



## Star-studded weekend



AILEEN DEVLIN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Smollett addresses members of the crowd on Friday about the Obama campaign.



NICHOLAS THIGPEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Danielle Panabaker, Ellen Pompeo and student Melissa Hege speak in support of the Obama campaign.

### Smollett dances her way to ECU

ELISE PHILLIPS  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Jurnee Smollett (*The Great Debaters*) made a grand entrance Friday at about 4:15 p.m., appearing in front of dozens of ECU students, faculty and staff, members of the community and Sen. Barack Obama supporters, to speak about the importance of voting, registering to vote and Obama's presidential campaign.

First, Smollett, 21, joined a crowd of students in the middle of the floor to dance to the "Cupid Shuffle."

"Hi y'all," she yelled. Black Student Union President Allen Thomas then formally introduced Smollett to the crowd, who had gathered around the stage where the actress would speak.

"It's a great day for the Democrats," Thomas said. "Jurnee Smollett is [here], and [has been] traveling across the country to spread the message of change." Thomas outlined various TV

series that Smollett has played in, including "Full House," "Hanging With Mr. Cooper," "Grey's Anatomy" and "House."

The actress then took the stage amidst an eruption of applause.

"[I]ve been traveling around the country, invading college campuses," Smollett said. "[I] want y'all to feel the burden that [I] feel, and be a part of this movement that [I] have been a part of for so long. I wanted to come here and tell you why I'm so passionate about this campaign."

Smollett said that she had never campaigned for a presidential candidate before, but wanted to step out of her "comfort zone" for this election.

"When I researched [Obama's] policies on certain issues that would affect my life and my family's life, and my relatives and friends that I care about, I was like, 'this is the person that I want running my country,' because not only

does he come from people like us—now, I'm not saying Black people—but he comes from ordinary folks."

Smollett appealed to the crowd, saying that Obama's campaign needed people like them for a win in November.

"Barack can't do it without every living, breathing person who is tired of not having health care, tired of having your mom and your aunts and your uncles and your fathers having their homes foreclosed," she said. "We need your help."

"You know what the experts say about us," Smollett said. "They say that between the ages of 18 and 35, we're apathetic and we don't close the deal. We need to take this campus, we need to take this city, [and] we need to take this state, because then we can take the nation. Let's all join together."

After her speech, Smollett led the group to the back of the

> SMOLLETT page 2

### TV actresses visit campus Sunday

BINTA L. DIXON  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

On Sunday afternoon, actresses Ellen Pompeo from ABC's hit drama, "Grey's Anatomy" and Danielle Panabaker from *Mr. Brooks*, spoke with ECU students about their choices to support Barack Obama in the fast approaching November presidential election.

The rally was quite different from Friday's Canvass Cookout, which focused on voter registration and was highlighted by lively music and food.

Sunday's gathering was smaller and focused more on the issues raised concerning Obama's campaign and allowed the audience to ask questions and talk with fellow supporters.

The group of around 80 people gathered in the great rooms at ECU's Mendenhall to hear the actresses speak and engage in a discussion.

"We have a real opportunity to make a big difference,"

Panabaker said. "The past eight years have been really tough ... It's a really, really scary time right now. Fortunately, we have a candidate like Barack Obama who can change all of that."

Pompeo focused on how our country can come back from crisis.

"Like so many generations before us who've been faced with critical moments — they have their JFKs and their Martin Luther Kings and their Kennedy's — and I believe we have Barack Obama for our moment," Pompeo said. "This is our moment. And moments like this are terrible for our country, but they're also fantastic for our country because this is when we can truly shine."

Pompeo and Panabaker also focused on the importance of youth in this election and the changes they can make.

Melissa Hedge, junior psychology major and field coordinator for the Campaign for Change, was responsible for organizing the Canvass Kickoff

Rally hosting the celebrities.

Melissa spoke highly of Pompeo and said that the event exceeded her expectations despite some last-minute changes.

"The energy was awesome," Hege said after the rally.

Hege was also proud of the amount of registrations they had achieved over the weekend and throughout the campaign's stay on campus. She expressed her excitement over student involvement and also her anticipation of Obama's return to the East coast. She stated that many do not realize the impact that small towns, such as Greenville, have on the election.

The highlight of the rally, for Hege, was seeing the parents and students engaging in the discussion. She hopes the rally will encourage even more people to get involved in the campaign and to vote.

Danielle Edmondson, a freshman ICTN major and Campaign for Change intern, said that her experiences throughout the cam-

> POMPEO page 2

## Vigil held for victims of sexual assault

BINTA L. DIXON  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Thursday, Sept. 25, in the multi-purpose room of the Student Health Center, students, staff and sexual assault prevention advocates gathered to remember those who perished in the face of sexual assault in a vigil titled, "The Other Side of Silence."

"The most important thing for the victim to know is that it is not their fault," said Sue Molhan, Victim Advocate Services coordinator for ECU.

Many victims feel that because they were drinking when assaulted, they cannot report the assault, and more pointedly that intoxication makes them responsible for the attack. This is commonly called "victim blaming," and is the main cause of many unreported sexual assaults.

Sherra' McMillan, a victim advocate and doctorate student in the counseling and rehabilitation program at ECU, spoke about her

assault six years prior.

Sherra' is involved in many programs designed to bring awareness concerning sexual assault, including the Take Back the Night march held earlier last week.

She stressed the importance of speaking out about assault and putting a spot light on the problem of sexual assault, saying that she felt the issue is often times swept under the rug. She also commented that it was crucial for her to have a support system during such a difficult time.

Sexual assault can put victims at high risk for depression, drug use and suicide; therefore victims are highly encouraged to seek help after their trauma.

Her twin sister, Shawnté McMillan, a health educator at ECU and organizer of the sexual assault vigil, was Sherra's support when learning to cope with the assault.

"This vigil will give a face to sexual assault," said Shawnté



ASHLEY YARBER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Speakers at the sexual assault vigil on Thursday evening.

McMillan.

She also added that the purpose of the vigil was not only to remember those who have been

lost but also to reach out to the public in different avenues such as poetry and music.

One in six women will be

a victim of sexual assault, and college-age women are at an increasingly high risk, according to information from the

vigil. Therefore, awareness is a key component in preventing sexual assault.

"The vigil will help people not only get tested, but to come forward after sexual assault," said student Katlin Barrett, who helped plan the event.

According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network; 60 percent of sexual assaults are not reported to police.

In addition to speeches made by Sue Molhan and Sherra' McMillan, a ceremony was performed as a tribute to lost victims, as well as a selection from ECU's Gospel Choir.

The event highlighted the seriousness of sexual assault on ECU's campus and throughout the world.

If you or anyone you know has been sexually assaulted, there is help. Contact ECU's Victim Advocate, Student Health Services (SHS) or call 911.

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

### Today's Carolinian

News  
Opinion  
Features  
Sports  
Classifieds

### Pirate Rant of the Day

ECU should sell an anthology of Pirate Rants instead of trying to solicit money from alumni.

page 3

### News

Check inside for a recap of Friday night's debate.

page 2

### Features

Interested in travel? Learn more about how ECU students can study abroad and learn about other countries inside.

page 4

### Sports

The Houston Cougars knocked ECU out of the Top-25 and humbled the Pirates at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium this Saturday.

page 6





## NEWSLINE

**Dow Jones has largest point drop ever, as bailout plan fails in House**

Wall Street faced a huge blow Monday when stocks plummeted after the government's financial rescue plan failed in Congress. The Dow Jones Industrials dropped nearly 7 percent after the House voted down the administration's \$700 billion plan to buy up distressed mortgage securities. The almost 780-point drop was the largest one-day point drop ever for the index surpassing the record 684.81 drop, set in the first trading day after the Sept 11 terrorist attacks.

Declines for the Standard and Poor's 500 and Nasdaq composite indexes were even larger, and credit markets froze further amid the growing belief that the country is headed into an even larger credit and economic crisis.

Only 162 stocks rose on the NYSE and 3,073 dropped, a fear-based reaction rarely seen on Wall Street. With the plan uncertain, no one knows how the financial sector, stricken with billions of dollars in bad mortgage bets, will recover.

Many investors were surprised at the downfall of the plan. The House has decided to reconvene on Thursday to revisit the issue.

**Gas shortage hits Southeast**

Across a large section of the South, a hurricane-induced gasoline shortage that was expected to last only a few days is headed into its third week, and experts say it could last until mid-October. The Atlanta area has been hit particularly hard, along with Nashville and western North Carolina. Those that are able to find gas are paying more than drivers elsewhere around the country.

The shortage began with Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, which shutdown refineries along the Gulf Coast. Many refineries are still making fuel at reduced levels but the Southeast relies heavily on two pipelines that carry fuel from the Gulf of Mexico.

Drivers in the hardest-hit areas that have been topping off their tanks every time they pass a station with fuel has only created a larger problem.

**Man abandons nine children at Nebraska hospital under safe-haven law**

Nebraska lawmakers are discussing possible changes to their safe haven law after massive publicity surrounding a man who left nine of his ten children at a hospital Wednesday. The brothers and sisters, ages 1-17, were left by Gary Staton, an out-of-work widower. Staton said that after his wife's death in early 2007, shortly after she gave birth to their youngest child, he was overwhelmed by his responsibilities. Staton's oldest child, who is 18, was not left at the hospital.

The law permits caregivers to abandon children at state certified hospitals without fear of prosecution. It was intended to protect infants, but because of the wording—the law uses the word “child” with no age limit—children up to age 17 have been abandoned. Some have reasoned that the law covers minors, which in Nebraska includes anyone under the age of 19. Six key lawmakers met Sunday night to begin discussions on changing the law.

**SMOLLETT** continued from 1

room to register to vote, receive pamphlets of information about Obama's campaign and of course, to take pictures.

Smollett's stop at ECU was part of her nation-wide tour. The actress has already visited campuses in several states, including New York, Nevada, California, South Carolina and Pennsylvania since she started campaigning

for Obama in January of this year. Smollett says that she has seen college students engaged in this campaign more than ever before.

“I've seen an excitement about the process,” she said. “I've seen people engaged who would never have been engaged before this time.”

Before Smollett arrived,

participants were treated to pizza, candy and music. “ECU for Obama” T-shirts were on sale at the event as well.

The event was sponsored by ECU Students for Obama, the ECU Democrats and the statewide Barack Obama campaign.

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



AILEEN DEVLIN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Smollett and members of the crowd dance at the Obama rally.

**POMPEO** continued from 1

paign made her “feel important.” She also commented that the rally had good crowd involvement and that she now felt like a part of history.

The rally closed a full weekend for ECU Students for Barack Obama and the events on Sunday ended with “100,000 Knocks

for Barack,” a rally where supporters went door-to-door recruiting voters.

A march is in the works, as well as other canvasses around ECU's campus.

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



NICHOLAS THIGPEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Ellen Pompeo has a conversation with members of the crowd.

**Obama, McCain argue over war, taxes in first debate****Debate schedule**

All start at 9 p.m. ET and are 90 minutes long:

**Presidential**

**1. Sept. 26**  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Miss.  
Moderator Jim Lehrer, PBS  
Focus Domestic policy

**2. Oct. 7**  
Belmont University  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Moderator Tom Brokaw, NBC  
Town meeting format; questions from audience

**3. Oct. 15**  
Hofstra University  
Hempstead, N.Y.  
Moderator Bob Schieffer, CBS  
Focus Foreign affairs

**Vice presidential**  
**4. Oct. 2**  
Washington University  
St. Louis  
Moderator Gwen Ifill, PBS  
Focus Domestic, foreign policy

© 2008 IMCT  
Source: Commission on Presidential Debates  
Graphic: Judy Treibler

(AP)

John McCain accused Barack Obama of compiling “the most liberal voting record in the United States Senate” Friday night as the two rivals clashed over taxes, spending, the war in Iraq and more in an intense first debate of the White House campaign.

“Mostly that's just me opposing George Bush's wrong-headed policies,” shot back the Democrat.

Obama said his Republican rival has been a loyal supporter of the unpopular president, adding

that the current economic crisis is “a final verdict on eight years of failed economic policies promoted by President Bush and supported by Sen. McCain.”

The two men were polite but pointed as they debated at close quarters for 90 minutes on the University of Mississippi campus.

McCain accused his younger rival of an “incredible thing of voting to cut off funds for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan,” a reference to legislation that cleared the Senate more than a year ago.

Obama disputed that, saying he had opposed funding in a bill that presented a “blank check” to the Pentagon while McCain had opposed money in legislation that included a timetable for troop withdrawal.

Obama opposed the invasion of Iraq in 2002, before he was a member of Congress, while McCain voted in the Senate to authorize the war.

“You were wrong” on Iraq, Obama repeated three times in succession. “John, you like to pretend the war began in 2007.”

McCain replied that Obama has refused to acknowledge the success of the troop buildup in Iraq that McCain recommended and Bush announced more than a year ago.

The two presidential candidates stood behind identical wooden lecterns on stage at the performing arts center at the University of Mississippi for the first of three scheduled debates with less than six weeks remaining until Election Day. The two vice presidential candidates will meet next week for their only debate, and Obama and McCain each put in a plug for his own running mate.

But there was a difference: Democrat Joe Biden made the round of post-debate television shows. NBC and CNN said they invited McCain's running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, who

has granted only three interviews since joining the ticket a month ago, but she declined.

The 47-year-old Obama is seeking to become the nation's first black president. McCain, 72, is hoping to become the oldest first-term chief executive in history — and he made a few jokes at his own expense.

“I've been around a while,” he said at one point. “Were you afraid I couldn't hear him?” he said at another after moderator Jim Lehrer repeated a phrase.

But he also sought to turn his age into an advantage.

“There are some advantages to experience and knowledge and judgment,” he said. “And I honestly don't believe that Sen. Obama has the knowledge or experience” to serve as commander in chief.

McCain also made a point of declaring his independence from Bush.

“I have opposed the president on spending, on climate change, on torture of prisoners, on Guantanamo Bay, on a long — on the way that the Iraq War was conducted. I have a long record and the American people know me very well ... a maverick of the Senate.”

It was a debate that almost didn't happen. McCain decided a few hours in advance to attend, two days after announcing he would try to have the event rescheduled if Congress had not reached an agreement on an economic bailout to deal with the crisis now gripping Wall Street.

The two men were pointed but polite, although at least once McCain sought to depict his rival as naive on foreign policy. That was in response to Obama's statement that it might become necessary to send U.S. troops across the Pakistani border to pursue terrorists.

“You don't say that out loud,” retorted McCain. “If you have to do things, you do things.”

He also criticized Obama

for having said he would sit down without precondition with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

“So let me get this right, we sit down with Ahmadinejad and he says ‘we're going to wipe Israel off the face of the earth’ and we say, ‘no you're not.’ Oh please,” McCain said.

Obama said Henry Kissinger, the former Republican secretary of state and a McCain adviser, shared his view on talks with Iran.

The two men also differed on federal spending. McCain said a freeze on most government spending was worth considering, except for veterans, defense and “some other vital issues.”

Obama said the problem with that was that some programs needed more money. He mentioned early childhood education as an example.

Moderator Jim Lehrer's opening question concerned the economic crisis. While neither man committed to supporting bailout legislation taking shape in Congress, they readily agreed lawmakers must take action to prevent millions of Americans from losing their jobs and their homes.

Both also said they were pleased that lawmakers in both parties were negotiating

on a compromise.

McCain jabbed at Obama, who he said has requested millions of dollars in pork barrel spending, including some after he began running for president.

As he does frequently while campaigning, the Republican vowed to veto any lawmaker's pork barrel project that reaches his desk in the White House. “You will know their names and I will make them famous,” he said.

The stakes were high as the two rivals walked on stage. The polls gave Obama a modest lead and indicated he was viewed more favorably than his rival when it came to dealing with the economy. But the same surveys show McCain favored by far on foreign policy.

Both candidates had rehearsed extensively, Obama prepping with advisers at a resort in Clearwater, Fla., and McCain putting in debate work at his home outside Washington.

The two presidential hopefuls are scheduled to debate twice more, at Belmont University in Nashville on Oct. 7 and at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., on Oct. 15. Vice presidential contenders Sarah Palin and Joe Biden are to square off in a single debate Oct. 2 at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Hair Connection**

107 Eastbrook Dr. Greenville (Near Sonic on Greenville Blvd.)

Relaxers Do Bee Wraps

39<sup>95</sup> 19<sup>95</sup>

Student Specials Tues-Fri only

Waxing Relaxers • Cuts • Color • Desire Relaxers

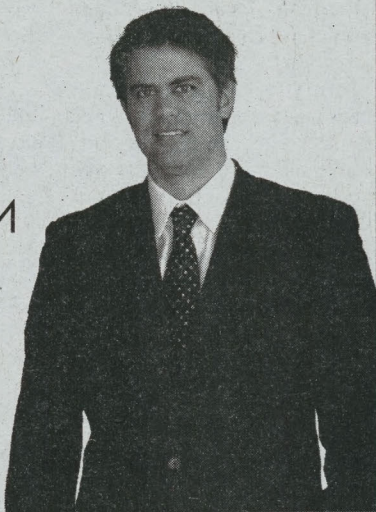
Trims • Hair Growth Treatment

Lila Jones 329-1210



**ROBERTS  
LAW FIRM**

2815-A S. CHARLES BLVD  
(across from The Exchange)



JIM ROBERTS, JR.

■ Drinking Tickets ■ Drug Charges  
■ DWI & Traffic Charges ■ Misdemeanors & Felonies

**252.758.8808**

www.jimrobertslaw.com



Pirates love the 'CHASE!

Come see all that SunChase has to offer!

Spacious 2, 3 & 4 bedroom apartments

- Fully furnished
- Full size washer & dryer
- Spacious living room
- Oversized kitchen
- Private balcony
- High Speed internet and cable
- On ECU Bus route and Pirate Express
- 24-hour business center
- 24-hour fitness center
- Sparkling pool with large sundeck
- Tanning beds
- Basketball & sand volleyball court
- Planned Resident Events

2201 NE Greenville Blvd Greenville, NC 27858

Phone: (252) 758-8002 Fax: (252) 758-8003

www.Sunchase-ECU.com





## The forgotten witch trial

JARED JACKSON  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

More than 15 years have passed since eight year-olds Steve Branch, Christopher Byers and Michael Moore were found brutally murdered in West Memphis, Arkansas in May of 1993.

At the crime scene, a wooded creek area, the boys were found naked and hog-tied with their shoe laces. They had been severely beaten and Byers testicles were mutilated.

In one of the most radical injustices of all-time, Damien Elchols, Jessie Misskelley and Jason Baldwin were convicted of the murders and labeled the "West Memphis Three." Elchols currently sits on death row while Baldwin received life without parole and Misskelley received life plus 40 years.

Just last year, DNA collected from the crime scene that was tested was found not to match any of the "West Memphis Three," yet a hair from Terry Hobbs, the stepfather of Steve Branch, was found on the shoe laces that were used to bind the boys together.

But that wasn't enough. On Sept. 10, a circuit court judge rejected claims that the DNA proved the "West Memphis Three" were not guilty.

Why it is entirely possible that the "West Memphis Three" in fact did murder the three young boys, in a court of law the burden is to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" that someone is either guilty or not. In the subsequent trial for the murders and the appeals, this was never accomplished.

The whole idea behind the injustice of this case is that Elchols, Misskelley and Baldwin were convicted due to a so-called "Satanic Panic" that gripped the small Bible-belt town of West Memphis. The three wore black and listened to heavy metal in a time where such behavior raised red flags in comparison to modern acceptance of this behavior.

Pink Floyd and Metallica lyrics, Stephen King novels and their interest in heavy metal were all presented as evidence in court as to why these three young men were guilty.

In Elchols' case, his interest in the Wicca religion was also used to paint him as a monster.

Misskelley was the sole reason why the three were arrested after being watched for a short period of time. He confessed to the murders and named Elchols and Baldwin as accomplices. However, many of the details of the confession turned out to be false. Misskelley was interrogated by detectives for approximately three hours—without being recorded—while interrogators revealed key information of the case to him. Add in the fact that Misskelley's IQ score of 72, which almost qualifies him to be considered legally retarded.

Less than 24 hours after the murders, workers in a Bojangles restaurant less than a mile from the crime scene reported to authorities that an African-American male covered with mud and blood entered the women's bathroom. Even though the man had left before the police got to the scene they did not enter the bathroom or collect evidence until the following day. What evidence that was collected was deemed to be lost in the trial.

A hair identified as that of being of African-American descent was later removed from a sheet that was used to wrap up one of the victims.

During the trial, John Mark Byers, father of Christopher Byers came under speculation of his involvement. During the trial, Byers admitted to giving HBO documentary cameraman Doug Cooper a hunting knife. On the knife a small amount of blood was discovered. Byers claimed to have never used the knife only to recant the statement and claim that he had used it to cut deer meat, only to change his mind later saying that he may have cut his thumb with the weapon.

After the trial, an attorney representing the "West Memphis Three" discovered what appeared to be bite marks on the victims. Byers' teeth had been removed, without a consistent reason for their removal, which pushed him out of the investigation.

An informant, Vicki Hutchenson, even admitted in 2003 that she fabricated her story, which incriminated the three. She claimed that police insisted that if she did not cooperate with them that they would take her child away. She also claimed that when she entered the police station they had photographs of the three hanging on the wall to use as dart targets.

Since the convictions, a small grassroots movement started to earn the "West Memphis Three" a new trial has expanded nationally and globally and even includes celebrities such as Will Ferrell and Jack Black as well as musicians Eddie Vedder and Natalie Maines of the Dixie Chicks.

While just scratching the surface of this injustice, it certainly proves that a cloud hangs over the convictions of the "West Memphis Three."

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



## 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](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com). Log onto [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) to submit a Rant of your own.

Yes I shot you, it was me.

common sense?

DON'T TAZE ME, BRO!

The company that makes all the food on campus makes food for prisons. No wonder the food is soooooo good.

My dog ate some wild mushrooms in the backyard and was tripping balls all day. Poor pup.

Someone took a crap in the showers.

Mark my words, it is impossible to get someone on campus to make your Subway sandwich the way you want it.

I loathe the student bus drivers. Is it so hard to show up for your job? If I have to get off of a bus one more time because it doesn't have a designated bus driver, I will probably punch one in the face.

Can we get it passed that college should not start 'til noon?

Oct. 1 is approaching. Isn't it time to change the late fee date again?

I am seriously attracted to Greg, the new meteorologist on WITN.

Just because a guy is 25, does NOT necessarily make him a man.

To the annoying girl on the North Campus bus who always complains about her roommates: Please, SHUT UP.

Grow up already to all the immature people who think it is cool to break your glass beer bottles in the parking lot of apartment complexes. I love trying to park my car maneuvering through the broken glass without getting a flat tire!

Advice: Wear something besides a short blue dress.

The fact that I already put together my Halloween costume is ridiculous. Only at ECU...

I don't think you taking me to a party and drinking to excess every weekend constitutes a "date."

Your only friends are your two roommates.

Dear roommates: It is not necessary to write complaints on the dry erase board. If you need to tell me something, walk five steps to my room and tell me.

Ask me out already, I promise I will say yes.

If you wear a hat with a flat brim and you still have the sticker on it, then what can I say, I guess that makes you cooler than me.

When I was a kid I liked to play with dolls. Now that I'm grown up I like to play with people.

Destination 360: Thanks for letting the other people who work with you skip in line. I was late to class.

Two supervisors at the student patrol unit just got fired for making a private Facebook group. Should that be allowed?

Emotions make me laugh. So, don't cry 'cause I'll laugh in yo' face.

Life is so much better without you.

I thought that designated bus stops meant they always stop at those stops ... apparently the Curry Court bus drivers don't understand that.

Just ask me out already!

Between texting and Facebook, I don't ever have to have a real conversation!

I wonder if the football players enjoy me honking at them while they are practicing, as much as I do!

I want my movies back!

I would love to see ECU offer a class to the guys titled "DATING 101: What not to do." Between video games, drinking and immaturity, I think I will be single for a long time.

A sad feeling comes over me when I get to the end of the Pirate Rants. ...

Your thinly veiled pick-up lines are annoying. Either ask me out or leave me alone.

To the girl in my psych class who always has her dance clothes on ... I think you're beautiful.

I'm trying desperately to avoid talking about politics, which makes this election paper due in English all the more annoying.

For those students who say, "I'm a Republican because everyone can't be on welfare," FINANCIAL AID is a form of welfare, you morons!

I was sober and that song STILL tripped me out.

Clement girls: You need to take your clothes out of the dryer. My friend and I will steal your bra. We've done it before.

Two hours of McDreamy ... Thank God "Greys" is back!!

We DID hit it off the other night, it wasn't just the alcohol. ... so ask for my number and call me sometime!

Reading Pirate Rants is better than reading PostSecrets.

To the girl in 205: I really like you.

I want to switch my major to physics. ... or economics ... or anything not involving engineering.

I don't know you that well, so I surely don't want to know about your brother and his powder. We work together! Don't you have

The NCC ninja wants you to wear a condom.

Happy Birthday, Allyssa!

## The first debate: was there a clear winner?

JON DOUGHERTY  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Debates are tricky animals. As a relatively new part of the presidential process, debates are one of the few times the American public gets to see the candidates unfiltered and without a net. With the first held in 1960 and then not again until 1976, the literature supporting the effects of debates is both extensive and yet still has few enough data points that the science surrounding the impact of debates is still improving. However, some points can be made.

The key to a debate is to not lose horribly. By this, I mean either doing something that makes you look bad—like when Richard Nixon didn't shave before the first debate in 1960—or allowing your opponent to make you look really bad, as Gerald Ford did in his second debate with Jimmy Carter in 1976.

These examples have demonstrated—particularly to front-runner candidates—that the key to a presidential debate is not to screw up.

For our candidates Friday, Obama came in

as the candidate looking to control the environment. He did OK, if not spectacular. By most accounts, Obama was successful Friday by confronting McCain when challenged; he stayed on domestic issues as much as possible but also showed good knowledge when speaking about foreign policy.

On the flip side of the coin, debates are often an opportunity to either put your opponent out of his misery with clear superiority or a chance to tighten or flip the lead in the race. The most classic example is John F. Kennedy in the first debate of 1960, when voters listening to the radio claimed Nixon won, whereas voters who saw the television broadcast thought Kennedy was the winner.

Another prime example was Ronald Reagan's sound debate win over incumbent Carter in the second 1980 debate. In the second debate, Carter saw Reagan take the offensive on foreign policy and domestic spending and the California governor's whimsical style won over the viewers. While most critics agree that Carter did not necessarily perform badly, he was merely outclassed

and gave away huge momentum to the challenger, who was already on the rise.

On Friday, McCain needed to shake things up or force a misstep from Obama. The general mood around the punditry is that a major win was not in evidence. Many agree McCain did a better job of crafting the agenda of the debate as well as highlighting quite clearly his edge on foreign policy.

The question is: was it enough? And the new question is: are there enough opportunities left for McCain to bring something new to voters that they have not seen yet?

Last week's polling showed a strong leaning towards Obama; the last six states to change their status in the Electoral College from strong, leaning or toss-up have all moved in the direction of the democratic nominee as the Republicans' convention bounce has waned.

With only two presidential debates left, we'll see if McCain can pull through to win over undecided voters and take the Oval Office in January.

This writer can be contacted at  
[opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## The craze for all things 'organic'

Your food might not be as organic as you think

LARA OLIVER  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

One of the biggest trends hitting stores right now is a growing demand for organic produce. Grown without pesticides, chemical fertilizers or additives, organic food offers a solution to many consumers who are concerned about what they and their families are eating.

This popularity has led many companies to change their methods of growing and manufacturing their foods. Organic versions of popular foods such as breakfast cereals and breads, are popping up alongside their non-organic cousins in super markets across the country, even organic Oreos are on their way to the family cookie jar.

But part of the allure for organic goods for many Americans is the idea that organic produce goes hand in hand with being environmentally conscious. While true in the case of actually growing the produce, the idea loses steam once it's time for the produce to make it to your local grocery store.

One popular part of the organic produce movement is Earthbound Farms. Earthbound Farms grows and distributes the most popular variety of organic produce found in grocery stores – bagged salads and individual vegetables. While delicious (and nutritious), the fact that Earthbound Farms is located in California while we are located in North Carolina reveals an important issue in organic produce – how old is it and how did it get here?

While growing organic allows farmers to control the release of harmful toxins into the soil—including not using human fertilizer for products because of the latent chemicals—it doesn't solve the issue of the fuel that must be used to transport the product and the issue of freshness for the consumer.

I say, instead of relying on these mega organic farms to provide us with our produce, why don't we return to the old staple of relying on local farmers?

Whole Foods once relied on these same large out put organic farms to sell produce, but has since switched to relying on local farmers for their vegetables. So why can't we?

The Pitt County Farmers Market is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, usually from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. and offers a variety of locally grown produce that is both more seasonal and fresher than what you can find at the super markets. For those of us more adventurous with our food, there's [pickyourown.org](http://pickyourown.org). At PickYourOwn, you can find local farms that allow the public to pick and pay for their own produce on site.

By focusing on eating only what's in season and what can be farmed locally, we cannot only ensure that we're eating what's best for us when it's best for us, but we are also helping to support our local economy. While many organic foods at the super market travel from as far away as South America, you can always be sure that what you're buying at the Farmers Market is grown close by. And if you're curious about what you're buying, you can just ask the farmer about it.

Buying local and buying organic doesn't have to be mutually exclusive. Asking a farmer about the pesticides and fertilizers they use can create a dialog between the consumer and local farmers that can one day lead to a more intense focus on organic growing.

Of course, there's always growing your own produce, but that's another story.

This writer can be reached at  
[opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

Elise Phillips  
Editor in Chief

Natalie Jurgen  
News Editor

Andrea Robertson  
Opinion Editor

Ronnie Woodward  
Sports Editor

Jared Jackson  
Asst. Sports Editor

Cat Potter  
Head Copy Editor

Erin Edwards  
Features Editor

Jessi Braxton  
Photo Editor

Robyn Cates  
Asst. Photo Editor

Sarah Russell  
Asst. Production Manager

Matthew Parker  
Multimedia Web Editor

James Porter  
Production Manager

Newsroom 252.328.9238

Fax 252.328.9143

Advertising 252.328.9245

Serving ECU since 1925, the *East Carolinian* prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. The *East Carolinian* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com) or to the *East Carolinian*, Self-Help Building, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353. Call 252-328-9238 for more information. One copy of the *East Carolinian* is free, each additional copy is \$1.



## Did you know?

The sentence "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language.

A rhinoceros horn is made of compacted hair.

The shortest war in history was between Zanzibar and England in 1896. Zanzibar surrendered after 38 minutes.

Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn't wear pants.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Cats have over 100 vocal sounds while dogs only have about 10.

Rice paper does not have any rice in it.

Every 45 seconds, a house catches on fire in the United States.

In the 1880s, the word "pants" was considered a dirty word in England.

Honolulu is the only place in the United States that has a royal palace.

Every year, kids in North America spend close to half a billion dollars on chewing gum.

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

Americans on average eat 18 acres of pizza every day.

Every day 20 banks are robbed. The average take is \$2,500.

The Nobel Peace Prize medal depicts three naked men with their hands on each other's shoulders.

A violin contains about 70 separate pieces of wood.

It's illegal to drink beer out of a bucket while you're sitting on a curb in St. Louis.

If you counted 24 hours a day, it would take 31,688 years to reach one trillion.

The average person has over 1,460 dreams a year.

One in every four Americans has appeared on television.

It took approximately 2.5 million blocks to build the Pyramid of Giza, which is one of the Great Pyramids.

50 million bacteria could be contained in single drop of liquid.

The word "corduroy" comes from the French phrase "cord du roi" or "cloth of the king."

Thermometers were once filled with brandy.

The average human eyelash lives around 150 days.

The average woman's thighs are 1.5 times larger in circumference than the average man's.

An average person uses the bathroom six times per day.

The average human will shed 40 pounds of skin in a lifetime.

The space between your eyebrows is called the glabella.

A person who smokes a pack of cigarettes a day will (on average) lose two teeth every 10 years.

90 percent of the population has an "innie" belly button.

The metal band that connects a pencil eraser to the end of the pencil is called a ferrule.

The points of light that you see behind your eyelids when you shut your eyes really hard are called phosphenes.

You cannot lose a contact lens in the back of your head.

The acid in a vulture's stomach can dissolve a nail.

Tapeworms can grow to 80 feet long.

A dragonfly can fly backwards just as fast as it can forwards.

You can't sneeze in your sleep.

Alfred Hitchcock had no bellybutton.

Monarch butterflies migrate over 2,000 miles during winter.

If a starfish is cut into pieces, each piece will grow into a whole starfish.

Porcupines cannot shoot their quills.

# Hello. Bonjour. Hola. Guten Tag. Ni hao.



A.J. Pridgen (third from left) spends time with new friends in Europe

## Making new friends, one country at a time

ERIN EDWARDS  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Two years ago, I learned the importance of having international friends and the impact a person of another culture can have on your life.

In the summer of 2006, I participated in a cultural exchange program and traveled to a country I never thought I would visit: China. As part of the Volunteers for China program, I traveled with other college students to Changzhi University in Changzhi, China. For three weeks, we attended classes about ancient Chinese culture and history and learned activities such as calligraphy, paper cutting and Tai Chi.

In exchange for what we learned, we acted as teachers for the Chinese college students, educating them about American culture and improving their English-speaking skills. We also celebrated religious and cultural holidays that many do not celebrate in China, along with reenacting several traditional events, such as an American wedding.

During my time in Changzhi, I got to know many of the students during small group sessions and also by participating in different events in the city. Groups of us would travel to the Internet café, showing each other pictures of families and friends, or walk to the city square and participate in dance contests in front of thousands of Changzhi residents. I learned what it meant to be a



In Changzhi, China, we learned the art of Tai Chi sword.

young college student in China and I taught them how it was to be the same in America. I took part in their everyday lives while teaching them about mine.

However, when the time came to leave, I discovered the far-from-perfect ways to keep in touch with new friends. While we decided to exchange emails, many of them would only be able to respond sometimes. Two years later, I correspond every few months with Justin, a graduate student at Changzhi University. Our emails typically discuss our current lives, including school, friends and family and the experiences we have encountered since we parted ways.

The emails remind me of my experience in China and the immersion into culture of another

country. I hope to return to China again in the future, but the memories and pen pal contact will have to suffice until I can afford another \$2,000 plane ticket.

For many, the opportunity to travel across the world, meet new friends and encounter new cultures seems enticing but almost impossible at the same time. With airline tickets climbing and the value of the American dollar decreasing, monetary issues can limit many from experiencing such a trip.

Yet, for ECU students, this dream isn't as far-fetched as many might believe. The ECU Office of International Affairs' mission is to provide opportunities for students to travel across the world, promoting an understanding of differences among

nations and cultures that will aid in an individual's academic and personal growth.

ECU student A.J. Pridgen is currently studying abroad in Germany.

"My experience has been great and the people [I have met] are great, unlike the stereotypes that one hears," said Pridgen, who is studying abroad in Freiburg, Baden-Württemberg for one year. "If for no other reason, I am here to learn the culture of Germany and not just live the American culture abroad."

"You learn so much about yourself and then about other cultures by having to live with them and spend all day in class with them."

For students who aren't as

willing to make a physical journey, ECU offers a wide variety of incentives to interact with foreign students.

For international students who study abroad at ECU, being in an unfamiliar country is just the beginning.

"Many international students request to be paired with American students in the residence halls," said William Mallett, the assistant director of International Students Advisement at the Office of International Affairs. "We make sure all of the students are comfortable and understand the different services that ECU provides."

Mallett also cites the International Student Association as a source for foreign and residential students to network.

"The association plans trips and events for all students to enjoy, because many want other students at ECU to participate so they can learn more about them and the American culture," Mallett said.

Classroom experience is also available for students who seek to learn about foreign countries and their citizens. International Studies classes, such as global understanding, give students the ability to communicate with other students via teleconferencing.

With opportunities spanning from ECU to across the globe, students of all backgrounds and languages can learn more about each other through cultural interaction.

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

# To tattoo or not to tattoo

ASHLEY ABERNATHY  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

It's a burning question for many college students: to tattoo or not to tattoo?

For some, the idea of a permanent image on their body seems tempting, but for others, the idea of ink on skin or disapproving parents is discouraging.

ECU student Valencia Cooper opted to get a tattoo, citing a personal decision that she thought about months before actually committing to it.

"The time I realized I was going to get my grandmother's initials was when she was in the hospital," said Cooper. "I wanted something to remember her by and I will always have this [tattoo] no matter where I go."

Cooper is one of many who get tattoos that imply love for significant others.

According to Matt Kerley, tattooist at Skin Grafix in downtown Greenville, many of his customers come in wanting memorial tattoos for deceased loved ones or



Mario Paredes shows his permanent Pirate pride.



## TATTOO continued from 4

religious meaning.

"Many have their own personal reasons," said Kerley. "But, some people just get bored."

This can be the case for most students, especially freshmen, who come into the tattoo shop.

Alex Freed, a junior at ECU, got her first tattoo two years ago.

A palm tree, which is on Freed's hip, signifies her life at the beach. She created the design and believes it carries meaning and memories of where she grew up.

"I had been seriously thinking about getting a tattoo for about four months when I got to college," said Freed. "I knew I didn't want it to show and I had no idea what I wanted, just that I wanted one."

The idea of professionalism in a career setting may attribute to many students getting tattoos in easily concealed places like the hips, back and feet.

According to Kerley, the ribs are the most popular place on the body to get tattoos right now, especially for girls.

Kerley says he sees around eight to 15 people on his busier days, which show that tattoos are just as popular as ever, even with apprehensions by some.

Piercings are equally as popular, with nostrils and tragi becoming the common place to wear jewelry, according to Kerley.

While tattoos and piercings are appealing to some, there are some who refuse to get marked up.

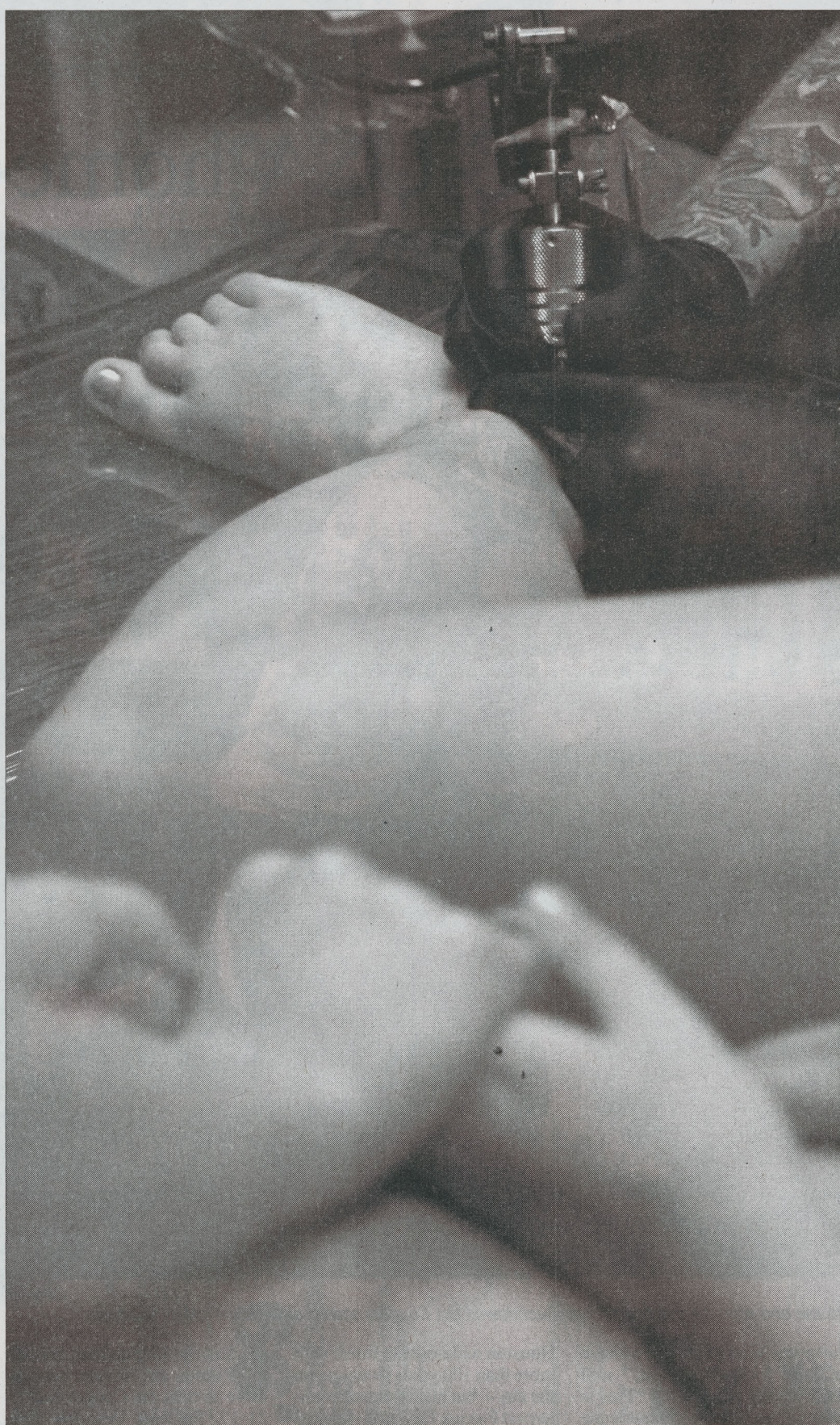
Freshman Carrie Adams has decided to keep her body free from ink or holes for religious reasons.

"It's [tattoos are] going to be there forever and I wouldn't want it when I'm older," said Adams. "I don't even know what I would get."

There is much to consider when deciding to get a tattoo or piercing. Factors include pain, parents' opinions, religious reasons, permanence and cost. On average, most tattoos start at \$50 and increase up to hundreds of dollars, depending on size and location.

To tattoo or not to tattoo? The decision is up to you.

This writer can be contacted at [features@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:features@theeastcarolinian.com).



NICHOLAS THIGPEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Two students hold hands while one gets a tattoo in Greenville.

# Do you have what it takes to be a leader?

AKELA YARN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A college degree is no longer the minimum requirement for the job market. Leadership is the new prerequisite.

According to *The New York Times*, leadership is becoming increasingly important to all students, especially to those who struggle in the classroom. Strong leadership skills can set applicants apart from the competition because employers tend to praise commitment to service in prospective employees.

For ECU students, leadership skills can be attained through different organizations and positions during their college career. However, the Intercultural Student Affairs, Ledonia Wright Cultural Center (LWCC), and LWCC Emissaries are taking a different approach to leadership.

The third annual Multicultural Leadership Conference will take place Oct. 4 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Mendenhall Student Center. This year's theme is "Blue Print for Leadership," and will focus on the effectiveness of leadership through diversity with interactive workshops for students.

"[The workshops] are designed to usher in fresh ideas and viewpoints as to how to be an impact leader," said Kyndall Peele, LWCC Emissary.

Sessions included in the conference will be "Brother to Brother/Sister to Sister," which gives an opportunity for students to address any issues they may witness in their community. A new session, "Hip-Hop Goes to School" will address the use of derogatory terms and other topics in hip-hop culture.

The keynote speaker will be

attorney Rasheed Cromwell, the founder and CEO of The Harbor Institute, a Washington, D.C. based company that strives to empower minority students to excel.

According to LaQuesha Foster, the associate director of the LWCC, the conference aims to help students better represent themselves as well as the university.

"Leadership is knowing when to be a leader and when to be a follower and being able to take both and effectively use the roles," said Foster, who hopes the conference will attract students from different backgrounds.

While the event concentrates on leadership, it will also encourage students to network.

"[The conference] surrounds the idea of meeting new people of different cultural backgrounds and connecting in order to succeed in their lives outside of college," Foster said.

Foster added that students will benefit from the conference through new connections and valuable information from professionals, offering a new understanding of the expectations from potential employees.

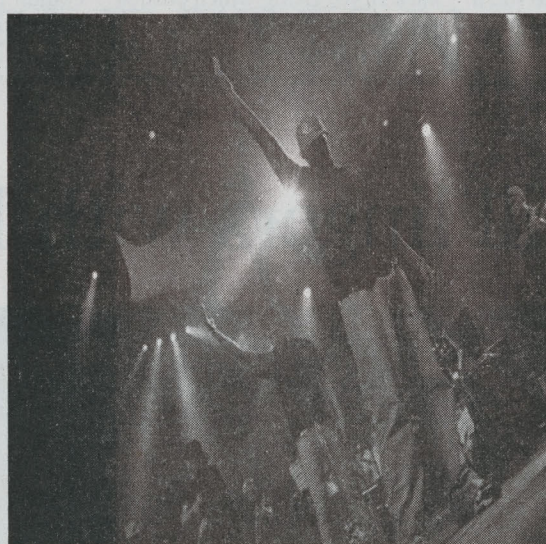
"We want students to come into the conference with an open mind and not with an attitude of 'I already know this,'" Foster said.

The event is open for all ECU students. Registration is five dollars and covers a leadership packet, breakfast and lunch, along with various prizes and gifts. Students can register throughout the week at the center and at the door on the day of the conference.

This writer can be contacted at [features@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:features@theeastcarolinian.com).

**PULSE COMING  
NOVEMBER 4TH**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6TH  
BRICKYARD OUTDOOR STAGE  
BEHIND MENDENHALL 6 PM**



**DANCE TEAM  
Hit Recording  
"Addicted to You"  
Monday, October 6th  
Brickyard, ECU Campus @ 6:00 pm**

**\$250.00 IN CASH DOOR PRIZES**

**E  
X  
C  
A  
L  
I  
B  
E  
R**



**"Addicted To You"  
"Freedom"  
"We Prepare the Way"  
and More**



**East Carolina University  
CareerCenter**

**Fall Career Fairs  
October 9, 2008**

**ONE FAIR IN TWO LOCATIONS!!**

**All Majors**

**Health Careers**

**10AM -2PM**

**10AM -1:30PM**

**Greenville Convention Center**  
303 SW Greenville Blvd. (Next to the Hilton Hotel)

**Health Sciences Building**  
ECU Health Sciences Bldg, West Campus, 5th Street

Visit <http://www.ecu.edu/career> for a list of employers attending the fair.  
Shuttle service will be provided from the PCC Warren Bldg. to the ECU Health Sciences Bldg.  
Pick-Ups will be at 9:45 & 10am. Shuttle service will end at 2:30pm





## Most Valuable Pirate



Emanuel Davis

On a forgettable day for ECU, Emanuel Davis was one the lone bright spots for the defense that was picked apart all day. The freshman cornerback returned a Case Keenum interception 11-yards for a touchdown in the first quarter to tie the game up at seven. Davis also had two tackles on the day.

### The Turning Point

After being down by 11, ECU clawed back to get within 24-17 with a little over a minute left in the third. ECU then had Houston faced with second and 14 before an 84-yard Case Keenum touchdown pass to Kierrie Johnson effectively ended the Pirates hopes of a comeback.

### The Key Stat

621

The number of total yards Houston racked up against ECU Saturday in the Cougars 41-24 win. Quarterback Case Keenum threw for 399 yards while the Houston rushing attack gained 222 yards. The yards allowed were the most given up by ECU since allowing 584 against Wake Forest in 2004.

### They Said It

"Every time the defense came up with the stop, the offense couldn't get anything going. The defense is going to get more tired when the offense isn't out there and it is just like a snowball effect. We could not capitalize on their turnovers."  
-ECU coach Skip Holtz

"We have to play a little bit smart and I don't think we can do that trying to win the conference championship. We can only do that by trying to win the next game."  
-Skip Holtz

"They [the defense] kept giving us the ball back and giving us opportunities to stay in the game. I feel we stubbed our toes."  
-ECU quarterback Rob Kass

"Whenever you make someone one-dimensional, it definitely helps. We made them get onto the perimeter in their running game and do some things that they did not want to do."  
- Houston coach Kevin Sumlin

"We turned the ball over a lot but they also bailed us out afterwards. We held them to field goals and sometimes even stopped them so it was a great team win. I was very happy with the way the defense bounced back after our turnovers."  
- Kevin Sumlin

# Houston spoils C-USA home-opener



Houston's Patrick Edwards glides into the end zone for the first of five touchdowns the Cougars scored at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

TRAVIS BARTLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## ECU loses second-straight game

KELLEN HOLTZMAN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Last weekend, ECU's dreams of a BCS appearance were severely wounded. Now those aspirations are all but dead, and the Pirates are no longer in control of a wide-open Conference USA East Division title.

ECU (3-2, 1-1) had no answer for Houston's (2-3, 1-1) relentless offensive assault in the Cougars' 41-24 win this past Saturday. The visitors from Texas racked up an astronomical 621 yards on total offense and five touchdowns.

"We certainly can't do what we did tonight and think we

have any kind of chance to have a good football season," said ECU coach Skip Holtz. "This is definitely a humbling experience for everyone involved."

The Pirates never led in the game, but trailed 24-17 heading into the fourth quarter when Houston quarterback Case Keenum (36-for-44, 399 yards) and receiver Kierrie Johnson took the life out of the ECU defense and a sold-out crowd at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

Keenum, who entered the contest leading the nation in total offense, appeared to be running for the sideline near the Cougars' 16-yard line, but spotted and connected with a wide-open Johnson for an 84-yard touchdown.

Johnson was one of two

Houston wide-outs to finish with more than 100 yards receiving on the day—but his freshman counterpart Patrick Edwards stole the show with 11 catches for 146 yards and one touchdown.

"You watch them [Houston] on film and they have not been near as efficient as they were today," Holtz said. "I think they were extremely motivated coming in here. I think they played with their backs up against the wall. I thought they played extremely well."

Quarterback Patrick Pinkney was benched at halftime in favor of Rob Kass, after Pinkney threw for just 15 yards in the first half, bringing back to life a seemingly extinct "quarterback controversy."

Kass initially provided a

spark in the third quarter, leading the Pirates on 70-yard scoring drive to trim the Cougar lead to 21-17. Tailback Brandon Simmons finished the drive off when he spun and powered his way to a 4-yard touchdown.

"It seemed like something was missing in the first half," Holtz said of the quarterback situation. "I don't think this was Patrick's fault and I don't think this was Rob's fault. I think this was a team effort."

Pinkney (10-for-20, 100 yards) was re-inserted at quarterback in the fourth quarter after a Kass (5-for-8, 49 yards) interception led to a score from running back Bryce Beall, which pushed the Houston lead to 38-17.

Beall, another sensational Cougar rookie, led his team's

rushing attack with 135 yards and two touchdowns.

Houston's highly acclaimed pass offense wasn't a surprise, but the ground attack fueled by Beall, Keenum, backup quarterback Blake Joseph and even Edwards kept the ECU defense off balance.

"They did a great job of mixing it up," said freshman cornerback Emanuel Davis. "It kept us guessing on defense. We just knew that we were going to be in for a long day. Coach had been telling us that all week."

Despite forcing four turnovers, including three fumble recoveries, ECU's offense couldn't make the most of the opportunities afforded to it by

> HOUSTON page 7

# Opinion: N.C. State loss still lingers with Pirates

RONNIE WOODWARD  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU's loss to Houston this past Saturday proved that the Pirates' loss to N.C. State the weekend before might be more damaging than originally thought. The overtime loss to the Wolfpack completely changed the complexion of ECU's season; challenging its players to determine which direction the team would go the rest of the way.

Against Houston, ECU played like a team that wasn't motivated or mentally capable of winning Conference USA games.

Houston out-hustled, out-coached, out-smarted and out-played the Pirates. What resulted was a 41-24 loss, the second-straight humbling experience ECU has been dealt in as many games.

"Overall, we just didn't play with the same fire, the same enthusiasm and emotion," said ECU coach Skip Holtz. "I think they played hard. I didn't look out there and see guys walking, I saw guys that were putting it out there on the field, but I don't think we played with the same emotion and passion as we did some other games this year."

Before the 2008 season started, ECU's goal was to win C-USA. After opening the season with wins against Virginia Tech and West Virginia, the goal drastically changed.

Talk of going undefeated and making a BCS Bowl led to a new mindset. The Pirates climbed to No. 14 in the nation and became the best story in the early college football season.

All of that was taken away by N.C. State however, which damaged ECU emotionally.



TRAVIS BARTLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This weekend's loss to Houston could be because of sinking Pirate emotions, which haven't been high since the N.C. State game.

The dream season was over and the Pirates had to resort back to their original goal: winning C-USA. Houston then made matters worse by showing them that obtaining that goal will not be as easy as they might have thought.

"It might be a case of us coming in looking at records, because they were 1-3 and we were 3-1 with a No. 23 ranking beside our name," said ECU safety Van Eskridge.

"Maybe we underestimated them a little bit as a team, but that's something that you can't do."

Houston played like a team that wasn't scared of the No. 23 ranking attached to ECU. The well-coached Cougars, who came into the game winless against Division I-A competition, had an excellent game plan

and executed it with purpose and passion.

Holtz said he thought his team had a good week of practice leading up to the game and couldn't pinpoint a single reason for the loss, calling it "a humbling experience for everyone involved."

"We had four very emotional games [to start the season]," Holtz said. "... I'm certainly not trying to find a scapegoat or point a finger, but the reality is it's very difficult to play at that emotional level for five weeks."

For years, Holtz has preached that learning how to handle winning and success is more important than simply winning. The Pirates (3-2, 1-1 C-USA) haven't played well since beating West Virginia, and they will now have

to learn how to win again.

"What happens in one game does not make a season, [but] how you react to it can," Holtz said. "I think that's going to be the biggest thing for us right now and I think this open date [this week] comes at a great time."

"When you play the physical and emotional games that we did, we need a break right now. We need to get some guys healthy and some guys mentally fresh again. I don't think you can sell short how emotional those first two games were on the football team."

Holtz now has an enormous challenge in front of him. First of all, he has to make sure he doesn't lose his players emotionally, if that hasn't happened already. Then he has to get those players to forget about

the wins over Virginia Tech and West Virginia, and focus on what it will take to salvage this season.

Last year, UTEP was faced with a similar dilemma, something that Holtz alluded to prior to the Houston game. The Miners started the 2007 season 5-1 and were sky-high emotionally after beating eventual C-USA West champion Tulsa. The next week, UTEP lost a very emotional game to ECU in overtime and the Miners never recovered—losing their final six games of the season.

Will the same thing happen to ECU? We'll see, but the Houston loss wasn't a step in the right direction.

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



## HOUSTON continued from 6

the defense.

The Cougars' defense came into the game having allowed 1,753 yards of total offense, but resembled a much more disciplined unit against the Pirates. ECU managed only 275 yards on offense with 20 less offensive snaps taken than Houston.

Third down was an especially difficult demon for the Pirates to overcome. ECU was just one of 13 on third down conversions, a statistic Simmons attributes to will.

"It all boils down to which team wants it the most," said Simmons. "I guess they wanted it a little more."

Holtz is expecting seniors like Simmons, who tallied 86 rushing yards, to keep the focus of the locker room in check.

"You can't tell me they don't want it," Holtz said of the senior class. "There are guys in there crying. They're hurt. They're putting it all out on the field. I think the seniors will keep this team together."

The Pirates trailed 21-10 at halftime after Keenum found his tight end Mark Hafner open for an 11-yard touchdown with 11 seconds remaining in the first.

Davis tied the score at seven in the first quarter when he tipped a Keenum pass to himself and ran into the corner of the end zone for an 11-yard interception return, marking ECU's fourth non-offensive score of the season.

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



Cougars' quarterback Case Keenum threw for 399 yards and three touchdowns.

TRAVIS BARTLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

# Volleyball loses two C-USA games

SEAN LABAR

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The ECU volleyball team struggled to establish its identity this weekend, falling to conference opponents UAB and Memphis.

The beginning of the year opened a lot of eyes for Pirate volleyball fans, as they tied the record for the best start to a season in team history.

After facing two key losses this weekend, ECU must stay in a positive mindset and revert back to the hard team play that highlighted their first five wins.

UAB handed ECU its first conference loss of the season Friday night with a 3-2 victory. Memphis then beat ECU 3-1, Sunday afternoon. The losses dropped ECU's record to 11-7 overall and 1-2 in Conference USA.

Head Coach Chris Rushing accredited the losses this weekend to a young team and a lack of finishing.

"We're just not a very experienced team and we just have

to learn how to finish," said Rushing. "We have to have the confidence and strength to know that we can close games out."

Rushing made it clear that the team needs to develop that niche and gain the experience to compete, especially within the conference.

"Wins come with experience," he said. "You hate it because you have to wait for that experience, and want to win now."

Against UAB, ECU won the second and third sets, giving the Pirates a 2-1 lead headed into the fourth. The Blazers recaptured the momentum however, taking the fourth set 25-19 and then clinching the match with a 19-17 win in the final set.

The fifth set between UAB and ECU went back-and-forth and the Pirates even had match point when up 14-13, but UAB took away that opportunity and needed three match points of its own before sealing the win.

ECU never really recovered from Friday night's heart-breaker, losing the first two sets and eventually falling to Mem-

phis, 3-1, on Sunday. Stephanie Turner had 12 kills and nine digs against Memphis, while lone senior Trish Monroe added 10 digs for the defense.

The Pirates lost some key contributors from last year's team. They have nine freshman and sophomores, and only one senior on the current roster.

Though ECU was hit with two crucial losses over the weekend, the morale and overall character of the team seemed to stay high. After the games, the players smiled and stuck around to sign autographs for fans.

Junior Katie Prast says that staying positive will be a focal point in getting the team back on track.

"I try to motivate my teammates and get everyone positive," said Prast.

Now facing a three-game losing streak, ECU will try to improve its record when it travels to Southern Miss for another important conference game on Friday.

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



Junior Melissa Zentner tallies a kill at Minges Coliseum.

NICK THIGPEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## SGA FALL 2<sup>ND</sup> ELECTIONS



## FILING FOR Undergraduate Senators

(All seats representing Colleges are open)

Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

And

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Applications are available in the SGA Suite, 101 MSC  
Any applications turned in after the deadline will be disqualified. Incomplete applications will not be officially stamped until completed.

\*There is a mandatory Compulsory Meeting scheduled for  
ALL candidates on Thursday, October 9 at 8:00 pm. in MSC Room 212

## Part-time Position Available

### Glassware Preparation/Laboratory Assistant:

#### Qualifications:

**currently enrolled in a degree program in chemistry, biology or other technical curriculum.**

#### Experience:

**completion of introductory laboratory courses; evidence of good technical skills; team player; willingness to learn new skills; experience cleaning glassware and laboratory maintenance a plus.**

If you possess any of these skills and wish to work 10-15 hours per week, please send your resume to:

**Pioneer Surgical Orthobiologics, Inc.  
Attn: Personnel Director  
1800-A North Greene Street  
Greenville, NC 27834  
Fax 252-355-3335  
Personnel@pioneersurgical.com**



# Classifieds

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

8

THE EAST CAROLINIAN, SELF HELP BUILDING  
PHONE (252) 328-9238 FAX (252) 328-9143

{ www.theeastcarolinian.com }

## FOR RENT

3 Bedroom for 2 Bedroom price (\$650/month). 3 blocks from campus with fenced backyard, washer/dryer, dishwasher, and lawn service included. Call 252-327-4433.

2505 East Fourth Street. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths, office, sunroom, washer/dryer, yard maintenance included. Small pet okay, fenced yard, large wired studio/storage building. \$1200/mo. 714-5512.

## ROOMMATE WANTED

Female roommate wanted. 2BR/2BA. \$300 + 1/2 utilities. Cable and internet included. Call Amanda at (252) 561-6883 or email anb0227@ecu.edu.

## FOR SALE

Mattress sets: \$149, Futons: \$99. Save up to 1/2 retail prices!!! **FACTORY MATTRESS & BEDROOMS** 730 SE Greenville Blvd. (next to McAllister's). Call 252-355-2626.

Moccasin 11 FT fiberglass v-hull boat 51" beam. Good condition. \$200. 321-7177.

Good looking Teacup Yorkshire Terrier puppies for sale. Male and female available. Pictures of the puppies are available. Two of the puppies are full breed, AKC Reg. Price: \$650 (shipping price included). Note: I am ready to sale them with all the papers. For more details, email Roland at roland.cole120@gmail.com.

## SERVICES

Spring Break 2009. Sell Trips, Earn Cash and Go Free. Call for Group Discounts. Best Prices

Guaranteed! Best Parties! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, S. Padre, Florida. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or ststravel.com.

## HELP WANTED

Resident counselor position: free room and stipend in exchange for hours worked. 2 blocks from campus. Email: realcrisis@embarqmail.com or 758-4357.

!BARTENDING! \$250 A DAY POTENTIAL. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. TRAINING AVAILABLE. 1-800-965-6520 EXT 202.

Microsoft Live Search Brand Reps @ ECU. Earn extra cash & get real world marketing experience. Limited positions available. Apply by 10/1/2008 @ www.repnation.com/microsoftlivesearch.

Earn Extra Money. Students needed ASAP. Earn up to \$150 per day being a mystery shopper. No Experience Required. Call 1-800-722-4791.

Wanted: Friendly, Attractive Ladies ages 18-30 as Exotic Dancers for established Gentlemen's Club. 40 minutes from campus. Safe environment. Earn hundreds of dollars a night. Full or part time. No experience necessary. Visit babydollscabaretnc.com <http://www.babydollscabaretnc.com> Contact Tom Benson at our corporate office 1-888-841-4695 - Club # 252-442-6192 - Cell # 252-813-6995.

MING DYNASTY WAIT STAFF NEEDED. COME APPLY IN PERSON. LOCATED AT EAST 10TH STREET (RIVERGATE SHOPPING CENTER).

Andy's on Memorial Drive in front of Lowe's and Home Depot is looking for wait staff and

cooks. Flexible hours and great working environment. Apply in person. 355-7627.

Part-time audiovisual person needed for energetic office. Must have knowledge of digital editing programs and excellent computer skills. Call 252-752-1600 and ask for Caryn.

Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$8/hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, email us at ecutelefund@ecu.edu or give us a call at 252-328-9591.

## GREEK PERSONALS

The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta and the brothers of KA would like to thank everyone who came out to the All Greek Cookout!

Alpha Xi Delta sister of the week: Shanley Church, thanks for all of your hard work this past week!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health Forum: "Health Care: Public or Private Good?" Phi Kappa Phi Annual Forum on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Brody School of Medicine Auditorium.

Dale's Indian Cuisine is the only authentic Indian restaurant in Greenville. We are located on 419 Evans Street. Lunch buffet M-F. Dinner buffet M & T. All ECU students, faculty, and staff receive 10% off with ID. 252-551-3253.

READ,  
RANT,  
SHARE.

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ARE YOU  
AN ORGAN  
DONOR?

NOT IF YOU  
HAVEN'T TOLD  
YOUR FAMILY.

www.shareyourlife.org  
1-800-355-SHARE

Coalition on Organ & Tissue Donation

East Carolina University  
Tomorrow starts here.

Looking for a part-time job?  
Need to earn some extra money?

ECU Student Employment can help!

Career Connections is an online job database that helps students connect with campus departments and local businesses that are seeking part-time workers. New jobs are posted daily.

VISIT STUDENT EMPLOYMENT ONLINE AT [www.ecu.edu/hireapirate](http://www.ecu.edu/hireapirate)  
OR CALL 252-737-HIRE (4473) FOR MORE DETAILS.

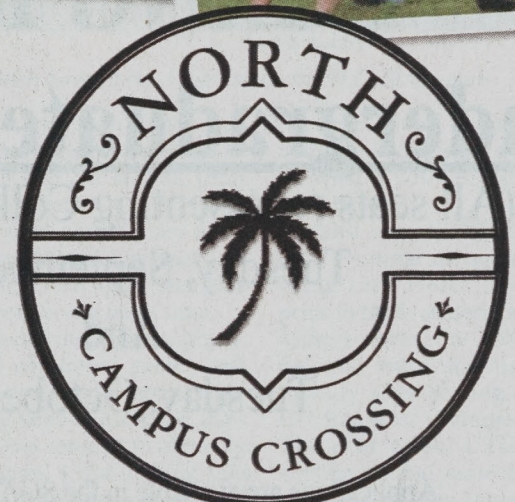
EVERYTHING YOU NEED,  
ALL YOU COULD EVER WANT...  
*that's*  
**North Campus Style.**

\$445/month\*. At North Campus Crossing, one low monthly payment covers everything – rent, utilities, Internet, and cable. You can even pay your bill online.  
**That's North Campus Style.**

NEXT TO ECU INTRAMURAL FIELDS

— IT'S ALL INCLUDED —

- Fully Furnished Apartments
- Individual Leases
- Utilities\*\*, Cable and Internet Included
- Washer and Dryer in Each Unit
- Swimming Pools & Hot Tubs
- 1,2,3 and 4 Bedroom Suites
- ECU Buses Running Continuously
- Gated Community w/Courtesy Officers
- 5 Tanning Beds
- Volleyball Courts
- 2 Clubhouses
- Full Court Gymnasium
- Modern Fitness Center
- ATM on Site
- Pet Friendly



\* Individual lease price for 4-bedroom 1375sf floor plan. \*\*\$40 utility allowance that excludes phone service. North Campus Crossing does not discriminate against race, sex, religion, national origin, disability or familial status. North Campus Crossing is managed by Wellington Advisors, LLC. North Campus Crossing © 2008. All rights reserved.



3800 BOSTIC DRIVE, GREENVILLE . 252-752-1212 . [NORTHCAMPUSCROSSING.COM](http://NORTHCAMPUSCROSSING.COM)