



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

All three tickets met in the Main Campus Student Center last Thursday to introduce their plans to the student body community.

## SGA 2023 election polls now open

**Kim Kassner**  
TEC STAFF

During the Student Government Association (SGA) presidential debate last Thursday, three tickets introduced themselves and their initiatives for the offices of president and vice president for the 2023 election at East Carolina University.

President and vice president candidates are as follows:

**Ticket One:**

President candidate - junior political science major Javier Limon

Vice president candidate - senior public health major Matthew Blount

**Ticket Two:**

President candidate - sophomore construction management major Max Wimberley

Vice president candidate - sophomore public health major Katie Frizzle

**Ticket Three:**

President candidate - psychology and African American studies pre-medical major George Cherry Jr.

Vice president candidate - junior public health pre-medical major Anyanso Kalu

As a member of SGA for the past two years, Limon said he has held roles both as the director of University Affairs and chief of staff for a year now.

“My committee has reviewed more pieces of legislation, policies and procedures of the university than any committee in SGA,” Limon said. “After the COVID-19 pandemic, it’s no secret that organizations and engagement have seen a downturn. I have worked tirelessly with the Executive Council to make sure we are engaging students again and get our numbers back up.”

Some of the legislation Limon has passed include expanding the University Good Samaritan Regulation to protect students from substance-related emergencies, he said, as well as changing dining hall options for students with different religious customs.

One of the ticket’s main platforms is student well-being, Limon said. He and Blount plan to provide three mental health days for students each semester, Limon said, so students can use them and take a day off whenever they need it.

“We also want to make sure that professors are extending the agile period and putting grades in by the time the withdrawal date comes around,” Limon said. “That way students can make the best decision when it comes to their academics. Our platform recognizes the rising costs students face too. We want to utilize the

SGA budget by partnering with ECU’s Treasure Chest to provide emergency relief funds for students.”

On top of that, Limon said their campaign plans to promote a social scholarship to pay club or Fraternity and Sorority Life fees for students receiving financial aid.

If ticket one wins the election, Blount said he wants the campaign to be actively present in the community by having at least one major state representative visit the meetings of different student organizations on campus.

As vice president, Blount said he and Limon plan to meet regularly with not only student organizations, but the student body as a whole.

“We want to be active and present,” Blount said. “We want to show that we actually care about ECU by going to organizations and talking to students, our job is to serve and uplift their voices. We also don’t want Greek and non-Greek students to feel separate anymore. I want to talk about issues with everyone together.”

Presidential candidate for ticket two, Wimberley said he is currently serving as the SGA Director of Community Outreach, the Fraternity Recruitment Vice President for Communications, as well as Alpha Tau Omega’s secretary and scholarship chair.

Wimberley said he and his vice presidential candidate Frizzle met a little under a year ago and both value organization,



Javier Limon



Jordan Jean

## CRW hosts 21st Birthday Project

**Markayla McInnis**  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University’s Campus Recreation & Wellness (CRW) will host its annual 21st Birthday Project both today and April 20 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in an effort to teach the Pirate community how to stay safe when celebrating the milestone of their 21st birthday.

The 21st Birthday Project celebrates students’ transition into adulthood, according to the CRW website, with a goal to raise awareness about drinking patterns that can occur when celebrating with alcohol.

Coordinator of Collegiate Recovery & Prevention at the CRW Jordan Jean wrote in an email statement the event will consist of one-on-one sessions for students to attend where students will receive tips and resources about healthy drinking behaviors. Jean wrote that they are catering to students who are over 21 or are about to celebrate the milestone so they are educated about the do’s and don’ts of drinking.

“In the fall we had 26 participants that completed the 1:1 session with one of our well-being ambassadors who are certified peer educators,” Jean wrote. “When the participants complete the session they will receive a Happy 21st Birthday pint glass.”

To complete a 21st Birthday contract, Jordan wrote students must meet with an ambassador from the CRW. The contract has multiple parts, she wrote, and each part aims to teach students facts about drinking and its effects.

Jean wrote the contract begins with students preparing by first reviewing laws, campus policies and some healthy drinking strategies and tips. Once they do that, Jean wrote, students must create a plan for drinking from what they learned about blood alcohol content.

To complete the contract, Jean wrote the student must commit to engaging in healthy and safe drinking behaviors.

“This project is popular among many college campuses and is used as a harm reduction strategy to educate students on alcohol-related emergencies, standard pours and also the Good Samaritan Act,” Jean wrote.

For more information on the Good Samaritan Act, Jordan wrote students should visit ECU’s University Policy Manual website.

Senior sports studies major Tyler Burnham was part of the planning committee for the event and said it is important for students to attend so they know how to enjoy themselves safely while attending ECU.

“We try to implement how to safely organize yourself and alcohol consumption and what’s the appropriate amount to do while you’re going downtown,” Burnham said. “Certain scenarios, like how to deal with peer pressure and just how to enjoy a great time here are important.”

Overall, Burnham said the event is important for a campus like ECU’s with Greenville’s Uptown district being so popular

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## Pirate baseball prepares to host the Tarheels

**Nick Bailey**  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University baseball’s (3-0, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) second weekend of the season will kick off against the University of North Carolina (2-1, 0-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) tomorrow to Sunday with sets of games that will occur at Clark-Leclair Stadium and Boshamer Stadium.

Before the Pirates welcomed the Tarheels to Greenville, the baseball team traveled to Buires Creek, North Carolina to play Campbell University (2-1, 0-0 Big South Conference) Tuesday at 5 p.m.

ECU is coming off of a weekend slate against George Washington University (0-3, 0-0 Atlantic 10 Conference) where the Pirates swept the three-home game series in convincing fashion. Over the course of the three-game span, the Pirates routed the Colonials 43-13.

The No. 11 Pirates swept George Washington on Saturday despite falling down early in both of the games of a season-opening doubleheader. In the first game, ECU came away with a 9-5 victory after falling down 4-1 in the top of the third inning.

The Pirates had a historic game on the next day for the third and final game against the



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Senior right handed pitcher Garrett Saylor winds up for the pitch on the mound against GWU.

Colonials. With a 23-5 victory over George Washington on Sunday, No. 11 ECU finished its sixth Opening Weekend sweep since 2015.

Wilcoxon concluded last Sunday’s game with a three-hit effort that included four runs scored and four RBIs, making his final pitch for consideration as the national player of the week. He had a 10-for-14 (.714) weekend batting average with nine runs scored, three doubles, two home runs and eight RBI.

Throughout the course of the three games,

the Pirates outscored the Colonials 43-13 and scored their most runs in a single game since defeating Delaware State 24-0 on May 13, 2011. ECU also had 20 hits on the day, which is the highest in a single game for the squad since March 15, 2015, when they had 22 versus Elon.

ECU will be looking to keep that same effort up against UNC this upcoming weekend. UNC went 2-1 in their opening weekend vs. Seton Hall University (1-2, 0-0 Big East

Conference). The Pirates won the last matchup against the Tar Heels in the 2022 season but 1-2 overall in the three-game series.

Overall, the Pirates are 13-25 against UNC and are coming off a win in the last matchup. On Feb. 27, 2022, ECU shut out the Tarheels 5-0 on the Pirates’ home field inside Clark-Leclair stadium. However, UNC had already won the first two games of the series on Feb. 25, 2022, and Feb. 26, 2022, winning by scores of 7-4 and 2-0, respectively.

Being at home for two out of the three games will be beneficial for the Pirates, as they have a positive record of 9-8 against UNC when they play at home over their program’s history. When ECU travels to Chapel Hill, they have an overall losing record of 3-17 in games played since their first matchup in 1999.

After ECU baseball’s triple weekend slate against UNC, they will travel to Durham, North Carolina, and face off against Duke University (2-1, 0-0 ACC) on Tuesday at 4 p.m. for a single game. Following that game, the Pirates will come back home to play multiple teams in the LeClair Classic.

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

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## BRIEFS

## Planet ECU to hold weekly GEOTalks event

Today, Planet ECU will host its weekly GEOTalks event from 3 to 4 p.m. in Room 103A of the Graham Building. The topic to be discussed is posted on the Planet ECU Instagram account. Free food will be provided at the event.

## Town hall to hold public safety meeting

Today, the Greenville City Council will hold a town hall meeting on public safety. The meeting will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. in Room 249 of the Main Campus Student Center at East Carolina University.

## Honors College to host Adopt-A-Street Clean-Up

Sunday, the East Carolina University Honors College will be hosting an Adopt a Street service event. The meeting place for the event will be in front of Mamie Jenkins at 4 p.m.

## Youth Council to hold meeting Monday evening

Monday, the Greenville Youth Council will be meeting. The meeting will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the COMPSTAT Conference Room on the third floor of the Municipal Building.

## CORRECTIONS &amp; 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.

## Feb. 16, 2023

On Evans Street and Howell Street, charges of Warrant Service for Other Agency were cleared by arrest at 11:21 a.m.

At Jones Residence Hall, Breaking or Entering occurred between Feb. 15 at 8:30 p.m. and 10 a.m., and there is still an open investigation following it.

## Feb. 17, 2023

Between Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 17 at 7:45 a.m., charges of Injury to Personal Property were found in Clement Residence Hall, and still has an ongoing investigation following it.

At the Mendenhall Loading Dock, a Hit & Run Failure to Stop and Warrant Service for Other Agency (x5) were found at 12:51 p.m. and was cleared by arrest.

There is an open investigation following an Injury to Real Property incident in Ballard West Residence Hall at 10:11 p.m.

## Feb. 18, 2023

At 2:41 a.m. at Jarvis Residence Hall, Simple Assault charges were found and were cleared/victim refused to cooperate.



CONTRIBUTED BY: ERICA HENRY

Many events that promote sustainability will be hosted throughout the rest of the spring semester by various East Carolina University groups.

## Sustainability programs offers events

**Kim Kassner**  
TEC STAFF

From protecting bees to planting trees, different sustainability programs at East Carolina University discuss upcoming environmental events while encouraging students, faculty and staff to get engaged on campus.

Erica Henry, junior environmental engineering major, said she is the president of two sustainability programs on campus, SustainabiliBEEES and ReLeaf.

"ReLeaf is an organization that focuses on the importance of planting, promoting and protecting trees," Henry said. "In this, we are not only aiming to spread awareness about the roles that trees and plants play in society, but also to foster a more sustainable, environmentally friendly culture."

An upcoming event interested students can engage in is the campus orchard workdays that takes place on Sundays at 1 p.m., Henry said. Workdays will be held this upcoming Sunday, March 19, April 2 and April 22. She said these orchard workdays all take place at the Stratford Arms Lot and all involve maintaining the campus orchards.

Other opportunities to take advantage of are the Sustainability Ball on March 25, Henry said, and an upcoming tree planting and butterfly release in collaboration with SustainabiliBEEES.

"The tree planting and butterfly release date is to be determined," Henry said. "It'll depend on

when the caterpillars will be ready. There are also many events planned for Earth Week starting on April 16, such as a tree planting for Tree Campus U.S., as well as a film screening of The Lorax."

Throughout their events, Henry said ReLeaf works closely with ECU's Sustainability Manager Chad Carwein and Head of Grounds John Gill.

The Honors College is involved with the organization as well, Henry said, and a graduated honors group even passed down an orchard they previously planted to ReLeaf. She said other groups are currently interested in expanding the orchard.

Cameron Grey, junior biology major and vice president for SustainabiliBEEES, said the organization focuses on bees, their importance for the Earth and how endangered they are.

Events hosted by SustainabiliBEEES involve tea with the bees, honey taste events and the opportunity for individuals to go into the beehives on campus, Grey said. The different events, he said, are divided up between the spring and fall semester. The tea with the bees event and visiting the beehives, take place in the fall, he said.

"Our next events include honey tasting on March 13 at 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at West End Dining Hall," Grey said. "The second honey tasting is on March 15 at the same time but at Todd Dining Hall. We will also show the movie Honeyland on March 16 at 6 p.m. in the Main Campus Student Center Black Box Theater."

As mentioned by both Henry and Grey before, Sustainability Manager Carwein helps sustainability organizations at ECU with their projects and initiatives.

Carwein has worked for the university for the past seven years, he said, and his job includes many areas on campus.

"I'm pretty much involved with anything and everything related to sustainability," Carwein said. "I provide assistance outside of Facilities Services to Dining such as promoting plant-based diets, composting programs and other ways to implement sustainability practices into food service like reducing single-use plastics. Other areas are Transit, Parking and Transportation, Advancement, Student Affairs, Academics and Research."

Events happening on campus that Carwein encourages students to attend include the Town Creek Culvert Litter Cleanup next Tuesday at 2 p.m., and he said the group will meet at the ECU Willis Building parking lot.

Another big event happening on April 18 is the Sustainable Fashion Show hosted by the ECU Apparel & Interior Merchandising Organization, Carwein said. The event starts at 7 p.m., he said, and is held at the Main Campus Student Center Black Box Theater.

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ONLINE | FULL STORY

## SGA continued from A1

involvement and commitment to service the most. Together, he said, he and Frizzle are focusing on four platforms.

"Our four platform points are sexual assault prevention, mental health awareness, financial literacy and success, as well as campus safety and off-campus safety," Wimberley said. "We want to work with new initiatives and bring them to the school, as well as reduce current programs to better market to the entire student body. Based on our current and previous involvement, I think we have the best reach to the entire student body."

Throughout their campaign, Frizzle said she and Wimberley have prioritized visiting and engaging with many different student organizations.

Frizzle said she doesn't expect the student body to come to her and Wimberley for problems. Instead, she said it's her and Wimberley's responsibility to see the problems on campus and address them before anyone has to ask for help.

"If elected during our time, we want to continue to visit organizations on campus and make our face known," Frizzle said.

Cherry Jr., presidential candidate for ticket three, said he has been an active SGA member and has served the campus and community of ECU for three years.

Through his service at ECU, Cherry Jr. said he has had the opportunity to go on listening tours and meet with administration, faculty, staff and students in order to learn more about ECU.

"I really feel like due to my past experiences I'm able to understand what students need," Cherry Jr. said. "I believe that by representing the student body, we should also reflect them. I'm committed and have a history of service which makes me a true leader. As part of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, I oversaw 62 chapters. I've worked long hours to understand what is really necessary for a student."

During the 2020 election,

Cherry Jr. said he was involved in grassroot efforts to get citizens registered to early vote utilizing social media and text banking. He said he worked with NextGen North Carolina on a campaign sending millions of text outs to young people. Due to the campaign, Cherry Jr. said, the number of voters from the ages 18 to 29 increased from 14.5% to 16%.

Ticket three's platform is based on ECU's mission of public service, student

Max Wimberley success and regional transformation, Cherry said. He and Kalu would like to implement service hours as a requirement to graduate from ECU, he said like perpetrators are not punished severely enough for sexual assault and harassment committed against any and all ECU students.

Though he is not a part of SGA, Kalu said he has served ECU's many residents and minorities for three years as a resident advisor.

"I've been able to serve the residents at ECU in the residence halls among a lot of minority communities or organizations," Kalu said. "I believe we need to be able to listen to them all and get out to them."

George Cherry Jr. and Kalu as ticket three. Polls for the SGA elections opened yesterday at 8 a.m. and will close tomorrow at 5 p.m. For more information about the elections can visit the SGA website.

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## CRW continued from A1

and close to ECU's campus.

There will be a lot of activities offered at the event so that it will appeal to students, Burnham said, making it both an educational and fun event.

"We do have a lot of swag with it," Burnham said. "We'll be having a lot of tabling events so that you'll (students) be learning about different kinds of alcohol content. So we have drunk goggles which is pretty fun."

Burnham said the event is important for all students so they are knowledgeable about how to have fun in college while also remaining safe. He said while the event will come with fun aspects, it's also an easy way for the university to educate students.

Without this education, Burnham said some of the risks that can come with being irresponsible with alcohol intake can lead to bad habits that could spread on campus and could lead to unfortunate events for students like alcohol poisoning.

"People should go to the event to gain a greater understanding of the guidelines and rules of alcohol consumption while still being able to have a great time as an East Carolina student," Burnham said. "The event is important so we (the CRW) can better educate the student body about specific alcohol intake and responsibilities so they can keep themselves safe along with others around them."

Meaghan Skelly, junior communication major, said though she isn't part of the event, the 21st Birthday Project should be a worthwhile event for students. When students go out for their 21st birthday, Skelly said she knows they can get a little too crazy and sometimes even end up in the hospital, so it's important to know how to handle alcohol responsibly.

"I do think that it's important that the university is trying to at least educate our students about it, that way that they can kind of be proactive," Skelly said. "Trying to stop it earlier rather than later is great."

Some of the precautions that Skelly said can be important when out are knowing one's limits, monitoring your drinks and drinking enough water in between alcoholic beverages. Skelly said learning the statistics about how quick it is to get drunk or how long it takes for alcohol to get in your

system would be great topics to include in these one on one sessions.

"I think those would be important for students to know just so they kind of understand," Skelly said. "For someone who's never been drunk before, going into this class, they should ultimately come out with an understanding of what it might be like for them."

Skelly said that although she knows the event is catered towards people over or about to turn 21, freshmen and women would be a great audience for the event so they are aware of the effects and are able to protect themselves.

There are freshmen who come to ECU and have never drank alcohol before, Skelly said, and then they get thrown into parties with their friends with no experience with alcohol and its effects. As an orientation assistant, Skelly said this 21st Birthday Project would be a great addition to the "True Life" education incoming freshmen participate in.

"True Life" talks a little about drinking habits and parties and what to do in some negative sexual situations and things like that," Skelly said.

Graduate assistant at the Women and Genders Office Kori West, who goes by them/them pronouns, said the topics discussed at the event are important as being safe when going out drinking should be the number one priority on a person's list.

If someone is going to go out, West said they should be with people they trust, shouldn't leave their drinks anywhere, and if they happen to, get a new drink altogether. There are all things West said should be included in the sessions.

At a campus like ECU, West said they think people should go to the event to educate themselves on these topics, especially considering past issues with people's drinks being spiked which has led to further allegations at East Carolina University.

"When we know it's been a problem on campus several times and probably will continue to be a problem on campus because it's not really been addressed, so I think you (students) definitely should go," West said.

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



Meaghan Skelly

## OUR VIEW

### Jeff Charles knew what it meant to be a Pirate

Following the passing of former East Carolina University play-by-play commentator Jeff Charles, known better by his nickname "The Voice," the university's athletics are left with a void in the mainstay that was Charles.

If you ever tuned into the radio to hear the Pirates play basketball or football or saw a broadcast on television, you have heard Charles's illustrious voice.

We, the editorial staff of the East Carolinian, believe that Jeff Charles demonstrated what it meant to be a Pirate. Whether knowingly or unknowingly, Charles exhibited the core values of what it meant to be a member of the ECU family.

The play-by-play commentator called over 1,000 games for the Pirates in his three decade long career, creating iconic calls with his famous slogan, "You can paint this one purple," and his smooth optimism that burst into joy and excitement in the biggest moments.

From the 1992 Peach Bowl to the 2022 game-winning field goal against Navy to his 1,000th game from Minges Coliseum, Charles has been a faithful icon for the Pirates since joining the program.

For Charles, being the ECU play-by-play commentator was more than a job. Being a Pirate, the Voice of the Pirates, was Charles's joy. In memorial statements, both ECU Chancellor Rogers and former linebacker Myles Berry described Charles as embodying Pirate pride.

The school recognized Charles's dedication, awarding him as an honorary alumnus in 2015. His legacy will last far beyond his life, as Charles made a mark on ECU. We, as a student body, will paint it purple for many years to come.



East Carolina University students attend the 2022 Culture Fest to connect with one another and learn about the cultures of their fellow Pirates. MADISON GRIFALDO | FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Cultural differences solve conflict



Breanna Sapp  
TEC COLUMNIST

Cultural difference is one of the root causes of many conflicts we see in our world today. Xenophobia, racism, religious intolerance, civil war and political strife

all share two things in common – each have existed for all human history and each involves two or more groups different from one another.

As defined by Carol and Melvin Ember in "Cultural Anthropology," culture can refer to "the most mundane activities, such as washing dishes, to the more profound aspects of life, such as raising a child. From the point of view of the social scientist, then, every human being is cultured, in the sense of participating in some culture or other." But what happens when we encounter individuals from cultures outside of our own? Often, discomfort or judgment.

It's important to note that I am not only referring to cultural differences we see headlining international news, such as ethnic conflict in India or political unrest in Peru, but the ones we see in our daily lives.

Think of how your parents prepare meat for example – when chatting with a friend, they bring up that their parents prepare it almost completely opposite.

**"Cultural exposure has made us not only aware of our differences, but more prepared to handle them."**

*-Breanna Sapp*

Your first thought might be, "Gross." In fact, you're probably thinking that your parents prepare meat the correct way and that your friend's parents don't know what they're doing. Because culture is reflected in almost every aspect of our lives, more of us might be ethnocentrists than you think.

To put it simply, human beings are uncomfortable by differences. Discomfort can lead to distrust; distrust can lead to contempt; and contempt ultimately leads to conflict. But discomfort can also lead to vulnerability; vulnerability can lead to empathy; and empathy to friendship.

In a study reported by "The New York Times," Harvard political scientist Robert Putnam found that the more diverse a community is, the less those in that community trust one another or participate in civic and community engagement.

While diversity may create conflict, it is also the key to solving it.

In an article by "Scientific American," Katherine Phillips points out that because diversity exposes us to different perspec-

tives, it is one of the most productive tools in an organization and can often lead to innovation, creativity, and better problem-solving. Both social and racial diversity provoke thought within a group and enhance overall decision-making.

So, cultural differences can lead to two different outcomes: discomfort or innovation. It's up to us to decide on the former or the latter.

Both interpersonal and international conflict will never fully cease – there will always be something to disagree on. But as humanity continues to progress and evolve, it's apparent that more of us are choosing innovation. Cultural exposure has made us not only aware of our differences, but more prepared to handle them. We have the tools to resolve conflict within one another – will we use them?

Sapp is a senior double majoring in English and international studies and a TEC columnist. To contact them, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## PIRATE RANTS

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

We need an officer stationed over by the Cotanche and 9th St. crosswalk. Myself and others have nearly been hit on multiple occasions in that crosswalk because people continuously ignore the crossing signal. The city needs to do something before someone gets hit.

Pirate baseball is back, thank God.

What is ECU doing to make sure we don't have a school shooting?

The commuter lot is such an inconvenience. Why pay all that money to park just to have to take the bus to get to campus anyway.

My roommate moved out and I can't have the other half of the room that's not going to be used for the rest of the year bc I ain't pay an extra 800 dollars.

If you're out here abusing the robots, I hope you get flipped into a creek just like you flipped the robot into the creek.

ALRIGHT, which one of you idiots put that poor robot in the river?

This is probably the worst college town ever like there's nothing to do!

Next year I'm expecting y'all to pack out the women's basketball games just like y'all do for the men's. They deserve all eyes on them just like the men.

Questions regarding Pirate Rants can be directed to Breanna Sapp at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

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



### Long Story Short



Chris Long  
TEC COLUMNIST

The McDonalds McRib, Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Lattes, Chick-fil-A Peach Milkshakes and Taco Bell Nacho Fries... what do all of these have in common? They're all seasonal fast food items; and they're stupid.

Seasonal and limited-time menu items at fast food restaurants are little more than publicity stunts set to drum up buzz for the brand while often under delivering on the promise of something that sounds great, or at the very least intriguing.

The international fast food chain McDonald's broke the seasonal item barrier with their rollout of the McRib in 1981 after the sandwich was test marketed in 1980. While the item stayed on Kansas City, Missouri menus for four consecutive years, McDonald's later pulled the sandwich

before reintroducing it annually.

But why is the McRib, and by association other seasonal food items, only available for a limited time? The short answer is profit margins. Gerald Luft, a former assistant manager of the golden arches megachain said in response to a Quora forum that the McRib is so big that it affects the price of pork. If the McRib was a regular menu item, it would drive the price of pork too high in the United States to the point where it would not be cost efficient enough to keep around... or would it?

Would you be more likely to buy the McRib if it was not a limited time item? Artificial scarcity creates demand that would probably not otherwise exist. In 2023, if the McRib were a year round item, no one would bat an eye and it would be just another thing on the menu. The hype is built around its scarcity.

Seasonal or limited-time items drum up publicity for brands in a way that no other kind of advertising could. What other reason would there be for Taco

Bell to sell chicken wings or Burger King to sell Mac and Cheetos? I understand the pork dilemma of the McRib, but the integrity of seasonal items has become corrupt for publicity sake.

There have been some seriously gross items announced and released over the past 20 years. A few usual suspects are in the eye of seasonal or limited-time items for publicity sake, but none are more egregious than Burger King. The aforementioned Mac and Cheetos tops the list, but the black Halloween Burger, the "Angriest Whopper" and Bacon Sundae must be mentioned.

Drumming up publicity when sales are dipping is reasonable and food costs can be high, so justifying these limited-time items is understandable - but at least limited-time items are good for you, right? Think with me for a moment if you will. What is the healthiest limited-time menu item that you can think of?

Long is a senior majoring in English and a TEC columnist. To contact them, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

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## CLASSIFIEDS

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## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 9 — Pursue personal passions. Use your power and confidence for good. Disciplined actions advance your priorities. Savor your favorite activities, views and people. Love is contagious.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Investigate a fascinating subject. Explore new cultures, flavors and philosophies. Develop a creative idea into a compelling case. Make exciting connections. Write your discoveries.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Have a good time. Reconnect with friends and family. Share your heart and luck plays along. Creative ideas flower. Invent a romantic possibility.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7 — Rest and recharge. Love and nature feed your spirit. Savor sacred rituals. Take extra care of yourself. Take care of everyone else later.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Contribute to shared accounts to build financial strength. Luck follows efforts motivated by heart. Grow and save resources for the ones you love.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Realize a domestic dream. Put your heart into home and family. Your efforts produce satisfying results. Tend your garden. Nurture your roots and shoots.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Community efforts propelled by love can take off. Build on solid foundations. Share what you're learning. Connect and engage with friends for growth.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 9 — Stay receptive to your partner. You're on the same wavelength. There's freedom in commitment. Invent possibilities and go for them. Have fun together.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Pour your heart onto the page. Express and create. Connect and network to grow. Create works of passion and beauty. Share your story.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Take charge for the professional results you want. You have the wind at your back. Your good work reflects you well. Make a powerful pitch.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Get your heart pumping and clear your mind. Disciplined physical practices build strength and energy. Put love into your work and demand rises.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 9 — Generate and maintain positive cash flow. Pay bills before buying treats. Disciplined efforts pay off. Put love into your work and demand rises.

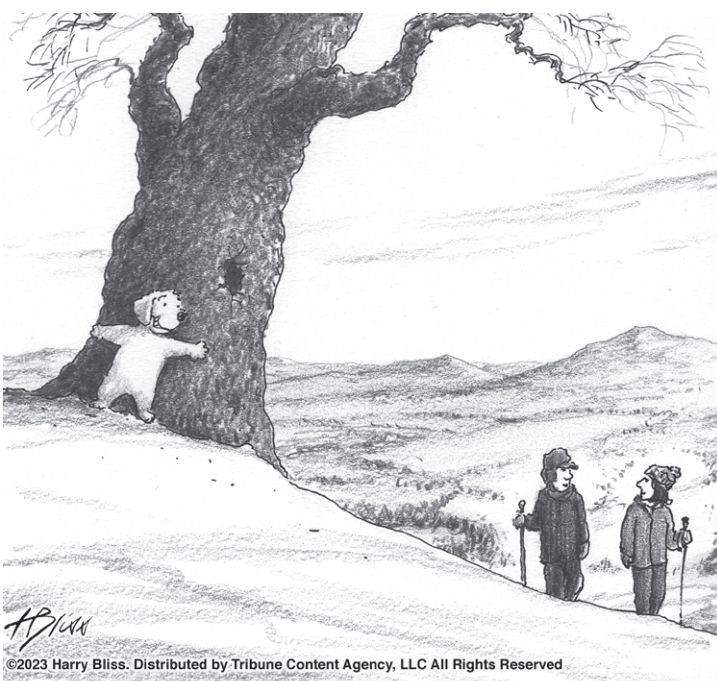
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## COMICS

### BREWSTER ROCKIT



## BLISS

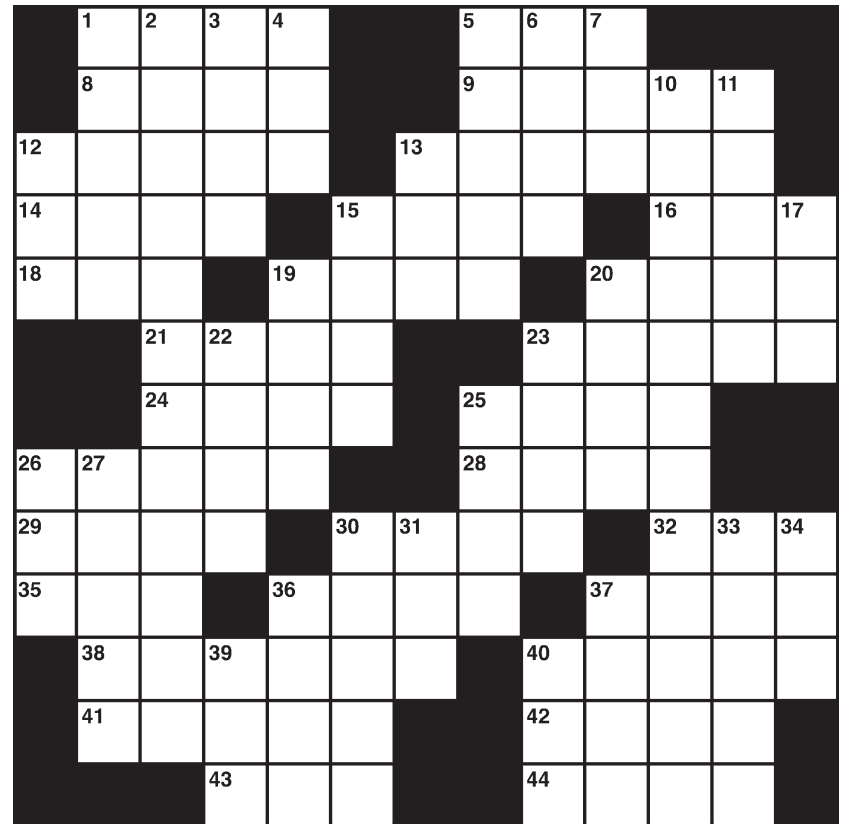


"When he jumps out, pretend to be surprised."

## CROSSWORD

### THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Man with a \_\_\_"
  - 5 "Murder, \_\_\_ Wrote"
  - 8 Arm or leg
  - 9 "\_\_\_ Vice"
  - 12 Noted Alabama city
  - 13 "Welcome Back, \_\_\_"
  - 14 Miranda Rae \_\_\_ of "Chicago Fire"
  - 15 Luxury Fifth Avenue store
  - 16 Actor Ayres
  - 18 Ship letters
  - 19 "The \_\_\_ Show with Stephen Colbert"
  - 20 Escoc "S.W.A.T."
  - 21 Not quite closed
  - 23 Christina of "A Million Little Things"
  - 24 Dog in "Peter Pan"
  - 25 Ullmann & others
  - 26 City in Alaska
  - 28 Bewildered
  - 29 Actress Falco
  - 30 Shade providers
  - 32 \_\_\_-Wan Kenobi
- DOWN**
- 1 "Guilty" & "Not guilty"
  - 2 Actress on "La Brea"
  - 3 Bullets
  - 4 Org. for Knicks & Nets
  - 5 "Up in \_\_\_"; Cheech & Chong movie
  - 6 Punches
  - 7 "Please Don't \_\_\_ the Daisies"
  - 10 Actress on "The Rookie"
  - 11 Dunne or Ryan
  - 12 Dallas univ.
  - 13 Actress Dennyings
  - 15 Gilbert, for one
  - 17 "How Green \_\_\_ My Valley"
  - 19 Actress Turner
  - 20 "P.S. I \_\_\_ You"; Hilary Swank film
  - 22 "\_\_\_ and the Fatman"
  - 23 "Driving \_\_\_ Daisy"
  - 25 Light source
  - 26 Beautician's offering
  - 27 Perfect
  - 30 Actress/singer Merman
  - 31 Hawaii's Mauna \_\_\_
  - 33 Davis or Midler
  - 34 Suffix for violin or real
  - 36 Gillette razor
  - 37 "Deal \_\_\_ Deal"
  - 39 S.A. nation
  - 40 "Father Knows Best" role



## SUDOKU

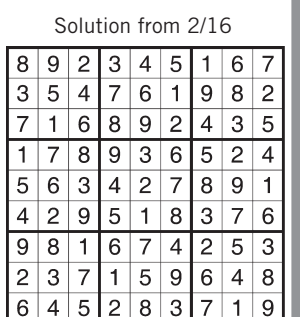
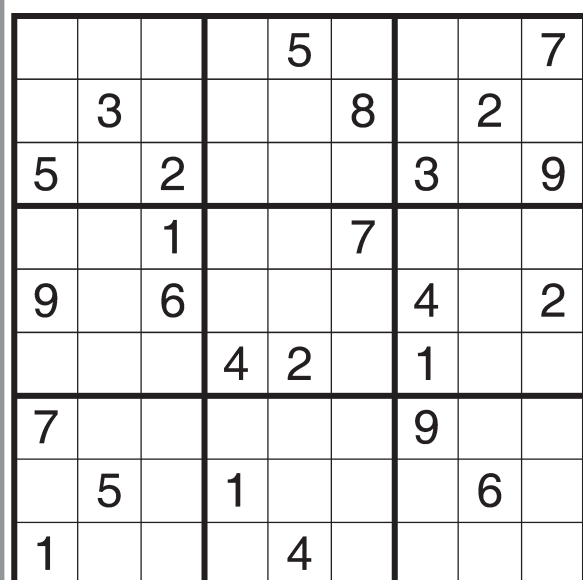
### SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level



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](http://sudoku.org.uk)



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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

**Trivia**  
 5th Street Hardware Restaurant  
 120 W. Fifth St.

### TOMORROW

**Patrick Reid @ The Blackened Kraken**  
 124 E. 5th St.  
 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.  
 (252) 215-8822

### Saturday

**All About Geocaching**  
 River Park North  
 1000 Mumford Rd.  
 Noon to 2 p.m.  
 (252) 329-4560

**Latex n Leather: Womens Social**  
 Ironwood Golf & Country Club  
 200 Golf Club Wynd  
 7 to 10 p.m.  
 (252) 752-4653



Students of East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance glide across the dance floor as they practice for their five day long 'Swing!' Production. JAYLIN ROBERTS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## SoTD to host 'Swing!' production

**Candaisha Johnson**  
 TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance (SoTD) began its production of the musical "Swing!" at McGinnis Theatre in Greenville, North Carolina yesterday and it will run until Sunday in celebration of the unique American genre of song and dance founded in the Harlem Renaissance.

Tommi Overcash Galaska, SoTD faculty member and director of the musical, said she teaches Jazz dance at ECU, and for this production she worked with both the musical theater majors and dance majors. She said since the show has no direct storyline included and is more of a song-cycled production, she created her own idea of what the show could be about.

"I've kind of created an idea that we are experiencing a show that is created from the mind of a stagehand, there's an older man who was supposed to take care of the theater and the musical is his imagination," Galaska said.

The musicians contributing to the show are from the School of Music (SoM), Galaska said, specifically from the Jazz ensemble, creating a great collaboration between the two schools.

The show is very upbeat, Galaska said, without any sad or dark story included. If someone likes good music, entertainment and shows, Galaska said she recommends they attend the show. She said she hopes the audience acknowledges all the energy involved with the production while also being entertained, happy and leaving with a smile on their faces.

"I think the biggest thing is raising awareness of the Harlem Renaissance, which is where swing dance and swing music and jazz music emerged from," Galaska said.

Jake Heath, junior theater education major, said "Swing!" is about Harlem between the 1930s and 1940s, also known as the Harlem Renaissance, and focuses mainly on styles of dancing throughout the era.

Heath said the production will feature a number of different styles of dance by taking the audience through different stories filled with popular songs and dances from the renaissance. He said that some of the songs that will be danced to are "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" by the Andrews Sisters and "Swing! Brother, Swing!" by Billie Holiday.

"Me personally, I want people to take away

that arts, music, dance, we're all one within," Heath said. "With this show especially, I feel like it brings a community of people."

As the stage manager, Heath said he is responsible for being there for the cast to help with any questions or uncertainties, taking notes, making sure that the cast and crew members are together and being the "glue" of the whole production.

Heath said that a long-term goal of his is to put on a production that is educational

"I believe the effects that this play will have with the ECU community is to bring us together with this amazing show and to watch this incredible dancing and just have a good understanding of, 'This is why we come to theater,'" Heath said.

Zion Zollicoffer, junior musical theater major, said the two-hour production requires performers like himself to have a lot of energy and stamina.

"I was really excited to do this because we're doing a show where dance majors and musical theater majors all get to be in a show together," Zollicoffer said.

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

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## Greenville City Council

# Town Hall On Public Safety

Presentations by City of Greenville Police Chief Ted D. Sauls and ECU Police Chief Jon R. Barnwell, followed by a public Q&A Session.

**Thursday, Feb 23**  
 Begins at 6:00 PM

**ECU Student Center**  
 Room 249, Main Campus, 501 E 10th Street



**Ted D. Sauls**  
 Police Chief, Greenville Police



**Jon R. Barnwell**  
 Police Chief, ECU Police



**Marion Blackburn**  
 Greenville City Council, District 3



## SoM choir to perform

**Martha Nebab**  
 TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's School of Music (SoM) Chamber Singers ensemble will perform at the First Presbyterian Church on Feb. 27 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., where the choir will perform a number of classical pieces, as well as premiere a newly-commissioned piece from composer Benedict Sheehan.

James Franklin, the SoM's Director of Choral Activities and the conductor for the Chamber Singers ensemble, said he selected the pieces that will be performed, as well as prepared the 40 students in the ensemble by teaching them the pitches and meanings of the songs.

In order to prepare his students, Franklin said he meets with them five times a week, from 1 to 1:50 p.m., to rehearse the program.

"I just hope that the students feel really prepared and do their best, and also that they communicate the meaning of the text," Franklin said. "It's not just about technical mastery, but to convey what the music means to you, so I really hope we capture that."

Franklin said he tried to choose challenging yet not overly-demanding songs, though he believes his students will rise above those challenges in the music.

The concert's program will feature several classical pieces, Franklin said.

"We typically do some serious repertoire," Franklin said. "And then we do some lighter pieces and things that are a little more audience-friendly, so I'm going to end the concert with some love songs."

Franklin said he felt like ECU's SoM, especially the Chamber Singers ensemble, is a small "gem" within North Carolina. With the school's number of talented teachers and students, he said the quality of music-making, level of singing and artistry is very high.

Caroline Steinart, a double major in junior vocal performance and music education and soprano in the Choral Singers ensemble, said the musicians in the ensemble, both undergraduate and graduate, are one of ECU's "top-tier" choir ensembles.

"The Chamber Singers are such a cool group to be a part of," Steinart said. "We're one of the best choirs in the country and Dr. Franklin is so good at what he does. He's such a great conductor. Under his conducting,

every day I'm like, 'I frickin' love choir.'"

Steinart said the concert will have the audience sit down with a program of five to six pieces, featuring shorter, more well-known choral music, before transitioning into the classical pieces. In the three years Steinart has been in the ensemble, she said they have never performed at the First Presbyterian Church before, so the experience will be new to her.

One part of the concert Steinart said she's looking forward to performing is the newly-commissioned piece from Sheehan, "God's Grandeur," because of a high soprano part she'll be performing.

"We're doing some great music," Steinart said. "We're doing two movements from the Rheinberger mass. We're doing Barber's 'Agnus Dei,' and we're doing a jazzy rendition of 'What a Wonderful World.'"

Steinart said the ensemble would practice until they know the pieces of music well enough, where Dr. Franklin would start "picking apart" dynamics in order to get the emotion of the music across.

After the concert, Steinart said she hopes to break the stereotypes surrounding the workload of music majors.

"It's a lot more than getting in a room with people and just singing," Steinart said. "You're making music together. Singing puts you in such a vulnerable state because you're not just playing the trombone, where the instrument is already

assembled. You are your own instrument, so everyone is working together to make it happen and we have to pull our own weight."

Jon Clawson, a first-year choral conducting masters student and bass singer in the Choral Singers ensemble, said that he hopes to connect with audience members throughout the performance.

One way the ensemble does that, Clawson said, is for Dr. Franklin to introduce the songs to the audience before the ensemble performs them.

"Dr. Franklin talks a little bit between the pieces to contextualize them, and to give the audience a sort of through-line of why we're singing this, why we're singing that and how it all fits together," Clawson said.

Clawson said he's excited to perform "Cantus Missæ," a significant piece he discovered early into his singing career but has never had the chance to perform.

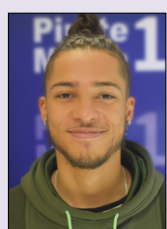
This writer can be contacted at [arts@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:arts@theeastcarolinian.com).

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## TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

**Brendan Cavazos**  
Sports Editor



**ECU baseball vs. UNC Friday through Sunday 2-1 ECU**

**Why?** The Pirates have a mediocre history against the Tar Heels.

Fortunately, ECU will host two out of the three games where they hold the advantage over UNC. After the high-scoring start against George Washington, the Pirates should be able to ride the momentum for two wins against UNC.

**Chris Long**  
Sports Chief



**ECU baseball vs. UNC Friday through Sunday 2-1 ECU**

**Why?** The Pirates are coming off an electric weekend and will look to

continue that momentum. I don't think we can get out of the series unscathed, but staying undefeated would be huge for the Pirates.

## ECU softball hosts Pirate Clash

**Kiarra Crayton**  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University softball team (8-2, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) will host the Pirate Clash in the Max R. Joyner Family Stadium tomorrow through Sunday. All games will be streamed on ECU Pirates with the last game of the tournament streamed only through ESPN+.

The Pirates will face Saint Francis University (SFU) (3-5, 0-0 Northeast Conference) at 3 p.m. tomorrow followed by a game against Bucknell University (2-6, 0-0 Patriot League) at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, ECU will compete against Bucknell at 12:30 p.m. and SFU at 3 p.m. The tournament will conclude for ECU after a game on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. against Radford (2-3, 0-0 Big South).

ECU has not played a game against any of their Pirates Clash opponents since 2021. On Feb. 20, 2021, ECU won 4-2 against the Red Flash. In the nine games between the teams, SFU has the 6-3 edge. The teams started playing each other on Feb. 20, 2016, with at least two games played in the following seasons until 2019 when there was only one.

In the 2021 game against the Red Flash, the Pirates scored a run in the first inning and the game stayed at 1-0 until the sixth. All four of East Carolina's runs were unearned as there were four errors from SFU. In the sixth inning, the Pirates scored three runs off three hits while SFU scored two off a single into right field.

Against Bucknell, there have only been four games played in East Carolina program history. The first game was on Feb. 15, 2015, in which the Pirates were blown out



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Sophomore infielder Logan Sutton prepares for the ball to fly her way as the team warms up on the field.

16-2 in Max R. Joyner Stadium. Each team has lost two games and won two games in the game's history.

The teams played three times in the Pirates Clash that lasted from Feb. 19 through Feb. 21, 2016. The Bisons took the first game 6-1 in the Clash seven years ago but ECU ended up taking the next two games for the record of 2-1 over the tournament. The last game played between the teams was on Feb. 21, 2016 that ECU won 1-0.

The last matchup between the Pirates and Radford ended in a 5-0 shutout in Max R. Joyner Family Stadium. The teams started playing each other on Feb. 18, 2005 in which the teams met three other times during the 2005 season. In the eight games played, ECU has the 6-2 edge.

In the 2017 shutout between East Carolina and Radford, the majority of ECU's runs came in the third, where three were produced and two

were off of outfield hits. A former Pirate hit a homerun in the second to get the team on the board. There was only one hit from Radford in the sixth inning but the runner was left on base.

The Pirates are coming off a 5-0 Battle at the Beach tournament in Conway, South Carolina. East Carolina went 2-0 against Drexel University (0-5, 0-0 Colonial Athletic Association) and 2-0 against Colgate University (3-7, 0-0 Patriot League).

The closest an opponent got in the tournament was Drexel in the teams' second meeting of the tournament, when the game went into nine innings as the score sat at 1-1. The third inning started the 1-1 tie in the game and it was not broken until the Pirates scored two runs in the ninth and held the Dragons to one.

A double from East Carolina's senior second baseman

Bailee Wilson was the hit that scored the two winning runs for the team.

In the last game for ECU during the tournament, the team won 11-3 in five innings against Coastal Carolina (8-1, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) which was the Chanticleers first loss in the season. This was the Pirates' largest margin during the tournament.

East Carolina put up seven runs in the first inning with three from hits, two off of fly outs and the last run of the first was from a walk with bases loaded. Both teams had two home runs, but the Pirates went on to out-hit Coastal 10-8.

The game following the Pirate Clash for ECU will be in Elon, North Carolina, against Elon University (4-5, 0-0 Colonial Athletic Association) next Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

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

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## FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

2 0 2 3

Sep. 2 @ University of Michigan

Sep. 9 vs. Marshall University  
PAINT IT PURPLE

Sep. 16 @ Appalachian State University

Sep. 23 vs. Gardner-Webb University  
PAINT IT GOLD

Sep. 30 @ Rice University

Oct. 12 vs. Southern Methodist University  
PAINT IT BLACK

Oct. 21 vs. University of Charlotte  
HOMECOMING

Oct. 28 @ University of Texas at San Antonio

Nov. 4 @ vs. Tulane University  
MILITARY APPRECIATION

Nov. 11 @ Florida Atlantic University

Nov. 18 @ Navy

Nov. 25 vs. Tulsa University  
SENIOR DAY



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Graduate student sprinter Zach Ray and junior sprinter Zach Wadas compete in their individual event during the team's meet in Virginia.

## Track and field competes in AAC

**Kiarra Crayton**  
TEC STAFF

As the indoor season comes to a close, the East Carolina University track and field team will head to Birmingham, Alabama, for the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Indoor Championships from Friday to Saturday.

At last year's AAC Indoor Championship, the East Carolina junior sprinter Royal Burris won the 200-meter race (20.88), his first conference title of the indoor season according to ECU Pirates. Burris also placed second in the 60-meter race during the same meet with a time of 6.76 that is still his personal best.

Burris' personal record was achieved in 2022 for both events. In the 200m race during the ECU Bill Carson Invitational on April 1 through April 2, 2022 he ran for a 20.49 and finished first in the event for the meet.

The women's team placed No. 7 with 38 points in the meet and the men were at No. 6 with 55 points. The University of Central Florida took the women's category with an overall score of 156.5. The Univer-

sity of Houston won the men's side with a score of 141.5.

In East Carolina's previous meet, the Division II Indoor Track & Field Pre-Nationals at Virginia Beach Sports Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia, junior pole vaulter Rileigh Cardin and junior pole vaulter Starrett Vesper, took their events. Cardin earned a career high of 3.70m while at the meet.

Vesper has also competed in the 60H, 60m, 1000m, high jump, long jump, shot put along with pole vaulting in the 2023 season. During the Hokie Invitational on Jan. 20 through Jan. 21, Vesper ran his fastest in the 60m (8.61) and threw for his longest in shot put with 12.83m.

ECU senior thrower Jasmine Jenkins won the women's weighted throw in the Pre-Nationals with a long of 18.16m. Her previous record was 17.59m in the Big South Indoor Track and Field Champi-

onships on Feb. 24, 2022 through Feb. 25, 2022. This is Jenkins' first year as a Pirate after transferring from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University where she spent her first three years.

Also for the Pirates in the Pre-Nationals, junior sprinter Sydni McMillan brought back third place in the 60m hurdles at a time of 8.65, which is McMillan's fastest time in her career. Her past record was 8.71 that was established in the Dick Taylor Carolina Challenge on Jan. 14, 2023.

The Pirates that win their events will go onto the next round in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the National College Athletic Association's Indoor Championship, otherwise the conference championship will be the conclusion of the indoor season for ECU.

Outdoor season will begin in Raleigh, North Carolina, where the Pirates will compete in the Raleigh Relays from March 23 to March 25. The next AAC Championships will be on May 12 through May 14 for the outdoor season.

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



Jasmine Jenkins