

Six Pirates earn conference honors

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

Six East Carolina football players earned All-American Athletic conference honors, as announced Wednesday.



Bryce Williams

Seniors Zeek Bigger and Bryce Williams have been named First-Team All-American Conference. Senior outside line-backer Montese Overton and junior inside receiver Isaiah Jones earned second-team honors, while offensive linemen Ike Harris and J.T. Boyd received honor-

able mention, in the Pirates second season in the AAC.

Williams finished his senior season with 58 receptions for 588 yards and four touchdowns while playing tight end for the Pirates. He recorded multiple catches in all 12 games, helping him earn an invitation to play in the 2016 Reese's Senior Bowl.

While playing inside linebacker, Bigger led the Pirates by racking up 98 tackles, placing seventh in the conference. It marks Bigger's third all-conference selection, as he earned second-team honors the last two seasons. He has now finished his career with 333 career tackles,

ranking 10th in ECU history.

Jones pulled in a conference-leading 98 passes for 1,099 yards and five touchdowns this season, making him just the sixth Pirates to register a 1,000-yard season in school history.

He finished seventh in the nation, catching 8.2 passes per game and currently ranks third on ECU's all-time receptions and receiving yards list.

Overton earned his second all-conference selection, as he was third on the team with 70 tackles and led the Pirates' pass rush with 7.5 sacks and 10 tackles for a loss. He set the single game conference

record, totaling four sacks against Southern Methodist. The Greenville native finished his ECU career with 217 tackles, 17.5 sacks and 35.5 tackles for a loss.

Honorable mentions, Boyd and Harris, were each chosen to second-team honors last season and anchored an injury-depleted offensive line unit this year. The duo helped pave the way for two 100-yard performances from running back Chris Hairston, as well as protecting Blake Kemp, who threw for over 300 yards five times.

For questions or comments, contact
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Compher says no to possible bowl invite

Tyler Kelbaugh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina football team found itself given a tiny ray of hope that it may actually be eligible for post-season play when the NCAA announced on Sunday that a few 5-7 teams would play in a bowl.

ECU Athletic Director Jeff Compher quickly shot down any talk of the Pirates sneaking into the bowl schedule, however, saying ECU's (5-7, 3-5 American Athletic Conference) focus is no longer on the 2015 season.

"Following yesterday's NCAA Division I council's approval of a recommendation to allow five-win teams to possibly fill bowl openings this year, there has been much speculation about our interest should an invitation be extended to East Carolina University," Compher said. "Our efforts should be centered on positioning the Pirates for future championships."

The chances that ECU would have been selected to compete were unlikely, regardless of Compher's decision. The NCAA is giving the bowl bids to teams with high APR scores, which are determined by academic success. ECU ranks 10th in APR out of the five win programs, trailing Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas State, Minnesota, San Diego State and Rice, to name a few.

"While we understand there are still numerous programs with higher APR scores ahead of us who merit stronger consideration, we have already determined that we would decline an offer should one be extended," said Compher.

Still, some of those programs have already decided that they would decline an invitation to participate in a bowl even if one was extended. Missouri, for example, chose the same path as Compher, choosing to focus on offseason plans.

There are 41 bowl games slated for this season, with 80 teams needed to fill them. Only 75 teams currently have six or more wins, but three 5-6 teams have a game yet to play. It's likely that only three or four slots will be available to sub-.500 teams, and with so many teams ahead of ECU, it does seem unlikely that the Pirates would have gotten a shot.

ECU had plenty of chances to qualify for a bowl game the old fashioned way, but failed to deliver in the final game of the season against Cincinnati. While the Pirate seniors likely would have enjoyed the chance to play one last game and perhaps go out on top, the program is already looking towards the future.

"These boys down there, these young boys, you're going to see a lot of them in the next few years," senior linebacker Zeek Bigger said after Saturday's loss. "We shed tears down there, but this was not a disappointing season."

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MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU senior linebacker Zeek Bigger tackles a Tulsa offensive player in a home game against the Golden Hurricane earlier this season.

Bigger bids farewell to ECU

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

The time has come — East Carolina will have to say goodbye to 17 of its beloved seniors now that the 2015 season has come to a close.

The Pirates' (5-7, 3-5 American Athletic Conference) season ended prematurely for the first time in four years Saturday, following a 19-16 loss to the Cincinnati Bearcats.

The loss marks ECU's second consecutive Senior Day defeat, as it lost to UCF on a well-documented Hail Mary pass last year, something that just added to the sad aura surrounding the visibly upset Pirate players.

"There's a pretty bad feeling down in that locker room right now," ECU head coach Ruffin McNeill said following Saturday's loss. "I told them, football is in a direct correlation with life. This team handled adversity just like they will in life."

Pirate fans got their last look at the likes of Zeek Bigger, Montese Overton, Bryce Williams and Terrell Stanley, just to name a few.

"We shed a couple tears down there just a minute ago," Bigger said. "Them 17 seniors, we've been through the ups and downs man. Sometimes arguing and fighting on things, but we became brothers."

Had the Pirates beaten Cincinnati, the

seniors would have gotten one final bowl game to participate in, something that Bigger shook off.

"I'm a Pirate at heart so it makes no difference," an emotional Bigger said. "I can always say I'm the best in North Carolina. We did what we had to do and in the last couple of years, nobody beat us in North Carolina did they? That's all that matters to me."

As a two-year starter, two-year leading tackler and the undoubted leader of this year's team, Bigger tallied 333 tackles in his ECU career, ranking him 10th on ECU's all-time list.

"It's been unbelievable. Being able to play with some of the best players, see some of the best players go, and now it was my time," Bigger said. "These coaches believed in me. Nobody else in North Carolina believed in me but these coaches. I tip my hat off to them and I love them."

Due to his personality and leadership ability, as well as his production on the field, some have wondered if Bigger's football days are just beginning, with a potential future in the NFL looming.

"His legacy is hard to tell... I think Zeek on the field got after it, got after it in the classroom, never had anything off the field with Zeek ever," McNeill said. "I think he'll have a chance to play in the NFL. Montese

will, but most importantly, in a couple of weeks they'll have their degrees."

Bigger and the rest of the seniors were recruited to compete in Conference USA. They were then asked to make a very difficult change midway through their careers to a bigger and more competitive American Athletic Conference.

They have been key ingredients to the Pirates' record-breaking successes in the past couple of years, something that the younger players have taken notice of.

"These seniors I grew up with. They taught me," sophomore wide receiver Trevon Brown said. "I'm losing a piece of me when they leave next year... I'm going to do the best I can to follow in their footsteps."

While the 2015 season will be seen as a step back from recent years, the seniors will be remembered from their coach and their teammates, despite the win and loss column.

"Heart, never stop, fighting, courage, bravery, going through adversity, life lessons learned," McNeill said about the senior class. "Those guys you saw today will walk out with their degrees, all of them. Some of them already have it now, but everyone by May."

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Women's hoops prepares for game with Auburn

Carson Cherry
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina Pirates (6-2) will play their first game of December on the road against the Auburn Tigers (5-1).

Head coach Heather Macy currently sits at 100 wins at ECU now and will look to get her 101st against Auburn Saturday at 1 p.m.

"I've had a lot of good players over the years, and have had a lot wins happen, we've worked incredibly hard and it has taken countless hours from a lot of different people to reach this mark," said Macy.

The Pirates head into the game coming off a tough loss against the No.15 Northwestern Wildcats. The travel has taken a toll on the players, especially the younger ones new to the college schedule. Auburn serves as yet another road trip that will likely test the mental strength of the team's players.

"We're trying to get our legs back, playing three games back-to-back-to-back and the travel



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU wing Jada Payne holds the ball in a game.

is not factored in when people look at the schedules, so there are some fatigue factors that comes into play. The new ones struggle with it, since they haven't been part of it before," said Macy.

The Pirates will get a few days before they

travel to prepare for the game. As they prepare, one player in particular is starting to come in form this season. Senior forward I'Tiana Taylor had dominant performances in the past few games. In the last three games, Taylor has averaged 18.7 points, 2.3 assists, and 10.7 rebounds per game, compared to only averaging 6 points, .7 assists, and 6 rebounds in her first three games of the season.

"She competed harder during those three games, which I think is a result for her improvement statistically," said Macy.

The match against Auburn will be a good chance for the Pirates to try out some new strategies before heading into the conference play and have experience against harder teams that play in conference like the SEC.

"It will be a test for our team. I think we'll learn a lot from our team, this time of the year you're trying new things out, trying different lineups out and seeing what best works as we prep to play for conference play," said Macy.

The game will be a nationally televised affair, appearing on the SEC Network.

"That's why our players came to East Carolina, they want to be on TV, they want to be recognized nationally," said Macy.

The Tigers boast four players that average double digits. Brandy Montgomery and Tra'Cee Tanner lead the crop with 17.5 and 14.2 points per game respectively. The Montgomery-Tanner duo represents an inside-outside presence that will likely test ECU's defensive skill.

Montgomery is the team's best outside shooter, shooting 34.2 percent from behind the arc, while the 6-foot-3 tanner has been a force down low, making 61.9 percent of her shots, and averaging 8.7 rebounds per contest.

If ECU is going to steal a road victory from the Tigers, stopping the duo will certainly be priority No. 1.

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TAKEAWAYS

FOOTBALL

Six ECU players were selected to All-Conference honors.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Senior DeVaughn Gray was chosen as a nominee for the 2016 WBCA Good Works Team.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Pirates (4-3) defeated Florida Atlantic Tuesday, 74-38. ECU will battle USC Upstate Friday.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ECU (6-2) is slated to play a non-conference road bout at Auburn Saturday at 1 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING

Added seven student athletes to its recruiting class.

CAROLINA PANTHERS

The Panthers (11-0) will look to remain undefeated Sunday, playing at the New Orleans Saints.

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Bidgood makes early impact

Kayla Morton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

After knee surgery plagued her during her junior volleyball season of high school, Haley Bidgood bounced back her senior year, earning team MVP, receiving First Team All-Conference honors, and graduating early in order to sign with East Carolina.

Now a freshman setter, Bidgood began playing volleyball at the age of twelve after deciding she wanted to try something new from playing soccer.

The different style of the new sport intrigued Bidgood, which is why she decided to join a team in her community.

“I had joined a developmental team to increase my knowledge of the game and see if I truly enjoyed the sport, which I did. I had played soccer my whole life and loved how different volleyball was,” Bidgood said.

Going into her senior year, Bidgood only needed two more credits to graduate so she talked to her coaches and they all came to a conclusion. In order to maximize her talents and take another step higher in her career, she would graduate in the winter so she could



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Pirate volleyball player Haley Bidgood stands with her hands on her knees in a game last season.

start college in the spring and train with the Pirates during the off-season.

After Bidgood made her decision to graduate early, she also received an MVP honor from her team, as well as First-Team-All-Conference.

“It was truly an honor to receive those

awards, coming back from surgery and having to work so hard to come back from an injury like that really boosted my confidence in my game,” Bidgood said, “I had already

> BIDGOOD page B3

Volleyball sees six seniors depart

Madison Tenenbaum
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Six seniors on East Carolina’s volleyball team, led by Erika Figueroa and the Lee-Dunson sisters, accomplished their dreams of playing four years at the collegiate level.

Now their dreams are coming to an end, as they have just completed their final year donning the purple and gold.

Emotions this season were higher than ever, knowing these will be the last few months stepping foot on a volleyball court, but Figueroa is eager to experi-

ence a new chapter in her life.

“It’s definitely bittersweet. Volleyball has been a major part of my life since I was eight-years-old, so knowing that it was coming to an end after 13 years was definitely upsetting,” she said. “But knowing that a new chapter of my life is about to begin also makes it a very exciting time for me.”

Twins Sierra and Kierra Lee-Dunson believe that the program has made a lasting impact on both of their lives.

“As a result of being on the ECU volleyball team, I’ve learned how to handle great adversity, being able to stick with it and grind it out when things aren’t going well. It has all molded me

into a mentally tougher person,” Sierra Lee-Dunson said.

One of the greatest things that will make an everlasting impact on Kierra Lee-Dunson is the strong sense of sisterhood throughout the team.

“We ate together, fought together, cried together, lost together and won together,” she said. “There is no doubt that I came out a stronger person than who I was when I came in.”

Before the three joined the team, the program did not see much success, producing a dismal 15-101 record the four years prior to their arrival. Since then, the progression they’ve seen has been astonishing. The seniors that are now gone were a major

factor in the turnaround of the program.

“If you would have told me that we would have won six to seven times the amount of games we won my freshmen year, I wouldn’t have believed you,” Figueroa said.

Sierra Lee-Dunson added, “Each year the team is getting stronger, faster, and more athletic and it’s amazing to see the direction the program has taken.”

Losing seniors is always difficult for any sports team, but losing a third of them, which for ECU is six members on its 18-player roster, will without a doubt be challenging.

> VOLLEYBALL page B3

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East Carolina University

BIDGOOD continued from B2

committed to ECU and this honor gave me confidence knowing I would be leaving for college soon.”

Since the team was not in season, Bidgood jumped right into the workouts and spring tournaments to help prepare for when she could take part in regular season play the following fall.

“It really helped me because I wanted to get to know my teammates and learn best how to work with each of them and learn their tendencies before going into the fall season,” Bidgood said.

Bidgood considered many big name schools such as Ohio State, Wichita State, NC State, and West Virginia before committing to ECU.

“I felt like I could really make a difference for this program and felt like I would have all of the resources I needed to get a degree that would help me make a difference in other people’s lives,” Bidgood said.

Back in mid-November, the Pirates faced

the Memphis Tigers and Bidgood got a chance to play and make a significant difference. Off of her sets and smart court IQ, Bidgood helped her hitters transition her sets into kills. Based on her success in Friday’s game, Bidgood got the start Sunday at home against Cincinnati Bearcats.

“I had just had a solid game against Memphis and I felt like I earned the chance to prove myself further in the next game,” Bidgood said.

Bidgood created more scoring opportunities for her teammates as well as pulling some tricks out of her sleeve in order to score herself. Although she is a right-side setter, Bidgood spikes for the kill with her left hand. As she goes up for the set, she can easily switch position and pop the ball over the blockers for points.

“I was very excited to get the start, it gave me confidence to do what I’ve trained to do,” Bidgood said, “I focused on being an attacking setter and identifying opportunities to score based on the type of pass that came to me.”

With her late-season heroics, Bidgood will fight to keep her starting spot in the off-season where she’ll improve for the season to come.

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VOLLEYBALL continued from B2

doubt be challenging.

Figueroa has faith that the returning players will continue to be committed to the program and continue to work hard in everything that they do to make the program even more successful in the years to come.

Kierra Lee-Dunson has high hopes for next year, but doesn’t doubt what the girls can produce.

“I expect them to really take the reins on this team and continue to build this program up,” she said.

The now-departed seniors will have to now watch their successors from afar. For some of them it will be an emotional transition, putting their passion behind them.

“This experience has forever changed my life,” Figueroa said. “Nothing in life is given to you and I believe that everything I have gotten out of these past four years with this team will help me in my future endeavors.”

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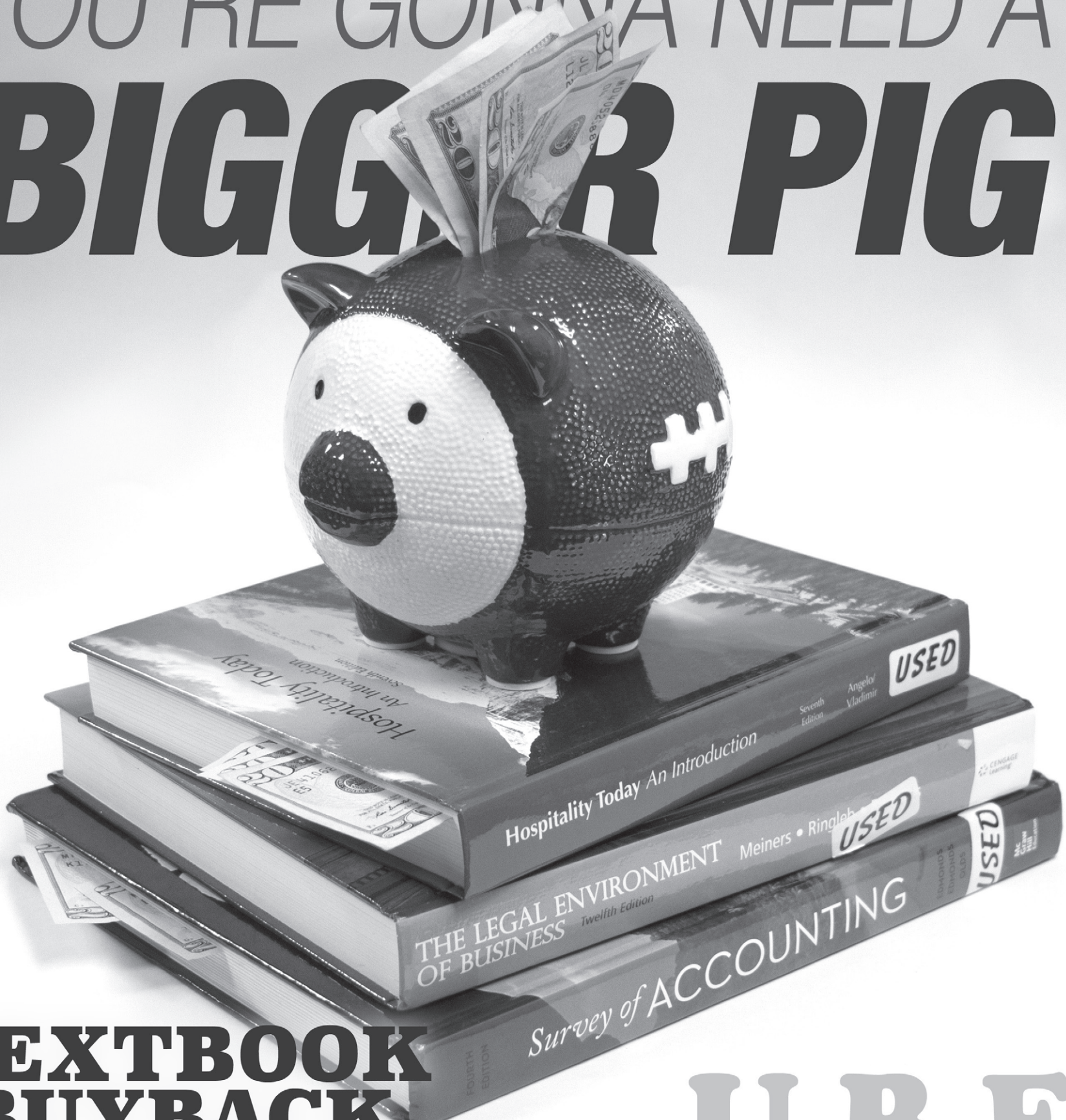
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ECU sophomore forward Grant Bryant drives the lane against a FAU defender in the game Tuesday.

Sophomores find early season success

Craig Moyer
TEC STAFF

Breakout performances from sophomore forward Grant Bryant and sophomore guard B.J. Tyson led East Carolina to a blowout victory over Florida Atlantic Tuesday night. Bryant recorded 12 points and Tyson finished with 15 to help lead the Pirates to a 26-point victory over the Owls, 74-48. Michel Nzege sat out the game with an ankle injury suffered in practice, allowing Bryant to record a career-high 20 minutes played. Bryant was told before the game that he would likely get a large portion of Nzege's playing time, so he knew it was his chance to show what he can do. "It was a good opportunity for me, to just put myself on the floor, earn coach Lebo's

trust, show that I can play defense, score the ball and execute," Bryant said. Bryant's 12 points tripled his previous career best, as he finished the game 6-of-8 from the field. To many, his breakout performance came as a surprise, but his teammates and coaches knew he had the necessary talent for a strong performance. Teammate B.J. Tyson said Bryant's hard work goes unnoticed to the fans, but is definitely evident in practice. "I'm proud of him, I've been waiting for that opportunity for the longest. Nobody sees it, but behind closed doors this man is fighting and working his tail off in practice," Tyson said. Head coach Jeff Lebo said that even

> SOPHOMORES page B6

Pirate hoops picks up win over FAU

Allison Jobe
TEC STAFF

Having dropped three of its last four during a recent west coast trip, the East Carolina basketball team returned to Minges to beat Conference USA foe Florida Atlantic, 74-48, Tuesday. "I'm really proud of my team after coming off a long road trip coming from the west coast. I thought we looked fresh. I thought we played with energy, enthusiasm," head coach Jeff Lebo said. "We had a lot of good play off of our bench and I thought defensively, especially in the first half, we were really solid with our zones." The Pirates (4-3) kept the momentum on their side, as they managed to take a 15-point lead in the first 11 minutes of action. "[Tyson's] playing better and gaining some confidence," Lebo said. "He took the ball well to the basket tonight; finished with his right hand, which was nice to see. He's worked really hard on using the correct hand," ECU kept the heat on the Owls and

entered the locker room at halftime with a 32-14 cushion. The Pirates didn't take the pressure off Florida Atlantic to start the second half, as Tyson finished a layup only 24 seconds in. The Pirates took their largest lead of the night at 1:08 in the second half, putting a 31-point lead between them and their opponent. Tyson led the Pirates with his 15 points, and nine rebounds. His performance made for his third double-digit scoring effort this season. "It feels great," Tyson said. "I just want to give credit to coach Lebo and coach [Mike] Netti for staying with me throughout the whole thing. The first couple of games were rough; seeing it not go in the small hole, but now [the basket] it's starting to get bigger. I worked on my shot everyday before practice and after practice so it's starting to come along."



Caleb White

> HOOPS page B6



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East Carolina University

SOPHOMORES continued from B5

though Bryant has not been getting much playing time over the last two seasons, he has continued to work hard.

“His attitude has been good and he has worked hard, gotten better and he was rewarded tonight,” Lebo said.

Lebo said Bryant is quick and can get to the basket well, which he did with authority against the Owls.

“He understands who he is and what he is and I thought he did a great job tonight playing to his ability and his strengths,” Lebo said.

Tyson followed up a strong performance against Stetson, where he recorded 22 points, with another strong outing against FAU with 15 points on 7-of-9 shooting and added a career-high 9 rebounds.

He said his coaches have been very helpful getting him out of the slump he was in to start the season, shooting 6-of-24 in the team’s first four games. In the team’s last three games, he has gotten his shots to fall, shooting a combined 18-of-26 and recording 47 points.

Lebo knew that once Tyson got going and got his confidence back,

he would begin to perform on a much higher level.

“He’s playing better, I think he’s got some confidence and he took the ball to the basket well tonight,” Lebo said.

Both Bryant and Tyson credit their hard work in practice to their success in their team’s victory over FAU.

“I worked on my shot every day before practice and after practice, so it’s starting to come along,” Tyson said.

Bryant added, “I wasn’t getting down on myself or be negative about things, I was just being positive and in practice I continued to work hard and prove to myself I can play.”

Both Tyson and Bryant received loud cheers from the 3,700 plus fans in attendance as they came out of the game for the final time. Every ECU player on the active roster received playing time in the game, including walk-on Drew Bost.

Bost drained a three with just over a minute left, to give ECU its largest lead of the game, 74-43, erupting the crowd and bringing his teammates on the bench to their feet.

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HOOPS continued from B5

Also seeing double-digits against the Owls was junior guard Caleb White with 10 points, and sophomore forward Grant Bryant with 12.

“Nzege didn’t play so it was a good opportunity for me to put myself on the floor. It was a good team win,” Bryant said.

Bryant received the “junk-yard dog award” after the game was over. The last person to receive this award was freshman forward Kentrell Barkley after his performance in the season-opener against Grambling State earlier this season.

“I’m proud of him. I’ve been waiting for that opportunity for the longest time. Nobody sees it, but behind closed doors this man [Bryant] is fighting and he’s working his tail off at practice,” Tyson said.

“I’m glad that he got the opportunity to show that he can fight, and show that he can play, execute and rebound.”

The Pirates kept their winning streak by shooting 54.2 percent from the field, 38.5 percent outside the arc, and 45.5 percent from the free throw line.

ECU will continue playing on its own court when it hosts USC Upstate Friday night at Minges.

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PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE 12/3/15

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

BEST IN SHOW



BREWSTER ROCKET



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Remain forgiving with miscommunications, especially at work. Roll around obstacles. Ignore false rumors and gossip. Avoid spontaneous reactions. Keep your goal in focus. If you can keep your temper, delightful results are possible. It could get romantic.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 6 -- A creative problem requires imagination. Consider consequences before getting yourself into a sticky situation. Age differences interfere with clarity. Listen, learn, and stick up for your point of view, respectfully. Sometimes the best move is none.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 5 -- No need to rush into expensive household upgrades.

Don't splurge on stuff you don't need. Take a family poll to assess shared priorities. Share ideas and solutions. Get the whole gang to help. You're surrounded by love.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Rely on experience. Ask questions and listen for solutions. Don't worry if, at first, you don't succeed. Open up the subject for further discussion. Help others see the big picture, to strategize rather than impulsively reacting.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Postpone financial discussion. Misunderstandings crop up easily now, especially around money. Double-check statements and invoices. Make payments on time. Don't believe everything you hear. New developments change the assignment. Don't touch savings. You can find necessary resources.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Loose lips sink ships. Watch for breakdowns. Confusions swirl. Keep cool. Abandon a preconception. Counsel loved ones to defer gratification, for now. Notice a philosophical shift. Listen for the heart of the matter. Focus on compassionate action.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Take time for foundational issues. Clean up to save time in losing things. Review the past for insight on the road ahead. Private, peaceful activities suit your mood. Nurture health and well-being. Slow down and recharge.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Distractions can lead to misunderstandings. Take one thing at a time. Slow down and ask for clarification, rather

than making assumptions. It's better to stop the action to check course than plowing on in the wrong direction.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Rest from this recent busy spell. Sink into a good book or film in your favorite chair. Keep it simple, with satisfying luxuries like bubbles and steam. Consider plans, without beginning action yet. Strategize and build support.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Ponder carefully before choosing. Strike out in a new direction, and follow the path before you. Get tools and supplies together. Work through complex details. Get help with practical details. Interesting time require innovative solutions.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 6 -- Don't talk about the financial impacts of the plan yet. Work out details, and consider multiple options. Get practical expertise. Differentiate what's predictable from a fantasy outcome. Strengthen infrastructure and support. Bide your time, and consider.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Think fast under pressure. Grace with matters of the heart serves you well. Listen generously to a loved one's concerns, even if they're unfounded. Discover something you didn't know. Settle somewhere peaceful. Relax and recharge.

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FOR RELEASE DECEMBER 3, 2015

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Game piece associated with 71-Across
8 "C'mon, Let's Play" store
15 Estate planner's suggestion
16 Chess grandmaster Karpov
17 Cancun's peninsula
18 Copied
19 "Nurse Jackie" network, briefly
20 Attempt
22 Org. concerned with the AQI
23 VW hatchback
24 Way out
26 Selective socializer, perhaps
29 Geologic periods
31 Soulful Franklin
33 Catch
34 Swallow up
36 Asks for more
38 Fish used as bait in bass fishing
40 Dagger of yore
41 Apple music player
45 Chess ploy
49 Mahal
50 Much of Oceania
52 Cut with teeth
53 Pass over
55 Recital numbers
56 Cool one
57 Tampa NFLer
59 Polynesian beverage
61 Spam holder
62 Like some skinny jeans
65 The United States, to Mexicans
68 Carrier to Tehran
69 Critical
70 Training units
71 Word that can precede the word in each set of puzzle circles

DOWN

1 Sound from a crib
2 Fourth-most populous U.S.
3 Dürer work
4 Former Labor secretary Elaine
5 Word with press or mess
6 Historic stretches
7 Many a talk show caller
8 Wage earners' concerns
9 Person
10 Easily maneuvered, at sea
11 Bus schedule listings
12 1987 film loosely based on "Cyrano de Bergerac"
13 Suffix with glob
14 Australian airport, in itineraries
21 "Timber!" yell
23 Awe-full expression?
25 Revealing beachwear
27 Wake maker
28 Small shot
30 Sought damages
31 Repeated notes in Chopin's "Raindrop" prelude
32 Square measure
35 Dunham who created and stars in the HBO series "Girls"
37 Reps. counterparts
39 Hoodwinks
41 Jurist Lance
42 Spray on a pan
43 Lake Huron natives
44 Earthenware pot
46 Martini & Rossi parent company
47 "Include me"
48 Demolition stuff
51 Dance music provider
54 Chances to play
58 Trendy hi
60 Six-time All-Star Moises
61 Firm: Abbr.
62 Rap name adjective
63 Mine output
64 Committed thing
66 de plume
67 Neurologist's tool, briefly

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

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Dec. 118am - 5pm

Dec. 1211am - 3pm

Dec. 14 - 178am - 6pm

Dec. 188am - 5pm

Remote Buy Trailers (College Hill Dr • West End)

Dec. 10 - 11 9am - 4pm

Dec. 14 - 16 9am - 4pm

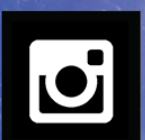
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