

HOLIDAY WEIGHT GAIN pg. 6

Tasty treats pack on the pounds and overeating abounds

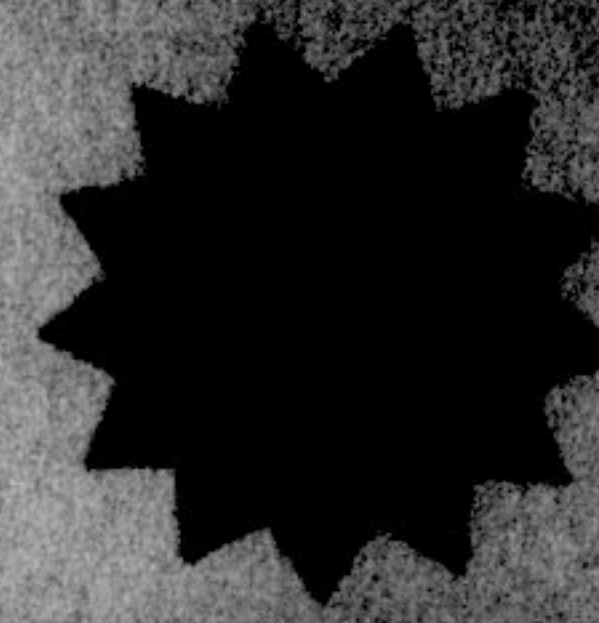
**VENEY LEADS LADY PIRATES**

pg. 10

Senior guard rallies women's b-ball team to victory

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Sunny, high of 53 and a low of 35



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1999

30 days to go until 2000

NEWS BRIEFS**Mobile-Alabama Bowl Information**

For those fans who plan to attend the Mobile Alabama Bowl on Dec. 22, the following hotel information may be useful. Bowl tickets will go on sale from 9-4 p.m. on Dec. 9 at the ticket office for \$45. The team will be headquartered in the Adam's Mark (334-438-4000), while the band and alumni headquarters will be the Admiral Semmes (334-405-5944). Tickets to events connected with the bowl can be purchased through the bowl office at 334-635-0011.

The HealthSouth Fellowship of Christian Athletes Breakfast (tickets \$12) on Dec. 21 at the Clarion Hotel will feature Tennessee coach Phil Fulmer as a guest speaker. The GMAC Mayor's Luncheon (tickets \$30) on Dec. 21 at the Mobile Convention Center will feature Pete Rose as the guest speaker. The Greer's Mardi Gras Party on Dec. 21 at the Mobile Convention Center will be open to bowl game ticket holders.

Sports

The women's basketball team will play UNC-Charlotte at 7 p.m. Saturday in Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum.

Art Sale

The School of Art will hold its annual holiday sale today through Saturday at the Jenkins Fine Arts Center. The sale will run from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. today and Friday, and from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday. Jewelry, ceramics, sculptures, paintings, weaving, hand-dyed silks and prints will be sold.

Fine Arts Presentations

The combined jazz ensembles of the School of Music will perform at 8 p.m. Friday in Wright Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

A recital featuring flutist Christine Gustafson and guitarist Elliot Frank, scheduled for 8 p.m. tonight at the School of Music, has been canceled.

Parking Lot Closed

Visitors of Pitt County Memorial Hospital (PCMH) will be asked to park in an employee lot, across Moye Boulevard from the hospital, from Nov. 29-Dec. 5 while the main visitor parking lot undergoes maintenance. Signs and parking staff will help direct visitors to the designated parking lot, and employee parking will be moved to other lots to make room for visitor parking. Hospital officials thank visitors for their cooperation and apologize for any inconvenience this maintenance may cause.

Noteworthy Events

The Biomechanics Laboratory Lecture Series will feature an address by Dr. Thomas S. Buchanan, director of the Center for Biomedical Engineering Research at the University of Delaware. Buchanan's address is entitled "Neural Control of Limb Muscles: A Biomechanical Perspective." His address is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday in Rooms 142 and 143 in Minges Coliseum.

ONLINE SURVEY**Do you feel safe on campus?**Vote online at tec.ecu.edu

The results of last week's question:

Do you know someone infected with HIV?
29% YES 80% NO

World AIDS Day brought to light

A crowd of 100 gathered to observe the 12th Annual World AIDS Day by holding a candlelight vigil. (photo by Emily Richardson)

Candlelight vigil held in honor of AIDS victimsAngela Harne
STAFF WRITER

Hope for a cure continues. Yesterday was the twelfth annual World AIDS Day. In honor of the day, ECU, along with Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PICASO), ECU Student Health Services, the Pitt County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Project Outreach and Down East Pride held a candlelight vigil last night.

The vigil began at 6 p.m. in front of Joyner Library and was open to staff, students and the community.

Participants gathered near the Joyner clock holding candles.

Barry Elmore, director of education services for PICASO, started the candle lighting. The group of 100 participants lit candles and began their walk at Joyner and continued along the mall, past Umstead and Slay Halls, down Tenth Street and up College Hill, where they converged at the final destination, Todd Dining Hall.

Participants embraced the experience.

"We are hoping to achieve awareness," said Angela Carpenter of the Pitt County Chapter of the American Red Cross. "There is no cure ... our weapon is protection."

"This is a great opportunity to create awareness of AIDS," said Heather Zophy of Student Health Services. "This day gives us a reason to be aware, but I think we need to be aware and educated

all year."

Candles lit during the service served a symbolic purpose.

"Our candles serve as a remembrance for those who have died from AIDS," Elmore said. "They also stand as a hope for the future."

"Like all candle vigils our burning flames will set us apart from the norm," said Aaron Lucier, assistant coordinator of technology for University Housing Services.

At Todd, refreshments were served. Entertainment was provided by the ECU Gospel Choir.

The first few panels of the Pitt County AIDS Quilt were on display at Todd, compliments of the Greenville Quilters Guild.

According to the N.C. Bureau of Vital Statistics, Pitt County has over 140 residents who have died as a result of AIDS since 1991.

The theme of this year's World AIDS Day is "AIDS—End the Silence: Listen, Learn, Live!" The theme is to promote communication with those who are directly and indirectly affected by HIV/AIDS.

The day aims to increase awareness of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. It also hopes to stimulate the development of new programs for young people, to minimize their vulnerability to HIV and reduce the stigma and discrimination surrounding the epidemic.

According to PICASO, 33.4 million men, women and children world-wide were estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS. If trends continue, by the millennium, 40 million adults will be infected with HIV. Approximately

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State begins audit of NCSU camp**Auditor alerted to possible misuse of funds**Terra Steinbeiser
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Following a tip from a hotline call, State Auditor Ralph Campbell began an investigation of the misuse of state funds by the Mitchell 4-H Camp run by the Cooperative Extension Service at NCSU.

The Mitchell 4-H Camp is located on 32 acres near the town of Swansboro and is associated with NCSU through the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service (NCCCES). The NCCCES focuses on 20 major programs statewide, with an emphasis on agriculture, forestry and protection of the environment. One of these such programs is the 4-H (Heart, Head, Hands and Health) Club, whose mission, according to their webpage, is to aid youth and adults in becoming competent members of society.

In April of this year, allegations were made concerning the employees at the camp. Some of the allegations included that the camp director used camp funds to pay for personal expenses, cashed camp checks but failed to deposit the money, that camp employees performed personal services for the director and were reimbursed with camp funds and that the camp administrative assistant falsified her time records.

"Upon completion of our investigation, we identified \$17,467.99 in expenditures and activities by former and current camp employees to be questionable in nature," Campbell said.

The names of the camp director, extension specialist, administrative assistant and other camp employees have not been released for legal reasons, and therefore were not able to be reached for comment.

According to the state auditor's report, it was found that the former camp director used camp/state money to pay for personal auto repairs, gas, as well as personal cellular and long distance services.

Also, the administrative assistant falsified her time sheets by putting her hours on her husband's time sheets so as not to risk losing her disability payments. The NCSU extension specialist was aware of this and actually aided the administrative assistant in circumventing the payroll process.

Campbell made recommendations to NCSU Chancellor Marye Anne Fox concerning the recovery of lost funds.

In a letter to Campbell, Fox assured him that the university was taking such measures.

"NC State University has initiated appropriate action to address this recommendation," Fox said. "Further corrective actions have been initiated to address the handling of funds, documentation for expenditures and personal matters."

The auditor's report is now being reviewed by public officials, including Governor Jim Hunt, Molly Broad, president of the UNC System and members of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

This writer can be contacted at tsteinbeiser@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

Report cites high campus crime rate**Sonic 'cicles**

The drop in temperature was evident by the Percussive Water Wall's frozen waterfalls in the Sonic Plaza last evening. Continued declines on the thermometer are expected, with nightly lows expected to reach freezing. (photo by Emily Richardson)