

INSIDE

OPINION: It isn't the stress from class that made me start smoking again; it was the stress of dealing with the Cashier's Office. **A6**

LIFESTYLES: Having trouble keeping New Year's Resolutions? Turn to Lifestyles to find out how to make a manageable resolution and stick to it! **A10**

SPORTS: Turn to sports to find out whether assistant sports editor Adam Bunn rated ECU's football season a success or a failure. **A13**

BRIEFS

Military Bowl sold out in short amount of time

Staff Reports

Last month, the ECU Pirates took on the Maryland Terrapins at the Military Bowl in Washington, D.C. The anticipation and excitement of the game left some students without tickets.

The tickets for the Bowl held on Dec. 29 were sold out in record-breaking time. ECU's allotment of 10,000 tickets had been depleted by Wednesday, Dec. 22, a week before the game.

However, students could still purchase tickets on the Military Bowl website, any Ticketmaster locations and even at the RFK Stadium where the game was held up until the day of the game.

Croatan reopens with brand new Chili's Too

Staff Reports

Over a year after construction began, The Croatan opened Monday. The newest dining option on campus can accommodate 400 people and includes a Chili's Too and full service Chick-fil-A.

Chick-fil-A will begin serving breakfast at 7 a.m. and Chili's Too will open at 11 a.m. daily. The restaurants are expected to serve thousands of ECU students each day.

The new Croatan building is the first building on campus with LEED certification, meaning the building is highly environmentally sustainable. The exterior of the building was constructed with reclaimed bricks and features eco-friendly landscaping.

WZMB back to FM broadcast after malfunction

Staff Reports

ECU's radio station WZMB is back on the air after the station's transmitter stopped working in mid October.

Paul Isom, director of Student Media, stated that WZMB experienced a mechanical error with the transmitter and was unable to access their regular engineer. "It was mostly bad timing," said Isom.

Though WZMB was not being broadcasted on the radio, their website streamed live music while the transmitter was down.

Over winter break, the transmitter was finally repaired and WZMB is now broadcasting on the radio again.

Man shot helping son move after graduation

Staff Reports

On Sunday morning, a man was shot to death outside of a University Park apartment in Greenville. The victim was Roy Kleber, 55. Kleber was helping his son, who recently graduated from ECU, move to Orlando, Fla.

The details are not clear as to what happened as Kleber and the police have yet to name any suspects. However, neighbors saw Kevin Kleber being taken away in a police car.

Pitt County CrimeStoppers is offering a \$5,000 reward to anyone with information that leads to an arrest.

WEB POLL

Are you worried about increasing gas prices?

Yes

No

Check out twitter.com/ecunews and our fan page on facebook.



The East Carolinian

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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The D-Zone parking lot, which is designated for freshmen, has been moved to Curry Court and offers a more convenient service to and from the new location.

Freshmen parking lot relocated

Abbey Way
STAFF WRITER

The transit service recently announced that freshman D-zone permit parking has been moved to the Curry Court lot near the intersection of Greenville Boulevard and Charles Boulevard.

The former freshman parking lot was located on Dickinson Avenue.

"We had adequate space closer to campus and moved them for their convenience and to be closer to campus," said Deb Garfi, director of Parking and Transportation Services. Garfi added that there was also a cost and environment

savings to the university as a result of the change.

Many students said they were pleased to hear about the change.

Freshman business management major Hunter Warren said the relocation of the lot makes getting around easier. "The bus schedule was really inconvenient running every 40 minutes, and it was very difficult to plan anything," said Warren.

Bus services were already in place for the Curry Court area but several changes were made. The 301 Gold and 620 Curry Court Park and Ride routes have been eliminated. The 305 South Loop and 850 Pirate Ride have been added to the transit schedule.

"Additional service was added for evenings and weekends that will also help getting around south campus," said Garfi.

The 305 South Loop operates out of Mendenhall on a variable 10 to 20 minute frequency Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until the last round departs Mendenhall at 6 p.m. The 850 Pirate Ride operates out of Mendenhall on a 30-minute frequency Sunday from 4:15 p.m. until the last round departs Mendenhall at 11:15, Monday through Wednesday from 6:15 p.m. until the last round departs at 11:15, Thursday and Friday from 6:15 until the last round

> LOT page A3

Increase in gas prices

Jamie Harper
STAFF WRITER

Experts say gas prices could be \$4 per gallon by the summer and hit a high of \$5 per gallon by summer 2012. Gas prices have already reached over \$3 per gallon in some areas throughout the eastern United States. This rise in prices will affect everyone, including college students who are often on a tight budget.

Though all analysts agree prices are on the rise, there is disagreement as to how high prices will rise and how quickly. Some analysts agree with former Shell Oil Company President John Hofmeister's prediction last month that U.S. retail gasoline could reach \$4 per gallon by this summer, many experts disagree and say the prices will not increase to more than \$3.50 or \$3.75 per gallon.

Aaron Brady, associate director of the energy-analysis group Cambridge Energy Research Associates, said, "We don't see it getting that high. You never rule anything out, but crude would have to get to at least \$175 a barrel before that happened." The Lundberg Survey, produced by an independent market research company and published twice a month, has found the price of regular gasoline has risen about nine cents per gallon over three weeks to \$3.08. On Sunday, analyst Trilby Lundberg said the price of mid-grade gasoline is now \$3.22 per gallon and premium is \$3.33 per gallon. The U.S. average for diesel has increased to \$3.36, up 7.18 cents.

The survey, which was completed Friday, said the highest gas prices recorded in the country were in Chicago at \$3.35 per gallon and the lowest was \$2.73 per gallon in Salt Lake City, Utah. According to AAA travel group, the average U.S. price for regular gasoline was \$3.07 on Thursday, which is more than a 39-cent increase from a year ago.

Consumers at all levels will be impacted by this price increase. The global demand for oil has increased while the supply has remained the same. According to the International Energy Agency, demand for oil products will rise to nearly 89 million barrels a day



LUKE RAYSON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Gas stations like this BP off 10th Street across from campus are reaching gas prices over \$3.

in 2011, a 1.6 percent increase from last year.

Businesses that deliver products may start charging delivery fees or increasing the charges they already have in order to afford the increase in gas prices. Consumers, therefore, will feel the impact not only at the pump, but also in other areas as prices increase across the board to cover costs.

"I don't go home except on breaks, I can't afford it," said Kim Rakowski, a sophomore nursing major.

The increase in gas prices will be especially difficult for college students as spring approaches and travel increases for a variety of reasons including visits home, weekend getaways or searching for job opportunities.

Kaitlyn Gray, a sophomore pre-med major, said she already feels the affects of high gas prices

and attempts to drive less. "I guess I'll just have to suck it up and manage my money better," said Gray.

Currently, the lowest gas prices in Greenville are at the Hess gas station on Greene Street, which has a price of \$2.99 per gallon. A list of all gas prices for cities across North Carolina can be found online at WRAL.com/traffic/fueltracker.

Some ways we can all help decrease demand and save money are taking the bus to campus as often as possible, carpooling whenever possible and walking or biking if possible. For those of us driving trucks or SUVs, consider making a new friend who drives a Honda.

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

Coca-Cola receives exclusive pouring rights from ECU

Alexis Headley
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty will notice a huge change in vending companies starting this year, with Coca-Cola products being sold on campus instead of Pepsi products.

ECU was awarded the exclusive pouring rights to Coca-Cola bottling company, and the new contract will last for 10 years, with combined bids totaling \$10.5 million.

The university will give the revenue from the new Coca-Cola contract to academic scholarships, athletic scholarships and leadership and education projects. A portion will go to funding a staff/faculty textbook loan program and faculty/student leadership programs. A percentage will also go to an endowment fund for grants-in-aid to student-athletes.

"I like the change in companies, and I think other students will like to have a change in products too," said senior Clinton Reynolds. "ECU's food and dining areas have changed so much over the past couple of years with the renovations of Todd, Destination 360, Wright Place and the Croatan so it only makes sense to change our beverages too."

Preparing Pirates for extreme weather

Hannah Farmer-Fernandez
STAFF WRITER

The fall semester ended the last day of exams with students worried about how to safely get to campus and how students would get home safely for the holidays in the icy weather.

"The last day of exams last semester was frustrating for professors and students," said senior Megan Vann who had two finals the last day of exams. "I was hoping that exams would be canceled when I saw the weather that morning, but I am glad that the university didn't close because students would have had to stay in Greenville longer and everyone just wanted to get home for the holidays."

Eastern North Carolina ended 2010 with weather conditions that continued to surprise students, with flooding conditions and icy voyages.

"Safety is the ultimate factor when determining the cancellation of classes and closing the university," said Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor for Environmental Health and Campus Safety.

Finals last semester made the question of closing the university more difficult to answer because of possible missed exams.

"I felt safer on the sidewalks that day than riding on the buses to and from campus," said Vann.

ECU's Environmental Health and Campus Safety team discussed pushing the finals to Saturday but, "the majority of the roads surrounding ECU were properly salted and cleared," said

> WEATHER page A3



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JANUARY 11-31ST

Free Group Fitness Classes: January 7-17 at various times • Student Recreation Center // **Big Booty Bingo:** Tuesday, January 11 at 7pm • Social Room, MSC // **Weekly Kayak Pool Sessions:** Tuesday, January 11 and following Tuesdays at 7:00-9:00pm • Student Recreation Center Indoor Pool // **Rec Expo:** Wednesday, January 12 at various times • Student Recreation Center // **Pirate Basketball v Tulane:** Saturday, January 15 at 3:00-5:00pm • Mingos Coliseum // **Lady Pirate Basketball v Rice:** Sunday, January 16 at 1:00pm • Mingos Coliseum // **MLK Day of Service:** Monday, January 17 at 8:00am-1:00pm • Meet at Willis Building at 8am then we will travel to different site // **MLK Jr. Vigil, March, and Tribute:** Monday, January 17 at 6:00pm • Beginning at top of College Hill, ending at Hendrix Theatre, MSC //



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Polar Bear Plunge: Thursday, January 20 at 7:00-9:00pm • Student Recreation Center // **Get a Clue:** Thursday, January 20 at 7:00-9:00pm • Student Recreation Center // **Climb Safe Clinics: Climbing Movement & Technique** Thursday, January 20 at 7:00pm • Student Recreation Center // **Study Skills Workshop:** Monday, January 24 at 6:30pm • Science & Technology Building, C309 // **LOL Comedy Series:** Tuesday, January 25 at 8:00pm • Hendrix Theatre, MSC // **Service Opportunities Fair:** Thursday, January 27 at 12:30-2:30pm • Great Rooms, MSC // **Climb Safe Clinics: Top Rope Anchor** Thursday January 27 at 7:00pm • Student Recreation Center // **SGA Success for Life Series: "Prepare to get Loose!"** Monday, January 31 at 7:00-8:30pm • Hendrix Theatre, MSC

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at least 48 hours prior to the event at (252) 737-1016 (Voice/TTY).

Calendar Events

Jan. 11 - Jan. 17

Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011

Basketball Social
Murphy Center at 4:45 p.m.
Coach Lebo and the men's basketball team will be at the Murphy Center at 4:45 p.m. The social will have free pizza and prizes. Come out and show your support!

Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011

SAB presents "The Social Network"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Men's Basketball vs. UAB
7 p.m. Minges Coliseum

Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011

Last day for schedule changes
5 p.m. for dropping or adding classes

SAB presents "The Social Network"
7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Friday, Jan. 14, 2011

SAB presents "The Social Network"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011

Swimming & Diving vs. ODU
1 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Tulane
5 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

SAB presents "The Social Network"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Great Decisions 2011: "Sanctions and nonproliferation"
10 a.m. at New Rivers West Auditorium.
Speaking will be Dr. Dursun Peksen from the Department of Political Science. Event is open to the public. Full-time students and teachers may attend free of charge. Group rates are available upon request.

Joe Grizzley and The Ethnographers
6 p.m. at Club Collide
Located on the corner of 9th and Dickinson

Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011

Women's Basketball vs. Rice
1 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

Flapjack Fundraiser
8-10 p.m. at Applebee's
Alpha Phi will hold a fundraiser from 8 to 10 a.m. and all proceeds will benefit the sorority's service projects. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the door or by calling 336-343-5904.

Monday, Jan. 17, 2011

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (State Holiday)
No classes

MLK Service Day
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Join the VSLC for the MLK Day of Service on Monday, Jan. 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You must register for this event by selecting a project at www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/9423456326553600121.

WEATHER continued from A1

Koch. "When inclement weather occurs, (we) make decisions based on the good and safety for the 90 to 95 percent of students, faculty and staff that live close to the university," Koch. "For any anticipated weather event, ECU pulls a team together from various units," said Koch. "Winter weather is handled by a multidisciplinary team of university personnel who represent Police, EH & S, Academic Affairs, Business Services, Student Affairs, ECU Student Transit, Facilities Services and others." ECU uses the process of salt, sand and has personal snowplows to help clear parking lots and ensure safety on sidewalks. "ECU is adequately prepared for the climate we have in Eastern North Carolina," said Koch. ECU has to give at least a two-hour notice if the university plans to close or delay classes. The decision is posted on the university website and released to students and faculty and staff by at least 6 a.m. the day the cancellations or delays will occur. "Someone from our team will drive around Greenville as early as 4 a.m. to assess campus sidewalks and road

conditions. Then, key team members can make a recommendation to the vice chancellor for Administration and Finance," said Koch. "The grounds keepers were on campus the day after Christmas cleaning up the campus after the snow storm students missed," said Koch. "In the morning, the main roads weren't that clear and it made me nervous," said Vann. "When I got to campus, I saw the groundskeepers scraping the sidewalks and putting down salt even though it continued to sleet and snow. It was reassuring because they were helping to make the campus safer even though they were outside in the nasty weather," said Vann. "(ECU's) overriding concern is safety," said Koch. As students and faculty and staff get into this semester, it is important to be aware of upcoming weather conditions to ensure safety and attentiveness to closings and delays in the event of severe weather.

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

COKE continued from A1

Pepsi products have been sold exclusively on campus since 1998. Prior to the exclusive Pepsi contract, ECU sold both products. When other universities nationwide were deciding to become associated with only one soda company, ECU joined in too. The Pepsi bid was \$7.1 million for the exclusive rights in the previous contract. ECU's history with Pepsi goes further back than just a contract. Pepsi was created in New Bern by Caleb Bradshaw and The Minges Bottling Group, a Pepsi-Cola company, which started from the Minges family, who were Greenville natives. The ties to the Coca-Cola bottling company is no stranger to the North Carolina area; they have corporate offices in Charlotte and they have contracts with other N.C. schools. Retired vending machine worker Morrison Brandon said, "These two companies are and have been the dominating companies for popular beverages. The exclusive contracts were created to attract and keep the interest in their products throughout the student's college experience with hope that they will continue their preference even after college."

The beverages will be distributed in the dining halls, cafes, athletic concessions, special events and vending machines. "I don't really drink a lot of soda, so I'm more interested in the new juice products we'll be getting," said senior Jessica Foster. "It's always good to have something new on campus and at the games." Under the new contract, no prices will be raised. All of the previous prices will remain the same. Also under the new contract, the new drinks that are offered are: Coke, Diet Coke, Coke Zero, Cherry Coke, Sprite, Sprite Zero, Mello Yello, Dr. Pepper, Diet Dr. Pepper, Fanta Orange and Grape, Seagram's Ginger Ale, Nestea, Hi-C and Sundrop. The juice products consist of Minute Maid and V8 drinks. "The many new beverages offered by Coca-Cola on campus will hopefully introduce a new change for students in not only sodas but juices and water. I think ECU made a good change for the campus," said Brandon.

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

LOT continued from A1

departs at 2:15 a.m. and Saturday from 9:45 p.m. until the last round departs at 2:15 a.m. "I was pretty happy that it was moved because I work at a bar 14 miles away from here so with the lot being closer I can actually get to work on time, which is important," said Warren. Warren added that the new location provided an opportunity that he was not able to pursue before with his car parked in the Dickinson Avenue lot. "Me and my roommate are pretty excited we now have the chance to be volunteer firefighters," said Warren. He explained that their cars were parked too far away before to quickly access them in case of a fire. Chase Miller, a freshman exercise physiology major, said he is also glad to hear about the changes

for several reasons. "It's a lot easier to get to, instead of having to ride a bus, it's actually in walking distance," said Miller. "It's a lot nicer and it looks a lot safer." He added that he often had to ask his friends for a ride to get back and forth from retrieving his car. "It's not as much of a hassle to get to and not as much of a pain to get to your car," said Miller. According to Garfi, about 100 C-zone parkers used the Curry Court Lot and she said they will still be able to park in a separate area near the Belk Building. Plans for the Dickinson Avenue parking lot include long-term parking, event parking and bus driver training.

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

It's TOURNAMENT TIME!

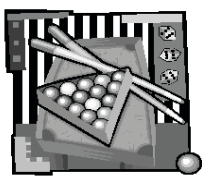
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Nine-Ball

Tues., Jan. 18th 6a-11:30p
Mendenhall Student Center
Billiards Lounge
(Men's & Women's Divisions)



Chess

Sat., Jan. 15th 10a-5p
Mendenhall Student Center
Social Room



Bowling

Wed., Jan. 19th 6p-10:30p
The Outer Limitz
Mendenhall Student Center
Bowling Center
(Men's & Women's Divisions)



Poetry Slam

Fri., Jan. 24th 6p-10p
Mendenhall Student Center
Billiards Lounge



Spades

Fri., Jan. 21st 6p-11:30p
Mendenhall Student Center
Billiards Lounge



Table Tennis

Thurs., Jan. 20th 6p-11p
Mendenhall Student Center
Billiards Lounge
(Men's & Women's Division)



Dance Dance Revolution

Wed., Jan. 19th 6p-10p
Mendenhall Student Center
Billiards Lounge

There is a \$2.00 registration fee for each tournament. Registration forms are available at the Billiards Center and the Outer Limitz Bowling Center located on the ground floor of Mendenhall Student Center. Call the Welcome Center at 328-4700 for more information.

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Student loan debt tops credit cards

Tyler Kitchens
STAFF WRITER

At an alarming \$830 billion, student loan debt officially surpassed credit card debt as the greatest source of debt for Americans.

In August, the Federal Reserve reported that this debt had been eclipsed by an unlikely competitor.

Credit card debt has traditionally been one of the major pitfalls of not only college students, but Americans in general.

With a national credit card debt that stands at \$825 billion, students are frequently warned that accumulating debt could leave them in financial ruin before they ever receive their first real job upon graduation.

Financial experts believe that the recent recession has caused Americans to begin saving more and utilizing their credit cards less than they would during a period of economic growth, leading to a decline in national credit card debt.

Solving student loan debt, however, is not such a simple situation.

One of the main culprits in this matter is the rising cost of college tuition. Over the last 25 years, the cost of a college education has soared exponentially, forcing students to borrow more to attend school.

Today, the average college student owes about \$23,000 upon graduation. This figure appears poised to continue increasing due to the number of graduates who are

finding employment opportunities bleak and are returning to school to pursue graduate degrees in an attempt to wait out the downturn.

Many believe that they will make themselves more qualified candidates for employment once jobs become available, but given the current economic condition of the United States and the world as a whole, it is unknown how much time will elapse before the national economy makes a full recovery.

Senior Jaymes Evans-McLean believes that students are truly behind the eight ball in this situation.

"It's a self-defeating cycle," said Evans-McLean. "We're being told that we won't be able to get a job without an education, so students

end up taking out loans that they literally won't be able to pay back unless they get a job. And unfortunately, there just aren't that many jobs available right now."

This situation has the potential to spiral out of control if students are unable to find long-term employment once they must begin making payments on these loans.

In the meantime, students are continuing to take out loans to enable them to stay in school and further their education.

According to ECU's website, the cost of attendance for an out-of-state student this school year was about \$15,000. This figure did not include housing, food or books. If a student is taking out loans to cover these costs, at minimum they will

graduate \$60,000 in debt, assuming they spend only four years in college.

Junior English major Siliza Valdez expressed surprise upon learning the gravity of the student loan debt situation.

"I knew that college students almost always graduate with a debt to be paid but I didn't know it was a leading source of debt in this country. I find it crazy how we're so encouraged to become educated individuals and make something of ourselves and then there is like a hidden disclaimer: 'you owe us,'" she said.

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

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Facebook to add e-mail

Hannah Jackson
STAFF WRITER

Facebook is always looking for new ideas and ways to improve their social networking site. The latest changes include new profiles and combined messaging that includes personal e-mail for the social network's over 500 million users.

Currently, the product is invite-only as it is slowly released in the coming months. Once you request the optional service, users have to wait for approval and then choose a username for an @facebook.com account, just like any other e-mail service provider. The messages can travel to your e-mail, SMS or Facebook. Usually students favor using their cell phones for Facebook if they are away from their computers.

Student Danielle Jessen prefers it also. "The only thing I really like is Facebook mobile; I like that I can get text updates when people leave me comments or send me messages."

The project, codenamed Project Titan, will integrate with Microsoft's Office Web Apps, allowing Facebook users to create and share Word, Excel, Powerpoint and OneNote documents. CEO Mark

Zuckerberg announced that it will be a revamped messaging system and it will be the way the future should work.

According to the Facebook Blog where administrators release helpful information to guide users on the updates, there are three main features of Project Titan: seamless messaging, where users can "decide how you want to talk to your friends via SMS, chat, e-mail or messages;" conversation history, which stores everything sent and received, no matter the destination; and the social inbox, where e-mail messages can be moved and separated. The blog states, "It seems wrong that an e-mail message from your best friend gets sandwiched between a bill and a bank statement." It provides the user freedom to choose what they want to see in their inbox.

The announcement of this project has not been well received by the media, who dub it the "e-mail killer" and there is speculation that it could take over e-mail networks such as Yahoo (273 million users) or Microsoft Hotmail (361 million users). Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Facebook, said that it is not an e-mail killer; it is a messaging

system that includes e-mail. One other concern with the integration is that Facebook is one of the most blocked websites on the Internet, which creates limited access, while e-mail sites are usually available to access at work and school.

Usually when Facebook updates or changes its features, users get confused and irritated that there is more to learn, including the new categories and interests on the profile pages.

"I think Facebook is too complex for its own good. It seems like every other month they are changing something that will supposedly make Facebook better. All the changes confuse me and they never seem to work right either," Jessen said.

The overall goal of the project is to dissolve the barriers between all the devices and communication channels, not to divert users away from their current e-mail. Only time will tell if Facebook's plan to incorporate e-mail is overkill or a genius idea.

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

Art History is a fundamental degree in the humanities that defines the university experience. The Art History Program at ECU offers courses in a broad range of areas that are representative of world history, from the earliest artistic activities to the present. Taught by a faculty of experienced teachers and published scholars, our courses lay a foundation in cultural awareness and in critical thinking for art history as well as other majors who are pursuing careers in teaching, museum work, studio art or design production, and related fields. Art history courses are valued as electives in many bachelor's degree programs across the University including Religious Studies, Classical Studies, International Studies, History, Public History, Interior Design, African and African American Studies, Russian Studies, the BA degrees in Great Books, Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, and of course, Art Education, Studio Art and Graphic Design. Because art history courses emphasize interdisciplinary studies, quite often students decide to take a double major.

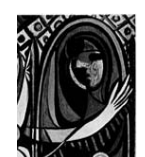
Most recently our students have been admitted to competitive graduate art history and liberal arts programs at George Washington University, American University, Drexel University, and George Mason University. Our students have also won competitive internships at the National Textile Museum and the National Portrait Gallery, both in Washington DC.

Please contact Professor Ron Graziani, advisor for undergraduate studies in

Art History at ECU, for additional information.
Grazianir@ecu.edu or 252 328 4067 (telephone).

Room 1334 Jenkins Fine Arts.

<http://www.ecu.edu/soad/ArtHistory/>



Campus Recreation & Wellness

SRC Showcase

Wednesday, January 12th
FREE Friend Day

Breakfast Bar
7:00AM - 9:00 AM

Cooking Demo
4:00PM - 6:00PM

Intramurals Captains' Meeting
5:00PM, MSC Great Rooms

Exercise Information Table
6:00PM

Group Fitness Super Class
6:30PM

Climbing Belay Clinic
7:00PM - 8:30PM

Gold Rush

January 5-19
Group Fitness
Gold Passes
\$40

SRC Hours

Monday - Thursday
5:30AM - 11:30 PM
Friday
5:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Saturday
8:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sunday
8:00 AM - 11:30 PM

Spring Calendar

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

I hate the fact that the Curry Court C lot has turned into the Freshman D lot.

You know you're a Pirate when you clean purple lint out of your dryer instead of blue!!!! Argggghh

It really hit me that I'm growing up, when I signed up for the GRE!

New Year's resolution for ECU: Actually play defense. There's nothing like being embarrassed on NATIONAL television.

Yes, we all know what university you were at before you came here, but if you don't stop talking about it we're going to stick a sword up your butt.

If you wear heels on the first day of classes, you're trying too hard already.

Woah, so we're about an hour from Pepsi town and ECU switched to Coca Cola? Awesome.

It isn't the stress from class that made me start smoking again; it was the stress of dealing with the Cashier's Office.

Those who can't do, teach. Those who can't teach, become advisors.

The Pirates may have lost the bowl game. But I made it on the Fan Cam and am now one happy Pirate. ARGHHH!

If every dime of every paycheck you worked for went towards apartment rent, you would want it to stay clean to. Get off your butt.

Some mistakes are just too much fun to only make once.

You helped me realize why so many girls wear their hair in a side part: Because they have large foreheads.

I wish I could "like" the rude emails my professors send out to the idiots who can't check their syllabus for simple questions.

Dear Roommates: I'm tired of living with y'all and being excluded from everything even though y'all call me one of your best friends. This is why I don't get along at all when there is more than one other girl in the room. I'm kinda glad you're leaving next semester.

My body must think it's supposed to be going into hibernation mode...I can't stop eating everything in sight.

To the girls who live above me: Please shut up at 4 in the morning. Jumping off your beds thirty times in a row isn't cool or whatever you are doing up there.

Who ever let their dog poop behind Aycock: I stepped in it and didn't realize then walked all over my carpet in my dorm room. You suck!

Being in a fraternity or a sorority at ECU is like being the coolest carry.

PROCRASTINATION...more certain than GRAVITY!

I graduate in a year and I already feel as if I did not have enough time here at ECU!

To my ex who cheated on my after three years: I'm sleeping with your old roommate.

I spilled wine on my scanton for my take home test... OOPS!

To the girl in my Intro to Sociology class: From your loud, hissing conversations to your friend 6 inches away to your unbearably perky attitude about all things stupid, I think I speak for the entire lecture hall when I say that we will not miss you.

Our View

All ideas and viewpoints expressed in "Our View" are those selected and discussed by the editorial board of The East Carolinian. Questions? Please call 252-737-2999 or e-mail opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Freshmen lot to Curry Court

In a surprising mid academic year move, ECU decided to relocate the freshmen parking lot from the distant Gold Lot on Dickinson Avenue to the Curry Court parking by the stadium.

Pirates have always been desperate for more parking. ECU has expanded with the growing population of the school, but our transportation is sorely behind. While the relocation of the freshmen lot seems to be positive for now, students are still craving more parking.

Anyone who has tried to just swing by campus for a minute has run into the problem of scouring the lot outside the library for a meter or hiding in a lot and praying not to get a ticket.

This change greatly helps the current and incoming freshmen. With a location closer to dorms, transportation options have greatly expanded. As some upperclassmen may recall, the Gold Lot was not in the best of locations, previously located on Dickinson Avenue a couple miles from campus.

With reports of violence, crime and theft, the move makes freshmen living seem more appealing. With more accessible transportation for our first-year students, we have the potential to recruit more students to ECU.

With the resounding positives, Pirates will inevitably face issues with overcrowding at Curry Court. Commuters will now have to fight for spots on a daily basis. Freshmen may not need to move their cars every day, so a majority of the spots will be filled constantly.

Commuters won't be the only drivers left fighting for a spot, since intramural athletes and fans using the baseball and softball complexes frequently may find themselves in trouble as well. While Curry Court is not exclusively for athletes, this will clog up the allotted space and make getting to and from practice more difficult.

Only time will tell whether the relocation is positive or negative, but as always, students and faculty will adjust. All we know is that currently, parking at ECU is a nightmare. True, it was considerably worse for freshmen, who had to trek into no-man's-land to fetch their cars for the weekend, but now we may all possibly be forced to play musical chairs on a daily basis for a parking spot.

One thing is for certain, ECU is taking a step in the right direction by moving the freshmen closer to campus, but if all the rest of the parking is hindered and not fixed, the university will have to deal with an outrage.

A waste of forty-four cents



Ben Cochran
OPINION COLUMNIST

After the Hanukkah, Christmas or Kwanzaa celebrations, we are all (hopefully) the recipients of some pretty sweet gifts.

If you're anything like me, you did not have a very merry holiday season and you still haven't gotten around

to mailing out your thank-you cards. Sure, Thermo-socks are functional — especially with this weather that's more frigid than my girlfriend when she saw my "Girls of G-Vegas" calendar hanging on my wall. Whoops.

The Rubik's Cube that my out-of-touch aunt gave me will serve as a trippy paperweight, I guess. I can exchange the puppy mouse pad for store credit at Best Buy. But what in the hell am I going to do with a President Obama ironing-board cover? I'm not even black.

As difficult as it is to feign enthusiasm for some excruciatingly awful gifts, it is equally as teeth-gritting to muster a sense of true gratitude when writing thank-you cards for these gifts.

First of all, if you don't send thank-you cards for the gifts you received, then you're considered a serious punk who deserves whatever crap gifts you got. So it's sort of an unsaid obligation that we will all be sending thank-you cards to prop up the illusion that most of us give a rat's rectum about etiquette.

Secondly, if you come from a large family, postage to all your loved ones can really add up. Thanks to Al Gore and his evil Internet invention, people who send thousands of e-mails per year have drastically increased the price of stamps at the United States Postal Service. Forty-four cents to send a \$2 Hallmark? Never mind that your gratitude lacks any semblance of integrity but mailing that sham of a card adds to the already overtly fake holiday season.

According to the U.S. Postal Service, on the Monday before Christmas alone, over 800 million pieces of mail were dropped off to be delivered at post offices nationwide. Now, that was just one day's worth of mail. Imagine the total tally of presents that were mailed out during this holiday season.

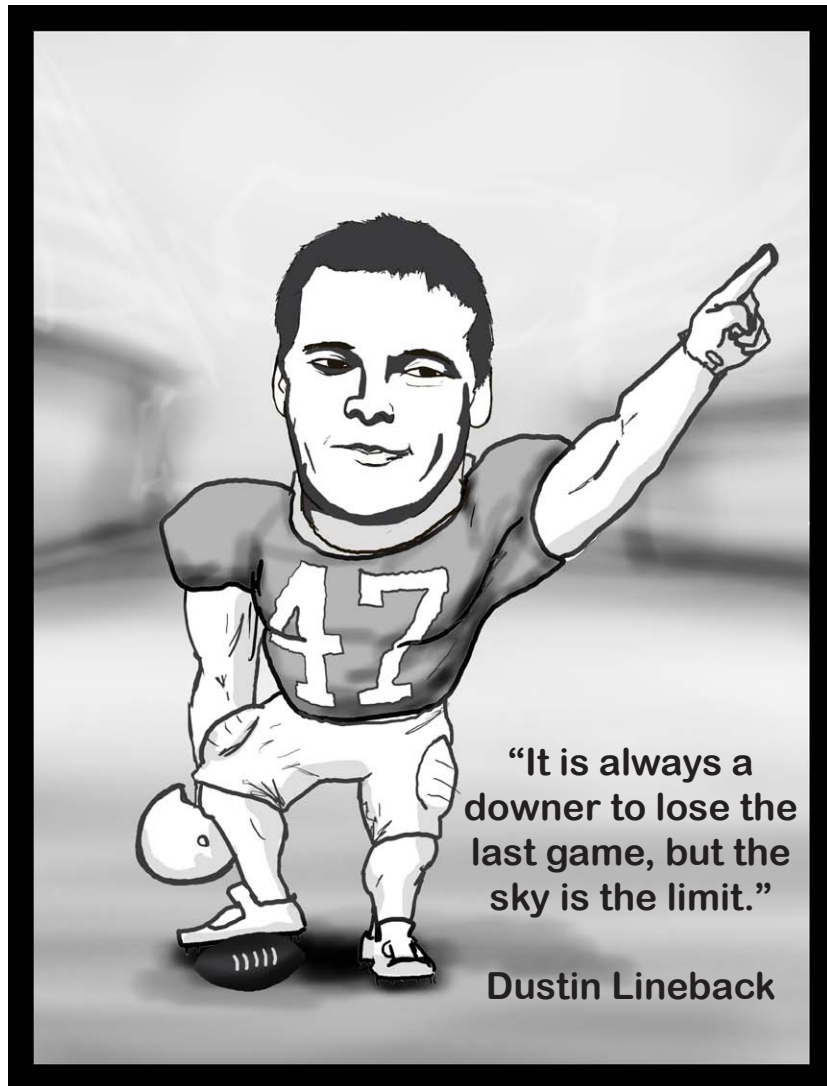
As a nation, we cannot seriously expect a government agency to operate with any sort of efficiency. Since we already taxed them with gifts to be mailed, overburdening them with corresponding thank-you cards would push them to the brink.

I know it's difficult to understand just how much this will encumber the system, so try to put an identity to the USPS. This isn't some faceless entity you're affecting; it's the very lives of your hardworking mail delivery people. If you don't know your mail delivery person, pretend it's somebody like Cliff Clavin, from "Cheers." All Cliff wants to do is have a refreshing beer after work, but if you mail thank-you cards, then poor Cliff is forced to deliver your stamped insincerity without a moment's reprieve. Can you, in good conscience, do this to Cliff? Sending mail encourages sobriety. Don't do that.

What's wrong with e-cards? What about simple Facebook messages? Why must we go through the charade of spending good money on bad feelings? I could have saved the money and bought something I actually wanted instead. But now, because etiquette dictates our lives into a series of illogical practices, I've received crap gifts and wasted good money on lies that the USPS will deliver. This positive reinforcement ensures that I'm in for an equally crap Christmas next year, and that this cycle will never end until my crazy aunt gets hit by a Mack truck, or until we buck the trend and tell etiquette to sod off.

Seriously, just send Facebook messages instead this year. Here's hoping that we all act to proactively break the cycle. Cheers!

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



"It is always a downer to lose the last game, but the sky is the limit."

Dustin Lineback

ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

Slippery ice and everything nice



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

A little flurry of snowflakes floating down onto the streets of Greenville is like the feeling of adolescence, when we were huddled up in our pajamas an inch away from the television waiting for the signal of freedom for the day from our local news station.

The rush of adrenaline is

still fresh as we anxiously hope for delays or closings of ECU for the day; to do as we please, whether it be sleep until noon or run outside for a snowball fight and pelt the policeman viciously as they try to break it up.

Winter fun is not lost in us college kids; however, reality sets in quickly as we begin to clean off our cars.

Last year trouble started brewing directly when the first snowflake hit the pavement in Greenville. The harsh weather continued through the month of February with the biggest snowfall occurring Feb. 13.

I can speak for the ECU students by saying we are thrilled when we can take a three-day break from the

monotony of school, but the lack of snowplows is worrisome. Those of us from the north have knowledge of plowing streets or salting them before ice sets and the south shouldn't be behind on the times.

The temperatures are already at a record low for Greenville. Snow has fallen earlier than anyone has expected and there are predictions of snowfall this week. The Farmers' Almanac states, "The eastern third of the country, (New England down to Florida and as far west as the lower Ohio River and Mississippi River Valley), will experience colder-than-normal winter temperatures." This means we look forward to ice,

snow and bitter winds.

Necessary precautions should be taken into consideration to ensure safety to students. It seems that time and time again they are overlooked.

This semester, while I am walking to my classes at nine in the morning, I would be excited to see plowed sidewalks. I do not want to fall onto patches of ice in front of the student body as I have in the past.

If we can have such a beautiful mall area, always so neatly groomed and postcard-perfect, perhaps we can wrangle up some people to correctly plow and salt the streets and sidewalks.

The Greenville area has,

by my count, at least five snow removal companies that should be able to remove a couple inches of snow when need be.

As fun as snow is, the streets need to be clear for people to get around without the fear of an accident at every icy corner. This concerns everyone driving around Greenville this winter season. While there aren't many scenarios in my mind that are better than a perfect snow day to do as I please, unsafe conditions need to be prepared for and dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

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

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Instead of putting GPS in buses why doesn't SGA subsidize student's books or use the money to help with student's tuition?

Dude, there will be nothing left to do in Greenville if they keep banning everything.

No Katy Perry, I never feel like a plastic bag blowing in the wind, but I bet you do: commercial and trashy.

Dear Roomie: It's the first day back and you've already pissed me off...if my classes don't start till 1:00 p.m. DON'T wake me up at 7:45 a.m.!

Is it just me or did the guys get cuter this semester?

Way to go men's basketball! Go Pirates!

My roommate is a whore and pathological liar. I can't wait for her to get pregnant from the guy she's cheating on her bf with. It will be obvious it's not his.

Next time, Pirate football players, make sure you can back up bad sportsmanship with good playing and a victory.

I am so ready for warm weather and bathing suit time here at ECU!

Dear friends: I just returned from an academic suspension. Quit calling me lame for studying instead of going downtown with you on weekdays!

I deleted you on Facebook because you were a creep. Stop sending me new friend requests!

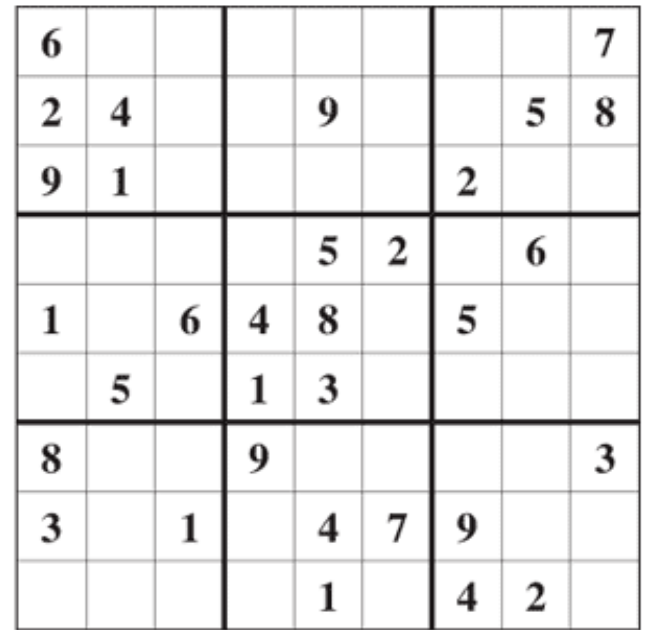
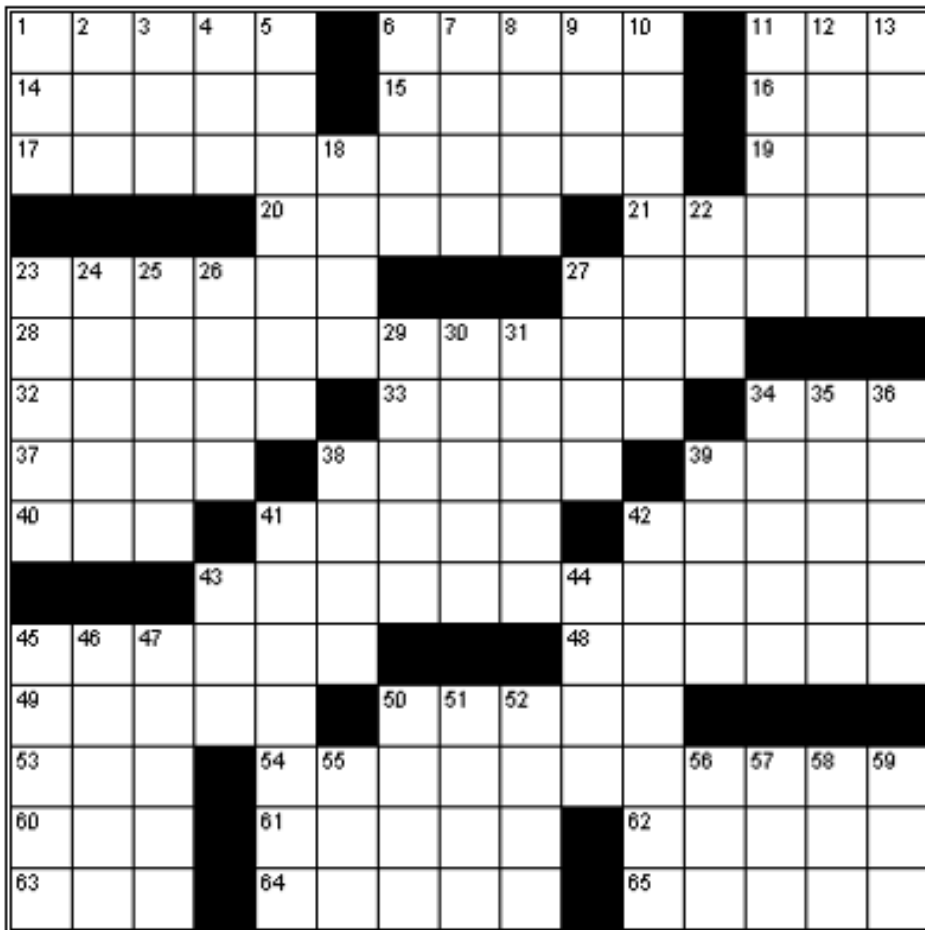
I know I'm in college, but I just jumped in nearly every puddle I could find and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

ACROSS

- 1. 10 in a decade
- 6. Derived from the sun
- 11. Recent
- 14. Grain disease
- 15. Overweight
- 16. Muhammad ____
- 17. Conventional
- 19. Turf
- 20. Heaps
- 21. Open-mouthed
- 23. Hear
- 27. Purloined
- 28. Ungoverned
- 32. Got up
- 33. Homeric epic
- 34. Constrictor
- 37. Gait faster than a walk
- 38. Glisten
- 39. Streetcar
- 40. Standard operating procedure
- 41. Annoy
- 42. Rodent
- 43. Pre-school
- 45. Effortless
- 48. Turmoil

DOWN

- 49. In the midst of
- 50. Armadillo
- 53. Purge
- 54. Declarations
- 60. How old one is
- 61. Push
- 62. Imps
- 63. Father
- 64. Moldy
- 65. Cheer up



SOLUTION

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

- DOWN**
- 1. Nevertheless
 - 2. Miscalculate
 - 3. Ottoman officer
 - 4. 16 1/2 feet
 - 5. Allowance
 - 6. Potting need
 - 7. Double-reed woodwind
 - 8. Focusing glass
 - 9. A painkiller (abbrev.)
 - 10. Connected by kinship
 - 11. Kind of spray
 - 12. Run off to marry
 - 13. Broaden
 - 18. Hue
 - 22. Deity
 - 23. Strong sexual desires
 - 24. Foreword
 - 25. A large ladle
 - 26. Honk
 - 27. Strip of wood
 - 29. Anagram of "Idler"
 - 30. A yellow-green color
 - 31. Large commercial ship
 - 34. Savage
 - 35. Fertile areas in deserts
 - 36. Catkin
 - 38. Heredity carrier
 - 39. A unit of pressure
 - 41. A Mayflower colonist
 - 42. Sea cow
 - 43. Family
 - 44. Expert
 - 45. Unit of capacitance
 - 46. Spanish for "(girl) friend"
 - 47. Encrypted
 - 50. Vipers
 - 51. Writer of verse
 - 52. A friendly nation
 - 55. Relative of an ostrich
 - 56. Sick
 - 57. Egg cells
 - 58. Mesh
 - 59. South southeast

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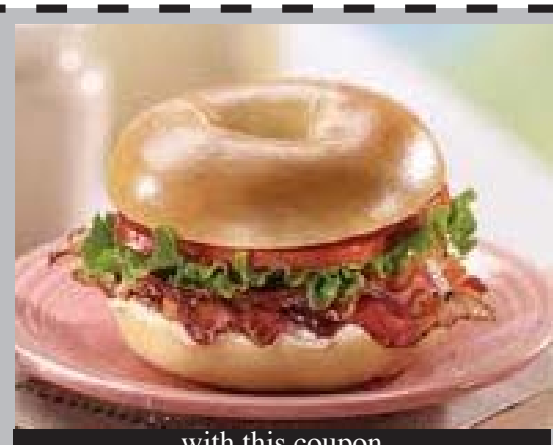
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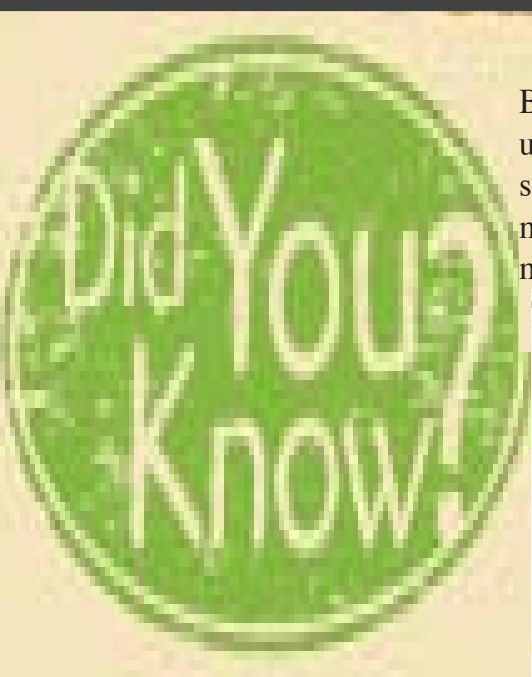
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Scribbles to the Captain

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Dear Editor,

This is a letter in response to Ben Cochran's column, "An Unjustified Scrooge". As a volunteer who rings that bell you so hate, I am telling you that your generalizations of the Salvation Army are wrong. There are many volunteers from my Kiwanis club and others that volunteer to ring the bell, and we do collect money from almost everyone that comes in or out of the store.

Why, because the people believe in the great work the Salvation Army does. They provide free clothing, household items and programs to those in need. Wait until your apartment burns down, and if you are a typical college kid, you have no apartment insurance, you will need a place to stay, cloths and a meal.

The American Red Cross, at no cost to you, will provide those immediate needs, and guess who will help you next, the Salvation Army. I guess you do not support the Red Cross either? Perhaps the American Cancer Society that puts back over a million dollars a year into Pitt County area? Are they worth your money?

Get your facts right. There are a number of sites that will provide you with detailed information on the actual cost of fundraising and how much an organization gives back to the community. Take a few minutes and do your research. Spending money in a store does nothing for the unemployed, the poor or those in need of care. Big business cares only about big business. You, the youth of America need to be involved in your community, get out there and volunteer. If it is up to big business and the Know nothing party, tea baggers, let the people eat cake. Don't tax those with the big bucks, the heck with health care, let them die, it is cheaper. College is a closed community, with little of no real world experiences. Get out in the real world and work for a living.

-Neil Dorsey, ECU 1965

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ENTERTAINMENT

SAB gears up for a new semester

Hunter Ingram
STAFF WRITER

As a new semester begins, the Student Activities Board is getting ready to kick off their spring slate of exciting events to keep students entertained throughout the rest of the school year.

To start off the semester, the SAB is welcoming a new leader to one of their committees. Jordan Millette, a junior communication major, has been named the new Chair of the Special Events committee. Millette has been a member of the Special Events committee since her freshman year and has been very involved since then.

"I joined the Special Events committee because it seemed a lot like what I wanted to do [after graduation] and I felt like it would be a good chance for me to get some hands-on experience while in college," said Millette.

As the new Special Events chair, Millette has to fill the big shoes left by Allie Collinson, the previous Special Events chair. Collinson's events, such as last semester's Homecoming concert featuring Ludacris and last spring's Barefoot on the Mall with Jason Derulo and Carolina Liar, were big hits with students. "I want to continue the success and tradition of the committee's past events and make sure that word is spread about our events," said Millette.

However, she won't have much transition time considering that the Special Events committee is already hard at work planning their upcoming events, including February's Winterfest and the 33rd annual Barefoot on the Mall, which is set for Thursday, April 21. "The next steps for Barefoot planning include getting the marketing ready for the T-shirt design contest and since the genre voting has ended, we can begin to look for bands," said Millette.

The Special Events committee isn't the only committee kicking it into high gear this semester. The Films committee will follow up a record semester of films by bringing big hits like "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1," "TRON: Legacy," "Black Swan," "Tangled," "The Social Network" and "Megamind" to campus.

In addition to those films, the committee will also be welcoming filmmaker Andrew Jenks, from the hit MTV show "World of Jenks," to campus as a guest speaker on March 22. "Andrew Jenks coming to ECU is very exciting and should be an amazing and eye-opening event, to show students that there are a lot of opportunities out there," said Films Chair Kelly Lott.

For those looking for something other than live music and movies, the Visual Arts committee has got it covered. Starting this week, the Visual Arts Chair Andy Denton and the committee will begin displaying their new exhibit entitled "Tin: An Element of Surprise," which features art pieces that are made only of tin. They will also participate in the Down East sculpture show starting on March 6 through April, with three new concrete pads for displaying the sculptures being built between Joyner Library and Mendenhall.

With a whole new semester ahead, these are just a few of the events that the SAB will offer throughout the spring. So, keep a lookout for any announcements about upcoming events, because if their past events are any indication, the SAB will have no problem making this semester very exciting.

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

Are you making realistic resolutions?



DOUGLAS MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

One student keeps his New Year's Resolution by exercising at the rock wall.

How to make realistic resolutions and keep them

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Every year, students make a New Year's promise to themselves to get better grades, wear off their wild ways or buckle down once and for all. Others set goals of losing weight, volunteering more or saving money.

Unfortunately, only 12 percent of people keep their New Year's Resolutions. Within weeks, many students fall back into the familiar routine of sleeping in late, missing class and blowing their money downtown on Thirsty Thursday.

New Year's Resolutions are so hard to keep because they are often unrealistic. By sizing down these large life changes, students can take small steps toward their goals, rather than taking one scary leap into the unknown.

Instead of vowing to get straight A's, students should set the goal of at least getting two A's over the upcoming semester. Instead of resolving to work out every day, students should aim to exercise four or five times a week. Scaling down the massiveness of a goal makes it easier to accomplish.

Another way to keep a New Year's Resolution is to really commit to it. Hanging post-it's with words of encouragement throughout one's room serves as a constant reminder and motivator. Setting a reward when one reaches his or her goal is also a motivator. If the point of saving money is to book a trip to a tropical island, then students are more likely to succeed.

Suite101.com recommends that college students make their New Year's Resolutions small and simple, such as "cut your 'fun' spending by 25%" or "spend a little less time watching TV." Other suggestions include "call your mom more often" and "keep up better

with the news." USA Today also recommends a few tiny changes like "invest in a good suit" or "develop a 5-year plan." These changes are small enough to not interrupt students' busy lifestyles.

Still, some students may have their eye on some big ambitions, such as running a marathon, climbing a mountain or writing a novel. If that's the case, then starting small is still the key to success. Such big goals cannot be reached in one day, but by taking one step at a time, people can eventually meet their most outrageous aspirations.

However, New Year's Resolutions don't always have to be serious or feel like a chore. Making resolutions that are fun and wacky will make students actually want to keep them. For example, resolve to only cuss in a foreign language, or wear pajamas out in public once a month. Make popcorn every time you watch a movie, or come up with silly nicknames for friends. People often resolve to do things that they think they need to do, not what they actually want to do.

According to EzineArticles.com, "the tradition of New Year's Resolutions goes all the way back to 153 B.C." Janus, a Roman mythical king, was literally two-faced and stood at the start of each calendar year. The two faces represented looking back on the past and looking ahead toward the future. "Janus became the ancient symbol for resolutions and many Romans looked for forgiveness from their enemies and also exchanged gifts before the beginning of each year."

So whether students have big, small or silly resolutions, they are all resolving to put last year behind them and make this year a good one. This year, try to start small, as this gives students a better likelihood of keeping their New Year's Resolutions.

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

From ECU to MTV



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Melissa Plunkett stands in the MTV office in New York City.

Student moves from Greenville to NYC to embark on the internship of a lifetime

Lynsey Horn
STAFF WRITER

Having finished all but seven of the hours she needs to graduate and already having completed an internship in Greenville, one student decided to branch out for her last semester.

Senior communication major Melissa Plunkett will finish her four years at ECU interning with MTV in New York City.

"I knew I wanted to do an internship in New York City," said Plunkett.

Plunkett has a concentration in broadcast journalism and has always dreamed of hosting "The Today Show." To get there,

Plunkett has done her time in the classroom and keeps adding internships to her resume. Plunkett spent the summer of 2010 interning with the local T.V. network WITN. There, she says, she learned valuable lessons about working her way up from the bottom.

After seeing what needs to be done just to make it as an anchor at a local news station, Plunkett went searching for more prominent experiences. She applied for an internship with MTV Promotions in late October. Over a month later, she was perfecting her resume to send to NBC when she was contacted by MTV for an interview.

"It was a month or so before I heard anything. I had settled with the fact that I would be spending another semester in Greenville," said Plunkett.

After two phone interviews, Plunkett was offered the internship with MTV. Over the next

five months, Plunkett will be working along with one other full-time intern and two part-time interns on promos for upcoming shows such as the new seasons of "Jersey Shore" and "Teen Mom" as well as new MTV shows. She will also be making deliveries around the city and possibly giving a college view on various issues, when needed.

One responsibility Plunkett is not particularly fond of is the rules regarding celebrities. At orientation she was told that well-known personalities will be walking through the building but that she cannot act star struck or ask them for pictures or autographs.

"It's surreal for someone who has always had a fascination with celebrities, to see celebrities walking through the building and have to pretend to not know who they are," said Plunkett.

After her internship with

> MTV page A11

PIRATE EATS

Chili's Too provides a new dining option

The new dining option receives positive feedback

★★★★★
Madonna Messana
STAFF WRITER

Students have been patiently waiting for the Croatan to reopen after it closed for renovations in June 2009.

Finally, after several months of waiting and watching the Croatan as it was demolished and rebuilt, students can enjoy what the new building has to offer. The re-opening of the Croatan took place yesterday and students could finally see for themselves what the eateries have to offer.

The new Croatan is a two-story building that has a Chili's and an expanded full-service Chick-fil-A. There are private and public dining areas on both the first and second floors of the building. Students, faculty and staff can reserve the private dining areas.

The building will be the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified building on ECU's campus. According to envirocitizen.org, the LEED program provides the standards for environmental friendly buildings and renovations. The LEED ratings measure the "greenness" of the building — the new Croatan has special lighting, water cisterns in the courtyard and ecologically friendly landscaping.

The Chili's Too is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. and the Chick-fil-A will be open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Fridays from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Both locations will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

Several of the traditional Chili's menu items are offered at the Chili's Too including Big Mouth Bites, Chicken Crispers and Quesadillas.

Big Mouth Bites are four mini burgers topped with cheese, onions and ranch dressing and they are deliciously arranged around a side of French fries topped with crispy onion strings.

The Chicken Crispers are chicken strips that are unique to Chili's restaurants. There are original Chicken Crispers, Crispy Chicken Crispers and Honey-Chipotle Chicken Crispers — each with their own delicious flavor. The Crispy Chicken Crispers come with one of several different dipping sauces including ranch, honey mustard and wing sauce.

Another menu item offered to students is the delicious Molten Chocolate Cake, which is a warm brownie with a chocolate center that oozes out of the brownie when sliced into. The cake is topped with vanilla ice cream under a hard chocolate shell — definitely a favorite among chocolate lovers.

Differing from a typical Chili's restaurant, orders are taken at the register where the

customer will receive a number and a runner will then serve the food to the customer when it is ready. The Chili's Too menu is a little limited in comparison to the typical Chili's restaurant — but it still has several favorite items.

Although customers can tip, it is not expected or required of them — Piratebucks can be used similar to payment in the other retail locations on campus such as Subway and Burger Studio.

"We do have a room called the 'university club' that is a faculty and staff dining room from 11 to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, and that will be full table service for Chili's," explained Stephanie Sumner, ECU Campus Dining marketing manager. "At night, student organizations can reserve that space to order Chili's food and have their group meetings. That space can be reserved through ECU catering (328-4756). We also have Chili's TOGO so if students want, they can call in orders and pick it up at Chili's Too (328-TOGO)."

In an article from ECU News Services Joyce Sealey, the ECU food services director stated that there are hopes that the new dining options will attract more customers from both on and off campus. "The Chili's Too will be our first restaurant concept, and we're all excited," she said.

"We do a very extensive data collection process called market match and several years ago when we did the last market



LUKE RAYSON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The new Croatan—finally finished and packed with students on the east side of campus.

match that was one of the concepts that students said that they would like to have on campus," Sumner said in explaining why they decided on a Chili's Too.

Among all of the good factors of the new Croatan building, there is a drawback to the new eating establishment — it is going to remain busy. Similar to when Wright re-opened and

when Chick-fil-A was opened at Destination 360, the first couple of months of the Croatan's re-opening will probably remain busy with students, staff and faculty coming and going — enjoying their new options.

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

FILM SCHEDULE

MTV continued from A10

MTV, Plunkett wants to apply for the position of NBC page, which is where some of today's famous personalities, such as Regis Philbin, started.

Communication Internship Coordinator Todd Fraley works with all students with internships to make sure they are having a good experience in their internships as well as doing the work to get the three hours credit at ECU. He worked with Plunkett on her last internship and is again for this one.

"Melissa is doing all the right things and proving that if you prepare yourself and market yourself, you will receive positive feedback," said Fraley.

Plunkett attended a two-hour orientation on Jan. 6 and received her pass for the building in Times Square in which she will be working. She will be working Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

As a veteran intern, Plunkett gives her best piece of wisdom to students trying to secure an internship.

"My best advice would be to always follow up because it lets employers know how much you want the experience. Don't assume you're out of the running because you haven't heard back."

Plunkett will still be graduating in May. She will be living in New York City until the end of the semester, hoping to receive the experience she desires to achieve her dream of working for NBC.

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

<p>It's Kind of a Funny Story Rated: PG-13 Length: 101 minutes Wednesday, Jan. 5th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8th, 2011 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Paranormal Activity 2 Rated: R Length: 91 minutes Wednesday, Jan. 19th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21st, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22nd, 2011 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>For Colored Girls Rated: R Length: 134 minutes Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3rd, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5th, 2011 7:00 p.m. 9:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Life as we Know It Rated: PG-13 Length: 114 minutes Thursday, Jan. 6th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8th, 2011 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Saw VII Rated: R Length: 90 minutes Thursday, Jan. 20th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21st, 2011 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22nd, 2011 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>R.E.D. Rated: PG-13 Length: 111 minutes Wednesday, Feb. 9th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12th, 2011 7:00 p.m. 9:30 p.m.</p>
<p>The Social Network Rated: PG-13 Length: 121 minutes Wednesday, Jan. 12th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15th, 2011 7:00 p.m. 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Jackass 3 Rated: R Length: 94 minutes Wednesday, Jan. 26th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29th, 2011 7:00 p.m. 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Due Date Rated: R Length: 100 minutes Wednesday, Feb. 16th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17th, 2011 7:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18th, 2011 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19th, 2011 7:00 p.m. 9:30 p.m.</p>



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Tablet phones are popular at the local Verizon store.

Verizon likely to sell iPhone

Verizon customers await the possible arrival of the iPhone

Katey Warren
STAFF WRITER

Though Verizon Wireless has recently introduced a variety of new smartphone and

tablet products, the company is still in hopes of introducing the iPhone to their service.

Buzz about the iPhone being introduced to other services has escalated ever since AT&T Inc. debuted as the product's sole U.S. carrier in June 2007. Now, reports claim that in the near future, Apple

will most likely drop exclusivity with AT&T Inc., and Verizon will join as an iPhone carrier.

According to a recent Businessweek article, global financial services provider Barclays PLC said that Verizon Wireless "will probably begin selling Apple Inc.'s iPhone in early 2011."

Verizon employees, however, are being kept in the dark about the situation. Many of them hope that during the event Verizon is hosting today in New York the company will announce the arrival of the long-awaited iPhone.

"We definitely would want to have the phone," said Derek Northern, assistant manager at the Verizon Wireless store on Greenville Boulevard.

According to Barclay's analysis in the Businessweek article, "[S]ale's of Apple's device could boost Verizon's subscriber gains next year by 900,000 for a total of 2.8 million."

Though the introduction of the iPhone could generate huge profits for Verizon, the wireless carrier has already benefited from the enormous popularity of their new products powered by Google Inc.'s Android software. According to Garter Inc. in the Businessweek article, Google Inc.'s Android topped the iPhone as the fastest-growing smartphone in the first quarter.

"Android is probably more advanced right now than any

other operating system on a mobile device," Northern said.

In addition to the introduction of Android-powered mobile phones, Verizon has also introduced tablet personal computers, which are portable and touch-screen, allowing users easy access to the Internet and other applications.

Though Verizon does not yet carry the iPhone, they have carried Apple Inc.'s tablet, the iPad, since Oct. 28, 2010. Soon after, in mid-November, Verizon debuted another tablet, titled the Samsung Galaxy, which sells pre-programmed with Android software.

According to Northern, at the Greenville Boulevard store, the two tablet versions are "neck and neck as far as sales," with the only major differences between the two being the built-in Internet on the Samsung Galaxy Tablet and the larger screen size of the iPad.

Northern further commented that since the iPad was not a brand new product when it was introduced to Verizon last October, it has not generated grandiose profits, and accounts for only 2 percent of

the store's sales.

As many Verizon employees and customers continue to linger on the possibility of the long-awaited arrival of the iPhone coming to a close, they must continue to wait until Apple Inc. officializes any decisions.

In the meantime, according to a Businessweek article, Verizon Wireless Chief Technology Officer Anthony Melone has made network upgrades in preparation for traffic that would be generated by the iPhone's arrival. Verizon's Chief Executive Officer Ivan Seidenberg told Businessweek last June that the decision was not under their control. "That decision's really Apple's," Seidenberg said. "We stand ready to do it, but that's an Apple decision."

Verizon has invited several members of the media to attend their event today at 11 a.m., which will most likely further address the controversy over the iPhone's arrival.

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

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DOUGLAS MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU seniors cross one item off their bucket list by celebrating with glasses of white wine.

A Pirate's senior bucket list

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

As graduation approaches, seniors get closer and closer to the leap they will have to make into the "real world." But there's still a semester left and it's time for seniors to do it all before they will no longer be able to use the "I'm a college kid" excuse.

So, Class of 2011, listen up -- and younger classes, take notes -- because there are some things that every Pirate should do before they turn their tassel and get their diploma.

1.) Road trip -- Grab some friends, fill up the tank, blare some good tunes and head at least an hour outside of Greenville. Go shopping in Raleigh or head to the coast for a beach day. Those who are a bit more adventurous could travel out of state (Washington, D.C., or New York City, anyone?). Once students are out of college with real jobs and responsibilities, spontaneously hopping in the car and heading in whichever direction will be more difficult to swing.

2.) Apply to graduate school or plan a year off -- "I am working on my grad school application and meeting the final requirements to

apply," said senior English major Preston Mackey. Now is a crucial time for seniors to be planning what they will do next year. As some apply to graduate schools or gear up to enter the work force, others plan to take a year off. For seniors planning a year off, a vast field of options lay ahead, such as volunteering, traveling, training for a marathon or even climbing a mountain. A gap year gives graduates the opportunity to do the things they always wanted to do but never had the time to.

3.) Go to a play put on by the theater department -- It's no secret that ECU has a great theater program, so take advantage of the opportunity to see the theater students perform. Attend one of their plays this semester. Admission for students is cheap and it's something different to do.

4.) Join an organization -- ECU has over 300 student organizations, so surely there is at least one that will fit any given student's interest. It's a great way to meet new people and be a part of something. The fact that organizations also look great on resumes is an added bonus. Students can peruse the bulletin boards on campus or visit the ECU website to find some that suite their desire.

5.) Plan a spring break getaway -- Spring 2011 is seniors' last spring

break, which means they have to go all out and do it big! Plan a trip to someplace fun and exciting. Whether it's a tropical vacation to the Bahamas, a ski trip out west or a visit to Europe, make it something unforgettable!

6.) Read a book not related to your major -- After four years of reading what they're required to, seniors should go get a book that they actually want to read, and actually read it. Whether it is a self help book, dating book or sci-fi thriller, students should break free from only reading required texts.

7.) Go to the Greenville Museum of Art -- With multiple galleries and exhibits, the Greenville Museum of Art is a great place to see various types of art and it's the perfect activity for a weekend. What's more, tours are free!

8.) Pay off debts -- Almost every student at ECU has gotten a parking ticket and most have let them pile up in their glove boxes. Now is the time to pay them off once and for all. Returning those overdue library books probably isn't a bad idea either.

9.) Go downtown during the day -- Though ECU students are notorious for going downtown late at night, the area isn't too shabby in daylight. Besides the obvious night clubs and bars, quaint boutiques,

eateries and coffee shops also line the streets of downtown. It's a great locale to go shopping or have lunch.

10.) Throw a party -- While this isn't a foreign concept to most Pirates, seniors should celebrate their last semester by throwing a party and inviting everyone they know. Make it more interesting by designating a theme for the party. For example, throw a luau and have everybody dress up in grass skirts and coconut bras. The more unusual, the more fun!

11.) Take a walk -- Though students walk through campus every day, they're usually distracted or in a hurry. Seniors should stroll through campus and take the time to really admire it before they leave. Or, take a walk through one of Greenville's many parks, such as the one downtown along the river.

12.) Network -- Seniors should take advantage of their professors while they still can. Whether or not seniors need recommendations at this point in time, they should still be getting them for future use. "I have a strict rule of getting two copies of recommendation letters; one for whatever I need it for and one for my personal records," said Mackey. "I try to go to professors who I've had for either an English class or a professor who I've had more than once."

13.) Keep a journal -- A few years from now, it will be hard for students to remember all of the things that they enjoyed the most. Writing down each day's most memorable moments means that students will have something to look back at to re-jog their memory. In a way, this will allow students to relive their college days in the future.

14.) Volunteer -- ECU's Volunteer and Service Learning Center offers students so many different volunteer options. Volunteering is a great way to get involved, give back to the community, meet new people and have fun! To do so, visit www.ecu.edu/vslc.

15.) Do something crazy! -- "I would suggest that seniors do something fun or crazy they have wanted to do for their entire college career," said senior English major Zachariah Fyffe. "Our college years are a time of learning and studying, yes, but it is hard to go out and do fun things with a full-time job and bills to pay." So, seniors, do that one thing that has always been on your own personal bucket list. "Personally, I plan to get a tattoo," said Fyffe. "Don't tell my parents."

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

DOWN TIME

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

SOLUTION

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

Club Swimming

If interested practice will begin January 10th in the Student Recreation Center Pool. Practice times are Monday-Thursday from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

A club meeting will be held in the Student Recreation Center classroom at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 13th. Please plan to attend.

For additional information contact
Marlie Leuck @ leuckm08@students.ecu.edu

East Carolina University
CAMPUS RECREATION & WELLNESS (252) 328-6387
www.ecu.edu/crw

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Celebrate the Dream

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations PRESENTS

Kevin Powell

Activist, writer, entrepreneur, and past member of MTV's *The Real World*

"Looking for Martin: Dr. King's Dream in the 21st Century"

Mendenhall Student Center Great Rooms
Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
The public is invited to attend this free event.

For more information, please contact the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations (EDC) by e-mailing edc@ecu.edu or by calling 328-6804.

Your RSVP to the EDC Office is recommended, but not required for this event.

Parking will be available in the B lot across from McDonald's on Charles Blvd. and 10th Street. Details are online at www.ecu.edu/edc.

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

U.P. 11-217



Softball season tickets on sale

Season ticket plans for the Pirates' inaugural campaign at the ECU softball stadium are now on sale through the ECU Athletic Ticket Office and online through the department's official website, www.ECUPirates.com.

The defending Conference USA regular season and tournament champions are set to open the new facility Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 4 p.m. against in-state rival UNC-Wilmington.

Lifetime rights for a purple chair-back seat behind home plate can be purchased for \$3,500 through the "Step Up To The Highest Level Campaign" by contacting the ECU Pirate Club at 252-737-4540. Season tickets for those seat-rights holders are then \$40 each.

One-year season tickets in the chair-back section, available for purchase only by Pirate Club members, are priced at \$100 each.

Fans also have the option of general admission season tickets for \$40 each. Single-game tickets, \$10 for chair-back seats or \$5 for general admission, will go on sale Tuesday, Feb. 1.

To order tickets, call the ECU Athletic Ticket Office at 252-736-4500 or visit its official website.

Meet the Pirates

ECU baseball fans will get their first chance to meet the 2011 Pirates up close and personal on Saturday, Feb. 5, as ECU hosts its 11th Annual "Meet the Pirates" luncheon.

Scheduled to start at approximately 11 a.m. at the Murphy Center's Harvey Banquet Hall, "Meet the Pirates" offers fans a chance to get autographs and photos of the ECU baseball team and sixth-year head coach Billy Godwin as well as enjoy a catered lunch with the Pirate coaches and players.

A limited number of tickets are available at \$10 for adults, \$5 for children (17 and under) and \$5 for ECU students (with valid OneCard) and advance reservations are required.

Tickets will go on sale Jan. 6 and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations will be accepted through 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 28 (or until sold out). Fans can reserve their seats by ordering online at www.ECUPirates.com or by calling the Athletic Ticket Office at 252-737-4500.

After lunch, ECU fans are encouraged to head over to Clark-LeClair Stadium to enjoy a Pirate Baseball intra-squad scrimmage. The Pirates will open the 2011 campaign at home against Youngstown State with a first pitch scheduled for Friday, Feb. 18, at 3 p.m. For ticket information, call 252-737-4500.

Baseball season tickets available

Season tickets are now on sale for the 2011 ECU baseball season on www.ECUPirates.com and at the ECU Athletics Ticket Office.

Season ticket prices for the full 34-game schedule are \$175, while family plans are \$450 and Young Graduate season tickets are \$100. Single-game tickets will go on sale to the public Tuesday, Feb. 1.

The home schedule at Lewis Field inside Clark-LeClair Stadium, which is highlighted by the Eighth-Annual Keith LeClair Classic, also features three-game series with Pepperdine (March 4-6), preseason No. 21 Rice (April 8-10), UCF (April 15-17) and Southern Miss (April 29 to May 1).

ECU will also have midweek contests against in-state rivals High Point (March 9), Elon (March 30), UNC-Wilmington (April 19) and North Carolina (April 27).

Ask the sports editor
Have a question about the sports section contact the sports editor at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

Lady Pirates fall to Tigers at home



TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Forward Kim Gay attempts to work inside against the Memphis defense on Sunday at Minges Coliseum. The Pirates dropped the contest 87-75.

Chase Kroll

STAFF WRITER

The Memphis Tigers outlasted the ECU women's basketball team by a score of 87-75 Sunday afternoon at Minges Coliseum. The Tigers, led by Ramses Lonlack and her 21 points never trailed throughout the contest.

The Lady Pirates entered the second half trailing 35-28. Three minutes into the second, Kim Gay was able to convert a fast break layup to cut Memphis's lead to just four. The Tigers slowly extended their lead to 12 to force ECU to call a timeout with 12:39 to play.

As the second half went on, ECU fought back to within four once again, as Kim Gay forced a turnover off a Memphis throw in and made the easy lay up to

make the score 74-70 with 2:40 left. However, the Lady Pirates couldn't capitalize on a 10-2 run and ended with a conference loss when the game was over.

"Toughness is a big part of any basketball game," coach Heather Macy said. "Being tough and getting 50-50 balls makes a big difference. It's all about the possessions."

Toughness was evident on both sides in a very physical, intense matchup. The Pirates were at a disadvantage when it came to rebounding, posting 33 to the Tigers' 52. Despite being out rebounded, ECU was able to score 44 points in the paint, 20 more than Memphis.

"Basically it was all about team chemistry," Crystal Wilson (who had 15 points) said. "They thought that they could stop the outside. They didn't expect

us to have good chemistry on the inside."

Ariana Jackson led the Pirates in scoring with 16 points, followed by Wilson, then Gay who had 11. Other than Lonlack's 21 points, the Tigers were paced in scoring by Jasmine Lee's 17 and Brittany Carter and Nicole Dickson, both with 15.

Another prominent statistic was the amount of fouls committed on the court. ECU committed 27 fouls, while Memphis had 19.

Although a fair share of the ECU's fouls were strategic and happened late in the game, the importance of being successful at the free throw line was on display as an important part of both teams' offenses.

"If I'm working hard and doing what I have to do to get to the basket," Wilson said, "then

it's going to give one of my other teammates an opportunity."

The Pirates shot 62.5 percent from the charity stripe (10-16), compared to the Tigers' 65.1 percent (28-43). By the end of the game, both Wilson and Allison Spivey collected five personal fouls and had to be taken out of the game.

In the first half of play the game was played at a frantic pace before both teams seemed to settle into the game. Before the Pirates knew it, they were slipping into a 2-13 hole. ECU was able to stable the ship, however, and draw to within seven at the half.

In earlier action this week, the Lady Pirates lost to conference rival UTEP 89-80. Jackson achieved her second career double-double in the matchup, with 16 points and 12 rebounds. In

what was a close game between the two teams, the statistic that tipped the scale in UTEP's favor was the fact that they scored 40 points from the free throw line.

ECU's women's basketball team now falls to 6-9 on the season and their next game is against Conference USA rival Tulane on Thursday. Concerning the team and where they stand for the stretch of conference games, coach Macy was very optimistic.

"I think our leadership is starting to get better and better. And we are going to need that as we get into the conference season."

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

ECU sunk in conference opener

Carlos Olivera

STAFF WRITER

ECU began conference play with a heart-breaking loss Saturday, with a trip to Memphis as they took on the No. 22 ranked Tigers. The Pirates, who have never beaten Memphis, entered the game losing four of their previous five games and continued that slide in Memphis.

"We should have won this game," ECU head coach Jeff Lebo said. "It's frustrating. We had some tough calls go against us. We had some balls in some areas, and we didn't finish."

The Pirates played well, outscoring the Tigers in the second half, but just couldn't fully close the gap. ECU also played very well defensively, forcing 20 Memphis turnovers while holding the Tigers to 15.4 percent (2 of 13) from 3-point range.

The Pirates had a chance to tie the game in the final seconds, but a steal from the Tigers' Chris Crawford thwarted any prayer of overtime or a win.

Junior Darrius Morrow had a game-high in points (17) as well as rebounds (8).

"He's getting better," Lebo said about Morrow. "He got the ball in some positions tonight where he just couldn't finish. Overall, he did a really nice job."

Also playing well for the Pirates were seniors Jamar Abrams and Brock Young, who both were in double figures in points, scoring 15 and 10, respectively.

The Pirates have struggled as of late, losing four of the previous five games after heading into winter break winning five of six. The Pirates took a 7-3 record into the break but then hit a wall of tough opponents.

ECU hasn't played at home since a Dec. 7 loss to Old Dominion. The Pirates have traveled to Coastal Carolina, George Washington, Clemson, N.C. Central and Memphis. The Pirates have gone 1-4 over that span with the lone win being at N.C. Central on Jan. 3.

"We've played some very tough opponents in some very tough places," Lebo said. "We need to shoot the ball better and take better care of the ball."

The last three games the Pirates have really struggled shooting from the field. In two losses to Clemson and Memphis, the team has shot 32.7 percent and 37.1 percent from the field. In the lone win at N.C. Central, they didn't fare much better from the field, shooting 33.3 percent.

"We've talked a lot about our body language and we don't want to be able to tell whether we're up 10 or down 10. Our kids did a good job with that in a tough road environment," Lebo said



Darrius Morrow goes strong to the basket in action earlier this season against Erskine. Morrow was the high-scorer in ECU's near upset of No. 22 Memphis.

after the win at N.C. Central.

Despite the recent shooting troubles for the Pirates, the one constant has been their defense throughout the recent skid. The last three games the Pirates have held their opponents to 38 percent from the field and an average of 61 points per game.

"Defensively, I thought we were outstanding," Lebo said after the Memphis loss. "We really made an effort defensively and we've played good defense

against some good teams."

The Pirates finally return to Greenville for their first home game in 36 days as they take on the UAB Blazers on Wednesday, Jan. 12. The Pirates look to end their recent slide and are looking for their first conference win of the season. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. inside Minges Coliseum.

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

Making the grade:

2010 football season review

OPINION



Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When the game clock hit zero in the fourth quarter of ECU's 51-20 Military Bowl loss to the Maryland Terrapins, not only did it signal the close of another football season, but it signaled the end of the first season under Head Coach Ruffin McNeill.

The 2010 Pirate football season was a season filled with ups and downs, hopes as well as despair.

But the question that will rest on everyone's mind as the Pirates head into the off-season, where battles turn from on-the-field heroics to living room conversations, is whether the fall campaign was a success or failure.

In terms of pure wins and losses, a casual observer would look at the Pirates' 6-7 overall record and more importantly that ECU lost five of its last six games and say that this was a major step back from the back-

Club hockey victorious on Senior Day



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU forward Mike Enwright buries the puck past the Life goaltender in the second period of the Pirates' 12-9 win on Saturday.

Michael Perry
SPORTS EDITOR

No one would have ever guessed it was the first meeting between ECU and Life University as the two teams waged war on ice this weekend.

The Pirates won 12-9 on Saturday in a high-scoring showdown that included a hat trick for senior captain Sean Burns. The visiting Running Eagles won in dominant fashion, 7-4, in Friday's opening bout.

Despite the high offensive

numbers, physical play was apparent from the get-go as both teams played the body without apology.

The two teams battled well into the second period with six different equalizing goals. The final tiebreaker was scored on a perfectly passed one timer from Burns to forward Matt Contipodero.

"It feels great (getting the game winner), especially after coming back from the break," Contipodero said. "It's great, just being able to help out the team any way I could."

At 7-6, midway through the second stanza, the Pirates added another goal from Harris Griswold to take an 8-6 lead. Griswold wristed one past the Life goalie from the left wing and would later go on to complete a hat trick in the third period.

Griswold credited luck with his hat trick, though he was excited to capitalize on his scoring chances.

"I think I got lucky a little bit," Griswold said. "I put it in the net finally. It's been a bit of a struggle. I haven't really been scoring lately,

but I finally let it go."

ECU tacked on two more goals before the second intermission, with Burns finding the back of the net on both of them.

The majority of the final period was bogged down with penalties and high frustrations from both teams, but the Pirates took advantage of a power play with 11:45 left in the game to add another goal to put ECU up 11-7 and complete the hat trick for Burns.

The captain muscled his way toward the crease and chipped the puck home for an easy rebound.

Life showed little will to live as they added an even-strength goal and a goal in a 4-on-4.

To finish off the Running Eagles, ECU forward Dave "Cheese" Orlando buried the biscuit at 4:24 to pour salt in the wounds of the Life squad.

In Saturday's contest, ECU got things started early as senior Michael Rudolph drove to the front of the Life net to send home a redirected slap shot less than 60 seconds into the game.

The barn burning first concluded at 4-4 with goals coming from Rudolph, Griswold, scrappy penalty kill specialist Mike Johnston and young blue liner Chris Scannella.

With a final of 12-9, it was apparent that Saturday's game was no goaltenders duel, but the

Pirates' freshman netminder Chris Stollings used his aggressive style of play to expire scoring chances.

"Stollings did great," Johnston said. "He came up with some clutch saves and pulled us out of the game."

Friday's competition resulted in a 7-4 win, in which the Running Eagles came back from an early two-goal deficit to score six unanswered goals in the second period.

The Pirates were short staffed due to injuries and off-ice issues and found their defense rather shallow. Despite these problems, ECU netted two early goals. One from Scannella as he burned home a snapshot and second coming from Mike Enwright as he beat the goaltender on a one-timer from Jeremy Eiland.

Life took advantage of the defensive woes and put together a rousing offensive attack. The physical play skyrocketed in the period resulting in the early dismissal of Pirate head coach Paul Hinrichs and Burns.

ECU attempted to close the goal gap in the third but their two goals were negated by a late period goal by the Running Eagles, resulting in the 7-4 final.

With the close of the weekend series, the Pirate club hockey team bids farewell to senior forwards Burns and Rudolf. ECU also says goodbye to defensive leader Ryan

Konchalski and netminder Matt Dalgetty.

"Those guys are irreplaceable," Johnston said. "There's nothing we can do. We're going to miss them a lot, but hopefully we can put together a strong team (next year)."

In his four years at ECU, Burns captained the team for three of his four seasons.

"It's bittersweet, but it showed tonight we have a lot of young guys holding this program together for the future," Burns said. "It's good looking forward at the program."

Burns also commented on what the Greenville hockey community has meant to him.

"It means a lot. We've got some diehard fans," Burns said. "Dealing with the youth hockey program and the whole community around here, that's the special part of it to me. People appreciate us."

While the squad loses some key pieces, young talent is apparent in every position on the Pirates' squad.

ECU will hit the road for the remainder of the season, with games against Liberty and Virginia Tech to finish out the month of January.

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

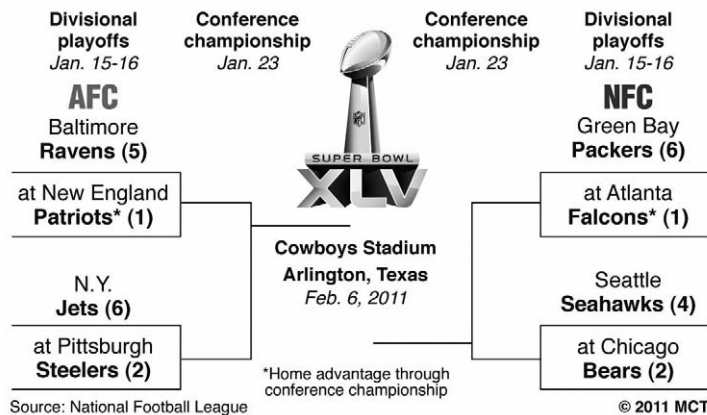


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Pirate winger Harris Griswold flies down the right wing against a Running Eagles defender. Griswold picked up a hat trick in the third period of ECU's 12-9 victory.

NFL playoffs

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ECU quarterback Dominique Davis looks for an open man against the Maryland defense in the Military Bowl on Dec. 29, 2010.

FOOTBALL continued from A13

to-back conference titles of 2008 and 2009.

Yes, from that standpoint the season could be defined as a failure due to the over-inflated expectations that came as a result of the 5-2 start. But wins and losses do not define a football team. To determine what makes a successful season, it all comes down to three simple criteria: Winning the close games, improvement from the start of the season to the end and finally, ending the season and being able to look to next season with high hopes and momentum.

The mark of a great football team is being able to respond when tested. All the greats have moments where they come back from the brink of defeat and snatch away wins to ensure that their season remains undeterred and their goals still in sight. In fact, the Auburn Tigers, who played for the national title just last night, were one illegal snap infraction penalty away from losing to Clemson in just the third week of the season.

So how did the Pirates fare in hotly contested games?

The Pirates actually were one of the best teams in the country in that aspect, posting a 4-1 record in games decided by 12 points or less. That record includes the heart-stopping Hail Mary finish against

Tulsa in week one, the amazing comeback against Southern Miss a few weeks later, the stunning overtime win over N.C. State in Greenville, a bloody battle against UAB and a heartbreaking overtime loss to Southern Methodist to close out the regular season.

Led by junior college transfer quarterback Dominique Davis, the Pirates were able to hold it together in the little moments that decide the winner and the loser.

Close Game Grade: A
For the Pirates, the second of the three factors is where it becomes hard to really put a finger on whether this season was a success or not. ECU came out of the gate picking up where they left off last year, dominating Conference USA with a new offensive system and heart-stopping plays week after week. But after beating Marshall to close out the month of October with a 5-2 overall record, the Pirates began what can only be described as a nosedive.

The Pirate offense only got better as the season went along. Through the first seven games, the Pirates averaged 36 points per game. In the last five, ECU improved that to 40 points a game. Davis, whose first half was phenomenal, continued to improve. In the last six games, Davis averaged 326 yards passing per game,

while throwing 19 touchdown passes with just six interceptions.

However, the Pirate defense only got worse as the season went along. Having to replace nine starters on defense is always a tough thing to do, but add in injuries to the defensive line and the ECU defense was a rotating door from day one. Having said that, the numbers don't lie. The Pirate defense through the first seven games was giving up an average of 35 points per game and 419 total yards, and while that isn't great, they very rarely lost games because of the defense. However, in the last six games (including the bowl game) ECU gave up an average of 54 points and 522 yards a game.

The fundamentals were missing all year long. The arm tackles, the missed assignments in the secondary and the undisciplined play that led to countless penalties are all things that can be fixed and need to be fixed.

The record in the last six games and the defensive problems result in an improvement grade of D-.

The final criterion is if the Pirates really state their case for a successful season. Under the direction of coach McNeill, I strongly believe that once he gets his system firmly in place and

corrects the defensive issues facing this team, that ECU will be right back where they were for the two years prior to this season.

McNeill has created a football program that feels like a family more than anything else. He cares for his players and loves each one of them like a son, and that kind of relationship creates an attitude in the players where they will fight as hard as they can for their coach.

Built for the future grade: A+
So was this season a success or a failure?

Well if you were expecting a third straight conference title, then you probably think this season was a failure, but I disagree with that notion. The point of the season was always supposed to be a feeling-out period; a time for the players to get comfortable with a new coaching staff and new system. While the season took a negative turn down the stretch, this was a rebuilding year from the beginning and five years from now people will look back on this season with fond memories, as this is the season that will start it all.

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

Four soccer players earn academic honors

Staff Reports

A quartet of ECU soccer players (Amanda Broz, Kimmy Cummings, Amanda Malkiewicz and Jessica Woodward) were named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Scholar All-South Region squad the organization announced Wednesday afternoon. Broz, Malkiewicz and Woodward were named second-team, while Cummings was an honorable mention selection.

Broz, a marketing major with a 3.23 GPA, is a three-time Conference USA Honor Roll (2008-10) and five-time ECU Director of Athletics Honor Roll recipient (Fall 2007, Fall '08-present).

On the pitch she earned third-team All C-USA honors and was a key member of the Pirate defense that held opponents to a 1.45 goals-against average and recorded shutouts against in-state rival N.C. State and UTEP.

Malkiewicz, a math education major with a 3.86 GPA, is a two-time C-USA Academic Medal winner, C-USA Honor Roll recipient and All-Academic performer (2008-09, 2009-10). On the field she took home second-team All C-USA honors in 2010, her second career C-USA

accolade after being named to the all-freshman team in 2008. The Forked River, N.J. native completed her best season to date leading the Pirates in goals (7), assists (6) and points (20), which were all new career-highs and ranked among the league leaders.

Woodward was one of two C-USA players unanimously selected to the C-USA All-Academic first-team in 2010. She maintains a 4.00 GPA as an elementary education major with a speech pathology minor, is a two-time C-USA Academic Medal winner and C-USA Honor Roll recipient (2008-09, 2009-10) and has been named to the ECU Director of Athletics Honor Roll for four-straight semesters.

The Wake Forest, N.C. native ranked second on the team in points (11) and assists (5) behind Malkiewicz and netted her first career game-winning strike at William & Mary.

Cummings, who boasts a 3.80 GPA in management information systems, was named second-team C-USA All-Academic as a junior.

The Mechanicsville, Va. native netted her first goal of the season against No. 10 Wake Forest.

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Wildcard round defined by upsets



Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch (24) gains a first down in the first quarter between New Orleans Saints linebacker Jolonn Dunbar (56) and safety Darren Sharper (42) in NFL wildcard playoff action on Saturday.

OPINION



Stephen McNulty
STAFF WRITER

The first round of the NFL playoffs delivered in ways that nobody could have imagined, and don't expect it to slow down anytime soon.

The Seattle Seahawks upset the defending champions and three wildcard teams won on the road this weekend. The New York Jets upset Peyton Manning and the Colts, the Baltimore Ravens' defense bruised and battered the Kansas City Chiefs and Aaron Rodgers led the Green Bay Packers into Philadelphia and beat Mike Vick and the Eagles.

Up next for the Ravens is

the division rival Pittsburgh Steelers. The two teams split the season series this year, both teams narrowly winning on the road. In their latest meeting in early December, a late fumble forced by Troy Polamalu helped set up a touchdown pass by Ben Roethlisberger with under three minutes left in the game. The Steelers went on to win 13-10.

You can expect much of the same from the teams this weekend. Expect hard hitting and little offensive production, as the Steelers will move passed the Ravens 20-17.

After narrowly escaping Philadelphia, the Packers will travel to Atlanta to take on Matt Ryan and the Falcons. The Falcons played host to the Packers back in week 12 and won with a 47-yard Matt Bryant field goal with just nine seconds left. Rodgers threw for 344 yards but an efficient Ryan and 110 yards and a score from Michael Turner were just too much.

Green Bay is one of the hottest teams in the NFC right now fueled by Rodgers arm and the play of Clay Matthews on the defensive side of the ball. Look

for the Packers' defense to make a big play and take advantage of an inexperienced Falcons team. Green Bay wins 27-20.

The Seattle Seahawks actually beat the Chicago Bears back in week six of 2010. It was in Marshawn Lynch's first game as a Seahawk that he scored on the Bears. Mike Williams also went for 123 yards receiving on 10 catches. Crowd noise and weather are not a factor for this Seattle team, but Chicago has been playing well as of late. The Bears finished the season winning seven of their last nine and finished atop the NFC North.

The Seahawks will need to force Jay Cutler to turn the ball over and Marshawn Lynch must continue to run like a man possessed if Seattle hopes to shock the world again. However, Cutler and Mike Martz have the Chicago offense rolling and Julius Peppers is an unstoppable force on defense. The Seahawks will fall short 20-6 against the Chicago Bears.

The headline of the divisional round is surely the match-up between the New England Patriots and the New York Jets. It may be because of the Rex Ryan press

conferences and Mark Sanchez and Tom Brady's publicity, but either way, it is entertaining. Unfortunately, I expect the actual game to be a lot less exciting.

The Patriots are a better-coached, better-led team. The Jets are far from the dominating defense many expected them to be and Mark Sanchez is still a young quarterback. Bill Belichick will go through with business as usual as the Patriots will win 34-17.

At this point in time, the road to the Super Bowl in the AFC runs through New England, and I expect New England not to be stopped. As for the NFC, it is a much cloudier picture. If the Packers return to Chicago, I see it difficult for them to get past Chicago; however, if Falcons get past Green Bay, they force Chicago to go to Atlanta, where an Atlanta win would not be a shock. Whichever way, neither team will be able to handle the Patriots. New England over Chicago 31-21 in Super Bowl XLV.

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

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