

**OPINION:** It's official: My body is in class but my brain is at the beach. **A4**

**LIFESTYLES:** Relay for Life is taking place this weekend. Turn to Lifestyles to find out how you can participate and help the cause! **A5**

**SPORTS:** The men's baseball team hit the diamond last night to take on the Elon Phoenix. Turn to sports to find out if the Pirates managed to get the win before heading into the weekend series with Rice. **A8**

**Vice Chancellor search continues for University**

**Cameron Guppton**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The search for the next vice chancellor for Administration and Finance continues on campus. Already four candidates have applied and interviewed for the position.

The position became available when Kevin Seitz, who was the previous vice chancellor, left last fall to take a position at UNC-Chapel Hill.

According to John Durham, executive director of University Communications, the search committee headed by Dr. Phyllis Horns, vice chancellor for Health Sciences, is responsible for making a decision on who should fill the position and reporting their choice to Chancellor Steve Ballard.

One of the contenders is Frederick "Rick" Niswander, the current interim vice chancellor. Niswander has been with the university since 1993. He has been presented in an open meeting and has also been interviewed by the search committee.

> **SEARCH** page **A2**

**Greek Life holds first annual dance-a-thon**

**Staff Reports**

Greek Life held the university's first annual dance marathon on April 6 to raise money for the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

Dance marathons are one of the most popular philanthropic events held on college campuses across the country. One hundred percent of the funds raised at the dance marathon on campus went to the Pitt County Memorial Children's Hospital.

The Children's Hospital is the only hospital in Eastern North Carolina designed for children and serves as the major referral center for 29 eastern counties.

The money raised at the event will give the Pitt County Memorial Children's Hospital the ability to care for an increasing number of children.

Students participating in the marathon stayed on their feet for six hours in attempts to reach their goal of raising \$12,000.

See photos exclusively online at [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com)

**Richardson found guilty in double murder trial**

**Staff Reports**

According to WITN, a Pitt County juror has found James Richardson guilty of two counts of first-degree murder and guilty of two counts of discharging a firearm in an occupied building.

Judge Rusty Duke has given Richardson two life sentences without parole after the district attorney said he would no longer be seeking the death penalty.

Jurors came to a decision after four days of deliberation. Richardson has been sentenced to consecutive life sentences for the downtown shooting deaths of Andrew Kirby and Landon Blackley in 2009.

In addition, he will serve 98 to 136 months on weapons charges.

**Would you ever consider being on The Real World?**

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# The East Carolinian

Thursday, 4.7.11  
Volume 86, Issue 49

[theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com)

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Juniors Tangeray Owens and Camille White, listen to their finance 1904 professor. Owens and White are just two out of 250 students.

## UNC system budget cuts

**Jamie Harper**  
NEWS WRITER

Two types of budget cuts, line-item and discretionary, are being proposed as an option for the UNC system for the coming fiscal year. The UNC system has lost more than \$600 million in state funding over the past four years and more is expected to be lost this coming fiscal year, according to WRAL.

According to Representative Hugh Blackwell, the co-chairman of the N.C. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, two options are being considered for the UNC system.

One of the options proposed is the line-item budget cut. This would grant the state legislature the authorization to reduce funding for specific academic programs and academic departments.

The other option is a discretionary budget cut. This would be one overall budget cut that would be divided among the 17 institutions in the UNC system.

"I would definitely say I would feel more comfortable with letting the universities decide where the money should be cut. And definitely not to

cut back on faculty," said Shelia Cooney, a sophomore accounting major. Many students agree that they would like to not see any faculty or courses cut. "I think there should be the same amount of classes and the same amount of people in classes so students can get more one-to-one instruction. If you get rid of classes and offer less classes, then there's less opportunity to develop new skills in your classes," said Manpreet Kaur, a sophomore English and history major.

"It is too early to talk about any of the specifics that will result from any of the budget cuts for the next fiscal year. That is because the state budget process is a four-step process, at least. The first thing that happens is that the governor proposes a budget. Governor Purdue did that several weeks ago. The next step is that N.C. House of Representatives develops its own budget proposal. And the next thing that happens after that is that the N.C. State Senate develops its budget proposal," said John Durham, director of University Communications.

"After that, the two proposals, one from the House and one from

> **BUDGET CUTS** page **A3**

## Student Health offers free testing



Student Health is seeing an increase in STD testing.

**Jamie Harper**  
NEWS WRITER

Student Health Services is encouraging students to get tested for sexually transmitted diseases and infections regularly by advertising free testing to all students.

In 2009 in Pitt County, there were 35 reported cases of HIV infections. In 2010, Pitt County had 1,769 reported cases of chlamydia, 508 reported cases of gonorrhea and 18 reported cases of syphilis, according to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services. Young adults between 20 to 24-years-old are at a higher risk for getting STDs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Student Health Services and the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that students get tested on a regular basis. Shawnte McMillan, the health educator at the Student Health Services, said students should try to get tested every six months and more often if they are with multiple partners. "Being proactive and getting tested on a regular basis and trying to get the results of you and your partners before you have sex is a good 'note to self' for people," said McMillan.

Students also need to be aware

of the benefits of being tested regularly.

"The most important benefit of a student getting tested is number one to avoid some of the long-term risk factors that STIs can cause. For some women, it can cause them to become sterile. Along with guys, they can become sterile. With syphilis, if it gets to the third stage, the tertiary stage, it can cause some serious mental illness. It can cause people to go crazy. But really, it's about being more proactive about your health so you don't spread it to someone else unknowingly," explained McMillan.

"The testing part is about being an advocate for your health. What you're saying is my health is important to me, my body is really important to me and I want to keep it as healthy as I can. So testing, from my education standpoint, is a big thing for students," said McMillan.

People aged 20 to 24-years-old consistently have the highest reported number of STDs in North Carolina, according to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Quarterly Surveillance Report. McMillan said students need to remember that sexual intercourse is not neces-

> **STD** page **A3**

## Overweight Americans change safety regulations

**Brian Havens**  
STAFF WRITER

According to information released in March, the Federal Transit Authority plans to change bus safety laws in order to accommodate the number of overweight Americans.

Wood Davidson, the director of the ECU Student Transit Authority, acknowledged that he had been informed of the FTA's new weight proposal. He stated that the student transit on campus would comply with any official changes that need to be made.

Although student transit buses vary in size and how much weight they can carry onboard, under the current guidelines these buses can typically hold 40 passengers seated and 38 passengers standing. A permanent decal is installed in the driver's area of the bus to help guide him or her with the vehicle's capacity.

Moving from the assumed weight of 150 pounds per passenger (from surveys conducted in 1960-1962) to 175 pounds per passenger, the FTA believes the new weight is an "appropriate" average.

This average comes from an estimate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that the average weight for men (20 and older) is 194.7 pounds and 164.7 pounds for women (20 and older).

According to an article in USA Today, Joseph Schwieterman, director of the Chaddock Institute for Metropolitan Development at DePaul University, said, "This change is really just a bow to society... With no small number of bus passengers tipping the scale at 200 pounds or more, this (average) is much more realistic."

This new weight average will

affect many aspects of public transportation. The transit authority will not only limit the amount of passengers allowed on buses, but also propose to add more space for each passenger. To acknowledge that passengers are larger and require more room in today's society, the transit authority is hoping to add an additional quarter of a square foot of floor space for each passenger.

Senior Candice Ange, double majoring in theater and English, works as a bus driver for student transit throughout the week. Ange said, "During peak hours when a

## Filing started for SGA

**Jamitress Bowden**  
STAFF WRITER

The first phase of elections for the Student Government Association begins April 7, and the slate of candidates are uncertain until filing ends April 8 at 5 p.m.

The student body is not aware of who is running for election until filing is over. Filing is the first step to a campaign and once completed becomes public records that all students can read. Once a student has decided to run for election and has filed with SGA, they are allowed to start their campaign the following Monday and then voting opens to the public on that Thursday until Friday afternoon.

Last year, there was not much campaigning, at least for the presidential and vice presidential positions. Current President Tremayne Smith and current Vice President Josh Martinkovic filed for their positions and, in the end, they were left standing alone in line.

Disappointed by the lack of competition during the election, Smith decided to look on the bright side and accept the compliment that students support the changes and trust them enough to keep the same staff, mostly to keep the progress on track. For example, the dedication to always keeping the students "plugged-in" on the information that is important and trying to keep the general level of awareness high.

Smith said that once the word spread that a strong ticket formed, including the then-treasurer and chief of staff running for election, nobody chose to run against because of the leadership that was available, partially due to the wonderful progress with SGA during the 2009-2010 school year.

Smith also believes that there will not be any positions running unopposed due to the potential power that is available and simply that elections generally do not go as it did last year. In the history of SGA, last year was the first time anyone ran unopposed.

"Strong candidates make the elections more competitive, and I think that this year we will have an overall increase in participation from the student body, voting by the students and students running for election," said Smith.

The positions for treasurer and secretary require no previous experience within SGA. However, to run for either the position of president or vice president, students must have previous experience in any other position within SGA. There are between 40 and 45 positions available for voting by the student body, the executive positions and senate positions, which are decided by the elections committee. The executive cabinet and the positions on the judicial branch are available by application only.

The executive positions consist of the main four: president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. The senate positions are representatives from each college (including Gen-

> **ELECTIONS** page **A3**

lot of people have classes, we do have the tendency to have some people stand on the bus."

Concerning the additional space proposed for each passenger, Ange feels that the current standards are efficient. "I think the seat sizes are fine. If you're not comfortable sitting in a seat, it's always a safe and different option to stand. I don't see a problem with it."

Sophomore Kelly O'Connell, a communication major, feels

> **BUS** page **A3**

# University raises money for Japan Tsunami victims

Hannah Farmer-Fernandez  
STAFF WRITER

Almost a month after Japan was hit with the nation's most powerful earthquake ever recorded, the government, citizens and other countries globally are working together to provide relief.

The week that students returned to Greenville after spring break, John Tucker, the director of the Asian Studies Program, was already helping to organize the disbursement of over 50 Red Cross Disaster Relief donation canisters around the main campus and the medical and health sciences campuses.

Junior Zach Rodgers, a health education major, donated funds into one of the Red Cross Disaster Relief Canisters for Japan and says it's the Good Samaritan thing to do. "Hopefully the money raised will get something started in Japan. Anything can start with a dollar or some spare change. No donation is too small."

Tibetan Monks were visiting campus and performed rituals and dances in Mendenhall the week after the earthquake and tsunami that occurred during students' spring breaks. Tucker thought that the Monks' visit would be a good kick-off for something to be coordinated with the Red Cross.

Hundreds of non-profit organizations have supplied relief items and resources to victims of this devastating event. According to the American Red Cross, donations for the Disaster Relief Fund will help provide food, shelter, emergency relief items and comfort to the people who were forced to evacuate their homes and lost their loved ones.

"I called the Red Cross and they said that they would provide as many disaster relief canisters as we needed. The announcement was made during the intermission that the Monks' performance and acts would be dedicated to the victims of the earthquake and tsunami," said Tucker.

After only a couple of weeks of donation canisters placed around campus, students and faculty raised \$4,000 for the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund for Japan.

"It's really nice and comforting to know that the Pitt County Red Cross has raised this much money, because if that disaster occurred in the U.S., I would want the same help that we are offering Japan. It's always nice to see people helping others, no matter how far away they are," said senior communication major Samantha Graw.

The damages from the tsunami and earthquake have been estimated to exceed \$300 billion and the amount could become greater. The estimated cost to this disaster does not include the decreases in economic activity, power outages or the major impact from the current nuclear crisis.

Graw is currently enrolled in an anthropology course called Global Understanding and says that China students are very sympathetic with the crisis in Japan. "We Skyped with a university in China and asked the students how they felt about the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. They experienced an earthquake years back and received help from Japan so they wanted to pay it forward. The students also said that the China Red Cross sent over initially eight people and \$3.2 billion," said Graw.

Nobuaki Takahashi, a foreign language department assistant professor, was born in and lived in Japan until he was 22. His hometown and family's home is Utsunomiya City, which is only 100 miles north of Tokyo and Sendai and was affected by the earthquake. His parents, brother and sister lost water and electricity but only suffered minor damage.

"My aunt was trying to get in touch with my family but she couldn't," said Takahashi. "It took two days for her to find out that my family was OK. For two days I was thinking the worst scenario," said Takahashi.

According to Japan's National Police Agency, the death toll from the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami is 12,259 people and 15,315 people are still missing.

This disaster could potentially be the most expensive natural disaster on record. In comparison, in 2005 Hurricane Katrina resulted

in \$81 billion in damages. Although the American National Red Cross sent \$10 million in mid-March, more funds have been raised globally.

In addition to the high costs resulting from this disaster, on March 28, the United Nations estimated roughly 244,000 earthquake and tsunami victims still remain in emergency shelters.

The recent hazardous concern for Japan is the spread of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean. Japanese nuclear engineers discovered radioactive levels this past weekend that were millions of times higher than normal near the reactor.

"Recovery is going pretty slow probably because of the nuclear crisis. If it was just the earthquake and tsunami, it could have been a faster process. After almost a month, they are still recovering bodies in severely damaged areas. But in some areas, pretty much the people are back on track with electricity and water," said Takahashi.

The Japanese government generated its first radiation safety standard for seafood after dumping 11,500 tons of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean to make room for more highly contaminated water. Workers have been spraying the reactors to help prevent the plant from additional meltdown, but as a result from the spraying, a runoff has formed. Workers have released enough minimally affected radiated water to fill four and a half Olympic-sized swimming pools to help create storage for the water millions of times more contaminated.

"It's not just a Japanese-specific issue. It's a natural disaster that we are trying to solve whatever problem we have. In that way, it's important for everyone to know. Lots of news from all over the world say how calm Japanese people are and not panicked when waiting in line, not screaming. People can learn from something like that when something bad happens and consider other people first," said Takahashi.

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## SEARCH continued from A1

William Bowes of Georgia is another applicant for the position of vice chancellor. The other two applicants wish not to be named at this time.

William Bowes is the senior vice president for Finance and Administration at Georgia Medical College in Augusta Georgia.

Bowes has held the position of senior vice president since 2009; he was previously the vice president of Finance and Administration.

"I believe my experience working in senior roles in a comprehensive state university, as well as an academic health center, coupled with my experience working with board members, legislators and state elected officials in two states has given me great preparation for this position," said Bowes.

Bowes has 30 years of experience, 24 of these years in senior management positions at both a system and institutional level. He has been the vice chancellor for Fiscal Affairs and treasurer and associate vice chancellor for Fiscal Affairs with the Board of Regents in the University System of Georgia.

Bowes also has experience in other positions, such as senior

budget analyst and program analyst.

From 1988 to 1995, he was the vice president for Finance and Administration at Southern Connecticut State University.

During this time, he co-chaired an effort to implement new financial reporting software for the Connecticut State University System and brought Southern Connecticut State University online, becoming the first institution to do so successfully.

Bowes also helped develop a university master facilities plan, which is now the basis for construction taking place on Southern Connecticut State University's campus.

In addition to his extensive experience in Finance and Administration, he has also held teaching positions in New York and internships in Washington, D.C.

From February to May 1977, he was a lecturer and teacher assistant for the School of Allied Health Professions at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and also held a graduate teaching assistantship.

Prior to his assistantships, Bowes was an intern for the Congressional Budget Office in Washington, D.C.

"This opportunity has great appeal for me, allowing me to combine my previous experience as a senior administrator at a comprehensive state university with my more recent role as a senior vice president at an academic health center," stated Bowes.

He obtained his B.A. in Economics from Hofstra University in New York and received his M.S. in Urban and Policy Sciences from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

According to Durham, the hunt for a new vice chancellor is almost over. "The candidates have been interviewed by various groups on campus including Chancellor Ballard, members of the search committee, members of the chancellor's Executive Council, department heads in the Division of Administration and Finance, student leaders, community leaders, members of the Board of Trustees," said Durham. "The search for a successor to Mr. Seitz is nearing completion."

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

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# BUDGET CUTS

continued from A1

the Senate, go to a conference committee and the conference committee will work out a state budget and it will go back to both houses for approval and then it will go to the governor for her approval. Then and only then will we be able to make specific plans on the campus about exactly what we are going to do," said Durham.

Last fall, Gov. Perdue instructed UNC system administrators to be prepared for 5 to 10 percent budget cuts for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

A 10 percent cut could lead to 2,000 job cuts across the UNC system, including 1,000 faculty members, according to data discussed by the UNC system's Board of Governors. A 5 percent cut could eliminate 900 positions, including 400 faculty members. The UNC system has about 47,000 employees total in the system, according to the News and Observer.

"We are hoping that the General Assembly will be through and there will be a budget to send by June, but you never know. There's going to be a lot of work to do once we know what the figures are going to be," said Durham.

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

# STD continued from A1

sary to spread or become infected with an STD.

McMillan said, "Even if you don't have full out sex penetration, a lot of STIs can be passed through skin-to-skin contact. Unfortunately, just because you don't physically have sex with someone, that doesn't mean you're not at risk. A lot of students get that confused and think they are OK, but they can still get STIs like herpes or genital warts from intimate moments ... Students need to be more proactive but also at the same time asking the right questions of their partners."

McMillan explained the Student Health Services has been trying to promote its free testing services more recently. Many students are

still unaware that STD and HIV testing is free for them through their Student Health Services. Blake Mobley, a freshman biology major, did not realize students could be tested for free but thought it was a positive service to offer. "I think it's good to make it free. You don't want to pay for something most people are scared to do anyway," said Mobley.

A student can make an appointment with SHS online, by walk-in or by call-in. There is also a "fast-track" clinic available for students to receive STD testing, which usually takes about 20 minutes, depending on the circumstances of the appointment. On average, results take about three weeks to be

received. The policy of SHS requires the patient to receive his or her results in person in order to ensure confidentiality for students.

Christina Cramer, a freshman clinical lab science major, said, "I think in the long run it will help students from getting STDs."

Students will continue to be encouraged to take advantage of the ease of using the on-campus health services to get tested regularly through a variety of upcoming Student Health Services events. McMillan said, "It teaches you to be accountable for your actions but also proactive for your health."

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

# BUS continued from A1

differently. "I think the bus system is horrible, because there's never enough seats on the bus. People are packed in there, so it is not safe," said O'Connell. "I think we should do something different, because if you make bigger seats, then there is going to be less seats on the bus. Less seats on the bus equals more people standing. There are already too many people standing on the bus."

A new line of bus designs might be in store in order to meet these demands. Since the public transit does not want to leave many unfortunate passengers behind at the bus stop, a larger, more efficiently designed bus is necessary.

These new safety regulations come quickly at a time when many are turning to buses for transportation. Since gasoline prices have steeply risen over the past few months, many people are turning to public transportation in attempt to save money.

The American Public Transportation Association has predicted that if gas prices rise to \$4 a gallon (nationally), an extra 670 million transit passengers could be expected. If gas prices reach \$5 a gallon, the APTA predicts possibly 1.5 billion more transit passengers.

A majority of the student transit buses on campus have a tank capac-

ity of around 110 gallons. Running off of biodiesel fuel, it's important to maintain a certain capacity as to not cause the bus to be weighed down and less efficient in mileage.

However, Ange admits that from time to time, student buses are filled to above capacity. Ange said, "Driving the 'Drunk Bus' on the weekends, I've had a ton of people on my bus and it was perfectly safe. There were people in other people's laps and no one was in any danger at all."

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

# ELECTIONS continued from A1

eral College) and class level. The number of representatives from the colleges vary but there is only one class representative for each level.

Campaigning starts Monday, April 11, and voting is scheduled for April 14-15. If there were a tie, there would be a run-off and essentially another day for election. Election is designed to be a two-day event because of potential problems with high demand from OneStop and to

give students a chance to cast their vote, despite the busy lifestyles led by most students.

Steven Branch, freshman communications major, said, "I am happy with the SGA that we have, but I am looking forward to who is running for next school year. I think that the campaigning period is exciting, especially when two or more people are running for the same position."

To gain more information about the election and the progression from filling to confirmation of the winners, visit [www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/sga/elections.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/sga/elections.cfm), the SGA Twitter page and their Facebook page.

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If you read this Pirate Rant, turn to the person to your right and give that person a hug.

Has anyone else noticed how the 40-year-old pedophile in the Rebecca Black video looks like Flo Rida?

Wow, that girl had some dismay in the vajajjay!

To those of you that went shoe-free for Toms this past Tuesday in the freakin' rain: YOU'RE DISGUSTING!

Why in the hell is a doctor's note not an excused absence?

I'm so sick of being referred to as a "Damn Yankee." The Civil War ended years ago, people!

It's official: My body is in class but my brain is at the beach.

To the girl complaining about possibly being pregnant and blaming Student Health: Isn't it actually your fault for having unprotected sex? I mean they totally made you do it, right?

I saw a bird's nest the other day that had purple and gold ribbon in it. I guess the birds are Pirate fans too!

People should be judged by the content of their character, not of their urine.

East Carolina is 40 percent male, 10 percent female, and 50 percent grenades based on what I see on campus each day! Thanks to the alcohol, it evens out on the weekends!

ECU, and most of Greenville for that matter, confirms my suspicion that southern hospitality is a myth.

If you worried about your schoolwork as much as you worry about MY vibrator in MY shower caddy, maybe you would be getting into nursing school and graduating on time. Just sayin'.

You keep canceling class and when we do have it, you are unprepared. How are you still a teacher?

I've discovered you actually can walk through a drive-thru if you pretend to be in an invisible car with your friends in the "backseat" yelling at you to turn the music up.

You don't have to lock yourself in your room. I swear we don't bite.

To the girl at the Copper Beech gym who insists on working out in just a sports bra: Seriously? Stop being an attention whore.

I just keep reminding myself that my different body type is a different type of beautiful.

The person who wrote the Jesus chalk messages over the weekend obviously didn't see the weather report about the rain Tuesday.

I love you but sometimes you are just retarded.

We get it, you're unique but in reality you're trying harder than everyone else to fit in! Welcome to the ECU school of art and D-bags.

It is really inconsiderate to print off more than 50 pages of stuff in the Bate language lab. It's even worse when you won't look at the 10 people behind you waiting for their stuff to print. You could have at least apologized.

To the people asking absurd questions to Matisyahu at the concert: You were a complete waste of our time.

All I kept thinking about while we were getting it is how obsessed with me she's going to be in the morning.

**More Pirate Rants on the website**

# OPINION

## Mommy, I want the thong that says 'EYE CANDY!'



**Chelsey McClagherty**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Your little girl looks up at you, 8-years-old and she has that cute grin on

that she knows you love. You knowingly think, "What does she want now? Candy? The newest toy?" Then your little girl says, "I want thong underwear instead of regular underwear."

This is any mother's worst nightmare — their little baby trying to grow up too fast. That is part of life, but 8-year-olds wearing thongs is another story. It's horrible to even market such a thing to children, yet Abercrombie did.

Abercrombie crossed the line a while back when it came out with a line of thong underwear sold in stores targeting 7 to 14-year-old children. To make things even more unbelievable, A&F printed on the thongs provocative phrases such as "Wink, Wink" and "Eye Candy." The only person who is going to think an 8-year-old is eye candy is a pedophile. How did this idea even actually turn into a product in the first place? This is plainly pushing adult sexuality on an innocent child.

After the huge uproar about A&F's new kiddies' thongs, they were finally taken off the shelves. Recently, Abercrombie released padded bikini tops for kids. According to Hollie McKay from Fox News, "One of America's largest clothing retail chain, Abercrombie & Fitch, is marketing padded bikini tops to girls as young as eight."

Included in the current spring line for Abercrombie Kids (a division of the fashion company specifically dedicated to 7 to 14-year-olds) is the "Ashley" Push-Up Triangle — a triangular-shaped bikini top which comes complete with thick padding for breast enhancement. Why are there bikini tops for a 7-year-old with pushup breast enhancers? I can't even imagine seeing a kid that age walking down the beach with "breasts" all of the sudden. As a society, do we

really want to pressure our children to be sexy? Preteens are subjected to enough hyper-sexualization growing up and now our children will, too? The American Psychological Association defines hyper-sexualization as "when a person's value comes only from her/his sexual appeal or behavior, to the exclusion of other characteristics, and when a person is sexually objectified, e.g., made into a thing for another's sexual use."

We all know the effects the media and advertizing have on our society's youth. "The proliferation of sexual images of girls and young women in the media is harming their self-image and development," suggest APA. If the media has this much power, imagine how much power one of the largest clothing retail chains will have on our children.

Abercrombie isn't the first to market sexualized clothing to kids. Bigger department stores have been sighted selling some rather surprising items as well. But the media works with these stores to sexualize our youth. Clothing stores, especially huge ones such as Abercrombie, are all over the media. They use commercials, magazines and models to promote their products.

"The volume of sexualized images has increased as more media content exists over a wider range of accessible technologies, leading to increased exposure and pressure on young girls. Attitudes of family members and friends can also increase the pressure," writes Catherine Paddock, from Medical News Today, about the sexualization of girls in the media.

Being young is supposed to be about discovering who you are, not who someone says you should be. Little girls need to be thinking about ponies, rainbows, Legos or whatever makes them happy. The only types of underwear she should have to pick out are different, fun colors. I wish we still lived in a world where when you thought of buying your kid a thong, you thought of thong sandals.

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

## A stronger voice for SGA



**Abby Brockmeyer**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Harvard University defines its Student Government Association as a representation of students in all program areas and degree programs that also supports and funds social and academic activities for the Harvard Graduate School of Education community.

ECU defines its SGA as an organization that serves as the governing body responsible for representing the student interests and addressing student needs on matters of university, community, state, federal or international concerns.

They both sound pretty similar, right? Why then does Harvard have a seemingly unlimited budget to spend on elections, but ECU gets a measly \$2,000 and only one week to campaign?

What are we always told by our teachers from the time we are freshmen to the time we are seniors? To get our lazy butts involved with the campus, to join organizations that are trying to make a difference and to really take an interest in what is going on inside and outside the community.

But now when the truly outstanding and involved students that are part of the SGA on this campus try to spread the word around to try to get others to participate, their voices are quelled because of the lack of time and funds. It seems a little hypocritical that faculty can berate us to death about the lack of energy we have regarding being part of the student government, but the truth is that most of us do not have any idea what is going on.

Yes, the reason why some of us are not informed is from not making an active effort to understand what is going on with our student government around campus. Some people might not see it as important or worth their time to become involved, maybe for the same reason some decide not to vote in the presidential election. Some don't think it matters whether they vote or not. It really is our decision to ignore or just not care about our student rights and activities that we are in charge of on this campus.

It still is prevalent that SGA is not advertised as it should be, considering the size of our campus. We can see hanging sheets and posters all around the mall for organizations, such as Greek Life advertising upcoming events, but it seems like I never really see SGA events for elections being shown where everyone can see them on campus.

Some people might not think that SGA elections are important or that since their major doesn't pertain to government they don't need to be involved. However, the SGA is a perfect way for a lot of students to make a change and see a change happen that directly affects their lives.

It's a way of preparing yourself for real life away from college where you can be involved in having a voice for something like in any post-collegiate workforce you enter. Therefore, SGA should have a larger budget and more time to campaign for elections so that students can actually have a chance to have a voice on campus.

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

## An occasion for cheering



**Ben Cochran**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Well, it took longer than a drunken lover to come, but warm weather is finally here. This most agreeable climate change also ushers in two other most welcome events:

the advent of short shorts and the end of the semester. With an overabundance of merriment all around, Greenville is literally busting at the seams. We need an outlet and fast. Good thing PirateFest starts tomorrow.

According to its website, PirateFest is "a large outdoor celebration offering fun, food, art and entertainment for all ages." That was written by the sponsors of the event, so of course it's not very accurate.

PirateFest actually consists of amazingly unhealthy food that tastes so delicious you'll want to sew your butt shut. Funnel cakes, turkey legs, nachos, Italian sausage and ice cream galore — you'll seriously want to not eat for the entire day before just so you'll be able to splurge guilt-free.

Perhaps you're more of the handcrafted, artsy-fartsy type. No problem; PirateFest has you covered. Vendors from all over the area flock to downtown Greenville to sell their merchandise. Ladies: need a new bag? Of course you do. Well, you'll find plenty to choose from. Gentlemen: need to find a new venue to pick up a saucy wench? Come to PirateFest — where there's shopping, there are women. Come and bag a beautiful butterfly.

Not into tangible art? Maybe the performing arts is more your style. Last year, Nova Stella, one of the greatest bands to come out of the area, rocked with some seriously funkalicious and groovetastic beats. This year's lineup consists of Old Man Whickutt, Barefoot Wade and the Blue Tulip Trio and promises to provide some outstanding audible pleasure. There's just something about live music that makes things seem better. Greenville needs to have live music every day of the year.

No outdoor festival could be complete without a proper beverage selection. You'll find precisely what you need to wet your whistle at the Grog Garden. An abridged history and definition of grog: British sailors in the 18th century were often given water mixed with rum to improve morale.

Grog is, therefore, a cheap alcoholic drink that is now used to generically refer to any type of alcohol. You will find plenty of beer at PirateFest and it will be delicious. There is nothing finer than drinking beer in pure, natural sunlight.

Perhaps the best part of PirateFest is the black powder demonstration. That's right, fully-fledged pirate reenactments descend upon the City of Greenville and set up a pirate camp. At their camp during selected times, they act out battle scenes and fire cannons. If this doesn't make you want to involuntarily

shout "ARGH!" with a fierce conviction, you might want to consider transferring to a school slightly less awesome than ECU, where the mascots are as docile as lambs and overgrown dogs.

We are the Pirates of ECU and this is our festival! So get out there and support the local artists, vendors and musicians and start a petition to make PirateFest a semi-annual event!

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



ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

### STAFF INFORMATION

**Katelyn Crouse, Editor in Chief**

|                          |                       |
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### Contact Info

Newsroom 252.328.9238 Fax 252.328.9143 Advertising 252.328.9245



## Bass Fishing Team holds annual Tar River cleanup

On Sunday, March 13, the ECU Bass Fishing Team met at the Town Commons boat ramp in Greenville in order to conduct their second annual Tar River Cleanup.

The Tar River Cleanup serves as a way to raise money for the team but also to clean up the river and benefit the environment. Last year the team amassed 294 pounds of trash in a 5-hour time period, and this year surpassed that amount with 312 pounds. "I don't think it's necessarily a good thing that we surpassed last year's mark. The river is progressively getting dirtier," said president Brad Kimrey. "I would like to see the numbers decrease yearly."

The trash mainly consisted of plastic bottles, glass bottles and Styrofoam. "At the end of the day, our hard work paid off and we were able to remove over 300 pounds of trash from the river," said senior treasurer Zach Watkins.

For information about the team, visit their website at [www.ecubassfishing.com](http://www.ecubassfishing.com) or contact Kimrey at [kimreyb07@students.ecu.edu](mailto:kimreyb07@students.ecu.edu).

## 400-year-old engravings on display in library

Engravings created by Theodor de Bry are currently on display in Joyner Library. The 22 engravings, which are more than 400 years old, appeared in the English, Latin and German 1590 editions of Thomas Harriot's "A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia."

Bry's engravings were based on watercolor paintings created around 1585 by John White. White was the governor of the 1587 colony on Roanoke Island.

"A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia" was the first published account of native North Carolinians, as well as the plant and animal life in the North Carolina coastal plain.

Michael N. Joyner of Cary loaned the engravings to the university through May 15. Joyner acquired his first Bry engraving in 2009 and has only recently compiled a complete collection of the engravings from "A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia."

The collection is on display now in the Verona Joyner Langford North Carolina Collection, located on the third floor of Joyner Library.

# Cutting for a cause

## The power of ponytails

**Madonna Messana**  
STAFF WRITER

ECU's annual Relay for Life event will begin this Saturday. Students are urged to come out and participate in the events and show their support.

The purpose of the event is to raise money for the American Cancer Society, as well as raise awareness and support for their mission to eliminate cancer and save lives.

"Relay For Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society," according to the Relay for Life website.

Brittany Carr, a senior biology and Asian studies major, is this year's Relay for Life team recruitment chair. "We just try to recruit new teams," said Carr. "We have a sub-category for Greek life, student organizations, dorms and sports."

Since the fall, Carr has been working on an event that will take place at this weekend's Relay for Life event titled Pirates Cut for Cancer.

Pirates Cut for Cancer will take place at the event and will give students the opportunity to participate and make a contribution in a different manner.

"In the fall, I was selected as a potential Elite Pirate and we had to do a service project," said Carr. For her service project, Carr began working on the Pirates Cut for Cancer event.

Participants can donate their hair at the event and it will be sent to Pantene Beautiful Lengths where the hair will be made into wigs and distributed to the American Cancer Society wig banks. Hair donations give cancer patients who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy the opportunity to purchase lower-priced wigs.

"There is also a head-shaving event with the (Pirates Cut for Cancer) event, and it is basically for the guys who want to support and help to raise awareness," said Carr.

The head shavings will not be made into wigs; however, the action of the head shaving will be helpful in raising awareness for the event and making a statement.

To be eligible to make a hair donation, donors must have hair that is at least 8 inches (long, wavy or curly hair texture is OK and may be straightened), hair must be washed and completely dry, free of styling products, may not be bleached, permanently colored or chemically treated and may not be more than 5 percent gray.

According to Pantene's website, "It takes at least six ponytails to make a Pantene Beautiful Lengths wig; in general, each ponytail comes from a different person and is a different color. Even though some hair colors may look similar, including gray hair, each is completely unique."

Each ponytail must be processed and then dyed the same color, hair that has been bleached, permanently colored or chemically treated may not turn out the same color and will result in an unusable ponytail donation.

Brooke Taylor, junior health education and promotion major, is Relay for Life's team development chair and also president of Colleges Against Cancer. Taylor plans on participating in Pirates Cut for Cancer.

"I was not so sure (about donating) ... To be honest, I love my hair, and I wanted to grow it out a little bit more before I cut it off," said Taylor. "But recently, my aunt, who has leukemia, went through chemotherapy. It's been a very sudden, very devastating struggle for her, so I think that I will be donating in her honor."

Taylor also explained that there are going to be a number of other fundraisers taking place at Relay for Life to participate in, including a lot of food that will be sold, Monster Pong, a Zumba Marathon and live music.

Both Carr and Taylor explained that Relay for Life is an event that is not solely based off of cash donations — especially when students are short on cash.

"I like the (Pirates Cut for Cancer) event because not a lot of college students have all this money that they can donate to support the fight against cancer," said Carr. "So this is just an inexpensive



PHOTO STAGED BY CASEY BOONE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A student prepares to donate her hair to Pirates Cut for Cancer during Relay for Life.

way for them to help out."

"More than anything, Relay for Life is a symbolic night to celebrate the lives that have overcome a cancer diagnosis and are still fighting one," said Taylor. "Remember those lives that were taken by this awful disease and fight back so that we can create a world with less cancer and more birthdays."

Students can register at [www.piraterelay.com](http://www.piraterelay.com). The event costs \$3.

"When you really Relay, you don't just buy everything you possibly can and give away all your money," said Taylor. "You come and you bring your story, your heart, your passion for this cause, and you share that, give that. Because that is what makes Relay for Life the most successful fundraiser the American Cancer Society has."

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

## PIRATE EATS

# Peppermints serves up frozen yogurt

Peppermints Frozen Yogurt provides an inexpensive and healthy treat

★★★★☆

**Michael Davis**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Not only did the arrival of March bring warm weather and busted NCAA basketball brackets, it also blew in Peppermints, the new, affordable, frozen yogurt joint in town.

Peppermints Frozen Yogurt opened its first location at 3701 Charles Blvd. on March 15, kicking off the self-serve yogurt revolution in Greenville. With 10 different flavors of yogurt, ranging from four types of chocolate to snickerdoodle and more than 40 different toppings to choose from, including fresh fruit, mini candies and dehydrated marshmallows, Peppermints has become a local hot spot for families and students since its recent arrival.

"You come in, you get your cup, get a little sample to find the one you like," said co-owner Shawn House, "and then load it up, decorate it, dress it however you want and then check it out by weight."

Peppermints runs a "for you, by you" style of service, which allows customers to get exactly what they want and how much of it they want. No longer will the customer be stuck in between sizes, receiving too little or too much for their appetite and dollar. Since the store sells its frozen yogurt by weight, 40 cents per ounce, the combination of flavors and toppings are endless.

Coming up with the idea of a self-serve frozen yogurt shop while on a family vacation, Shawn House and his wife, Tracy, quickly put thought into action. From idea to reality, the

store took only two and a half months to become operational. "We want a quality service as well as a product," said Shawn House, crediting their success to the community and employees. "We are trying to make sure we hire people that match our values and beliefs and have a good work ethic."

Any band or sports team knows that though the quality must be good, the name of what you are selling is just as important and tough to come up with. The idea of Peppermints, as seen on their walls and logo, is a girl named Peppermint trying to spread the word about the shop, telling people to "Get your own," the shop's motto.

The girl with the peppermint-swirled face sure got the word out, bringing people running from all directions for this cheap, delicious and healthier dessert alternative.

"The place has a great atmosphere; everyone working there is super friendly and welcoming," said student Winston Wray. "You can't beat the price and the location."

For people on campus, the location might improve tenfold, as talks of opening a second location on 10th Street across from campus are in the works.

Those avid, or soon to be, Peppermints Frozen Yogurt fans can follow the company on Facebook by searching "Peppermints Frozen Yogurt" and sign up for their loyalty program. The loyalty program, which can be signed up through text or email, allows the customer to accumulate points per purchase, adding up to a free 7-ounce yogurt of their choice.

Their Facebook page will be posting news and updates about flavor and topping changes, along with more information about the shop.

For more information about Peppermints Frozen Yogurt, log on to their website at [www.peppermintsfrozenyogurt.com](http://www.peppermintsfrozenyogurt.com).

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



DAN WILLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Shawn and Tracy House, owners of Peppermints, recently opened their frozen yogurt business on Charles Blvd. which offers many toppings and flavors of frozen yogurt.

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MEME WILSON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
 Store owner John Groesser shows off one of the pieces of art from 'Paint it Purple and Other Colors'.

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New studio and gallery 'Paint it Purple and Other Colors' will feature many ECU-inspired works

**Katey Warren**  
 STAFF WRITER

Two local artists plan to use their new working studio and gallery space to spread awareness of local artists and spark interest in art while also giving back to the community.

it Purple and Other Colors," John and Dodi Groesser, along with other artists in Greenville, will showcase and sell paintings, several of which will focus on ECU sporting events and other outdoor scenes in the community.

"It's my way of having fun in life right now, while also giving back," said John Groesser. Groesser's wife, Dodi, agrees and also has another reason for venturing out into a new space.

"There's such a wonderful collection of artists (in Greenville) struggling to create awareness," she said, "and I hope through this we not only have our own

> ART page A7

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**ART** continued from A6

space to work but also bring that awareness.”  
 While Dodi Groesser, who majored in art and music in college, has established herself as a full-time art professional since graduating, her husband John did not find his passion for art until recently. After attending several workshops with Dodi, John realized that he also had an interest in outdoor painting, and since retiring, the two have spent much of their time working on what he calls an “extended hobby.”  
 In the past several years, the Groessers have attended art workshops, painted outdoors and even outgrown their living space with their works. “Our art is taking over our house,” Dodi Groesser said, “so it’s really kind of a dream of ours to venture out together in this.”  
 With family ties to the university, as well as a great interest in attending the university’s sporting events, John Groesser easily determined what will be the focus of several of his paintings in the gallery.  
 “I want to highlight the different sporting events at ECU,” he said. Groesser already has several ideas of the scenes he hopes to paint, such as a football player “winning the touchdown pass,” and tailgaters celebrating before a game. “John has a real love for the Pirates,” Dodi Groesser said.  
 Even for those paintings that will not capture specific images from around the university, John Groesser has conspired a way to include a hint of ECU spirit in each of his paintings.  
 “Purple will always show through in all of my

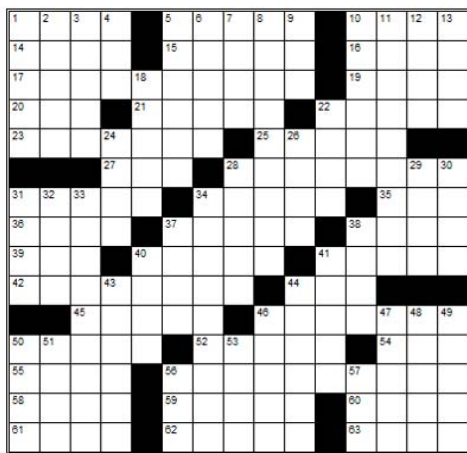
artwork,” he said. He added that the university’s color was also the inspiration for the gallery’s name, as well as for the color of the gallery’s floor.  
 Not only do the Groessers and other contributing artists plan to offer their “high-quality, affordable” paintings, but they also plan to contribute a certain percentage of their profits to local organizations such as the ECU Pirate Club, Habitat for Humanity and Gideons International.  
 “It’s an opportunity to give back and do something that can help,” John Groesser said.  
 In addition to showcasing and selling their works, the artists of “Paint it Purple and Other Colors” hope that their new space will create a welcoming, learning atmosphere for community members. They plan on offering both indoor and outdoor art workshops and also encourage Greenville residents to stop by and see the artists at work.  
 “Students are certainly welcome to come out, learn and see the process,” John Groesser said.  
 The Groessers are planning to open “Paint it Purple and Other Colors,” in late April and will be located in the shopping center at the corner of East 10th Street and Portertown Road. They encourage those interested in more information about the gallery or in placing special requests for paintings to contact John Groesser at 252-916-1173.

This writer may be contacted at [lifestyles@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:lifestyles@theeastcarolinian.com).

**DOWN TIME**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Look at flirtatiously
- 5. Mixes
- 10. Taxis
- 14. A giver or sender
- 15. Grows weary
- 16. Arch type
- 17. Not literal
- 19. District
- 20. French for “Friend”
- 21. Delete
- 22. Seize
- 23. Speaker’s stand
- 25. Increase
- 27. Old World vine
- 28. Diminish
- 31. What something costs
- 34. Backside
- 35. Short form of Robert
- 36. Connection
- 37. Cease-fire
- 38. Slovenly person
- 39. Choose
- 40. Pig
- 41. Encounters
- 42. Abandoned
- 44. A parcel of land
- 45. Greek last letter
- 46. Renowned
- 50. Fund
- 52. Drudge
- 54. Goddess of the dawn
- 55. Defeat disastrously
- 56. A system of musclebuilding exercises
- 58. A single time
- 59. Not at any time
- 60. Chills and fever
- 61. Notices
- 62. Requires
- 63. Untidyness



**DOWN**

- 1. The viscera of a butchered animal
- 2. Dirt
- 3. Reasoned judgment
- 4. Relative of an ostrich
- 5. A clear night sky
- 6. Moon of Saturn
- 7. Colored part of an eye
- 8. Venerate
- 9. 180° from NNW
- 10. Rough
- 11. Conforming to your own liking
- 12. Honey insects
- 13. Chair
- 18. One of the Canterbury pilgrims
- 22. Lean and sinewy
- 24. Small parasitic arachnid
- 26. Pimples
- 28. Intimidate
- 29. Carbon black
- 30. Declines
- 31. Trudge
- 32. Pickable
- 33. Acquaint
- 34. Chicken stew
- 37. Branchlet
- 38. Stiff hair
- 40. Killed
- 41. Choral work
- 43. Gives expression to
- 44. Paramours
- 46. Appointed
- 47. Ecre
- 48. Locale
- 49. S S S S
- 50. God of love
- 51. Not a single one
- 53. Passion
- 56. Motel
- 57. Male sheep

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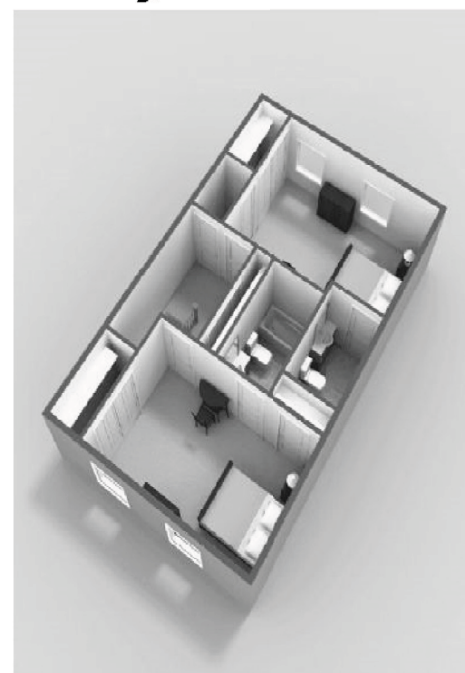
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## Track sets five records at Florida Relays

### ECU Media Relations

ECU set five school records and produced 13 top-10 finishes this weekend, taking part in the prestigious Florida Relays at the Percy Beard Track. Head Coach Curt Kraft has now mentored student athletes who have established over 30 program standards in the six years with the Pirates.

The school-record performances were turned in by senior Jordan Neil in the 1,500-meter run with a second-place time of 3:43.43, freshman Aiesha Goggin in the 400-meters at 53.47 (sixth place), sophomore Aaron Zakula in the pole vault (4.67 meters/13th place), the ladies 4x200 relay squad which took seventh at 1:31.05 and the ladies 4x400 team capturing eighth with a time of 3:38.85.

Sophomore All-America high jump specialist Tynita Butts continued her strong outdoor campaign, matching her nation-best mark of 1.80 meters in the event to finish as the top collegiate athlete in the meet.

Senior Maegan Lewis and junior Nicole Tozzi also showed well for the female field athletes, both grabbing sixth-place finishes in the hammer (54.42 meters) and javelin (44.74 meters). Additionally, the 4x800 relay ladies ended up eighth with a time of 9:17.81.

ECU returns to competition Saturday, April 9, traveling to Cullowhee, N.C., for a quad meet with Appalachian State, Western Carolina and UNC-Wilmington at the Catamount Athletic Complex.

## TEC Madness 2011



### Staff Reports

In the 2011 office bracket for the NCAA men's basketball tournament, opinion editor Kelly Nurge successfully picked the Connecticut Huskies as the National Champion. Nurge correctly selected 35 of the 65 picks.

## Softball streak erased in Wilmington

### UNCW Media Relations

UNC-Wilmington senior Caitlin Cavarra laced a two-run double with two outs in the bottom of the seventh to erase a one-run deficit and lead UNCW past ECU, 2-1, in collegiate softball action Wednesday at Boseman Field. ECU slipped to 28-11 as it saw its four-game winning streak come to an end.

Cavarra was 2-for-3 with two RBI to highlight a Seahawks lineup that finished with six hits in the contest. Senior Amanda Aditays was credited with the win as she improved to 4-9 on the season. In seven innings, Aditays allowed just one run on six hits and six walks. She struck out three.

Freshman Kristi Oshiro went 2-for-3 and Rebecca Lee was 1-for-3 with a RBI for the Pirates. Junior Faith Sutton took the loss for ECU, allowing two unearned runs on six hits and one walk. She struck out two.

ECU left seven runners on base in its first three at-bats before finally breaking through in the fourth, using a one-out single by Lee to score freshman Jasmine Robbins from second for the first run of the contest.

The Pirates were able to keep the Seahawks in check offensively through the first six innings, allowing no UNCW runner to advance past second base until the seventh and final inning.

ECU will host Central Florida in a 1 p.m. game on Saturday to begin a three-game series with the Knights.

# SPORTS

# NO ESCAPE FOR ELON



TYRONE DEMERY/THE EAST CAROLINIAN ILLUSTRATED BY LUKE RAYSON

Outfielder Ben Fultz breaks for third base and takes the bag, during the Pirates' 7-0 win over Elon on Wednesday.

### Adam Bunn ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

In a game that was originally scheduled to take place last Wednesday but was moved due to weather, the ECU baseball team dominated Elon, cruising to an easy 7-0 victory.

After dropping a mid-week tilt against in-state rival N.C. State on Tuesday night, it was important for the Pirates to get back in the win column before jumping back into conference play.

Already holding a 2-0 lead, the Pirates put the nail in Elon's coffin in the sixth inning, putting together a double-filled inning that netted the Pirates two runs and a roomy four-run cushion.

Pirate catcher Zach Wright led off the inning by smashing a double off the right-center field wall that had the makings of a triple, but Wright decided not to risk it, pulling up at second base. Following a John Wooten ground out, Jack Reinheimer laced a double to the left-center field gap, plating Wright. Reinheimer would score on a Chris Gosik double down the third base line one at bat later.

Once again the story of this ball game was the Pirates' ability to shut down the opposing team's offense. Freshman starter Austin Chrismon wasn't overpowering Wednesday night,

but when faced with trouble he was able to make the big pitch to get out of danger.

When the game was still in doubt and scoreless in the top of the third inning, Elon threatened to get on the board first.

After an easy pop fly to right field started out the inning, Chrismon began to throw a little wild and got himself into some trouble. After walking Eric Serra and a single by Jake Luce, Chrismon loaded the bases by issuing his second walk of the inning to Niko Fraser. After a brief meeting on the mound, Chrismon settled down and retired the next two batters, getting out of the inning sustaining no damage other than a bloated pitching count.

"It was huge," head coach Billy Godwin said of getting out of the inning without any damage. "Number one we come out with the lead, and it showed maturity on his part to settle in there. We got a force out at the plate, and Jack made a really nice play in the six-hole. He showed some poise. He's a freshman, but he's gonna be very good for us."

Chrismon's second career start wasn't flashy, but he got the job done, throwing four innings of shutout ball while allowing three hits and three walks and striking out one.

"It's tough. His last start was against

Buffalo," Godwin said of his freshman pitcher. "It's kind of tough to build stamina if you're not building pitch counts every week like our regular guys, but I thought he came out and gave us four quality innings."

Elon would not threaten the Pirates from that point on, as ECU rode its bullpen and a very consistent offensive performance all the way to the bank.

The Pirates got the scoring started in the third inning as they were finally able to solve Elon starting pitcher Thomas Girdwood.

Tim Younger led off the inning with a single to center, followed by Ben Fultz attempting to sacrifice himself to move Younger into scoring position. Instead, Fultz laid down a perfect bunt that not only allowed Younger to advance but also Fultz to reach on a bunt single. Corey Thompson would then rip an RBI single to center, scoring Younger and giving the Pirates an early 1-0 advantage.

The fourth started the same way the third did as John Wooten led off the inning with what looked like a harmless pop up along the first base line. Instead of being a routine play, Elon let the ball hit the ground, putting Wooten on first base.

More mistakes would be made by

BASEBALL page A9

# TALKING TO 'THE VOICE'

### Jordan Anders STAFF WRITER

For 23 years now, members of the Pirate Nation have been able to identify with one voice when they tune their radio dials in to the Pirate Sports Network.

That voice belongs to Jeff Charles, appropriately known as the "Voice of the Pirates." A native of Piqua, Ohio, Charles has nearly 30 years of experience doing play-by-play. Along with working games for the University of Illinois and Furman University, Charles was the voice of the Virginia Tech Hokies from 1983 to 1988 before leaving to come to ECU, where he has been ever since.

"I do other stuff, but people know me as the 'Voice of the Pirates,'" he said. "It's pretty much who I am and what I do."

Charles has spent his years at ECU using that voice to broadcast all the action on the football field, baseball field and basketball court across the airwaves to Pirate fans. He said that calling games on the radio is a very unique and challenging beast.

"It's theatre of the mind," he said. "The people are out there listening, and they have to picture what's going on in their mind. You have to paint that picture for them so they can see it."

While he may be the play-by-play "Voice of the Pirates," Charles's responsibilities branch out way past that. He also is the host of the radio call-in shows for both head football coach Ruffin McNeill and head basketball coach Jeff Lebo, which take place weekly at Logan's Roadhouse

THE VOICE page A9

# MEDIOCRE MADNESS

### OPINION



### Stephen McNulty STAFF WRITER

The 2011 season finished in fitting fashion Monday night in one of the sloppiest games of basketball I have ever seen. But then again, what can you expect from the lowest-ever combined seeding in the National Championship?

This past year in college basketball is one I will never forget, but it is certainly not because of the great play. Sure, there were many amazing games, as there are every season. But the 2011 season simply lacked the great players we have seen in the past.

The 18 combined losses between the Butler Bulldogs and the Connecticut Huskies are the most ever for a National Championship, because, let's face it, neither team was a very good team all year. People say that is the glory of the tournament that anybody can win it. And that is true, but when a team with a 9-9 conference record faces the Horizon League Champions who had back-to-back-to-back losses to Milwaukee, Valparaiso and Youngstown State, there is more to it.

The Connecticut Huskies took advantage of the weaker field this year and got hot at the right time. Kemba Walker carried the team early in the season, simply putting the team on his back in the Maui



Senior right-hander Seth Maness works from the hill in action last season.

### Lorianna Whitford STAFF WRITER

No stranger to a challenge, one Pirate athlete has done nothing but impress since he stepped onto the grounds of ECU. Fans can usually catch him on a Friday night dominating the mound of ECU's Clark-LeClair Stadium using his mighty wing to battle each and every opponent. As the leader of the pitching staff, he faces each competitor with a calm but deliberate attack. Don't let him fool you with his modest approach; this Pirate is more than meets the eye.

Seth Maness joined ECU's baseball team as a freshman in the fall of 2007, bringing more than talent to the mound. From the lush greens of Pinehurst, Maness is not only a standout pitcher but holds an undiscovered talent on the golf course. Maness grew up playing both baseball and golf from the age of four and hasn't stopped yet. Although he loved baseball from an early age, the Pinehurst native was surrounded by the game of golf throughout his childhood and teenage years.

"My Dad cut me down a set of miniature golf clubs," Maness said, as he grinned and used his hands to describe the tiny set of golf clubs. "We used to live about a block away from a golf course and we'd walk over at night and play two holes every night. My Dad said I wouldn't hit it very far but I could hit it straight."

Maness' love affair with golf only grew from there, balancing his free time between baseball and golf, he developed a knack as a pitcher and found talent both on the mound and on the green.

"I like to golf every opportunity

I have. There are some similarities between the two sports. In golf, you don't need to beat yourself up -- you play the course, and in baseball you play the opponent. Every batter is a different challenge, every hole is a different challenge."

The 2010 Conference USA Pitcher of the Year has inspired his fans this season by gaining strength on the mound in consistency and endurance. So far, he has thrown four complete games in his past five outings for the Pirates, including one 10-inning stretch against Rutgers.

"I always feel like I can do better. If I throw a shutout, I'll know if I've made a couple of bad pitches," Maness said. "I always find the small mistakes and put them under a microscope. I'm really critical of myself, which makes me want to improve."

Maness took a loss on a recent trip to UAB but is positive about getting past the rough weekend.

"Coming off a tough loss is rough," Maness said. "Being a pitcher, you throw once a week, so you've got five or six days to think about how badly that outing went and what you need to change. You've got to stay strong mentally not to let that affect you too much. It's as much of a mental game as it is physical."

Maness' mental toughness is a good contributor to his achievement in both sports. However, Maness attributes his success mainly to his coaches and his family.

"My dad, grandparents and mom have been great influences," Maness said. "My dad always preaches, 'Don't let your highs get too high and your lows get too low,' and he really kept me

on track in a lot of ways, put me in my place when I needed to be. He's been a great father figure to me."

As an accounting major, Maness spends a lot of time in the books and emphasized the importance of time management as a student athlete. During the season, school and baseball don't allow him as much time on the green as he would like, but even so, Maness continues to shoot in the mid-to-high 70s on 18 holes every time he plays.

"When I'm playing a lot, I've shot as well as one under 200 par on 18 holes," Maness said modestly.

Maness loves competing as a Pirate. "We have some great fans. That's one reason why I came to ECU. When we play Carolina, State or Wilmington, we'll have 2 or 3,000 fans come out for those games, and it's awesome playing in front of that many people and having that much support."

After graduating in May, Maness explained that he would love the opportunity to play baseball professionally, but when asked which sport he would choose to play professionally, there was no hesitation when he answered, "Definitely golf. I would love to try at least." He explained that if his dreams were to come true, five years from now he would be playing the PGA Tour, hopefully preparing to play in Augusta at the Masters.

With a fierce competitive drive and the work ethic to match it, Maness is sure to succeed in whatever endeavors his future holds. Until then, ECU's No. 43 will continue battling opponents on the mound.

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

MADNESS page A9



**THE VOICE** continued from **A8**

during the football and basketball seasons. In addition, Charles also hosts the half-hour-long television shows for McNeill and Lebo, which air weekly on WITN during their respective seasons.

Charles can also be found on Pirate Radio 1250 and 930 every weekday morning for "The Morning Drive" from 7 to 8 a.m. He also hosts his own weekly call-in show, "From the Booth," from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Charles recently broadened his work with Pirate Radio with the debut of a new show, "Bike Talk," a half-hour show devoted to motorcycles, which will follow "From the Booth" on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Charles's long tenure means that he has been around to see quite an evolution within ECU and Pirate Athletics.

"I've seen a lot of changes," he said. "I've seen the football stadium expand. The basketball arena was nothing like it is today in 1988. Then you see all the things that have gone on with the baseball stadium and everything off Charles Boulevard out there."

"It's really changed a lot, and it's changed for the better. The school has grown. The athletic

program has grown. Greenville has grown. It's been good to be a part of it and see everything grow like it has."

Charles, who won the North Carolina Sportscaster of the Year award in 2000, has seen a lot in his 20-plus years of calling ECU sports. But his favorite memory is easy to pick out.

"It would have to be the (1992) Peach Bowl," he said without hesitation, speaking of ECU's victory over N.C. State to cap an 11-1 season. "That's a once-in-a-lifetime kind of year. It was just a great experience to be a part of."

For those who can't attend Pirates games, Jeff Charles has become a key part of the ECU sports experience. He credits his ability to a little luck and a lot of hard work.

"There's a little bit of a gift to it," he said. "Some people can write, some people can draw and some people can sing. I was just blessed to have a good, natural voice, and I've worked really hard at it."

That gift helps his real-life passion for sports reflect in his energy on the radio.

"I just have always loved



**Jeff Charles calls play-by-play during ECU's victory over N.C. State in football in the fall of 2010.**

sports," he said. "If the game is good, then it makes you sound better. When you get something good to work with, then it's easy to get in to it."

It's easy for others to get in to it, too. There are few Pirates that are unfamiliar with his famous

phrase at the end of every ECU victory: "You can paint this one purple!"

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

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**MADNESS** continued from **A8**

Invitational. Then conference play rolled around, and the young Huskies struggled. The National Champs lost by 17 to St. John's in February, and then later that month lost four out of five. But somewhere along the line, the Huskies turned it on.

Five games in five days. No big deal. They are just going to tire themselves out for the tournament, right? Wrong. Let's make it 11 in a row. Not enough can be said by the performance put on by Walker and his young teammates. But in my opinion, Huskies Head Coach Jim Calhoun deserves as much credit as anybody. Some people already had Calhoun among the greatest coaches, and if they didn't, they certainly should now. Only five coaches in history have three or more NCAA titles: John Wooden (10), Adolph Rupp (4), Mike Krzyzewski (3), Bob Knight (3) and now Jim Calhoun (3).

Calhoun took the Connecti-

cut program and built it himself. He made it into a national powerhouse. And they continued to win year after year. Not many coaches have been able to do that. But if there is one man who may be the next face of college coaching and who could rewrite a lot of the record books, it's the man who went head-to-head with the 68-year-old veteran Monday night.

Brad Stevens is not your typical back-to-back National Championship game coach. He played at tiny Division III Depauw University and literally quit his day job to start coaching. Stevens, who is half Calhoun's age at 34, had already made a bigger name for himself last year than many coaches ever will. But just in case you believed last year was a fluke, he took Butler to the National Championship again, even after losing Gordon Hayward to the NBA Draft.

I really like Stevens. And as I sat and watched the dreadful

championship game, I actually grew to like him even more. The young coach paced up and down the sideline as shot after shot rimmed off. But he never gave up, never looked panicked and never got too down on his team. He cheered on his men for effort plays, even after it looked as if the game was solely in Connecticut's hands. And he held his composure as his eyes watered behind his glasses while talking to reporters.

This is the same head coach who looked so natural as he jumped around with his team in the locker room just a few days before. Brad Stevens is a very good coach already at age 34. I do not expect him to leave Butler anytime soon, and I certainly don't expect him to stop winning.

If not remembered for the mediocre play, remember the 2011 season for great coaching.

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

**BASEBALL**

continued from **A8**

Elon when Reinheimer attempted to put down a bunt but reached, and both runners advanced on a throwing error by Garrett Koster. After the throwing error, the Pirates had runners on second and third with no outs and Gosik coming to the plate. Gosik would ground out, but that ground out allowed Wooten to score from third.

To cap the Pirates scoring output on the night, Fultz and Whitehead both launched their second homeruns of the season in the bottom of the seventh inning.

The Pirates will now have two days off before opening a three-game series against conference rival Rice Friday night at 6 p.m.

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

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Zeta Eta Lambda, Eta Nu, AKA, Kappa Omega and Theta Alpha will host a Teen "Anti" Social event on Friday, April 8th from 8-11pm at Elm Street Gym to raise awareness for issues affecting teens today. Email dchall01@embarqmail.com for more information.

Come support Iota Nu Delta Fraternity Inc. in collaboration with Give The Troops as we host a book sale! Come out to 3109 Landmark Street, across from Wal-Mart on April 9, 2011 from 7am - 12pm. Hard-back and soft-back books will be sold for as low as 25 cents a piece. Come support a good cause and get some great books!

Come 'Get The Scoop' on women's Greek life! Wednesday, April 13th from 6-8:30pm at the Mendenhall Brick Yard. All interested freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are invited to join us for ice cream and learn about the nine Panhellenic Sororities on Campus. See you there!

Gamma Sigma Sigma is hosting a fundraiser at Pirates Den on Thursday, April 14th at 9pm to help with relief efforts in Japan. \$5 cover, free random drawings, and live music! Email jamforjapan2011@gmail.com

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**Campus Living is hiring Student Painters- FULL TIME ONLY.**

**Experience is welcome but not required. Position starts at \$7.25 an hour.**

If you would like to apply stop by the Campus Living Office located in the ground floor in Jones Hall to fill out an application, or visit our web site and follow the student employment links for a printable application. **Applications must be returned to the Campus Living Office by April 21, 2011.**



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