

The East Carolinian

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Faculty Author Awards celebrates achievements

Julia Lawson
TEC STAFF

Joyner Library hosted the annual Faculty Author Recognition Awards Ceremony in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery on Feb. 8 to celebrate the achievements of faculty members at East Carolina University who have had textbooks or novels published in the last year.

Jan Lewis, director of Academic Library Services, said she worked with a group of library employees, campus staff and students to find recipients for the awards and plan the ceremony.

"We invite not only the authors, but whoever they want to bring, (such as) family, friends, and then we move up the chain. So if they're in a department we invite their department chair, or if they're in a school the director of their school and then the dean of the college as well, it's a real celebration," Lewis said.

There is a separate awards ceremony for authors from the Health Sciences Campus, Lewis said, and this ceremony focuses on faculty who work on the main campus.

As director, Lewis said she will be hosting guests and welcoming them to the ceremony alongside ECU's Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Robin Coger.

"Faculty have said to us, especially when we first started it (the ceremony) that they often didn't feel like their books got much recognition and so this is one reason why we started it to fill in that gap and say we do appreciate you," Lewis said.

Jan Lewis

Joyner Library buys many of the books written and edited by faculty, Lewis said. She said during the ceremony all of the books receiving awards were put on display to be admired by colleagues, friends and family.

Lewis said the ceremony gives faculty authors a chance to be proud of their accomplishments and celebrate their dedication to advancing knowledge.

"It's impressive to see the range of topics that our faculty are researching and to see how devoted they are to their research and to the topic of interest which can seem pretty narrow to someone from the outside," Lewis said.

Charlotte Fitz Daniels, planner and coordinator for events at Joyner Library, said she has been planning the Faculty Author Recognition Awards Ceremony since she first began working at ECU in 2015.

> FACULTY page A2



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University community has recognized February as National Cancer Prevention Month with prevention awareness.

ECU community recognizes health February marks National Cancer Prevention Month

Kim Kassner
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This February, the East Carolina University community discusses National Cancer Prevention Month in an effort to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of cancer to help students, faculty and staff to reduce risk factors and live long and healthy lives.

Alice Rose Richman, professor for the College of Health and Human Performance, said many students don't think about cancer while in college due to their age. Even though students should be having a good time and enjoying life, Richman said, they should also take the time to think about their health.

"When you're young, you feel immortal," Richman said. "Even though cancer is not common among younger populations, there are many things young people can do to prevent having the disease in the future."

Unhealthy behaviors may include smoking tobacco products, taking drugs or diet pills, not exercising enough and having multiple unprotected sexual partners, Richman said.

Cancer is a slow growing disease, Richman said, which becomes more visible in later age. To be preventative, she said students can take early actions now to decrease their risk of getting sick.

"Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines are a great way to avert

cancer at a young age, for both girls and boys," Richman said. "You're supposed to get the vaccine at around 11 or 12 years old but getting the vaccine even later on during your life is beneficial."

Richman said the most important way to stay healthy is to be aware of one's body and its feelings.

A lot of issues can be found through touching or inspecting the body, Richman said. If someone is not feeling well, she said they should openly communicate it to their doctor.

"If we bring our health concerns to the open, are aware of ourselves and talk about things, then we're more likely to get treatment and get help early so that we don't have to deal with cancer," Richman said.

Students, faculty and staff who have a higher risk of cancer due to their family history should talk to their health care providers early on in their lives, Richman said.

Professor for the Department of Public Health Suzanne Lea said there are two concepts to avoiding cancer; avoiding exposure and early detection of the disease.

"Primary prevention is the concept to avoid exposures, activities and behaviors that are strongly linked to the development of cancer," Lea said.

One has to think of primary prevention as "a way to protect yourself," Lea

said. After making behavioral changes to protect the body, she said early detection can also be used to avert the chance of getting cancer.

Lea said the two components of early detection of the disease are early diagnosis and screening.

"Early diagnosis focuses on detecting symptomatic patients," Lea said. "Meaning once someone shows symptoms of cancer, they will be treated as quickly as possible."

For example, Lea said a mammography is a type of scan to detect breast cancer, Lea said. The screening can help find concerning changes or lumps in a woman's breasts, she said, treating the disease before it can travel throughout the rest of the body.

Breanna Guido, senior English education major, said she tries to be conscious about how she treats her body.

"I use sunscreen as much as I can," Guido said. "Apart from that, I go to my primary doctor regularly to ensure I don't have any abnormalities."

A family member of Guido passed away in 2009 because of cancer, Guido said, and it changed the way she views the disease.

"I try to use safe products in my day-to-day life that may help prevent cancer," Guido said.

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

Pirate softball opens season in Wilmington

Kiarra Crayton
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University softball (0-0, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) will compete in the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (0-0, 0-0 Colonial Athletic Association) tournament from tomorrow through Sunday for the teams' first games of the season in Wilmington, North Carolina, at Boseman Field.

The first day of the tournament, tomorrow, will be against Virginia Tech (0-0, 0-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) at 2 p.m. The teams will meet again on Saturday at 10 a.m.

The second game of the day on Saturday will be against Purdue University Fort Wayne (0-0, 0-0 Horizon League) at 12:30 p.m. ECU will face Purdue again on Sunday at 9 a.m. The only meeting against Wilmington is East Carolina's last game in the tournament on Sunday at 2 p.m.

East Carolina lost 4-2 to Virginia Tech in the teams' last matchup on Feb. 8, 2020. The first game the teams played each other in was on April 29, 2008 in which the Pirates were shut

out 11-0. Since the first game, the series record is 5-3 in favor of Virginia Tech.

There was only one game played against Purdue in ECU history which was on March 13, 2016 in Clearwater, Florida, where the Pirates won 5-1.

The history between Wilmington and the Pirates run deep, as the teams have met every season since 2005 except the 2014, 2019 and 2020 seasons. The first meeting between the teams was on Feb. 27, 2005. There were five games played between the teams during the 2005 season, where ECU took the season 4-1 against the Seahawks.

During the last game played between the teams on March 23, 2022, ECU lost 8-7 in Max R. Joyner Family Stadium.

There will be a separate game played later in the season on March 22 at 5 p.m. at Boseman Field against Wilmington.

East Carolina will start their conference play on March 24 at 4 p.m. against the University of South Florida (0-0, 0-0 AAC) in Tampa, Florida at the USF Softball Stadium. The series against South Florida will continue through March 26.

After the series against South Florida, the Pirates will play in a series every weekend until the last one against the University of Tulsa (0-0, 0-0 AAC) May 5 through May 7.

The American championship will be held May 11 through May 13 in Tampa, Florida. The University of Central Florida (0-0, 0-0 AAC) won the championship in 2022.

The next tournament for the Pirates will be the Battle at the Beach in Conway, South Carolina, Feb. 17 through Feb. 19.



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Taylor Smith winds up for a pitch.

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

ONLINE

» Check out our website for stories, photo galleries and more.

» POLL: Have you considered studying abroad?

SOCIAL MEDIA

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NEW PRINTING SCHEDULE

Due to changes with our printer's scheduling, The East Carolinian will begin releasing its print edition on Thursdays beginning 2/9/23. We look forward to continuing to provide you campus and community coverage throughout the week, both online and in print! Questions may be directed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

FEBRUARY

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BRIEFS

Circle K to hold interest meeting

Today, Circle K International will be hosting an interest meeting. The meeting will take place in room 1026 of the Bate building from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Planet ECU to hold GEO Talks discussions

Today, Planet ECU will hold student-led GEO Talk discussions from 3 to 4 p.m. in room 103A of the Austin building.

SGA to hold candidate meeting

Today, the Student Government Association will host a compulsory meeting for candidates to gain knowledge of election events and rules. The meeting will take place in the SGA conference room of the Main Campus Student Center from 7 to 8 p.m.

BSU to host business expo

Monday, BSU and the NAACP will hold The Annual Black Business Expo. The Expo will take place in Ballroom C of the Main Campus Student Center

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Emily Peek at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

CRIME LOGS

Editor's Note: The East Carolinian Crime Logs are derived from East Carolina University Police Department's (ECU PD) public crime logs accessible to all individuals. Crime Logs are done within the partnership of ECU PD and The East Carolinian, as this publication is meant to act as an additional resource for Pirate Nation. Below are listings of criminal activity that has occurred on or within proximity of main campus.

Jan. 30, 2023

On PVA North of Jenkins Art Building at 11:59 a.m., there was a Hit & Run-Failure to Stop cleared by citation.

Harassing Phone Calls were made at Greene Hall at 1:38 p.m. and there is still an open investigation following it.

Jan. 31, 2023

Larceny and Financial Transaction Card Fraud were found at Mendenhall at 4:30 p.m. and still has an open investigation following it.

Feb. 1, 2023

At the Sheetz PVA on 10th St. and Charles Blvd., there was a Warrant Service for Other Agency cleared by arrest at 11:33 a.m.

Feb. 2, 2023

Possession of Marijuana < 1/2 oz. and Possession of Marijuana Paraphernalia charges were cleared by citation (x2) on College Hill Drive Big Lot at 1:54 a.m.

At Ballard East Residence Hall Injury to Real Property was found between 8 a.m. and 10:28 p.m. and has an open investigation following it.

Faculty discuss medical marijuana

Eli Baine
TEC STAFF

As the North Carolina legislature prepares to discuss and vote on the NC Compassionate Care Act, a bill that would legalize medical marijuana in the state if passed, East Carolina University faculty discuss the benefits the bill could bring to the state.

The bill was submitted by Republican State Senator Bill Rabon to the Senate Clerk on Jan. 25 as the first bill to be introduced in the new session, according to the NC General Assembly website. The bill was approved by the state senate last year, but it was stopped in the Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Committee, according to the website.

Risk Management and Insurance Program Director Brenda Wells-Dietel said marijuana legalization is one of her areas of expertise. For a lot of people, Wells-Dietel said cannabis is a very useful medicine that makes certain illnesses easier to deal with. The uses of marijuana do not begin and end at getting the user high, Wells-Dietel said.

"It (marijuana) helps people with narcotic addictions, it helps nausea for cancer patients, it helps people with seizures to reduce the frequency and severity of the seizures that they have," Wells-Dietel said.

If the new legislation were to pass, Wells-Dietel said, NC would have to construct its own infrastructure to grow and distribute marijuana. In most states with medical marijuana, citizens receive "medical cards" from their doctors if they qualify for medical marijuana treatment, Wells-Dietel said.

A point of contention in the medical marijuana debate involved those suffering from

post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Wells-Dietel said. The NC Compassionate Care Act allows the use of medical marijuana for a list of illnesses and conditions, one of them being PTSD, Wells-Dietel said, and some do not consider the disorder to be a legitimate enough reason to use cannabis for treatment.

"I've known people with PTSD, and what they live through and go through most people just cannot understand and they don't try to," Wells-Dietel said. "If cannabis can help our military (with PTSD) and there is strong evidence that it might be able to in certain circumstances, why would you want to deprive them of that?"

Wells-Dietel said marijuana should be legalized at the federal level so it can be researched to find new uses of the drug. America cannot participate in this kind of research since marijuana is a schedule I controlled substance on the federal level, Wells-Dietel said.

The state of NC could also benefit economically from marijuana legalization, Wells-Dietel said.

"We're gonna tax the daylight out of it (marijuana)," Wells-Dietel said. "Colorado, to date, has brought in well over a billion dollars in tax off of marijuana. Imagine what that can do for our infrastructure, for our schools, for our roads, for our public universities. If handled properly, this could be a win even for people that don't need to consume cannabis. This could be a windfall for the state."

Director of ECU's Center for Survey Research Peter Francia said marijuana legalization is an overwhelmingly popular policy across the country and within the state.

Francia said 72% of NC voters are in favor of medical marijuana use, and 57% support recreational use, according to a WRAL poll he referenced. The posi-

tion is popular among both political parties, Francia said.

"We're over seven out of ten, getting close to three out of four, North Carolinians behind legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes," Francia said. "The point there is it's a very popular piece of legislation."

A large fear that people have of marijuana is it may be a gateway drug, Francia said. According to an ECU poll, Francia said 39% of Americans, or 81% of those opposed to marijuana legalization, believe marijuana is a gateway drug.

Age is one of the largest factors in marijuana legalization support, Francia said. 76% of millennials and generation z support marijuana legalization, and 76% of those born before 1946 oppose marijuana legalization, according to the ECU poll.

"I think certainly the direction of things has headed towards more liberal attitudes and policies towards the use of marijuana," Francia said. "I think you'll see some bipartisan agreement."

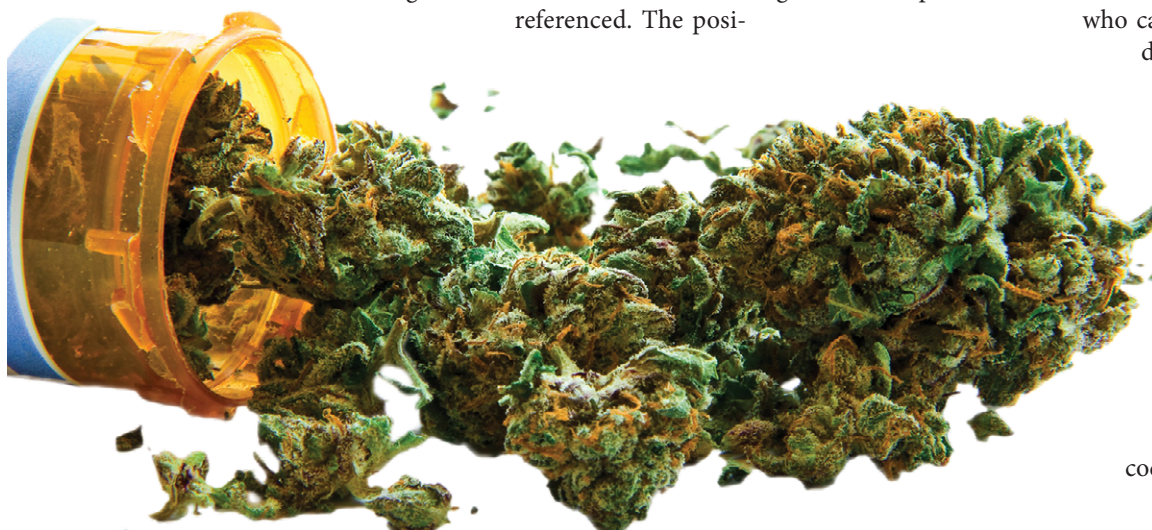
Political Science Assistant Professor H. Daniel Xu said North Carolina is one of few states that have not legalized medical marijuana at this point.

"After legalization of recreational use of marijuana in Colorado, there were studies showing that traffic accidents related to marijuana had not increased," Xu said. "The potential in decriminalizing marijuana could have benefits."

Cannabis can be used to treat a variety of illnesses, Xu said, and the NC Compassionate Care Act allows for people in need to get proper treatment while still being very restrictive in who can grow marijuana and who can distribute it.

Prescription opioids are a bigger issue than marijuana, Xu said. He said opioids are highly addictive and much easier to access.

"While many would believe that marijuana is a gateway drug that leads to drug addiction, an analysis I conducted shows drug overdoses have more to do with drugs like fentanyl or cocaine, not marijuana," Xu said.



COURTESY OF DREAMSTIME | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES

Faculty have discussed benefits that could come from NC potentially legalizing medical marijuana.

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

FACULTY continued from A1

Fitz Daniels said planning for the event typically lasts throughout the year as her team researches the members of ECU's faculty who qualify for receiving the award.

"Many months before the awards ceremony, I book the calendar for the awards ceremony and I make sure our Provost and any other stakeholder who needs to attend the ceremony and participate in presenting awards, I make sure we have a day for that, that works for everyone," Fitz Daniels said.

This year there is a new category being introduced to the awards ceremony, Fitz Daniels said, where faculty members who wrote an affordable textbook will also be receiving an award.

Fitz Daniels said the event is not an open invitation but faculty members and their families are invited to celebrate their achievements.

"We have it (the ceremony) in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery so we make sure the gallery has beautiful artwork and we set it up so it's in a lecture-style seating," Fitz Daniels said.

The faculty deserves to know how much their hard work is appreciated, Fitz Daniels said, and she is glad her work to plan this ceremony helps faculty to know their work is valued.

"The one thing faculty always say to me is that they're so honored to be recognized because they work so hard and I realize a lot of times they're not getting a pat on the back or that recognition they really deserve," Fitz Daniels said.

Teaching Professor of English Christy Hallberg said she is being recognized at the awards ceremony for her debut novel "Searching for Jimmy Page," which was published by Livingston Press/University of West Alabama in October 2021.

Hallberg said her novel is about an 18-year-old girl, Luna Kane, from eastern North Carolina traveling to London in search of her alleged father, the lead guitarist for Led Zeppelin, Jimmy Page.

"It's such an honor (to be recognized) because I've been teaching at ECU in the English department for 23 years, and I got my B.S. and my M.A. in English from ECU, so the university and I go way back," Hallberg said.

Born and raised in Greenville, North Carolina, Hallberg said ECU has always been a significant part of her life since her father, S. Rudolph Alexander, was the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at ECU for many years.

Hallberg said the Faculty Author Recognition Awards are significant to student recruitment because prospective students know they would be attending a university with knowledgeable professors.

"It's important for faculty, especially people who are writers to get their work out there and to get the university's name out there because we want students to want to study with us," Hallberg said.

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

Study abroad programs approach 2023 deadlines

Kim Kassner
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As deadlines approach for a number of summer and fall study abroad programs, East Carolina University staff and students reflect upon the educational opportunities and experiences offered by going abroad.

Erin Taylor, ECU education abroad coordinator, said the Global Affairs Office offers three different types of study abroad programs for students.

"The first type we offer are faculty-led programs which involve traveling abroad with a group of students led by a professor," Taylor said.

The second and third option, Taylor said, is studying abroad for one semester or one whole school year. She said this option is split in two different categories: the experience can either be done in the form of an exchange program or a direct program.

With an exchange program, Taylor said students pay the tuition costs they would normally pay to study at ECU.

"With the direct program, this is where the students enroll at the university of their choice abroad," Taylor said.

For Blair Beaulieu, sophomore nursing major, she said her study abroad took place in Antigua, Guatemala. She said she choose the professor-led program to spend three weeks overseas learning Spanish and doing social work.

Beaulieu said the reason why she chose Guatemala as her destination was because she wanted to combine her passion for nursing with gaining knowledge of a new culture.

"There are not a whole lot of study abroad opportunities for nursing students," Beaulieu said. "When I saw this program, which is kind of nursing oriented by serving others through community and social work, while learning a new language, I knew I wanted to go."

During her time in Guatemala, Beaulieu said, she lived with a Span-

ish speaking host family. She said she couldn't speak Spanish and therefore didn't understand what the family said verbally, but still enjoyed the experience a lot.

Beaulieu said taking Spanish lessons in the morning until the early evening every day helped her understand the people and culture of Antigua better. After a couple of days, she said she was able to pick up words and have smaller conversations.

"At the beginning it was a lot harder for me to understand the language," Beaulieu said. "But I think just knowing the people around me were okay with me not being able to speak their language, made me feel better. It allowed me to experience some things a lot deeper than some of my other classmates because I didn't have that language aspect involved. I would often just listen and watch, but through that I learned so much."

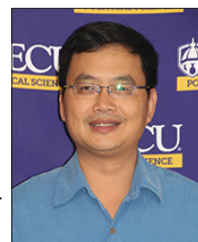
Abby Mountz, sophomore speech and hearing sciences major, said she will be going on a semester abroad to Tuscany, Italy for three months starting this February. She said she decided to go to Italy when she attended ECU's Honors Pirate Abroad Admitted Students Day.

"At the event, there was an entire session dedicated to studying abroad and we were able to ask students what their experiences were like," Mountz said. "I met a girl that had done the ECU Tuscany program and spoke so highly of it. I knew right then and there I needed to do it."

Mountz said she has been spending a lot of time preparing to go abroad. She said one of her sorority sisters went to Tuscany last spring and she's been seeking advice from her.

"I'm excited to see everything else that the world has to offer," Mountz said. "I'm hoping that our group will all get really close and stay friends afterwards."

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



Daniel Xu

OUR VIEW

Black history should be year-round

Every year February comes and goes, people say “Happy Black History Month,” and then move on from educating themselves on March 1, but it is time to change that pattern.

Throughout grade school, students learn about the work of Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks and their activism for the Black community. Yet there is a large number of historical and current figures that should be referenced in the classroom as well.

What about the Black inventors whose products we still use in our everyday lives? What about Garret Morgan, who patented the three-light traffic light? Frederick McKinley Jones, who developed the refrigerator? Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner, who contributed the sanitary belt, the toilet tissue holder and more?

We, the Editorial Staff of The East Carolinian, believe that Black history should be recognized every day, not just 28 days at the beginning of the year, or when an injustice happens.

Schools should do more than scratch the surface when teaching Black history, as it does and has always impacted American history and society. Black people should not only be put on the news when they are being killed or arrested. Their awards, inventions, protests and more should be seen and understood by the world.

It is 2023, and Black people are still seen as less than because of the institutional racism in this world. There is still a long way to go to fight for complete equality and “justice for all.”

In the meantime, Black history should not only be taught for the month of February, but appreciated 365 days a year.

PIRATE RANTS

The East Carolinian does not endorse the statements made in Pirate Rants.

Something has to change with the mail system at ECU. When a package is overnighted to the campus and then they take 3 days to process it, defeats the purpose!! Ridiculous. Out of state students pay way to much for such poor service.

We all better come together to protect these robots. If something happens to one of them, I think the perpetrator should be forced to spend the day delivering food all around campus ON A RAINY DAY. These robots exist solely to make people's lives easier. Don't bully them. Keep them SAFE, ECU.

I wanna tip over these robots.

This whole pay for parking situation is ridiculous. Especially around downtown? Change it, immediately.

If ignorance is bliss, most of Pirate Nation is happier than ever.

Why must middle schoolers tour the dining hall at peak lunch hours?

I like it whenever they hand out paper straws at the Student Center. Makes me feel like I'm making a difference in the world whenever I buy from Starbucks or Panda Express. It also makes the food more tolerable in a way. Sustainability!

Why is the Asian Students Association so inactive? I NEED to connect with my Asian homies. Can't just walk up to people and talk to them because that would be really awkward...

Questions regarding Pirate Rants can be directed to Breanna Sapp at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Submit your Pirate Rants on our website under the opinion tab or scan the QR code.



COURTESY OF THE CLIMATE REALITY PROJECT | UNSPLASH

Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN)'s women's sports extension, ESPNW, was founded by the platform back in 2010.

Everything wrong with ESPNW

A Clavijo Conversation



Abbie Clavijo

TEC COLUMNIST

As a woman aspiring to work in the sports industry and an avid sports fan, much of my social media feed consists of accounts like Entertainment and Sports

Programming Network (ESPN), the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the National Football League and Sports Center.

However, as I was scrolling through the endless posts about Tom Brady's (second) retirement, a post about NCAA Field Hockey Icon and University of North Carolina alumna Erin Matson caught my eye.

The post was associated with the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Network and an extension of ESPN labeled ESPNW. ESPN's own post about Maston's new position as head coach of UNC's women's field hockey team was also associated with ESPNW. She is an athlete, the best in program history to be specific, and yet these platforms still feel the need to separate her and other incredible female athletes from their male counterparts.

Why are female sports achievements marketed to be directed at other females but male sports achievements directed toward everyone? I am all for “girls supporting girls,” but this separation only sets us back further. People begin to view women's sports as something simply for women only.

It would be different (but not necessarily better) if the separate platforms were both differentiated. For example instead of it being ESPN, adding an “M” to it to indicate that it is for men. Without the “M,” ESPN is marketed as being for everyone and ESPNW still stands alone as a platform made solely because our society has felt the need to make women in sports, completely separate from men.

I know that I cannot speak for all women but I, as a woman, don't want separate platforms targeted at me. What I want is inclusion. What I want is to see women in sports grouped with men in sports together, on one platform as equals.

I understand that women's sports are not as popular, which is the reason for the separate platforms. This does not mean that I am in any way satisfied with this. I feel that women's sports are not as popular because we separate them from men's in so many ways, my least favorite being in team names. We don't call men's teams The Male Panthers because it just sounds stupid. But for some reason The Lady Lakers has been deemed acceptable.

In addition to this, there is the issue of the media.

I remember once I was watching a collegiate gymnastics meet on TV. The meet wasn't on during prime time, it was maybe 1 or 2 p.m., but the second a NCAA basketball game started, coverage of the meet was

cut short and the men's basketball game was televised in its place.

Working in the media has allowed me to understand that often, we post coverage of things that are proven to get views, which was no doubt the reasoning for replacing the coverage of a women's gymnastics meet with a men's basketball game. But like I said before, men's sports get more views because we do not give the same attention to female athletes in any sense.

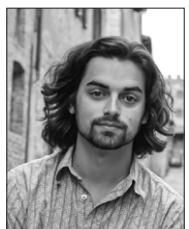
I have heard the argument that separate platforms for women's sports and female sport fans such as ESPNW are merely a step in promoting gender equality within the world of sports. However, the ESPNW platform, founded back in 2010, has been around for over a decade. That's one massive stepping stone if you ask me.

If you truly feel that these platforms allow for equality, be so incredibly for real. Stop and look at the bigger picture and I mean really look at it. This is not equality. Not even close. If anything it is driving us further from it.

We cannot call it equality until there is no distinction between ESPN and ESPNW, until I see women's sports on my screen during prime time and so much more. The question is: what are we going to do to get there?

Clavijo is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact them, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

To truly be in love is to be vulnerable, human



Drew Shugart

GUEST COLUMNIST

To live convivial lives, we must respect the harmony of nature, people and metaphysics with love at the core because it is not for ourselves alone that we are not born.

Yes, we may be faster alone, but we go further together. Love is a treacherous road with a thin silver lining and we, as individuals, must uncover the truth of how to play the most dangerous game.

To be in love is ugly. To be in love is painful. To be in love is frightening.

It makes you question who you are and what is important to you. It makes you distance yourself from the people closest to you. It makes you doubt everything you have ever known about yourself. To be in love is to do and say things you never thought you would ever do in your life.

To be in love is addicting. To be in love

“ That is what it truly means to be in love. It means to look forward to being fragile, weak, and vulnerable.”

-Drew Shugart

is harsh. To be in love is vulgar.

It's human nature to be driven to find love. As entities, we cannot cope without constantly contemplating that cruel and cantankerous viper; hoping that it strikes us and clings to our core.

Love is, simply put, terrifying. So, it is no wonder that we do not do it alone. We share the experience with the people that makes the viper's venom feel like hope spreading and seeping into our very souls.

To be in love is to let someone pick at your inner workings as the Vulture picks at Prometheus: an endless cycle of pleasurable, painful progress in which

patience is paramount.

That is what it truly means to be in love. It means to look forward to being fragile, weak, and vulnerable. To lay your soul in the hands of someone with the people to crush you in an instant.

To be in love is to trust them not to.

To be in love is to be human, and to be human is to be flawed. May everyone experience the epitome of being human.

Shugart is a senior double majoring in political science and international studies and a guest columnist. To contact them, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 500 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Did someone say FREE?

Looking for a roommate or a sublease?
Got something for sale?
ECU students can submit a classified for **FREE!**
Contact smaa@ecu.edu for more information.



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Accept an offer of assistance. Your partner's view is important. Find solutions in conversation. Develop shared commitments for lasting benefits. Strengthen bonds with common cause.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — Monitor conditions and share. Bad news travels fast. Someone blurts out the truth. Speak your mind. Frank discussion reveals unconsidered options, connections and solutions.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 — Share support with a community or team challenge. Build a bucket brigade to bail someone out. When many contribute a little, resources abound.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — Balance work with rest to avoid burnout. Solve a breakdown. Catch as much sleep as you can. A busy phase has you hopping. Take frequent breaks.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Simplify to adapt around a shortfall or unexpected expense. Monitor accounts to maintain positive balances. Nurture your garden for future growth. You've got this.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Proceed with caution at work. Adapt around a complication. Get support when needed. Collaborate with talented friends. Get expert advice. Patiently implement solutions.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Provide support for someone you love. Listen in solidarity. Bear witness. Provide tea and comfort, play games or share silent companionship. Walk together.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Pamper yourself. Relax with hot water and bubbles. A personal challenge can feel draining. Indulge your own interests and curiosities. Peaceful moments are restorative.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — Take a refreshing pause in your educational journey, if you can. Traffic, delays or breakdowns could disrupt travels. Consider online classes or meetings.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Enjoy the comforts of home. Clean house and clear space. Fix any breakdowns. Cook up something delicious with your household. Choose the simplest option.

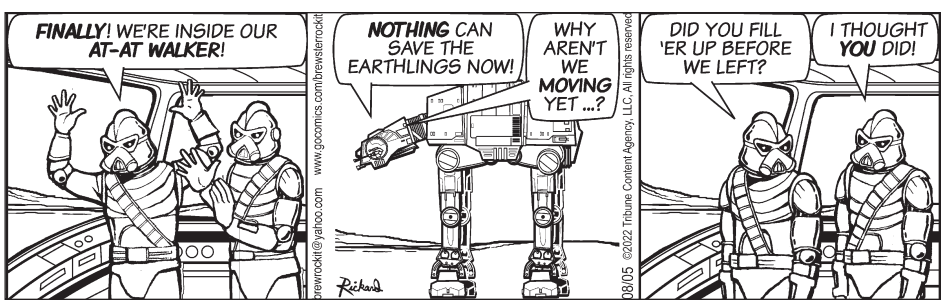
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7 — Balance emotion with reason. You could feel especially sensitive. Take quiet time to process recent events. Savor routines and rituals. Write or record your thoughts.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Collaborate to address extra shared expenses. Pull together to overcome a temporary financial challenge. Avoid arguments. Patience and determination can save time and money.

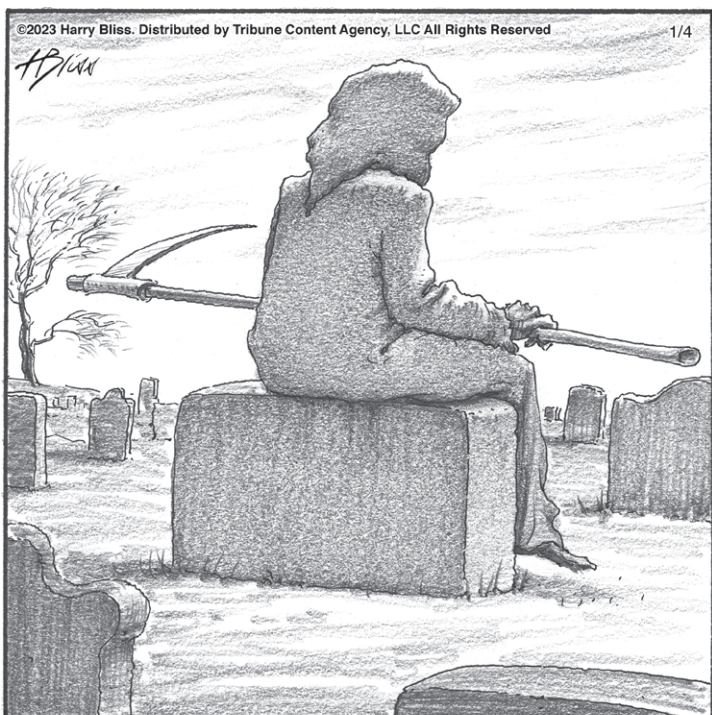
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



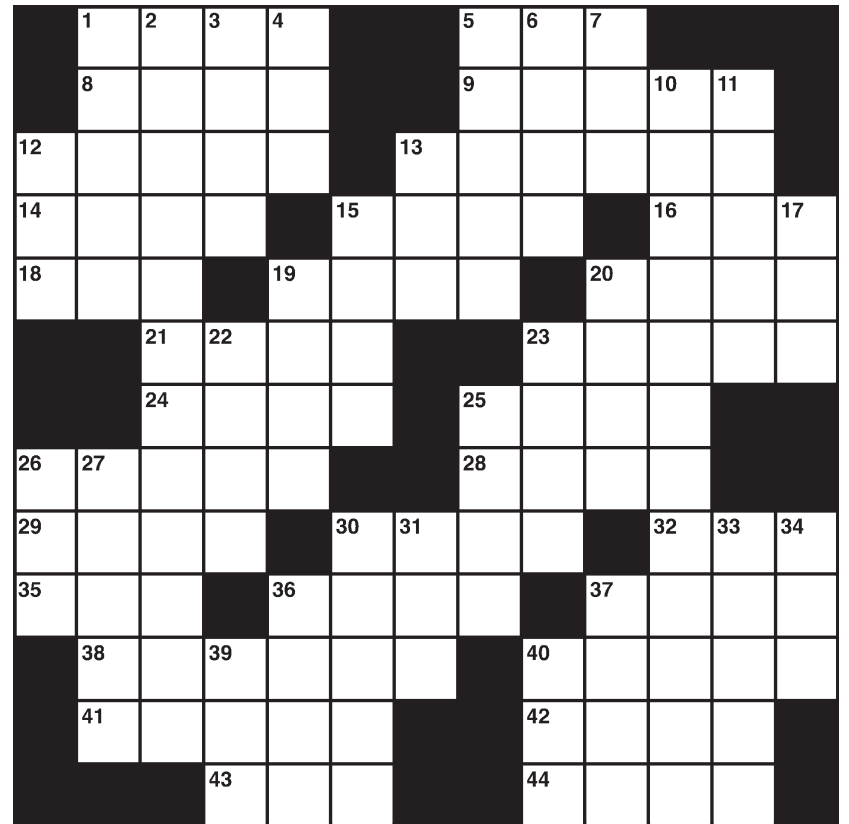
BLISS



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 ___ Savvic; actress on "Big Sky"
- 5 ___ Lim; role on "FBI"
- 8 "___ Wolf"; popular 2011-17 MTV series
- 9 Trudy ___; "Chicago P.D." role
- 12 Kelly of "The O.C."
- 13 Role on "Fantasy Island"
- 14 "Two and Half Men" role
- 15 Airhead
- 16 Steiger or Stewart
- 18 "A Nightmare on ___ Street"
- 19 Allen & Daly
- 20 Athletic shoe brand
- 21 "Beat it!"
- 23 Role on "Ghosts"
- 24 Where Graceland is located: abbr.
- 25 Sitcom for Sherman Hemsley
- 26 "Men in ___" (2006-08)
- 28 Beyond risqué
- 29 "___ Copy" (1989-99)
- 30 Canter or gallop
- 32 List-shortening abbr.
- 35 "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's ___"

- 36 Author Leon
- 37 "___ Man"; movie for Robert Downey Jr.
- 38 Actor James ___
- 40 Lee or Alexander
- 41 Shed crocodile tears
- 42 "___ the Sun in the Morning"; Irving Berlin song
- 43 Stir-fry dish
- 44 Nights we watch "Ordinary Joe": abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Coral island
- 2 Series for Ryan Eggold
- 3 Stapleton or Smart
- 4 Ms. Jillian
- 5 Apple tablets
- 6 Singing voice
- 7 "The ___ King Cole Show"
- 10 Actress on "NCIS: Hawaii"
- 11 ___ fancy to; liked from the git-go
- 12 Charlotte ___
- 13 Role on "Home Economics"
- 15 Singer Celine
- 17 Busiest mo. at the mall
- 19 Great quantity
- 20 Vane letters
- 22 Pay attention to
- 23 "How ___ Your Mother"
- 25 MacGraw & Larter
- 26 "___ West Wing"
- 27 "Home on the ___"
- 30 "My Big Fat ___ Wedding"
- 31 "The Fresh Prince of Bel-___"
- 33 Sounds from a ferry's horn
- 34 "The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer" network
- 36 "Do ___ others..."
- 37 Villain in "Othello"
- 39 "Pretty Maids All in a ___"; Rock Hudson film
- 40 Belushi or Carrey

Solution from 2/09

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

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level
1 2
3 4

5	4							
	3	9	2				1	
	2		1		6	9		
		6						
1			6	4				3
					9			
	3		4			8		
	7		9	1	3			
			8	5		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 02/01

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

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EVENTS

TODAY

Black Creatives of Pitt County at ECU

ECU Proctor Yongue House
601 Fifth St.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(252) 328-6131

Call for Artworks- Fine Arts Ball

Greenville Museum of Art
802 S. Evans St.
11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
(252) 758-1946

Trivia

5th Street Hardware Restaurant
120 W. Fifth St.
7 to 9 p.m.
(252) 364-8921

TOMORROW

"We.Are.HereStory" Presented by the Black Theatre Makers Guild

Greenville Museum of Art
802 S. Evans St.
5:30 to 8 p.m.
(252) 758-1946

African American Music Series

Emergy Gallery and Art Center
404 S. Evans St.
7 to 9 p.m.
(252) 551-6947



Senior music performance major Eric Friedlander practices on the tuba, which is one of the brass instruments that is to be played at this evening's recital.

Meridian Arts Ensemble visits ECU

Martha Nebab
TEC STAFF

The North Carolina NewMusic Initiative at East Carolina University will host the Meridian Arts Ensemble recital tonight from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall, featuring a variety of both new and old classical pieces on brass instruments.

Jon Nelson, the founder of the Meridian Arts Ensemble and trumpet player, said he started the ensemble in 1987. Over the years, the ensemble made semi-regular visits to ECU to meet with former professor of composition Ed Jacobs, Nelson said. With the current recitals, Nelson said he now meets with the current professor of composition Travis Alford to organize the visit.

Under the North Carolina NewMusic Initiative, a program started by Ed Jacobs at ECU, Nelson said the ensemble plans on teaching master classes to brass and composition students aside from hosting the recital and rehearsals.

"The NewMusic Initiative is an initiative to promote music of living composers and especially music of young composers," Nelson said. "So we'll be playing music of more established living composers at our recital, in addition to working with the student composers while we're there."

Tom Curry, a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said he recently joined the Meridian Arts Ensemble in June 2022 and is a tuba player.

During the recital, Curry said the ensemble will first perform a piece called "Saóko" by Cuban-American composer Tania León. Then, the ensemble will perform a set of songs from the 20th century, including pieces by composers Arvo Pärt and Igor Stravinsky.

"We then go to a piece from a piano sonata by Samuel Barber," Curry said. "We'll also be playing a set of Joseph Haydn's 100-year-old pieces, but to situate it in a new music concert will make it very fresh. From there, we have a piece that one member of the group wrote, Daniel Grabois. We finish with Frank Zappa, a really obviously monumental figure of the 20th century and somebody the group has an interesting close relationship with."

During rehearsals and recordings, Curry said brass players are always challenged by their pieces because they have to make the sound with their lips and "vibrate" their faces in order to play their instrument.

In the end, Curry said he hopes to share his

connection to the music with the audience.

"It can be really tricky when the music is something they've never heard of, where you've practiced it and you've rehearsed it and you know this music so well but the audience is probably listening to it for the first time," Curry said. "It's always about establishing a connection with the audience, to get them to understand why you like the music you're playing so much."

Curry said the Meridian Arts Ensemble helped to shape the fairly new genre of brass quintet music.

Daniel Grabois, the ensemble's french horn player and also a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said that his participation in the Meridian Arts Ensemble has profoundly impacted his career as a brass player.

"Meridian has probably been the most important artistic outlet for me in my career," Grabois said. "The thing about playing in a group like that is you have control over what you play, you get to decide how to play it."

The ensemble has a longstanding relationship with ECU, Grabois said, where he feels close to the university.

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

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EVENT SCHEDULE

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Thursday

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SoM to host soloist, Symphony Orchestra

Martha Nebab
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's School of Music (SoM) will host the Symphony Orchestra ensemble and soloist Catherine Gardener for a free concert at the Wright Auditorium on Saturday from 7:30 to 9 p.m., where audience members can enjoy orchestral classical pieces, vocal solos and cello performances.

Gardener, ECU's assistant professor of voice, said she sings classical and orchestral music as a soprano. As a soloist, Gardener said she's been performing for over 20 years.

Towards the end of the concert, Gardener said the performance will be unique because of how the cello ensemble will perform separately from the symphony ensemble for a few of the songs.

"Usually it's a soprano with a piano and maybe a wind instrument, or you have a smaller ensemble with a whole bunch of different instruments," Gardener said. "But it'll be fun to have some really high notes with these strings that are kind of rich and low and mellow."

Gardener was invited to perform with the symphony orchestra by Jorge Richter, professor of conducting, she said. The ensemble, Gardener said, will perform a few pieces by Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos.

It was challenging to learn the Portuguese lyrics of "Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5," Gardener said, since it's in a language she doesn't teach in her diction classes. But with the help of Richter, Gardener said she was able to practice the pronunciation of certain words and to emphasize the meaning of others.

"The text is in Portuguese, and I've never sung anything in Portuguese. It's less common so I had to work, so I'm still working to make it all authentic," Gardener said. "I'm still getting comfortable, thinking about how I wanna interpret it, where I wanna be loud, where I wanna be soft when I wanna sing the feeling behind it all."

Gardener said it was challenging for her to rehearse other pieces because she had to introduce herself to the songs she'll perform again.

Besides the symphony orchestra conductor, Gardener said she'll also be collaborating with cello professor Emanuel Gruber on a duet and Gruber's solo portion of the concert.

Gruber, cello professor in ECU's string department, said he'll be playing "Ária (Cantilena)" from "Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5" with Gardener, along with another student composer Kaila Phillips.

"Kaila will play the opening where Catherine, myself and Kaila will play the same song," Gruber said. "Then the second part of the song of the first movement, I'll play it myself. And in the third part of the movement, the singer will hum it and I'll play on top of it."

Gruber said he's looking forward to playing with the students from his studio, where he said he hasn't had an opportunity to play with them very often.

Kristina Roller, a junior music performance major, said the concert will be a new experience because she hasn't done any separate cello ensemble performances before. Roller said she's always performed as an extension of the symphony orchestra and is looking forward to playing with Dr. Gardener as "chair 3," where she has to mirror Gardener's soprano voice and sound.

"We've had maybe nine or 10 rehearsals so far, but we've only rehearsed with Dr. Gardener just twice, and I'm pretty sure that's all we get. And that's more for our sake, not hers," Roller said. "She's such an intuitive musician to play with. It really helps me to get to hear exactly how she was doing certain things so that I can bounce off of what she was doing."

Roller said this specific concert will be fun to attend for people who've never been to a SoM concert before.

The program consists of shorter pieces such as Luigi Cherubini's "Ave Maria" that audience members may enjoy more compared to longer pieces, Roller said.

"I know my attention span is really short as a young person in this day and age where everything is so immediate," Roller said. "So a concert with these shorter pieces is actually more enjoyable to listen to for someone who is not used to coming to a classical music concert."

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



Catherine Gardener

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TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

Chris Long
Sports Chief

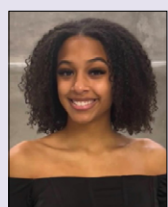


ECU Men's Basketball vs Tulane on Saturday Score Prediction?

Tulane 73 - ECU 58
Why? These are two teams sitting at opposite ends of the conference.

Tulane is firmly in second place in the American with an overall 15-7 record. The Pirates have struggled in conference, so defeating this squad will be tough.

Kiarra Crayton
Sports Reporter



ECU Men's Basketball vs Tulane on Saturday Score Prediction?

Tulane 78 - ECU 63
Why? East Carolina is coming off a needed win to stay at .500 but Tulane averages 81 points per game.

This one is out of reach for ECU. The Pirates will need another high scoring game like their previous against SMU to keep it close.

Team Boneyard near funding goal

Donors raise \$200,000 for NIL college athletes so far

Chris Long
TEC STAFF

Team Boneyard, a funding initiative created by East Carolina University alumni, donors, fans and former athletes, has amassed over \$200,000 in funding for Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) opportunities for Pirate athletes, setting a goal of \$300,000 in donations by March 1, 2023.

Co-founded by Vern Davenport, Travis Burt and Henry Hinton, Team Boneyard is unaffiliated with ECU or its athletics program directly.

NIL has changed the landscape of collegiate sports, giving student athletes the ability to profit off of themselves and their image. Previously, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) did not allow players at the collegiate level to make money as a college athletics. That changed in 2021 when the Supreme Court of the United States ruled unanimously to legally bar such restrictions.

The ability for college athletes to make money based on their brand, in conjunction with the NCAA removing the probationary year of entering the transfer portal, has turned the transfer portal into free agency, mostly for football and basketball student athletes. Players now have the ability to seek the best opportunity for themselves, which raises the need for NIL funding.

“College athletics is rapidly changing and the creation of this collective on behalf of ECU Ath-



East Carolina University football mascot Pirate Steve hypes up the crowd.

letics is critical to our continued competitiveness,” Davenport wrote in a press release. “This collective will provide a trusted, compliant marketplace for Pirate Nation to successfully engage with ECU Student Athletes.”

In short, for an athletics program to compete at the highest of levels, teams will need more

than great coaching. They will also need great funding not only to attract new talent, but to retain talent as well.

Team Boneyard set its initial goal at raising \$300,000 by March 1, 2023. Bill Clark Homes kick-started the fund with a \$100,000 donation but the collective has amassed over \$200,000 already

as of Jan. 20. With less than a month to go on their goal, Team Boneyard is over two thirds of the way, making pace to reach their target.

Other major gifts include locally-owned Bagelman, which donated \$50,000, and locally-owned Sup Dogs, which donated \$10,000. Student athletes receive 100% of the money donated to Team Boneyard, as the collective's members fund the operational expenses.

“As a part of their donation, ECU athletes will be required to promote the businesses. Students can reap these benefits through autograph signings, social media promotions, charity events, special appearances, product endorsements, commercials and more. Businesses can also create separate, individual NIL deals with student athletes apart from their donations.

Though it is an opportunity for student athletes to make money, NIL cannot be used as a recruitment tactic through the university per NCAA's rules. However, third party collectives may be taken into consideration during the recruitment process.

To join the collective, fans and donors can visit Team Boneyard's website and choose to donate either annually, monthly or as a one time gift. Funds can be given directly to a particular player or sport, or may be added to the collective as a whole. Donations made to Team Boneyard are not tax deductible.

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

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