



# The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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## Spring withdrawal period for classes ends this afternoon

Eli Baine  
TEC STAFF

The last day to withdraw from semester hours at East Carolina University is today, giving students the chance to drop classes from term-length courses without receiving a grade on their transcript.

Senior Director for the Academic Advising Office Dr. Steven B. Asby said, dropping classes at the beginning of a semester is not the same as withdrawing from semester hours after courses have begun.

“Students are able to adjust their schedules during the course adjustment period, which ends on the fifth day of the beginning of a semester,” Asby said. “Many students are able to determine if the courses on their schedule are appropriate during this time, however, sometimes students find that later in the semester, they may need to consider using withdrawal hours.”

At ECU, Asby said, students are allowed to withdraw from up to 16 semester hours during their undergraduate career. Withdrawals are usable up until the 60% point of the semester, he said, which is today. Different rules apply to graduate students, he said.

Asby said there are different advantages of using withdrawal hours during a student's academic career.

“Advantages of using withdrawal hours can be to prevent a poor grade in a course,” Asby said. “This can be crucial in majors that require certain threshold grades and/or poor grades can damage a student's chances of declaring their chosen major. It can also prevent further negative impact on a student's academic standing and offer them more time to focus on other courses and improve grades.”

In addition, he said, dropping a difficult course could provide students with a sense of relief and make them feel better.

Even though there are many advantages in withdrawing from a course, Asby said, there are also disadvantages involved.

“Withdrawing hours on a course that is a prerequisite for future courses could delay major declaration and/or graduation,” Asby said. “It could also decrease a student's completion rate, which, then, can extend their time to graduate. Dropping a class while utilizing financial aid could impact the Satisfactory Academic Progress. When receiving scholarships, withdrawing may also impact their eligibility as well.”

The withdrawal allotment, he said, is a unique decision for every Pirate and needs to be evaluated on a case-to-case basis.

Asby said some students may need to take this step to keep themselves above academic standards for academic or social groups they are part of, others to prevent them from academic suspension or to persist in their major.

“Some students will be penalized if they retake courses after making grades lower than a C and use withdrawals as a way to avoid those penalties,” Asby said. “Some students bite off more than they can chew in a semester and a withdrawal can even their load. There are many different reasons a withdrawal can be a reprieve and strategy for students.”

Sarah Mejia, senior political science major with a minor in criminal

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JAYLYN GORE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This year marks the seventh annual Pirate Nation Gives event which is a day of giving for all of East Carolina University.

## Day of donation concludes

Kim Kassner  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Division of University Advancement led the seventh annual Pirate Nation Gives to success yesterday.

Chancellor Philip Rogers said the tradition of Pirate Nation Gives has been increasingly successful since it began six years ago.

“Pirate Nation Gives is a newer tradition at East Carolina University and has become a successful way for our alumni and students to get involved in giving back to the university,” Rogers said.

The donors of the Pirate community come together for Pirate Nation Gives each year to support the programs that have helped themselves achieve their goals, Rogers said.

In addition to students and staff, Rogers said alumni play an important role in fundraising and giving back to their alma mater each year.

“Our donors make a huge impact on the success of our university, and we are fortunate to have very generous and dedicated alumni who

not only give monetarily but also of their time mentoring our students,” Rogers said.

Strategic Initiative and Campaign Manager for University Advancement Nicole Stokes said she is the co-chair of the Pirate Nation Gives Committee and oversees a group of around 50 staff members dedicated to maximizing student and alumni involvement during Pirate Nation Gives.

The focus for this year's day of giving, Stokes said, was participation and to have “all hands on deck.” Students were encouraged to celebrate the day whether they donate a sum of money or not, Stokes said.

After participating in at least two of these opportunities, students could receive a free Chick-fil-A sandwich, Stokes said.

There were games around campus for students to participate in to send money to the program of their choice, Stokes said. “Students follow clues on social media from the university to find a stuffed PeeDee doll,” Stokes said. “Once they find that and follow the instructions on the form, they can have a thousand dollars donated to an area on campus of their choosing.”

Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Christopher Dyba

said Pirate Nation Gives started very small, but has gained a lot of attention through social media over the years.

Pirate Nation Gives has contributed a significant amount of money to ECU's Pursue Gold Campaign, the university's comprehensive fundraising plan that is currently in its final year, Dyba said.

“Every year we continue to raise more and more dollars,” Dyba said. “We do have some pretty big donors that save their gift and want to be part of this day of giving, so a big number has been contributed to the larger campaign.”

All donors have the choice of where their fundraising gift goes, Dyba said. Anyone can also donate to the Treasure Chest Student Emergency Fund, Dyba said, a resource for students in financial crises who cannot pay all of their expenses to attend college.

Smaller donors like students or alumni are who make Pirate Nation Gives special, Dyba said. “We don't want to get lost in the big fundraising numbers. We also want to celebrate, have some fun and, perhaps, have some people begin their own personal tradition of giving.”

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

## ECU Track and Field starts outdoor season

Kiarra Crayton  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University Track and Field team will split into two separate groups that will compete in either the Raleigh Relays on today through Saturday in Raleigh, North Carolina or the Adidas Trojan Challenge on Friday and Saturday in Mount Olive, North Carolina at Ray McDonald Sr. Sports Complex.

This is the first outdoor meet for ECU as the team previously competed in the American Athletic Conference Indoor Championships in Birmingham, Alabama at the Birmingham CrossPlex on Feb. 24 through Feb. 25.

None of the Pirates qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Indoor Championship on March 10 through March 11 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the Albuquerque Convention Center, during the AAC Championship.

Of the 11 teams that competed in the American Championships, four did not qualify including ECU, the University of Tulsa, Southern Methodist University and Temple University, according to the American. Of the four, East Carolina is the only team that competed in both men's and women's events during the meet.

The Pirate men's team came in last at seventh place with 47 points and the women's



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Senior thrower Naadiya Faison winds up to throw during the shot put event for the ECU Pirates.

ended in ninth with 28 points during the championships. Both teams were at least 95 points away from first place which was the University of Cincinnati for the men and the University of Central Florida for the women.

ECU freshman jumper Jared Harrell earned the American Freshman of the Year award for

the season according to the American.

There were 14 meet records set by the competing schools during the championships. Some of the records were in the women's pentathlon and other women pentathlon events. There were also records set in the men's heptathlon as well.

ECU had six athletes place in the top five during the events at the championship. Harrell and junior sprinter Royal Burris were the top performers for the ECU men's team. Burris placed second in the 200 meter relays with a time of 20.85 and Harrell finished first in the long jump (7.49m) and fourth in the triple jump (15.12m).

The women put up numbers as senior thrower Naadiya Faison placed second in shot put (15.78m) and freshman multis Tereza Babicka went second in the 800 meter run indoor pentathlon (2:21:24) and fourth in the women's long jump indoor pentathlon (5.62m).

Other notable Pirate performances were from junior hurdler Terence Booth, Jr. who placed fourth in the 60 meter hurdles (8.13). The men's 4x400 relay placed fifth and the men's distance relay placed fourth.

ECU senior thrower Jasmine Jenkins placed fifth in weighted throws with a launch distance of 18.86m.

The Pirates will next host the Bill Carson Invitational at the Bate Foundation Track and Field Facility on March 31 through next Friday. The meet schedule and other information can be found at ECUPIrates.

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

### ONLINE

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

» POLL: Did you donate to the 2023 Pirate Nation Gives event?

### SOCIAL MEDIA

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## BRIEFS

## WGO to host women leaders panel

Today, the Women and Gender Office and the Office for Equity and Diversity will hold a panel that consists of three female leaders at ECU. The panel will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. at the East Carolina Heart Institute.

## Career services to hold Disney-College info panel

Today, the Greenville Convention and Visitors authority will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Meeting locations will vary.

## Study abroad to hold experience workshop

Friday, ECU Study Abroad will hold a workshop to assist students in learning how to talk about their study abroad experience in a job or graduate school interview. The workshop will be held at the International House from noon to 1 p.m.

## SGDC to host LGBTQ+ Health Fair

Monday, the Health Sciences Campus Sexual and Gender Diversity Committee will host a health fair that will feature a free blood pressure check and more. The health fair will take place at the Health Science Student Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## 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.

## Mar. 16, 2023

Possession of Marijuana < 1/2 oz., Possession of Marijuana Paraphernalia, Possession of Alcohol by Person < 21 and Possession of Fraudulent ID charges were found on Johnston and Student Street at 1 p.m. and were cleared by citation.

On College Hill Drive, a charge of Second Degree Trespassing was cleared by arrest at 4:47 p.m.

## Mar. 17, 2023

Larceny and Resist, Delay & Obstruction of an officer were found on the South Side of McGinnis Theatre & East of Rawl Bldg. at 2:34 a.m. and still has an open investigation following it.

At Tyler Residence Hall, Underage Drinking was found at 6:04 p.m. and was cleared.

Possession of Marijuana < 1/2 oz. (x2) was found at the Main Campus Student Center Parking Deck and was cleared by citation at 8:51 p.m.

On Fifth St. and Founders Drive, a charge of Driving While Impaired was made at 11:02 p.m. and was cleared by arrest.



Senior public health major Spencer Jones is a Pirate Navigator that is involved with Pirates Aboard Admitted Students Day that will happen on campus.

## Newly admitted students invited to campus

Kim Kassner  
TEC STAFF

Pirates Aboard Admitted Students Day is around the corner, inviting newly admitted students and their families to East Carolina University's campus to explore and get to know the facilities Saturday.

Justine Okerson, senior associate director for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, said Pirates Aboard Admitted Students Day is the ECU Admissions Office marquee event for newly admitted students.

"We invite all admitted students and their families to come and see what makes ECU so special and so unique," Okerson said.

The event, she said, will take place on Saturday during two different time slots. The first time slot called Pirates Aboard Purple, Okerson said, is from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Pirates Aboard Gold is held from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

While the students are on campus, Okerson said, different engagement opportunities will be taking place all over campus including the academic fair in the Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum and the student life fair at the Mall on campus.

"Pirates Aboard includes an academic fair, information sessions, a student life fair, academic presentations, open houses and the

opportunity to find a home at ECU," Okerson said. "Newly admitted students will meet other admitted students, will have the opportunity to start collecting Pirate Merch, and begin to prepare for Fall 2023!"

Okerson said admitted students can sign up for the event on the Admissions Office webpage.

Spencer Jones, senior public health major, said he is working for the ECU Admissions Office as a Pirate Navigator. For the past two years, he said, he has been involved in helping with the event. As a freshman, Jones said, he attended Pirates Aboard himself.

"I came with my roommate and my parents," Jones said. "We wanted to get a good feel of the campus. It just felt like home, everyone was super accommodating and welcoming, and they really made me feel like this was the place for me to be. I remember my mom took lots of pictures with the cupola and we ate in the dining hall. I also went and saw some sessions related to my intended major."

A memory from Pirates Aboard that Jones still holds dear, he said, are the moments he shared with his roommate exploring the campus.

Jones said he remembers getting to know new people, exploring the campus and learning about the different organizations and clubs at ECU.

Chancellor Philip Rogers said he enjoys meeting the new students on campus during Pirates Aboard.

"I enjoy the opportunity to meet our admitted students during Pirates Aboard," Rogers said. "Some students and their families haven't visited campus before, so I love getting their first impressions. And for the students who have already made their decision to attend ECU, it's gratifying to watch their faces light up when they see their home for the next four years in person."

Rogers said he sees the festivities as an important part of the transitioning from high school to college.

Getting together on campus may help solidify a student's decision to enroll at ECU, he said. Rogers said looking at everything the university has to offer can make the transition from high school to college easier for new students.

"Students and their families get the opportunity to learn about everything we have to offer, meet our wonderful faculty and staff and get a feel of life at ECU," Rogers said."

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

## CLASS continued from A1

law and legal process, said she works as a success coach at the PASC. She said she helps students who struggle academically and supports them in their journey of withdrawing from classes.

"I help other students who will have a very low GPA struggling from their first semester," Meija said. "I kind of just figure out what the problem is, whether it's the student's organization or whether it's their class schedule, and I just kind of see what I can help with. Sometimes it's just implementing some studying time throughout their schedule, making sure they both take time for themselves but also for their academics."

Common reasons for students wanting to withdraw from their classes is because they have not improved academically overall, Meija said. Students may have taken an attempt at different studying strategies, she said, and tried to apply them to their classes but haven't seen any results yet.

Meija said another reason could be the course level being too high and difficult for the student.

Keni Orourke, junior English and technical writing major, said she had to withdraw from one of her classes because she was diagnosed with postural tachycardia syndrome (PoTS) at the beginning of the 2023 spring semester. Because of her disease, she said, she had difficulties keeping up with her class.

"I was diagnosed with PoTS at the beginning of the semester, which causes fainting," Orourke said. "One time I fainted, I got a concussion. There was some cognitive delay and I needed to find more to do my homework. Because my doctors are an hour and a half away in Raleigh, I needed more time in my schedule to visit them and also find the time to go to class at the same time."

Orourke said her professor was sad to hear she had to withdraw from her class, but because her doctors appointments were so time intensive, she said she had no other choice.

Before withdrawing from her class, she said, she talked to ECU's Department for Disability Support Services, the Office of the Dean of Students and the Financial Aid Office.

"I met with the Dean of Students in a meeting," Orourke said. "She gave me instructions/help on how to use extenuating circumstance as a reason to withdraw and she sent me emails with the correct link. I also spoke to the Financial Aid Office to make sure withdrawing wouldn't affect my payments."

However, she said she has chosen not to get her master's degree at ECU anymore because of the issues she had with the financial aid support and constantly being told two different things by different departments.

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



COWOMEN | UNSPLASH

The Brody School of Medicine will host the Women Leaders at ECU Panel from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

## Panel features women

Julia Lawson  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University will host the Women Leaders at ECU Panel at the Brody School of Medicine from 1:30 to 3 p.m. today.

Aisha Powell, assistant director of undergraduate advising and chair of Staff Senate, said the event's purpose is to provide an opportunity for young women to ask female leaders how they succeeded and became leaders in their chosen profession.

"I want attendees to learn that every journey is different, to know that there are some strategies that they can implement in their professional lives to provide opportunities for themselves and other women in their profession," Powell said.

Those who attend will gain useful insight Powell said, by listening to the different perspectives from the journeys of the women on panel.

Powell said the panel event began through former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Dr. Virginia Hardy and was partially driven by the 69% majority of people that's on ECU's staff that identify as women.

"It will be live streamed in person, and if people can't catch it, it will be recorded for viewing later," Powell said.

Amanda Higginson, interim associate dean for student affairs at Brody School of Medicine as well as a clinical associate professor of pediatrics is a featured panelist at the event.

Higginson said she is a female leader in Brody School of Medicine as she helps to prepare students for their residency programs.

"I believe that representation matters, and it is important for all women to see other women in different leadership positions," Higginson said.

Women face more difficulties when in leadership positions which male counterparts do not, Higginson said, so it is important to learn from women who have been successful.

Higginson said women's accomplishments should be acknowledged and used to teach other women how to succeed in their chosen field of study.

"I believe that representation matters, and it is important for all women to see other women in leadership positions. It's critical to acknowledge and celebrate female leaders at ECU and recognize the role they play in teaching and inspiring the next generation of leaders, both women and men," Higginson said.

Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology Yaolin Zhou said as an Asian woman who immigrated to the United States when she was four years old, she has been able to represent the underrepresented group of Asian women in academic medicine.

Zhou said she is frequently the only Asian woman in meetings and because of stereotypes associated with Asian women, she said she is constantly having to defy different people's expectations.

"My parents and I, we immigrated from China, and when I was four years old Tiananmen Square happened and my parents decided to go with other graduate students to the Chinese Embassy to protest the attack on Chinese students in Tiananmen Square and we marched in protest," Zhou said.

Growing up, Zhou said her parents raised her to champion human rights and justice for all as fundamental values and she continues to uphold those values in every aspect of her and her work.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

## OUR VIEW

### Female success needs spotlight in everyday life

March signifies Women's History Month which is a time that highlights the many contributions that women have made throughout history for society today.

During March, not only is it a time to celebrate women's courage and their accomplishments in history but it is also a time to remember that there are still places where women's rights and opportunities should be advanced.

Despite the progress made for more equality and justice for women around the world, there are still plenty of groups of women nationally that continue to face discrimination and violence based on their gender and sexuality.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe the fight for women's justice must go on regardless of the month and women's history should be celebrated every day as it is incorporated into our daily lives.

During times like these, despite the changes the world still needs to make, we must remember how far women have come.

According to the History website, in 1869, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton founded the National Woman Suffrage Association. On August 18, 1920, women won the right to vote with the 19th Amendment.

The list goes on of women's accomplishments and their strides against gender discrimination. To continue the fight, it starts with breaking down systematic barriers and ensuring representation.

In March we must remember the powerful women in history that shaped the way women live their lives today, to the modern-day heroes we see in our everyday lives.



Senior communication major and arts editor Abbie Clavijo sits at her desk in Pirate Media 1 showing off the flower tattoo on the back of her arm. HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Are tattoos really unprofessional?



**Abbie Clavijo**  
TEC COLUMNIST

it's not so beautiful.

I've always viewed tattoos as a form of self expression. Though they often are a bit less subtle than a tiny little nose piercing or colored hair they allow people to share bits of themselves with other people.

For as long as I can remember though, tattoos, dyed hair and piercings have been looked down upon in the professional world. Teachers, businessmen, nurses, reporters and more have been told to cover them up for the sake of professionalism. What does a tattoo, hair color or piece of jewelry have to do with being professional?

Tattoos. They give us the ability to put any word, symbol or image on our body for virtually the rest of our lives. It seems like a really beautiful thing, to be able to have that kind of free will. In the professional world though,

I have two pretty large tattoos on my arms, and I do plan on getting more. One on my tricep and the other on my bicep. They are not inappropriate, they are not suggestive, but they do however represent important parts of me and who I am. "You will have to wear long sleeves on air for the rest of your life," people have told me. "What will people think of you when they see they're being interviewed by someone like that?"

Like what exactly? My tattoos do not impair my ability to write important stories, to conduct meaningful interviews or to act professionally in any job for that matter, they are simply an expression of self.

They have become so much a part of me I often forget the one I cannot see all the time is even there. I know that it is on my body and that makes me a bit biased here but the point I am trying to make is that I still am able to do my job just as professionally as I did before getting them.

According to Mind Tools, there are

eight characteristics of professionalism. These include competence, knowledge, conscientiousness, integrity, respect, emotional intelligence, appropriateness and lastly confidence. My tattoos have not affected any of these characteristics in a negative way. If anything they have made me feel more confident in myself which I feel is a large aspect to professionalism.

Times are changing. The world, as it should, is becoming less concerned with the way people look and more concerned with how well people can do their job. If you are someone who believes that a tattoo, piercing or even someone's pink hair makes them less professional then maybe you are the problem. You are allowing your judgment and distaste for these forms of self expression to impact the way you view the person's actions as a whole.

Clavijo is a senior majoring in communication 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.**

Pirate seniors we only have 43 days left until graduation y'all just hang in there!

Please stop thinking that service workers are supposed to cater to just you and only you. Entitlement stinks!

Pink is the best color out!

Again, we gotta get a Trader Joes out here maybe then we can be a civil city.

Word on the curb is we're supposed to be getting a CAVA out here let ME GET IN LINE FIRST THANK YOU!

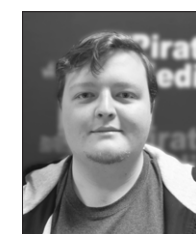
Chicken is such a weird meat idk. I like chicken but sometimes I eat it and I'm like... wow I'm eating chicken and then it gets weird and I don't wanna eat it anymore.

The rec center needs to have a major rebrand and be more like the health science campus gym and maybe I'd like to go in there more. The rec is just so dark.

I don't know what it is about the people of Greenville just walking in a street right in front of cars like... maybe don't do that?

Why is it snowing the first week of spring. North Carolina weather please have mercy on me.

Where's my weekly Pirate rants?!? And, yes, people do read the rants.



**Chris Long**  
TEC COLUMNIST

Our society has normalized pornography and sexual content into an oversaturated aspect of our culture that is taking over our lives. Tackling such a large issue in today's world is like trying to empty the world's oceans with an empty bucket, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't try. As our society becomes increasingly more perverse and extreme with the portrayal of sex and pornography on television, our phones and our day-to-day lives, an overall desensitization creates a mental shift in those who participate, both willingly and unwillingly.

The problem with sex culture and pornography is not an issue determinate on religion, race, political affiliation, ideology or any other parameter that divides us against one another. The truth of the matter is that this topic has become unescapable, inevitably stealing the innocence of young children too early and twisting the perspective of older people to push the boundaries on what is and is not permissible.

It is a loaded subject, with strong opinions in both directions both for and against sex culture and pornography, but I have seen and experienced personally what damage it can do to a person. The issue not only affects those in front of the screen, but most importantly those behind it.

Our society has normalized pornography and sexual content into an oversaturated aspect of our culture that is taking over our lives.

Tackling such a large issue in today's world is like trying to empty the world's oceans with

In an age where anyone can become a pornstar behind a paywall, anyone can exchange their self worth as a bargaining chip for a few extra bucks or, if you're good at it or lucky, a comfortable lifestyle. For those not as fortunate to have that kind of leverage, the industry uses and throws away these real people with real stories for pennies on the dollar while making millions profiting off of their degradation often based on lies and trickery.

It is estimated that every second, 28,258 are watching pornography while a total of no less than 35% of all data downloaded from the internet is related to pornography, according to an article from ConvenantEyes. One in five searches are for porn, meaning that 20% of the world's largest fountain of knowledge in human history has been boiled down into a self-serving search tool for momentary pleasure.

Pornography perpetuates a violent portrayal of sex. Today, 88% of scenes in porn films contain acts of physical aggression, while 49% of scenes contain verbal aggression, according to ConvenantEyes.

That dangerous combination creates an ideation in the minds of impressionable young men (who are the most affected people group as it relates to pornography) that can leave behind negative long-term effects, such as sexual violence or assault. Though, men are not the only ones affected. The Department of Health and Human Services estimates that between 240,000

and 325,000 women and children are exploited in sex trafficking in the United States, according to Deliver Fund. Real people are really abused to create the content that you indulge in regularly and continuing to support the industry that exploits them is a slap in the face to those who suffer in modern slavery.

In 2022, the largest pornography website on the internet Pornhub came under fire with lawsuits from two women alleging that the site hosted videos of them being sexually assaulted as underage teenagers without their consent. The case was denied for dismissal and is continuing to be fought.

Women are ultimately the victims of pornography, which makes the 21st century's ingenuity of putting the ability to create in the hands of impressionable young women that much scarier. Big budget companies have used DIY pornography workspaces as hunting grounds for recruitment and exploitation.

Porn is an issue. Sex culture is an issue. Indulging cannot create long-term benefits in your day to day life. A short-term boost of dopamine is not worth your peace. No matter who you are, male, female or anything in between — your body is your own, and it is as you as it gets. Who gets to see or experience that is not meant for the public to consume.

Long is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact them, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto: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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Submit your Pirate Rants on our website under the opinion tab or scan the QR code.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL NOTICE

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handgun, Taurus handgun, Davis handgun, Bersa handgun and bicycles. Some matters concern property in which the case has been disposed of in the judicial system and the property is no longer considered evidence in this matter. Persons who may be entitled thereof are required by law to make such a claim within (30) days of this notice. Owners may contact the ECU Police Department at (252) 737-2626 or (252) 328-6787 or in person at 609 East 10th Street, Greenville, NC. A description of the property along with the serial number or reasonable proof of ownership will need to be provided in order to claim property. After (30) days, the property will

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Six and Three bedroom houses with 2 baths for August'23. Also One-bedroom units for \$675.00 includes water/sewer! All are 2 blocks from ECU and have fenced yards. Low Pet Fee with NO pet rent! Text 252-565-7052 or tilleyproperties.net

## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 9 — Pluto enters

Aquarius today, beginning a phase, lasting until 2043, of social evolution, scientific innovation and humanitarianism. Power rises naturally. Teamwork allows transformation.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — Collective

enterprises thrive, with Pluto in Aquarius over the next two decades. Economic benefits flow through collaboration. A rising tide lifts all boats.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 7 — Surrender the

unnecessary or superficial. Pluto's ingress into Aquarius colors the next two decades of your journey. Discover hidden truths. Follow your heart.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — You can't eat gold.

Despite provoking a desire for financial control, Pluto in Aquarius reminds that strength, worth, value, and wealth come from within.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Partnership

and teamwork empower the next two decades, with Pluto in Aquarius. Grow and deepen networks, bonds and connections. Love is the strongest glue.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 7 — Pluto entering

Aquarius begins a 20-year phase of revelation and healing. Abandon false illusions, especially around health and work. Evolution and rebirth recur as themes.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 9 — Purpose, focus and

clarity illuminate your heart's passion, with Pluto in Aquarius for two decades. Relationships develop deeper intimacy. Have fun making a difference together.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — The next two

decades revolve around home and family connection, with Pluto entering Aquarius. Get down to basics. Share precious moments and milestones.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 —

Media transformation reveals hidden truths and dirt. Innovations with communications color the next two decades, with Pluto in Aquarius. Tell your own story.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 —

Breakthroughs around income and values illuminate two decades, with Pluto in Aquarius. Recognize fears without letting them drive. Discover hidden talents. Expectations transform. Abandon the superficial.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 9 —

Reclaim personal power. Pluto enters your sign today, flavoring a generation. In a special lifetime milestone transit for Aquarians, Pluto reconnects you with your core purpose.

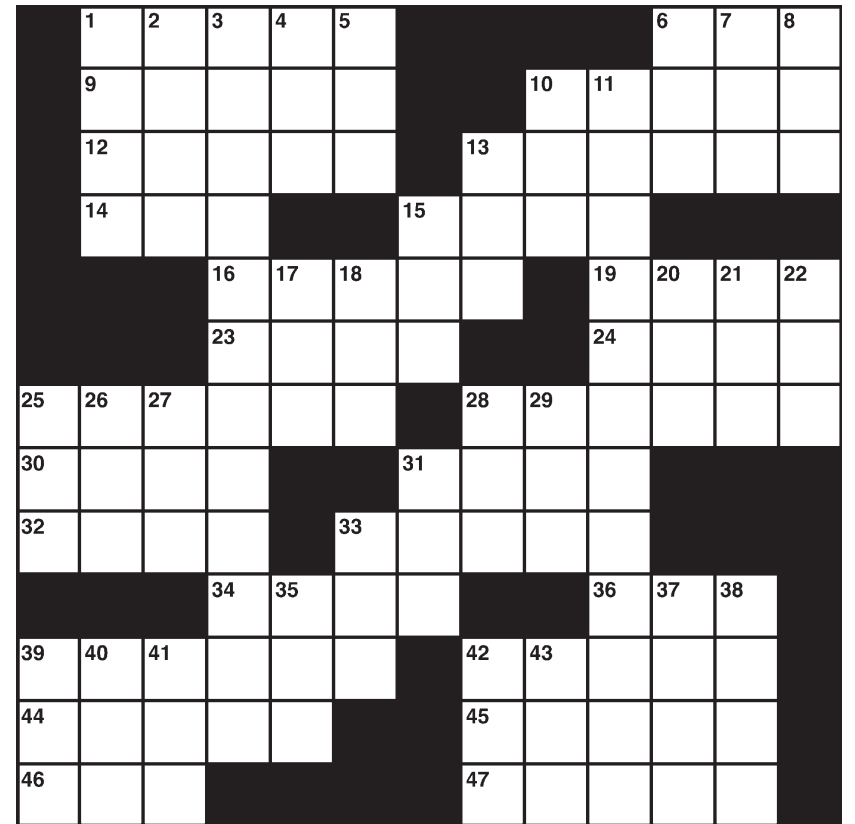
**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Pluto's ingress into

Aquarius shines light into darkness. Honesty, integrity and reconciliation strengthen over the next 20-year phase. Deepen connections with nature, love and spirituality.

## CROSSWORD

### THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

#### ACROSS

- 1 Jason \_\_\_ of "Chicago P.D."
- 6 Wray of "King Kong"
- 9 \_\_\_ as a beet
- 10 Actor Clark
- 12 Gushes forth
- 13 Farr & Foxx
- 14 Jamaica's official lang.
- 15 "Chicago \_\_\_" (1994-2000)
- 16 Mary-Kate or Ashley
- 19 "\_\_\_ to Bali"; Crosby/Hope film
- 23 Harness strap
- 24 "\_\_\_ la Douce"
- 25 Diane or Forrest
- 28 Role on "The Conners"
- 30 Mayberry resident
- 31 Actress \_\_\_ Marie Hupp
- 32 Tuesday, for one
- 33 Talk show host O'Brien
- 34 Copenhagen
- 36 Feel crummy
- 39 "Last \_\_\_ Hero"; Schwarzenegger film
- 42 Disney dog

- 44 "Wheel of Fortune" purchase
- 45 Volkswagen model
- 46 "\_\_\_ Z" (2014-15)
- 47 "The Day the Earth \_\_\_ Still"; 2008 film

#### DOWN

- 1 First, second, third or home
- 2 "SportsCenter" network
- 3 "Abbott Elementary" role
- 4 Chop down
- 5 Ames & Asner
- 6 Series for Zeeko Zaki
- 7 Tavern order
- 8 "Say \_\_\_ to the Dress"
- 10 Space
- 11 Sitcom for Tye White
- 13 Voight or Cryer
- 15 Barnyard bird
- 17 Jamie \_\_\_ Curtis
- 18 \_\_\_ Alec Guinness
- 20 Mork's planet
- 21 Parisian pal
- 22 Daniel \_\_\_ Kim
- 25 Piglet's mom
- 26 Jungle animal
- 27 Actor Wheaton
- 28 "The Brady Bunch" role
- 29 Actress Ortiz
- 31 "Ordinary \_\_\_"
- 33 "Erin Burnett OutFront" network
- 35 E-mail provider
- 37 "Leave \_\_\_ Beaver"
- 38 Washerful
- 39 Actress Gardner
- 40 Portable bed
- 41 "\_\_\_ and a Half Men"
- 42 Nightclothes, for short
- 43 "Venom: \_\_\_ There Be Carnage"; 2021 film

Solution from 2/23



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## COMICS

### BLISS



## SUDOKU

### SUDOKU

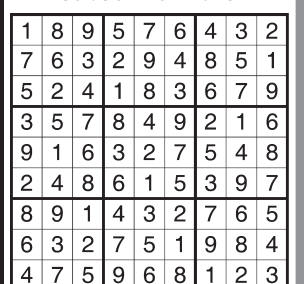
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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)

Solution from 2/23



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THE AGENCY

## EVENTS

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#### GMArcade

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

#### Glass Workshops at The GlasStation

The GlasStation  
3732 West Wilson St.  
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
(252) 325-6665

#### Navigating Jim Crow: The Green Book and Oasis Spaces

In North Carolina  
Joyner Library  
1000 E Fifth St.  
9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
(252) 917-1855

#### Looking for Vendors for Savor Art & Dine

Savor Art & Dine  
2245 Statonsburg Rd.  
Suite O  
5:30 to 11 p.m.

### TOMORROW

#### Art of Scratch

Emerge Gallery and Art Center  
404 S Evans St.  
6 to 8:30 p.m.  
(252) 551-6947

#### Matt Rogers Live

Buccaneer Music Hall  
2121 Firetower Rd.  
9 to 11:30 p.m.  
(252) 756-5505

#### Coopstrong Pre-Race Party

Fleet Feet Greenville  
207 E Arlington Blvd.  
5 to 7 p.m.  
(252) 533-3338

### SATURDAY

#### Fossil Hunt Expedition

River Park North  
1000 Mumford Rd.  
9 to 10:30 a.m.  
(252) 329-4562

#### The Amazing Lounge Lizards

Dirty Dan's  
110 E Fourth St.  
10 to 11:59 p.m.

### Sunday

#### Live: Morgan Hudson Vickers

Tapped 650  
650 Firetower Rd.  
3 to 5 p.m.  
(252) 689-6455

#### Family Workshop Series

Emerge Gallery and Art Center  
404 S Evans St.  
1 to 3:30 p.m.  
(252) 551-6947



East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance students, illuminated by colorful lights, move together on a stage to showcase their artistic talents.

## SoTD to showcase Spring Dance

Alayna Boyer

FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University School of Theatre and Dance (SoTD) will be premiering the annual Spring Dance concert at McGinnis Theatre from yesterday through Sunday.

Jayme Host, Director of the SoTD, said she will be the Producing Artistic Director for the Spring Dance concert this week. Host said the concert will be held in McGinnis Theatre and showtimes will be held at 7:30 p.m. today through Saturday, and 2 p.m. matinees will be available Saturday and Sunday.

Host said her role as Producing Artistic Director is to ensure that everything in the production runs smoothly. She said each year there are new premieres showcased in the Spring Dance concert and that it has been a long-standing tradition at ECU.

"We are celebrating as always the works of our acclaimed faculty and supporting two students' works who are premiering in the concert as well who are exceptional choreographers and emerging professionals," Host said.

Spring Dance auditions for students occur in the fall semester, Host said. She said preparation for the concert takes place immediately after auditions. This year, Host said the SoTD faculty welcomed two guest artists and choreographers to help teach and create choreography pieces for students.

Dance Artist and Choreographer Donna Vaughn, who premiered in Broadway's "The Lion's King," took leave and came to ECU to help teach and create choreography pieces, Host said. Another artist, Roland Culler, professor of ballet at Pace University, has also helped to choreograph pieces for the concert and has choreographed a piece titled "We are The Champions."

"We're eager and always love sharing our art with our students and our community," Host said. "I always hope that our works are inspiring to the audience and appreciate them coming to help us celebrate the beauty and complexities of our art form in dance."



Jackie Dodds

Jackie Dodds, senior dance performance and choreography major, said she will not only be performing in the concert, but also showcasing a choreography piece titled "Joy."

Dodds said in the fall semester, she created the concept for her choreography piece. She said after applying for the role of student choreographer for the concert, she was awarded the opportunity. Dodds said this allowed her to have the opportunity to work with a range of students to perform her piece at the concert.

"I got to work with a completely new set of people. And so there's like different energies in the room and that's really exciting to me," Dodds said. "I'm very comfortable with my entire cast and they really got to see how I work. They know me as a person but how I work was very fun to reveal."

Dodds said her experience in the SoTD has been a fun and exciting experience, as she gets to work with a diverse group of students and faculty. She said although there were moments she felt she had hit a standstill with her choreography piece, she felt during those times of struggle, some of her best work came to light.

In addition to directing her own choreog-

raphy piece, Dodds said she will also be in two other performance pieces during the concert. She said there will be a mix of dances and different styles throughout the show. Dodds said there are a lot of incredible students in the program and faculty that have encouraged the expression of her creative side throughout her time at ECU.

"The work that we create has just been sitting in all of our brains and for it to just explode out into the program, and then we get to showcase it to the community, is very special," Dodds said. "I'm very proud of the work that comes out of the program."

Amani Faulk, junior dance performance and choreography major, said she was also awarded the student choreographer role for this year's concert.

Faulk said she will be showcasing a piece titled "The Streets" and said that her piece is very contrasting to other works being performed in the show.

Faulk said her choreography piece is a ballroom, hip-pop fusion with recognizable music, including music from Shakira, Justin Timberlake and Santana, all inspired by her Dominican culture. Faulk said she was also inspired by several films.

"It's reminiscent of three movies, I pulled inspiration from Romeo and Juliet, Step Up: The Streets, and West Side Story," Faulk said.

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

## ECU holds trombone day recital

Martha Nebab  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University will celebrate trombone day with "Skills 'n Bones II," a recital featuring ECU's trombone choir and guest artists Dr. Bradley Palmer and Matthew Neff at the A.J. Fletcher recital hall on Saturday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Matthew Driscoll, the assistant teaching instructor for trombone at ECU and conductor of the trombone choir, said he started planning the event at the beginning of the spring semester. Trombone day, Driscoll said, will also include two morning masterclasses led by the guest artists and an afternoon career panel featuring visiting high school teacher and trombone player Chuck Capps.

Named after Driscoll's podcast, "Skills n Bones: The Search for Trombone Treasures," he said he hopes to inspire visiting students and players to practice more and to be more curious about the versatile instrument.

"My main goal is for everything to go smoothly," Driscoll said. "And for everybody to have a good time, and hopefully they will leave learning something about trombone."

As the trombone choir's conductor, Driscoll said he'll conduct an arc of trombone players and perform "Inveni David," a choir piece by composer Anton Bruckner; "Fanfare from La Péri" by Paul Dukas; "Affinity" composed by guest artist Matthew Neff; and "Hymn for Planet Earth" by Steven Verhelst, a performance featuring both guest artists.

The last song called "The Mass Trombone Choir Piece," Driscoll said, will feature visit-



"Skills 'n Bones II" will feature two guest artists from the NC Symphony and Columbus State University.

ing trombone students from middle and high school, as well as college students and professionals. Driscoll said the piece can feature up to 76 trombones, a possibility he hopes to reach but isn't too stressed about playing with less.

"For the people that have registered that want to play, the music will be ready for them," Driscoll said. "Then, we'll do a short rehearsal to get it all together the morning of. The goal is to have middle school and high school students come through the campus and then hopefully some of them will want to be future pirates."

Matthew Neff, bass trombonist in the North Carolina Symphony, said he's looking forward to performing with Driscoll and Palmer, two of his mutual friends. For his solo pieces, Neff said he'll play a piece by tubist David Fetter and another by David Sonenberg.

Neff said he taught for 18 years at the collegiate level, was formerly in a military band, a jazz band and has recently started performing for the North Carolina Symphony in 2020.

"I can talk a little bit about what it takes to do all those kinds of things," Neff said. "I was in their shoes not too long ago, and even though

I thought I knew exactly what I wanted to do, plans change, and being open to trying new opportunities will make yourself better and more prepared."

Having only been on ECU's campus once before for an educational outreach by the North Carolina Symphony, Neff said he's looking forward to playing with Driscoll, where their last performance together was a year ago with a Winston-Salem chamber orchestra. With the upcoming recital, Neff said it will be "trombone-heavy" and very social, in comparison to his previous chamber performance.

Bradley Palmer, professor of trombone at Columbus State University in Georgia, said he enjoys doing one-on-one work with students in order to prepare them for their careers. Outside of teaching, Palmer said he enjoys playing in regional symphonies and said trombone day will be a good mix of his passions.

"One of the things I'm really excited about is to do the guest artist appearance, which combines all of that," Palmer said.

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

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CONTRIBUTED BY UNSPLASH

# TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

**Kiarra Crayton**  
Sports Editor



**ECU baseball vs George Mason from Friday to Sunday Score Prediction? ECU 3-0**

**Why?** East Carolina has an almost

perfect record at home and I don't think they will let George Mason get the best of them with Pirate Nation behind home plate. It should be an easy sweep for the Pirates.

**Chris Long**  
Sports Chief



**ECU baseball vs George Mason from Friday to Sunday Score Prediction? ECU 3-0**

**Why?** The Pirates should be looking

to enter conference play on hefty win streak as I don't see George Mason posing a real threat to the Pirates. Hopefully, the Pirates do not take this series as a look a head to next week.

**Brendan Cavazos**  
Sports Editor



**ECU baseball vs George Mason from Friday to Sunday Score Prediction? ECU 3-0**

**Why?** East Carolina

has show its dominance on the baseball field to start the season. George Mason should not pose much of a threat to the current momentum of the team but the Pirates need to stay focused if they want to stay ahead of their opponent and on top of the conference rankings.

## » ANALYSIS

# Ranking softball's walkout songs

**Chris Long**  
TEC STAFF

As East Carolina University softball (20-9, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) enters conference play, it is time to celebrate and rank the full 24-woman roster's walkup songs.

### The Bad:

As with baseball's walkout songs, not everything can be a winner. If every song was elite then this list could not exist. That is not the case, however, as these are the bad walkup songs. Opposing pitchers have fun, because if their music selection is anything like their hitting, you are due to have a good day on the mound.

**24.** Diva - Beyonce selected by junior utility Taylor Woodring

**23.** Freestyle - Lil Baby selected by sophomore catcher Kylee Schojan

**22.** Welcome to the Show - Cody Johnson selected by sophomore infielder Logan Sutton

**21.** Work It - Missy Elliott selected by junior right handed pitcher Taylor Smith

### The Bearable:

This grouping of songs may not be my cup of tea, but I can see how these tunes can help a player lock in. Not terrible, not great, just pretty... meh. If you are an opposing pitcher, play loose but do not get cheeky.

**20.** 18 - Kodak Black selected by freshman utility Michaela Weber

**19.** Fair Trade - Drake selected by graduate student outfielder Taudrea Sinnie

**18.** Where I'm From - Hawaiian Soljah selected by freshman utility Mackenzie Kila

**17.** Everythang - Jeezy selected by sophomore infielder Malea Rolle

**16.** You Should See Me in a Crown - Billie Eilish selected by graduate student right handed pitcher Payton Hudson

**15.** Rookie of the Year - Moneybagg Yo selected by freshman infielder Madison Mercer

**14.** Hotel Room - Pitbull selected by senior catcher Sophie Wools

### The Good:

These songs hit just right. Opposing pitchers be warned, if these songs step up to the plate, you may be in for a day.

**13.** HARD LOVE - NEEDTOBREATHE selected by senior infielder Bailee Wilson

**12.** All of the Lights - Kanye West selected by junior left handed pitcher Addy Bullis

**11.** I Got 5 On It - Luniz selected by senior right handed pitcher Madisyn Davis

**10.** Doses & Mimosas - DJ Brando selected by senior outfielder Sydney Yoder

**9.** Walk - Kodak Black selected by sophomore catcher Joie Fittante

**8.** The Way You Move - Outkast selected by sophomore catcher Dafne Mercado

### The Elite:

These songs are strong selections to step up to the plate to. Overall, I'm impressed with these selections, though some of them would be higher were it not for how popular they are. If you are an opposing pitcher, get ready to have runs hung on your head. These bangers are built for dingers.

**7.** Industry Baby - Lil Nas X & Jack Harlow selected by sophomore left handed pitcher Jordan Hatch

**6.** A Milli - Lil Wayne selected by sophomore infielder Milliecent Ott

**5.** Party Up - DMX selected by junior infielder Joselyn Alonso

**4.** Save a Horse - Big & Rich selected by sophomore outfielder Ragan Holloman

**3.** Grove St. Party

Waka Flocka Flame selected by graduate student utility Taylor Edwards

**2.** Follow God - Kanye West selected by junior infielder Jayci Chamberlain

### The Best of the Best:

This next song, the best of the best, would be on my short list of personal walkup songs. Nothing can hype you up like a song where the hook is, "You can't tell me nothing, right?." As a hitter, how can you not bat 1.000 to that? Opposing pitchers beware. This is as good as it gets.

**1.** Can't Tell Me Nothing - Kanye West selected by freshman outfielder Anna Sawyer

### Takeaways:

Once again the freshman class comes away with the best tunes. Kanye and the party mix classics top the list while country and artists whose best work are features once again find themselves at the bottom. Overall, the softball team had a much better list than the baseball team. As the Pirates enter conference play, hopefully these walkup songs will get them motivated to swing for the fences and continue what has been a successful season.



And for those curious, if I were to select a walkout song, it would be Family Ties by Baby Keem & Kendrick Lamar. Though my shortlist would also include Can't Tell Me Nothing by Kanye West and You Know the Drill by Andy Mineo.

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

HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
Freshman utility Michaela Weber

# Getting behind the ECU Barstool page

**Chris Long**  
TEC STAFF

**Trevon McGlone**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Barstool is a sports blog website known for posting sports content, memes and videos across social media. Each Division 1 school and university across the United States has affiliate pages social media pages to the homepage of Barstool, but for East Carolina University's Barstool pages, it's more than just that. It's embracing the culture.

The viceroy of ECU's Barstool affiliate page is a junior who's been a Pirate for three years. Due to the nature of his work, he asked that he remain anonymous for the story and be referred to as the viceroy.

As viceroy, he said his job is to promote merchandise for the Barstool brand revolving around ECU and fulfilling a post quota for social media. He receives submissions throughout the week for posts, then creates at least one Instagram post per day, multiple Instagram stories and multiple Tweets per day, he said.

"I must filter in, like, submissions," the viceroy said. "Thankfully, going to school like this, I usually have something good to post."

The viceroy said he has been the admin of ECU's Barstool page for two years and he was selected as the operator of the accounts after the previous viceroy graduated. The selection process, he said, involved a call for applications and rounds of interviews as Barstool looked to the Pirates to search for their next admin.

Our viceroy had connections, as he said his friend was the viceroy of Missouri State before getting the job at ECU. Having connections did not get him the job, however, he said. The viceroy said he sees himself as being in the know as it pertains to the culture at ECU.

"I feel like I'm in touch with what's big news at East Carolina, what's going on," The viceroy said. "Felt that way before Barstool. So that's why I felt like I was doing pretty good at Barstool, but especially now with people submitting stuff and literally new information because of Barstool. I feel in touch."

ECU's Barstool affiliate is a record keeper for the history of the university's culture just the same as The East Carolinian is for the university's news.

The viceroy said being the university's representative for a national sports media brand comes with its moments of enjoyment with all of the work that gets put in. He said

he has enjoyed many memorable moments in his position, such as the buzzer beater victory over Memphis last year.

"When we played Memphis last year, I posted on Barstool trying to promote the game," the viceroy said. "One of the first times I promoted a basketball game, and a good crowd showed up and then, obviously we won on a buzzer beater. It was awesome. We stormed the court. So that was good because I felt like a good amount of people saw the post and interacted with it and went to the game, because it was like a great game."

Every year, Barstool runs an annual competition to judge who in America has the best college bar. East Carolina has a history with the event, but with a change in rules as seen on Barstool's main Twitter account for the 2023 Best Bar competition, the Pirates lost in the final four versus Syracuse. Instead of the Barstool Best Bar competition, the company changed the rules to be the Best Bar Town competition.

Over the last four years, Greenville, North Carolina's Sup Dogs has won the title of Barstool's Best Bar in America. Our viceroy said he has fond memories of last year's competition.

"Obviously, best bar is always a lot of fun," The viceroy said. "It was so frustrating this year because they kind of changed it, and we lost to Syracuse. We were beating them, then we started losing to them. We posted that we're losing, then everybody started helping out. In the last hour, they got in touch with a booster who bought \$5,000 worth of stuff. And we lost because of that."

ECU's Barstool page can be found on Instagram and Twitter under the username @ECUBarstool where content related to the university can be submitted by students and alumni. ECU Barstool functions as a hub for the culture of East Carolina, headed by the viceroy himself.

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

## the BiG VAPE THEORY

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