

HOMECOMING COMMITTEE HOLDS BANNER COMPETITION to A4



The East Carolinian

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HOMECOMING 2021



Two Pirate football fans hold up the "No Quarter" flag at an ECU football game against Charleston Southern University on Sept. 25.

Back to ECU brings normalcy

Breanna Sapp
TEC STAFF

After two years without in-person homecoming events, East Carolina University students and community members continue to celebrate their Pirate spirit this week with the homecoming theme "Back to ECU" through various university events and programs that will take place throughout the community.

Homecoming Committee Chair

Savannah Boyd said Homecoming Week will continue to host various Spirit Week Competitions for student organizations to participate in, as well as student activities for all students on campus. The banner competition took place on Monday and a skit night yesterday at 8 p.m. She said other events include the Canned Food Drive on Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the parade on Saturday at 9 a.m.

The Cannonball Kickoff took place

on Monday from 5 to 8 p.m. and today the Scavenger Hunt began at 8 a.m. and the Pirate Pride T-shirt Swap will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. Boyd said students can also look forward to attending the homecoming game on Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

"Homecoming Week is just a chance to reflect on how grateful we are as students to have all these diffe-

> HOCO page A2

Football prepares to face Tulane

Markayla McInnis
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University football's (2-2-0, 0-0-0 American Athletic Conference) conference slate of games will officially be in action at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Saturday as the Pirates will play its first conference game versus Tulane University (1-3-0, 0-0-0 AAC) at 3:30 p.m.

This game will also take place during ECU's Homecoming weekend as Pirates nation will return home to celebrate homecoming at the "Paint it

Purple" game. The game will be shown on ESPN+ and also broadcasted on 107.9 WNCT-FM.

The last time these two teams met was Nov. 7, 2020, when the Pirates traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana. In that game, Tulane was able to shut ECU out from scoring in both the second and quarter and the Waves came out on top 38-21.

In the Pirates' last game, in the first quarter, they were down 14-0, but as ECU took the lead in the second quarter, they were able to stay on top of

Charleston Southern University (1-2-0, 0-1-0 Big South Conference) for the remainder of the game. The night ended in a 31-28 win for the "Paint it Gold" game. For ECU's family weekend, the stands were full to see the Pirates score their four touchdowns to win the first home game of the season.

"Certainly don't want to start the game the way we did in the first quarter. You know, proud of the guys and

> TULANE page A6

Leadership recognized on campus

Giana Williams
TEC STAFF

Breanna Sapp
TEC STAFF



In replacement of homecoming king and queen, East Carolina University's Captain of the Ship recognizes individuals who have made contributions to the Pirate community regardless of gender and organization affiliations in order to promote inclusiveness on campus.

Voting for Captain of the Ship began yesterday and will be open until Friday, according to the ECU Homecoming website. The winner of the Captain of the Ship competition will be announced at the homecoming football game against Tulane University on Saturday.



Sanvannah Boyd

Homecoming Committee Chair Savannah Boyd said Captain of the Ship recognizes leaders who are involved in the ECU community and highlights what individuals have done to better the university. Boyd said the characteristics exhibited for an ideal Captain of the Ship are kindness, patience, leadership and compassion.

"If they (individuals interested in Captain of the Ship) have community involvement, how they've given back to ECU, you know, what have they done to better this campus and to help out incoming students," Boyd said. "So I guess Captain of the Ship is, you know, the big leaders of ECU."

Captain of the Ship began in the spring 2021 semester and is competitive, Boyd said. This semester, the committee received 77 applications compared to the 42 from the spring 2020 semester, she said.

The committee announced the top 20 candidates for Captain of the Ship on Sept. 20, Boyd said. Those individuals went through an interview process with a panel of judges on Sept. 22 and Sept. 23, she said.

"Definitely diversity and inclusiveness are a priority throughout homecoming week because we (the Homecoming Committee) want to include all students," Boyd said.

The priority throughout Homecoming Week is to include all ECU students, Boyd said. Graduate students are able to apply for Captain of the Ship, she said, and there were no limitations. There were some requirements to apply for Captain of the Ship such as a minimum of a 2.0 GPA, Boyd said, but it was a requirement the Homecoming Committee has had in the past.

> CAPTAIN page A2

Cannonball Kickoff draws crowds of Pirates

Emily Peek
TEC STAFF

Hannah Bolick
TEC STAFF



East Carolina University's annual Homecoming Week began on Monday with Cannonball Kickoff from 5 to 8 p.m. which featured performances from the ECU Dance Team and the Marching Pirates, Captain of the Ship top 10 announcement and a host of other activities geared toward engaging students.

Other activities offered were ECU trivia, a T-shirt giveaway, T-shirt tie dying and a showing of "Back to the Future" on the MCSC lawn at 6:30 p.m. with "throwback snacks," which included Gushers, Twinkies, Hugs Fruit Barrels and more.

The ECU trivia was playable in person and virtually as participants used their phones to answer questions. The prize for first place was a \$100 dollar gift card, the second place prize was a \$75 gift card and the third place prize was a \$50 gift card.

Two of the event's sponsors, the Bower and the Davis, each had a table at the event at which

they spoke with students about off campus housing options. The event's third sponsor was the Landing but they did not have a table at the event.

In years past, the Cannonball Kickoff has held concerts with performers such as singer JoJo (Joanna Noëlle Levesque) and rapper 21 Savage (Shéyaa Bin Abraham-Joseph). Boyd said in an email statement that due to financial constraints, this year's event was unable to hold a concert.

"Due to budget cuts caused by COVID, (The Student Activities Board) SAB didn't have the funds to prepare for a concert. We look forward to seeing what they have in store for Barefoot," Boyd said.

As the event began, the Marching Pirates and the ECU Dance Team marched across the mall and through the sonic plaza to the front of Main Campus Student Center Lawn. They played several songs while the ECU Dance Team performed for the gathered students.

This portion of the event closed with the playing of the ECU Alma Mater, "Hail to Thy Name So Fair." Following the performances,



HANNAH BOLICK | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Members of the ECU Dance Team perform on the Main Campus Student Center Lawn at the kickoff.

homecoming chair and lead of the Cannonball Kickoff event Savannah Boyd welcomed the gathered students and gave a rundown of the evening and the upcoming week's events.

"Our Homecoming Committee couldn't be happier to have a normal homecoming once

again. We encourage you all to participate in all of our homecoming events this week," Boyd said at the event.

Boyd said in an interview prior to Cannon-

> KICKOFF page A4

ONLINE

»NEWS: Admissions implements new recruitment strategies

»ARTS: SoTD to premiere "The Visit" tonight in person

SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

NAACP to host Annual Unity March

Today, the East Carolina University chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will host its annual unity march at 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and will meet outside of the ECU letters in front of the Main Campus Student Center. Signs and face masks are encouraged.

Game Night Social to be hosted

Today, the Student North Carolina Association of Educators and the Board Gaming & Tabletop Society will host a game night social at 6:30 p.m. in the Bate Building in room 3008. All East Carolina University students who are interested in board, party and/or card games are welcome.

ECU Black Alumni Chapter to host Career Symposium

Tomorrow, the East Carolina University Black Alumni Chapter will host a Career Symposium at 5 p.m. virtually on Zoom. ECU alumni and career experts from different fields and backgrounds will be present and attendees will be able to connect with employers about job opportunities. The zoom link will be provided after students register for the event on the Pirate Alumni website.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper please contact Chloe Easton at editor@theeastcarolinian.com



ECU students wait in line to receive a free "Back to ECU" T-shirt from the Student Government Association's tent at the Cannonball Kickoff on Monday.

HOCO continued from A1

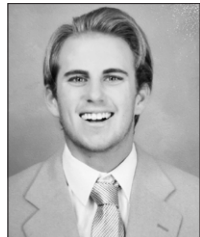
rent resources on campus and how we can celebrate these resources and celebrate ECU and be a Pirate and be proud to be a Pirate," Boyd said.

Homecoming Week's theme "Back to ECU" is a celebration of the in-person return to the Pirate community, Boyd said, and all events will be held outside with the proper COVID-19 safety precautions in place and without mask mandates to bring back a sense of normalcy to the week's events.

The committee made an effort to involve the local community throughout Homecoming Week, Boyd said, and community members will have the opportunity to be involved through events such as skit night and the canned food drive.

"This pandemic hit us hard, and we want everybody to know that our community is strong, and we can get through this," Boyd said. "So, 'Back to ECU' really represents that ideal."

Student Government Association (SGA) President Chandler Ward said he's excited for the return of an in-person homecoming after two years without any major in-person events. He said SGA fully funds Homecoming Week, and the organization will have representatives as judges for each event panel, as well as sponsor and award the winner of Captain of the Ship with a \$1,000 educational opportunity.



Chandler Ward

Ward said thus far there has been great student turnout for in-person campus events like Pirate Palooza and Student Convocation and he expects students will bring the same energy for homecoming events too.

Students haven't had many opportunities to show school spirit due to the pandemic, Ward said, and Homecoming Week gives them the chance to celebrate the Pirate community and what it has to offer. He said programs like Captain of the Ship are new to ECU and he's excited to see other new events created by the Homecoming Committee.

"The narrative for this year has been the return of Pirate Nation, and I think this is another example of that, showing ECU's commitment to try to deliver on the student experience that makes this place so special," Ward said.

Tyree Rubin, Main Campus Pirate Pride T-shirt Swap lead and member of the Homecoming Committee, said the committee is excited to show ECU's campus and community the variety of events they have planned for throughout the week.

The Pirate Pride T-shirt Swap is a new program created by the committee, Rubin said, and students have the opportunity to help out the community by donating any college shirt in exchange for Pirate gear.

"I think as a committee, what we're most

excited about is just going out there and showing the Pirate Nation all of our ideas that we have come up with. We're trying to be like, 'Hey, this is what we have, we hope you like this,'" Rubin said.

Chancellor Philip Rogers said he continues to look forward to Homecoming Week celebrations that are set to take place. Alumni and community members are encouraged to celebrate back on campus as well, Rogers said, and he's excited to see the energy the campus brings throughout the week.

The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded the community of the importance of being together in celebration, Rogers said, and the traditional format will include in-person celebrations alongside the parade and football game. Rogers said he hopes to see all generations of Pirates involved throughout Homecoming Week in celebration of ECU's mission and values.

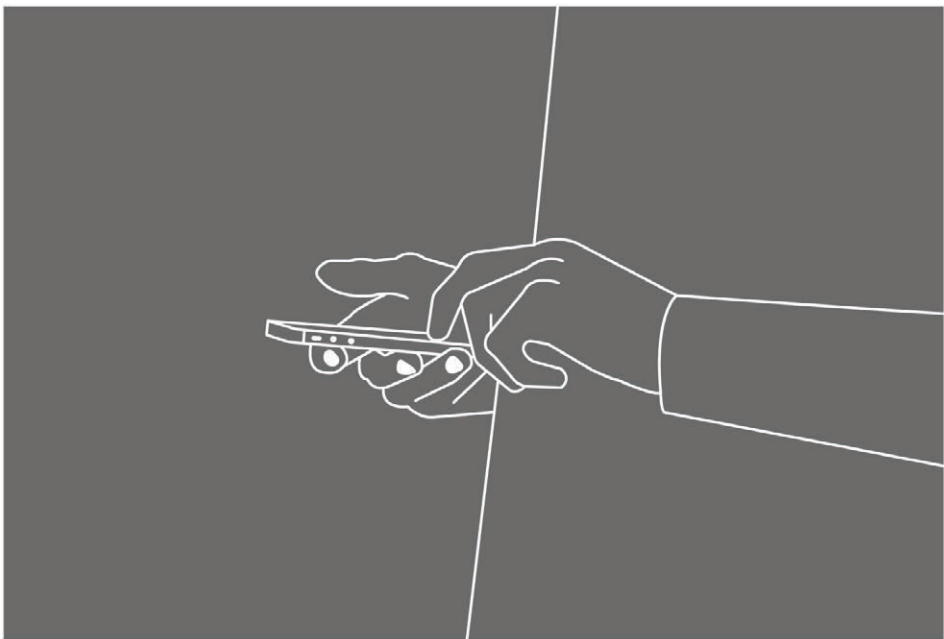
"I think it gives me a lot of joy to walk around the mall and see alumni, and community members, and students, and faculty and staff," Rogers said. "It brings together every different facet of Pirate Nation to celebrate the university that we love."



Philip Rogers

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

PIRATE RANTS RETURN



STARTING OCT. 6

Back by popular demand, The East Carolinian will present the return of Pirate Rants beginning Oct. 6, giving the ECU community an opportunity to share its views on the events and topics of the day.

Submitted posts will be reviewed to prevent vulgarity, discriminatory remarks, libelous comments to inappropriate language before being printed under the Opinion section in The East Carolinian, uploaded on <http://theeastcarolinian.com> and/or TECO ECHO.

Submit your Pirate Rants online at piratemedial.com/site/forms/pirate_rants/pirate_rants/

Sponsor this popular feature for \$100 per week.

Email mail to: davistmor19@ecu.edu for more information.

OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBMIT YOUR RANTS!



The East Carolinian

CAPTAIN continued from A1

Boyd said people will be known around ECU's campus community if they are a leader. If individuals have been involved in community service activities or work with on-campus leadership teams, Boyd said people in the community will know them as an approachable person.

The top 10 candidates for Captain of the Ship were announced at the Cannonball Kickoff on Monday, as well as on the ECU Homecoming Facebook and Instagram pages. The winner of Captain of the Ship will win a \$1,000 educational award instead of a tiara or a crown, Boyd said.

"You're doing all these activities and you are, you know, participating in service acts, you're being a leader in not only the ECU community but the Greenville (North Carolina) community as well. So like let's recognize you. Let's celebrate you and all your accomplishments like y'all deserve it," Boyd said.

The top 10 candidates for Captain of the Ship are: Grace Bellamy, Shyla Fitzhugh, Ashley Gorman, Chelsea Hewett, Maddy Holt, Robert Malpass, Savannah Slade, Sophie Villani, Emma White and Kaley Williams.

Tyree Rubin, a member of the Homecoming Committee, said the homecoming king and queen served mostly as a popularity contest in the past. This year, the Homecoming Committee wanted to look for leaders amongst the ECU community, he said.

"Well that (homecoming king and queen), it's basically a popularity contest. There's like a large group of friends, they can easily, you know, try to say 'oh let's get this person, you know,'" Rubin said. "Whereas like 99% of the campus, they're not going to know that person, they don't know what they actually do to help out people. So this year, it's like looking for our leaders around campus."

When viewing the first round of applications for Captain of the Ship, Rubin said he looked for "good-worded" responses from applicants. He said he preferred individuals who have volunteered on their own instead of those who were required to volunteer because of the organization they are affiliated with.

Rubin said Captain of the Ship is an improvement over homecoming king and queen and a welcome change. He said in a college setting, everyone is an adult and more professional and the Homecoming Committee wanted to highlight the importance of on-campus leadership amongst the

ECU community.

"I think Captain of the Ship is a lot better than homecoming king and queen," Rubin said. "I'm not saying, 'oh, that's something in high school, that's something they should do.' But it's like a nice change."

Tiffany Robertson, senior special education adaptive curriculum major and winner of the 2021 spring semester Captain of the Ship title, said the program is an inclusive way to find a representative of ECU and what the university stands for regardless of organization affiliation and gender. She said the change from homecoming court to Captain of the Ship is a step in the right direction for ECU.

Aside from being inclusive, Robertson said it's important for individuals who run for Captain of the Ship to be relatable and willing to go out in to the community and make a difference. She said this characteristic is important because people in the community can recognize and know the individual cares for the ECU community and those which it surrounds.

"(It's important) for them (Captain of the Ship candidates) to be inclusive of everybody that they come in contact with. I think that they need to be relatable," Robertson said. "So I think that you need to be somebody that an alumni from 30 years ago can come up and talk to. I think that that's really important."

Robertson said she is excited for the next Captain of the Ship and she is glad ECU has kept the new tradition and that the university will continue it for years to come. She said her experience as Captain of the Ship has been an "amazing opportunity."

Robertson said Captain of the Ship helped prepare her for the future and her life post-graduation. Being Captain of the Ship helped her make connections with individuals and organizations within the ECU community due to her affiliation with Captain of the Ship.

"(Captain of the Ship) just shows that it's really important to make connections in life because that is basically how, in my opinion, you can grow as a person, is by having those connections and using those connections to help better yourself in better your community around you," Robertson said.



Tiffany Robertson

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

OUR VIEW

Action against mold growth must continue

After students have begun to report mold findings within East Carolina University residence halls, such as Clement Hall, it is important for Campus Living to continue to listen to student and parent concerns and take the necessary action to ensure student safety.

Mold can be linked to health concerns, especially for those who may have a high sensitivity, such as cough, itchy eyes, runny nose and other allergy-like symptoms, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website.

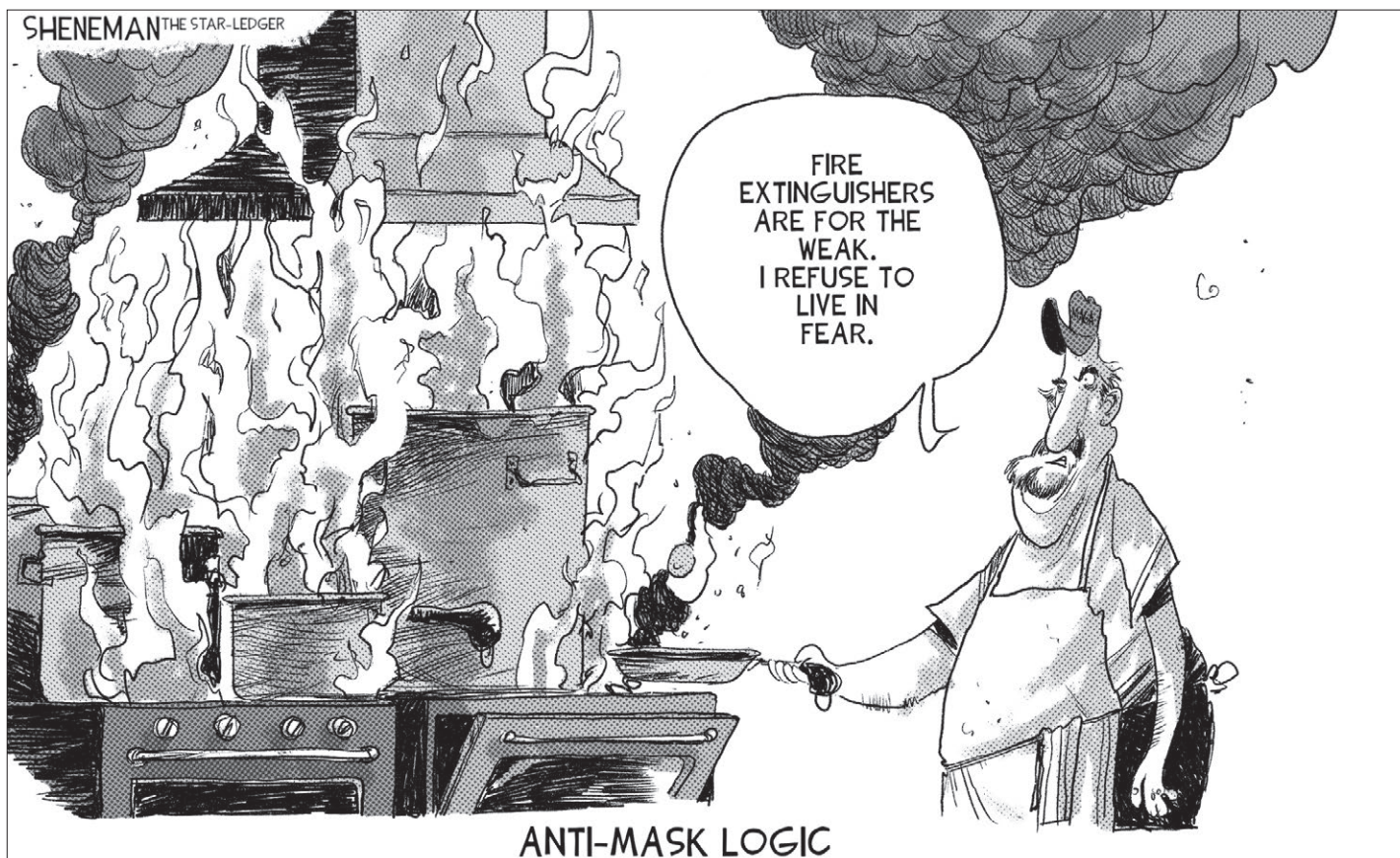
As students report mold findings and share this information with others, it's important to take preventative measures to ensure this does not spread and create additional issues.

East Carolina Campus Living should continue to be attentive to the mold concern in Clement as well as make sure other residence halls are following proper protocols to prevent mold growth. There needs to be action taken to remove these cases of mold at any mention of them by residences.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe that students deserve to be placed in the safest housing situation as possible during their campus living experience so that these concerns do not continue to arise.

As we continue on with the fall 2021 semester, students should continue to double check their room ventilation systems to ensure something is done in the case of a potential mold finding. Campus Living should not take reports and concerns lightly and implement safety checks throughout all residence halls on ECU's campus.

If safety checks were performed in all ventilation systems it would help ensure that every student in the residence halls is safe from mold or potential mold growth.



Apple products stay overpriced

Technological changes see minimal advancement



Graham Emmett
GUEST COLUMNIST

When Steve Jobs showed us the first-ever iPhone, it changed everything. The company he founded broke barriers by putting an entire computer into a mobile phone that fits in your pocket.

Within half a decade, nearly everybody had the internet, a calculator, a camera, an iPod and the entire world connected via social media in the palm of their hand. The innovation continued with optimized fingerprint ID, longer-lasting battery, upgraded batteries, a voice-activated virtual assistant and facial recognition.

Since then, Apple has released a new phone every other year. With each release, the progress became less and less exciting. We are now at the 13th generation of iPhones which was announced on Sept. 14. This year's upgrades for the most innovative tech line in the world are as follows: upgraded software and a notch that is 20% smaller — that's it.

These highly anticipated releases have lowered expectations of consumers to the point where small tweaks are enough to count as a new generation of phones.

In 2016, the iPhone 7 was announced to be absent of a headphone jack. Apple decided to manipulate the market and get everyone to go cordless so that we could buy their overpriced Bluetooth earbuds and headphones. Suddenly the price of earbuds went from about \$20 with cords to \$120 for Bluetooth earbuds. Understandably, the wireless AirPods aren't included with an iPhone, but not even wired earbuds

“Despite notoriously short battery life, fragile screens and irreparable hardware; hundreds of millions of people buy their products regularly for some reason.”

- Graham Emmett

are included anymore despite no reduced price. In 2012, you could buy your iPhone with earbuds, a charger with a wall adapter. If you buy an iPhone 12, you get the phone, a cord without the wall adapter and no earbuds of any kind.

In 2020 Apple stopped including the charging adapters with their phones. In the last few years, we no longer have the wall adapter for charging or any kind of earbuds in the box. This is great for the environment to reduce waste but it would be fair if the iPhone costs less because there are fewer accessories included. Apple clearly thinks it's OK to charge the same for less.

The next big move was the revelation that Apple was intentionally slowing down and throttling the batteries of older phones after the release of the new generation. Apple continues to slow down older models with software updates after the release of the next generation of devices. In response to this scandal, Apple began offering battery replacements for \$49 to \$69, depending on whether you have AppleCare+ or if it's in warranty. It would be much better, however, if they stopped slowing down devices altogether.

This is an enhanced version of what is called planned obsolescence. The term

“they don't make them like they used to” is 100% true because this is done intentionally for corporations to make more money. Nearly everything corporations do is to make more money. Planned obsolescence is when a product maker intentionally does not make something to last. They only want their products to last a limited amount of time so that you will continue to buy more of something that you wouldn't typically buy more than once unless it breaks or you lose it.

If there is any chance for Apple to make a little more money off its products, they will take it. They maximize their revenue through selfishness. That includes the difficulty third parties have with the tech giant.

A common notification we all might see on our phone will read “this accessory is not supported” when we plug in a non-Apple charger. They only like it when you use their own overpriced accessories.

Despite notoriously short battery life, fragile screens and irreparable hardware; hundreds of millions of people buy their products regularly for some reason.

Emmett is a senior majoring in communication and a guest columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

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Letter to the editor

Brewster Building requires attention

East Carolina University faculty have expressed concerns since 2019 regarding the safety of students along with the presence of asbestos in the Brewster Building linking several deaths among faculty who worked in the building, but today classes are still being held inside.

Reports reveal the cement crumbles falling from the ceiling onto students wasn't enough concern for the university to replace the building in prior years and the inspections following four deaths of faculty members from pancreatic cancer gave unclear answers. In 2019, ECU claimed the Indoor Environmental Assessment Report found no serious health concerns. However, the faculty has received emails to avoid B Wing, C Wing and D Wing because of asbestos mitigations during the summer sessions.

It is important to note the building only has four sections and most faculty offices are in A Wing, where the Environmental Assessment Report was performed, and classrooms are throughout the building.

On July 23, another professor died from pancreatic cancer: Kathy Jones.



The Brewster Building, which is located on ECU's main campus, remains under further investigation.

ECU may claim Brewster is safe, but it is not. If ECU's organizations have made requests for further assessment of possible toxins within the building, a case study analysis of severe illnesses among ECU faculty and a consideration to put Brewster at the top of the replacement list from the University of North Car-

olina System then there should not be classes held inside the building now.

Sincerely,

Emily Yates, ECU junior biology major and centennial fellow

EVENTS

TODAY

Fall into Poetry Reading

Black Box Theatre
511 E. Tenth St.
6 to 7:30 p.m.
252-328-5562

Puptoberfest

Christy's Euro Pub
301 S. Jarvis St.
5 to 10 p.m.
252-758-2774

TOMORROW

ECU Symphonic and Concert Bands

Wright Auditorium
1000 E. Fifth St.
7:30 to 9 p.m.
252-328-6851

Hawaii Themed

Wine Tasting

The Rickhouse
710 Red Banks Road
6 to 8 p.m.
252-689-6377

FRIDAY

Home: Exhibition Reception

Proctor-Yongue House
601 E. Fifth St.
5 to 8 p.m.
252-737-5444

Hank, Pattie and the Current

Proctor-Yongue House,
Front Porch
601 E. Fifth St.
5:30 to 7 p.m.
252-737-5444



East Carolina University homecoming banners will continue to be showcased around the basketball court in the Eakin Student Recreation Center throughout the week. HALLIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Banners showcase Pirate pride

Hannah Bolick
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's annual homecoming banner competition returned to the Eakin Student Recreation Center on Monday where the banners showcasing different organizations' interpretation of the homecoming theme, "Back to ECU," will hang for Homecoming Week.

Homecoming Committee Chair Savannah Boyd said banners were judged on Monday morning by faculty and staff judges. The top three banners in no particular order in groups of two are Chi Omega and Kappa Sigma, Alpha Delta Pi and Kappa Alpha and ECU Ambassadors and Alpha Omicron Pi. First, second and third place will be announced at the homecoming football game on Saturday. The top three banners will be hung in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

Photos of each banner are

posted on the ECU Homecoming Facebook page so anyone was able to cast their vote for the "fan favorite" banner.

Boyd said the purpose of the banner competition is to showcase Pirate pride. She said it is meant to show how appreciative the student body is to be back in person.

"(The banner competition is meant to) Represent the school and show everybody, whether that be alumni or other rival schools, just show everybody how proud we are to be a Pirate," Boyd said.

All the banners for the competition will remain on display for the duration of Homecoming Week in the Student Recreation Center.

The winning banners are usually clean, organized and incorporate the theme very well, Boyd said.

"The banners that we've gotten in the past have been so in-depth with little details that I would have never thought of putting up there and they think really outside the

box, which is awesome because no banner is ever the same, it's always completely different," Boyd said.

Junior sociology major Shelly Voyles is a member of the women's club soccer team and worked on the banner for her group. She said the team partnered with the men's club lacrosse team.

Voyles said their banner was based on the movie poster for "Back to the Future." It features the ECU Pirate logo and the Tulane University Green Wave mascot. The banner competition brings people from across campus together, Voyles said.

"It just gave us extra opportunities to hang out outside of practice and get to know one another because you know during practice we don't really get that much time to bond, we're focused on playing I guess," Voyles said. "So doing an extra activity gave us the time to each other on a personal level

and just have some fun outside of practice and games."

Junior psychology major Tiffany Fass said her sorority Alpha Xi Delta created a banner for the competition. Although she didn't personally work on the banner, she said with their design, they wanted to be sure they represented both Alpha Xi Delta and Alpha Tau Omega, the fraternity with which they partnered.

The banner includes images of both the Alpha Xi Delta and Alpha Tau Omega houses and various other campus landmarks with Pee Dee the Pirate driving a car on a road to Dowdy-Ficklen stadium.

"I think in the end it turned out very well and it really portrays what homecoming is all about, like bringing us all together," Fass said.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

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

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East Carolina University's Dance Team and Marching Pirates arrive to the Cannonball Kickoff. EMILY PEEK | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

KICKOFF continued from A1

ball Kickoff she likes to think of the event as an annual pep-rally. She said an event like the Cannonball Kickoff is important to the university as it promotes student involvement on campus.

While there are other ECU Homecoming events that organizations can participate in to win spirit cup points, Boyd said the Cannonball Kickoff is an event at which anyone can participate.

"It (the Cannonball Kickoff) lets students know that this is a university that cares about them and a university that wants to be as inclusive as possible," Boyd said. "I want to include all students, I want all students to feel like they are a part of this ECU family, they are a part of our Pirate Nation."

The event held a table where they gave away free homecoming T-shirts, as well as a table with free homecoming merchandise such as a fanny pack, a scrunchie and a pop-it fidget toy. Guests at the event could receive another free homecoming T-shirt and had the ability to tie dye it on the MCSC lawn.

Students lined up to receive their free T-shirts which both said "SGA presents back to ECU homecoming week fall 2021." Each of the lines extended beyond the Main Campus Parking Garage and were formed 30 minute prior to the T-shirt distribution.

ECU head football coach Mike Houston addressed the crowd of students and thanked them for their support at the last two home games. He thanked the Marching Pirates and ECU Dance team for what they do to keep the fans energized at games.

Houston said he was excited about this week's football game and he is thankful to

have fans back in the stadium at games. He said he encourages everyone to come out to support the Pirates at the homecoming game on Saturday.

"What a difference you made this past weekend. It was so great to have you back in the Boneyard, you made such an impact on the game. It makes such an impact on the atmosphere to have you there with us, yelling and screaming and cheering on our team," Houston said. "I just want to tell you how much I appreciate you and how much the team appreciates you."

Catherine Francis, a senior psychology major, said it was the first event she had attended since the semester started and she was excited to be back at an event in a normal, in-person format.

Francis said she is a member of the Moment of Magic club which is participating in the spirit cup competition so she is excited to see who wins at the end of the week. She said the Cannonball Kickoff event is a good way for students to meet one another and take their minds off of their academics.

"I think it really just helps connect people," Francis said. "I know in the years prior most of the time if someone was sitting alone people would join and be like 'Hey, can I join you?' I know I'm waiting for a few of my friends to get here but I mean it just kind of brings the fun back without it focusing on purely studies."



Catherine Francis

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7 — Home draws you in. Avoid travel, hassle or fuss. Hope bursts through again. Someone inspires you. Listen to intuition on domestic matters. Feed your crew.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Settle into peaceful privacy. Avoid chaos, crowds or noise. Adapt around changes. Ignore old worries, current frustrations or cynicism. Look for the best steps.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Resist the temptation to throw your money around. Tempers could be short. Avoid financial arguments. Set realistic goals. Collaborate for shared gain.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — *Attitude* a dream or vision. Use your persuasive charms. Consider proposals carefully. Welcome practical assistance. Share and connect. Sell an idea. Color works wonders.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Friends provide the loving support you rely on. Let them inspire you to follow a dream you'd forgotten. They remember what's important. Reciprocate.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 9 — Stay objective in a tense situation. Ensure that you and your partner are on the same page. Words could fail you. Share your care anyway.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Follow a profitable dream. Look beyond the obvious for clues to advance. Friends offer valuable support. Accept and share. Your influence is spreading.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Professional changes could seem unsettling. Words and energy could seem blocked at work. Provide stability. Follow routines. Dreamy opportunities come into focus. Prepare and plan.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — Adapt with changes, chaos or confusion. Slow to avoid accidents, risk or stress. Prioritize health and wellness. Nurture your body, mind and spirit.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 9 — The status quo gets disrupted. Dreamy personal opportunities get revealed. Don't get pushy. Wait for developments. Imagine and invent delicious possibilities. Write them down.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Pursue educational exploration from a comfortable location. Avoid travel, traffic and crowds. Reinforce basic elements of your idea or hypothesis. You can realize your vision.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Distractions abound. Avoid travel or noise and relax with beloved people and activities. Practice your creative talents. Investigate a mystery. Love is the answer.

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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BLISS

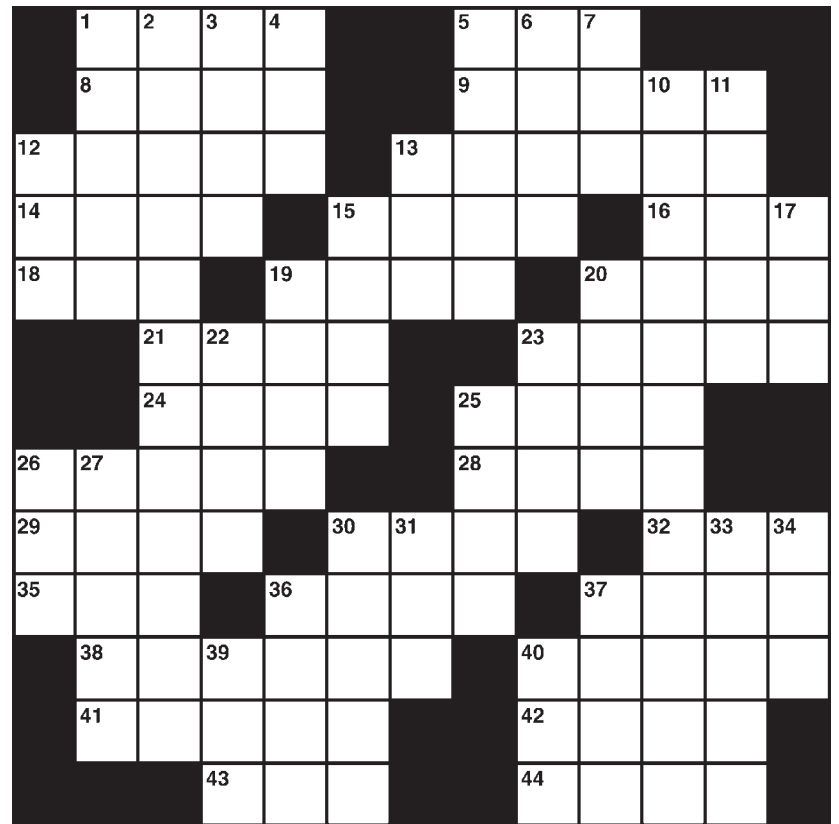


"Honey, why don't you tell Tony and Karen about your microdosing-healing-group thingy or"

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Carey or Barrymore
- 5 "Murder, ___ Wrote"
- 8 Sophia Loren's birthplace
- 9 "Teenage Mutant ___ Turtles"
- 12 Actor's first appearance
- 13 Sally Field sitcom
- 14 Shade trees
- 15 "Chicago ___"; Adam Arkin series
- 16 "___ Yes to the Dress"
- 18 Butterfly or Bovary: abbr.
- 19 Actress Blanchett
- 20 ___ of Capri
- 21 "The ___ Housewives of Beverly Hills"
- 23 "Men in ___"
- 24 Actor Malden
- 25 Cruise & Hanks
- 26 Michael or Arye
- 28 "___ the Wild Wind"; John Wayne film
- 29 Ms. Campbell
- 30 Durocher & Carroll
- 32 "This Is the ___"; James Franco movie

DOWN

- 1 "I ___ of Jeannie"
- 2 Actor on "NCIS: New Orleans"
- 3 Huge birds
- 4 Moist
- 5 Shoot from hiding
- 6 "___ and Seek"; Robert De Niro movie
- 7 Jamaica's official lang.
- 10 Actor on "Chicago Fire"
- 11 "___ of Two Cities"
- 12 Mr. DeLuise
- 13 "America's ___ Talent"
- 15 Monty or Arsenio
- 17 "___, Dear"
- 19 Lincoln & Ford
- 20 "___ la Douce"; Shirley MacLaine film
- 22 At ___; relaxed
- 23 Foot digits
- 25 Actor Donahue
- 26 Wildebeest
- 27 Auberjonois & Russo
- 30 Pop singer Frankie
- 31 Slip up
- 33 "The ___ Truth"; Téa Leoni series
- 34 Drunkard's woe, for short
- 36 West and others
- 37 Actor Kaplan
- 39 Peggy or Spike
- 40 Catherine Bell series

Solution from 09/22

A	L	L	D	I	A	N	A	P	B	S		
R	I	O	A	D	L	I	B	E	U	R		
M	S	G	K	O	A	L	A	A	R	T		
S	P	I	R	O	C	A	R	L	A			
S	C	O	T	T	B	A	K	U	L	A		
			D	A	R	I	N	G	S	P		
			A	L	G							
F	L	O	C	L	E	F	T					
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M	A	R	L	O				L	O	R	E	N
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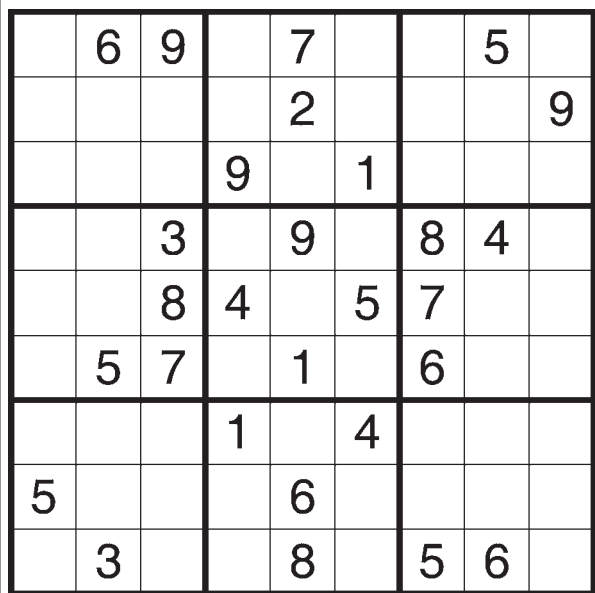
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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level
1 2
3 4



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, please visit sudoku.org.uk

Solution from 09/22

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

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EVERY FRIDAY

TEC 'sports

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's football matchup

Markayla McInnis

Sports reporter

@m3_mcinis



ECU vs Tulane on Saturday 10/2
Score Prediction?
ECU wins 38-31

Why? I think being at home is going to help.

Homecoming is going to be so loud and there's going to be so many people. I think with coming off of two wins, all the guys are excited to be getting into conference play and they are going to be determined to play all four quarters.

Brendan Cavazos

Sports editor

@bcvaz_xi

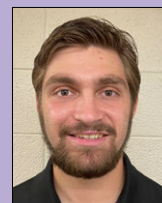


ECU vs Tulane on Saturday 10/2
Score Prediction?
ECU wins 28-14

Why? ECU will always have a great first quarter and come out in the second and do nothing. I think it's an area of concern that it flipped so easily against Charleston Southern and the Pirates weren't able to score in the first and fourth quarter. Moving forward, that's something ECU cannot do. The team needs to keep some consistency.

Max Lukas

News and sports reporter with WZMB



ECU vs Tulane on Saturday 10/2
Score Prediction?
ECU wins 24-21

Why? I think coming off of two wins,

looking and knowing they have to steal a win and they want to steal it early, I expect the Pirates to play very well against Tulane. In the past, ECU has proven it can throw against a Tulane defense so I think the offense need to rely more on the pass.



COURTESY OF ROB GOLDBERG | ECUPIRATES

ECU volleyball senior right side Bri Wood rises up to spike the ball against the University of South Florida opponents on Feb. 18.

ECU to host SMU, Memphis

Volleyball will compete for its first in-conference victory

Markayla McInnis
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University volleyball (5-6-0, 1-1-0 American Athletic Conference) will return home on Friday and Saturday to verse both Southern Methodist University (6-6-0, 2-0-0 AAC) and the University of Memphis (8-6-0, 1-1-0 AAC) to continue regular-season conference play.

As non-conference play ended Sept. 18, the Pirates went 1-1 in the first conference games of their season. ECU will verse SMU Oct. 1 at 6 p.m at Minges Coliseum followed by a noon game on Saturday against Memphis. The SMU game can be viewed on ESPN+ and the Memphis game will be broadcasted on ECUpirates.com.

SMU played Memphis and Temple University (4-9-0, 0-2-0 AAC) for the team's first conference games. The Mustangs were able to beat both teams 3-0 and 3-1. In four sets against Temple, the Mustangs weren't able to beat the Owls at first, but won the last three sets to bring the final to 3-1. The team was led by senior outside hitter Rachel Woulfe as she managed to achieve 16 kills and tied with

her personal best with seven block assists.

For Memphis, in its two games in the past week, the team lost to SMU 0-3 but were able to beat Temple 3-1. One team leader thus far this season has been senior middle hitter Miaya Smith. In the SMU game, she had two blocks and 11 kills. Against Temple, she got 12 kills and five blocks, which made this the eighth time this season she finished a match with double-digit kills.

So far for the Pirates this season, both senior right sider Bri Wood and senior outside hitter Natalie Tyson have continued to lead the Pirates in kills, blocks and digs throughout the games.

Against UCF, both women had six kills and Tyson managed to get two blocks in as well. In the USF win, Wood led all the players with 19 kills and a .364 hitting percentage. Tyson got a double-double in that game as she got 14 kills and 16 digs.

ECU and SMU have not faced each other

since Oct. 25, 2019. In that game, the Pirates were only able to win one of the four sets, which brought the end score to 3-1 in the defeat. Overall, the Mustangs have beaten the Pirates 15 out of the 20 matches in program history.

In the past, ECU has not had the upper hand with Memphis either, as the Tigers have beaten the Pirates 18 times while the Pirates have won only nine. On Oct. 27, 2019, the Pirates traveled to Memphis, Tennessee, and tied after four matches. In the fifth match, the score came close 13-15, but in the end, the Tigers came out with the win three games to two.

After these two match-ups, the Pirates will continue conference play for 16 more regular-season games. Those games will include SMU and Memphis again as each conference team will meet twice. Following the Memphis game, on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. ECU will remain at home to host the University of Cincinnati (6-4-0, 1-1-0 AAC).

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

TULANE continued from A1

the way that they battled back in the second quarter and got the lead at the halftime," head coach Mike Houston said. "You know, a little frustrated with some things there in the second half you know but a veteran coach once told me don't ever forget to celebrate a win so glad to get the win."



One Pirate who has continued to make plays on the field is freshman running back Keaton Mitchell. In the CSU game, he led with 126 yards gained which is 35 more yards than any other player on the field from either team. For Tulane, while the Green Waves began to catch up with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (3-1-0, 1-0-0 Conference USA)

in the second quarter, they weren't able to reach the Dragons' 28 when the clock hit zero. In the end, Tulane ended with a score of 28-21 in the Sept. 25 game.

"We've got to challenge ourselves, get better, there's no doubt about it," Tulane head coach Willie Fritz said, according to Tulane Green Wave. "There was a lot of things that we have to be honest with ourselves: where we're at, who is making good plays and who isn't making plays, what were good calls and what were bad calls."

For the Waves, freshman quarterback Michael Pratt was able to throw for 296 yards. Although he threw for the teams three touchdowns, he also threw for two interceptions. Redshirt sophomore running back Cameron Carroll leads the team so far this season with 134 rushing yards and has only been responsible for losing 10 yards.

The Pirates have started with junior quar-

terback Holton Ahlers as he has helped lead the team to its two wins. Ahlers has passed for five touchdowns and has run in two. In passing, he is almost at the 1,000-yard mark as he sits at 978 yards. Backup freshman quarterback Mason Garcia hadn't seen the field this season till CSU where he was able to get into the game for a red-zone play and get in a three-yard touchdown for his first seconds of the season.

After the Pirates host Tulane, they will get back on the road for more conference play. On Oct. 9 the team will travel to Orlando, Florida, to see the University of Central Florida (2-1-0, 0-0-0) as both teams will play its second conference game of the season. The game will kick off at 6 p.m. and be broadcasted on 107.9 WNCT-FM.

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



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