

SOFTBALL HEADS TO FLORIDA TO FACE OFF AGAINST UCF to A6



The East Carolinian

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Jamerus Payton, the first place winner of the Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge, presents his family business Carolina Chicken & Waffles. CONTRIBUTED BY JOSHUA SPEAS

PEC winner announced Carolina Chicken & Waffles earns grand prize

Mary Lofland
TEC STAFF

Kristin Outland
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Jamerus Payton took first place and the grand prize of \$15,000 for his family business, Carolina Chicken & Waffles, in the fifth annual Pirate Entrepreneurship Challenge (PEC).

East Carolina University's Miller School of Entrepreneurship (MSOE) announced Payton's victory at the final round of the PEC on April 7.

The idea behind Carolina Chicken & Waffles came about in 2018 when Payton's family decided to turn his mom's "famous family fried chicken" into the staple of their brand, Payton said. He said having a company with drivable food trucks is an opportunity to be different in the food industry and market towards the growing economic interest of food trucks.



Jamerus Payton

As a first year student seeking his master's degree in business administration, Payton said it was surreal to win the competition and he is grateful for the resources and mentorship provided along the way. He said the PEC is a resource for any innovator at ECU to grow as a business professional.

"With every business or opportunity that you take, you learn something new and you become a different person and you're able to utilize all of those skills and the knowledge and abilities that come with it, you'll be able to use it full circle somewhere else," Payton said.

Director of the PEC David Mayo said the program is a three-round competition in which students are able to pitch their business ideas and be advised by successful mentors to turn their plan into an established business.

This year was the first time an existing startup family business won the competition, Mayo said. He said the passion Payton had about his business, as well as its benefit to the region of eastern North

Carolina, led to his success.

The 2021-2022 PEC offered \$150,000 in total cash and prizes to students, Mayo said. More than 50 majors were represented throughout the competition.

"One of the things you always have to have is an excellent product that fills a need in the community and I heard from almost every judge that that was the best waffle that they had ever eaten," Mayo said.

Carlyle Rogers, adjunct faculty member in the MSOE, said MSOE plays a large role in setting up, promoting and contributing toward the process of the PEC. He said the faculty and staff involved in the team were great people to work with.

"Overall it just shows the breadth and wide spectrum of innovation that comes from ECU," Rogers said. "In fact, you've got someone running a food truck then you got someone doing adult coloring books to someone who's doing karate."

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

ONLINE | FULL STORY

LGBTQ clinic to expand ENC, ECU healthcare

Ashley Wolfe
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine (BSoM) has started to see patients for the newly developed ECU LGBTQ+ Health Clinic to promote access to LGBTQ healthcare in eastern North Carolina (ENC).

Housed within the ECU BSoM Department of Pediatrics, the clinic aims to become fully developed for LGBTQ health care services in June of 2022.

Dr. Colby Dendy, BSoM clinical assistant professor of internal medicine and pediatrics, said the long term goal is to have a clinic that would be a true home for the LGBTQ community.

Dendy said though the clinic is housed in the Department of Pediatrics, it will provide services to LGBTQ people of all ages.

"We noticed that there was a big healthcare desert here in eastern North Carolina for LGBTQ+ patients," Dendy said.

Ellen Goldberg, associate director of Clinical Operations at ECU's Student Health Services (SHS), said she plans to work alongside the clinic in an effort to provide LGBTQ services to ENC.

The clinic will open the door to LGBTQ healthcare for families all around ENC, Goldberg said.

"They pulled me in just to kind of find out what's available on campus, how we've been doing it, just to kind of compare notes as they start their clinic," Goldberg said.

Senior childlife and psychology major Haiden Hice identifies as a non-binary lesbian and said when coming to terms with their identity, it was helpful to be informed about what services are available to them.

Finding a healthcare specialist for Hice's transition has been difficult, they said, and it's important to have a clinic where patients can be referred to by their preferred pronouns.

"They (clinics) should not assume gender based on what the client looks like," Hice said.

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



Coldy Dendy

Pirate baseball to joust with Golden Knights

Chris Long
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University baseball (18-15, 4-2 American Athletic Conference) will face off against the University of Central Florida (20-12, 5-1 AAC) for a three-day road trip series from tomorrow to Saturday in Orlando, Florida.

The weekend series will be available for streaming on ESPN+ and will be available to listen to at 94.3 FM The Game. Live statistics will also be available online at ECU Pirates.

The Pirates entered the three-game series following a 2-1 series win against the Wichita State University (13-18, 2-4 AAC) Shockers and the midweek game against Elon University (15-16, 3-6 Colonial Athletic Association) yesterday in Elon, North Carolina.

In the three-game home series against Wichita State, ECU won the first two games by scores of 6-5 and 10-3 before losing the final game 0-5. The series was the seventh of the season. In those seven series, the Pirates have been unsuccessful in sweeping any three-game stretch.

ECU has dropped one of three games four times, two of three games twice and all three games only once. That one three-game series was against Bryant University (11-17, 3-6 Northeast Conference) during the season opener in Greenville, North Carolina.

In the last game of the series against the Shockers, the Pirates' offensive struggles led to a scoreless game. Wichita State was able

to put 5 on the board to take the win, preventing the first series sweep of the season for ECU.

UCF enters the series with home field advantage atop the conference standings within the AAC. Both the Golden Knights and Tulane University (22-10-1, 5-1 AAC) sit at 5-1 in conference, with the Pirates in third place at 4-1. The last three games for UCF were a three-game series against Memphis University (13-15, 1-5 AAC).

The Golden Knights lost the first game to the Tigers by a score of 6-1 before taking back-to-back wins by scores of 13-3 and 15-6 in Memphis, Tennessee. Before facing ECU, UCF took on Jacksonville University (16-13, 4-8 ASUN Conference) yesterday at 7 p.m. in Jacksonville, Florida.

Both of UCF's in-conference opponents sit at the bottom of the AAC's baseball standings for the season. The Golden Knights swept their three-game series against the University of South Florida (19-13, 1-5 AAC) by a total of 17 runs to four. UCF held the Bulls scoreless in the first two games. ECU's previous opponent Wichita State is also near the bottom of the AAC standings, sitting in sixth place.

Offense has not been an issue for the Golden Knights so far, scoring no less than one run in every game of the season. The lowest scoring games were against the then No. 2 ranked Ole Miss University (19-12, 4-8 Southeastern Conference). In two of those



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Sophomore infielder/right hand pitcher Zach Agnos follows through with his swing against Bryant.

games, UCF scored only one run.

ECU, alternatively, has gone scoreless in three of the 33 season games played. Offense has been a struggle for the Pirates, who will need as much of it as they can get to defeat UCF and take the first three-game series of the year.

Following the road trip, the Pirates will return to Greenville, North Carolina, to

meet up against the University of North Carolina Wilmington (18-12, 3-3 CAA) on April 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Clark-LeClair Stadium. The game will be available to listen to at 94.3 FM The Game.

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

ONLINE

» Check out our website for activities, photo galleries and more

» Check out our poll online about voting in the municipal elections

SOCIAL MEDIA



BRIEFS

Career Services to host All-Majors Virtual Job Fair

Today, East Carolina University's Career Services will hold the 2022 All-Majors Virtual Job Fair through Handshake from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Companies will be recruiting Pirates for full-time, internships and co-op positions. Students are asked to prepare for this business professional event. All majors are encouraged to attend.

ECU to showcase student leadership

Today, East Carolina University's Chancellor's Student Leadership Academy (CSLA) will showcase student achievement through its Spring 2022 Leadership Showcase from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Trustees Suite in Room 318 of the Main Campus Student Center. The event will feature leadership vision boards presented by the spring CSLA Scholars followed by a reception.

CLCE to continue Dinner and Discourse

Today, the East Carolina University Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) will continue its Dinner and Discourse series from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 249 of the Main Campus Student Center. Students, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy a free dinner from Red Robin Burger Bar while attendees discuss current events such as the United Nations climate change Assessment Report, upcoming local elections and recent events at the Academy Awards.

Pirates to celebrate campus Earth Week

Monday, East Carolina University will begin Earth Week celebrations with a honey extraction demonstration from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Health Sciences Campus (HSC) Utility Plant. Students are encouraged to attend to learn about honey extraction from HSC beehives, as well as take home locally-produced honey. More events will follow throughout the week and information can be found on the Engage website.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Jennifer Sieg 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 not 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.

April 8, 2022

An open investigation is being conducted for Injury to Real Property at Umstead Hall at 12:10 p.m.

April 9, 2022

A Possession of Mairjuana < 1/2 oz. was cleared by citation at Ballard East at 10 p.m.

April 11, 2022

An open investigation is being conducted for Larceny of Catalytic Converter, Second Degree Trespassing and Injury to Real Property at North Campus Recreation Facilities Complex off Whichard Road at 2:13 a.m.

Mayoral election approaches

Greenville candidates discuss platforms, future plans

Rachana Charla
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As municipal elections for the state of North Carolina approach on May 17, mayoral candidates Elizabeth Liles and incumbent P.J. Connelly both prepare for the polls and discuss their platforms.

Elizabeth Liles platform

Liles is running for mayor on the platforms of economic development, equity, inclusion and unity. Liles said economic development means providing resources and opportunities by collaborating with existing small businesses and improving the economy, especially after the pandemic. Equity and inclusion focuses on affordable and transitional housing to promote her third platform of unity and building what Liles said she calls, "One Greenville."

Founder of the nonprofit organization, Daughters of Worth, Liles has served the Greenville community for over seven years through her work. Liles said she believes the decisions that were being made about the city and its people were not representative of the community, which led her to use her voice and pursue the leadership opportunity.

"I believe that a mayor has a larger responsibility and a larger role. That person should be the leader of the community who is providing a sort of voice for the community that is representing both economic development but is also leading the way in the values of the community as a whole," Liles said.

" I believe that a mayor has a larger responsibility and a larger role. "

-Elizabeth Liles

An independent thinker who uses their voice for their constituents is what makes a good mayor, Liles said. She said her biggest challenge might be that she is not a politician, but she plans to take a wholehearted approach to the mayoral position focusing on the city's economy and the people.

With plans to increase the City Council's transparency, Liles said she believes the city has had an inability to properly address disparities that occurred from the pandemic, including homelessness, healthcare and housing. Liles said she believes the council's current usage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds were not directed toward the actual needs of the city and affected constituents unevenly.

"I think it is important when we are holding information sessions, that we are going to the people and we're making certain that we are providing the opportunity for people to express their thoughts and opinions and to be heard in a way that is relevant to them. Transparency is absolutely critical," Liles said.

As the federal government discusses potential funds for new infrastructure, Liles said she plans to use those funds to target three issues within Greenville: city streets, stormwater flooding and technology.

Liles said the streets are not conducive to the city's traffic. She also said infrastructure is needed to address stormwater and flooding, which disproportionately affects marginalized community members. Lastly, she said there is a need for more internet options as technology has become a necessity for education and in the workforce.

"Our roads need some help. There are some improvements that need to take place," Liles said. "We need to make certain that with our history of being prone to flooding in areas that are being developed in fragile ecological areas and that we are being responsible and vigilant in those areas."

The housing crisis, another nationwide trend, was increased by the pandemic and has impacted Greenville, Liles said. She said she plans to work with property managers to provide more flexible and comprehensive housing services by networking with existing programs to provide assistance. Liles focused on transitional housing, and said community crossroads support the needs of the city, but cannot meet the capacity.

In addition to transitional housing, Liles said she also believes in providing more affordable housing outside of student living spaces. She said understanding the importance of affordable housing in the community starts with addressing why there is a need for affordable housing. She hopes to start providing coaching on renting compared to home ownership. Liles said financial knowledge can help community members make more informed choices.

"In December of 2021, the North Carolina Human Relation Council put out a new report that stated that for Pitt County to be meeting



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Greenville City Hall, where the office of the mayor is located, sits on West Fifth Street in Uptown.

the capacity of our safe and affordable housing needs for this community, we need a 75% increase for safe and affordable housing," Liles said. "We have young professionals and we have hardworking families who are not able to find safe and affordable housing to live and thrive in our area."

As a current college student obtaining her master's in social work at East Carolina University, Liles said her experience in college has shown her how to be passionate and make sustainable social change.

College students are an important part of the community in Greenville and she wants to help students stay in Greenville, have access to opportunities, and continue their lives in the city, Liles said.

"We need your (college students) voice to advocate for every single person. We need you to rise up for all people that are in this community," Liles said. "I think that is something that college students are doing well, that every person is represented, that diversity, equity and inclusion is such a strong component for ECU and for the diversity in Greenville."

P.J. Connelly platform

Connelly is running for re-election as mayor and has been mayor since 2017. He said he experienced a "tumultuous" term during the pandemic but that his experience as mayor has been gratifying as he has seen a tremendous growth of Greenville and the community throughout his terms.

Connelly said his platforms include safety and resources, infrastructure, economic development and Greenville's Uptown entertainment. He said he plans to focus resources on public safety including fire and police stations, fund roads through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant and recruit new companies to further private and public economic development. Connelly also discussed beautifying Uptown with murals and revamping the aesthetic.

His experience as a City Council representative throughout 2015 and 2016 eased him into his role as mayor, Connelly said. He graduated from ECU as a finance major, which has enhanced his knowledge about city budgets.

"We have seen a lot of tremendous growth that has taken place throughout the city. We have really focused on making sure we are improving all the lives of the individuals in our community. We have invested heavily into our infrastructure," Connelly said.

"We have really focused on making sure we are improving all the lives of the individuals in our community. "

-P.J. Connelly

The most challenging thing about being mayor is having to deal with endless requests alongside limited resources and having to make hard decisions, Connelly said. He said engaging with the public by responding to every email he receives allows constituents to voice their opinion and get involved with the public engagement sessions.

The Greenville City Council meetings are open to the public, Connelly said, so that citizens know what is happening in the community. He said the public comment session is 30 minutes long and can always be extended to accommodate the number of community

members in attendance.

"I think it's important that the people of the City of Greenville that ultimately are paying for these features in our community have a voice in it. We do a lot of public engagement processes, where you can come in and voice your opinion," Connelly said.

Infrastructure is hard to manage, Connelly said, as many of the main streets in Greenville are funded and maintained by the NC Department of Transportation. In terms of expansion and infrastructure, Connelly said he wants to focus on the transition to electric vehicles, connecting Greenville to Winterville through Evans Street and Old Tar Road, and the Dickinson Avenue Project that will be repairing asphalt damage starting this summer.

As Greenville grows and the city's needs increase, Connelly said as mayor, he has a responsibility to work with state and federal lawmakers to address the city's needs.

"The number one complaint I get from the City of Greenville is that they say that our road system is inadequate. I would agree with them. I think that years and years went by with underfunding of our road system," Connelly said. "The City Council was putting a few million dollars less than what the bond committee had come up with. Ever since I have been on the council, we have increased that number. This year we are going to be at about \$3 million for road construction."

In terms of homelessness, Connelly said he is focusing resources on rehabilitation and adequate affordable housing. He said the council has helped Community Crossroads, Greenville's homeless shelter and the council wants an expansion of the shelter, but exact plans about expansion or rebuilding have not been decided. The council also assisted in providing resources to pay for additional hotel capacity for sheltering homeless people during the pandemic.

"I think we have done a pretty good job with addressing homelessness in our community. We continue to put resources in," Connelly said. "Just recently, the Community Crossroads, which is our homeless shelter in our community, they are undertaking an expansion to create another building."

The council has worked with Habitat for Humanity to address housing needs and has allocated \$1.4 million dollars to rehabilitating existing homes, Connelly said. He said the council has worked with local contractors to build more housing in the city limits funded by taxpayer dollars.

Greenville's diverse community is something Connelly said he embraces. He has attended several cultural events in Greenville to branch out and learn about community members. Connelly said he has had various opportunities to meet many Greenville civilians, something he never would have experienced without his position as mayor.

Greenville has a population of over 100,000 people and one-third of those are college students, Connelly said. He said he works with the university and the city to campaign and involve college students with city government.

"It is extremely important to us to make sure we are constantly in contact with the students of ECU and at Pitt Community College as well. ECU is an incredible asset to our community," Connelly said. "I think it is important that the leadership at the city and the university are closely embedded with one another because our success at the city brings success to the university and vice versa."

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

OUR VIEW

Small college ceremonies remain valued

As East Carolina University's Spring 2022 Commencement Ceremony nears at 9 a.m. on May 6 in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, the return of in-person college recognition ceremonies on May 6 and May 7 allows students to be personally acknowledged for the first time since December 2019.

University commencements have either been virtual or limited due to COVID-19 and this has caused students to lose the ability to be individually recognized alongside their college peers.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe individual college recognition ceremonies are an important way to personally acknowledge students alongside their peers and professors, and appreciate that the college recognition ceremonies have returned.

In anticipation of obtaining their degree and starting their career, college students work hard during their four years in college. While they are recognized in university commencements, college students don't have an opportunity to be individually recognized outside of separate college ceremonies.

The individual ceremonies will take place in Minges Coliseum, the Main Campus Student Center (MCSC), Wright Auditorium and Hendrix Theatre.

As guest tickets will be required for each ceremony, students can show their ICard of ID at the Central Ticket Office in the MCSC until April 27. Ticketing information, the graduate RSVP link and additional resources are available on the ECU Commencement website.

PIRATE RANTS

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

When is Greenville going to get a hot pot restaurant, Crumbl, Trader Joe's or Whole Foods? The list is long of things this town needs. Super glad there is a McDonalds or Food Lion on every corner *sarcasm*

Arby's line is always dry until the ONE time I decide to eat there. Then, everyone in Greenville wants Arby's all of the sudden and I'm in line for 20 minutes because not even Arby's was prepared to feed all of these people.

Time to go to class, ask for help, and STUDY for those Finals! You got this Pirates!

I haven't seen almond milk in the dining halls since the first week of school. ECU do better

How do y'all not know who K Camp is

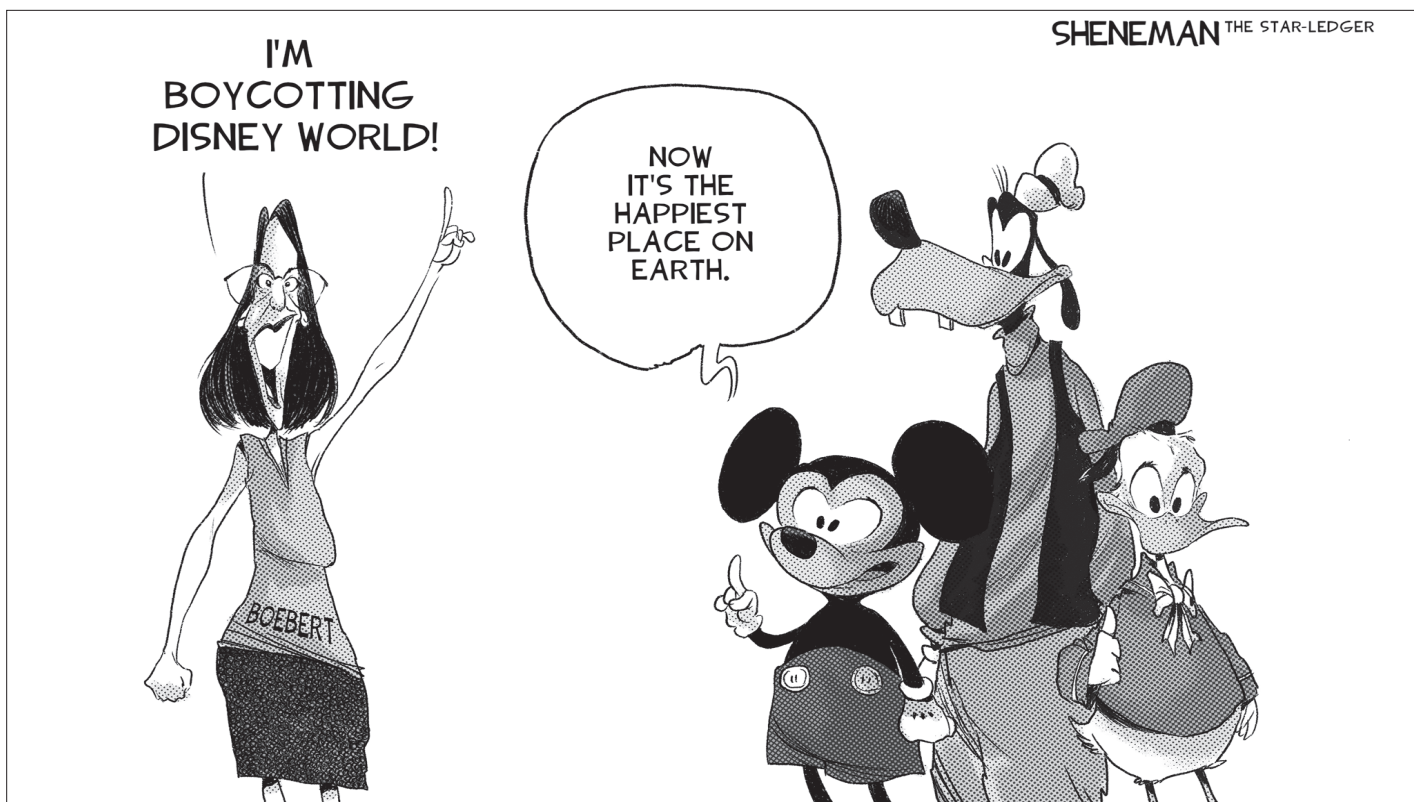
Trader Joes is outside Greenville's median income. As wonderful it would be to have one, we don't need it

Genuinely mad at all of my senior friends for graduating and leaving me

Back again to say we need a Trader Joes in Greenville ASAP

Questions regarding Pirate Rants can be directed to Giana Williams at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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



» SENIOR COLUMN

ECU, TEC offer great memories

Giana Williams
TEC COLUMNIST

If you had told 9-year-old me that I would be the first one in my nuclear family to graduate college, I would be amazed. However, if you had told me I would attend a college in the South, just 30 minutes away from my high school, I would have been disgusted. Nevertheless, I very much enjoyed my time at East Carolina University and it's very hard to believe that in less than a month I will no longer identify as a student.

I applied to ECU as a nursing major because I didn't know what other career there was for me here in North Carolina. I took multiple health science courses throughout high school to lead up to this "dream" career of mine of becoming a neonatal nurse. I soon realized days before high school graduation that I did not want to be a nurse anymore and that I belonged in a more creative field.

I switched majors to communication with a journalism concentration on a whim during freshman orientation. I had no journalism experience, and honestly, my writing skills were not the best. But I was dedicated to trying something new and making a career out of it. Soon later, I added anthropology to become a double major because of my interest in researching and studying humans and their culture.

Joining The East Carolinian (TEC) my freshman year was a pivotal moment during my time at ECU. Not only did it teach me about the newspaper industry and where I developed my love for journalism, but it also was the place where I learned all my strengths and weaknesses and also where I met most of my closest friends.

Over the four years, I watched TEC grow to what it is now and it's bittersweet that I will have to leave such an amazing organization. I joined the editorial staff when TEC was located in Uptown Greenville at the Self Help Building, and used to publish twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I witnessed our big move to Mendenhall, dealt with having to create the paper all remotely due to COVID-19, the switch to print once a week, the first ever TEC Talk, and so much more.

Being part of TEC showed me that I was capable of doing almost everything. Maybe a little too much of everything because after four years, I've held so many editorial positions and even went out of my comfort zone and covered the 2021 Greenville baseball regionals. I am still shocked about my abilities and



Copy & Opinion Editor Giana Williams poses with the pirate statue located on ECU's main campus. COURTESY OF ANNA ALLEN

“ Being indecisive and not having a clear career path as some of my classmates sucks, but it's normal for someone as young as me. ”

-Giana Williams

willingness to take on new tasks but those experiences definitely did help me grow as a journalist.

I made being a student journalist a literal personality trait of mine throughout the four years and even had dreams of being a foreign correspondent. But I'm about to leave ECU unsure if I want to continue in the field. It's not that I lost interest in journalism, but I find myself questioning if I see myself doing it for the rest of my life because there's so much left I need to learn about myself and the world.

Being indecisive and not having a clear career path as some of my classmates sucks, but it's normal for someone as young as me. I grew up being interested in so many things that I never found that one interest that I could call my own.

Despite my career indecisiveness, I will never forget everyone who made my time here in Greenville, North Carolina, amazing. Not only my TEC family and the friends I made while living in the residence halls at College Hill, but also

my Kaiwa (Japanese Conversation) Club family who made my last year at ECU amazing. Allowing me to serve as co-president this school year and help rebuild the club after having it been put on pause for a year due to COVID-19 has been a huge honor and I cannot wait to see the individual who will step up and take my place.

But even though I will leave university, I will venture off to the adult world still willing to learn and take on new challenges of life that I'm not ready to think about like bills, student loans, insurance, etc. For now, I'm ready to close this chapter of my life as an undergraduate student, a journalist, and a North Carolinian. I'm not sure where life will take me after May 6 but I'm very excited to see what the universe has in store for me and all the accomplishments I will make in the future.

Williams is a senior communication and anthropology major and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

OUR STAFF

Jennifer Sieg	Editor-in-Chief	Markayla McInnis	Arts Editor
Hannah Bolick	Managing Editor	Halie Miller	Visual Arts Editor
Giana Williams	Copy & Opinion Editor	Jaylin Roberts	Assistant Visual Arts Editor
Emily Peek	News Editor	Olivia Magistro	Creative Director
Breanna Sapp	News Chief	Abigail Lund	Production Manager
Brendan Cavazos	Sports Editor	Audrey Milks	Assistant Production Manager

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As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 300 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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Contact Info

The East Carolinian
Mendenhall Main Floor,
Greenville, NC, 27858-4353

Email: editor@theeastcarolinian.com

Newsroom: (252) 328-9238

Ads: (252) 328-9245

Fax: (252) 328-9143

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

ECU Student Duplexes at Wyndham Circle 2 and 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Cathedral Ceilings, Newly

Decorated, Great Price, Large Deck in Back Yard for Grilling, Some Pets O.K., Great Parking Available July 1 and August 1, 2022 \$700.00 month Call fast 1-252-756-3009 or text

252-341-9789

ECU House for Rent! 3 Bedroom 1 1/2 Bath, 1909 East 4th St. \$1500.00 month! Call 252-756-3009.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7 — Adjust to changes. Reach a Full Moon turning point with a partnership. Compromise and collaborate for shared commitments. Adapt for new solutions. Love strengthens foundations.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Start a new chapter. A new two-week Full Moon phase highlights communications, connection and intellectual discovery. Consider news from another perspective. Write and share.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — One social door closes and another opens under the Full Moon. Adapt with community and team changes over two weeks. Share appreciations, goodbyes and greetings.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Begin a new physical health and fitness phase. Adapt practices for changing conditions illuminated by this Full Moon. Nurture yourself to increase strength and vitality.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Make a shift around income and finances. Discover profitable opportunities in new directions. Harvest an unexpended windfall. Redirect attention to discover fresh potential.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Make a professional change under this Full Moon. Redirect efforts toward your talents, passions and purpose. An exciting career opportunity has long-term benefits.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Express your heart, imagination and artistry. The Full Moon shines on a turning point. Change directions with a romance, passion or creative endeavor. Shift perspectives.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 9 — A challenge reorients you. This Full Moon in your sign illuminates a new personal direction. Expand your boundaries. Turn toward an inspiring possibility.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — An exploration changes and adapts. The Full Moon illuminates a shift in your educational direction. Experiment with new concepts over the next few weeks.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Make repairs. Renovate, remodel and tend your garden. Domestic changes require adaptation after the Full Moon. Begin a new home and family phase.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7 — Review priorities privately. This Libra Full Moon illuminates transitions. Begin a two-week introspective phase. Balance old responsibilities with new. Meditate on dreams, past and future.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Collaborate to benefit family finances after tonight's Full Moon. Shift directions with shared finances over the next two weeks. Work out the next phase together.

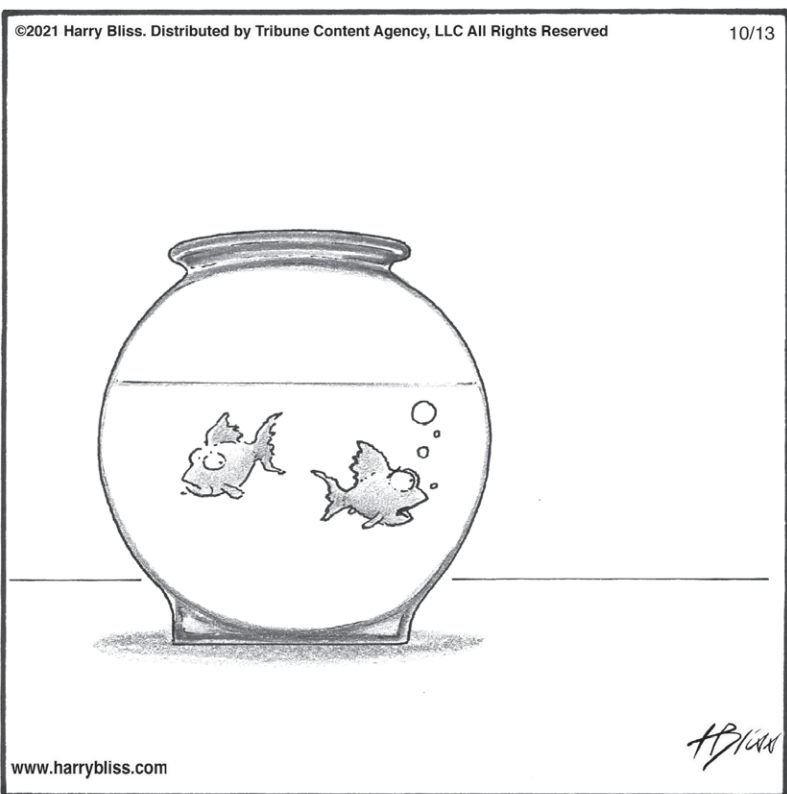
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



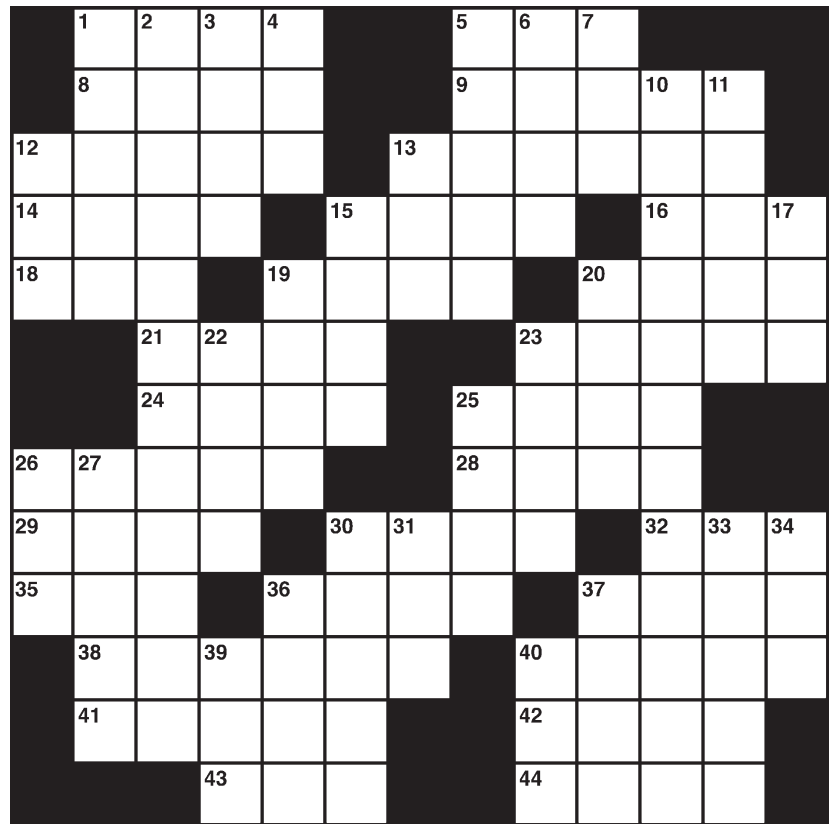
BLISS



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



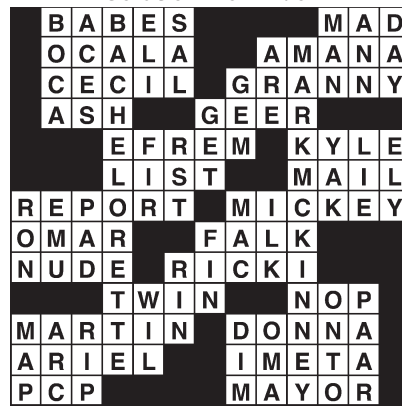
Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 "___ '70s Show"
 - 5 ___ up; misbehave
 - 8 City near Lake Tahoe
 - 9 Pass out
 - 12 "People Are ___"
 - 13 "Family ___"; Brian Keith series
 - 14 Gillette razor
 - 15 Mayberry resident
 - 16 "___ and Stacey"
 - 18 Your, to Shakespeare
 - 19 Show off one's muscles
 - 20 Not quite closed
 - 21 "Enough ___"; Julia Louis-Dreyfus film
 - 23 "Enemy of the ___"; Will Smith movie
 - 24 Misfortunes
 - 25 Shine
 - 26 Farr or Foxx
 - 28 "Cabaret" star
 - 29 Poor box donation
 - 30 Garrett, for one
 - 32 "The ___ Diary"; film for Johnny Depp

- 35 Animated movie about a macaw
- 36 "___ in the Clowns"; Judy Collins song
- 37 First 007 movie
- 38 Don of "The Andy Griffith Show"
- 40 Breakfast drink
- 41 Rob or Will
- 42 "American ___"
- 43 Attempt
- 44 Actor Richard

- DOWN**
- 1 "To Tell the ___"
 - 2 "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." actor
 - 3 Actress Faris
 - 4 "___ Story"; computer-animated Disney film
 - 5 Attach
 - 6 Lunch spot
 - 7 Mowry or Carrere
 - 10 "American ___"
 - 11 Actor Williams
 - 12 "My Big ___ Greek Wedding"
 - 13 King Kong, for one
 - 15 Cutlass maker
 - 17 Role on "Black-ish"
 - 19 Emery board
 - 20 Short-lived Ben Feldman sitcom
 - 22 MacGraw & Larter
 - 23 Went down a fire pole
 - 25 Pleased
 - 26 Mayo container
 - 27 Look-___; twin
 - 30 Ross or Palmer
 - 31 Hosp. personnel
 - 33 "___ Buck"
 - 34 Name for a Stooge
 - 36 Suffix for poll or young
 - 37 "___, Where's My Car?"; Ashton Kutcher film
 - 39 Baseball's Mel
 - 40 Lively dance

Solution from 4/6



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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

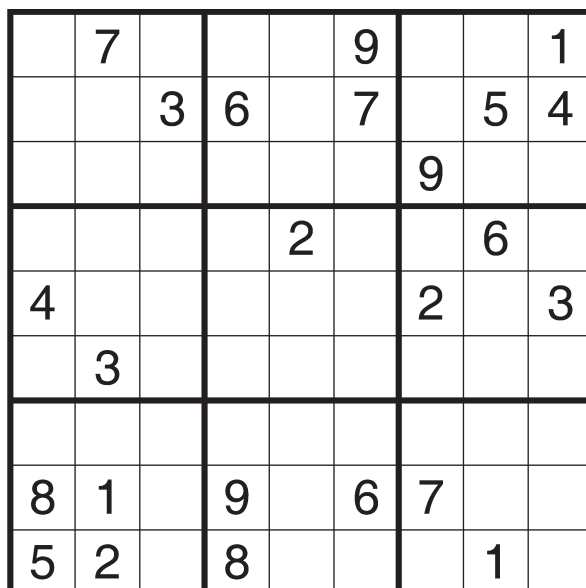
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Solution from 4/6



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

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Arts & Literature Magazine

April 25th

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EVENTS

TODAY

Pork Has a Problem Exhibition
Joyner Library
1000 E. 5th St.
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
(252) 328-0287

Book Binding Workshop
Joyner Library
1000 E. 5th St.
2 to 5 p.m.
(252) 328-0382

Open Mic Night
Pitt Street Brewing Company
630 S. Pitt St.
8 to 10 p.m.
(252) 227-4151

ECU Brass Ensemble
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
6 to 7:30 p.m.
(252) 328-6851

TOMORROW

Therapeutic Thursdays - Different Ways to Use a Stress Ball
MCSC Well-Being Hub
128 E. 7th St.
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(252) 328-5770

Candle Workshop
Pitt Street Brewing Company
630 S. Pitt St.
4 to 6 p.m.
(252) 227-4151

ECU Voyages of Discovery Series- Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer
ECU MCSC
501 E. 10th St.
7 to 8:15 p.m.
(252) 328-6249

FRIDAY

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

Kidd G "The Real Me Tour"
The State Theatre
110 W. 5th St.
7:30 to 11:30 p.m.
(919) 828-4444

SATURDAY

Joshua Eadie & The Common Wealth
Christy's EuroPub
301 S. Jarvis St.
8 to 11 p.m.
(252) 758-2774

Look Again: Discovering Historical Photographs
Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery, Joyner Library
1000 E. 5th St.
9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
(252) 328-0287

SUNDAY

Open Mic Night
Dirty Dan's
110 E. 4th St.
9 to 11:30 p.m.

ECU MFA & BFA Printmaking Exhibit
Greenville Museum of Art
802 S. Evans St.
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(252) 758-1946



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Percussion Director Jonathan Wacker rehearses with the Percussion Ensemble days before his last concert with East Carolina University tomorrow.

SoM to host Percussion Ensemble

Noelle Edwards
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's School of Music (SoM) will host its last Percussion Ensemble concert of the semester from 7:30 to 9 p.m. tomorrow in the Fletcher Music Center, Room B110.

ECU professor and Percussion Director Jonathan Wacker said it will be his last concert at ECU as he will retire at the end of the spring semester. Wacker said he has been at ECU for 23 years.

"The Percussion Ensemble is an interesting group, normally if you look at your concert band, orchestra or whatever, you'll have all kinds of instruments, brass, winds, string, etc," Wacker said. "The Percussion Ensemble is an ensemble where all the instruments are percussion instruments."

Wacker said in past years, he has taught music appreciation classes and jazz history but his primary focus has been the percussion. He said his replacement has not been released yet but it should be announced around or after the final exam weeks.

For the performance on tomorrow, Wacker said there are a lot of different pieces planned. The Percussion Ensemble will be accompanied by guest artist Arthur Lipner, professional percussionist and The Pirate Steele, a steel pan ensemble at ECU.

"We've got a really wild and exciting bunch of pieces," Wacker said. "I always like to program pieces in a wide range of styles."

Wacker said the ensemble will play

"Scherzo" from Beethoven's ninth symphony, which adds a classical element. There will also be a salsa piece called "Ran Kan Kan" by Tito Puente and a piece played on the xylophone by a group of freshmen.

Wacker said Limpner was one of the first artists he ever invited to ECU and therefore he felt it was only appropriate to have him here for his last concert. Wacker said they had known each other for years and have continued to be friends throughout that time. Wacker said a part of Limpner's career is to visit college campuses in order to perform and teach.

Limpner said he has performed in almost 30 countries and appeared on almost 50 albums. He said he specializes in vibes, marimba and steel pans. Limpner said he tours regularly as a performer and educator, and he has been a musician since he was six years old. Limpner said it had always been his dream to travel the world.

"I wanted to establish myself in the jazz field as a recording artist and touring artist," Limpner said. "My first trip to Europe was in 1986 and I've been there 39 times since."

Limpner said he is excited to get back to ECU since it has been a while. He also said he is glad he gets the chance to be part of Wacker's last performance. Limpner said this will be the third time he has been to ECU.

Limpner said he believes the ECU percussion will be at a high skill level based off of Wacker's skillset.

"I always look to share music with people," Limpner said. "When I go to a university or high school because my stature in the field is always exciting for them and I want to share what I know and help them along with their playing."

Freshman music education major Jamie Pierce said she has been a percussionist since she was in sixth grade and will perform in the concert. Pierce said she plays other instruments outside of the percussion family, but not by choice. She said her major requires her to know how to play other instruments in order to be able to teach them.

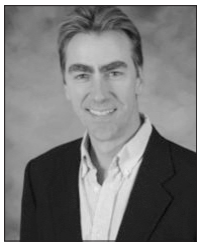
Pierce said she is sad to see Wacker leave since he has been so helpful in her education in such a short amount of time. She said she hopes the percussion side of her major does not lose the growth opportunities it had as a new professor is hired.

"I would not be half as good as a musician as I am today if I didn't start with him (Wacker) from the beginning," Pierce said. "He is a really great teacher and an amazing percussionist."

She said the biggest piece in the performance on Thursday will be the Beethoven piece. Pierce said this piece is difficult for her specifically because there are a lot of moments where she is required to read sheet music and not look at her instrument.

Pierce said the environment in the SoM as a percussionist has been very open and welcoming for her. She said her experience has also been difficult but it has been a good experience overall. She said it is a healthy and helpful environment to be in.

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



Jonathan Wacker



Arthur Lipner

Outer Limitz bowling alley remains closed

Noelle Edwards
TEC STAFF

Construction on Mendenhall, the previous home of East Carolina University's student center, is set to be completed by July and will not bring with it the reopening of the bowling alley.

When Mendenhall originally opened up Feb. 9, 1974, the building included the Hendrix Theatre, a crafts center, a game lounge, a coffee house and the the eight lane bowling alley on the ground floor. The second floor was originally used for meetings and is where student artwork was displayed.

L.L. Everett, project manager with Facilities Engineering and Architectural Services at ECU, said the design work for Mendenhall was started a year prior to construction.

Everett said construction began in Mendenhall due to the Pirate Media 1 and Academic Outreach and Distance Education offices being located off campus in the Self Help building in Uptown Greenville, North Carolina.

"After the new student center went online, we had a lot of vacant space in Mendenhall so it provided a good opportunity to get those two groups back on campus and in a central location," Everett said.

He said the renovation is approximately 15,000 square feet and Pirate Media 1 will obtain around half of the reserved space on the ground floor. He said he is not sure what other groups, other than Pirate Media 1 and Academic Outreach and Distance Education, will be able to use the space but there will be more office space after renovations.

Everett said the budget for Phase 1 was approximately \$6.7 million for design and construction purposes.

When it comes to the rumors on campus about the Outer Limitz bowling alley being



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The permanently closed Outer Limitz bowling alley can be found on the ground floor of Mendenhall.

reopened, Everett said it was closed once the Main Campus Student Center was opened. He said the space is scheduled to be used for office space in the future.

"The bowling alley was taken offline permanently so it will not be coming back," Everett said.

Junior public health major Prathiska Raghavan said she thinks an arcade or another form of a game room should be added to Mendenhall in order to still have some student activity. Raghavan is an orientation assistant on campus and has been since the summer of 2020.

Raghavan said on her tours around campus, she tells the visitors Mendenhall is the original student center and now holds the Office of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Student Transitions. She said she thinks the current student center offers a lot of different options for students but she will miss the old bowling alley.

"I do think the Main Center Student Center hosts a lot of events for students, but I would like to see Hendrix Theater in Mendenhall put into more use," Raghavan said.

Raghavan said the construction hasn't affected her on-campus lifestyle too much since she lives off campus.

"We (ECU) have a lot of opportunities for activities and engagement on campus if you know where to look, like the Engage website," Raghavan said. "So even with the loss of the bowling alley in Mendenhall, we still have a lot going on."

Sophomore neuroscience major Ysabella Villacorte said although she is not super active on campus, she believes the current student center has a lot of activities to offer. Villacorte said she was not disappointed to hear that the campus will no longer offer bowling as a student activity since she is not a big fan of the sport.

Villacorte said the construction of Mendenhall hasn't been disruptive to her since she lives off campus and is not near the building very often. She said she thinks campus offers enough inclusive activities for students.

"I think the student center does a good job of hosting different activities like self defense workshops and events for minorities," Villacorte said.

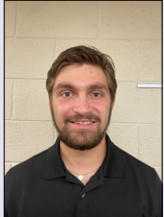
This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

Max Lukas

News and Sports Reporter with WZMB



Baseball vs UCF
April 14 through April 16
Score Prediction?
2-1 ECU

Why? Based on how the season has been so far for the Pirates, I expect UCF to come out on top of this series. We have yet to see the team step up in a big way to help fill the gap left behind by last year's stars.

Anthony Bove

Host of Inside the Lines with WZMB



Baseball vs UCF
April 14 through April 16
Score Prediction?
2-1 ECU

Why? It will be a tough matchup going on the road to play UCF this weekend. ECU needs to focus on winning game one, and going from there, I think they have a chance to win two if they play clear baseball all around.

Brendan Cavazos

Sports Editor
@bcvaz_xi



Baseball vs UCF
April 14 through April 16
Score Prediction?
2-1 ECU

Why? After a series win against Wichita, the Pirates have shown they can compete well enough in the AAC to continue winning against conference opponents.



East Carolina University softball sophomore left hand pitcher Addy Bullis winds up for her pitch from the mound at Max R. Joyner Family Stadium. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Softball prepares for UCF ECU will travel to Orlando tomorrow

Kiarra Crayton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University softball team (19-27, 2-7 American Athletic Conference) will be on the road to face the University of Central Florida (34-10, 6-0 AAC) in a three-game conference series tomorrow through Saturday.

The first game is scheduled to start at 6 p.m. tomorrow in Orlando, Florida, at the UCF Softball Complex. The second game will be at 6 p.m. on Friday with the final game of the series taking place at 2 p.m. on Saturday to wrap up the three-game series.

The Pirates are headed into this series after an 8-point home loss against the University of Houston (23-16-1, 7-1-1 AAC) on Sunday. The Pirates fell with an end score of 0-8 in Greenville, North Carolina, at the Max R. Joyner Family Stadium.

Houston came to visit the Pirates over a three-game weekend series from Friday to Sunday. In the first game on Friday, the Cougars shut out ECU 0-5 to start off the series. ECU was not able to get its offense going as it only had three hits the whole game.

The second game was on Saturday when the Cougars added another win to their record. ECU was the first to get on the board and put up three runs in the first inning. The Pirates didn't have another inning like the first and the next six innings were scoreless for them. The Cougars were able to get seven hits and racked up six runs. ECU's bats were able to get going as they had 12 hits more than

Houston but couldn't make the most of the opportunity to score.

In the third game, the Cougars started off strong with five runs in the first inning. Houston ended the game with eight runs while the Pirates couldn't make it on the board. The Pirates were able to get five hits during the game but nothing big enough to score.

The Knights head into the upcoming series with a three-game win streak against the University of Memphis (15-26, 1-8 AAC). UCF was able to have a clean sweep over Memphis in the three-game series from Friday to Sunday in Orlando, Florida, at UCF Softball Complex.

The last time the two teams met was May 13, 2021, and the Pirates fell 3-4 to the Knights in the quarterfinals of the 2021 AAC Softball Championship where the Pirates were ranked No. 6 while the Knights were ranked No. 3. The contest took place in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the Collins Family Softball Complex.

Three Pirates hit home runs during the game and accounted for the three runs the team had. ECU only had the lead when two of the home runs happened back to back in the second inning. The Pirates put a stop to UCF when they shut down a potential rally when runners were in scoring position during the second and third inning.

UCF came back in the fourth inning to put up three more runs and it pushed the lead over to the Knights. In the sixth inning,

a Pirate batter hit a home run but it wasn't enough to take the Pirates back into the lead.

ECU faced UCF four other times last year before the AAC Championships from April 9 through April 11. The Knights took a clean sweep over ECU with a weekend score of 8-25. In the first game of the series, ECU almost took the win from UCF but once again fell just short with a score of 3-4. During the second game, the Pirates started off hot by putting up five runs in the first two innings and then had five scoreless frames.

In the last two games of the series, ECU was unable to get on the board. UCF had four runs in the third game, a home plate steal in the third inning and one homerun, two RBIs accounted for the runs in the seventh inning. In the fourth game the Knights took advantage of the Pirates' pitcher and had eight runs come from 10 hits.

In the last 10 matchups, ECU has a 0-10 record against UCF. The Pirates have an 11-game losing streak against the Knights over a span of four years. This is the longest losing streak ECU has had against UCF which started May 4, 2018.

The Pirates will next head to the Dail Softball Stadium in Raleigh, North Carolina, to compete against NC State (28-15, 5-10 Atlantic Coast Conference) on April 20 at 5 p.m. Tickets for the game can be found on NC State's Softball website and range from \$3 to \$7.

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

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Track & field heads to South Carolina

Reyna Crooms
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University track & field continues to advance through its season as the Pirates are set to compete in the Gamecock Invitational on Saturday in Columbia, South Carolina, at the Sheila and Morris Gregger Track.

The team recently competed in the Duke Invitational on Friday and Saturday at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. East Carolina ran against Atlantic Coast Conference and Southeastern Conference schools while at Duke and sophomore distance runner Chase Osborne set a new school record.

Osborne ran in the 5,000-meter and finished with a time of 14:24. Osborne previously ran a 14:57 at the Carolina Challenge in January. The Pirates also took the top spots in the high jump, 1,500-meter run, heptathlon and distance.

"Anytime you get to see power five competition, I think it brings the best out of your own athletes. So they get excited when they get a chance to compete against schools like South Carolina, Duke, State and Carolina. I think it's going to bring the best out of them," men's and women's track & field and cross country Director Curt Kraft said.

The Pirates have set records two weekends in a row with Osborne's new time at the Duke Invitational and the women's team taking the top spot at the Bill Carson Invitational on April 1 and April 2. The women's team took the top spot in 14 events while at the Bill Carson

Invitational in Greenville, North Carolina, earlier this month.

"The kids are performing really well, great attitudes and are super excited. Great performances both on the men's sides and the women's sides. After two meets we have to keep this momentum going. We have to take this momentum from one weekend into the next weekend," Kraft said.



Curt Kraft

Kraft said in order for the men's and women's sides to keep up the momentum the team will have to practice well and stay healthy. He said the team has to make sure they get into the training room and do the "small things" that contribute to success.

The small things can include the likes of weight room work, speed work, conditioning and any type of event-specific practice. Kraft said the athletes are focused on the skills needed to best suit their individual events. "You obviously want to do your best at your conference championships because those are the teams that you're going to measure yourself against but, I think if everybody does what they're doing right now and they continue to get better and better each weekend I think we'll be in a good position when we get to that meet in mid May," Kraft said.

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

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