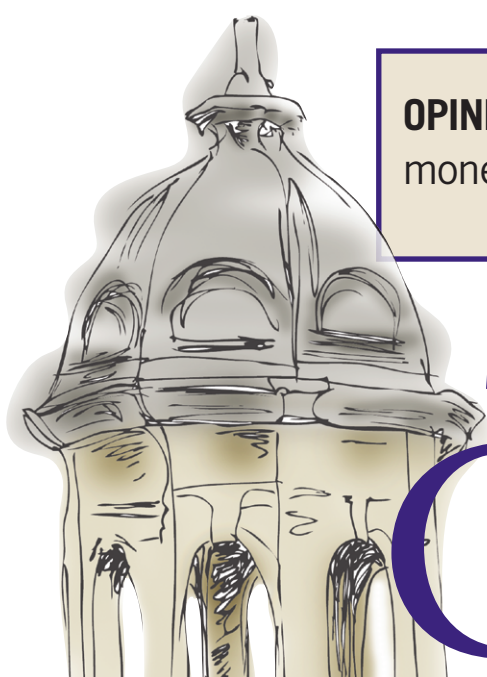




OPINION: Value of time and money. **A5**

72: NCAA '14 football video game tournament.

SPORTS: Pirate hoops win in Greensboro. **A7**

The East Carolinian

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Volume 88, Issue 26

Thursday, 11.14.13

Medical vans for veterans

Students bring care to rural areas

Ryan Clancy
TEC STAFF

Students from the ECU Honors College are working with Operation Reentry to design a rover van that will provide health care services to homeless veterans in eastern North Carolina.

Operation Reentry is a military support program that operates through ECU and addresses the reintegration of veterans into society, according to their website.

Trey Cook, a freshman biochemistry major, is a member of a group of honors students that are working with Operation Reentry as part of their freshman colloquium.

"We really wanted to do something just for veterans," said Cook. "That was probably the biggest motivation."

The Operation Reentry van is designed to provide mobile health care to veterans who are homeless or unable to receive health care through normal means.

"Many times they're out in rural areas...and we're bringing the university closer to them through this mobile platform," said Ted Morris, associate vice chancellor for innovation and economic development and principle investigator for Operation Reentry North Carolina. "It became a much more effective way to serve their need."

The van will be equipped with satellite technology to allow teleconferencing (similar to Skype) with medical professionals.

> **VETS** page **A2**



CONTRIBUTED BY CARSON MORRIS

The Basilica of Santa Maria de Fiori, or Il Duomo, in Florence is one of the many landmarks that study abroad students can experience on their travels.

International Week

Study abroad fair to be in Rec Center Wednesday

Puja Patel
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

International Education Week 2013 begins on Monday and is used to promote programs and spread diversity through campus. Some of the events at ECU for International Education Week include international films, guest lectures, international foods and a study abroad fair.

International Education Week, held annually during the Study Abroad Fair, will showcase semester and year-long study abroad opportunities, as well as faculty led trips in the summer, according to Whitney Morris, education abroad advisor.

"We want students to be aware of all of the opportunities they have to go and study for academic credit in other countries," said Morris.

Booths at the Study Abroad Fair will have professors that are holding the trips and students that have gone on past study abroad trips. There will be representatives from financial aid letting students know how to apply for finan-

cial aid for study abroad. There are also many international students coming from universities overseas that will answer questions about their home universities. The opportunities span from two weeks to two months long.

In past years, faculty-led trips have been taken around the world to many countries in South Asia, Europe and parts of Africa. For many students, the study abroad experience was one they wished they could re-live.

Radhi Kothadia, sophomore biology major, looks back on her month long trip to India last summer. Kothadia and 15 others spent days touring North India in cities such as Delhi, Agra, Dharmasala and Varnasi.

"I chose to study abroad because I wanted to experience something new and exciting, and learn about new cultures and people," said Kothadia.

She earned six humanities credits for a religious studies class. Kothadia and other students on the trip were required to read a book before the trip, as well as keep a blog or journal



CONTRIBUTED BY CARSON MORRIS

Elissa Bober, a junior elementary education major, spent 10 days in south Europe.

> **STUDY ABROAD** page **A3**

New public information officer named

Tyler Stocks
TEC STAFF

Greenville Police Department named their new public information officer, in a statement on Tuesday morning. Kristen Hunter, an ECU graduate, former reporter and producer for WNCT Channel 9 will be joining the department on Dec. 2.

Greenville Police Department's current Public Information Officer Sgt. Joe Friday will return to investigation duties.

Hunter will be a full-time officer. She described how the department recognizes that people get their information differently than in the past.

"One of the things I've learned in TV news is more people are getting their news through social media than ever. They're not

necessarily turning on their TVs," said Hunter. "People are getting on their computers and logging on to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram."

"Police also want to interact with the public more and talk about community issues and concerns, through public forums and that's part of the department's community-oriented policing initiative," said Hunter.

These neighborhood forums cover topics like crime prevention, fraud, internet safety and financial

safety.

The first forum was held on Tuesday night at the Barnes-Ebron-Taft Community Center in the Greenfield Terrace neighborhood. More forums are scheduled and the Greenville Police Department will be sending out notices several weeks prior to the events.

"The forums are a way for the citizens of Greenville to understand what's going on in their community, what to expect of the police department and what citizens can

do to make our community safer," said Hunter.

In addition to the public forums and catering to different audiences on social media, Hunter emphasized how the Greenville Police Department wants to have a good working relationship with the media.

"The Greenville Police Department and the media has a very

> **GPD** page **A2**

BRIEFS

Deadline to register for Bridge Building Competition is Nov. 15

Nov. 15 is the deadline to register for North Carolina's 15th annual Model Bridge Building Competition.

The competition allows students to integrate their math and science skills with real-world situations by allowing them to create models of bridges.

Chi Omega to hold disc golf tournament on Nov. 15

Chi Omega will hold its first disc golf tournament to benefit the Make-A-Wish foundation of Eastern North Carolina as part of the Seasons of Wishes campaign.

The tournament will take place Nov. 15 at the Greenville Country Club. The first round of groups will register at 7:30 a.m. and the second round of groups will register at noon.

Kelly McRae to sing at St. Anne's

Singer Kelly McRae will perform at St. Anne's Chapel and Event Center in Tarboro, N.C., on Nov. 22, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets can be ordered by calling St. Anne's.

ONLINE

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www.theeastcarolinian.com



ECO-pirates and The East Carolinian would like to remind you to recycle this paper

VETS continued from A1

“It helps them connect with health care providers when they’re physically separated,” said Morris. “It’s basically remotely delivered health care.”

Students from the honors college are designing certain aspects of the van, including the design of a kennel for a therapy dog and an awning for the van.

“Right now we’re not equipped to house and care for a service animal,” Morris said. “(The honor’s group is) helping design a way to safely transport those animals and make them comfortable when they’re out and about and keep them safe.”

According to Cook, aid from the honors group made designing certain aspects of the van easier for Operation Reentry.

“With all the red tape they’ve got to go through, they have to get lots and lots of signatures to get something like that,” Cook said. “We’re making it quicker and easier for them,” Morris said.

“Their role is very important,” Morris said. “They’re investing their time and talents and small amount of funding to complete some projects for the van that honestly we don’t have the time or the funding to move forward with.”

The money for the aspects of the van that the students are designing came from a BB&T grant. The application for the grant was written by a group of junior honors college students.

Adrian Modzik, a junior biology major who is part of the group that wrote the grant proposal, said she thinks it’s important that the project impact the local community.

“We wanted to do something a little more at home,” said Modzik.

According to Morris, they will begin testing the van in December and it will be on the road in January. He said he hopes that it will be used to facilitate the mental health of veterans.

“Obviously our service members, veterans and their families, encounter many stresses over their service to the country at times those stresses result in their seeking a particular type of physiological or behavioral health care support,” Morris said. “This van will help make that possible.”

Previously, if ECU put on a program to benefit veterans, it could be difficult to get in contact with them.

“Having our own portable facility makes that much more convenient,” said Morris. “We can much more easily take some of the equipment out to the folks we’re working with.”

The van will provide basic necessities to the homeless veterans.

“What the van is really designed to do is go find homeless veterans and their families where they may be living at the time,” Morris said. “We’ll be building relationships by offering to provide food or provide warm clothing or the opportunity to charge a cell phone so they can reach out to their family. If you’re homeless and living in the woods, those can be very powerful things.”

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



TREY COOK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



KATIE WEST | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Portrait of Christen Quattebaum, a graduating senior of ECU's dance program. Her specialty is in contemporary dance and she has danced, as well as taught, in LA and NYC. She plans to hopefully move to California after graduating in December.

GPD continued from A1

close partnership and we rely on each other to make sure all the accurate information is getting out as quickly as possible,” said Hunter. “My background as a reporter will take relationships to the next level. I know what it takes to be an effective journalist but now I have to learn that the GPD way.”

Hunter left reporting to take this new job as public information officer because of her love for crime reporting and having an interest in police work.

“I always said that I wanted to be a TV reporter or a homicide detective. I went the reporter route and have covered a lot of crime at WNCT but when the public information officer position opened up, I knew this was an opportunity I couldn’t pass up,” said Hunter.

When asked about how she plans to remain objective and not favor her former employer when giving out information to former competitors, Hunter said that it’s never been a concern of hers or the police departments. She continued to say that she has a working relationship with many reporters in the community including at other news stations.

“This gives me a slight advantage compared to someone coming in from the outside,” said Hunter. “I have lived in Greenville for seven years now and have become part of the community. They are competitors so there is a competitive component to our jobs but there is certain level of respect between all of us.”

Hunter said her focus overall is transparency and working to make communities safer by educating people about what’s going on.

“Every city has its problems and some degree of crime, but by moving in that direction, the goal is to have people know what is going on in our communities. We’re also going to want input from the community. I think tackling crime in Greenville is important but tackling the perception of crime in Greenville is equally as important,” said Hunter

Being out in the community is one thing, but Hunter reiterated how social media plays a large role in this. From taking pictures of community events to allowing people to share stories and pictures and voice concerns, the department will be more receptive to the needs of the public.

“We want people to feel safe and know they’re safe in Greenville. I think that’s where my role is really going to come into play,” said Hunter.

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

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STUDY ABROAD
FAIR 2013

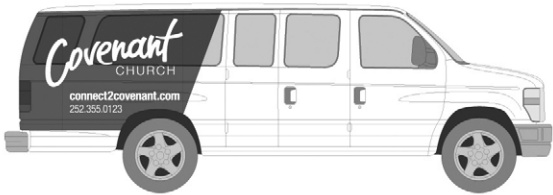
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stop 4: Shelter next to Blount House, 10th St
Umstead Hall residents

stop 5: Aycock Hall, front porch
College Hill Suites, Aycock Hall, Jones Hall,
Tyler Hall, Scott Hall, Belk Hall residents

Van returns to ECU 15 minutes after service



Affects of climate change on the Southern U.S.

Other impacts expected by the end of the 21st century, include:

- **More wildfires.** Higher temperatures are expected to dry out forests, making them more susceptible to catching fire. Wildfires have in recent years presented a notable threat in the Myrtle Beach, S.C., area, where homes have burned to the ground.
- **Worn out roads and wrecked bridges.** Hotter conditions are expected to make asphalt heat up and roads to wear down, while rising seas will threaten to wash out bridges in coastal areas.
- **More devastating hurricanes.** The number and intensity of hurricanes is expected to increase as ocean waters get warmer.
- **Rising sea levels.** The ocean is expected to rise 1 to 5 feet by the end of the 21st century, making seaside property more vulnerable to storm surges and flooding.
- **Toxic algae blooms.** At least five different varieties of marine toxins have moved into the region or shifted northward toward the Carolinas. These toxins not only can threaten fish, but some can cause respiratory problems or rashes in people exposed to them.
- **Dying sea life.** Increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could make the ocean more acidic, which would likely limit the growth of corals, shellfish and crustaceans.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATED BY SUMMER FALGIANO

New climate change research expects changes in South

Sammy Fretwell
MCT CAMPUS

Poisoned seafood, scorched forests, flooded homes and crumbling bridges are just some of the problems the Southeast can expect as the earth's climate changes and temperatures heat up in future decades, according to a study released Tuesday.

The 341-page report, based on the expertise of more than 100 scientists and researchers, is considered the most comprehensive study to date of how global warming is affecting the South_ and what Southerners can expect.

The findings are worth paying attention to, especially in the South's high-growth states, researchers said.

"There are going to be more people here to experience the impacts the climate models are projecting," said Kirstin Dow, a University South Carolina geography professor and one of the report's primary authors.

By mid-century, heat waves are projected to be more frequent across the Southeast, Dow said, with the number of consecutive days exceeding 95 degrees rising by anywhere from 97 percent to more than 200 percent.

Overall, average annual temperatures in the region could rise by up to 9 degrees this century, with summer temperatures increasing by more than 10 degrees, the study said.

Research shows that average temperatures

already have risen 2 degrees in the region during the past 40 years, with temperatures the warmest on record between 2000 and 2010.

Global warming is a topic of intense political debate because controlling it could lead to more regulation of industries, but scientific data and research show that the phenomenon is virtually indisputable.

Since the rise of industrialization more than a century ago, carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from man-made activities have built up in the atmosphere and trapped heat, which has increased worldwide temperatures. That, in turn, is contributing to an array of problems, from rising seas to drier weather.

Scientists involved in the southeastern climate report said rising earth temperatures can't be ignored in the 11-state area they studied. Researchers suggested cutting the amount of greenhouse gas pollution in the South, making buildings more energy efficient and protecting wide swaths of forests to soak up carbon dioxide.

Dow said higher temperatures could have a variety of impacts on the region, ranging from more diseases in fish to making air quality worse as smog-forming pollutants rise. Rising temperatures and drought will make crops thirstier. That will make it harder to grow crops without irrigation, the study said.

Even so, Republican

state Sen. Larry Grooms of South Carolina was skeptical about the consequences for his state.

"If you're talking about (rising temperatures) causing disease and famine, and so forth, that's simply not the case," he said. "All you have to do is look to other states with a slightly warmer climate."

"There's a reason why a lot of people move to Florida."

The southeastern study includes 14 chapters, looking at various aspects of global warming in the region. Those working on the study included university scientists and federal researchers from departments such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Unsafe seafood is one global warming threat people should pay attention to, researchers said.

The study said a toxin associated with warm oceans and tropical fish has in the past decade been found in South Carolina. This suggests the disease, known as ciguatera, is moving north in association with rising sea surface temperatures, the study said. The disease is tied to the spread of toxic algae blooms.

"Climate change may lead to the expansion of ciguatera fish poisoning in tropical areas, as well as more temperate zones," the report said.

The study doesn't mention a specific case of ciguatera poisoning, but in 2004,

researchers found that a married couple became ill from eating a toxin-tinged barracuda caught along the South Carolina coast. Ciguatera poisoning can cause nausea, vomiting and neurological problems, and in extreme cases, can last for years, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Oysters and clams also are at risk of contracting diseases related to warmer water temperatures. Researchers say marine pathogens known as vibrio are a threat. Infections associated with vibrio are expanding in Gulf Coast shellfish. The trend is tied to the number of days when water temperatures rise above typical levels. Some types of vibrio can cause diarrhea and liver disease.

Keith Ingram, a University of Florida researcher and co-author of the study, said some past skeptics of global warming appear to be softening their positions.

"Over the last couple of years we've started getting more and more questions from farmers about climate change because they see it," said Ingram, who studies agriculture at Florida. "We see the same thing in coastal communities, where they see flooding already."

Sammy Fretwell is a contributing writer to MCT Campus Information Services. The original story ran on Nov. 12 in The State (Columbia, S.C.).



CONTRIBUTED BY CARSON MORRIS

Bober traveled to Assisi, Italy while studying abroad last spring.

STUDY ABROAD continued from A1

throughout the trip. After the trip, the coursework included writing a reflection paper on the religious experiences they cherished.

Josh Thomas, senior psychology major, was one of the other 16 students on the trip with Kothadia. Thomas, who is of Indian descent, had never been to India.

"Being thrown into the chaotic, yet vibrant, culture that is India opened my eyes to not only how the less fortunate live, but also how you need to break down barriers of culture, religion and race to understand people for who they are," said Thomas.

Elissa Bober, junior elementary education major, spent her study abroad experience in South Europe for 10 days, visiting cities

such as Barcelona, Assisi, Rome and Florence.

"It was so different than a course on campus," said Bober. "Since it was a once in a lifetime experience, you wanted to learn these new facts and interesting customs and all the history. It made the work easier because you wanted to do it."

This summer's destinations include China, India, Spain, Argentina and many more.

The Study Abroad Fair will be held in the Student Recreation Center on Nov. 20 from 2 – 5 p.m.

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

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PIRATE RANTS

So disappointed when I went to ring the bell at Dowdy-Ficklen and the clacker was removed. Get it together, ECU!

Let's do a Great Gatsby themed social even though it has already been done 9,000 times!

If you're going listen to music and text while walking, acknowledge the people walking towards you. Thanks!

To the guy who talked to me on the bus about mid-90s cartoons, thanks for brightening up my morning.

I wonder if the construction management majors are taking a lot of field trips outside?

Tell me about it. I walked under the cupola in 2007 and I'm still here. And no, I'm not a grad student.

Where is the article in TEC on Veterans Day?

Why does the band not understand that when we are on offense you are supposed to be quiet! Seriously, shut up!

If I took a picture of every interesting character I saw around campus, I would never get anywhere on time.

To the classified looking for a guy: I'm not strong, but fit the other descriptions, can that count?

I feel like the only girl left who doesn't wear leggings every single day...and it's not because I can't pull them off. #unique

To whoever tipped the Pirate Cow: Not funny, bro. Way to ruin things for the rest of us.

To the guy on campus with his fancy initials on your backpack: That is called a monogram FYI.
-Concerned student

Thanks to the idiot girl in the truck. You almost hit my husband as we walked through the crosswalk (you were right turning and we had the right of way), but I have your plate #!

Some of the buildings on campus are too confusing to navigate. I'm a senior and I have yet to master Bate.

To the girl who stole our pink flamingo at our house party last week, you're not sneaky...we know where you live.

The school email sucks!

Hey, ECU, you're all about creating Pirates, right? So why are there no changing tables in any of the bathrooms in the stadium!? Where are we supposed to change these little stinky Pirate Booties at the game?! I'm a mad Mama Pirate!

It would be nice if all of the students could stay in the Boneyard this Saturday considering its senior day...

Green shirt guy I kind of kicked out of study room 3130: You're cute and you smell nice.

Is it weird that I'm afraid to say "God Bless You" because I might offend someone?

If you can actively check your phone while working out, you're working out wrong.

Oh, so you decided to print off a whole Wikipedia page & I have class in 5 min. Thank you, you jerk.

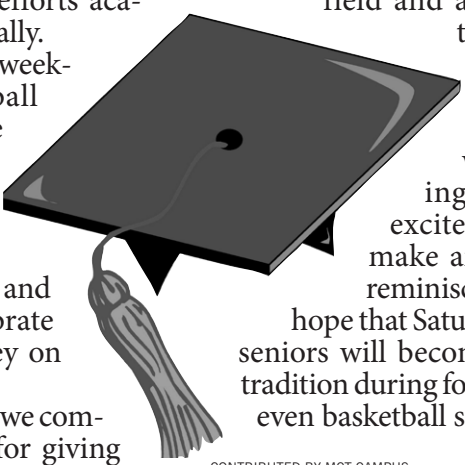
> RANTS CONT. page A5

Our view

Senior day for everyone

This Saturday against University of Alabama-Birmingham, the football team is hosting its annual senior game, when graduating athletes get special recognition for their efforts academically and athletically. The difference this weekend is that the football players won't be the only seniors basking in the moment. The athletics department invited 500 seniors, both athletes and non-athletes, to celebrate their collegiate journey on the football field. As the editorial staff, we commend the university for giving

the seniors the opportunity to be able to celebrate their accomplishments too. This will give students that chance to see more of their peers on the football field and anxiously celebrate their success with them. We are sure that the students who are participating this weekend are excited to celebrate and make another memory to reminisce on later in life. We hope that Saturday's celebration of seniors will become a long-standing tradition during football — and maybe even basketball seasons.



CONTRIBUTED BY MCT CAMPUS

Serving others first

Turning back time



Alex Rodriguez
TEC COLUMNIST

As of late, many have called the United States an interloper in the world. Many nations and U.S. citizens are frustrated by American military intervention around the globe, vocally condemning their involvement. But isn't military intervention on behalf of oppressed cultures and nations relief in a sense? The air above the city of Tacloban in the Philippines is quite calm after the storm has passed. Of course that same air is still rank with the stench of corpses wrapped in shattered steel and sun dried seaweed, and is accented by the moans and coughs of suffering islanders wandering through the streets, desperately in need. According to an article from the Washington Post, looting has become so widespread the Filipino President Benigno Aquino III is imposing martial law. The super typhoon Haiyan amassed on Nov. 2 and flung itself across the islands of South Asia before devastating the Philippines on Nov. 7. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, more than 200 people have been confirmed dead across the Philippines, with thousands more missing. Nearly every nation on planet earth has expressed their condolences and pledged to send money in the wake of this tragedy. America tried to intervene in Syria after illegal chemical weapons were used on civilians. In that case, they were met with enormous

resistance both worldwide and at home. In Syria, two sides wage an ongoing civil war for the lives, fates and freedoms of a people who are caught in the crossfire. But as they continue to suffer, relief is halted by politics. Should we as a nation behave differently according to whether or not innocent people are being killed by nature or by men? The United States has arguably the most powerful military force the world has ever seen. Upon almost every intervention in an international conflict, we receive flak from the United Nations, from our citizens, from our supporters and enemies alike. Why? Maybe we don't want to let our servicemen and servicewomen die for a cause we don't believe noble or important enough to justify that loss of American life. Maybe we feel America doesn't care about people so much as its interests. Anti-war sentiments are deep and convoluted, and international concerns are more complex than that. But when relief is needed, like it is now in the Philippines, the focus is on the preservation of life. Not just American life – but human life. Dictators, as history shows, are despicable men

with awesome power. The ability to sway a nation can be just as deadly to human life as any storm or natural disaster, resulting in the death of innocent people. Innocents just like those who were so recently devastated by the might of a typhoon that, according to the Red Cross, equaled half the size of the United States. If money for needed medicine, food, and repairs to eradicated infrastructure are fine by international standards, why can't troops be as well? Lives are still being saved and improved. You can argue that America does more harm than good by intervening, or perhaps there is a diplomatic way to solve these issues. The dictators and radicals aren't exactly prone to open, logical discussions, and necessary wars have been fought in the past to free people from tyranny. We as a nation were born from one. If it's okay to save people from nature, it should be okay to save people from their fellow man.

Alex Rodriguez is a sophomore majoring in History and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Value in giving your time

Because Laura Said So...



Laura Said
TEC COLUMNIST

Let's say you won \$500,000 from a lottery scratch-off ticket. What do you do with it? Your first instinct is probably to think about materialistic things, right? A new car, maybe rent for that small condo in the city you've been dreaming of. But what if you were answering to someone else? Some people might try to sound more generous by saying they'll donate half of it to a charity or church, or repay their families for everything they've done for you. Really, what would you do with it? Honestly, I don't think you'd be able to answer that unless it really happened. But let's be real with ourselves for one second. Let me challenge your generous thoughts with a taste of reality. If \$500,000 makes you feel generous, then I can promise you that the generosity you feel isn't genuine. If someone were truly and genuinely generous, their generosity wouldn't be impacted by the amount of money they have. Maybe you're a college student. You've pulled out a few loans, you're looking for a new job and you might be scraping by in life with just one hundred bucks. But where is this generosity that would magically appear if money became a greater factor? It's not there. Don't get me wrong, we can have good intentions and we can desire to be generous. But we doubt ourselves and we make excuses for why we can't contribute. For example, students may say, "I have bills to pay," "I don't have time" or even "I don't have any money, so I can't give anything." But you actually can. Money doesn't always have to be a factor of generosity. Just because you have money, doesn't mean you're more important than the next person. It's not how much you have, it's what you do with it. You might not have \$500,000 to donate to charity, but even if you did, would you? So money doesn't make you more successful, and it doesn't make you morally righteous. You can be the poorest man in the world, with no family and no

> MONEY page A6

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Global actions lead to more scrutiny

Bernstein Babble’s



We were all hopeful that Miley Cyrus’ downhill spiral was beginning to cease, but she has yet to surprise fans all over the world.

Cyrus had just performed her hit singles, “We Can’t Stop” and “Wrecking Ball” at the MTV European Music Awards (EMAs) on Sunday. She wore her usual skimpy outfit during her performance, but what American viewers did not get to see was Cyrus whipping out a blunt from her Chanel purse on stage and lighting it up. She casually did this on national television as she accepted the best video award for “Wrecking Ball.” The EMAs took place in Amsterdam this year, so technically Cyrus did not do anything “wrong” by smoking a joint on stage because there cannabis is legal.

However legal it may be to smoke weed in Amsterdam, Cyrus still has fans watching her on stage and once again she is being a bad role model.

It was absolutely unnecessary for Cyrus to even pull such a stunt on national television.

America did not air Cyrus smoking, but only her accepting the award. There has been dispute on whether the image should have been aired on television in America. Although, MTV made the right decision not to air it, considering the young viewers watching the show. Cyrus clearly thinks it should have been according to her tweet, “Go online and watch what really went down at the EMAs!”

Cyrus has most definitely succeeded at one thing in the past few years and that is getting people to notice her. Clearly she does not care whether it is positive or negative recognition she receives. To her it is attention nonetheless.

Although, what really upsets me as a Cyrus fan is that I had naïve hope that she would not turn out like all the other teen celebrities in Hollywood. She seemed so innocent in “Hannah Montana,” and staring in other teen-friendly films such as “The Last Song” and “Hannah Montana: The Movie.”

Unfortunately, people can’t be so ignorant in thinking child stars will not take a turn for the worse. In this day in age it is almost inevitable.

Most people blame Hollywood fame for an artists downfall but the finger should really be pointed at the parents. So what does Bill Ray Cyrus think of his wild daughter? “She’s just Miley. She’s an artist, she’s real,” is what Billy Ray Cyrus told Piers Morgan

in a CNN interview.

It is nice to know Cyrus has support among the horrific backlash she is receiving. Although, I am sure Cyrus’ actions are something her family has just accepted.

Cyrus has done some very surprising things in the past few years. She has already been engaged and dumped by Liam Hemsworth. She has twerked on stage with Robin Thicke at the VMA’s and she has filmed her music video to “Wrecking Ball” nude. And now bluntly showing people that she indeed smokes weed. I’m not really sure how much farther downhill Cyrus can go but I’m almost positive she will find a way.

Eliya Bernstien is a junior majoring in Communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



CONTRIBUTED BY MCT
Cyrus encouraged fans to watch her at the EMAs.

Failing children, statewide Embarrassing effects of the change in school’s assessment

Alexandra’s Advice



Six out of 50 states nationwide are utilizing the new “R E A D Y assessment” to improve its public school systems.

A school improvement team then rates the school in the following eight specific categories based on the schools’ answers:

- Leaders and leadership.
- Transitions.
- Teacher supports.
- Engaging environments.
- Effective curricula.
- Family, school and community partnerships.
- Respecting diversity.
- Assessing progress.

According to the Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina’s results discovered more than half of public school students fail to score in the proficient test range, especially in areas concentrating on reading comprehension and math skills.

The majority of students statewide only passed two tests out of 18. If students are scoring this low at elementary, middle and high school levels, I highly doubt they will feel prepared for college. Only about 50 percent of public high school students were accepted into any N.C. college or university in fall 2011. Who is to blame for all of these embarrassing figures?

Since statistics show the majority of North Carolina students are failing, I think it’s obvious the teachers need to make drastic

improvements. It’s safe to say most children at a young age are difficult to engage. It’s not easy for teachers to force young students to want to read or learn basic mathematical equations. Kids are constantly worried about how much time they have to anxiously sit in class before recess and lunch.

I advise all teachers, despite the age of their students, to find ways to make class interesting. Even though I’m sadly approaching the end of my years in college, I learn more in my classes with upbeat, hands-on professors. If teachers continue to bore students in class who are only in grade school, I doubt children will have any drive to earn the required grades for college admission.

In 2010-2011, the state was number 41 out of 50 for elementary, middle and high school teacher’s salary. In my opinion, it’s partially the state’s fault as well.

I’ve always believed teachers undoubtedly deserve a higher income for the work they do. The state needs to ensure the children are learning the necessary skills to prepare them to succeed in all aspects of life. Kindergarten students will be the voices of the future generation, so it’s extremely important to provide a promising education.

The state should also investigate which teachers are instructing the students who are scoring noticeably lower on tests. It will be obvious which teachers need to be replaced.

I advise North Carolina teachers and the state to work together in order to reach the public school system’s full potential.

Alexandra Bryant is a junior majoring in Communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

MONEY

continued from A5

money, and still have the greatest heart that beats on this Earth.

The next time you think about being generous, just be generous. Find a way to be grateful for everything that serves you. Say thank you when someone holds the door. Call your parents and thank them for just being there. Call the animal shelter and see if you can volunteer. Visit the children at the hospital struggling with severe health issues; let them know you actually care. No amount of money can replace our ability to love one another. A \$10,000 check might look nice for your reputation, but personally showing appreciation and gratitude for someone has a longer-lasting impact.

In the end, money is just paper. It’s just something that gives goods and services a value. But it burns so easily and it’s lost even easier. You can be as rich as you want. You can buy as many materialistic things as you want. But if you’re rich in the bank, poor in the soul and morally devalued, your contribution is as weak as the greed that drives you.

Make worth of what you have, and make every bit of it count.

Laura Said is a senior majoring in Psychology and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Revelation of Obamacare Healthcare promises and disappointments

Take on the Nation



Houston Davis
TEC COLUMNIST

The idea of universal healthcare sounded like a great idea to me when it was first introduced.

Naturally, I was pumped when I first heard about President Obama’s desire to put a universal healthcare system into action here in the states. I must admit, I have a bit of a bleeding heart and the idea that all citizens would be able to have health insurance and be able to have proper healthcare treatment and preventative doctor visits sounded pretty awesome to me.

I don’t only think it is a good idea just because I want everybody to be happy and healthy though.

It would also be much more convenient to have our insurance payments come straight out of our income via taxes instead of what we have now: going through the hassle of choosing a company, choosing a policy and then paying a separate bill for health insurance every month.

I felt Obamacare would help lower the cost of medical treatment. I thought this because everybody



CONTRIBUTED BY MCT CAMPUS

would have health insurance and be paying for it through their taxes. Even if they don’t make much, they would still be paying something.

I thought this would lower the cost because it would stop people who don’t have health insurance from going to the emergency room when they have an ailment and then defaulting on their bill.

When people don’t pay their medical bills, healthcare providers raise the prices for paying patients to make up the difference. Some disagree with me, but I think it makes sense.

Now, I’m pretty let down. Our universal healthcare, or Obamacare, sucks.

The system that President Obama has put in motion is far from what I wanted. There are so many issues with the bill that I can’t believe it was passed. After

all the nonsense that has happened, like the government shutdown, constant arguing on the bill, the passing of the bill and millions spent on getting the program going, it is not even working properly. Seriously?

The Washington Post reports that only 106 thousand people have successfully signed up for their government healthcare plan. That is a miniscule amount compared to the original prediction of 7 million and even small for the most recent prediction of 500,000.

One big reason the numbers are so low is the amount of technical issues with the website. Millions of dollars were spent to build the site and it doesn’t even work. It isn’t fair to American citizens.

Another huge issue people are having with the new system is that they are losing their current insurance plans even though they were told that they could keep them if they chose to.

These are only a couple of issues with the new government health system, but it is enough for me to know that I don’t like this. This is not the universal healthcare system I was hoping for. If the government is going to spend our tax money on something like this they need to at least make sure it helps us and most importantly — that it works.

Houston Davis is a senior majoring in Communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

RANTS CONT.

Just because we’re both waiting at the printer does not mean we have to talk. We are not friends.

To the person who gave me his seat on the 610 bus yesterday, thanks again! That was very sweet. :)

For the people in my biology class, if you don’t normally sit there, don’t start now!

I swear, if I see one more dining hall employee skip hand-washing or cough on the food their prepping, I’m going to stroke out.

Shout out to all the out of shape people in the gym! Good job! Keep it up! You’re doing awesome! I’m proud of you! #support

To the girl who got my Soup and Salad at Chili’s on Wednesday, you may be the most beautiful girl I’ve ever seen. BTW, I was wearing the striped beanie!

Yes, it’s cold. Yes, it’s snowing. Yes, I’m wearing shorts. No, I don’t like it when you look at me weird.

I see you with your fake Uggs on...you can’t hide.

Bun poppin...or nah?

“It’s the end of the semester. Lets assign a major project!” - said every professor ever.

The ECU Twitter anons are really getting annoying now. Like, stop.

I hate being single while all of my friends are in happy relationships.

You know we need to see your OneCard, there’s no need to walk by and roll your eyes!

Ain’t no shame in eating alone. As a commuter, I bought a meal plan knowing that West End would be the only place I’d be able to enjoy some time to myself during the day. I’m eating alone right now. It’s fantastic. Drinking alone, however...

This is Starbucks. Get your freakin’ bare feet off the chair, you barbarian.

Getting to watch the dance team stretch is one of the main reasons I’m still in marching band ;)

There is a reason why the construction company put barriers up. Maybe you should stay out!

To the guy at midnight who properly used the crosswalk at the bottom of college hill: Thank you!

There is no ‘friend zone’! If a girl puts you in the ‘friend zone,’ she’s just trying to find a nice way to turn you down. And trying to escape the friend zone is you not getting the hint!

Chubby girls cuddle better.

For the talkative people in my psychology class, shut up. I am actually trying to hear the lecture!

If her sole purpose in life is to have fun, she’s too young for you, bro’.

Shoutout to the campus Starbucks employees for keeping us alive & functioning!

To the guy I loaned paper to for his Chemistry lab: You’re a cutie.

Random, but does anyone remember seeing a guy dressed as a giant baby on Halloween?

The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding rants can be directed to Jamitress Bowden at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



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FOR RENT

House for rent! Winterville address in a quiet subdivision. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fully equipped kitchen, full-size washer/dryer, and private walk out patio. If interested, call Gerald at 203-895-5776.

Subleaser wanted: University Suites townhome, three bedrooms, two awesome roommates, need subleaser from December to August. December's rent already paid for and a locked in rate of only \$399!

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1bedroom private loft with bath available. Bedroom is separate from the house, shared with mature girl roommates, includes washer/dryer, located next to park. Call 252-327-4433.

House for sale or rent in nice neighborhood convenient to ECU. 4br/2b, deck, outside storage, all appliances, hardwood floors. 1415 N. Overlook Dr. Available Dec 1, \$1300/mth 252-902-9686.

PIRATEPLACES.COM It's never too early to start looking for your perfect house across the street from ECU for next year. We have over 80 of the best and closest houses next to ECU. Pick your favorite houses and we will put you on the waiting list. If the current tenants don't renew in

January then you get the house. Every year these houses are rented quickly so don't miss out and go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** today.

HELP WANTED

Sales associates needed at Once Upon A Child. PT/FT. Flexible with school hours. Please apply in person Monday through Friday from 10am-5pm at 923 Red Banks Road, Greenville. Phone: 252-756-2855.

Ad designers wanted to design display ads for the Student

Media Ad Agency. Must be an ECU student. If interested, please call 252-328-9245 or email tecads@ecu.edu for more information.

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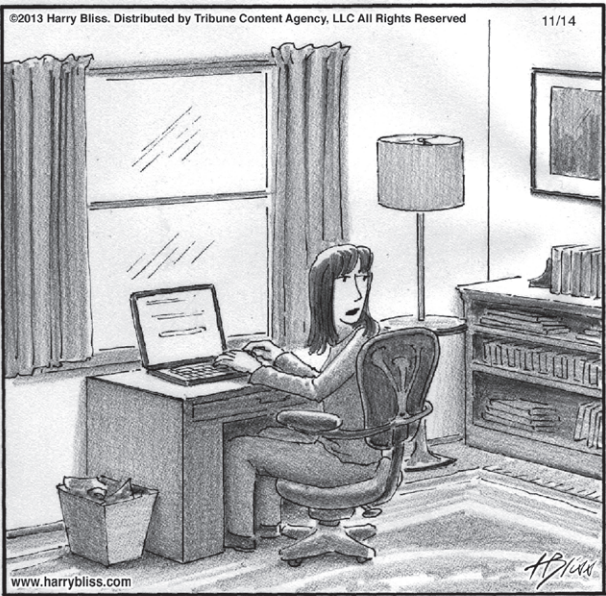
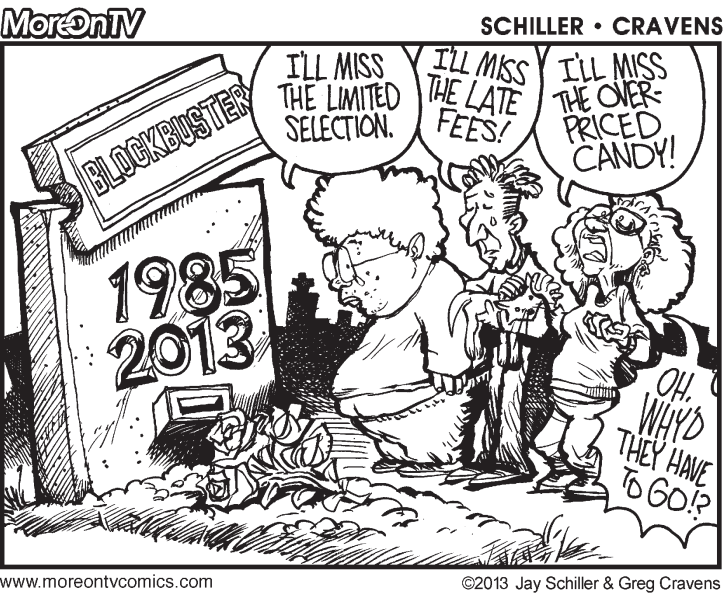
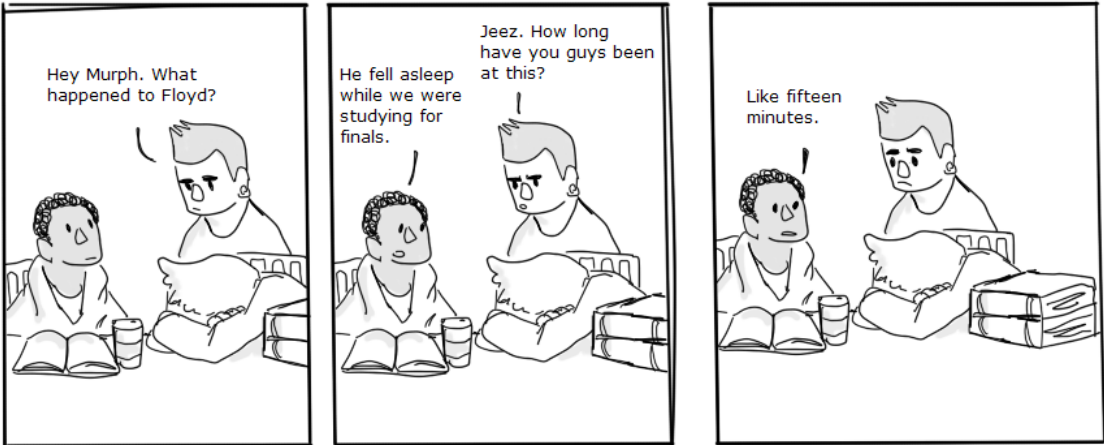
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COMICS

Majoring in Awesome

Brent Koehler
TEC CARTOONIST





Cartoonist?

Interested in contributing to TEC?

Contact opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

BRAIN TEASERS

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 11/14/13

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

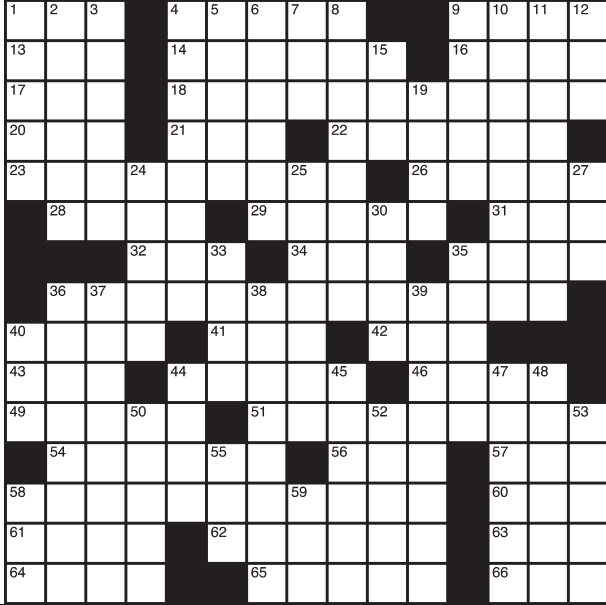
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Moll's leg
- 4 Word after fire or power
- 9 Like some wedding dresses
- 13 Biblical priest who trained Samuel
- 14 Zellweger et al.
- 16 Together, in music
- 17 Architect's add-on
- 18 "Make it not hurt so much
- 20 Tre times due
- 21 Bark relative
- 22 IHOP array
- 23 "Marching order
- 26 Type of cranial nerve
- 28 Role for John Cho in "Star Trek"
- 29 Jets and others
- 31 ___ nutshell
- 32 Mex. neighbor
- 34 Motor extension?
- 35 At any time
- 36 "Has unfinished business with the IRS
- 40 Spot on the tube
- 41 Good buddy
- 42 Play about Capote
- 43 Ran across
- 44 Film critic Jeffrey
- 46 Long haul
- 49 ___ de Chine: light fabric
- 51 "Entice with
- 54 Eggheads
- 56 Govt. surveillance group
- 57 PTA meeting site
- 58 "Sagacious
- 60 ___ out: barely make
- 61 Aleutian island
- 62 Faunae counterparts
- 63 Grassy area
- 64 Harness part
- 65 Yeats' "The Wild ___ at Coole"
- 66 Many AARP The Magazine readers: Abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Silly sorts
- 2 Strike zones?
- 3 Social setting



By Mark Bickham

11/14/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

S	C	A	N	T		A	B	C	S		I	B	M	S
H	O	W	I	E		G	I	N	A		G	O	Y	A
A	O	R	T	A		A	B	B	Y		O	R	E	L
Q	T	Y		M	U	S	I	C	A	L	T	O	Y	S
			C	U	P	S		G	U	I	N	E	A	
L	A	B	A	S	S	I	S	T	A	N	T			
A	R	E	N	A		C	H	I	T		A	B	A	
O	G	L	E		G	R	E	E	N		D	R	I	P
S	O	T		B	R	A	N		C	O	O	K	E	R
			W	R	I	T	T	E	N	O	R	D	E	R
S	O	I	R	E	E		X	E	N	A				
I	N	N	E	R	V	O	I	C	E	S		W	W	W
S	I	P	S		O	N	C	E		O	M	A	H	A
T	O	U	T		U	I	E	S		R	A	V	E	N
A	N	T	S		S	T	D	S		T	R	E	E	D

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11/14/13

- 40 "Movies for movie lovers" network
- 44 "Aren't you a little short for a Stormtrooper?"
- 45 Isabel Allende title
- 47 Stands for things
- 48 Any of the top 25 NFL career scoring leaders
- 50 Song of praise
- 52 Egyptian dam
- 53 MLB team, familiarly (and what's missing from the sequence found in the answers to starred clues?)
- 55 Bad check letters
- 58 Card game for two, usually
- 59 "What are you waiting for?!"

Late-game drama vs UNCG

ECU wins on three late free throws

Brian Wudkwyh
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Pirates' men's basketball team moved to 2-0 on Tuesday as they took down the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG) Spartans, 85-84, in dramatic fashion.

Last year's CIT Championship hero, junior Akeem Richmond, came through for the Pirates once again. With nine seconds left and down by two, the Pirates in-bounded the ball. Richmond got his hands on the ball and fired a three with two seconds. After the shot, Nicholas Paulos was called for a foul and Richmond was sent to the line needing two free throws to tie and three to give the Pirates the lead.

With the game hanging in the balance, Richmond came through, making all three free throws and sealing the Pirate victory.

"I just stepped up with a lot of confidence," said Richmond. "My thought process was to at least make two. When I made the first two free throws it gave me a big boost of confidence."

Head Coach Jeff Lebo echoed Richmond's confidence in late game situations.

"I have a lot of confidence when [Richmond] goes to the line," said Lebo. "That's the guy I want there."

The Pirates started off sluggish for the second straight game, as they were down 10-0 right out of the gate.

"I feel like the atmosphere kind of shocked a few guys," said Richmond. "They punched us in the mouth when we first came out, but we just kept fighting until the buzzer sounded."

Freshman Caleb White had another big game. He led the team with 11 first half points. He was perhaps the Pirates only bright spot early on. The Spartans kept the Pirates out of the paint and

forced low percentage shots. ECU was rushed on offense and failed adjust to the Spartans staunch defense. Lack of depth in the frontcourt forced the Pirates to rely heavily on big men Marshall Guilmette and Michael Zangari.

Coming out of the second half, the Pirates were facing a 40-30 deficit. Early turnovers allowed for the Pirates to claw their way back into the game. The Pirates capitalized on the Spartans mistakes and looked like a new team offensively. Richmond gave the Pirates their first lead of the game on a fast break lay-up.

The Spartans weren't down long as they regained the lead less than four minutes later. The game was closely contested from there on out and it eventually led to the dramatic Richmond free throws.

The loss is sure to sting for the Spartans, as they lost to the Pirates by three, last season. For the Pirates, this victory was their seventh consecutive against UNCG.

Richmond led the Pirates with 19 points. Paris Roberts Campell and freshman Caleb White weren't far behind with 13 and 16 points respectively. Roberts Campbell, White and freshman Brandan Stith all had five rebounds, all team highs for the game.

The Pirates struggled all game to contain Spartans freshman Tevon Sadler, who had 34 points and was a presence inside.

"We made a ton of mistakes," said Lebo. "But at least we can learn from those mistakes after a win."

The Pirates will look to stay undefeated as they face Chowan in Minges Coliseum tonight.

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



NICK FAULKNER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Akeem Richmond (1) hit the game-winning free throws to propel ECU over UNCG. The senior guard used a 16-point second half to help the Pirates win.

Pirates prepare for Chowan Hawks



NICK FAULKNER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU looks to improve to 3-0 when they tip-off against Chowan at 7 p.m.

Jesse Deal
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Akeem Richmond's late-game heroics saved the Pirates from what could have been a tough loss in Greensboro Coliseum Tuesday night.

Despite being outshot and out-rebounded by the Spartans, Richmond's three clutch free throws with 1.2 seconds left gave ECU the 85-84 edge over UNCG. The Pirates' win was the 10th out of 12 games they have played against the Spartans and the seventh consecutive in the series.

ECU was down 15 points only 13 minutes into the game and trailed 40-30 at halftime. The Pirates went 16 for 18 from the charity stripe in the second half to battle back and claim the victory.

UNCG freshman guard Tevon Saddler scored 14 of his 34 points on the free throw line against a Pirate defense that had trouble grabbing rebounds and stopping dribble penetration.

"I think he went to the line 19 times. That's crazy to me," said Akeem Richmond. "He had a great

game. Thirty-four points for a freshman is amazing."

The Pirates (2-0) will face the Chowan Hawks tonight in Minges Coliseum at 7 p.m. It will be the season opener for the Division II Hawks, who are coming off a dismal 7-20 season.

Chowan was winless last season (0-16) in the CIAA conference and finished 6th in their division. The Hawks' Head Coach Brett Vincent is hoping to fare better in his second season with the program. Five seniors from Chowan graduated earlier this year, including leading-scorer Quinton McDuffie.

The four other starters from the previous season will remain in the lineup. Junior guard Kyree Bethel averaged 13.8 points per game last season and nailed 83 three-pointers. Senior forward Ashante Ross, who is 6'8", will take on a larger role after averaging 10.3 ppg and 6.2 rebounds per game.

Standing at 5'7", guard Kortez Smith is coming off a season where his 9.1 ppg and 83 assists earned him 2012-13 CIAA Rookie of the Year

honors. Senior guard Greg Alston amassed 32 steals in his junior year as a Hawk.

After two games, four Pirates are averaging double figures in points. Paris Roberts-Campbell leads the team with 18.5 points per game while Richmond is a close second at 17 ppg.

Freshmen Caleb White and Brandan Stith have been excellent off the bench with 13 and 11 ppg, respectively. Stith currently has a team-high 7.5 rpg, a statistic he shares with Marshall Guilmette.

Point guard play is one area where ECU can improve on. Prince Williams has averaged 5.5 points per game and has shot only 22% from the field. Antonio Robinson has emerged off the bench scoring 4 ppg and averaging a team-high 4 assists per game.

"We've got to be more consistent in our execution," said Head Coach Jeff Lebo. "We have to be better with our understanding of shot selection and find some guys who consistently rebound the ball for us."

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

Thursday Men's Basketball Chowan 7 p.m.	Friday Women's Basketball William & Mary 7 p.m. (Away) Women's Volleyball UTSA 8 p.m.	Saturday Football UAB Senior Day 2 p.m.	Sunday (Away) Women's Volleyball UTEP 2 p.m. Women's Basketball Loyola Maryland 2 p.m.	Monday (Durham*) Men's Basketball Norfolk State 9:30 p.m.
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TAKEAWAYS

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL Pirates play in San Antonio against UTSA at 8 p.m. ECU will finish up its season on the road against UTEP on Sunday.
CAROLINA PANTHERS The Carolina Panthers (6-3) play the New England Patriots on Monday night football.
MEN'S BASKETBALL ECU won on last second free throws against UNCG in Greensboro.

CHARLOTTE BOBCATS The Bobcats are 4-4 and are second in the SouthEast division.
FOOTBALL Shane Carden was named Conference USA Offensive Player-of-the-Week for the third time this season after his seven touchdown performance against Tulsa.
ECU BASEBALL Fall Prospect Camp is officially open for registration. The ECU baseball staff will host its annual camp Nov. 23-24.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ECU plays William and Mary on Friday inside Minges Coliseum. The Pirates are 2-0 on the season.
 Follow us on Twitter, @TEC_Sports for ECU sports coverage.

ONLINE

Swimming feature By: Wayne Hall
 at www.theeastcarolinian.com

Pirates battle Blazers on Senior day



Justin Hardy (2) has been running away from defenses all season. He will be a factor in the ECU-UAB matchup on Saturday.

Dan Hunt
TEC STAFF

ECU (7-2, 5-1 C-USA) is set to host (2-7, 1-4 C-USA) Alabama-Birmingham on Saturday in Dowdy-Ficklen. The 2 p.m. matinee will mark the final regular season home game for several ECU seniors, all of whom will be honored for their contributions to the program before kickoff.

The Pirates head into Saturday's contest with surging momentum after beating their previous three opponents, Southern Mississippi, Florida International and Tulsa by a combined total of 147 to 51. UAB, meanwhile, has lost to its previous three opponents, Texas-San Antonio, Middle Tennessee and Marshall, by a combined total of 132 to 66.

Last year's matchup was a competitive 42-35 ECU win in Birmingham.

"I think (our players) will remember. Every time we've played them, here or there, it's

been a dogfight," said ECU Head Coach Ruffin McNeill. "We know we'll catch their best shot, and we have to make sure we do what we have to do, and that's get better every day during the week."

McNeill, who always respects his opponent, is a stickler for preparation and focus. With that said, don't expect a dogfight this season. Stranger things have happened in sports, but the Pirates head into Saturday as 26.5 point favorites for a reason. The Blazers have surrendered 50 points or more in five games this season, while the Pirates have scored over 50 points four times. The forecast is not promising for visiting UAB.

UAB will only have a shot in this one if it can control the time of possession—a game plan that FIU had some moderate success with against the Pirates. The Blazers will likely make a concerted effort to keep their league-worst defense off the field.

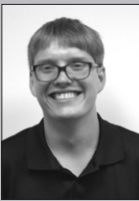
> FOOTBALL page A12

TEC'sports The East Carolinian's sports experts predict this weekend's football game



Ronnie Moore
@RonnieMooreECU

Who Wins? ECU, 45-23
Why? The Pirates put up yardage like no one's business. Carden and the offense should prosper against the non-existent Blazers defense.



Josh Graham
@_JoshDGraham

Who Wins? ECU, 41-20
Why? The Blazers can put points on the board, but the Pirates should win decisively on senior day.



Dan Hunt
@DanHuntECU

Who Wins? ECU, 55-14
Why? C-USA's second ranked offense squares off against its worst defense. Pirate seniors will enjoy this one.



Chase Kroll

Who Wins? ECU, 38-20
Why? UAB possesses a potent run game, but its defense gives up over 40 points per game. Carden and Hardy should have a field day.



Bradley Harwood
@HarwoodB19

Who Wins? ECU, 42-21
Why? UAB's strength is its offense, but the Pirates should dominate. ECU will send the seniors out right with a win in Dowdy-Ficklen.

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Chip Thompson (1) and Adonis Armstrong (3) have played together since junior college. Their paths led them to play for ECU.

Duo to end tenured journey

Ronnie Moore
TEC STAFF

Familiarity and confidence are important factors in the sport of football. Relationships between teammates can make or break a team.

For seniors Chip Thompson and Adonis Armstrong, familiarity is what bonds them together. They have shared the field with one another in the secondary since their days in junior college.

After finishing high school, Thompson and Armstrong attended Hinds Community College in Jackson, Miss.

At Hinds, these defensive backs gelled and propelled the Eagles to 15th in the National Junior College Athletic Association poll.

ECU Head Coach Ruffin McNeill recruited these Mississippi natives to play in former defensive coordinator Brian Mitchell's defense.

After facing growing pains in last years defense. With the departure of Mitchell and the return of Rick Smith, both players have elevated their game, and with that, gained confidence.

"(Adonis) is playing a lot

more confident in coverages," said Defensive Assistant Tripp Weaver. "Damon (Magazu) is a really smart player and that has rubbed off on Chip (Thompson)."

Both players are thriving this season in the new defensive technique. ECU is 33rd in the nation in scoring defense, allowing just 22.3 points per game.

To put that in perspective, teams like Miami (FL) and Nebraska sit just behind ECU in the rankings and South Carolina finds themselves just ahead of the Pirates.

Smith has returned to ECU for his second stint on the Pirate defense. He previously coached the defensive backs in Greg Hudson's defense from 2005-2009. Hudson was the defensive coordinator when Skip Holtz was the head coach at ECU. Smith's defensive schemes have produced some of the most turnovers in Division I.

"He (Rick Smith) emphasizes small things, like tackling and techniques," said Thompson. "He worked with me and has made me more of a physical player."

Being in sync with teammates is

important to the Pirates' success defensively this season. Thompson emphasized that the defensive backs have to maintain communication at all times to be a cohesive unit.

"I put my trust in (Adonis) and (Magazu) on every play," said Thompson. "We depend on each other a lot."

Last season, the Pirates were near the bottom of the country in pass defense and that was, in part, because of lack of pressure on the quarterback while allowing the big play down the field. Smith has instilled a pride in his unit and a "the buck stops here" mentality.

"We can't give up big plays in the passing game due to mental mistakes," said Smith. "I'll never say a word if you are in a correct position and the receiver makes a play to outdo you."

The support Smith provides undoubtedly gives players the confidence to play hard and leave it all on the field.

"Players love playing for him and other coaches love coaching under him," said Weaver.

This writer can be contacted at
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ECU's Marshall faces family

Josh Graham
TEC STAFF

Sports have always been an important part of life in the Marshall household.

Colleen Marshall, a sophomore shooting guard for the ECU women's basketball team, has two brothers that have played collegiate baseball at the University of Richmond – one currently is a minor leaguer in the Atlanta Braves organization – and four sisters. One of the sisters, Kara, is the starting point guard at Loyola, Maryland.

When ECU hosts Loyola on Sunday afternoon, the family's home will be divided for the first time by a high-level of competition.

Although, Colleen would argue every time she played her sister, whether it was just head-to-head matchups, call your own fouls in the backyard or something else; it was a big deal.

"We always played one-on-one in the backyard," Colleen said. "It was intense. There was a lot of trash-talk going on and there still is between the both of us."

Growing up about an hour outside of Baltimore in Gaithersburg, Md., Colleen was the younger sister to Kara and before either chose their

collegiate paths, they played together on Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) teams. The sisters led Gaithersburg High School to a state championship victory.

Kara then graduated and moved on to Loyola. Meanwhile, Colleen took on more of leadership role her senior year and led the Trojans to their second consecutive state title. As she was being heavily recruited, the looming question was whether or not she would join her sister in the collegiate ranks?

But when decision-time came for Colleen, the younger sister chose a different route and signed on at ECU to begin formulating her own identity.

"Loyola was recruiting me and playing with Kara would have been something I would have loved to do," said Marshall. "But I think, socially, I wanted to be my own person and I think I was tired of being known as 'Kara's little sister' and having expectations to be like her because we're both very different."

Along with those differences, there are also similarities. Neither Marshall is shy to pull the trigger on a three-pointer or play aggressively

on defense. As for tendencies, each of them can likely pick-up immediately what the other is doing based on memories from playing one-on-one in the backyard.

But it's not just about basketball attributes. They both bring an uncanny intensity to the game, which ECU coach Heather Macy believes makes their clash on Sunday all the more intriguing.

"They're both wired the same way with their competitiveness, so we're going to have to guard [Kara] pretty closely. We don't want her to have a career night because her sister is on the other team," said ECU Coach Heather Macy.

Even more difficult than playing in a sibling rivalry is being an onlooker as a parent. That will be the task for Ben and Dottie Marshall. And even though neither can pick favorites, Colleen has already made it known who they should be rooting for.

"They're a little in the mix about their feelings on whether to wear purple and gold or green and black, but I've said purple because I'm home and we're going to win anyways."

This marks the front-half of a home-and-home

between the Lady Pirates and Loyola. Next year's game will be in Maryland during Kara's senior season.

No matter the result of this weekend's game, Colleen does not expect there to be any love lost between her and her older sister.

"We know at the collegiate level, it's business. So when we step in between those lines, we're not sisters, we're not friends, it's just another game," said Colleen. "It's my team against her team, it's our program against their program. It's not me against her."

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