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SUMMER EDITION

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 11, 2008



Gas is now up to almost four dollars a gallon. Find out how you can spend less green at the gas pump...**Page 6**



Kung Fu Panda released last weekend, but proves to have the same plot as many of its predecessors, despite the presence of Jack Black...**Page 7**



Four ECU baseball players were selected in the 2008 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft. Find out which MLB teams landed the Pirate quartet...**Page 9**

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NC first visit for Obama's tour

"Change that Works for You" launched this week

ELISE PHILLIPS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Last week, he made history as the first African-American to receive a presidential nomination. This week, Barack Obama is touring the country to talk about the economy with regular citizens in his two-week "Change That Works for You" tour.

Despite pro-McCain protestors outside, Obama kicked off the tour on Monday at the Exposition Center on the North Carolina Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The event was by invitation only, and doors opened at 11 a.m.

NC Governor Mike Easley, who signaled his support for the Democratic nominee for president, preceded Obama's speech.

"Forty-seven years ago John F. Kennedy told us, 'Don't ask what your country can do,'" said Easley. "Americans have sacrificed enough for America. It's time for Washington to do something for us. Washington needs to change, and Barack Obama can do it."

Easley spoke of the rising gas and food prices and President George Bush's tax cuts as reasons for his desire for change in the country.

"Milk and gas are about the same price per gallon, and Washington is doing nothing about it,"



Obama kicked off his two-week national "Change That Works For You" tour on Monday in Raleigh.

he said. "Some of us can't wait 30 years for something to change."

John and Elizabeth Edwards, Congressman G.K. Butterfield, Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin and former Colorado Governor Roy Roemer were in the audience at the Exposition Center, along with NC Governor Easley.

Before Obama took the stage, a Pittsboro, NC resident, Pamela Cash-Roper stood up to talk about the financial struggles her family

has recently endured. She told the audience that between her husband's medical bills and rising costs elsewhere, "we simply could not keep up."

"I am a lifelong Republican who believes in the creed that if you work hard, you can make ends meet," Cash-Roper said. "[But] we found ourselves buried in medical expenses to the point where we almost filed bankruptcy."

Cash-Roper praised Obama for his work in helping middle-

class Americans.

"Senator Obama has been fighting for working people for more than two decades," she said. "Today we need a change. We need an end to the Bush economy."

After Cash-Roper sat down, Obama took the mic, amid raucous applause and cheering.

"It is good to be back in NC," he said. "This election is a defining moment in our history. The

see **OBAMA** page 4

ECU hosts Youth Leadership Development program

Students across state learn tools of leadership

NADIAH SARSOOR
STAFF WRITER

ECU is getting ready to gear up for the 22nd Annual Legislation School for Youth Leadership Development this week.

According to Tarrick Cox, director of the Legislative Leadership Development program and a former student of the institution, this is a program that first took place in 1989.

The program is bringing stu-

dents from rural areas of eastern Carolina to a two-week residential summer session.

June 14-20 marks the first session and will house high school students. The second session will be held June 21-27 for middle school students.

Cox says they are expecting 100 students to show up with selected students nominated by school counselors, teachers and principals to this program that aims at developing leadership skills.

"It helps them find directions,

see **YOUTH** page 3



Contributed Photo

Students gather at a community service site in Greenville for the program.

ECU Pre-College students win second place for technical innovation



Essence Wagstaff and Erin Sawyer hold their second place trophy.

Students race alternative-fuel vehicles

JIMMY GALLOWAY
STAFF WRITER

On May 17, ECU's North Carolina-Mathematics and Science Education Network (NC-MSEN) Pre-College students joined several hundred other students in Raleigh to race alternative-fuel vehicles they constructed for the 13th Annual Electric Vehicle challenge.

Two students representing ECU, Erin Sawyer from Creswell School in Washington County and Essence Wagstaff from Greenwood Middle School in Wayne County won second place for technical innovation, bringing home a trophy for ECU's program.

Sawyer and Wagstaff spent months constructing and testing their solar-powered model race car, so when many cars did not get away

from the starting line, they saw theirs perform just as planned.

"These girls very quickly figured out what kind of things they needed to do to construct a car that would be aerodynamic and also take advantage of solar power," said Pre-College Director Nancy Evans.

The event was sponsored by the nonprofit organization SMARTT Challenge (Students Making Advancements in Renewable Transportation Technology) and held at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. The Electric Vehicle challenge aims to educate students and citizens about the environmental benefits of using alternative-fuel technologies.

The SMARTT Challenge is the country's premier alternative fuel education program, and it incorporates several areas of study, including math, engineering, science, language arts and more. It is sponsored by the nonprofit Carolina Electric Vehicle Coalition, Inc.

in Wake County.

The NC-MSEN Pre-College Program at ECU offers rigorous science and mathematics-based enrichment classes to students in grades 6-12. The activities include career awareness programs, academic advising and tutoring, leadership training, academic competitions, and laboratory experiences in science, technology, and mathematics. During the school year, students attend Saturday academies on ECU's campus, and participate in a summer scholars program.

It is designed to increase the number of students prepared to pursue college majors and careers in science, mathematics, engineering and technology. Approximately 98 percent of the program's graduates enroll in a college or university, and 85 percent of those pursue majors and careers in science, mathematics, technology or engineering. Generally, graduates

see **SOLAR POWER** page 4



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Chamber of Commerce to feature Scott Ralls

President of NCCS speaks

NIA RICHARDSON
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Scott Ralls, president of the North Carolina Community College system, will be the guest speaker at the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce's luncheon series titled "Power '08."

Ralls will present a speech titled "Facing the Brutal Facts: The 3 Rs in Education."

The luncheon will take place on June 17 at 12 p.m.

Registration for Chamber members is \$12 and \$17 for non-members. The "Power '08" luncheon

series is held on the third Tuesday of every month. It features a person of influence to speak on issues that affect the community, state and nation. In the past, the luncheon has featured NC Lt. Governor Bev Purdue as well as candidates for the Democratic Senate seat.

Tuesday's luncheon with Ralls will cover the issue of preparing community college students for the workforce. He will speak about workforce development and preparing tomorrow's workforce in today's community college classroom.

The luncheon will last until 1:30 p.m. Attire is business casual.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com

YOUTH continued from page 1

helps them become better problem solvers, helps them with critical thinking and helps them become well rounded students," said Cox.

According to Cox, students will "be attending classes and participate in various activities designed to enhance leadership developments," including community services.

Cox hopes students will carry on the wave of knowledge and experience they develop in order to contribute to their communities and that they will become the "change agent in their community."

Diana Lys, lead coordinator for the Office of Professional Development and Student Outreach, said community services would give students an opportunity to utilize their experience to reflect on their community.

"They see the impact they can have on that community organization and they can plant that seed where they want in their community," said Lys.

Cox also hopes that holding ECU as the program's cradle will propel the "I want to go to college concept," he said.

Among the list of activities mapped out for the participants, camp leaders will cover a book by Sean Covey, designed to help students learn habits of bettering themselves.

There will be an opening session to map out weekly expectations to parents, answer questions and introduce staff.

According to Cox, staff members include public school teachers and students from ECU and other universities.

The Legislation School for Youth Development program is funded by the North Carolina General Assembly.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com



Contributed Photo

Students participate in activities during the program.

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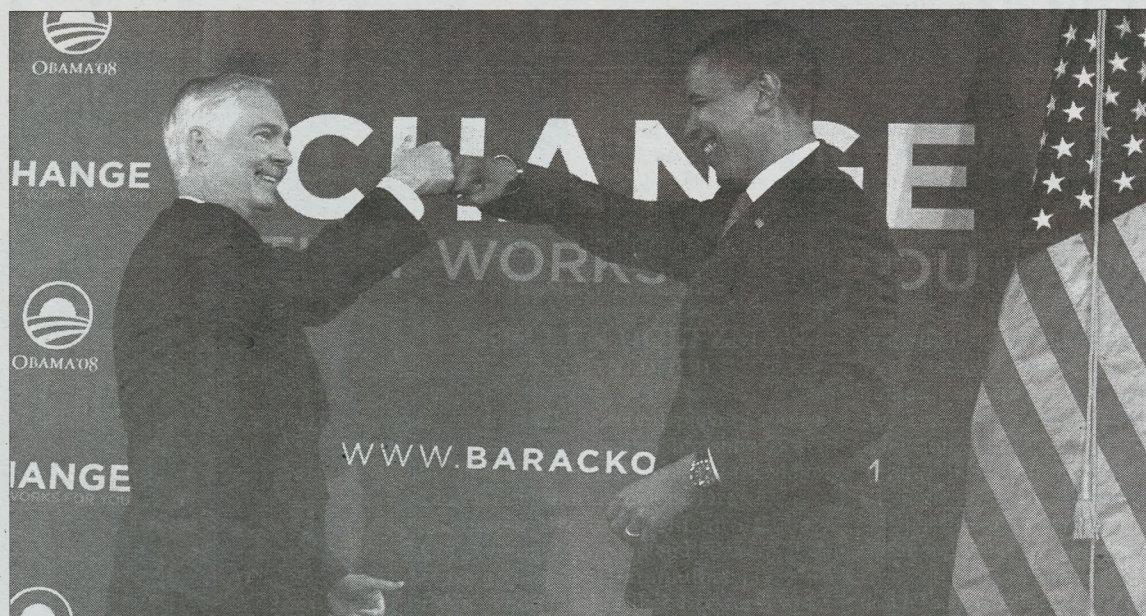
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Governor Mike Easley and Senator Obama bumped hands at the Exposition Center in Raleigh on Monday. "The decision we make in November will shake a generation."

Obama focused solely on the economy, citing the decrease in job availability, the crumbling housing market and the rise in gas and tuition prices, among others. Obama stated that in some areas of policy he and John McCain agree, but in the area of the economy, "[we] have fundamentally different policies."

Obama said that his plans for the economy include creating more jobs through developing research and technology, combating high gas prices through developing alternative fuel options, creating a stipend for college-bound students and helping homeowners refinance their homes through a \$10 billion foreclosure prevention fund.

Although he commended McCain for his service in the US military, Obama said that his policies would "only take care of the healthy and wealthy."

"We have tried it their way for eight long years and it has failed," Obama said. "It's time for something new."

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

SOLAR POWER continued from page 2

of the program attend NC colleges and universities and choose in-state careers.

The NC-MSEN program was founded in 1986 and currently has nine Pre-College sites, including NC State, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte and Western Carolina University. ECU's program began in the summer of 2007 with a group of sixth and seventh grade students. It is a part of the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology Education in the College of Education. Currently, there are four school districts that partner with ECU's program: Edgecombe, Lenoir, Washington and Wayne counties.

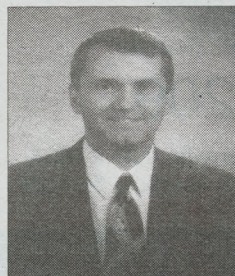
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Students from the Pre-College program at ECU compete in Raleigh.

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Opinion

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A look at young stars

Role models or harlots?

ANDREA ROBERTSON
OPINION WRITER

I recently received the latest edition of *Rolling Stone*, and upon opening it, I was immediately brought to laughter by an advertisement for *Nashville Star*, a television show hosted by Billy Ray Cyrus.

This man, whose one hit debuted before I entered kindergarten, has found his way back into the spotlight through his 15-year-old daughter, Miley Cyrus. Sadly, by using his daughter's coattails to gain fame, he will probably ruin this young girl-- or at least her reputation. Celebrities like Lindsay Lohan, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera all have a few things in common: sex, drugs and Disney. I predict a similar path for Miley Cyrus.

First known for her mullet-wearing father and Disney series *Hannah Montana*, Miley Cyrus recently had two new calls to fame: her underwear picture that was released on the internet, and her seemingly topless photo in *Vanity*

Fair. Both of these photos were serious embarrassments for which Cyrus deeply apologized. Unfortunately, it seems that inappropriate pictures are the first step into the vortex of lost innocence for young Hollywood starlets.

Like Vanessa Hudgens from *High School Musical*, who had a mishap with nude photos being released, Disney is still keeping Cyrus on board. However, I don't understand how these girls should continue to be viewed as role models. These young women should have enough insight to know that if they take inappropriate photos, these pictures will somehow find a way to get leaked to the public and ultimately influence young girls to take their clothes off.

Cyrus says that she wants to follow in the path of Hillary Duff, rather than Lohan and Spears, because Duff has supposedly made it cool to be good. If that is the case, then why are there so many pictures of Duff in revealing clothes? Not only that, but Duff is a few years older than Cyrus, thus she can get away with wearing less clothing and

it is more acceptable. Duff is a grown woman.

Cyrus is a 15-year-old girl who is posing as a role model for girls as young as five. She shouldn't be comparing herself to an adult.

Cyrus needs to take a lesson from other girls who have grown up in Hollywood and realize that by having such a public life, even if she tries to be the quintessential angel, she will more than likely be made to look like nothing more than a sex symbol.

These female stars seem to learn nothing from past examples; however, it is very possible for a person to be a celebrity and have a private life.

Mandy Moore, who also grew up in Hollywood, has little to no bad PR. Moore seems to keep her private information where it should be: private.

Perhaps in order to be a positive role model in Hollywood one must do everything she can to stay out of the spotlight, otherwise, as a young woman, you will become nothing more than the next good girl gone skank.

This writer can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

RANT OF THE DAY

I love the 'Did you know?' section of The East Carolinian. It's definitely my fave.

PIRATE RANTS

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

I'm all set for November: got my McCain bumper sticker, shirt, coffee mug and yard sign. Woo hoo! I'm a McCainiac!

actually not as nice as you think I am, so stop asking me before I totally lose it.

The only thing that sucks about joining the Army is that I leave two days before the first home football game. Other than that ... HOOAH!

The next time I'm shelving a cart of books in the library and someone comes up and asks if I work there, I'm going to say no, I just do it for fun.

I love it when celebrities like Susan Sarandon threaten to leave the U.S. if (when) McCain wins. I say good riddance!

So, you're going to talk about your VD on the Minges bus? Fine. I'm going to laugh.

I miss Greenville!

Pros and cons of summer: Pro - Less traffic! Con - More road work! Which means it will still take me 25 minutes to drive five miles ... sigh.

2012 can't come soon enough.

The security guards at the library are arguing over who is the cutest? No wonder so many of the books I need are "missing."

Out of all the dorms on campus, why did they make us stay in cockroach-infested Aycock?

This heat is unbearable.

Summer dining sucks!

Instead of fixing the elevators in Howell, fix the air conditioner!

Why do the food centers around campus keep such insane hours? It's a weekend ... I know there aren't many of us around ... but, seriously, the dining hall should be open from 6-8. Because of you, I now get to eat pretzel goldfish for dinner because that is the only thing I have to eat. Thanks a lot.

We're finally getting another fountain in front of Wright Auditorium! About time! It shouldn't be this hot in early June! It's not even officially summer yet!

My work partner is a meth addict. We call him Crystal.

I went to see *Sex and the City*. It made me realize how lucky I am to have a good man.

Why don't the cashier's office employees know how to do their job without putting it off on other departments?

Will Forte is a DB and SNL is not funny.

It's so hot; I think I saw a squirrel shaving its tail!

Why can't I find an attractive guy at ECU?

Attention: Cute guys, if you want a girlfriend, then just come to the Speight building! It's a building full of us!

Don't knock on the bus door demanding to get on as the spotlight is turning green. I want to get home and not sit for another cycle of lights. I don't think the drivers like it too much either.

Are you deaf, dumb or stupid? Asking me for answers five times when our lab teacher just TOLD us leads me to believe you are. And I'm

Why Obama? WHY?!?!?!?

Dirty girls have all the fun!

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Did you know?

The women of the Tiwi tribe in the South Pacific are married at birth.

When Albert Einstein died, his final words died with him. The nurse at his side didn't understand German.

St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was not Irish.

The lance ceased to be an official battle weapon in the British Army in 1927.

St. John was the only one of the 12 apostles to die a natural death.

Many sailors used to wear gold earrings so that they could afford a proper burial when they died.

A South African monkey was once awarded a medal and promoted to the rank of corporal during World War I.

The Toltecs, seventh-century native Mexicans, went into battle with wooden swords so as not to kill their enemies.

China banned the pigtail in 1911 as it was seen as a symbol of feudalism.

Before it was stopped by the British, it was not uncommon for women in some areas of India to choose to be burnt alive on their husband's funeral pyre.

In 1647 the English Parliament abolished Christmas.

Pogonophobia is the fear of beards.

In ancient Peru, when a woman found an 'ugly' potato, it was the custom for her to push it into the face of the nearest man.

When George I became King of England in 1714, his wife did not become Queen. He placed her under house arrest for 32 years.

The magic word "abracadabra" was originally intended for the specific purpose of curing hay fever.

Only one child in 20 are born on the day predicted by the doctor.

Feeling the pinch at the pump

Help ease pain of high gas prices

VERONICA CARRINGTON
FEATURES EDITOR

Nobody is exempt from the impact of the rising cost of fuel—combine that with sky-high tuition and food prices and the almost four dollar a gallon price of gasoline hits college students especially hard.

For many of us, cars are the only way of transportation. However, there are a few simple tips that can help you to spend less money on gas, as well as reduce the amount of gas you use to help the environment.

Don't drive unless you have to.

If your destination is nearby, walk or ride your bike to get there. Not only will this save you gas but it will also be a great work out. If you cannot walk or bike to your destination, try taking the bus or other public transportation. "I always ride my bike; I just don't have the money to drive everywhere," ECU senior communication major Karen Harrison said. Harrison has saved over \$500 so far just by making the change.

Carpool.

Not only will you save money on gas, but you will also help reduce traffic congestion. Jennifer Savage, a junior nursing major at ECU, rides to classes at the Brody School of Medicine

with two other nursing majors in order to save time and money on gas. "We all meet up and ride together—it saves us money and we all rotate who drives each week," said Savage.

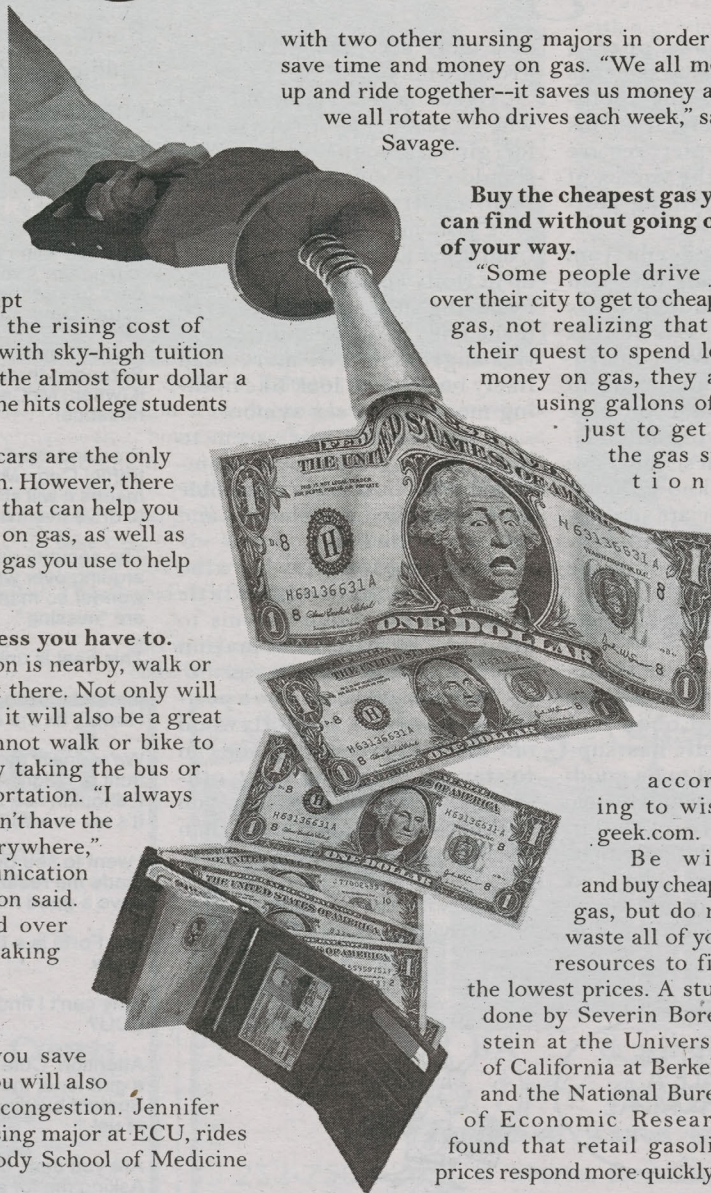
Buy the cheapest gas you can find without going out of your way.

"Some people drive all over their city to get to cheaper gas, not realizing that in their quest to spend less money on gas, they are using gallons of it just to get to the gas station,"

increases than to decreases in crude oil prices. Quite simply, when the barrels of gas prices are projected to rise, then it's time to fill up before the inflation literally chokes your wallet.

Ultimately, high gas prices are here for now but by following a few simple tips to save money you can shed less tears at the gas pump and spend more money elsewhere.

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



Pump prices

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

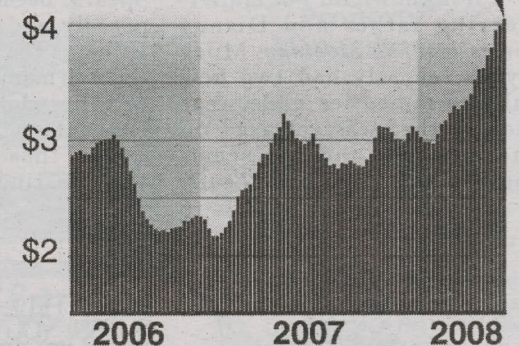
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Returning troops wage war at home

Post-traumatic stress plagues soldiers

VERONICA CARRINGTON
FEATURES EDITOR

According to a recent publication by *MSNBC*, the US Army conducted a study of the mental health of troops who fought in Iraq and found that one in eight reported symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

The survey also showed that

less than half of those with problems sought help from a medical professional out of fear of being stigmatized or hurting their careers. Post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, is an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure to a terrifying event or ordeal in which grave physical harm occurred or was threatened. Traumatic events that may trigger PTSD include violent personal assaults, natural or human-caused disasters, accidents or military combat.

People with PTSD have per-

sistent frightening thoughts and memories of their ordeal and feel emotionally numb, especially with people they were once close to. They may experience sleep problems, feel detached or numb or be easily startled.

According to the National Institute of Mental Illness, PTSD affects about 7.7 million American adults, but it can occur at any age, including childhood. Women are more likely to develop PTSD than men, and there is some evidence that susceptibility to the disorder

may run in families.

J.P. Jernigan, a company executive who speaks out regarding PTSD in rape or child molestation cases believes that PTSD can be even more fatal than some addictions if not treated properly.

"It can make you a person you don't want to be, it can control your life," said Jernigan to *MSNBC*.

Jernigan, a rape survivor, encourages anyone who thinks they may have PTSD to get help. PTSD is often

see **WAR** page 8

Kung Fu Panda: a classic?

Maybe not

(MCT)

Plenty of adolescent boys probably think of Angelina Jolie as having been created on a computer of their own hormone-addled minds. But there she was at Cannes last month, doing the French poodle-and-pony show for a computerized cartoon film she wasn't even in. Except for her sultry voice.

"It is a real pleasure as a mom to be able to bring your kids to a film that you also really feel is a good film and goes back to the classic animated films," she said, during the press blitz igniting the international launch of *Kung Fu Panda*, the highly hyped DreamWorks feature, which cross-pollinates Bruce Lee with your Teddy bear.

Kung Fu Panda is one of the last 2D films DreamWorks Animation reportedly plans to make, but when Jolie said "classic," what did she mean? Two very different animated movies were capturing the imagination, or at least dominating discussions, along the Croisette last month: *Panda*, of course, and *Waltz With Bashir*, an Israeli-made, animated documentary about the massacre of Palestinians in 1982 Lebanon. While the latter may, ultimately, be deemed a classic over time, it's not exactly what Jolie had in mind.

No, "classic" in the enchanted realm of big-budget, big-screen cartoon projects—which might include, perhaps, star Jack Black cavorting with dancing pandas on the French Riviera—is more about pushing the same audience buttons

via the same emotional devices and structures.

Like an audience at the now-104-year-old *Peter Pan* being asked to clap their hands and believe in fairies ("Save Tink!"), faith is always a major factor in the way the animated feature plays out on an impressionable audience. What changes is the ambience, the animal species of the characters and of course, the filmmaking technology. What seldom changes is the underdog status and the Joseph Campbell-esque hero's journey.

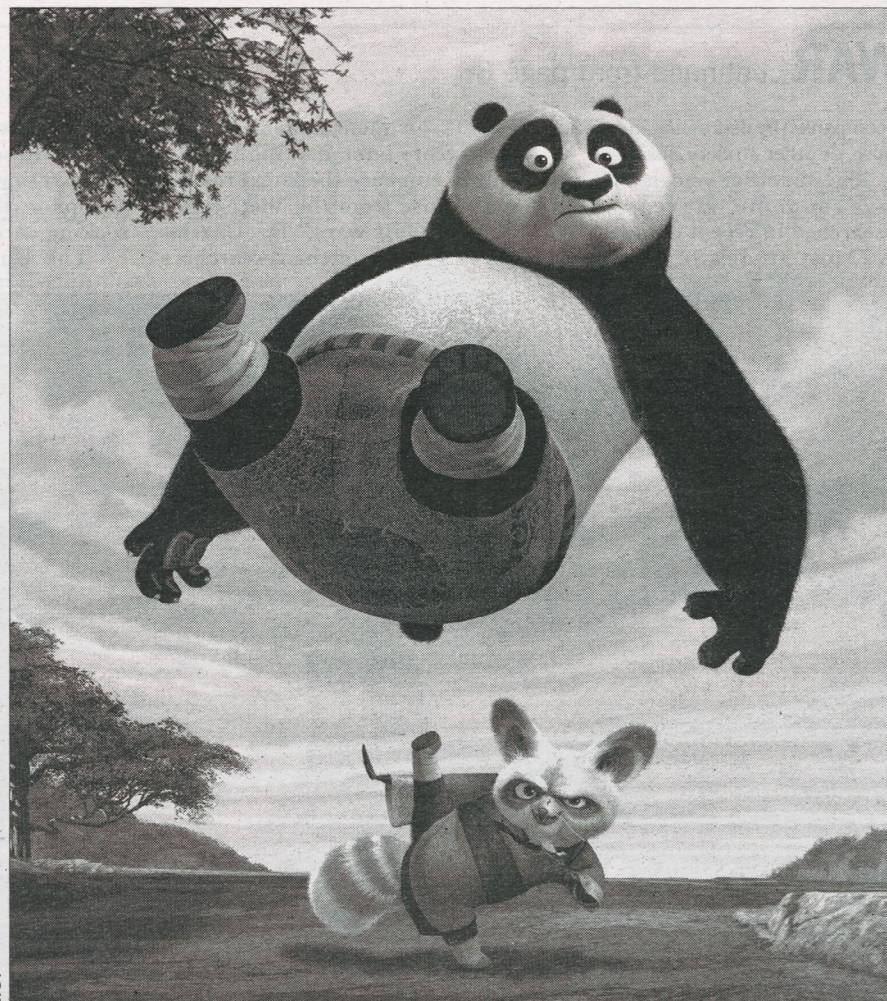
Take Po (voice of Black), the Ursa Major of the current movie season and the scion of a noodle-making clan in ancient China. His most distinguishing characteristic seems to be that he is the laziest bamboo-eater in Asia. So when greatness is thrust upon him in *Kung Fu Panda*, the outlook isn't good.

Among recent releases, *Barnyard*—in which Otis, the chronically laid-back male cow (please don't ask) inherits leadership of the farm—is close to the template for *Kung Fu Panda*. But it's hardly the only example: *Ratatouille* presents an unavoidable comparison with *Panda* (and a box-office take it would like to emulate). In it, a French rat aspires to be a French chef. In light of that, a panda throwing spinning back-kicks seems relatively plausible.

Rooting for the impossible is a staple of animated "classics," and with the exception of Bambi's mother, setbacks are rare and unwelcome.

But filmmakers have also taken the opposite tack—putting the privileged in the

see PANDA page 8



MCT

Jack Black is the voice for Po, a lazy but lovable panda in the new film, *Kung Fu Panda*.

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WAR continued from page 6

accompanied by depression, substance abuse, or other anxiety disorders.

The disorder and its effects have become more widely researched in recent decades.

"Most studies of past wars'

effects on mental health were done years later, making it difficult to compare the latest results with those from the Vietnam or Persian Gulf wars," Dr. Charles

W. Hoge, one of the researchers

at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, told *MSNBC*. "Of particular concern is that troops with problems are not seeking care."

The United States Depart-

ment of Veterans Affairs suggests for those who think they have PTSD to talk to a family doctor, a mental health professional or a religious leader.

Many studies have shown that speaking with a medical professional can help rid the inner turmoil of PTSD. According to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, having symptoms of the disorder does not always mean that someone has it. Some of the symptoms of PTSD are also symptoms for other mental health problems. For example, trouble concentrating or feeling less interested in activities that were enjoyable in the past can be symptoms of both depression and PTSD--different problems have different treatments.

Diagnosis will usually involve a formal evaluation by a psychiatrist, psychologist or clinical social worker specifically trained to assess psychological problems.

Fortunately, PTSD is treatable and once diagnosed, most people can return to normal lives.

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



A returning soldier who received the Purple Heart suffers from symptoms of PTSD after coming back to the US.

PANDA

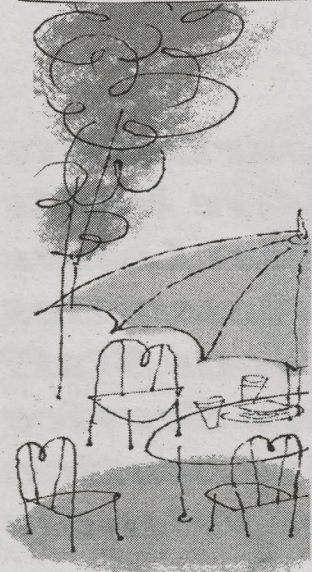
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unaccustomed position of being oppressed. In these cases, the audience is, presumably, expected to sympathize with the masses (or as much mass as has been accumulated), while still harboring a sympathetic feeling for the protagonist—who is getting his or her comeuppance.

Where "Kung Fu Panda" separates itself from the pack, almost all observers and critics have noted, is in its furious action and glorious, if computer-driven animation. It's not *Snow White* but then, who would want to market the naive, unironic, product-placement-free *Snow White* now? What you want is a movie with familiar emotional tugs, easy-to-digest morals, huggable characters and a few bad guys being clobbered. And getting the imprimatur of the French doesn't hurt, apparently.

"Being an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival is the *Good Housekeeping* seal of approval," said Jeffrey Katzenberg, of DreamWorks. "And it's particularly unique when it's a broad commercial movie—as opposed to an art film. There's tremendous, tremendous value to that."

There's also tremendous value in not messing with a time-honored formula.



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Four Pirates begin journey to the big leagues

Bristow drafted in fourth round by Cubs

KELLEN HOLTZMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Four ECU baseball players took a small step closer to the "big show" after being selected in last week's 2008 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft.

Justin Bristow (Chicago Cubs), Corey Kemp (Milwaukee Brewers), T.J. Hose (Arizona Diamondbacks), and Ryan Wood (Milwaukee Brewers) were each selected after solid 2008 seasons in Pirate uniforms.

Junior right-hander Bristow was the first Pirate taken in the draft and the only one to go on day one. Bristow was the 161st overall pick in the fifth round by the Chicago Cubs.

With his selection, Bristow became the eighth highest draft pick in ECU his-

tory. The ultimate distinction belongs to Pat Watkins, who was drafted in the first round by the Cincinnati Reds in 1993.

Current Diamondback Chad Tracy was drafted in the seventh round in 2001.

Bristow's honors include being named Conference USA Newcomer of the Year, Second-team All C-USA, a selection to the NCAA All-Regional Team, and a candidate for the Roger Clemens Award.

The Richmond, VA native played on the mound and in the infield during his two-year stint at Auburn before nailing down the role of Sunday starter for ECU.

Senior catcher Kemp was the first Pirate selected on day two, going in the 14th round to the Brewers.

Kemp's achievements have been well documented. The 2008 season was a breakout one for the Tennessee native, one in which saw his batting average jump nearly one hundred points from last season.

Kemp's amazing season led to him

being named C-USA Player of the Year and a semi-finalist for the Johnny Bench and Golden Spikes Awards.

Hose, a 36th round selection by the Diamondbacks, has struggled with consistency but has shown flashes of brilliance throughout his career.

Hose threw a complete game shutout in his final collegiate appearance against Columbia in the NCAA tournament.

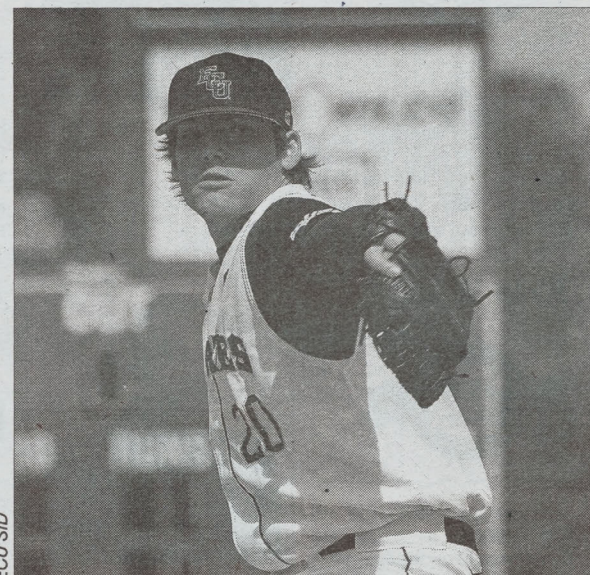
Wood was the last ECU player selected, joining teammate Kemp as a Brewers selection.

Wood started all 62 games and established career-highs in home runs, RBI, runs, doubles, total bases, walks, and stolen bases in his junior season.

As juniors, Bristow and Wood have the option of returning for their senior seasons.

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

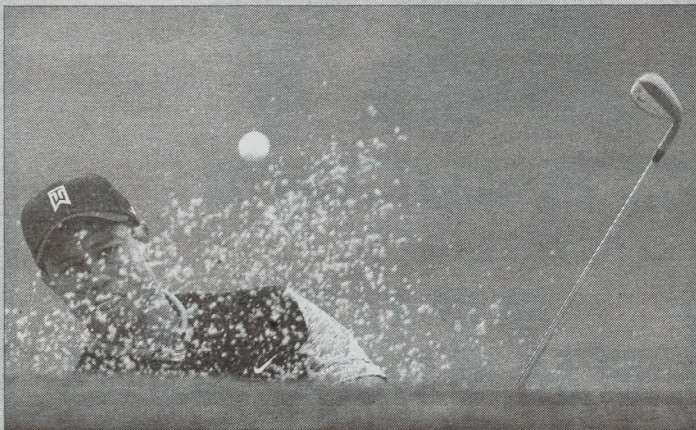
see **FOUR** page 10



ECU SID

The Cubs selection of Bristow made him the eighth highest draft pick in ECU baseball history.

Woods' injury leaves US Open field wide open



Tiger Woods finds his way out of the bunker during practice.

American players look to bring home crown at Torrey Pines

JARED JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

The middle of June is here and the weather has turned extremely hot, which can only mean one thing for golf fans: The 108th U.S. Open is upon us.

Starting this Thursday, a field of 156 golfers ranging from the

world's best to mere club professionals and amateurs will take to the tee at the South Course of Torrey Pines in La Jolla, CA, located outside of San Diego.

The hope is to become one of the immortals by winning one of golf's four majors.

While professional golf's other three majors stand each stand as a difficult test of the game, the U.S. Open has simply become the most difficult of the four majors in recent years.

see **WOODS** page 11

US soccer performance has mixed results on world stage

Men play world's top team to draw

HART HOLLOWAN
STAFF WRITER

The US Men's National Team just wrapped up a stretch of friendly matches against some of the top teams in the world, in preparation for their upcoming World Cup qualifiers later this summer.

The first match pitted the Nats against old rival England in new Wembley Stadium in London on May 28. Next, the team headed south to Santander, Spain to take on the "Red Fury" in their final tune up before Euro 2008.

The Eagles capped off the stretch with a home match in New Jersey against FIFA's No. 1 ranked team in the world, Argentina. The Giants Stadium's crowd of over 77,000, a record for a men's national team game in the US, saw goalie Tim Howard put on a clinic and powered the team to a well fought draw.

When these matches were set earlier this year, the England match seemed to be the best chance for the MNT to get a result. England had been eliminated from the European championships, missing their first major international tournament since the 1994 World Cup.

The US came into the match riding high after a 3-0 win against a tough Poland team, but learned on the eve of the match that they would be without the services of talismanic forward Landon Donovan, who was poised to earn his 100th cap, due to a groin injury.

Liverpool superstar Steven Gerrard orchestrated the English offense as he put David Beckham and Jer-

main Defoe through on goal only to see the chances wasted. It would be a recurring theme for Defoe as he frustratingly squandered chance after chance in front of the goal all night long.

Predictably so, England made the breakthrough in the 38th minute through a Beckham free kick. He sent in the cross from the right flank and picked out the head of captain John Terry who sent it just past the outstretched hand of the diving Tim Howard.

After halftime, the U.S. came out with a bit more attacking verve and Eddie Johnson came close when he sent Heath Pearce a cross screaming past the post off his left foot. It would prove to be the best chance of the match for the US.

However, Gerrard buried an insurance goal in the 59th minute, exposing some dreadful positioning by the US backline and the game was all but over. The 2-0 final doesn't truly express how easy the win was for the English.

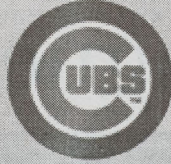
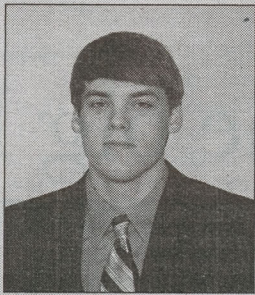
The US fared much better a week later in Spain. Some line-up changes by coach Bob Bradley, most notably the insertion of teenage sensation Freddy Adu into midfield, led to a more dangerous attack against Luis Aragonés's side.

Although Spain dominated possession in midfield, Adu was at the center of every dangerous US attack, which begs the question of why he is still not a consistent starter for the American side. The US, without Donovan's speed and deep runs, were missed again as the US wasted several breaks, most notably from the lack of quality displayed by the inept Eddie Johnson

see **US SOCCER** page 10


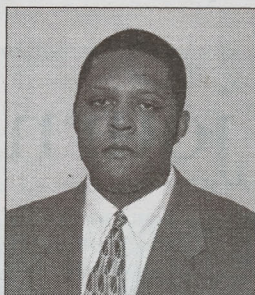
FOUR continued from page 9

Justin Bristow



Class: Junior
Hometown: Richmond, VA
Last college: Auburn
Position: RHP
Team: Chicago Cubs (Round 5, pick 161)
Key 2008 stats: 9-2 overall record, 3.07 ERA, 8.07 strikeout average (per nine innings)

Corey Kemp



Class: Senior
Hometown: Franklin, TN
Last college: Young Harris (JUCO)
Position: Catcher
Team: Milwaukee Brewers (Round 14, pick 428)
Key 2008 stats: batting average (.341), home runs (18), RBI (72)

Ryan Wood

Class: Junior
Hometown: Woodbridge, VA
High school: C.D. Hylton
Position: Infielder
Team: Milwaukee Brewers (Round 42, pick 1268)
Key stats: batting average (.306), home runs (13), RBI (51)

T.J. Hose

Class: Senior
Hometown: Hagerstown, MD
High school: North Hagerstown
Position: RHP
Team: Arizona Diamondbacks (Round 36, Pick 1098)
Key stats: 7-4 overall record, 4.46 ERA, 23-17 career record with two saves

US SOCCER continued from page 9

up front. A brilliant solo effort from Xavi Hernandez in the 79th minute accounted for Spain's only goal of the match. Hernandez easily glided past US defender Oguchi Onyewu and the rest of the US backline, leaving little hope of a save for goalkeeper Brad Guzan.

Though they did lose, the US did improve vastly over its performance in England the previous week, especially in the first half with Adu on the pitch, who was substituted at halftime due to a slight injury to his ankle.

Concerns remained about the ability of the central defender pairing of Onyewu and Carlos Bocanegra to keep up with the pace of strikers like Fernando Torres who troubled them throughout the first half with his speed and skill on the ball.

Those concerns were amplified going into the Argentina match-up. Argentine youngsters Lionel Messi and Sergio Aguero, who shredded the Mexican defense to the tune of four goals a few days earlier, were expected by many to have their way with the US defense. Though chances were created, the US backline stood their ground against the South American super power.

In the first half, the Argentine chances came from pinpoint passes out midfield but Tim Howard foiled several one-on-one chances from front man Julio Cruz. Man of the match Howard made seven saves in the first half to keep the teams level as they went into the dressing rooms.

On the American side, the return of Landon Donovan was felt as his marauding runs down the wings opened up chances for the US. Though he would see time late in the match, one could only wonder what his pace might have brought had it been paired with the creativity of Adu.


Regardless, after two controversial red cards, one for either team, the game ended in a 0-0 draw.

It is hard to consider a three-game stretch that produced no wins and no goals as success, but with the improvement shown by the US over just a week and a half, it is hard to consider it a failure. Now, it will be interesting to see if they can translate the momentum into their upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Barbados.


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

Staff photos

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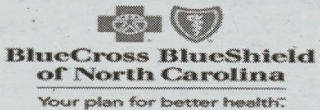
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The Top 10 Concerns of Summer School Students

10. "I guess I'll go to the library everyday...there'll be nothing else to do around here"

In order to keep up with the rigorous pace of most summer classes, a consistent trip to the library may be very helpful to you. However, also consider some of the unique summer events that may be happening in the community during the summer months to give you a social outlet (i.e. concerts, festivals, outdoor activity specials, etc.)

9. "Summer school is the perfect time to stay around and party!"

The decision to devote a significant amount of time to taking classes over the summer is one that is commendable and should be taken seriously. Staying around to simply hang out and get into activities that you otherwise wouldn't get into during the fall and spring semesters is a big mistake! Enjoy "sticking around" with minimal distractions, yet still be smart and make wise decisions.

8. "Summer classes aren't as intense as fall or spring classes...are they?"

Due to summer sessions being shorter than fall and spring semesters, chances are that more material is being covered and at a faster pace during the summer. Therefore, taking a class over the summer could prove to be more of a challenge than you may expect.

7. "I can probably pick up some extra shifts at work now"

Although you may be only taking one or two classes over the summer, summer courses can move at a very rigorous pace which might give you less time to study and to complete various assignments. Balance your time so that you still have time to relax and give yourself breaks to stay motivated.

6. "I'm tired of going home for just a weekend"

There are a few holidays that ECU recognizes during the summer months that could work to your advantage in planning an "extended weekend" with family or loved ones. Don't forget about the break between the second summer session and fall semester! Use these holidays when classes will not be held to help you plan more substantial visits.

5. "All of my friends went home for the summer"

Although your usual "circle of friends" may not be mobilized on campus during the summer, use that as an opportunity to add to your existing pool of friends. Being open to new friendships may just be the key to keeping you focused on your classwork yet also finding some time to simply hang out and enjoy your summer!

4. "Whoever said classes in the summer was a good idea?"

The opportunity to take classes over the summer can benefit you for a variety of different reasons. Please keep in mind that the decision to take summer classes is completely voluntary. Try to look at your summer class schedule as one that is helping you to accomplish a goal and not a burden.

3. "Maybe I should try to see how many classes I can knock out to graduate early"

Summer session classes are not designed for you to be able to "cram" them in. Remember...for this year, this is your summer. Allow time to do some things you enjoy!

2. "I have to pass this class...it's a prerequisite for one of my fall classes!"

Although this may be the case, try not to put extra distracting pressures on yourself while enrolled in summer session. Know that you are capable of successfully passing your class and devote consistent time and effort into your study habits and the completion of your assignments.

1. "I won't even have a summer vacation"

You will have as much of a summer vacation as you would like to have! Try not to look at your academic obligations as limiting your potential to have a really good summer. Being enrolled in summer session classes gives you the unique opportunity to meet a whole new group of friends, take advantage of summer Greenville events, and still make time to take a couple of trips!

If you begin to feel overwhelmed while taking summer classes, please contact the Center for Counseling & Student Development at 328-6661 to make an appointment with one of our helpful counselors.

www.edu.edu/studentlife/counselingcenter/

WOODS continued from page 9

Staff Predictions

Kellen Holtzman

Sports Editor

Winner- Phil Mickelson

Dark Horse- Brandt Snedeker

Jared Jackson

Staff Writer

Winner- Phil Mickelson

Dark Horse- Sergio Garcia

Hart Holloman

Staff Writer

Winner- Adam Scott

Dark Horse- Boo Weekley



The South Course at Torrey Pines isn't exactly a walk in a park either.

Built in 1957, the South Course at Torrey Pines has always been among the nation's hardest courses. This year the course will play at 7,643 yards which is 379 yards longer than the previous record holder of the U.S. Open.

The chances of an under-par winning performance seem unlikely given the scenario of the course yardage and likely foggy conditions the players will face—but while most previous U.S. Open courses play to a par of 70, the South Course at Torrey Pines will play to 71.

So who will the winner be on Sunday? Well, it will take a long hitter who has a solid combination of a short game and putting to match. Sound familiar?

When it comes to majors, Tiger Woods is usually the answer to the question posed above, but Woods is battling back from knee surgery that took place about eight weeks ago after his runner-up finish at the Masters.

In fact, Woods did not play his first full round since the surgery until June 4th.

According to Woods, he has trained hard during his eight-week layoff including taking full swings with every club in the bag.

However, it's worth mentioning that Woods won the Buick Invitational held at the Torrey Pines in January, albeit a "tamer" course.

If Tiger isn't in the mix, then Phil Mickelson is the next big name to look to in terms of winning the U.S. Open. While "Lefty" has never won the tournament, he owns four career

runner-up finishes and knows Torrey Pines South Course as well as anyone in the field. Couple that with his long driving off the tee and brilliant short game and Mickelson should be around to the very end.

Adam Scott, a legitimate title contender, will be paired with Woods and Mickelson in the first two rounds. The United States Golf Association [USGA] is trying something new by pairing the top 12 together in sets of three for the first two rounds.

Of course, there are numerous golfers who could win the U.S. Open and it is usually who you would least expect. The last five winners were Jim Furyk, Retief Goosen, Michael Campbell, Geoff Ogilvy and Angel Cabrera.

Notice a trend?

Jim Furyk was the last American to bring home what is considered the U.S. national championship. The four-year drought is the longest without a U.S.-born champion since the first two decades of the tournament.

While it speaks well globally for the game of golf, you can bet it doesn't sit well with American golfers who want the "U.S." to return to the U.S. Open.

With such a great field at the 108th U.S. Open, it's more or less of a coin flip as to who will win but if the drama on Sunday plays out like it usually does, golf fanatics are in for a treat.

With the tournament being broadcast in the "prime-time" hours for most of the country, this could end up being a tournament to remember.

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

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