



# The East Carolinian



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Wednesday, 6.25.14

GANG SHOOTING

## Murder on Fifth

Byron Goodwin  
TEC STAFF



Shiheem Andrews

20-year-old Shiheem Andrews of Greenville has been charged with murder from an overnight shooting last Wednesday in Uptown Greenville that left 23-year-old Jamar Clark dead.



Jamar Clark

The gang-related shooting took place after 2 a.m. at 501 Evans St. near Cubbie's and Purple Blossom Yoga Studio.

Blossom Yoga Studio.

According to Greenville Police Department Public Information Officer Kristen Hunter, police were patrolling the Uptown Greenville district when they heard gunshots. Moments later Clark was found suffering from a gunshot wound in the 5 Points Plaza parking lot.

Clark was immediately transferred to Vidant Medical

> SHOOTING page A2

## Lighting upgraded

Dan Hunt  
TEC STAFF

In the midst of an era in Greenville's history that is abundant with gang-related and miscellaneous crime, ECU is faced with the obligation to improve and add safety resources around campus. The university addressed one of its more dire concerns, on-campus lighting, on May 27 when it began its installation of 53 light fixtures in the mall as well as the replacement of fixtures in existing lamps.

The additions were completed last week, and the lamps and fixtures are currently outlining the recently added walkway between Joyner and the Dowdy brickyard and through the cupola area.

ECU representatives are

> LIGHTS page A2

# Freshman finds a home

ReAnn Melaga  
TEC STAFF

Miranda Hurt is one of many students to be accepted to attend East Carolina University, but her story is one that sets her apart from all the rest.

Hurt was born in a small town in Kentucky and moved to North Carolina with her family in 2010 after her step-dad died of a heart attack. When her older brother lost his job, Hurt and her family were forced out of their apartment and into their broken down Ford

“ I didn't want to be put in that position where people were trying to fix me like I was something broken. ”

Explorer.

“It got to the point where we were either buying dinner or paying the rent, and finally it came around to not being able to do either. And we got kicked out of our apartment we were living in,” said Hurt.

After getting evicted from their apartment, the Hurts' next option

was to go to a homeless shelter. This was an option that would have resulted in separating her family.

“I personally didn't want to go to a shelter where I had to separate my family and get rid of our dog, which is just as much a part of our family,” said Hurt. “I would rather be in harsh conditions and have

my family with me than luxury and be alone.”

For the last four months, Hurt has eaten, studied and lived in the back of a Ford Explorer with her mom, brother and dog, Zeus. The family sleeps on a mattress that was taken out of a pullout couch at their old apartment.

Without a stable place to live, Hurt had to find ways around her unusual circumstances. This involved showering in the

> FRESHMAN page A2



MIKE SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The American Athletic Conference Commissioner Mike Aresco spoke at a press conference where he welcomed ECU to their new conference.

## Aresco welcomes ECU to American

Josh Graham  
TEC STAFF

ECU's long pending move to the American Athletic Conference began to feel like a reality yesterday when the commissioner of the league Mike Aresco visited Greenville.

The school will begin its full membership

in the American next Tuesday, but during a news conference at Harvey Hall, Aresco said he has made a considerable effort to make ECU feel like a part of the league ever since the Pirates initially agreed to be football-exclusive members in the fall of 2012.

“We are going to welcome our new

schools and make them feel at home,” he said. “Needless to say, I am thrilled and delighted to welcome East Carolina to the American Athletic Conference.”

Although the bulk of the decisions made

> ARESCO page A8

# Sierra Leone's culture celebrated

Antonio Jackson  
TEC STAFF

Last Saturday at Third Street Community Center, members of Project Tumara looked to change the image of their home country through an event entitled “A Taste of Sierra Leone.”

Sierra Leone is a country in West Africa that is commonly overlooked by its high poverty rate.

Project Tumara is a newly formed non-profit organization working with students

in the poor community of Freetown, Sierra Leone. They operate a year-round program that helps students from primary to university-level by providing them with tuition, school supplies, after-school tutoring and community service opportunities.

“We are all here because of the civil war,” said Issa Thullah, founder and director of Project Tumara.



COURTNEY TITUS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

> SIERRA LEONE page A5 Participants attended the event to learn the culture.

## BRIEFS

### Local Greenville dog, Peanut, wins title of the World's Ugliest Dog

A local dog named Peanut was recently crowned the World's Ugliest Dog at a contest in California. Peanut's owner, Holly Chandler, rescued him last July after he was set on fire, leaving him with permanent skin damage. Chandler says she entered Peanut into the competition to raise awareness for animal cruelty.

### Former Pitt probation officer arrested

Greenville Police arrested former Pitt County probation officer Matthew Eric Wood on Friday. Wood has been accused of using his state-issued phone to leave a racist voicemail, impersonating another probation officer. Woods has been charged with felony common law obstruction of justice, felony identity theft and misdemeanor impersonating an officer.

### New grant to bring large employment opportunities to Greenville

According to a release issued from the City of Greenville, a \$210,000 grant will bring 21 new full-time job opportunities and new businesses to the Greenville area. The grant will help Perilum, LLC create a food-grade lab by reusing an 18,000 square-foot facility. The company is one of the first to manufacture e-liquids filling and e-cigarettes.

## ONLINE

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**FRESHMAN** continued from A1



Miranda Hurt overcame homelessness on her long road to ECU. WEB PHOTO

“**I won't have to worry about my home getting towed.**”

locker-room before school and leaving her clothes in the classroom of the only teacher who knew about her homelessness.

“When you tell someone you are homeless they get this look in their face like, ‘Oh, she is so sad and helpless,’ and I didn't want to be put in that position where people were trying to fix me like I was something broken,” said Hurt.

Hurt says that her mom and her brother have been her biggest motivation along their tough journey.

Her family's support only grew when Hurt received her acceptance letter from ECU, making her the first in her family to attend college.

“We just screamed for a little bit and did a dance,” said Hurt. “My brother was really excited because he didn't

finish high school, so he was really proud that I continued to do it and go to college.”

Hurt says the biggest change she will face is having a secure living situation.

“The big difference is I will have a stable environment. I won't have to worry about my bed getting towed or where I will shower because it will all be provided there,” said Hurt. “I think it will be a good change, but it will be a positive change. I think that's what matters most.”

Hurt plans to major in Social Work so she can help children who are experiencing similar situations to hers while growing up. When asked how she overcame her own struggles, Hurt gave credit to her positive attitude.

“I guess I just have a really positive outlook on the future and I have something to look forward to like college where I will have a place to stay every night,” said Hurt. “I just keep looking forward and not in the past.”

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

# Dental school moves west

**Micah Molinas**  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine is expanding its services to western North Carolina with the opening of its newest Community Service Learning Center (CSLC) in Sylva.

According to Michael Scholtz, Assistant Dean of Extramural Clinical Practices, there are about five dentists to every 10,000 people in North Carolina. This number falls below the national average of 6.7 per 10,000 people, ranking the state 47th in the nation.

“Rural North Carolina is made up of 85 of the 100 counties that are in North Carolina,” said Scholtz. “Not only do they fall under the average number of dentists, but they fall way under the number of dentists.”

The Sylva CLSC is only one of the eight to 10 centers that the school plans to build in rural areas across the state. Scholtz says that these centers are meant to complete two goals: provide dental care to rural North Carolina and provide the school's students with the ability to complete program requirements while also gaining experience working with patients.

“While they are there, they will fulfill their clinical requirements but at the same time work in a community based clinic, serving the underserved,” said Scholtz, who added that students will also learn how to handle the operation of a rural practice.

In order to complete their clinical requirements, fourth year students must rotate through three of the CSLC locations - something that is not being done anywhere else in the nation.

“Our model is very different from all of the other dental schools in the country,” said Scholtz. “Our fourth year students, rather than completing their clinical requirements in the clinic at the school, go out to service learning centers all around the state of North Carolina to work in a community based clinic.”

In addition to the services that are being provided to the communities, Scholtz believes that the technology in these clinics will allow students and



East Carolina's School of Dentistry is doing its part to grow NC's dental education. WEB PHOTO

health care professionals to continue their education as they would in a classroom.

“We will have a network of clinics where health care professionals will be able to come to our sites and continue medical education,” he said. “There are so many positive spinoffs to what we are doing and these are really being viewed as regional and community assets.”

Along with the location in Sylva, there are three CSLC's that have been completed and are currently providing

services to the public. Those clinics are located in Ahoskie, Elizabeth City and Lillington.

The school also plans to build clinics in Brunswick County, Davidson County, Roberson County and Spruce Pine.

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Sylva location on Friday.

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

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**LIGHTS** continued from A1



ECU students can now walk through central campus with plenty of lighting. MIKE SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Existing light fixtures also received an upgrade. MIKE SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

aware that there is a long way to go when it comes to safety around campus, but the lights are a key step according to Manager of ECU facilities Michael Talton.

“The general idea is to provide a safe environment across campus,” Talton said. “These types of fixtures are sustainably conserving and maintenance friendly.”

In addition to the added safety that comes the fixtures, they are also energy efficient and less expensive to maintain.

“They go and go and go, and we don't have to replace them as often,” Talton said. “It's a nice light quality.”

The \$448,000 project, which was carried out by workers from Coastline Construction, also avoided the removal of trees on campus.

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

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**SHOOTING** continued from A1

Center where he was later pronounced dead.

The shooting was a major scare to the university community, who were in the midst of Freshman Orientation. With 5 Points Plaza being in such close proximity to campus a lot of people were put at unease.

Police reported that the victim had a lengthy criminal record and was also a verified member of the Bloods gang. Clark's gang affiliation led detectives to the belief that the homicide was a targeted shooting and that there was no threat to the public.

After further investigation, which led to

the discovery of Andrews via cameras from the parking lot, police also found that Andrews was an affiliate of the Bloods rival gang, Crips.

It was confirmed by Clark's mother that he was the first cousin of a female Greenville murder victim killed last year.

A statement from Greenville Police Chief Hassan Aden was released reading, “This incident highlights that while we have made tremendous improvement as a community in the fight against gangs and violence, there is still work to be done to fully eradicate this element from our streets.

We must work together in sending the message of community intolerance to violence by taking swift and certain action on the perpetrators as well as focusing on preventing young people from joining gangs in the first place.”

Uptown Greenville storeowners and employees expressed that they felt no threat since the shooting and stated that even the safest locations could be unsafe at 2 a.m.

The Greenville Police Department has laid plans to more effectively put an end to gang violence in the city.

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



## PIRATE RANTS

Want more Pirate Rants? Make sure you submit every week at [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com)

You could see your rant in next week's issue.

If she believes that monogrammed stationery is important, she's too young for you, bro.

You mean to tell me that pirate rants are only posted on Thursday now? What am I supposed to do on Tuesdays now?? All these feels.

If your a\*\* cheeks are hanging out of the bottom of your shorts then they are too short.

What kind of professor has his/her students explain what kind of grade they deserve as a final exam. Yes I may be lazy but I have an A average, why isn't that enough?

It's Lolly Pop Guild. "We represent the Lolly Pop GUILD."

Thanks to college of HHP for helping me get through this summer with their hot girls taking summer classes! #mingesrocks

Buses 24 & 26 need to be put out of their misery... Or at the very least need a major overhaul on their brakes!

So the new students coming in get the newer, smoother riding buses creating a false sense of "niceness"? Boy are they in for a shock when they take the first older bus! Hold on tight or you'll be tossed from your seat!

So the bus stops are being worked on during the summer. This apparently means that the drivers must stop three feet from the curb where you are now to pick up students. Some of us are short and that is quite a drop! Try harder... aim for the curb!

I am so ready for a summer break. When oh when is it my turn?!

I think all classes during all semesters should be taught at summer semester speed as an option. I'd be done with my degree in no time!

After four years of paying for the office through my student fees I finally need to use the Student Legal Services only to find that the office has been quietly closed.

Stay in school. No, really. Don't graduate. Grown-up life has got nothing on ECU.

Never thought I'd say this, but I am going to miss Greenville.

This summer is soooo boring at home. Where is ECU? Where is August?

I agree--grades should not be reduced due to failure to attend class--doing poorly on exams will take care of that. But the taxpayers of NC are subsidizing your stay here on the assumption that you're actually attending class. So you should simply have to pay the non-subsidized tuition rate for each day you don't attend class. Fair enough?

I miss ECU, and by ECU I mean all of the attractive women on campus.

The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding rants can be directed to Will Franklin at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

# Our view

## Reducing violence by working together

The shooting that occurred downtown Wednesday night is no doubt a travesty, but it does offer an opportunity to reconsider the stance that has been adopted by many groups in the community.

It shows that gang violence is getting out of hand especially given the fact that it occurred at a busy part of town and a stray bullet could have hit some uninvolved passerby. This shooting is a sign that gang violence in Greenville is starting to get out of control and needs to be addressed more fully and efficiently by the Greenville Police Department than it has been.

ECU should also take a stronger stance and make more meaningful efforts in order to reduce occurrences

like these from occurring. ECU hasn't done very much from a student's perspective, which is bad considering how much pull that the university has in Greenville.

If these two entities adopted stronger approaches and made more of a meaningful effort in reducing gangs in Greenville, occurrences, like the shooting last Wednesday wouldn't happen. That's not to discredit the efforts that have been made, given the state of Greenville a few years ago, which have been tremendous.

We as an editorial staff believe that the Greenville Police Department and ECU should begin to work together to create a safer environment for the students.

# The Redskins' copyright revoked

## Theus's Thoughts



**Alexandra Theus**  
TEC COLUMNIST

American football is more than sport for some; it is a sacred national pastime. Now, the United States government is stepping in to remind us that nothing is sacred, not even the gold mine that is the NFL.

In mid-June, the US Patent and Trademark Office officially lifted its protection of the Washington Redskins trademark. The decision was made to call to attention, finally, the offensive nature of the team's mascot. This does not guarantee a name change, but it does allow the logo and all related memorabilia to be used by anyone, not just the franchise, for profit. The owner of the team, Daniel Snyder, has said that he will never change the name, but it's not looking like that decision is really up to him.

Then again, it doesn't seem to really be up to the bureaucrats that made the decision, either. No one has any issue with acknowledging the slur and denouncing its use, but the fact that the government 'put its foot down' on the matter doesn't sit well with a lot of people. Never mind that it is, quite literally, the patent office's job to renounce a trademark once it is considered disparaging or offensive. Never mind that it took them almost a century to figure out that a sport probably shouldn't be making money

with a term considered on par with the n-word.

The conversation has turned from the indigenous group it concerns—to a big government cautionary tale. The patent revocation is under fire because if football can't be racist then the next thing you know; there will be government-sponsored book burnings. It's argued that by government interfering in something like this we start to run down a slippery slope.

The fact that the team's name has survived eighty years is abhorrent. The revocation of the patent opens up the visible, extremely profitable NFL to take a definitive stance on racism against Native Americans. Which is a really big deal. Instead, the focus is on a decision that was well within the right of the patent office to make. The decision wasn't made to step on anyone's freedom of speech; it was a justified, long-overdue, and very, very small victory for one of most ignored, oppressed ethnic groups in this country. There's no doubt

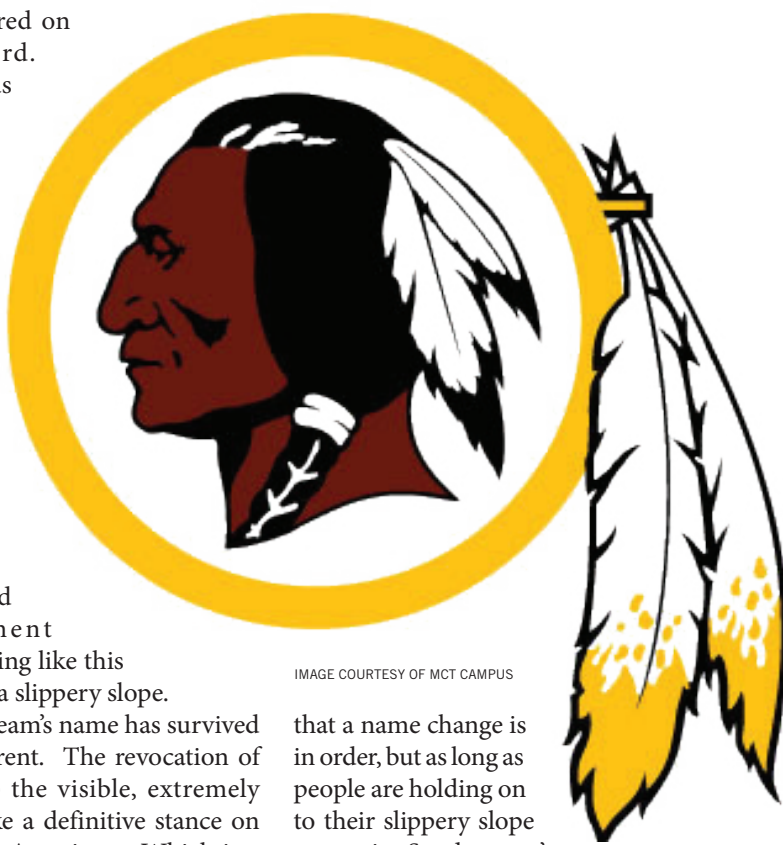


IMAGE COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

that a name change is in order, but as long as people are holding on to their slippery slope paranoia, Snyder won't be changing anything but his underwear.

Alexandra Theus is a junior majoring in theatre. To contact her, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

# Parking at ECU is in need of change



**Nick Faulkner**  
TEC STAFF

Many students at ECU have cars, but tend to leave them at apartments in an attempt to save money by not purchasing a \$120 C-lot pass. Unfortunately, the prices you end up paying for not getting a pass might end up higher. As a graduate student who has to be on campus every day, I rely on busses to get to and from school and ECU's transit has done a good job adhering to their mission statement to be "dependable and cost effective to the University community." Regrettably, due to cost, the busses cannot be run when school is not in session even though the university is open. During these times, the alternatives for students to get to school include walking/biking (if close enough), relying on someone else constantly, or driving yourself. Sadly, ECU's parking does not understand the

need to be on campus when class is not in session and will ticket cars during this time.

At first, this doesn't seem too bad. After all, if you only need to be on campus for an hour you can use a meter for \$1 per hour. Plus, parking offers day passes for \$5 and week passes for \$10 all of which sounds like it's adding up to a great way to sneak on campus that one or two days a semester; nonetheless, to students who need to be on campus for extended amounts of time, these numbers begin to add up. During the year, there are a total of 38 days, excluding free weekends, where busses are not running though the school is open. Using day and week passes at the cheapest possible rate for the year; you would spend \$100, only \$20 less than the full year pass. If, as is suggested by parking, you use the day rate or metered rates, you'd be spending \$190 or \$304 respectively, which correlate to a 58 percent or 153 percent increase over that of a one-year pass.

When it comes down to it, parking and transportation's mission statement "to provide accessible and affordable parking facilities and transportation" is upheld by cheap (compared to NCSU and UNC) parking for yearlong passes; however, it is quite expensive for those trying to avoid a pass. Given the difficult situation for students a compromise should be made. ECU's parking and transportation should no longer ticket when there is no alternative to get to school. Instead, split the

parking ticket revenue 70 percent through 30 percent with Pitt County Schools instead of the current 80 percent through 20 percent, which will provide a 50 percent increase in current funds from parking tickets that are written when school is in session. This increase should account for the financial loss of not ticketing during this time.

Nick Faulkner is a graduate student majoring in microbiology and is a photographer for The East Carolinian. To contact him, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## Poll results

Do you believe marijuana should be made legal for recreation use?

Yes - 55%  
No - 45%

## Poll question

Do you have any plans to travel out of North Carolina this summer?

Visit [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) to vote.

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# Local writer visits convention

**Destiny Edwards**  
TEC STAFF

The 32nd Annual Heroes Convention took place last weekend in Charlotte, N.C., and a local Greenville comic writer was in attendance.

Hordes of people descended onto the first floor of the Charlotte Convention Center to meet their favorite comic book creators like Kelly Sue DeConnick, Jim Rugg and local Greenville writer Micah Harris.

Harris is the author of several graphic novels including "Heaven's War," "Lorna: Relic Hunter" and "The Eldritch New Adventures of Becky Sharp." He was at the convention promoting his work. Harris said several anthologies featuring his non-comic work had just been rereleased.

"They're available on Kindle now," Harris said.

Much of Harris's writing focuses on alternate universes that mesh famous literary characters with unlikely fantasy scenarios while maintaining the essence of the character. The crossovers are often written in the style of pre-World War II pulp magazines.

"The Eldritch New Adventures of Becky Sharp" featured the social climbing anti-heroine of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel, "Vanity Fair." The graphic novel thrusts Sharp into a Lovecraftian world where she travels around the world and various time periods to gather the objects needed to defeat the monster Tulu.

Harris's first graphic novel, "Heaven's War," a 2003 collaboration with artist Michael Gaydos, followed the fictional adventures of fantasy writers Charles Williams, C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien (known as the "Inklings") as they battle Aleister Crowley as part of the war between heaven and hell. Harris said it was

rereleased in January with a new cover drawn by Gaydos.

2011's "Lorna: Relic Hunter" paired Harris back up with Loston Wallace, his artist for "Becky Sharp." The one-shot comic featured multiple stories involving the titular character doing everything from fighting her nemesis in Washington, D.C., and halting the release of a supernatural horror to fixing up a high-school aged stigmatic with a date.

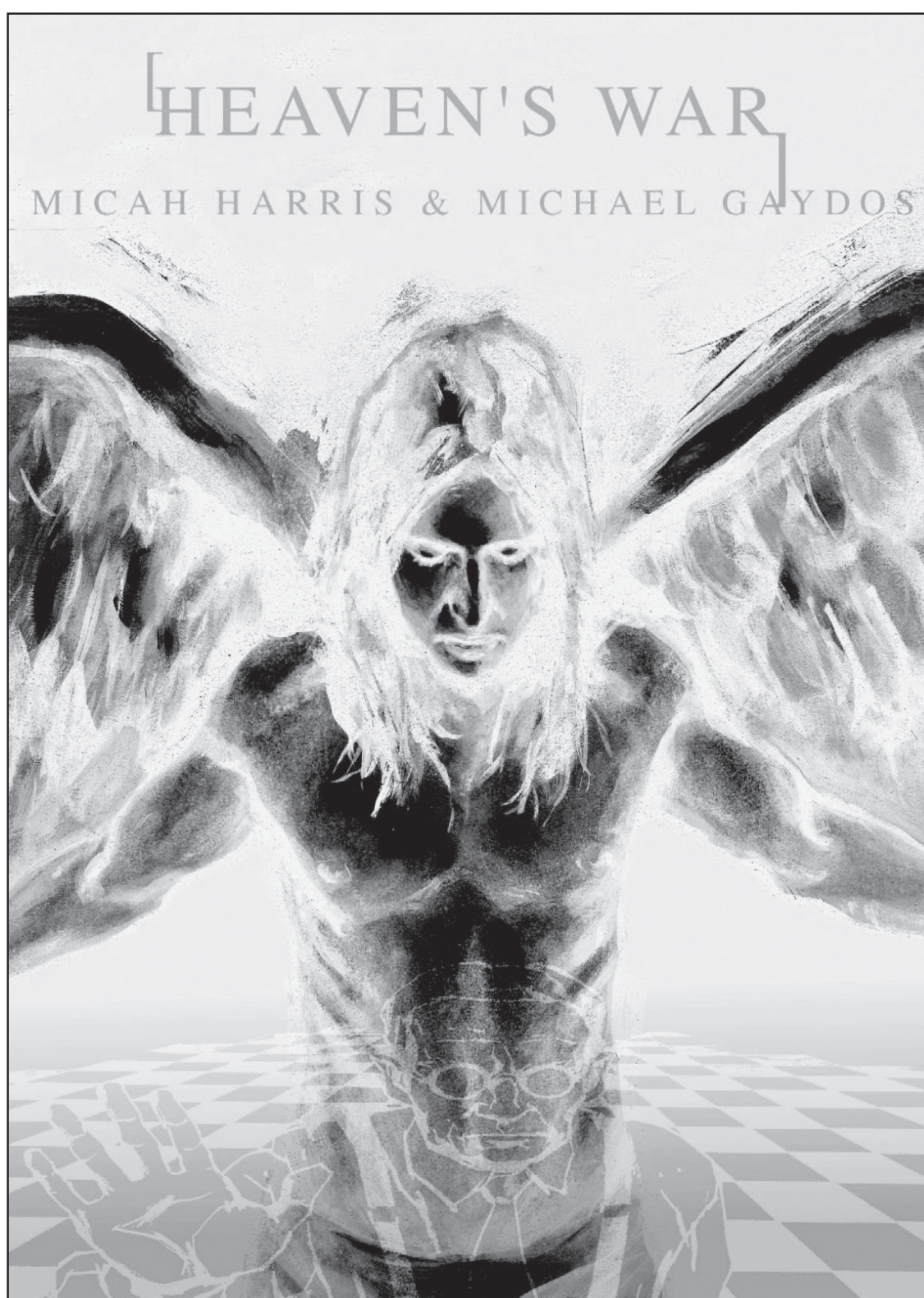
In his day job, Harris teaches English and film at Pitt Community College. His background in literature allows him a wealth of characters to use and authors to draw inspiration from. Harris said he is a horror fan and it appears frequently in his writing, especially Cthulhu-like monsters.

Heroes Convention (also known as HeroesCon) was started in 1982 by Shelton Drum, owner of Charlotte-area comic book shop Heroes Aren't Hard to Find. It's the oldest independent comic event still running and one of the largest.

One of the things that set it apart from other conventions such as San Diego's Comic-Con International is that the event focuses solely on comics instead of movies and video games. Drum said the reason for this was because he knows comics, "not that other stuff."

This year's guests included Marvel and Image writer Matt Fraction (a former Heroes Aren't Hard to Find employee), ECU alumni and "Wolverine and the X-Men" scribe Jason Latour and Kevin Eastman, co-creator of the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles." Other past attendees have been Stan Lee and Warren Ellis.

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



Heaven's War is one of the many comic books by local author Micah Harris that were on display at the event. WEB PHOTO

## BOOK REVIEW

### Pirate alumna writes inspirational book

**Amanda Adkins**  
TEC STAFF

Mahalia Breen is an ECU graduate who recently published a book about her life and how it changed when she discovered she has breast cancer.

Breen was inspired to write her book because it was one of her goals to finish a book before she was 30 and because of her inspiration from author David Sedaris.

The book is told from Breen's perspective and starts out with her describing what goals she would like to accomplish before she is 30.

The book is not in chronological order, but is rather a collection of nonfiction essays that show what her Breen's life is like.

In her book, Breen writes about how she dealt with childhood difficulties, such as being sexually abused by her adopted brother and having run-ins with a neighborhood pedophile who was her best friend's grandfather.

Breen also describes how she spent most of her childhood trying to fit in since she was half Filipino and half Irish. She shows the reader how unprotected her childhood was and how she did not heal until she got control of her life.

Breen attended ECU from 2000-2003 and graduated with a BA in creative writing. She then achieved her masters in teaching with a concentration in secondary English education in 2007.

After achieving her BA, Breen went to Korea to teach English and was able to travel Asia while she was there.

Before Breen could travel to another country to teach English, she was notified that her father's cancer had intensified and he could possibly die soon. Her father ended up living for an additional four years.

After her father passed away from cancer, Breen realized that she wanted to find love and she ended up joining a

dating website where she met her husband.

Breen worked as an English teacher in Greenville until 2009 when she moved to Denmark for her husband's new job as a beer brewer.

In 2013, Breen and her husband moved to England where they now reside and she continues to work as a teacher in Denmark and England.

Not long after their move, Breen felt a lump on her breast and after multiple doctor visits; she found out that she has breast cancer. She will have to undergo chemotherapy, radiation therapy and other medical processes to help rid her body of the cancer.

Breen and her husband had a baby girl before she discovered she had cancer and they named her Edison. Breen and her husband were planning to conceive again, but it is not possible while she continues her battle against breast cancer.

The book has a heartfelt and inspiring ending. Breen lists out all of the things that she hopes to accomplish during the next 30 years of her life and all of the things that she wants her daughter to remember throughout her life.

"I hope my book is life-changing. I hope it offers opinions or insights that make the reader think and make his or her world a better place," said Breen. "I hope the reader laughs and cries and evaluates his or her own life and decides to make positive changes."

The book was intriguing and well written throughout every page. It serves as a reminder for everyone that life can be taken at any moment and that every day should be spent doing what you love.

Breen shows readers that everyone's goals with eventually be completed.

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

30ish

MAHALIA A. BREEN

WEB PHOTO  
Mahalia Breen recently published a book about her life before cancer.



# Survivors' celebrate

Antonio Jackson & Amanda Adkins  
TEC STAFF

Last Wednesday at Uptown Greenville's Five Points Plaza, cancer survivors celebrated life at The First Annual Greenville Community Survivor's Day Celebration.

The event provided education and cancer-awareness to those who attended. A dinner was provided for those previously diagnosed with cancer plus one guest. The dinner was hosted by the Greenville Museum of Art.

"The was not the first survivor's day celebration, but it was the first time that we brought it out to the community to celebrate because it is usually held at Leo Jenkins Cancer Center," said Holly Hill, cancer survivorship coordinator at Leo Jenkins Cancer Center.

Hill coordinated the First Annual Greenville Community Survivor's Day Celebration.

As National Cancer Survivor's Day was June 1, the Survivors Day Celebration made sure to end the month with the same enthusiasm it began with.

E.L. Photography provided a multi-colored photo booth, allowing children, adults and four-legged family members to dress up in hats and colored scarves, with toys and other props. Many local organizations helped make the event a success, including the Pet Food Pantry of Eastern NC.

Other events from the Survivor's Day Celebration included a pet adoption fair, face painting and a dunking booth. Greenville locals were also given the opportunity to meet some local celebrities as ECU's women's basketball team was in attendance. Live music provided by Rebekah Todd & the Odyssey, Nu Clear Kids and Ragged Company helped everyone get into the swing of things.

"The purpose of this event was



Cancer survivors celebrate at The First Annual Greenville Community Survivor's Day .

to celebrate community survivors and it was open to everyone, not just survivors," said Hill. "Anyone who has been touched by cancer or not was welcome to come celebrate."

According to Hill, the money raised at the event will go to expanding survivorship in Pitt County and other counties that are involved with the

Leo Jenkins Cancer Center.

Sponsors who made the event possible include the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center, Brody School of Medicine, Uptown Greenville and Greenville Museum of Art.

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

## SIERRA LEONE continued from A1

Back in Sierra Leone, Thullah and his brothers were helped by their parents to travel abroad. Once in the states, they immediately pursued giving back to their country. In preparation for A Taste of Sierra Leone, everyone of Project Tumara pitched in to create the authentic foods of the culture.

According to one of the brochures during the event, the groups mission is to ensure and increase education accessibility for students in poor communities in Freetown, Sierra Leone whose families lack the financial ability to support their education. At the heart of Project Tumara is the belief that education is the key to human development and the way out of poverty for poor communities.

"Project Tamura aims to reduce illiteracy and drop-out rates, increase access to education by providing financial assistance, and engage and empower local communities through education," reads another brochure. The event also featured a brief history lesson of the impoverished country.

In 1961, Sierra Leone gained their independence from the British. Unfortunately for Thullah and his family, they needed much more than independence to see the change they desired. Along the journey of "A Taste of Sierra

Leone," Thullah and his brothers met many other individuals willing to help.

"I know Issa because he used to go to West Virginia University," said Alex Gockel, a volunteer at the event. "My boyfriend, Mo is also from Sierra Leone. That is why he and I are both involved with Project Tumara."

Dale Schneider, senior-graphic design major at ECU, helped design the various brochures, flyers and handouts available at "A Taste of Sierra Leone."

"I work with Issa in the self-help building," said Schneider. "He just came by and asked if I wanted to help."

Among the handouts were information cards, each with a photo and biography of a student that Project Tumara was looking to positively affect.

"We share a lot of traditions and customs in Sierra Leone. This allows us to act as one, although we may speak different languages," said Thullah.

Project Tumara represents 20-40 students from Sierra Leone. Project Tumara's current goal is to raise \$10,000 to allow these students to acquire primary, secondary, and college level education. Funds raised go towards providing students with scholarships as well as school supplies.

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



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### College Radio

With an effective radiated power of 282 watts, WZMB broadcasts 24 hours a day while ECU is in session from its studio in the basement of Mendenhall Student Center. With a student-centered format consisting of alternative music, the program schedule includes, but is not limited to, jazz, roots rock, heavy metal, hip hop and other musical styles, call-in shows, regular news and sports updates and athletic events.



### Campus Newspaper

The East Carolinian is the award-winning student newspaper covering East Carolina University. The East Carolinian is published Tuesdays and Thursdays during the regular year and Wednesdays during the summer and is distributed at more than 89 locations on campus and in the surrounding Greenville area. For those wishing to join the staff, tryouts will be held during the second week of each semester. See ads in the first issue of the semester. **Rolling tryouts for fall semester currently underway.** Visit newspaper office at 301 Evans Street, Greenville.



### Yearbook

Buccaneer is the East Carolina University yearbook. Students who work on the book staff gather facts, write articles, take photos and capture the year's memorable moments for the sake of their fellow students and history. In the process they gain experience in editing, writing, advertising and production.



### Arts & Literary Magazine

This award winning art/literary magazine showcases the work of students selected each year through a juried competition and show. The Rebel provides an outlet for creative expression in the literary and visual arts. Submissions are accepted in the fall semester and judged by independent faculty, staff and members of the community. The magazine is published in the spring semester.



### Magazine

Expressions magazine is a yearly publication that comes out in the fall. Its mission is to provide a voice for ECU's minority populations, and it does so through open submissions and its band of reporters and designers. Expressions accept poems, short stories, opinion pieces and feature stories from students across campus.







## New leaders on defense



Outside linebacker Montese Overton (51) is among the new starters among the ECU linebacking corp that will be relied on for the Pirates' defense this fall.

## Pirates to retool linebacking corp in 2014

Jesse Deal  
TEC STAFF

With only one remaining starter from opening day 2013 on ECU's linebacker unit, the Pirates are expecting to see new leaders on the field this fall.

Junior Zeek Bigger ranked third on the team with 77 tackles and made a name for himself on last season's talented roster. Bigger will certainly play a large role once again at the inside (MIKE) linebacker position, especially because of the unfortunate circumstances surrounding Jeremy Grove.

In February, the rising senior Grove announced the end of his playing career due to recurring neck pain. Aside from Zeek Bigger, sophomore Cameron White will likely be asked to step in and play in Grove's absence.

At the inside (BUCK) linebacker position, senior Brandon Williams and sophomore Devaris Brunson are projected to handle the reins left by Kyle Tudor, who graduated after last season.

Williams had 69 total tackles, including 5.5 stops for a loss, during his impressive junior year and only three other Pirates garnered more tackles than Williams in 2013.

As for Brunson, he spent much of his freshman year playing fullback in the backfield and special teams.

Going into his fourth year as ECU's outside linebacker's coach, Duane Price has taken notice about the progress of ECU's revamped linebacker core.

"At the WILL [outside linebacker] position, we've got guys like Maurice Falls that are coming back," Price said. "He has played a lot of snaps and

made some big plays for the team ... I feel really good about him staying healthy and being able to contribute with a great senior campaign."

In late May, NFL.com writer Mike Huguenin placed Falls seventh on his list of college football's "most freakish athletes." The article mentioned Falls' 4.47-second 40-yard-dash time and 425-pound bench press, among other commendable statistics.

Coach Price strongly agreed with Huguenin's assessment of Falls. "He's fast, explosive, big, and strong," he said. "With all of those things combined, I just really look forward to him having a great year."

In 2013, the WILL position was dominated by All-Conference USA second-teamer and current Miami Dolphin, Derrell Johnson. With Johnson no longer in the fold, Falls, as well as senior Jake Geary, junior Jeton Beavers and sophomore Reece Speight have big shoes to fill this fall.

Junior Montese Overton and sophomore Dayon Pratt will take over the outside (SAM) linebacker position where Gabe Woullard started last season. Overton was second on the team in tackles for a loss (10.5) in 2013, which has left Price confident in both Overton and Pratt in that spot.

"Montese Overton and Dayon Pratt have played some very important reps-Montese especially," he said. "I feel like those two guys are really working hard in the offseason. I think Dayon Pratt will do some big things this year and people will get to know him."

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

## Torbett looks on to future

Corey Keenan  
TEC STAFF

From 2010 to 2012, ECU volleyball was a nonfactor in C-USA as they logged an embarrassing six wins in those three years combined.

Head Coach Julie Torbett arrived on campus as the winningest coach in Big South Conference history and looked to turn the program around. Despite finishing with a losing record, Torbett and her Pirates narrowly missed the CUSA tournament with a 13-19 record — a substantial improvement.

Just like every season, there has been some offseason turnover. The Pirates will have to recover from the loss of five seniors, including All-State-Team member Nicole Willis and Shelby Beasley, who finished her career second all-time in digs at ECU.

"There's going to be a lot of transition here, from losing five seniors, to entering my first full year in control of this team and moving into a new conference," said Torbett. "But with having so much turnover, it's nice to get it all out of the way at one time."

Torbett expressed excitement about her incoming recruiting class, which includes a high school standout from Colorado, Ashton Mares.

"[Mares] is going to be a six rotation player for us — which means she'll play every position for us," said Torbett. "She's solid all around, whether it's the front row or the back row. She can do it all."

Torbett and her Pirates picked up three other commitments. Two transfer players joined ECU, including former UNC Greensboro outside hitter Sydney Darden and Hillsborough Community College opposite hitter, Nicole Higgins. The 6-foot-1 Higgins was a First Team All-Conference in junior college and guided her team to a No. 3

> TORBETT page A8

## Club fishing seeks wildcard berth in Ala.

Wayne Hall  
TEC STAFF

With space still remaining within the Carhartt College Series National Championship, the ECU Bass Fishing Club makes a trip to Florence, Ala., as the team looks secure the final spot in the Wildcard tournament.

The two-day tournament starting Friday and ending Saturday will fea-

ture 130 teams battling it out for final positions out on Pickwick Lake, a lake known for producing monster bass during the summer months. And with ECU having sent teams to the national championship round since 2008, they don't plan on making this go around any different.

"This is everything," said Ronnie Moore, one of the more experienced

anglers representing ECU's team. "We work all year for a chance at getting to the nationals, so to be able to have a last chance tournament like this is huge."

Although Moore is excited, he isn't the only one who knows just how big the stakes are during this Wildcard event. With 130 teams hassling for that remaining spot as

well, Moore knows that the combined experience he and his team have at Pickwick will be momentous.

"Knowledge of the lake is huge, as well as the planning. You can pull up to your best spot and not catch a fish. But you can pull up to a spot you've never fished before and you can catch the biggest weight of the tournament right there."

Expert knowledge of the lake may come in handy for Moore and his team, but there's still one factor outside of any fisherman's control; and that's the current. With the more larger bass at Pickwick having been picked over recently, every fisherman knows that the excellent current the

> FISHING page A8

<p><b>Thursday 6/26</b></p> <p>World Cup United States vs Germany Noon</p> <p>NBA Draft 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Friday 6/27</b></p> <p>Durham Bulls vs Indianapolis Indians Durham, N.C. 7:05 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Saturday 6/28</b></p> <p>Durham Bulls vs Indianapolis Indians Durham, N.C. 7:05 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Sunday 6/29</b></p> <p>Carolina Railhawks vs Pueblo FC Cary, N.C. 4 p.m.</p>	<p><b>66 days until football season!</b></p>
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CALENDAR

### TAKEAWAYS

**CAPE COD BASEBALL**  
ECU first baseman Bryce Harman has been dismissed from the Bourne Braves. No further details were released.

**USA SOCCER**  
The United States men's soccer team tied Portugal 2-2 in Sunday's group stages match in Manaus, Brazil.

**TRACK AND FIELD**  
Red-shirt junior Tynia Butts was named Conference USA Women's Outdoor Field Athlete of the Year for the first time in her career as voted on by the league's head coaches.

**CAROLINA RAILHAWKS**  
The Railhawks defeated Landon Donovan and the Los Angeles Galaxy in a 1-0 extra-time victory at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary, N.C.

**FOOTBALL**  
ECU's home opener against North Carolina Central has been set for 8 p.m. and will be televised on ESPNews.

**MEN'S TENNIS**  
East Carolina University senior Joran Vliegen was named one of 15 recipients of Conference USA's Jim Castañeda Postgraduate Scholarship Award.

### ONLINE

  
Follow us on Twitter, @TEC\_Sports for ECU sports coverage.



# Pirates brace for eventful offseason

**Brian Wudkwyh**  
TEC STAFF

A new conference and a new floor design aren't the only things that will separate this winter's ECU men's basketball team from previous seasons.

Head Coach Jeff Lebo is ushering in a new crop of young talent and is finally getting a chance to watch last season's transfer players in action, which could lead to some serious changes to the Pirates' style of play.

Perhaps the most intriguing of those young players is three-star point guard Lance Tejada, who stands at 6-foot-1 and will allow the Pirates to play a more up-tempo offensive attack.

Tejada was a scorer during his time at Blanche Ely High School in Pompano Beach, Fla., averaging 23.3 points per game — while also tallying 4.5 assists. A lot of his work leading into the season should be around his playmaking ability and court vision.

Joining Tejada at the guard position is Florida State transfer Terry Whisnant, who is the seventh leading scorer in the history of high school basketball in North Carolina. Whisnant received limited playing time while he was a Seminole, but averaged 5.2 points during his 2012-2013 campaign, including 32 three pointers.

Whisnant likely won't be the shooter that the school's all-time three-point leader Akeem Richmond was, but put alongside Paris Roberts-Campbell and Prince Williams, he will be relied upon to fill much of that scoring void.

Forward Grant Bryant



Jeff Lebo (above) prepares for a schedule that features the defending national champions, Uconn

and center Kanu Aja are the two other recruits that signed with ECU. If neither is red-shirted, they can provide some much-needed depth on the front line that they didn't have last season.

One of the more interesting aspects of this off-season will be whether or not Lebo goes away from the small lineup and zone defense that ECU had success in last year. The backcourt is still much deeper than the

frontcourt and consists of two of the team's leaders: Roberts-Campbell and Williams. Then, Tejada and Whisnant are added to the mix to potentially vie for starting jobs.

Making things more complicated for ECU is the move to the AAC, which could stunt the growth of the young Pirates — particularly when ECU takes on the defending champion Connecticut

Huskies. The AAC is a far cry from the Conference USA and even though Lebo has added valuable pieces to the team, the season will be an uphill battle.

No matter what Lebo does, this offseason is a season of changes. From the conference to the court, next season will be a new opportunity for the Pirates.

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

## FISHING continued from A7

lake provides may very well be the difference between reeling in a 3 pound bass or a 10 pounder.

"It's basically sitting at a table at Golden Corral," Moore said on the currents. "When the water's blowing it's like a conveyor belt and they're bringing every kind of food at Golden Corral that you could want. But when they're not pulling, you've got to go find your food and then you've got to sit there and wait all day."

Whether the current brings ECU's team their meals early, or if they have to go out and look, Moore and others are convinced that this tournament is anybody's game. And it also doesn't hurt that coming in ECU brings four of the most experienced anglers along with Moore.

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

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Ronnie Moore, mentioned above, is the managing editor at The East Carolinian.



ECU club fishing can qualify for a wildcard berth this weekend.

## ARESCO continued from A1

made regarding ECU's conference change were by its previous Director of Athletics, Terry Holland, the department's current director, Jeff Compher, has stayed in close contact with Aresco since taking over the reins last May.

"We couldn't ask for a better commissioner, a better leader and I couldn't ask for a better friend," said Compher.

Aresco's message Tuesday was simple: the American should be mentioned among college athletics' top conferences and he expects ECU to be an immediate impact.

With a lot of conversation being paid towards the idea that the "Power Five" conferences breaking away from the NCAA, Aresco feels the Pirates' new league is right there from a competitive standpoint — even calling it the "(Power) Five, plus-one."

Especially in the revenue generating sports, the league put together an impressive resume in its inaugural year to back up the commissioner's words.

In the final year of the Bowl Championship Series, the UCF Knights stunned Baylor in the Fiesta Bowl and both the men's and women's basketball teams at Connecticut won the national

championship this season.

"There is a powerful dynamic at play here," Aresco said. "You're not going to necessarily win a national championship every year and you're not going to win a major bowl game every year, but I think we're going to be competitive every year."

ECU is coming off a 10-win football season — its second most wins in school history — and will be returning many of its key playmakers this fall as it looks to burst onto the scene in its first year in the American.

"If you had to handicap our league, we think Houston, Cincinnati, UCF and East Carolina will be clearly among our best teams," said Aresco. "ECU has a great team, you got Ruffin McNeill — who is a great coach — you have everything that is in place."

And thanks to the conference's television deal, ECU's exposure will increase drastically with six of its games already being scheduled on ESPN; five of which will be in primetime.

"The country is going to discover ECU in a way that it hasn't before," Aresco said.

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

## TORBETT continued from A7

national ranking.

The final commitment came from 5-foot-6 libero, Alex Jessett from Texas. Torbett has high expectations for the true freshmen and believes she will contribute early.

"This is a really talented group of individuals, and they will all compete for starting spots immediately," said Torbett. "We signed a 6-foot-5 transfer from Maryland-Eastern Shore and that's great because if there is one thing you can't coach, it's height."

The new group of athletes will join the 10 current Pirates that set sail for the American Athletic Conference. The conference lost regular season champion Louisville, who did not lose a game in conference, along with



Volleyball coach Julie Torbett (above) looks to build off last year.

Rutgers who managed just one win in conference.

"We have a shot at being a contender in conference," said Torbett. "We have 20 games against conference teams, so that is a lot more strong competition on our schedule

than we used to have. We are used to some of the teams in the conference that came over from C-USA, but there is still a lot of adjustment to be made for travel, getting used to different cities and venues."

As the Pirates look to

carry success from 2013 into 2014, Torbett recognized what her team did right last year.

"There was revitalization in the confidence and commitment in this program," said Torbett. "We don't have to wait three years to cycle players out, bring new players in and start a successful program. We feel that the players we have here now, we can win with."

Torbett also said that it was important for her players to recognize that the success of last year is in the past and they need to move forward.

The Lady Pirates will begin their season on Sept. 5 as Tennessee Tech and Norfolk State come to Minges Coliseum for the East Carolina Invitational.

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

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