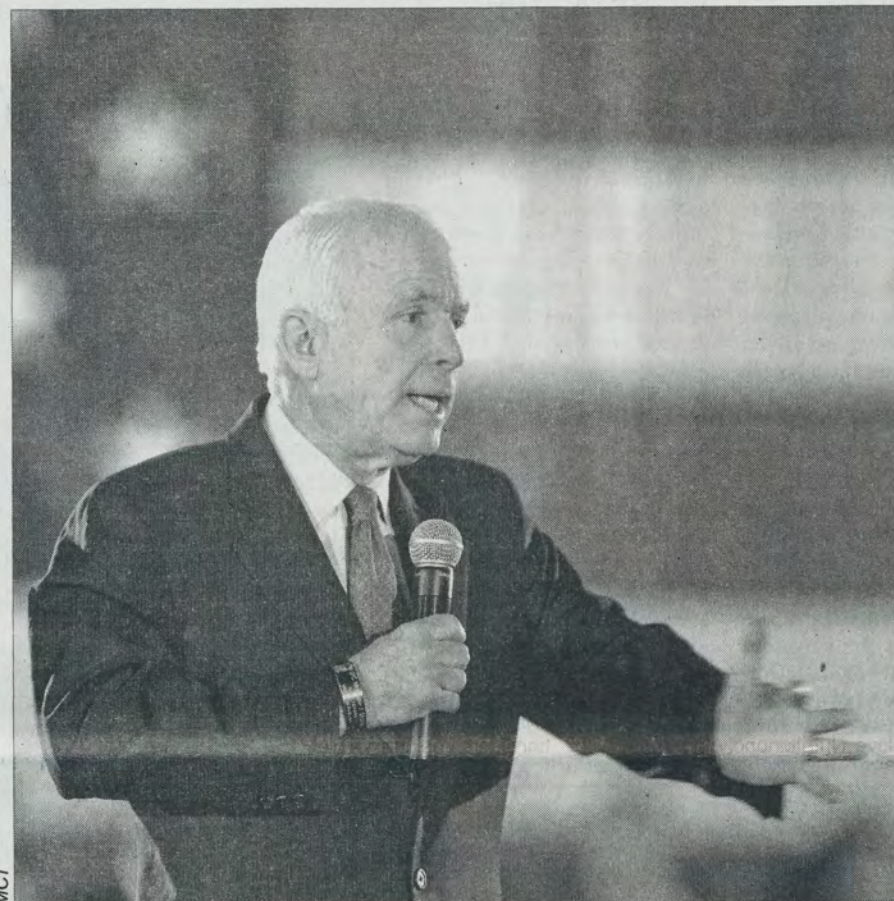
"Super Tornado Outbreak" strikes 13 U.S. states.

2004



14-year-old soccer star Freddy Adu became the youngest player in an American professional sport in over a century.

Let them spend money



Did you know?

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

The "save" icon on Microsoft Word shows a floppy disk, with the shutter on backward.

The combination "ough" can be pronounced in nine different ways. The following sentence contains them all: "A rough-coated, dough-faced, thoughtful ploughman strode through the streets of Scarborough; after falling into a slough, he coughed and hiccoughed."

Cats have over 100 vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten.

Pinocchio is Italian for "pine head." The United States has never lost a war in which mules were used.

The word "Checkmate" in chess comes from the Persian phrase "Shah Mat," which means, "the king is dead." All porcupines float in water.

The airplane Buddy Holly died in was called "American Pie." (Thus the name of the Don McLean song).

The only nation whose name begins with an "A," but doesn't end in an "A" is Afghanistan.

The longest word in the English language, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanociosis. The only other word with the same amount of letters is pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanocioses, its plural.

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

If you toss a penny 10,000 times, it will not be heads 5,000 times, but more like 4,950. The heads picture weighs more, so it ends up on the bottom.

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

2008 campaign shaping up as the most expensive ever

ELISE PHILLIPS
FEATURES EDITOR

According to campaign-money.com, North Carolina donors have contributed almost \$15 million dollars to the 2008 presidential campaign thus far, equivalent to about \$15,000 from each zip code. Individuals, families and businesses have donated their money to the campaign in several zip codes across the state. In Pitt County, donors have contributed approximately \$175,730 alone to the 2008 elections.

The data also shows that certain occupational groups in Pitt County donate more than others. Out of the 214 donors that have contributed to the 2008 presidential campaign in Pitt County, 18 percent include retired or self-employed individuals, 15 percent include lawyers or attorneys and 7 percent

include ECU faculty.

Jonathan Morris, assistant professor for ECU's department of political science, finds that the large number of retirees contributing to the 2008 campaign is not surprising. According to opensecrets.org, retired individuals nationwide have already contributed \$38.6 million to the 2008 presidential campaign, making them the number two highest contributors in this year's race.

"They have the money to give, first and foremost, and they are more likely to think that they have something to gain from contributing," said Morris.

"Retired people have more time to keep track of what's going on in politics [and] their financial well-being is tied more closely to federal policies."

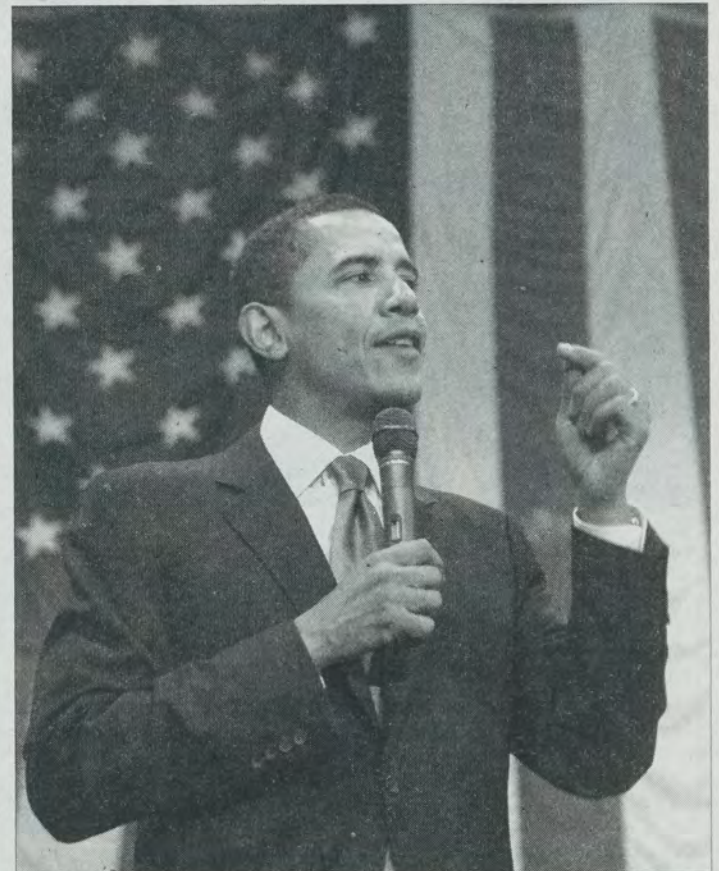
As for the number of lawyers and attorneys shelling out money to presidential candidates, political action committees (PACs) or political parties, the data from campaignmoney.com showed that these indi-

viduals or businesses donated regardless of party affiliation. For example, Thomas F. Taft, Sr. from the Greenville-based law offices of Taft, Taft & Haigler made several contributions to democrat John Edwards' campaign for president, but also made donations to the Butterfield for Congress Committee (a democrat) and the Walter Jones for Congress Committee (a republican). And Morris is not surprised.

"They're hedging their bets, mostly for one reason," Morris said. "You can't really show that money buys votes or influence, [but] what it does buy is access. [These people] are saying that whichever candidate makes it into office, they are going to be more likely to meet with them, talk with them, etc."

Opensecrets.org has named lawyers and law offices as the top contributors to this year's presidential campaign. Nationwide, they have donated at least \$46.6

see **CAMPAIGN** page A9



Gospel choir celebrates 30 years

Former members set to perform during concert

ELISE PHILLIPS
FEATURES EDITOR

The ECU Gospel Choir will present their annual anniversary concert on April 6, at 6 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. But this year's concert will be different than past ones: this year the Gospel Choir will celebrate 30 years of existence on ECU's campus.

When the ECU Gospel Choir first started in 1978 under the direction of student Johnice Johnson, it was known as the ECU Gospel Ensemble. From that year, the choir grew, and today has almost 50 members. Senior Arturo Cummings now leads the choir, and says that



Photo by Natassia Negron

Choir members clustered together outside of Wright Place yesterday to promote their upcoming concert.

see **CHOIR** page A8

What's your Fetish?

Modeling and dance troupe reinvents the runway

VERONICA CARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

From the birth of a dream of diversity and self-awareness, sprung Fetish Ink*, the newest modeling and dance troupe in Greenville. Fetish Ink* was founded in March 2008 by Nakia S. Pittman and Jasmine Upshaw, two ECU students who believe that models don't have to be 6'2" and 110 pounds to be beautiful. They feel that true beauty lies in the confidence of a model's stride.

Pittman, acting major, has participated in many other mod-

see **FETISH** page A9

CHOIR continued from A7

although this has been a difficult year, the concert will be an experience for the community.

"Every time you grow there's a new pain to endure, but so long as the end result is bigger than the pain itself, it's worth the endurance," said Cummings.

The concert, titled "Celebrating 30 Years of Gospel," will include the original gospel choir as well as a choir made up of alumni from past years' choirs.

"This concert is a chance for the current and the alumni choir members to come together and share the gospel with people through song and dance," said junior elementary education major Ashley Tew, secretary of the choir.

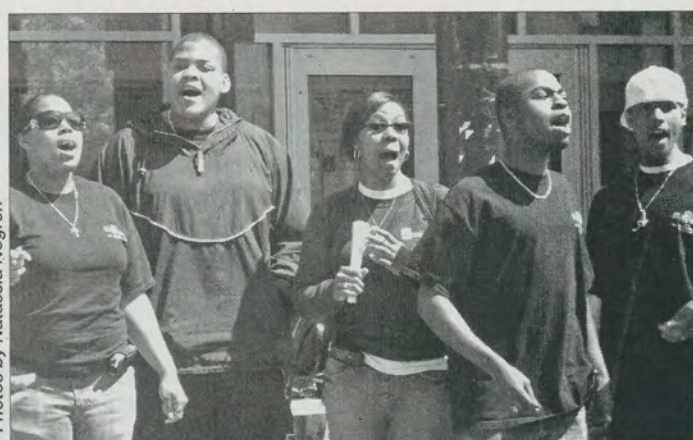
Tew, along with other members of the choir, are excited about the concert.

"[The concert will be] uplifting, energetic and fun," Tew said. "Come out and get ready for some awesome praise and worship."

Cummings says that the songs that will be presented at the concert will span the last three decades of gospel music.

"I tried to bring a collaboration of old and new back from 30 years up until the present day," he said.

The concert will be preceded by a myriad of events, including a complimentary



Gospel Choir members broke out in song yesterday on Wright Plaza. "Mix and Mingle" on April 4 at the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center along with a banquet and awards ceremony for current and former members at the Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville.

Although it is not certain yet how many alumni will be attending the anniversary events, Dan Frezza, assistant director of programs at the Taylor-Slaughter Alumni Center, says they are anticipating about 20 to 30 alumni.

"Our mission at the Alumni Center is to inform, involve and serve. We are bringing back alumni to inform them about what's going on on-campus, at the alumni center and in the Gospel Choir," said Frezza.

Cummings says he hopes that the turnout will be large.

"I'm hoping with the celebration of 30 years it will draw a lot of people," Cummings said.

The purpose of the gospel choir is to "expose interested students to gospel music and its various styles as an art form, while promoting the university throughout the state and region," according to the organization's Web site.

Membership in the ECU Gospel Choir is open to all students, regardless of age, race, creed, sex, disability or religious affiliation.

For more information about the ECU Gospel Choir or the anniversary concert, visit the organization's Web site at ecugospelchoir.com.

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



The Gospel Choir will be presenting their 30th anniversary concert on Sunday in Wright Auditorium.

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Tyler Perry hits America's funny bone once again

Meet the Browns offers comedy for all ages

ELISE PHILLIPS
FEATURES EDITOR

Comedian and man of many characters, Tyler Perry, released another family-friendly film last week, titled *Meet The Browns*. Following close on the heels of *Why Did I Get Married?* and *Daddy's Little Girls* (both produced in 2007) and modeled after Perry's hilarious *Meet The Browns* on-stage play, the movie stars Angela Bassett and Perry-favorites David and Tamela Mann.

The film portrays a single down-and-out mom of three,

Brenda (Bassett), who goes through a series of heartbreaking financial difficulties, including getting her electricity cut off and losing her job at a local factory the day she was supposed to get paid. Her story gets even more desperate after the day care center refuses to keep Brenda's daughter anymore, and the only thing left in her house to eat is a cup of Quaker oatmeal.

When Brenda finds out that her estranged father has died, she travels from big-city Chicago to a small, rural town in Georgia for his funeral. While there, she meets the brothers and sisters she never met, and who never knew she existed, the fun-loving yet ridiculous Brown family. From there,

her life changes from that of a single, financially-unstable mother, to a woman surrounded by a helpful family.

Not only does Brenda find familial support, she meets a retired professional basketball player who wants to help her son with his collegiate career. As per-Perry-usual, Brenda falls in love with him. *Meet The Browns* again features the man that every woman wants.

Perry delivers lots of laughs in this film, although the fact that Madea only appears in one scene of the film is a disappointment. Madea, the elderly jailbird who frequents the majority of Perry's plays, is usually the crowd-drawer to Perry's productions. The movie could have

used more of the side-splitting Madea character, but Perry's rendition of multiple family crises in *Meet The Browns* still strikes a chord with audiences all over America.

"*Meet The Browns*" is a must-see film for families, couples and friends and leaves crowds begging for more. One tip for moviegoers: stay until all of the credits have rolled. Perry has included some extremely funny bloopers that all viewers must stay to see.

Perry has two movies currently being filmed, one to be released this year and one scheduled for release in 2009.

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



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You danced.
You had sex**

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CAMPAIGN continued from A7

| Campaign cash | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|
| What the presidential candidates raised in 2007, in millions: | | | | |
| Democrat | 1-3 qtrs. | 4th qtr. | 2007 total | On hand As of Dec. 31 |
| Clinton | \$78.8 | \$27.3 | \$106.1 | \$37.9 |
| Obama | \$78.6 | \$23.5 | \$102.1 | \$18.6 |
| Republican | | | | |
| Romney | \$44.9 | \$9.0 | \$53.9* | \$2.4 |
| McCain | \$30.6 | \$6.8 | \$37.4* | \$2.9 |
| Paul | \$8.3 / \$19.9 | | \$28.2 | \$7.8 |
| Huckabee | \$2.4 / \$6.6 | | \$9.0 | \$1.9 |

*Doesn't include loans from candidates; Romney: \$35 million, McCain, \$3 million
© 2008 MCT Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau Graphic: Melina Yingling, Judy Treible

million to the campaign.

In Pitt County, 7 percent of all 2008-cycle political contributions made came from ECU faculty. Nationally, education professionals are the number nine source of income for the presidential campaign. They have given about \$9 million of the donations so far.

"As a college professor, I'm not wealthy at all, but this is my chance to make some changes for the future," said Chris Mansfield, director for the ECU Center for Health Services and Research Development and a contributor to the Barack Obama presidential campaign.

Mansfield says that being a member of a university like ECU gives them a push to donate to presidential campaigns; however, he says that everyone should be involved in this year's

land breaking elections.

"We have the luxury of being informed, but the stakes are no less important," Mansfield said.

"I think that this is an opportunity to make some fundamental changes to our nation and turn it into a democracy again instead of a plutocracy."

According to opensecrets.org, the 2007 filings of the presidential candidates' fundraising tallies show that campaign totals will soon surpass the 2004 race. The Center for Responsive Politics predicts that the individual presidential candidates alone will raise more than \$1 billion—a first in any presidential campaign in history.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com

Pulitzer prize-winning poet shares work



Natasha Trethewey presents her poetry to an audience in Hendrix.

Natasha Trethewey draws from personal experience

ELISE PHILLIPS
FEATURES EDITOR

The ECU Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of English and the Creative Writing program presented a night of poetry

with Pulitzer prize-winning poet Natasha Trethewey last night.

Students, faculty and members of the community gathered at Hendrix Theatre at 8 p.m. to hear Trethewey read from her poetry portfolio, including her prize-winning book of poems *Native Guard*, which was published in 2006. The publication of *Native Guard* made Trethewey only

the third African-American woman to receive the Pulitzer prize.

Mayor of Greenville Pat Dunn opened the presentation with words for Trethewey and the audience.

"I think it's a great honor to have a Pulitzer prize-winner [come]," said Dunn. "On behalf of the City Council and the city of Greenville, I'm delighted to welcome you."

Dunn also presented Trethewey with a paperweight engraved with the seal of Greenville.

John Hoppenthaler, assistant professor in the Department of English and friend of Trethewey, arranged for the poet to come to ECU. He has published many of her poems, and told the crowd last night that "publishing these poems by Natasha will always be the highlight of my career."

Trethewey's poems are filled with historical references that pertain to her own life. As a child born to a Black mother and White father in the mid-60's in racially-divided Mississippi, Trethewey experienced her share of prejudice and racial hatred. Born in a time when miscegenation (the marriage of a Black and White couple) was outlawed in her home state, Trethewey understood what it was like to be looked at as a "half-breed" or "mulatto," as one of her poems states.

Some of her other works include her experience of having a cross burned by the

Ku Klux Klan in her yard and the after-effects of Katrina in her home state of Mississippi. She told the audience that she felt compelled to tell the "violent history and terrible beauty of my South, my Mississippi."

"I write what I've been given to write," she said.

"[Prejudice] is part of the fabric of who we are as Americans. It's part of our troubled history; it's our American history."

Hoppenthaler said that inviting Trethewey to come was important for students.

"I think it's important because [racial issues] seem to be at the forefront today and we need to examine these issues and what it means to have an identity being considered as 'other,'" he said.

Hoppenthaler also mentioned that the United States now has a presidential candidate of mixed race, and that brings prejudice out in the open for all Americans.

Trethewey will be giving a question and answer session in Hoppenthaler's Introduction to Poetry Writing class in the Mendenhall Social room today at 2 p.m. The event is open to all ECU students and the public. Following the session, there will be a social at the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center at 4 p.m.

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

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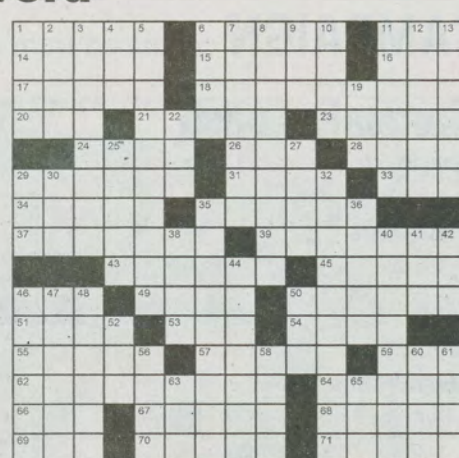


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Crossword

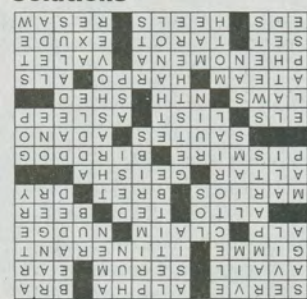
ACROSS
1 Wait on
6 Top dog
11 Lingerie buy
14 Effective use
15 Blood part
16 Corn serving
17 The easiest of
18 Traveling worker
20 Mountaineer's
challenge
21 Allegation
23 Positioning
maneuver
24 Palo ____ CA
26 Actor Knight
28 Book or porter
29 Lemieux and
Cuomo
31 Author Harte
33 Towel off
34 Church table
35 Japanese
companion
37 Ant
39 Hunter's
companion
43 Browns in butter
45 John Hersey's
bell town
46 Ernie of golf
49 Itemized record
order
50 Napping
51 Rules of conduct
53 Final degree
54 Lean-to
55 Best players
57 Chico's brother
59 Molinaro and
Michaels
62 Marvels
64 Gentleman's
gentleman
66 Fixed
67 Fortune cards
68 Ooze
69 Newspaper
honchos, briefly
70 Cads
71 Cut differently



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4/3/08

Solutions



47 Used a machine
cutter
48 Candies
50 Small snake
52 Miguel, CA
56 Nocturnal insect
58 Rodent pests
60 Mother of Castor
and Pollux
61 Goulash or
slumgullion
63 Daisy of
Dogpatch
65 Woodshed item

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| 9 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 8 |

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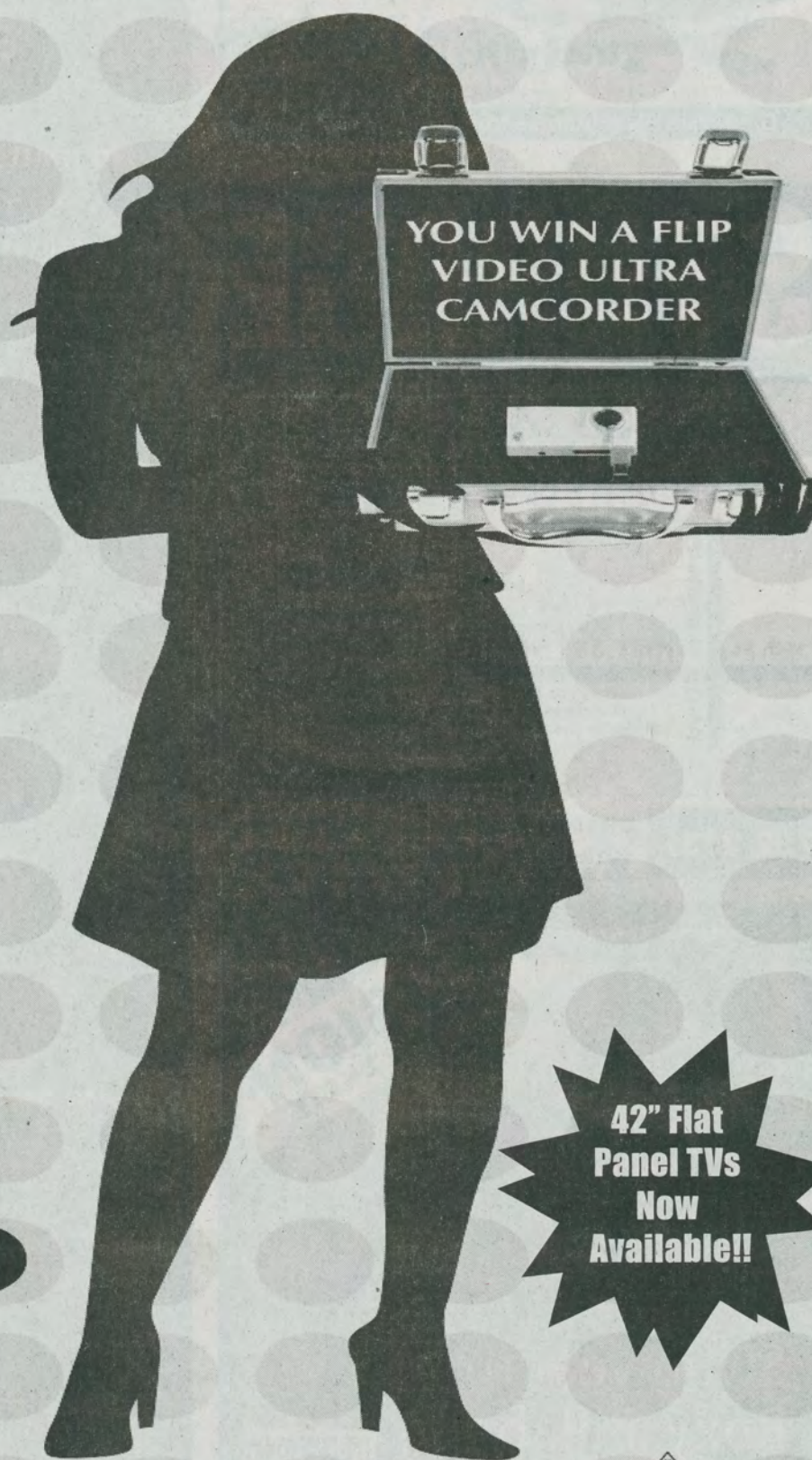
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12:30-2:30 p.m.

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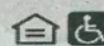
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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth baseball coaches/site attendants for the spring t-ball program for ages 4-8. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of baseball skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: score keeping, umpiring, coaching, setting up for practices and games and ensuring proper care of program/facility. Hours are from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday mornings and afternoons. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from April 19 - mid June. Salary starts at \$6.75 per hour. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 morrvisv@ecu.edu

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.

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures presents GHOST DANCE IN CIUDAD JUAREZ: WOMEN'S MURDERS REPRESENTATIONS by Whichard Professor Socorro Tabuenca. Monday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. Science and Technology Building C-209. For further information: Becky Foster, Dept. Foreign Languages & Literatures 252-328-6017.

Teresa Lever will defend her doctoral dissertation, "An Animal Model of Dysphagia in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis" at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2008, Room 1410 in the Health Sciences Building. All are invited to attend this presentation.

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

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Legacy Endeavors wants to make you aware of an upcoming event: the 1st Annual Pirate Classic titled "Stomping Grounds," a variety step show that will continue their campaign of promoting education, health & wellness, and leadership development. The event will be on April 19, 2008. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., show begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. Estimated ticket prices: \$15.00 - In Advance and \$20.00 - At the Door. For more information about this event, contact M. Cole Jones at (252) 548-1906 or B. Marcel Jones at (336) 380-5013. Email: Legacyendeavors@gmail.com

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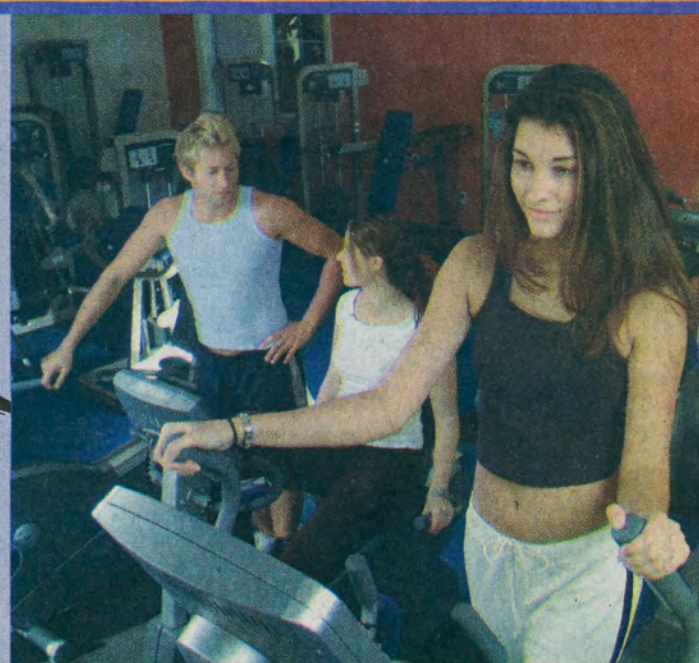
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UCLA at Memphis
6:07 p.m.

Kansas at North Carolina
8:47 p.m.

Baseball

Friday
at Southern Miss.
7:30 p.m.

Saturday
at Southern Miss.
4:00 p.m.

Sunday
at Southern Miss.
12:00 p.m.

Softball

Saturday
vs. Marshall
1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.

Sunday
vs. Marshall
12:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Friday
vs. South Carolina State
3:00 p.m.

Sunday
vs. Davison
12:00 p.m.

Men's Golf

Ironwood Pirate Intercollegiate
At Ironwood Country Club
Greenville, NC

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Ironwood Pirate Intercollegiate
All Day each day

Track and Field

Duke Invitational
Durham, NC

Friday and Saturday
Duke Invitational
All Day

Pirates lose rivalry game by one run, again



Senior Corey Kemp blasted his eighth home run of the season against the Wolfpack Tuesday night.

ECU's late rally falls short

RONNIE WOODWARD
SPORTS EDITOR

A baseball game between ECU and NC State is destined to be decided by one run these days.

Even with the Wolfpack in control for most of the game Tuesday night at Clark-LeClair Stadium, ECU made a late rally, forcing another dramatic ending to a baseball game between the two rivals.

However, ECU's late comeback fell just short, and the Pirates lost 4-3, making it four-straight one-run losses to the Wolfpack.

"It was another classic matchup against NC State," said ECU coach Billy Godwin. "We came out on the losing end which is certainly disappointing, especially with the way it ended."

Each of the last six games between the two teams have now been decided by one run, with ECU only winning one of them.

The last time the Pirates (18-8) beat the Wolfpack was on April 12, 2006, a 2-1, 13-inning victory in Greenville.

"It seems like every one of them is decided by one run or extra innings," Wolfpack coach Elliot Avent said of the series. "It's great for college athletics and great for college baseball."

Down 4-1 in the eighth inning on Tuesday, ECU catcher Corey Kemp ignited the Pirates' offense with a two-run home run into right field.

But, NC State (16-9) brought in left-handed reliever Drew Taylor, who got the next three ECU batters to ground out, ending the late ECU rally.

"I thought our guys didn't quit and I'm proud of that," Godwin said. "Corey Kemp stepped up and energized us at a key time, which got us into striking distance."

"There were some really

positive things that came out of tonight's performance, except that we got the loss."

In the ninth, Wolfpack closer Jimmy Gillheeny retired ECU's first two batters before Harrison Eldridge drew a two-out walk.

However, Gillheeny abruptly ended the game by picking off Eldridge, notching his seventh save of the season.

ECU rallies that ended quickly were seen numerous times by the 5,105 fans in attendance, which was the fifth-largest crowd in ECU baseball history.

The Pirates had at least one runner reach third base in four of the first five innings, but only managed one run during that span, which led to the early deficit.

Eldridge led off the first inning with a single and eventually reached third base, but NC State's Eryk McConnell would not allow him to score, setting the tone for the rest of the game.

The next inning, ECU's first two batters each reached safely, but McConnell retired the next three, leaving the game scoreless once again.

Then trailing 2-1 in the fifth, ECU loaded the bases with two outs, but McConnell retired the Pirates' designated hitter, Kyle Roller, in his last batter faced of the game.

"We have a good pitching staff and they are starting to understand their roles and what they need to do in certain situations," said Avent. "Our pitchers did a great job, especially against a great hitting ball club like they have."

McConnell is one of the Wolfpack's weekend starters, but since NC State's Sunday game with North Carolina was postponed due to weather, his scheduled start was pushed back one game.

The fifth-year senior had no trouble adjusting.

He pitched five strong innings, allowing one run and striking

see **BASEBALL** page B5

More experience could mean better results

Secondary will be key

KELLEN HOLTZMAN
STAFF WRITER

With the 2008 spring football game just around the corner, the anticipation for ECU football is nearing a fever pitch. And with anticipation comes expectations that are at perhaps an all-time high.

ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz recognizes one glaring weakness from last year's team that needs to be corrected in order to meet those expectations. The Pirates must improve a passing defense that ranked ninth in C-USA and 114th in the nation.

"It will be a long year if they don't improve a bunch; if you look at where we are from our numbers a year ago," Holtz said. "We had a lot of guys that didn't play a lot going into last year."

The inexperience Holtz refers to can be traced back to 2006, when ECU lost three starters from a very talented defensive backfield.

Led by seniors Kasey Ross, Jamar Flournoy and Pierre Parker, the Pirates' 2006 secondary was arguably the trademark of that team. Ross and company routinely forced timely turnovers to give the Pirates the edge in close games.

In 2007, ECU struggled to adjust to the loss of the unruffled veterans and the scoreboard provided the evidence.

The Pirates' inability to defend the pass often put the onus on the offense to convert in high scoring shootouts.

The Pirates gave up 30.4 points per game—putting them fourth in C-USA, a league noted for its lack of defense. The lofty stat also ranked a lowly 83rd in the nation.

Statistics, however, can be misleading.

The numbers may not side with ECU, but with a host of experienced players returning for 2008, the secondary's depth and talent are likely to shine through



North Carolina receiver Brandon Tate gets behind the ECU secondary for a long touchdown reception against the Pirates last season.

this season.

Secondary coach Rick Smith is confident that experience will be the key to sparking improvement.

"We were pretty good last year," Smith said of his team's talent level. "I'm excited about this year because all those kids that were young last year, got some playing experience behind them."

Free safety and All-C-USA second-teamer Van Eskridge echoed his coach's sentiments.

"We've got pretty much everyone coming back," said Eskridge, who tallied a team-high 104 tackles in 2007. "We've

got guys that played a lot of snaps last year so instead of learning on the fly, we're just reviewing things now. ...We should be able to come in and play fast, play with more maturity and eliminate a lot of the mistakes we made last year."

Outgoing cornerback Travis Williams is the only starter that must be replaced.

Senior Leon Best will fill the void by returning to corner after moving to safety last season.

"Herman [Best] is a senior and he's played both positions," said Smith. "He's just a great young man. He's always where he's supposed to be. He's the

most dependable kid out of those older guys."

As of now, Best will be backed up at corner by sophomore Darryl Reynolds, who saw action in nine games as a true freshman last season. Emanuel Davis, who both Smith and Holtz cited as a player to watch, will provide depth at weak cornerback.

Senior Jerek Hewett will man the other corner spot, backed up by sophomore Travis Simmons and redshirt freshman Derek Blacknall.

Eskridge, a junior, has the free safety position locked down and will be backed up by sopho-

more Dekota Marshall and redshirt freshman Julian Carter. Marshall saw action in all 13 games last season, primarily at corner.

Marshall credits Eskridge in assisting to make the transition go smoothly.

"With me moving to free safety, he [Eskridge] helped me out a lot with learning the plays," said the Jacksonville native. "You know as a corner, you'll either go man or drop back but at free safety you're doing a lot of different things."

see **FOOTBALL** page B3

Pitching absences have produced a new leader

Swann has stepped this year in tough times

HART HOLLOMAN
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team was dealt a harsh blow earlier this season when its No. 1 pitcher and last year's Conference USA Freshman-of-the-Year, Toni Paisley, went down with an injury.

Yet, the Pirates have continued to win on the strength of some fine performances by junior Brooke Swann, who has become the everyday starter in Paisley's absence and the departure of Keli Harrell, who has been the star of the ECU softball team the past couple of seasons.

Swann started her career at ECU with a lot of promise. As a freshman she managed a 1.52 ERA in 19 appearances and held opponents to a .199 batting average.

Then last year, with the record-setting Harrell leading the staff and the arrival of Paisley, Swann was relegated



Photo By Jessi Braxton

After being seldomly used during her freshman and sophomore seasons, Brooke Swann has been vaulted into ECU's No. 1 pitching slot as a junior.

see **SOFTBALL** page B4

Football venues attempt to switch sports

Trend is scheduled to continue

AP--Ford Field's dress rehearsal for next season's Final Four is drawing mixed reviews from fans.

The debate is about the seating and crowd atmosphere at the monstrous venue, the Detroit Lions football stadium transformed into a basketball site for last week's NCAA Midwest Regional.

The same configuration is expected for the 2009 Final Four.

The NCAA has said the new setup will help more students get close to the action and keep prices reasonable for students and other fans attending Final Fours.

Most everything was fine for Mike Goode, a Davidson College employee who made the trip with hundreds of students from the North Carolina college.

But he had snared one of the

temporary, riser seats not too far from the court.

The Ford Field crowd was announced at a regional record of more than 57,000 on Friday. About 57,500 tickets were sold for Sunday's Davidson-Kansas matchup.

"Getting all the people here is pretty impressive," Goode said. "I understand how that speaks volumes."

The court was centered near the middle of what are the football fields at both Ford Field and Reliant Stadium in Hous-

ton, site of the South Regional, rather than tucked into one end zone as in previous regionals and Final Fours.

Kansas student Brandon Childres would have preferred the old style. He didn't like his seat, which would have been in a Ford Field end zone for a Lions game.

"It's an awful setup," Childres said. "We thought we were getting awesome seats. But we're 50 yards from the court, and we didn't know that would be the case."

The court was raised, perhaps giving some fans better sightlines but raising concerns about players who had to jump off the court or go down a few steps to reach their benches.

Shooters at Ford Field, including Davidson's Stephen Curry, were concerned about depth perception.

Atmosphere was another issue. Some fans complained they were too far from the court and that it's difficult to create intimacy at a basketball game played in a football arena.

The NCAA was fired up about the record-breaking attendance, however.

More fans were expected to attend the regional sites — Detroit, Charlotte, Houston and Phoenix — than at any time in the event's 70-year history.

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FOOTBALL continued from B1**SECONDARY DEPTH CHART:****Cornerback**

Jerek Hewett, Sr. (currently injured)
Travis Simmons, Soph.
Derek Blacknall RS Freshman

Free Safety

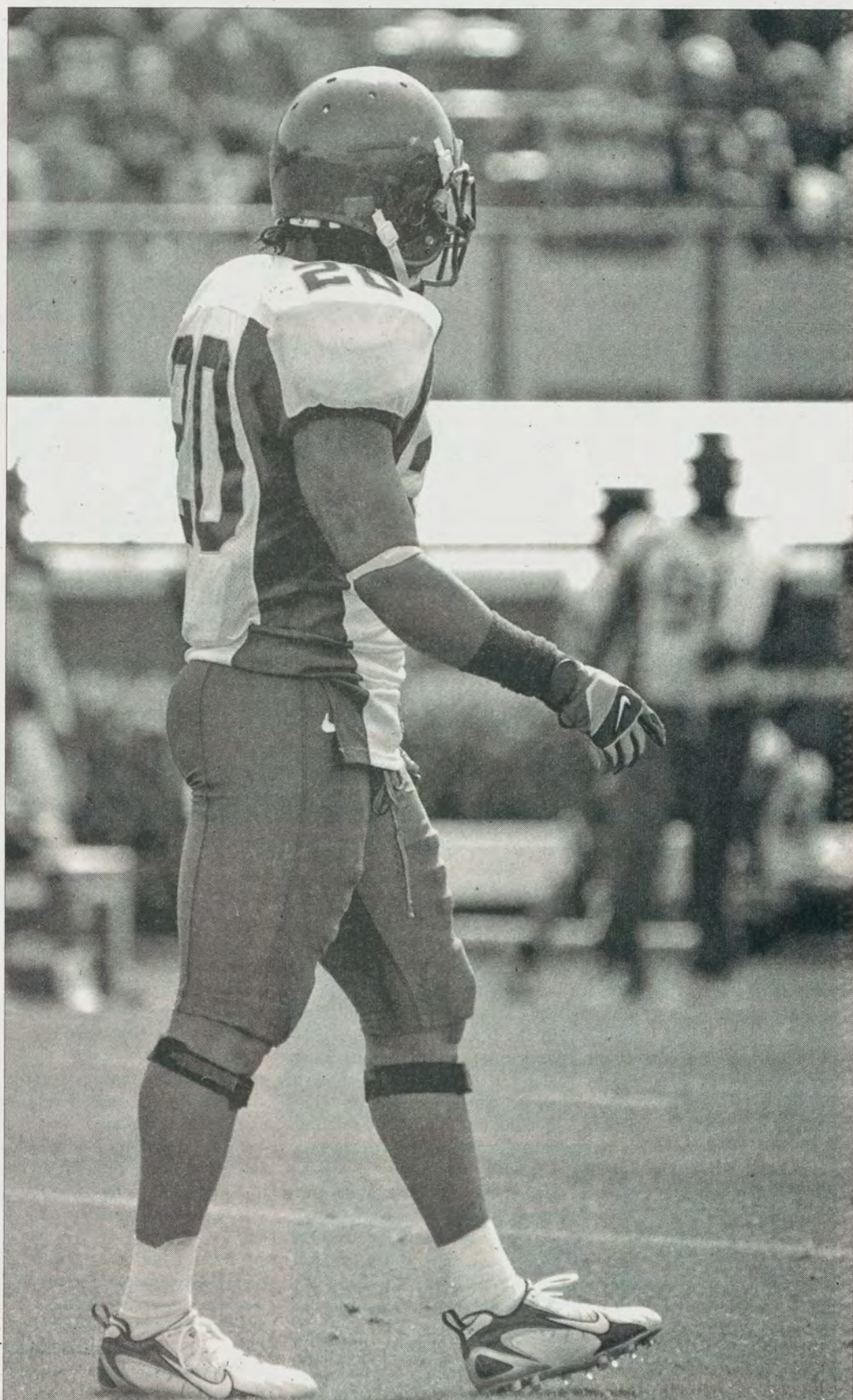
Van Eskridge, Jr.
Dekota Marshall, Soph.
Julian Carter, RS Freshman

Strong Safety

J.J. Millbrook, Sr.
Chris Mattocks, Jr.
Devon Wallace, RS Freshman

Cornerback

Leon Best, Sr.
Darryl Reynolds, Soph.
Emanuel Davis, RS Freshman



Staff photo

Senior J.J. Millbrook is one of three seniors who is expected to start in the secondary next fall.

Senior J.J. Millbrook will return to the strong safety position, where he led the team with three interceptions last season. Chris Mattocks started five of 10 games for the Pirates in 2007 before missing the final three games due to injury. The junior should figure prominently once again at the position. Redshirt freshman Devon Wallace is expected to back up Millbrook and Mattocks.

"We've got talent but we're still relatively young," Smith said. "We don't have a lot of guys that have played a ton of

years." Holtz expects his younger players to push the veterans, ultimately making for a more competitive environment.

"With Travis Simmons, Emmanuel Davis and Derek Blacknall and some of the things that those guys are doing right now, I think they have really got a chance to be a much improved group back there," Holtz said. "And they are working with the experience coming back from the older guys and the athleticism and competition going on with the younger guys."

If the secondary problem is solved, ECU may find it much easier to meet those high expectations.

After all, no one has a more optimistic outlook than the players and coaching staff alike.

"Conference championship, state championship, Liberty Bowl championship," said Eskridge. "Those are our three goals. If we don't get those, it [the season] is a disappointment."

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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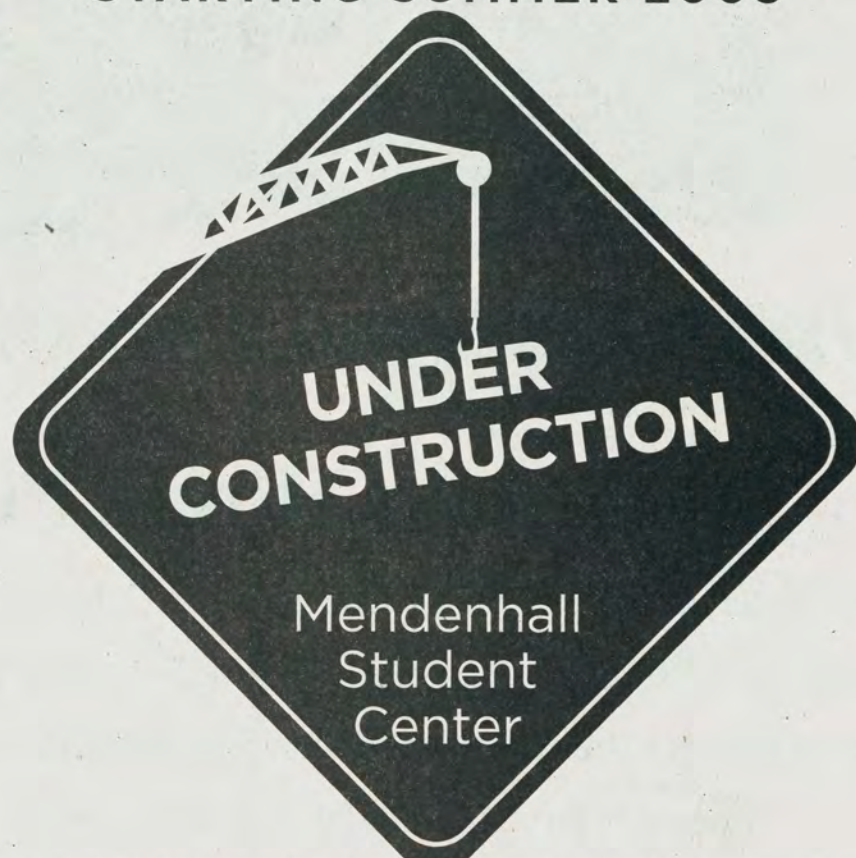
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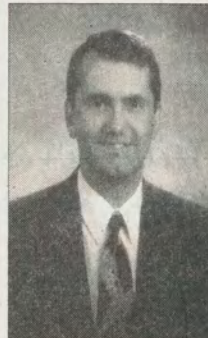


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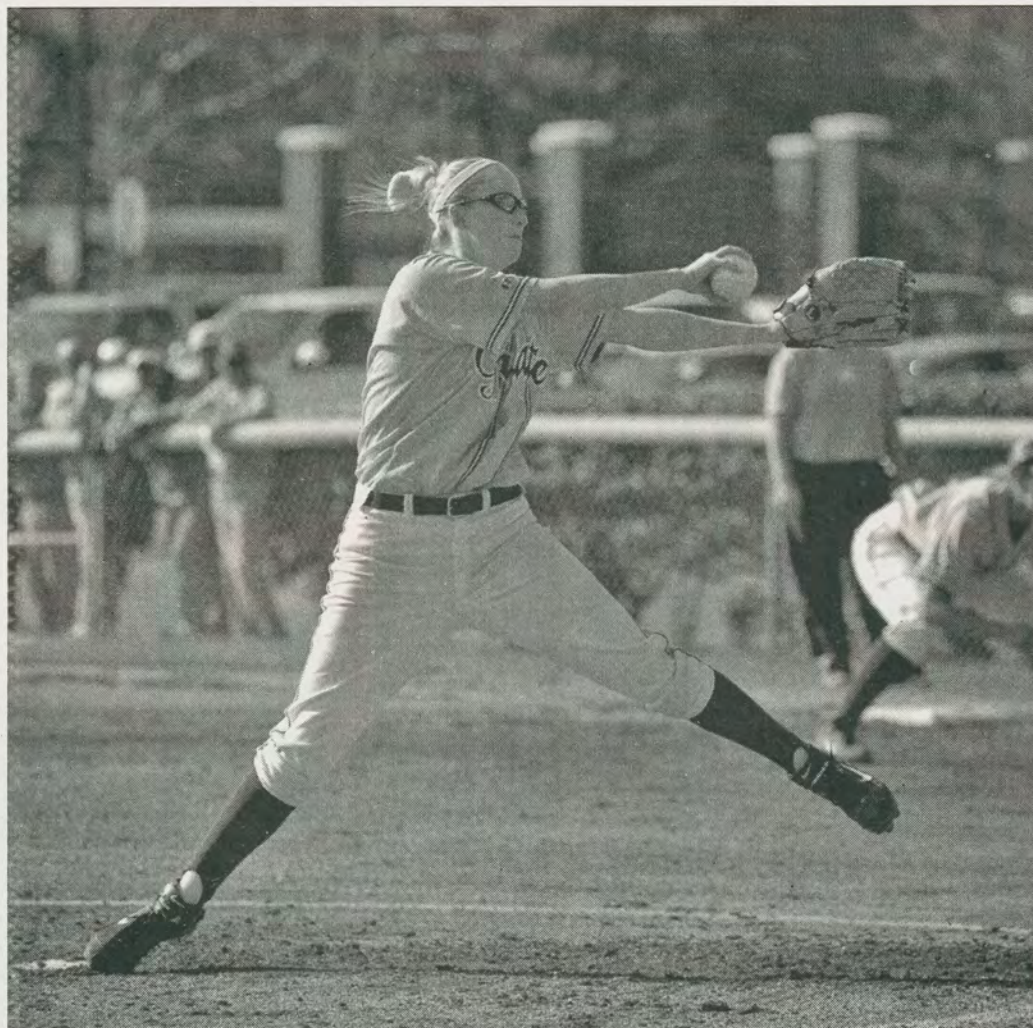
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SOFTBALL continued from B2

Keli Harrell, who is now the Pirates' pitching coach, fires a pitch during one of ECU's games last year.

to spot duty.

However, that didn't stop her from working hard and learning from those around her.

"Keli [Harrell] has helped me a lot the past few years," Swann said. "She was ahead of me a couple years and now she's the pitching coach. She knows my motion and has been a really big help, especially now."

The marquee characteristic of all successful athletes is the drive to continually work on their skills and try to improve as a player, a fact not lost by Swann.

"Every day when we work out in the bullpen we set goals for the day and we try to achieve those goals by the end of each workout," said Swann.

When asked what she's working on when she sets those goals, she replied like any elite athlete would, saying, "Everything. I still need to work on everything."

Still, making the transition from backup to starter has been a challenge for Swann.

"I started the year as the No. 2 starter again and then when Toni went down I was kind of pushed into that role of the No. 1 and I'm just now making that transition," she said. "It's tough to do that in the middle of the season, but I'm getting into it now and settling into the role."

And settled in she has. Swann has tallied 14 wins this season and broken the century mark in strikeouts with 102. She has eaten up almost 165 innings in her 31 total appearances and owns the team's only two saves.

Though the individual achievements are an indicator of her progress, her focus is set on the team and their goals for the season.

"We want to make it to

the regional tournament this season and I want to do my best to help us get there," said Swann. "When your top pitcher goes down it's not easy to come back from that. I'm just hoping I can do enough to get us there and hopefully beyond."

In fact, when asked about any individual goals or records she was gunning for, she couldn't think of any.

"I really don't know," she said. "I've never thought about it, I just want to help the team win as many games as we can."

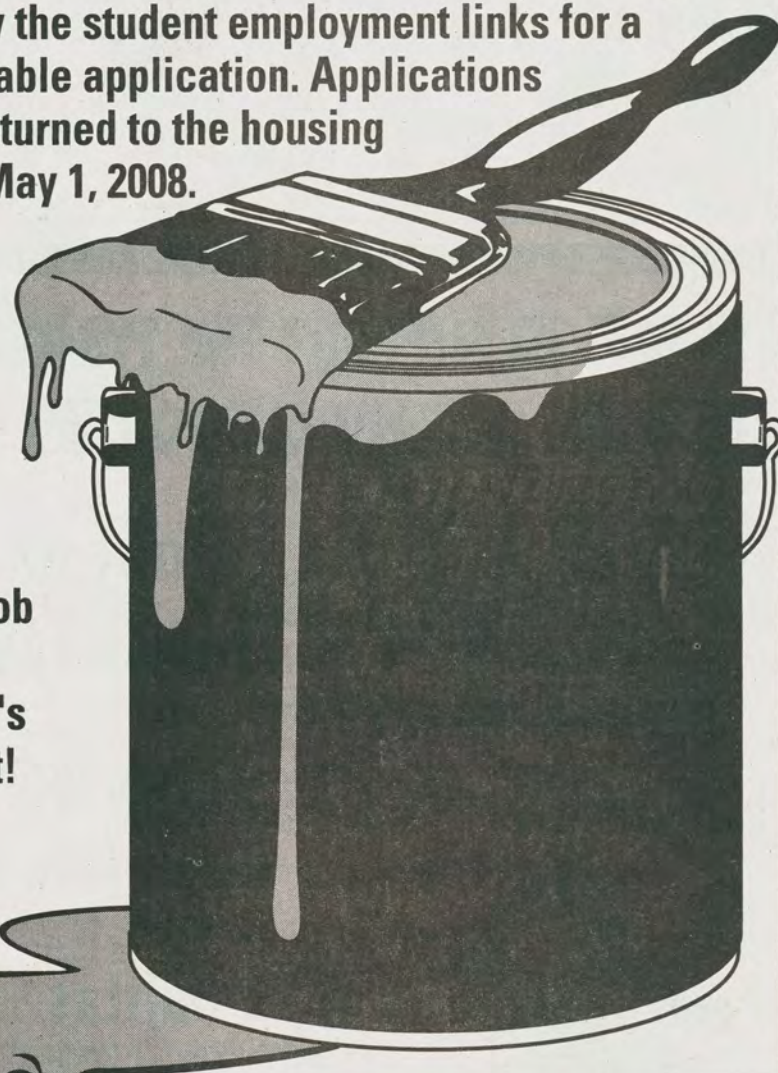
Swann will take the field with the rest of the Pirates this weekend in a three-game conference tilt against Marshall in Greenville, with a doubleheader on Saturday starting at 1 p.m. and the finale on Sunday at noon.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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BASEBALL continued from B1



Photo by Natassia Negron

During the game against N.C. State on Tuesday the Pirates battled back, but ended up losing by one.

out three while improving his record to 3-1 in six starts.

ECU's Stihl Sowers, a true freshman, suffered the loss, allowing four runs in four innings pitched.

ECU plated its first run of the game when Kyle Roller scored on a fielders choice in the fourth, making the score 2-1.

But, NC State pushed its lead back to three a half inning later with two runs in the fifth.

Five of the first six Wolfpack batters reached safely in the top of the fifth, including

Chris Schaeffer, who had a career-high four hits in the game. Ryan Pond also recorded one of his two RBI singles in the fifth.

Kemp, Stephen Batts and Brandon Henderson each had two hits for ECU.

The Wolfpack now lead the overall series 61-36.

"We just have to bounce back," Kemp said after the one-run loss. "That's the great thing about baseball, we don't have to wait a week to play like in football."

The Pirates did indeed bounce back Wednesday night—with a victory over Campbell—and they will play a crucial Conference USA series at Southern Miss this weekend.

On April 15, ECU will have a chance for revenge, as the team travels to Raleigh for the 97th meeting between the two rivals, and you can probably expect that game to be closely likely decided by one run.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

ECU VS. NC STATE LAST 10 GAMES

| Date | Location | Winner | Score |
|----------------|----------------|----------|-------|
| April 1, 2008 | Greenville | NC State | 4-3 |
| April 4, 2007 | Raleigh | NC State | 3-2 |
| March 3, 2007 | Greenville | NC State | 5-4 |
| April 18, 2006 | Raleigh | NC State | 4-3 |
| April 12, 2006 | Greenville | ECU | 2-1 |
| March 29, 2006 | Raleigh | NC State | 5-4 |
| May 10, 2005 | Greenville | NC State | 3-0 |
| April 20, 2005 | Greenville | NC State | 3-0 |
| April 6, 2005 | Raleigh | NC State | 11-4 |
| Feb. 26, 2005 | Charleston, SC | ECU | 13-1 |

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