

What do you think about the tuition increase?



SARA GIRMUS SOPHOMORE NURSING MAJOR

"If I have to pay more tuition, I should get a bigger scholarship and/or financial aid."



CARA MCGRATH JUNIOR PHYSICAL THERAPY MAJOR

"It is going to make it harder for people to stay in. Out of state tuition is high enough."



DAVE GALIETTI FRESHMAN UNDECLARED

"It's not a big deal. My parents pay tuition anyway."

ECU faculty, students respond to BOT's proposed tuition increase



UNC System students met in Raleigh last week to protest the proposed tuition increases and speak with state officials.

Students concerned over growing expense

MICHAEL HARRINGTON SENIOR WRITER

Students show mixed reactions to the tuition increase, recently passed by the ECU Board of Trustees, which would go into effect in the fall semester of 2005. The money allocated from student tuition would primarily be used to strengthen ECU's salary competitiveness while also providing money for need-based financial aid and improved academic advising. The North Carolina Board of Governors is currently in the process of evaluating all of the tuition increase proposals of the UNC system schools and will make the final decision during their meeting in March. If passed, the increase could affect ECU and other UNC system students. ECU students pay a number of expenses, ranging from books for classes to general living expenses, which would, in many cases, make increased tuition an extra burden that

could prove difficult to manage. "I know I can't afford more ... you can't get a job in Greenville," said Charity Hilton, junior sociology major. Hilton said she pays for her college education through student loans and is not looking forward to paying off a high amount of debt when she receives her degree and any more would just be adding to the strain. "It's going to be real hard to pay it off right after I graduate ... it's hard to get a job nowadays," Hilton said. Shigeo Yamaguchi, international studies graduate student, said students already have studying and social lives to worry about and increasing the cost of their education is adding another worry. "Students should not have to be concerned with that," said Yamaguchi. However, Yamaguchi's permanent residence is outside of North Carolina so tuition is already costly. "I'm an [out of state] student, so I pay a lot either way," Yamaguchi said. With the majority of the proposed

ECU faculty shows mixed reactions

MICHAEL HARRINGTON SENIOR WRITER

A proposed tuition increase for ECU students would be spent primarily on working toward achieving a projected goal of increasing faculty salaries to the 80th percentile when compared to ECU's peer institutions. The North Carolina Board of Governors has set this target with the intention of retaining current faculty and easing the process of recruitment. ECU faculty salaries are currently in the 50 - 55th percentile range when compared with peer institutions, which has led to this effort to generate additional money to offer a more competitive pay. The increase was approved in a December meeting of ECU's Board of Trustees and awaits final approval from the North Carolina Board of Governors, which will decide on the matter in a March meeting. If passed, 60 percent of the extra

money allocated through the raised cost would go toward making faculty salaries more competitive, with the rest going toward need-based financial aid and improved academic advising. Lilla Holsey, graduate director for business, career and technical education at ECU, said she thinks the quality of ECU's faculty warrants the extra money. "I definitely think that we have the quality of professors at ECU to warrant our salaries being equal to that of other universities," said Holsey. Holsey said raising student tuition to elevate ECU's ability to compete is seemingly a justified option of the state. "The state of North Carolina does contribute so much to our students' education," Holsey said. When deciding who to accept offers of employment from, Holsey said professors are no different than anyone else and pay is an issue. "I think with cost of living as it is, that professors, like anyone else in our society, have to weigh varying factors when they

see STUDENTS page A2

see FACULTY page A2

Duffy to speak at conference

Event meant to help educators in areas of literacy and reading

LAUREN DONOVAN STAFF WRITER

The ECU College of Education Department of Curriculum and Instruction is sponsoring the 23rd annual Mary Louis Stanton Reading/Language Arts conference. The event is taking place Friday, from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Greenville Hilton. Gerald Duffy, recently named William E. Moran distinguished professor of reading and literacy at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, will speak at the conference, providing educators professional development in



Contributed photo DUFFY

the area of literacy and related areas of education. The conference honors Mary Louis Stanton, Professor Emeritus, who passed away in 2002. Since her death, members of her family such as Lois Stanton Langston, Michael Langston, Beverly Stanton Stocks and Judge William L. Stocks have made contributions for the conference. Lanette Moret is the co-director of the 2005 MLS conference. "We are very appreciative to the family members who have set up an endowment to make sure the conference goes on in her name," said Moret. Moret got involved in the conference back in 1995 and said it has grown over the years. Hundreds of educators from the kindergarten level through college are expected to attend the event.

Duffy is also a Professor Emeritus at Michigan State University, where he served for 25 years as a faculty member. His research has utilized both quantitative and qualitative designs in studying effective reading strategy instruction and teacher development. His accomplishments make him an honored guest at this year's conference. "I'm looking forward to attending the conference," said Duffy. "I'm new at UNC-G, but I have heard good things about the conference and colleagues have come back with only great things to say." Duffy is excited to speak with educators of the area, and his hope is they will be able to take things back to the classroom. "I want to be able to help teachers and give them ways to reach out and truly make a difference in the lives and educations of their students, especially

those who are falling through the cracks," Duffy said. In addition to the keynote speaker of this event, there are 18 other concurrent sessions being offered to the teachers along with an author's luncheon. This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Registration

Registration still open and further information can be found at coe.ecu.edu/reading/mls/marylouis. The event is taking place at the Greenville Hilton Friday, Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and is free for full time students.



Students sit in Wright Plaza to provide information for the upcoming Vagina Monologue events.

'Vagina Monologues' shows this weekend

Campaign to address domestic violence

LAUREN DONOVAN STAFF WRITER

The ECU Women's Studies Program, Voice and the Student Involvement Team are presenting a production of Eve Ensler's Vagina Monologues Friday. The Vagina Monologues is a play that brings together voices of women from all over the world. Women of different races, religions and social statuses come together to voice the feelings of joy, pain, love and fear they experienced as a result of violence and abuse. Local women act out monologues of females who shared stories of sexuality and abuse. This play is part of a Valentine's Day college campaign to stop violence against women. It is a celebration of women to raise awareness and envision a world without violence. All the proceeds from this celebration

'Vagina Monologues'

The programs take place Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Wright Auditorium. Tickets are available through ECU Central Ticket Office, or call 1-800-ECU-ARTS or visit ecuarts.com for more information. Proceeds benefit Family Violence Program of Pitt County

go to benefit the Family Violence Program of Pitt County. The play is based on more than 200 interviews of women from around the world. These women discuss issues such as body image, relationships, sexuality and self esteem. Many of the actors are ECU students. Many of the issues discussed see MONOLOGUES page A6

ECU recognizes Sexual Responsibility Week

Healthy Pirates take different approach to sex education

AMBER PAYNE STAFF WRITER

With the upcoming Valentine's Day holiday, the Healthy Pirates are hosting the annual Sexual Responsibility Week from Feb. 14 - 18 in an attempt to properly educate students of issues surrounding sex. Activities and games will be set up in the Mendenhall Student Center Brickyard Tuesday - Thursday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Games include Wheel of Health, Family Feud and an STD Fear Factor "goo pot." The goal of the

games is to educate students on issues concerning all aspects of relationships in an entertaining manner. Messages within the activities will have factual information about date rape, assault, STD's and unwanted pregnancy. "I want students to know that there's more to sexual responsibility than safe sex," said Tywana Jeffries, assistant director for wellness education. "[Students] have a general knowledge, but there is much more information that they could know. Sometimes it can get put on the back burner." She said students commonly think of safe sex as condom use only but there are other important forms such as abstinence and effective communication with their partner that are important.

An estimated 25 percent of all college students throughout the United States are infected with an STD, the most common being Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and HPV. ECU is believed to be in line with that statistic. Students have shown positive reactions to the upcoming week of events and hope to learn from them. "The event is a great idea because sometimes you get so caught up in life that you forget to stop and think about factors such as STD's," said Jamie Woodward, hospitality management major. Today, 51 percent of all pregnancies are accidental and abstinence is the only 100 percent form of protection. In past years, ECU students have been very appreciative of the week because of the variety

of information offered through the entertaining methods. The week is chosen to fall around the Valentine's Day holiday to help people think about the relationships they are currently in or may get involved with in a healthy manner. Jeffries said fostering good relationships is an optimal goal of the week and she hopes students receive that message. She also said it's OK for students not to be in a relationship. "It starts with yourself and your values and being able to communicate to people around you and people you love," said Georgia Childs, assistant director for peer health. This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Campus News

Brody Sends Treats to Selected Valentines

Brody students who are raising money to go to Kenya will deliver pies, cakes, cupcakes and cookies to your loved ones. E-mail your order to cle0824@mail.ecu.edu. You can also make donations to their trip through the Medical Foundation at The Brody School of Medicine. Please write 'Africa Trip' in the memo section.

Black History Month Speaker

A public lecture will be held in honor of Black History Month at the Willis Building Auditorium Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by ECU's GeoClub, Department of Geology and Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. The featured speaker is Jonathan Tlolve, a race and immigration reporter with the Newhouse News Service, a two-time National Headliner Award winner and author of the 2003 Random House book *Along Martin Luther King: Travels on Black America's Main Streets*. For more information, call Derek Alderman at 328-4013.

Massage Clinic

The ECU physical therapy students are holding a massage clinic Feb. 10 from 5 - 9 p.m. in the Belk Allied Health Building. Come get a massage for only \$5 for 10 minutes, \$10 for 20 minutes and \$15 for 30 minutes. No appointments are necessary, but if you would like to make one, contact cmf0625@mail.ecu.edu.

HOSA Meeting

Health Occupations Students of America will hold an interest meeting Thursday, Feb. 10 in 221 Mendenhall at 4 p.m. HOSA is open to all health related majors.

Bowling League

The Outer Limitz Classic Bowling League will meet in Mendenhall Student Center Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Outer Limitz Bowling Center.

BINGO

The Student Union Spectrum Committee is sponsoring Bingo Feb. 10 at 9:30 p.m. in the Mendenhall Student Center cafeteria. The game is free, and you could win cash prizes.

Japanese Cultural Day

Food, refreshments, origami and other special activities are planned in honor of Japanese Cultural Day Feb. 11 from 3 - 5 p.m. in the International House. This event is free and sponsored by the International Students Association.

Jazz At Night

Listen to the cool tunes of the ECU Jazz Ensemble Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. in the Mendenhall Great Rooms sponsored by the Student Union Spectrum Committee. Get your tickets now at the Central Ticket Office.

NAACP Founders Week

This week is NAACP Founders Week. Various nightly activities include ethnic food tasting, open social, "Legacies Nearly Forgotten" and volunteering with local service agencies.

Contra Dance

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a contra dance Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Willis Building. A potluck supper will begin at 6 p.m., a concert starts at 7 p.m., beginners lesson at 7:30 p.m. and the contra dance from 8 - 10:30 p.m. Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band will be performed. The cost is \$3 for students, \$5 for members and \$8 for the general public. Call 752-7350 for details.

The Vagina Monologues

The annual production of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* will be Feb. 11 - 12 at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. This year, the ECU V-Day/Vagina Monologues event is being co-sponsored by the women's studies department, the student organization VO.I.C.E. and the Student Involvement Team. Tickets are \$8 in advance for students, \$10 for students at the door, \$12 for the general public in advance and \$15 for the general public at the door. You can purchase tickets by calling 1-800-ECU-ARTS or online at ecuartearts.com. The proceeds will benefit local charities that help abused women.

News Briefs

Local

President Bush to visit on Thursday

RALEIGH, NC - President Bush will visit North Carolina this week to promote his Social Security plan. The president is scheduled to appear Thursday morning at a town hall meeting in Raleigh's BTI Center. It will be his first trip here since attending a re-election fund-raiser in July. Bush has been traveling the country to push his plan to allow younger workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in private accounts. U.S. Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-NC, said he hoped Bush "will level with the people of North Carolina" during the visit.

"I hope that he will tell them that Social Security does face a long-term problem, but that his privatization plan does nothing to address that problem," said Etheridge. In addition, several opponents of privatization, led by state Rep. Jennifer Weiss, chair of the state House Aging Committee, scheduled a news conference Wednesday to release data on the impact of Bush's plan. Opponents also scheduled a protest for Thursday morning outside the BTI Center.

NC newspaper sues sheriff over access to 911 calls

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - A Winston-Salem newspaper claims in a lawsuit that Forsyth County Sheriff Bill Schatzman has violated public records law by refusing to release the contents of 911 calls. The lawsuit asks that Schatzman be ordered to make the information public. The Winston-Salem Journal sent Schatzman a letter Nov. 15 requesting tapes or transcripts of all 911 calls and

radio communications by deputies made Nov. 11 between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Denny C. Booth is accused of killing three of his former neighbors that evening near Kernersville before being shot and injured himself by Cpl. Jeremy Rowley of the sheriff's office. Rowley was also shot.

Public records laws in North Carolina say the contents of 911 calls and other emergency communications of law-enforcement agencies - with the exception of information that would identify the caller - are public records. The law also requires the guardian of such public records to allow them to be examined as promptly as possible.

Carl Crothers, the newspaper's executive editor, said the newspaper requests 911 tapes and radio communications to evaluate the performance of the sheriff's office in responding to incidents. The tapes and communications can provide information about response time, calls for backup and what officers said during the response to an incident.

National

Mohawk-wearing Idaho teen survives scalping

BOISE, Idaho - A member of a punk clique scalped another member apparently as punishment for her disrespectful behavior toward women, police said. The victim, a 16-year-old girl whose hair was cut in a mohawk, survived.

Authorities are searching for Marianne Dahle, 26, who allegedly tied the teen up and used a 4-inch knife to cut away the crown and back portion of her scalp. A felony arrest warrant accuses Dahle of aggravated battery, which carries a maximum sentence

of 14 years.

Dahle was visiting Kirkham Hot Springs in central Idaho with the girl and a friend when the attack occurred Jan. 18. The teen spent two weeks in the hospital and is now recovering at home. Authorities did not release the girl's name, though she identified herself as Sheila to Boise TV station KTVB.

"When I say this gal was scalped, she was truly scalped," said Bill Braddock, chief deputy of Boise County. "The top of her head, her hair, was completely cut off. The motive, as near as we've been told by witnesses, was retaliation for acting in a way that the adult perceived as being offensive to women as a gender." Braddock said the victim, Dahle and another teenage girl who witnessed the attack were long-term acquaintances who belonged to the same clique. The victim's mohawk haircut may have played a role in the assault, he said.

"In their punk group, wearing a mohawk is a sign of being a punker, and according to their creed if you disrespect women you are not allowed to wear a mohawk," he said. "But I don't think the victim had any idea in the world she was going to be scalped."

Carly Fiorina steps down as chairman, CEO of Hewlett

SAN FRANCISCO - Carly Fiorina has stepped down as chairman and chief executive of Hewlett-Packard Co. in a surprise move at the company she tried to transform from a printer business into a broad-based technology giant, the company announced Wednesday. HP shares surged 11 percent.

In a statement, Fiorina, one of corporate America's highest ranking female executives, cited differences

with the board over executing its strategy and suggested she was fired. "While I regret the board and I have differences about how to execute HP's strategy, I respect their decision," said Fiorina, 50. "HP is a great company, and I wish all the people of HP much success in the future."

The board of directors of Palo Alto-based HP named Robert P. Wayman, its chief financial officer, as interim chief executive and said it will seek a permanent replacement. HP named director Patricia C. Dunn as non-executive chairman.

HP shares rose \$2.22 to \$22.36 in premarket trading.

The announcement came after recent reports suggested the HP board of directors had discussed shifting some day-to-day responsibilities to other executives in an effort to improve the technology giant's performance.

In recent months, she has been the target of intensifying criticism from technology analysts and the media for her ambitious diversification strategy - an attempt to change HP from a relatively marginal company that focused on printers and ink into a Silicon Valley consulting and computing powerhouse.

International

Blair apologizes to men wrongly convicted of 1974 IRA bombings

LONDON - British Prime Minister Tony Blair issued a public apology Wednesday to members of two families whose wrongful imprisonment for IRA bombings three decades ago was dramatized in the film *In the Name of the Father*.

Members of the Conlon and Maguire families were jailed in connection with Irish Republican Army bombings in Guildford and Woolwich in England in

1974. The attacks killed seven people and injured more than 100.

Eleven people convicted in connection with the attacks were subsequently acquitted, and the case is regarded as one of Britain's biggest miscarriages of justice.

"I am very sorry that they were subject to such an ordeal and injustice," Blair said in a statement. "The Guildford and Woolwich bombings killed seven people and injured over 100. Their loss, the loss suffered by their families, will never go away. But it serves no one for the wrong people to be convicted for such an awful crime."

Washington seeking to oust head of U.N. nuclear agency

VIENNA, Austria - The United States is seeking backing from allies in a possible bid to oust the head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency at a meeting later this month, diplomats and Western government officials said Wednesday.

During the same Feb. 28 meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Washington also will increase the pressure on Iran for allegedly trying to make nuclear weapons, the officials told The Associated Press.

Washington considers IAEA head Mohammed ElBaradei too soft on Iran and its alleged plans to make nuclear arms and the international community ineffective in dealing with the same perceived threat.

No U.S. comment was available for Washington's strategies for the upcoming IAEA board of governors meeting.

But several diplomats and government officials from IAEA member countries dismissed recent reports that the United States had given up attempts to unseat ElBaradei because of lack of support from other countries.

Students from page A1

increase slated to go toward making ECU faculty salaries competitive with other universities, junior nursing major, Sarah Mclean, questioned why more would not be used toward student related causes.

"I think it's a little unnecessary ... I think they should offer more to the students," said Mclean.

Ashley Moody, English graduate student who plans to be a professor in the future, is in a unique situation as a student, paying her own way through ECU by working.

Moody said she understands

both sides of the issue, currently facing a proposed hike in tuition as a student, but also acknowledging that when she is a professor a significant salary would certainly be a desire.

"I'm on both sides of the fence," said Moody.

"But I think it is very tough for the students to have to bear the load just to become productive citizens."

Moody said she does not feel it is necessary to raise student tuition, and certain changes could be made with the way tax

dollars are spent or the university budget is divided to make ECU faculty salaries competitive.

While Moody is not necessarily sold on the proposed tuition increase, she says she will do what is necessary to make it through her time at ECU.

"You have to deal with it if you want the success later on in life," Moody said.

"If tuition goes up, I'll make it work."

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

Faculty from page A1

consider employment," Holsey said.

"Thus, it can be tempting to consider salary when making decisions about where one will work."

Paul Francia, assistant professor in the department of political science, said any professor would be lying if they claimed salary did not matter, but he still would like to see the burden shifted off the students.

"I would like to see tuition kept as low as possible," said Francia. "Tuition at most universities are obscenely high."

Francia said cost of living should be taken into account when looking at the issue of competitive salary, but he looked at it in a different light.

"I'd rather make \$50,000 in Greenville than \$60,000 in New York," Francia said.

Todd Blake Finley, assistant professor of English, said salary is without question a major factor in recruiting and retaining faculty, but ECU students should not have to carry the load.

"I don't think we should do

it on the backs of the students who are having a hard time just paying to eat," said Finley.

"The burden should be placed on taxpayers ... also on businesses in our community who receive large tax breaks to come here."

Finley said competitive salary is a necessity for ECU because of the location of the university.

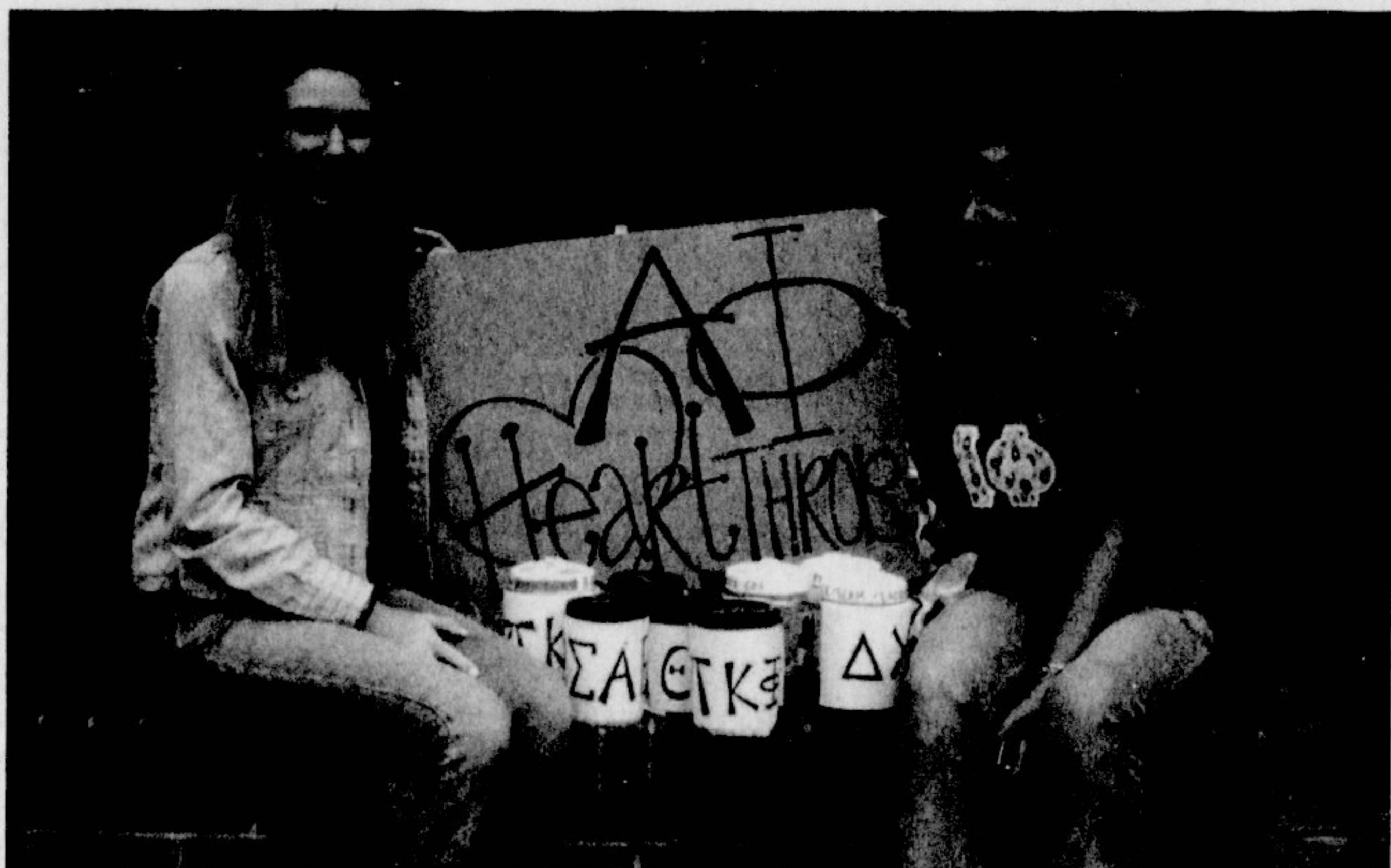
"Even though ECU is a great place to live, I don't think that is widely recognized by professors who are looking for employment," Finley said.

A problem, Finley said, of not paying competitive salaries is it can lead to a high turnover rate, which in turn can be costly for the university. In order to replace lost faculty members, there are prices to pay for the interview and mentoring processes involved.

"I think the solution is higher pay and keeping people here," Finley said.

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

Alpha Phi holds charity drive



Alpha Phi sorority is holding their annual "Heart Throb" fundraiser and are collecting donations from ECU fraternities. Proceeds go to the Alpha Phi foundation which will benefit cardiac care. Anyone is eligible to make donations to help the cause and Alpha Phi is also in the process of collecting funds from outside companies.

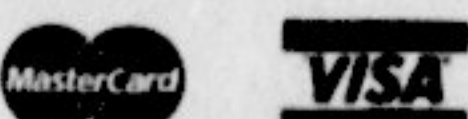
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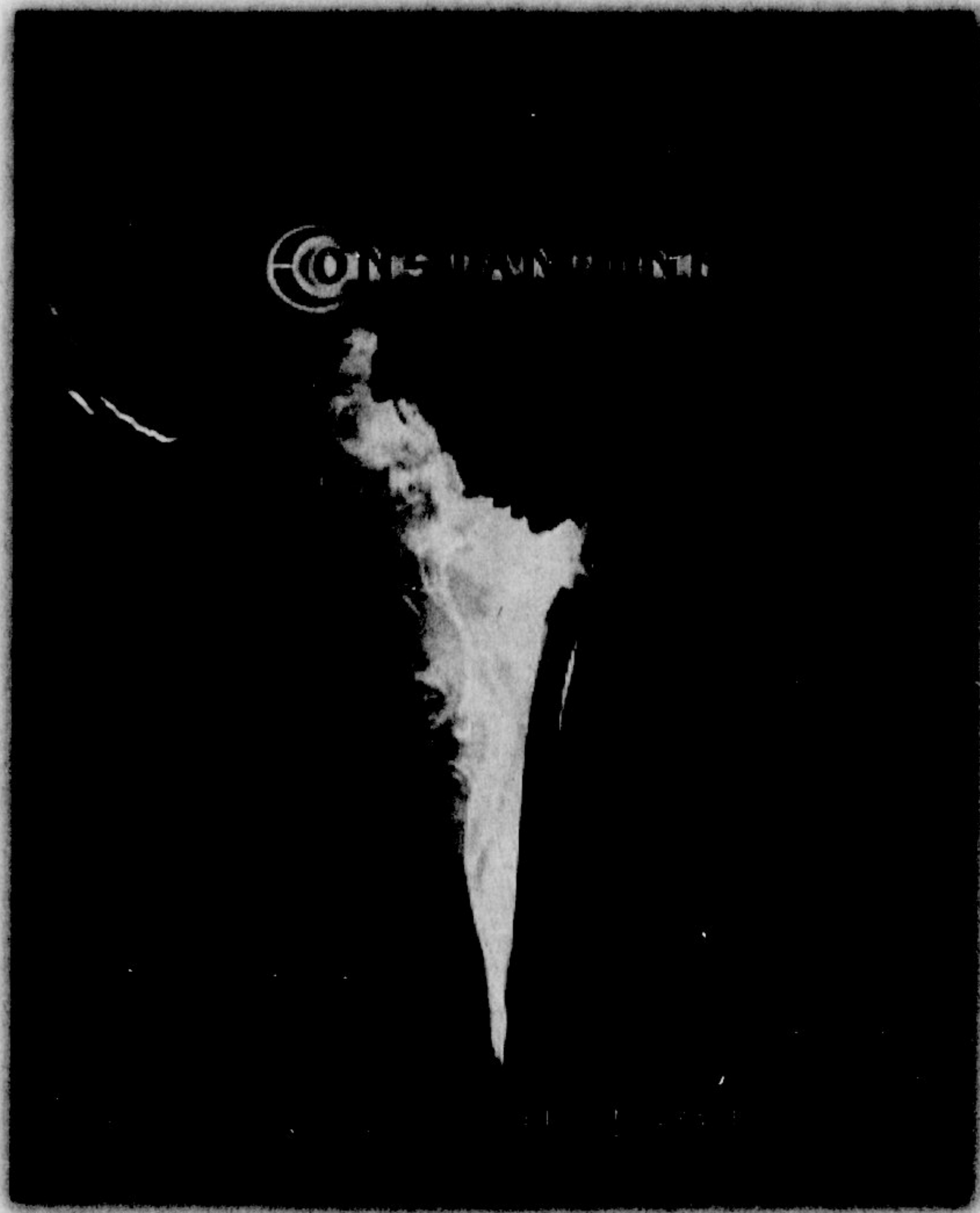
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Brody students raise money for trip to Kenya

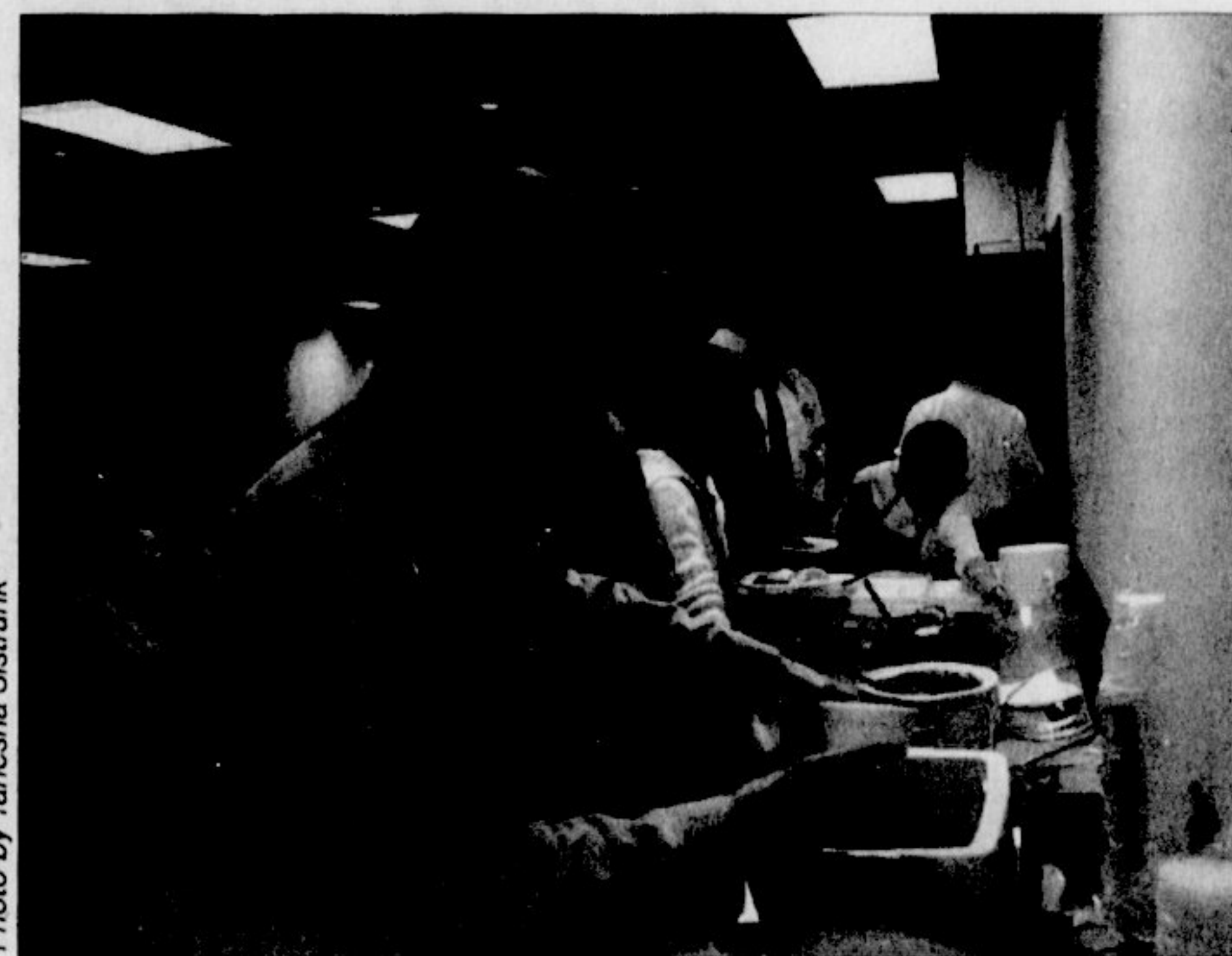


Photo by Tamesha Sistrunk

Students serve spaghetti to raise funds for a trip to Kenya.

Group holds spaghetti dinner to work in foreign clinics

KRISTIN DAY
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A group of medical students and their advisor held a spaghetti dinner Wednesday night in order to raise money for an upcoming trip to Kenya.

The students cooked and served spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce, bread and dessert buffet-style.

Benjamin Gersh, third year medical student, said while in Kenya they would be seeing about 400 - 500 people daily to treat infectious diseases like HIV and malaria and work with problems rarely seen in the United States like malnutrition and dehydration. The clinics would be free to the people of Kenya.

"I don't even know what to expect," said Gersh.

"It's something we all feel like we need to do and we want to do. Some people there have probably never seen a doctor."

Courtney Edgar, third year medical student, said they will also try to do some research while they are in the country and when they return, they will hold presentations to show what they did and what they learned.

Dr. Thomas Kerkering is their advisor for the trip and will go

with the students. He is a specialist in infectious diseases and is teaching the students about the diseases they will see in weekly seminars. He described it as didactic teaching on tropical diseases and treatment of malnutrition and dehydration.

Kerkering said he worked overseas many times in clinics since 1979, when he worked at the Tai-Cambodia border. He just came back from working in the tsunami area about a week ago and he also worked in the Kuwait area after the first Persian war. He said he has worked with the Christian Children's Foundation for years and was a health advisor when he was at a medical college in Virginia.

This trip will not be the first time Kerkering has taken medical students overseas. He said he already took two different groups to Kenya but has not worked with Brody students yet. Kerkering said from his experience, these trips are very educational for the students.

"It really increases their physical diagnostic skills," said Kerkering.

"They learn how to take care of patients with fewer resources."

Gersh said he's excited to go because he has never been overseas. He said some people don't see a need to go across the globe when people need help in the United States, but he feels this is more charitable.

"I'm doing this to give back to the world and hopefully it will give me a learning experience," Gersh said.

"And there's an adventure to it too."

Edgar said the trip is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for medical students to see diseases and processes like in Kenya. She said tuberculosis and HIV are in the late stages over there, which is something they would never see in America. GI parasites are also a problem not experienced in the United States because of good sanitation.

"It's definitely a really good educational experience," Edgar said.

"It's a different realm of medical education over there."

Edgar, Gersh and Kerkering said the trip would also give the students an insight into the Kenyan culture, which they would not otherwise be exposed to.

Gersh said he thinks they will receive partial credit for their required primary care hours at Brody and Kerkering said they would get some credit as an elective.

"I think it's good Brody is going to do this," Kerkering said.

Kerkering said right now there are five students who want to go, but he would like to take 10. He said students have to be willing to go, but they should be signed up so they can take all the classes and do the fundraising.

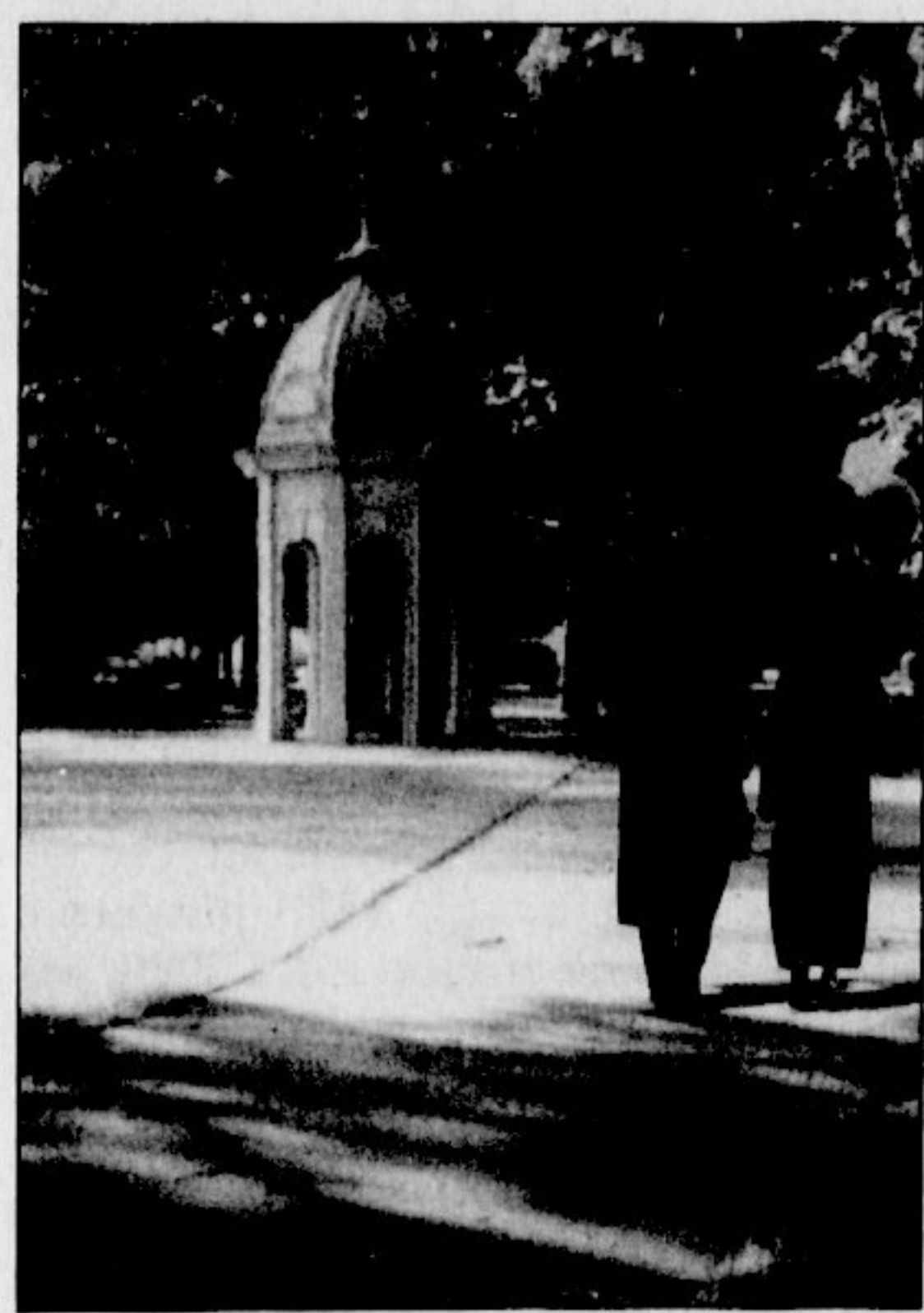
Edgar said the trip is planned for this July and it will cost about \$3,000 - 4,000 per person. This covers their plane trip, room and board and transportation to different clinics in the country. She said the Christian Children's Foundation is setting up the clinics, but they are not giving them any money to go there.

Gersh said they will also be holding a bake sale for Valentine's Day and deliver the food and do something in March. They are also doing a campaign to track down donors with the help of the Brody Foundation.

They are still waiting to hear if any sponsors will donate money.

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

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encouraged to attend, visit the information tables, register for some great door prizes, and pick up a **FREE GIFT***. And, be sure to sign the "Class of 2005" banner to be used at future alumni events!

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Our View

Who does banning same sex marriage actually protect?

In last week's State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush said he is still pushing for an amendment to the Constitution to ban same sex marriages.

Currently, laws have been passed by 33 different state legislatures banning marriage between same sex couples. Five more states have had laws approved by voters in ballot initiatives banning same sex marriage.

It seems the whole country is against the idea of same sex marriage, but we can't help but ask, "why?" Who will it hurt by legalizing such marriages?

Christopher Ott of the Progressive Media Project notes the only argument against legalization of gay marriage is to protect the sanctity of marriage. But who exactly does this protect?

"Early in our country's history, ensuring freedom of religion didn't devalue anyone else's faith. Ending slavery and segregation didn't devalue anyone else's citizenship. Allowing women to vote didn't devalue the electoral process. And allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry doesn't devalue anything, either," wrote Ott in a recent column.

The U.S. Constitution should help protect all of its citizens, regardless of their sexual orientation. If the proposed amendment is passed, it will segregate a portion of U.S. citizens, denying them basic rights.

Ott notes, "Do they really think long-term couples should be denied the right to make medical or end-of-life decisions, which married couples take for granted? Do they really think that kids should be denied health coverage by one parent's health insurance because the law treats them as strangers? Do they really think it's fair for gay and lesbian people to pay the same taxes as everyone else, but to be denied the hundreds of rights, benefits and protections of marriage? Do they really think that a gay and lesbian couple that has been together for 50 years does not deserve the protections that non-gay newlyweds enjoy from day one?"

In our history, equality has never been an easily attainable goal. However *TEC* hopes that our government can be responsible in making a decision that grants rights to all of its citizens, not just the majority.

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Serving ECU since 1925, *TEC* prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. *TEC* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com or to The East Carolinian, Student Publications Building, Greenville, NC 27858-4353. Call 252-328-6366 for more information. One copy of *TEC* is free, each additional copy is \$1.

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Pirate Rant

I wish more people were nicer to one another.

Dogs are so trendy right now - everyone has one. Are people that insecure?

I ride a red scooter on campus. I'm really sorry if I almost hit you, but don't worry, I'm taking driver's education this semester.

People who created "Support Our Troops" stickers should have a new edition with "Support Our Corpses."

So what is up with all the flirting if you have a girlfriend?

When did my class become an open discussion for my professor to talk about whatever is on his mind for an hour and 15 minutes?

My rant is: the only good part of *TEC* is the freakin' Pirate Rant section.

Why do guys think that when they join a frat, they are suddenly hotter and are P-I-M-P's? Last time I checked, you look the same as before you were in one.

It's really annoying when your boyfriend and friends have a lot of money and they don't understand why you can't just send your parents your credit card bill. Some of us even have to pay for tuition and, believe it or not, don't own a four hundred dollar sweater.

If you know your roommate wears Uggs and skirts, you don't have to like it, but don't put an enlarged version of the Pirate Rant about how stupid it is to wear them together up in your room.

I'm sick of having to kick my roommate's boyfriend out every five minutes when I have to take a shower, nap, change or want some space. Why does he spend the night in our room every night and giggle for five hours when he has his own room in the same dorm?

Baseball season is here. Finally, a sport we're good at.

"Southern gentlemen" of ECU: If you're dating a girl, take her on a date (for those of you who don't know what that is, pick up a dictionary). Don't let her buy her own drinks when you are out at a bar (at least offer). And don't have it on your Facebook profile that you are single. We know you aren't really Southern gentlemen but humor us a little.

Why would you spend \$350 (or more) on an Apple iPod now when you could wait six more months and pay \$150. And how come people are going so crazy over Apple? They act like MP3 players are the newest hot stuff. MP3 players have been around since 1998, people. Come on people Apple is dead. Accept it.

I hate it when people look at me like I have a second head when I tell them I'm taking the stairs. Sorry if I'm not lazy or don't want to be fat and die early.

Why is it when someone asks you your GPA and you tell them it wasn't so good, they ask you what it was? It's none of your freaking business. If I wanted to tell you, I would have.

Why do guys think they have permission to stare at you at the gym, especially if you are just in a shirt and shorts? We know you're going to look, but put your tongue back in your mouth and don't make us feel uncomfortable.

I don't know about everyone else at this school, but I go to ECU - not NC State, UNC or any other university. To quote an earlier article, "Don't wear that crap on my campus." So why don't you represent where you go, not where you couldn't get in.

Editor's Note: The Pirate Rant is an anonymous way for students and staff in the ECU community to voice their opinions. Submissions can be submitted anonymously online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, or e-mailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.

Opinion Columnist

Evolutionary theory takes a beating

Darwin goes on the defensive

PETER KALAJIAN
UNABASHED DARWINIST

In the summer of 1925, a young, idealistic Tennessee schoolteacher by the name of John Scopes decided that he was going to challenge a Tennessee law which banned the teaching of Darwin's Theory of Evolution in public schools. The children would receive their education from the Bible, as was proper, and no uppity young teacher was going to corrupt their minds with tales about how humans are related to apes. John Scopes, with every intention of being arrested for his crime (he invited a number of observers so there would be no doubt of his guilt), was the first in a long line of educators and concerned parents to abhor the idea of God and the Bible and religious fundamentalism entering the sphere of public education. Scopes was eventually found guilty, but the argument he started has persisted to this day, and still, 80 years later, persons of faith are still putting their best foot forward in the ongoing struggle to poison public education with the faith-based concept of Creationism.

This is America. All you parents out there, you have the absolute right, as the bringers of life, to educate your children in whatever way you see fit. Send them to Seminary, send them to Catholic school, wherever, but understand - public school is just that, public. There are dozens of active, established religious doctrines out there, and as any grammar school teacher will tell you, we simply do not have the time to teach them all. So, as is only fair, we must not teach any. We teach our children science and mathematics, educate them on the great literary heroes of history, and on the events that have shaped their world. In the spirit of concealment, a new school of thought has emerged regarding the origins of man and the course which humans have taken from our earliest days. Known as "intelligent design," the theory is both science and religion. As an open critique of evolution, the proponents of this new pseudo-science believe that the world must have been created by some sort of intelligent, sentient being. They site the complexity of



matter and the overabundance of life, maintaining that nothing so complex could have developed on its own over time, as Darwin asserts, but must have been created by an "intelligence."

Now, for all you reasonable people out there, the next logical question is, of course, what sort of intelligence? And that, my friends, is the kicker. The proponents of this new concept do not know, nor are they willing to field a guess, but they are certain of one thing: The theory of evolution is just that, a theory, and therefore when our children are taught the intricacies of natural selection and universal common descent (the idea that all life can be traced back to the same primordial life forms which crawled from the ocean millions of years ago), they should also be taught the alternative: Creationism. Leaving the question of what the "intelligence" is in intelligent design open, is a blatant attempt to imply that since we do not know the answer, it must be God. And not just any God, either. Not Allah, not Yahweh, but the God of the Bible. It is an attempt to fool people into thinking that "intelligent design" has some actual basis in science, when in fact it is merely Creationism by another name. Just because 50 percent of Americans believe that God created the universe in six days does not necessarily make it so.

The school board of Cobb County, Georgia has recently taken a major step toward Biblical education in public schools. Since no judge in America would stand for the elimination of evolutionary education, the board members of Cobb County had a novel idea. Instead of coming right out and saying the God created the world and all of that business about finches and natural selection is blasphemous non-

sense, they chose a far more insidious method. They planted the seeds of doubt. The new Cobb County biology textbooks, with their atheistic passages about Darwin and his genius, were plastered with large stickers on the outside cover which stated, "Evolution is a theory, not a fact ... and should be approached with an open mind, studied carefully and critically considered."

Sounds relatively innocent, right? But if there are only two options available to children about the creation of the world and the evolution of man, and parents and teachers unite to say that one of them is not really a fact, then what option do kids have? To shield themselves from the realities of the world with the protective cloak of religious scripture? Lucky for all you atheists out there, the Georgia Supreme Court has deemed the stickers unconstitutional and ordered their removal from all textbooks.

I, personally, do not know Darwin was 100 percent correct in his hypothesis. Maybe he was not. But I do know that Darwin provided detailed evidence and actual, tangible proof that his theories were accurate, and unfortunately for the religious right, there is but one text which can be cited to reinforce the theory of Creationism - the Bible. And I think it is fair to say that particular document has gone through its fair share of debunking through the generations.

If next week, in some remote desert corner of Israel, Biblical Archeologists discovered documentation as old as the Bible which stated unequivocally that the Moon was made of green cheese, or that there is a giant, flying shrimp named Carl constantly orbiting the Earth and making decisions on behalf of the people, will we start teaching that, too? If you want your kids not to be subjected to evolutionary theory, send them to a parochial school, because in America, in public schools, we should teach science, not religion. This type of scientific censorship in the name of Biblical accuracy and the human unwillingness to believe that we are related, very closely, to Chimpanzees, has no place in our schools. Children receive enough religious indoctrination away from the school setting - there is no reason to bring Creationism into the folds of public education.

In My Opinion

Rev. Al Sharpton's campaign goes to the birds

(KRT) - No matter how chickens die, they are going to end up between his teeth and those of so many people who listen to Al Sharpton's new civil rights campaign for the precooked lifestyle of chickens - "the gospel bird," as one of my preacher friends designates this menu staple.

Sharpton has joined with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to demand that KFC give chickens more space to live in, no growth hormones and a drug-aided unconsciousness before the final slaughter.

One pal of mine, Dawn, fell out of bed laughing when she heard about Al's latest crusade. "Stop the bull and order me a 10-piece," said another friend, John the Baptist.

It seems Sharpton is casting about for an identity. He's already tried acting turns on TV shows like "My Wife and Kids" and "Boston Legal" and hosted

"Saturday Night Live." This from a man who once took to serious talk shows as a voice for moral values from a black, left-of-center perspective.

Poverty, Social Security, the Iraq war, AIDS in Africa and failing schools in New York City apparently aren't challenging enough. The reverend has taken on chickens - not, mind you, opposing their place on the dinner table or in the fast-food takeout container, but their treatment before they get there.

"I'm calling on people to boycott KFC until they adopt animal welfare systems recommended by PETA and until they stop the worst abuses of the birds," says the Rev in a new video and Internet ad campaign.

He adds: "PETA wants KFC to stop thinking they know more than God and to allow birds to grow the way chickens are meant to grow."

He's winning raves among some in the animal-rights movement.

"Any decent person wants to eliminate any suffering," says Dan Mathews, a spokesman for PETA who met Al at an MTV party in Miami.

Black political movements such as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are in flux, and black churches all around New York are looking for leadership. But Sharpton is marching for chickens' rights.

While Al pursues the rubber-chicken circuit politically and the baked, smothered and fried chicken circuit otherwise, let's look at the real question: Reverend, is this merely another clever shakedown of the corporate America that keeps you fine, fit and fiddling while Rome burns?

10, 2005

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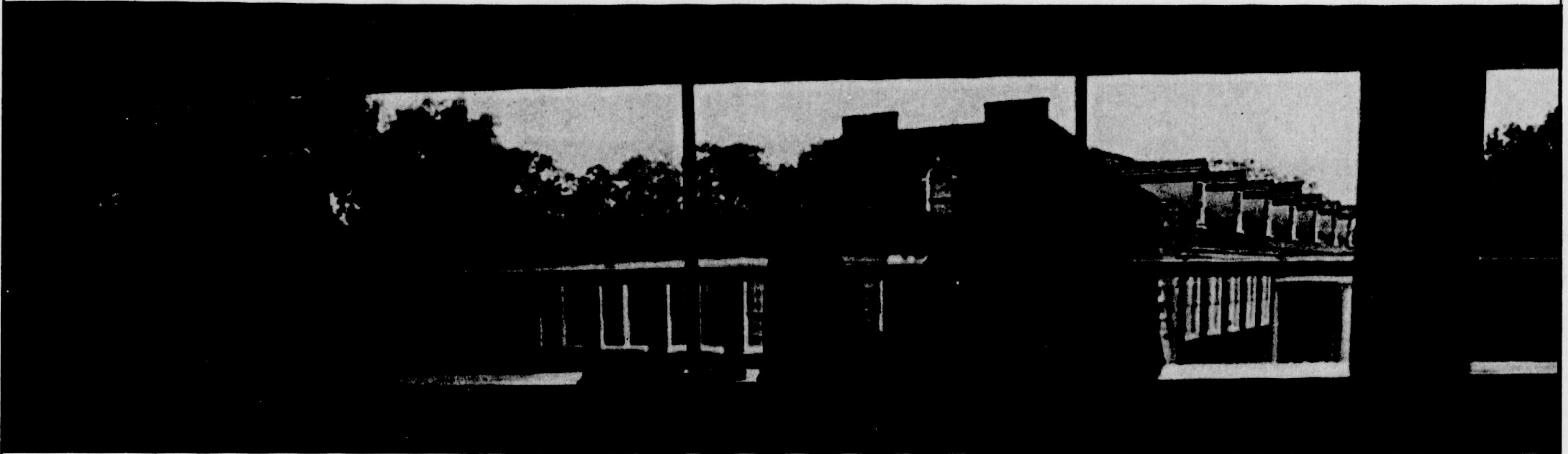
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Monologues from page A1

in the play are issues women on the ECU college campus deal with every day.

The title of the play has brought about some obvious controversy. Why would a writer entitle her play, *Vagina Monologues*?

Dianne DeGroot, producer of the *Vagina Monologues* said there was a very simple explanation. "If the play were entitled Women's Voice's, then who would care and who would talk about it? By using the word vagina, people stop and ask themselves what it could be about. The word is used

as a physical representation of abuse and a metaphor for the way a woman's mind, body and spirit are abused," said DeGroot.

Though some may be turned off initially by the blunt nature of the title and subject matter, those who leave the play usually have a similar reaction.

Lynn Tuthill, Greenville resident who has seen the play the past two years, was initially turned off.

"I'm just a sweet country girl and throughout most of my life, the word vagina was not in my

vocabulary. The first time I saw the play it was very interesting. I laughed and I cried. It touched on every single emotion, and most of all, I left no longer ashamed of the word vagina," said Tuthill.

Many who have seen the play have the same first reactions, which is one of the many reasons it has gotten such praise over the past few years.

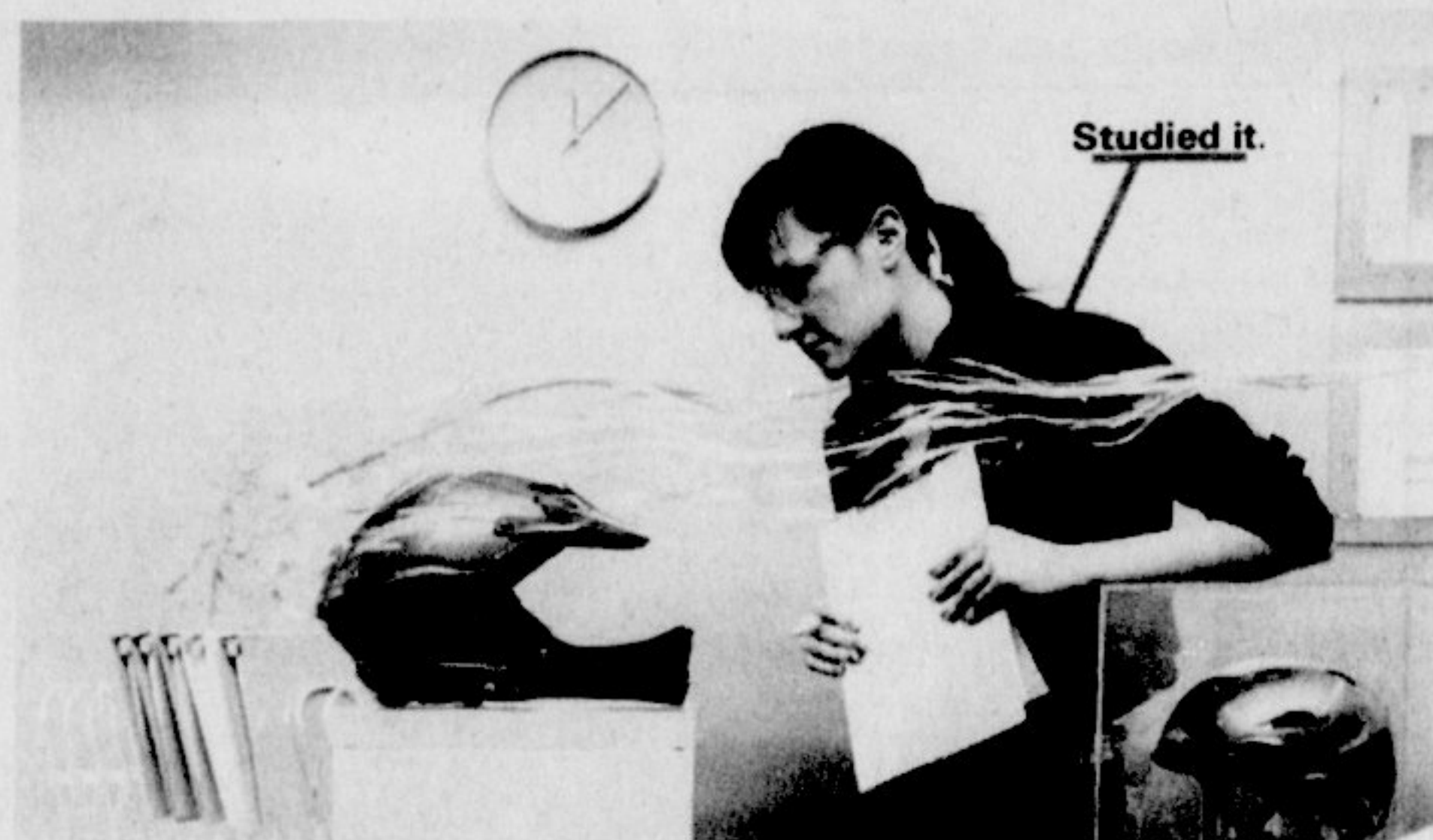
The program is not solely geared for women. Many men would be able to relate to them, as they are the stories of their wives, girlfriends, sisters and

mothers. It is a secret view into the mind of a woman and also the perfect date for the guy who truly wants to impress his girl.

Tarama Shusterman, Greenville resident said she attended the sessions for the first time last year and found the presentation hilarious and moving.

"It's a combination of funny stories about women and also horror stories about women in our world," said Shusterman.

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



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Spring Break 2005-Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring on-campus reps. Call for group discounts. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

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Hey Graduates! Hot 103.7 and Eagle 94 is looking for account executives to market advertising in Greenville and surrounding areas. Great benefits, unlimited income. Call Tori Gray at 252-672-5900 Ext. 203 to set up interview.

Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$6.25/hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, visit our website at www.ecu.edu/telefund and click on JOBS.

Food Delivery Drivers wanted for Restaurant Runners Part time positions 100 to 200 per week. Some lunch time (11a-2p) M-F and weekend availability required. 2-way radios allow you to be anywhere in Greenville when not on a delivery. Reliable transportation a must. Call 756-5527 between 2-5 only. Sorry no dorm students and Greenville Residents only.

Therapist (Full-Time) Liberty Network of Child and Family Services Inc. is seeking licensed therapists (provisional considered) to join our dynamic team (Pitt County). Prefer clinical experience in providing therapy in the office, community, and/or home setting to children and their families with MH/DD/SA diagnosis. Medicaid documentation experience a plus. Must have the ability to relate well to others, to work in a fast paced environment and to function as a part of a team. Exc. salary & benefits. Send resume and cover letter to Staff Recruitment, Liberty Network 2317-B Executive Circle Greenville, NC 27834 or fax 252-752-4949.

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth soccer coaches for the indoor soccer program. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Applicants must be able to coach young

people ages 3-18 in soccer fundamentals. Hours are from 3:30 pm to 9 pm, Monday-Friday with some weekend coaching. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from March 7 to mid May. Salaries start at \$6.25 per hour. Apply at the City of Greenville, Human Resources Department, 201 Martin L. King Jr. Dr., Greenville NC 27834. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm.

GREEK PERSONALS

Who's your Alpha Phi Heart Throb? Vote for your favorite Valentine's hunk at the Heart Throb booth on Feb. 8-Feb. 10 in front of the Wright Place. All money will be donated to the Alpha Phi Foundation, which supports Cardiac Care!

Valentine's Alert: Sigma Sigma Sigma will be selling Valentines at Wright Place all week from 11-3. We will deliver them on the 14th for you. Its a great for sisters, friends, and couples! Find a Sigma to send a Valentine!

OTHER

Money For College The Army is currently offering sizeable bonuses of up to \$20000. In addition to the cash bonuses, you may qualify for up to \$70,000 for college through the Montgomery GI Bill and Army College Fund. Or you could pay back up to \$65,000 of qualifying student loans through the Army's Loan Repayment Program. To find our more, call 919-756-9695

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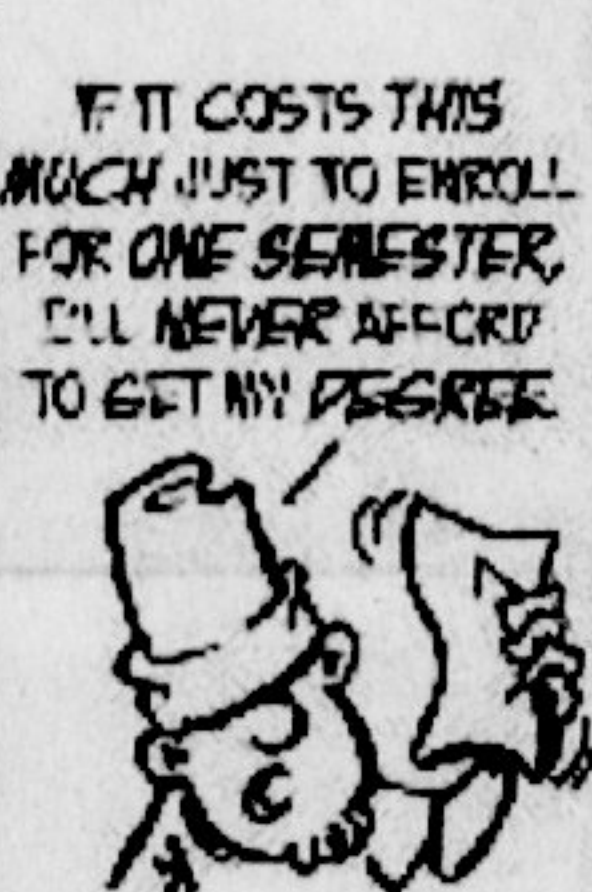
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2 Dudes

By Aaron Warner



Crossword

- ACROSS
- Knockout gas
 - School dance
 - Untidy person
 - Saint-Nazaire's river
 - Start again from scratch
 - Latin farewell
 - Jots
 - Tel ____-Jaffa
 - Yeats' land
 - New York borough
 - Zenith
 - Sports letters
 - Seine, e.g.
 - Pride signal
 - Xenon or neon
 - Old coot
 - Buttons of Hollywood
 - Part of GTE
 - Sof's shakes
 - Birthday number
 - Gardner of films
 - Feeling poorly
 - Have a meal
 - A-Team member
 - Tasty tuber
 - Faux ____
 - Money player
 - Speller's test
 - Falls as ice
 - Practical joke
 - Stays idle
 - Extinct bird
 - Mine output
 - Ensemble
 - NASA craft
 - First-class
 - Senior golfer
 - Irwin
 - Family member
 - Memorization method
 - Constantly
 - Lubricate again
 - Pub pints
 - Tennis divisions
 - ____ Park, CO

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02/10/05

Solutions

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- Spectacles
- Poet Teasdale
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LoveLines

Congratulations Preston and Jen! It's about time! Happy First Valentine's Day. Keep it safe. Love ya both!

The Healthy PIRATES wish everyone a safe and Happy Valentine's Day! Join us for Sexual Responsibility Week on February 15-17 in front of Wright Place.

Dianne, I love you so much. You are my beautiful girl. I hope you are right now. Love your husband.

Armand, You are an amazing person. I love you. Thank you for being my best friend. Happy Valentine's Day Boo. All my love, Stephanie.

Mark, With love and patience, nothing is impossible. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Jenny

Justin, Since the day you came into my life, you made me realize that we were born to fly. Thanks for making me smile! Harlie

Greta, You are so amazing and beautiful. Happy Valentine's Day Love, Dan

To the ladies of MIDG 3010/3022 you make going to class worth while. Now bring us some CANDY to class!!! Love the guys of MIDG 3010/3022

This is only the beginning. Mi amor. I love you very much. Happy Artificial Holiday. Love, Pete

Tony, Happy Valentine's Day! I am glad that this is the third one I get to spend with you! Love always, Loren

Don, Happy Valentine's Day to my love! I wish I could do more but you know what's up! I love you! Happy Valentine's

Day. Love, Stank

Dee, Just wanted to say Happy Valentine's Day and that I love you very much, your Stinky butt-Shannall!

Kevin my love, Happy Valentine's Day! I love you so much. Love always, Shannal

Jessica, You are doing the best and friends never want. I love you so much. Love, Shannah

Our Jenns, We love you and hope you have a wonderful Valentines day. We will see you in a week. Love, Momma and Norm

Kristen, You are sweeter than a thousand cow tails. Can I be your Sugar Daddy this Valentine's Day? Love you forever, Jakey-Poo

Dearest Christa, Since the day we've met, you've changed my life forever. You are my sweetest

gift, my best friend and my love. Forever yours, Shawnie



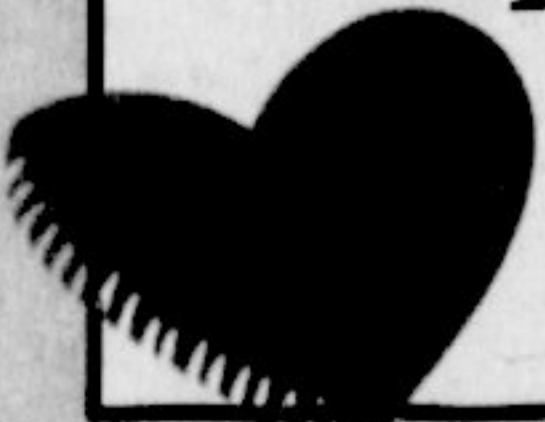



Happy Valentine's Day Craig. Every day I look forward to coming home and seeing you. I love you so much. Kristen

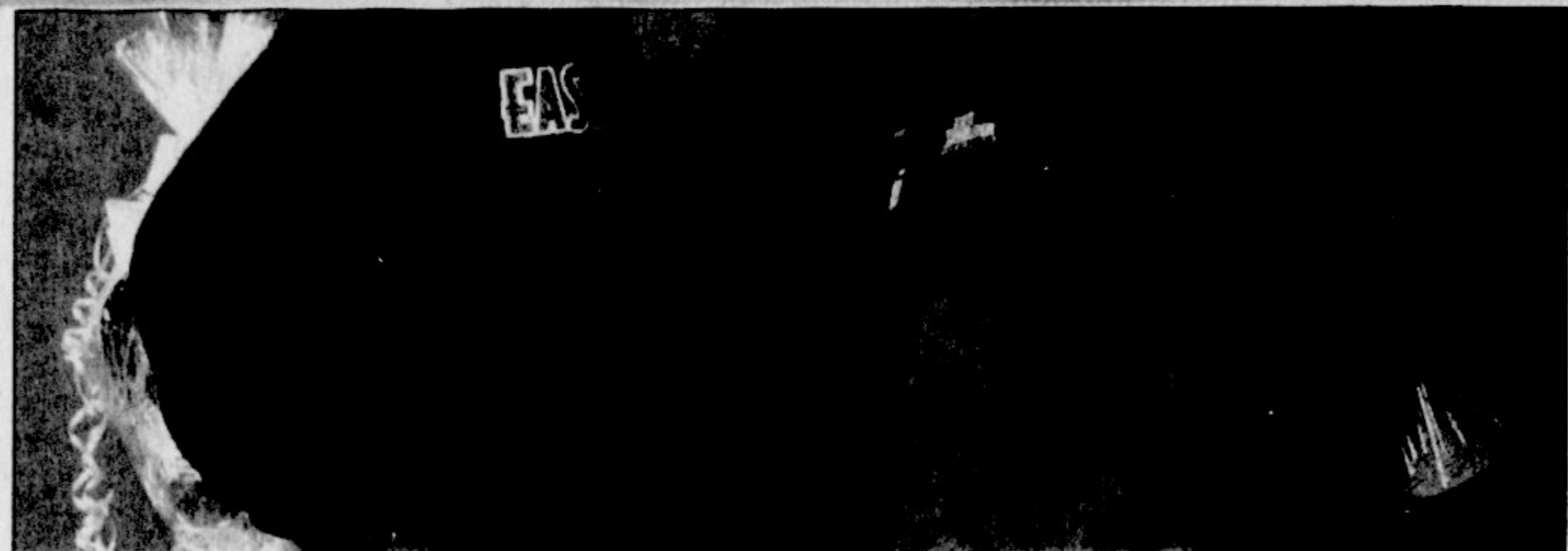
Thank you Kristen for the great days and even greater nights.

Theresa S. You make me the happiest guy at ECU every single day, and now everyone knows. I love you with all my heart! Love, Don S.

Sweetie Petutie, Over 6 years and still going strong. Here's to love, friendship and much more to come. I love you more all the time.

Gotta luv all my ladies of the ECU Women's Rugby Team! BustaBust, BlingBlou, Boo, MeIB, Ambeu, Aluv, Nikki, CatP, Casey, B&P, Aladdin's, Jasmin, Jacql, Bev, and Olin of course!! Thanks for an Already GREAT and successful season!! LUV, your gump.

Wishing you a  Happy Valentine's Day     



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30% off of all Jones and Mitchell® and Champion® apparel for women and 25% off all ECU gifts.

Shop Dowdy Student Store for officially licensed East Carolina merchandise!

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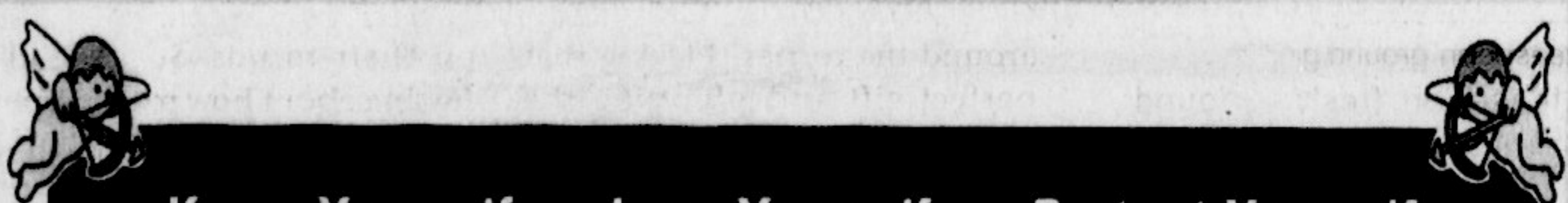


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Valentine's sale and specials valid Feb. 7-14, 2005. Discounted "gifts" includes all ECU logo imprinted merchandise, not including apparel, except as listed. Prior purchases excluded. No other discounts apply.



Know Yourself. Love Yourself. Protect Yourself.

Sexual Responsibility Week
February 14-18

Join the ECU Healthy PIRATES to celebrate Sexual Responsibility Week with the following activities:

Tuesday, February 15
10:30am-1:30pm, Wright Plaza
Contraception and Abstinence Education

Wednesday, February 16
10:30am-1:30pm, Wright Plaza
STD Fear Factor and Wheel of Health

Thursday, February 17
10:30am-1:30pm, Wright Plaza
"Be a Smartie": How to Have a Healthy Relationship

Thursday, February 17
"Family Feud Special Edition: Battle of the Sexes"
You may even be a contestant!
7:00pm, Science and Technology Building, Room C309
The first 150 people in the door can receive a "Safer Sex Kit"

Brought to you by:
The ECU Healthy PIRATES and Wellness Education
For more information about these events, call 328-6794

Individuals are encouraged to contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) through the Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Affairs, Room 202, 202 North Main Street, Greenville, NC 27834.

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We're Makin' Love
Our Theme of the Day! Ole!
Valentines Day! Monday, Feb. 14th
FIESTA FAJITAS for DOS! \$18.99
Shrimp, Chicken, & Beef cooked with onions and bell peppers sizzlin' on a HOT skillet!
MMMMM! You're gonna love it! Served with warm tortillas, homemade guacamole, pico de gallo, beans AND a Homemade Fried Ice Cream to share!

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Local concerts

Suburban Idiot - The musical will be held at the House of Blues in Myrtle Beach, SC Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. This show is free with the doors opening at 6 p.m.

Hoobastank will be playing at the House of Blues in Myrtle Beach, SC Feb 16 at 8 p.m. Door opens at 7 p.m. and tickets range from \$17.50 - 19.50.

Rascal Flatts featuring Blake Shelton will be at the Colonial Center in Columbia, SC Saturday, Feb. 19. The show starts at 8 p.m.

Jimmy Buffet will be at the Charlotte Coliseum Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Universoul Circus will be performing at the Alltel Pavilion in Raleigh, Tuesday, March 8 - 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Elvis Costello and The Imposters will be at the Grady Cole Center in Charlotte March 8.

The **Eagles** will be performing at the RBC Center in Raleigh March 11 at 8 p.m.

Reba McEntire and Brad Paisley will be in Raleigh Sunday, April 17. The location has yet to be announced.

Ani DiFranco will be at the Carolina Theatre in Greensboro April 23.

Kenny Chesney will be at the Colonial Center in Columbia, SC Saturday, April 30.

Recipes

Loaded Oatmeal Cookies

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
1/2 cup vegetable shortening
1 1/2 cups packed light brown sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup buttermilk
1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
2 1/2 cups quick-cooking oatmeal
1 cup raisins
1 1/2 cups chopped walnuts
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease one or more cookie sheets. Using an electric mixer, cream together butter, shortening and sugar in a bowl until fluffy. Add eggs and beat until mixture is light in color. Add buttermilk. Sift together flour, baking soda, salt, baking powder, ginger, nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves and allspice - stir into creamed mixture. Fold in oatmeal, raisins, walnuts and vanilla, blending well. Drop by rounded teaspoons onto cookie sheet. Bake for 12 - 15 minutes.

Parmigiano and Herb Chicken Tenders

Olive oil, for frying
1 1/2 pounds chicken breast tenders
Salt and pepper
1 cup all-purpose flour
2 large eggs, beaten with 1/4 cup water
Breading:
2 cups Italian bread crumbs
1 cup shredded Parmesan
6 sprigs or stems fresh thyme leaves, stripped and chopped, 2 to 3 tablespoons
6 sprigs fresh rosemary leaves, finely chopped, 3 tablespoons
2 handfuls chopped flat-leaf parsley leaves
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 teaspoon crushed red pepper
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Place a nonstick cookie sheet in oven with a tin foil liner. Heat 1/2-inch oil in a large nonstick skillet or frying pan over medium to medium high heat. Place flour in a shallow dish. Beat eggs with water in a second dish along side the flour. In a third dish, combine the breading ingredients. Coat chicken in flour, then egg, then bread and cheese mixture. Cook chicken until deeply golden on each side, 3-4 minutes. Transfer to cookie sheet in preheated oven and finish off for another 5 minutes cooking time. Cook chicken 5 - 6 tenders at a time in a single layer, adding additional oil if necessary.
Recipes from foodtv.com.

Valentine's Day



This couple can share their love simply by holding hands when walking from class to class.

MEREDITH STEWART
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. Picking that perfect gift and planning the special night is a very difficult task. You don't want to give the expected or if you have been with someone for a while, you don't want to give the same gift. Girls think about doing something a little different this year - give a guy a rose. Cologne, clothes and candy are all things that seem to be routine. Instead, how about a homemade card stuffed with "love coupons" followed by a special candle light dinner cooked by you.

"Last Valentine's Day my girlfriend made me dinner and then we got in the hot tub that was surrounded by candles," said Jon Hudson, sophomore.

Does your guy like to have "guys night?" If so, then a poker set would be an ideal gift. Most guys have DVDs and video games on their minds. So instead of fussing about how much time he spends staring at the television screen playing his favorite games, just suck it up and buy him the new "Grand Theft Auto," "Need for Speed 2" or "Mercenary," they are probably on your guy's list.

Try making a gift basket filled with things like his favorite candy, a framed photo of the two of you, a stuffed animal and any other small things you know he likes. Doing this really shows you put time, thought and effort into his gift and any decent guy will appreciate that.

"This year my boyfriend is going to be really surprised when he sees his car and realizes that I had a new stereo system that he's

been wanting installed," said an anonymous junior who would prefer not to disclose her name in case her boyfriend is reading.

For all those clueless girls out there, these suggestions should help spark a few ideas, but what about all of those clueless guys out there?

Not all guys are clueless - some are genuinely sweet and thoughtful. Although it may seem very habitual, roses are essential for a girl on Valentine's Day. And guys, if you think cards are insignificant and you usually don't give one, well Valentine's Day should definitely be an exception, even a little note inside wouldn't be too much to ask.

"Last Valentine's Day my boyfriend bought a card and cut out a picture of us and taped it in

see **VALENTINE** page B2

Trying to find true love in cyberspace

Internet provides alternative dating

KATHERINE DAY
STAFF WRITER

With more than 605 million users having access to the Internet, many of us rely on it for our daily routine. Whether it's for work, renting movies or buying groceries, the Internet has helped in simplifying many of our hassles. One hassle is finding a relationship.

There are millions of single men and women living in the United States. After getting tired of the bar scene and having to deal with all the "creeps" out there, a quick and easy solution is the Internet. Like everything else, the Internet provides a convenient way to meet people.

Web sites such as **match.com** and **AOL's love.com** profile millions of people. The chance of finding someone that is slightly interesting is favorable. Meeting the man or woman of your dreams can be done at the click of a mouse. The Internet can provide those of us with a hectic schedule or busy workload to meet new and interesting people.

The Web sites usually have a small fee for contacting members, but anyone can set up a profile, which includes a picture for free. The likelihood of being contacted by other people from the same town or region is improved if a picture is attached. Information included in the profile includes the interests and what the member is looking for in a significant other.

People sign up looking for all sorts of things. Whether it's a long-term relationship or just a new friend, the online community can provide many interesting prospects for someone looking for a change.

Online dating can be exciting, but like meeting any stranger, it can be dangerous at the same time.

Freshman Clay Williams, business major, shares some of the problems faced with online dating.

"It's difficult to interact with people online. You can't see facial expressions or hear inflections in their voice. You're just talking to a computer. There's no way to know who's on the other end," said Williams.

A profile that's too good to be true, such as: "Physicist and part-time model looking for someone to take long walks on the beach with," may very well be completely fabricated.

Many people look down at online dating. There's always something to hide behind and can be considered a last effort for anyone desperate enough for someone to talk to or start a

relationship with.

Josh Meinel, freshman finance major, finds there are better things to do online than talking to strangers.

"I have no will to try online dating. There's no excitement. I would rather spend my time online doing something productive," said Meinel.

Even after several online conversations with someone, it's always best to be wary of who you meet. Giving out a phone number or address to a stranger is a very bad idea. **Match.com** offers advice for keeping online dating safe.

"Start slow, guard your ano-



Dating at piratesingles.com

nymity, exercise caution and common sense, request a photo, chat on the phone, meet when you are ready, meet in a safe place, take extra caution outside your area [and] get yourself out of a jam."

With Valentine's Day approaching, many of these sites offer promotions and deals for those looking to spend the day with someone special. **Match.com** always displays married couples that met on their site.

The statement **match.com** issues is a promise to their customers. "Match.com members form a diverse, global community of singles who share common goals - to find great dates, make new friends, form romantic relationships or find life partners," the Web site said.

"Whether young or old, gay or straight, from a big city or a small town or from anywhere around the world, singles come to **match.com** to flirt, mingle, have fun and make meaningful connections."

While there are many different positions on online dating, the truth is that many people have found someone worth spending their lives with on the Internet. Whether it's for fun or it's a serious quest to find someone for a long-term relationship, the Internet does provide some amazing possibilities for anyone looking to have a good time. The idea that someone could meet a stranger through the computer is becoming more and more common and less frowned upon as millions look toward online dating for someone to be with.

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

Valentine's, not just a hallmark holiday

History makes day lovelier

LAURA KEELING
SENIOR WRITER

Throughout the average year, there are many "holidays" celebrated that add billions of dollars to any greeting card company's wallet. If there was ever one of these "hallmark holidays," Valentine's has to be one of them. The flowers, cards, chocolate covered desserts and balloons are all symbols of love, yet cost much more than they are worth. This leaves one wondering, is this really a holiday?

It turns out that Valentine's Day is actually a historical holiday. For all you singles, this might be something you don't want to hear, yet the legends are pretty interesting. Valentine's Day has elements of Christian and Roman tradition. According to the historychannel.com, St. Valentine was a priest in third century Rome. At this time, war was a part of everyday life. Emperor Claudius II outlawed young men to marry because he believed they would be better soldiers if they did not have wives or children. When St. Valentine heard of this, he performed secret marriage ceremonies for young couples regardless of the consequences he might face. When Claudius discovered St. Valentine's betrayal, he ordered him to be put to death.

Another legend implies that St. Valentine was imprisoned because he helped free Christians from Roman prisons. At these prisons, people were beaten and tortured. Freeing slaves would have had the ultimate punishment, death.

The last legend adds an element of the Valentine's Day card history. It is said that after St. Valentine was imprisoned, he fell in love with the jailor's daughter. He would send her letters and sign them, "from your Valentine."

According to americancatholic.org, "The roots of St. Valentine's Day lie in the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalia, which was celebrated Feb. 15. For 800 years the Romans had dedicated this day to the god Luperus. On Lupercalia, a young man would draw the name of a young woman in a lottery and would then keep the woman as a sexual companion for the year."

Each of these myths occur around the same period of time and suggest that St. Valentine died around the year 270 A.D. The month and day are what have many confused. The Roman myth implies that February is the month of purification, therefore, celebrates love as purity. In England and France, it is believed that Feb. 14 is the day that birds begin mating for spring, making it the most romantic day of the year. It is believed by many others

see **HALLMARK** page B2



This group of friends knows you don't need a significant other to have fun Feb. 14.

Flying solo on Valentine's Day

Tips for the single Valentine

TOMEKA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

There is love in the air. Everywhere you turn you see budding couples holding hands. On the bus you overhear those tender words "I love you" at the end of someone's conversation. In the hallway you get a full frontal show of a serious make out session. Then you see all the red hearts, bears and candy in the student store and it dawns on you, Valentine's Day is drawing near and you are single.

It can be a rather depressing feeling knowing you don't have

a Valentine but it doesn't mean that's the end. There are plenty of things for the single person to do on Valentine's Day other than staying home alone.

First, if you're single, chances are you have friends who are single as well. One can plan a fun day out or in with single friends. Going as a group to a movie or out to eat will keep everyone occupied from thinking about being alone. You will have a great time because you're with friends.

"If you don't have a date, go out with friends. Last year, all my friends and I went out to eat at Outback Steakhouse. We laughed all night and had a really good time," said Adanna Igboke, junior nursing major.

Enjoying Valentine's Day with friends is a wonderful idea and if all your friends are busy, there's always family. Spending Valentine's Day with family is the same as spending it with a significant other.

Being around family reinforces those feelings of unconditional love. Your family not only loves you on Valentine's Day but all year round. Sometimes it's hard to spend time with family and this holiday is the perfect day to do it.

Another choice for the single person on Valentine's Day is to make it a day to pamper yourself. Women can go to the spa for the day and get their hair and nails

see **SOLO** page B2

Valentine from page B1

the card along with a long note," said Jennifer Lee, freshman.

Most females feel that it is all about the thought and heart that goes into a gift. Like getting her a purse that she was dying to get at the mall. Of course she would be happy to get the purse, but the fact that you remember and actually got the right one says a lot.

Kate Spade and Lacoste perfumes are really popular these days and are becoming more difficult to find but make great gifts, followed by a romantic dinner. Be sure she likes the smell first. Girls are generally picky about what they spray on their bodies and no two girls are the same. Try asking a trustworthy best friend for gift hints for that special lady in your life.

Any Valentine's Day would be a success if you got your girlfriend a trip to the day spa. Or better yet, creating your own spa - giving your own massages could be an interesting and fun idea.

Good luck with your Valentine's Day shopping. Hopefully everyone will get to spend it with the one they love. And for those of you who have class or an exam Monday night, remind your professor they should be at home with their loved ones.

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



These love birds clearly know that everyday should be full of love, not just Valentine's Day.

Solo from page B1

done. If you're going to be single it won't hurt to look good. It can only stroke your ego and make you feel better about yourself.

The single man can have a pamper day as well. Go get your hair cut and buy a fresh pair of shoes. Shopping tends to take the mind off things, especially for women, but don't overdo it. Don't spend all your money shopping frivolously to compensate for not having a date on Valentine's Day.

"For Valentine's Day I'm going to see my boyfriend in Richmond but I think a good idea for single girls is to have the classic sleeper. They are always fun and women love to talk so it will keep the single person's mind off being single," said Shadayna Taylor, senior history education major.

If you don't want to be single on Valentine's Day, grab some courage and ask someone out you've been eyeing. If you are single there is a great probability that you've been scoping someone out. Ask that person to be your Valentine.

This could be a scary thing to do but the rewards are greater than the drawbacks. The worst someone can say is "no" and before hand prepare yourself for that possibility. Make sure to have something fun and not too intimate planned just in case they

agree to be your Valentine. Who knows, you could find love.

One important thing the single person should remember is Valentine's Day is just a commercial holiday. Love is something that should be shared and showed everyday, not just one day of the year.

It's not healthy to sit around dwelling on the fact that no one will give you roses or candy on Valentine's Day. It's best not to be surrounded by couples either. One of the perks of being single is that you don't have to worry about buying any gifts or racking your brain about the perfect gift. Spend your money on yourself. Like the saying goes, you can't love anyone until you love yourself. One should never define themselves based on their relationship status.

"On this Valentine's Day I will be doing homework and going to class. The celebration of love is an everyday event. Never should something so beautiful be constricted for glorification within one day. It is truly impossible to properly express love in one day. It is a delicate task worth taking your time on," said Julio Ramirez, freshman English education major.

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

Scents control hormones of both men, women



(KRT) — Men, you are going to thank me for this column. Women, too. Because in the course of researching the latest perfume trends, as any serious journalist must, it was learned, from a bona fide scientific institute the three smells that most turn women off.

Cherries. Barbecued meat. And cologne.

"All acted to inhibit female sexual arousal," reports Dr. Alan Hirsch, director of the Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation in Chicago.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, Dr. Hirsch. For, while the number of men rubbing themselves with cherries and/or spare ribs is not large (although if you ride the subways, you know they're out there), the number of misguided men still slapping themselves with cologne is legion. Now at last they know: It is time to stanch the stench.

Why do these three particular scents make women turn up their noses, love-wise? Hirsch's theories are not what you'd call ultra-

deep, but then again, he seems to be the only guy studying this, so we'll stick with him.

Perhaps, he posits, the smell of cherries reminds women of the medicine they took as children. Yuck. Perhaps charred meat reminds them of cooking. Yuck. And perhaps, he says, "Cologne reminds them of going out with men."

You mean a smell that reminds a woman that she's going out with one of them again, you know, a man, is enough to doom a date? Well, says Hirsch, who has also spent real-life, grown-up, paid-for time discovering that the scent of certain candies arouses women: "My advice for men is to get rid

of the cologne and buy a box of Good & Plenty."

Now, it takes a man who innately intuits the sex-junk food connection to even think of exploring the marital happiness-garlic bread connection. And that's exactly what Hirsch did. In a study recently conducted by his institute (and it's not that I didn't interview real perfume companies about trends. I did. But you'd get sidetracked too, if you learned that), Hirsch's researchers visited 50 Chicago families, bringing them a free pasta dinner, twice. One time the dinner included garlic bread, one time it didn't. The researchers then sat there, stomachs rumbling, observing

the family's interactions.

Conclusion? The garlic bread factor cannot be overstated. In its presence, researchers recorded 8 percent more positive family interactions and 22 percent fewer negative ones.

Now whether this was because the scent of the bread made everyone happy, or that eating it satisfied some basic instinct, like, say, hunger, or simply that the smell of garlic finally overwhelmed the smell of dad's cologne, causing mom to crawl across the table, Sophia Loren-like, growling with lust... well you know.

I'm sure the invaluable Smell and Taste Foundation will let us know soon.

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Hallmark from page B1



"Sweethearts" are a favorite.

that Feb. 14 was the day of St. Valentine's death.

In 498 A.D., Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 St. Valentine's Day. This was 200 years after his untimely death.

In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began celebration around the 17th century. During the mid-18th century, people exchanged love letters on Valentines Day, as opposed to cards. It wasn't until postage rates dropped and printing improved that cards became popular at the end of the century.

America began celebrating Valentine's Day during the 1700s with the exchange of cards. The first person to mass produce Valentine's was a woman named Esther A. Howland. She was often referred to as the "Mother of Valentine's."

Through the years, Americans have become more and more elaborate with gifts, cards and flowers on Valentine's Day. Some don't even know why they celebrate the day, they just do. Just remember that it all began with a good man, fighting for what he believed in. The power of his love was so strong that he did not care about his fate. Valentine's Day can now be remembered for love and heroism, instead of just cards and candy.

For more information on Valentine's Day history, please visit thehistorychannel.com.

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

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Chocolate, food of the cocoa gods

Rewarding taste buds everywhere

JOANNA WALDHOUR
STAFF WRITER

Theobroma cacao – what is that? It's Latin for "food of the gods" and the official name of the cacao tree – the origin of the seemingly irresistible chocolate.

Chocolate itself has had a long and special history with humans, dating back into the past for more than 2,000 years.

With the cacao tree that grows in Central and South America near the equator, it is no surprise that, in those countries, the ancient civilizations of the Mayans and the Aztecs referred to chocolate as "food of the gods."

The cocoa bean was so valuable to the Mayans they had cocoa pods carved into the walls of the stone temples. They were also used as a form of currency. It's said that 10 cocoa beans could pay for a rabbit – 50 beans could pay for a mule.

The Aztecs also drank a chocolate beverage and called it "xocoatl," xoco means better, and atl means water. They drank it during sacred ceremonies and allowed their sacrificial victims to have a last drink of xocoatl before their death. Montezuma II, Aztec's royal monarch, liked xocoatl so much he had great storehouses filled with cocoa beans. It is said he drank 50 or more portions of xocoatl daily.

With the inventions of the steamed engine and later, the cocoa press, it became easier for cocoa production, which caused

a decrease in the price of cocoa beans. No longer was the chocolate drink only available to the wealthy or royalty, it was enjoyed by all.

During the 19th century, an English company created the first solid eating chocolate.

More chocolate was being consumed, but nowhere else in the world did the production of chocolate proceed faster than it did in the United States. In America, the pilgrims sent sweets and sugarplums to their loved ones. These gifts had high value because it was rare to have sugar during that time. The first chocolate factory opened in 1765.

After the sugar became more available to the people during the 1800s, the sweet exchanges continued and were being enjoyed. Sweet candy in red and white color started to become popular with red representing the passion of love and white representing purity. By 1900, those red and white heart shaped boxes filled with chocolate began to appear in chocolate stores.

During World War II chocolate was recognized as an important source of nourishment to the U.S. Allied Armed Forces and is used today as part of the meals for the U.S. Army to give them energy to carry on.

Today, according to research studies, chocolate is America's favorite flavor of dessert and sweet snack. The Chocolate Manufacturer's Association reported that a total of 57 percent of women preferred chocolate, while a total of 46 percent of men preferred chocolate as their favorite flavor. Sixty-five percent of Americans

prefer milk chocolate, while only 27 percent of Americans prefer dark chocolate.

"The reason that chocolate is so popular is because it's simply one of the most delicious foods that a person can eat. It has a special taste that melts in your mouth and there is nothing really quite like it," said Susan Smith, a spokesperson for the National Confectioners Association in an Internet interview.

"Valentine's Day is the biggest one-day sale for chocolates," said Pat Green, owner of the Chocolate Tree of Beaufort, SC and first vice president of Retail Confectioners International.

"Our most popular piece is the tiger paw, also called turtles or pollywags – a chewy caramel with pecans and covered in chocolate," Green said.

"Many men and women spend a lot of money for Valentine's Day, most particularly the single men spend the most... some of the married men actually bring back the heart shaped boxes year after year and say 'refill it for me.' But the single biggest sale is the biggest, fanciest box filled with chocolates that a person buys so that hopefully their sweethearts will share it with them," Green said.

"Because so many people consume chocolate – about 14 pounds on average annually, per person in the United States – we try coming up with new chocolates of different flavorings, creams and nuts. To test the variety of tastes, we hold an annual 'All You Can Eat Night at the Chocolate Tree. We sell advanced tickets and people come in to eat

anything and everything they want during a two-hour time frame.

"I normally will cook a peanut brittle or butter brunch while they watch and let them eat it while it's still warm. We test our products and watch for their reaction. That is how we found out what our white chocolate covered popcorn, ice cream truffle and our chocolate almond caramel would be. It's a fun night," Green said.

Research studies have been finding polyphenol antioxidants in cocoa powder and chocolate, which are also found in fruits and vegetables. They may have the potential to reduce the risk of developing heart disease and certain cancers and may improve cholesterol.

"There is a lot of research that needs to be done, but it is true that chocolate is very high in antioxidants. They can be found in varying levels of cocoa products and chocolate. It may have some healthful benefits. With moderation, it fits into any health diet and lifestyle," Smith said.

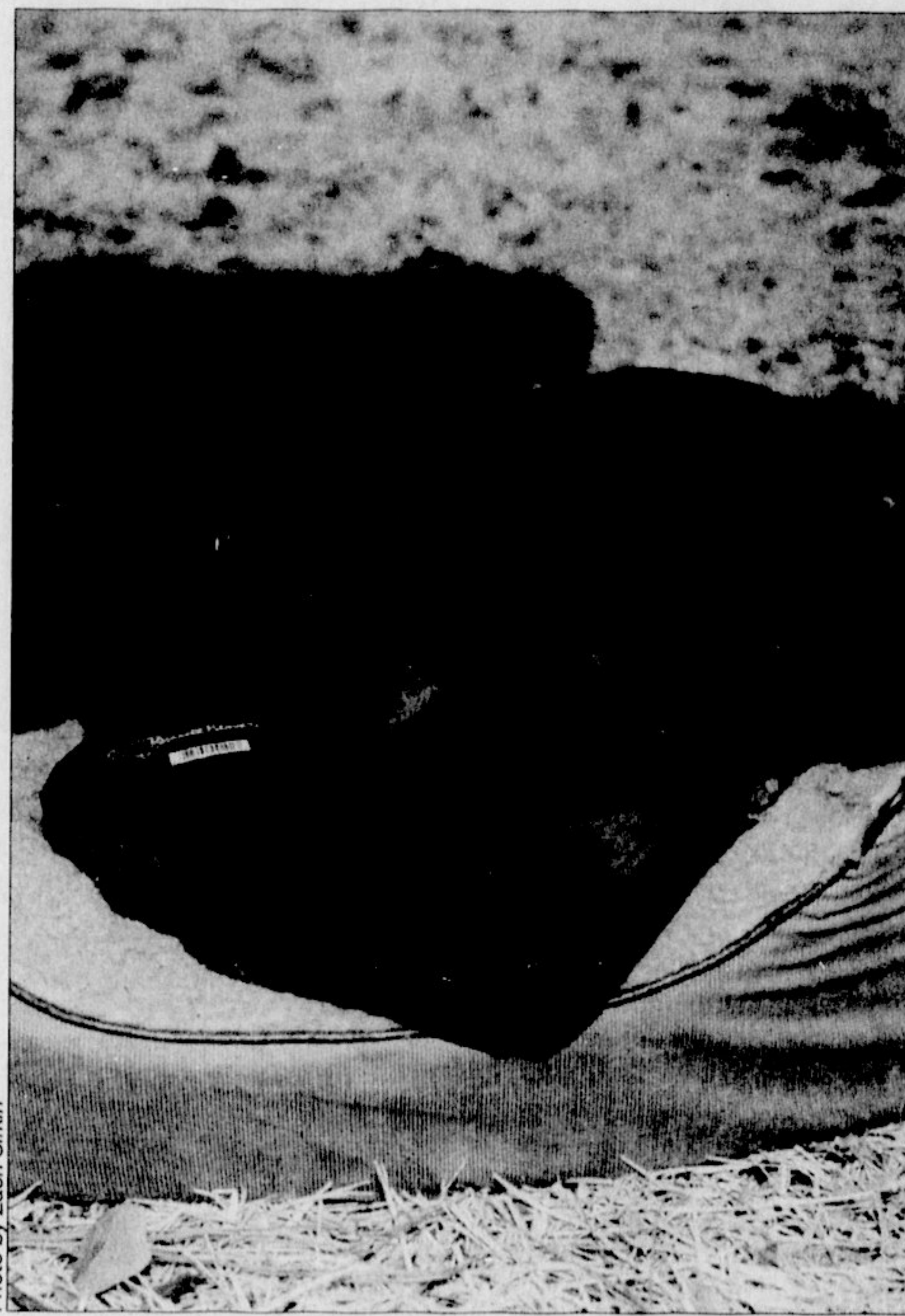
Cocoa powder is the highest with antioxidants and then dark chocolate comes second.

"Tropik Sun sells mostly gourmet chocolates, such as turtles, fudge and a variety of chocolate covered nuts and raisins," said Reanna Riggs, employer at Tropik Sun, located at Colonial Mall.

"Valentine's Day brings an increase in sales, and our most popular chocolate piece is the turtle, enjoyed by both men and women."

way, first as a bitter drink from the gods to the first solid chocolate, then finally to its evolved taste and texture of today. No matter if people prefer the soft velvety, rich chocolate truffles, french chocolate or tiger paws – one thing is clear – chocolate has always had a strong and large following and has satisfied many people with its tempting and tantalizing taste throughout the whole world.

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



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Sports Briefs



Smith named defensive backs coach

Rick Smith has been named defensive backs coach at ECU according to an announcement from head football coach Skip Holtz Tuesday. Smith's hiring will officially complete the Pirates' initial staff for the newly-appointed Holtz, who was named to the top football position at ECU Dec. 3, 2004. In all, Smith has six years of experience as a defensive coordinator at the NCAA Division I-A level and 24 years as a collegiate coach, all coming on the defensive side of the ball. In the process, he played integral roles in five bowl game appearances. Smith joins defensive line/assistant head coach Donnie Thompson, offensive coordinator/line coach Steve Shankweiler, quarterbacks coach Phil Petty, running backs coach Junior Smith, defensive coordinator Greg Hudson, linebackers coach Rock Roggeman, wide receivers coach Donnie Kirkpatrick, tight ends/special teams coach Greg McMahon and director of football operations Clifford Snow on the Pirates' staff.

Titans hire USC coordinator

Southern California assistant Norm Chow was hired as offensive coordinator of the Tennessee Titans on Wednesday after helping the Trojans win two consecutive national championships. He was to be introduced at a morning news conference. Titans spokesman Robbie Bohren told The Associated Press. Chow replaces Mike Heimerdinger, who was hired as the New York Jets' offensive coordinator last month. This is his first job in pro football after 32 seasons at BYU, NC State and USC. Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher, a USC alumnus, also interviewed assistant head coach George Henshaw and quarterbacks coach Craig Johnson from his own staff. Chow, 58, joined USC in 2001 and was the team's offensive coordinator, tutoring Heisman Trophy winners Carson Palmer and Matt Leinart. At BYU, Chow worked with quarterbacks such as Heisman Trophy winner Ty Detmer, NFL star Steve Young and Chicago Bears QB Jim McMahon - a former teammate of Fisher's.

Sports Trivia

- 1.) What well-known NFL quarterback played in the Jim Carrey movie, "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective"?
- 2.) On March 2, 1962, Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points against the New York Knicks. What was the final score of the game?
- 3.) Who said this: "I'm going to cancel my prescription," is response to negative comments written about him in a local newspaper?
- 4.) Cal Ripken played in how many consecutive games?
- 5.) Why is this number - .367 - significant in major league baseball history?

ANSWERS:

(1) Former Miami Dolphins quarterback and current CBS Sports commentator Dan Marino appeared in the 1994 movie. (2) Philadelphia Warriors 169-New York Knicks 147. (3) Former Boston Red Sox pitcher Bob Stanley. (4) 2,632 - from 1962 to 1996. (5) It is the major league's highest career batting average. Ty Cobb, from 1905 to 1928.

'Cozz due for breakout year

Mark Minicozzi could have big season for ECU

BRENT WYNNE
STAFF WRITER

Mark Minicozzi is the type of guy you're privileged to know. Always wearing a smile and a glove, Cozz never complains on the field and is always giving 100 percent of himself to the game of baseball.

A selfless person, with every reason not to be, the Pirate third baseman plays the game set on achieving one goal, getting to Omaha. Individual accolades, nope, not worried about them. Draft status, yeah, it can wait. The College World Series won't wait, and for the time being, this is the only focus.

But even amidst all the talk of college baseball supremacy, Cozz remembers who first recruited him to ECU.

"Coach LeClair is a huge inspiration to me," said Minicozzi.

"He coached me when I first got here and he's just a great man."

LeClair, whom is battling everyday with Lou Gehrig's disease, made the statement when he left the program because of health problems that "We will get to Omaha." That statement still rings loudly in the head of Minicozzi.

"I would sacrifice anything

to get to Omaha for him," Minicozzi said.

"It would be the best thing in the world."

The Pirates were so close a season ago, losing the Super Regional Series to the eventual College World Series runner-up South Carolina in Columbia.

"That leaves a bitter taste in my mouth, but that was last year," Cozz said.

"The goal this year is to get to Omaha, so we're going try and bring them to our place this year and beat them here."

The preseason pollsters seem to indicate that ECU baseball is in a rebuilding year, and the mention of Omaha to them may even bring about a chuckle or two. The Pirates aren't ranked in any preseason top 30, and just one year after a 51 win season, it looks as if ECU is going to have to prove itself once again.

"I think we always keep the polls in the back of our minds," Minicozzi said.

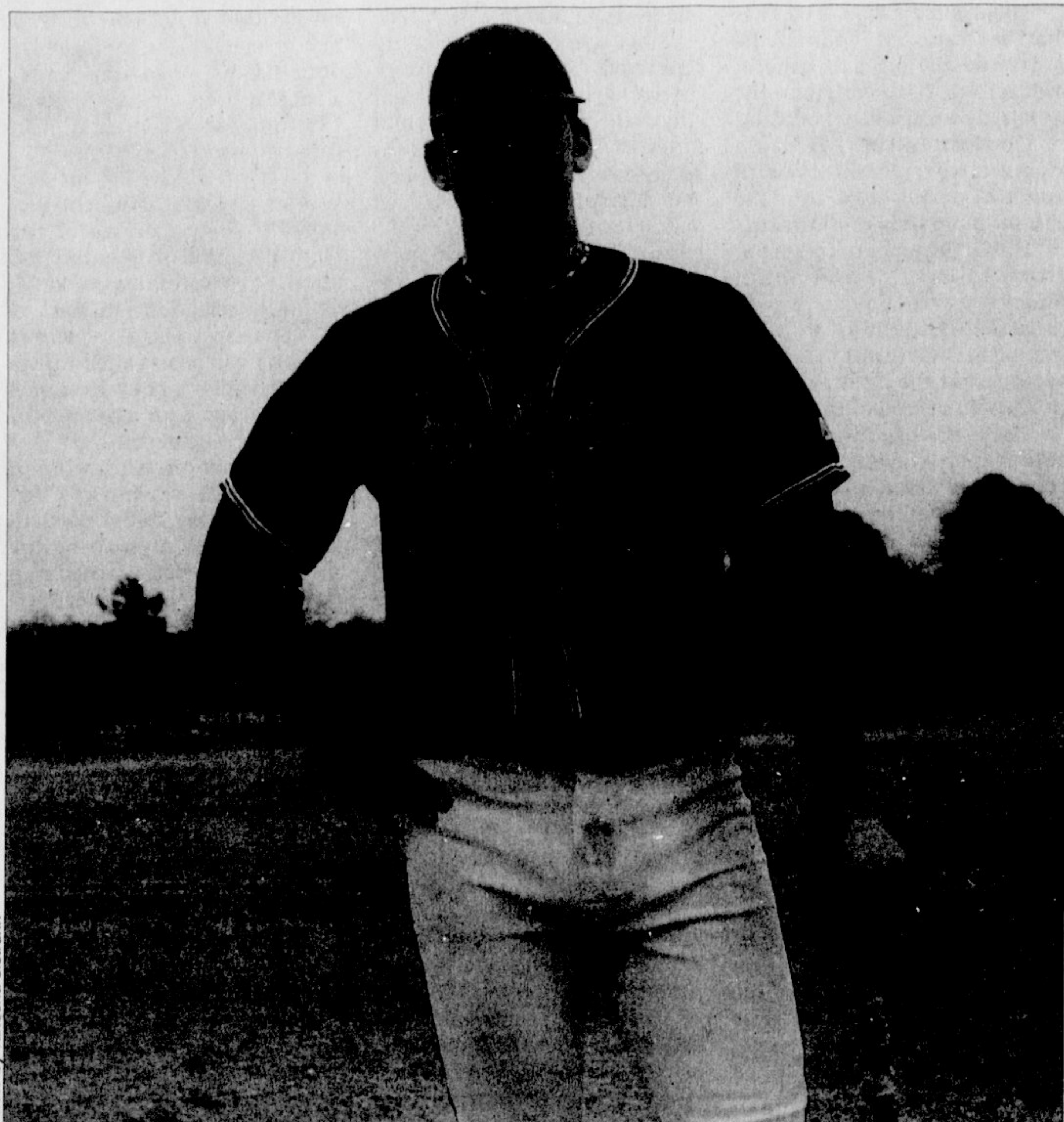
"It's just a little extra to play for this year since they don't think we're any good."

"I think pitching wise, we pretty much have everyone back from last year, and hitting wise, we have a lot of new faces, but we have a lot of power throughout the line-up."

"I think we'll be solid. We'll be fine."

While Cozz won't do much for the Pirates' pitching, he can

see **BASEBALL** page B5



Minicozzi batted .342 with 10 home runs and 50 RBI last year for the Pirates.



The ECU women kicked off the season with a sweep of Campbell.

Lady Pirates start season swinging

Softball team hopes to repeat last year's success

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
STAFF WRITER

It is a shame that only a few knew of the success of ECU's softball team last season. Overshadowed by the triumphs of the ECU baseball team, the Lady Pirates posted their best ever record since joining Conference USA, 47-24-1. The team also managed to make their way to the C-USA tournament for the second time, defeating Southern Miss. once, before being eliminated by a strong USF and DePaul squads.

After losing four starting seniors last year, the Lady Pirates should be able to remain strong this season. With four returning seniors and six juniors, the Lady Pirates have experience on their side.

"We are leaning toward our seniors this year," said Head Coach Tracey Kee.

"They are going to have to step up and become leaders."

The first chance to test the Lady Pirates came last weekend as ECU opened their season in a double-header with in-state rival Campbell. Game one was a pitcher's duel as ECU sophomore pitcher Keli Harrell struck out an impressive 15 batters. The game stayed tied at zero until the 10th inning when freshman outfielder Beth Nolan drove in the first RBI of the season, giving ECU a 1-0 victory.

In game two, the Lady Pirates came out swinging, scoring five runs in the first two innings. ECU senior shortstop Leigh Savoy capped the game off with the Lady Pirates' first home run of the season, a solo blast in the bottom of the sixth. Campbell never recovered from being down and ECU rolled on, completing the sweep with a 6-1 victory.

Harrell, who pitched in game

one against Campbell, will be the bread and butter for the Lady Pirates this year. Last year as a freshman Harrell struck out a total of 161 batters and finished with a 2.61 ERA. Winning 16 games last year with only seven losses, Harrell will be expected to make the biggest impact once again this year.

Last year one of the biggest stories of the ECU softball team came from then junior Kate Manuse. Manuse broke C-USA and ECU's school record for doubles, knocking in 26. She also placed second on the team in batting, averaging a .360 and was one of two ECU players to be named to the all conference team. This year as a senior, Manuse should continue to improve both on offense and defense as she takes over first base this year.

Overall, the Lady Pirates will only get better this year with a strong three pitcher rotation and eight returning players to bring a sense of leadership to the team.

"Our main goal is to make it to the C-USA tournament," Kee said. "We have to keep on reminding ourselves that it is far away and we have to realize that it is a marathon not a sprint."

"But our entire goal is to be in Tampa at the end of this season."

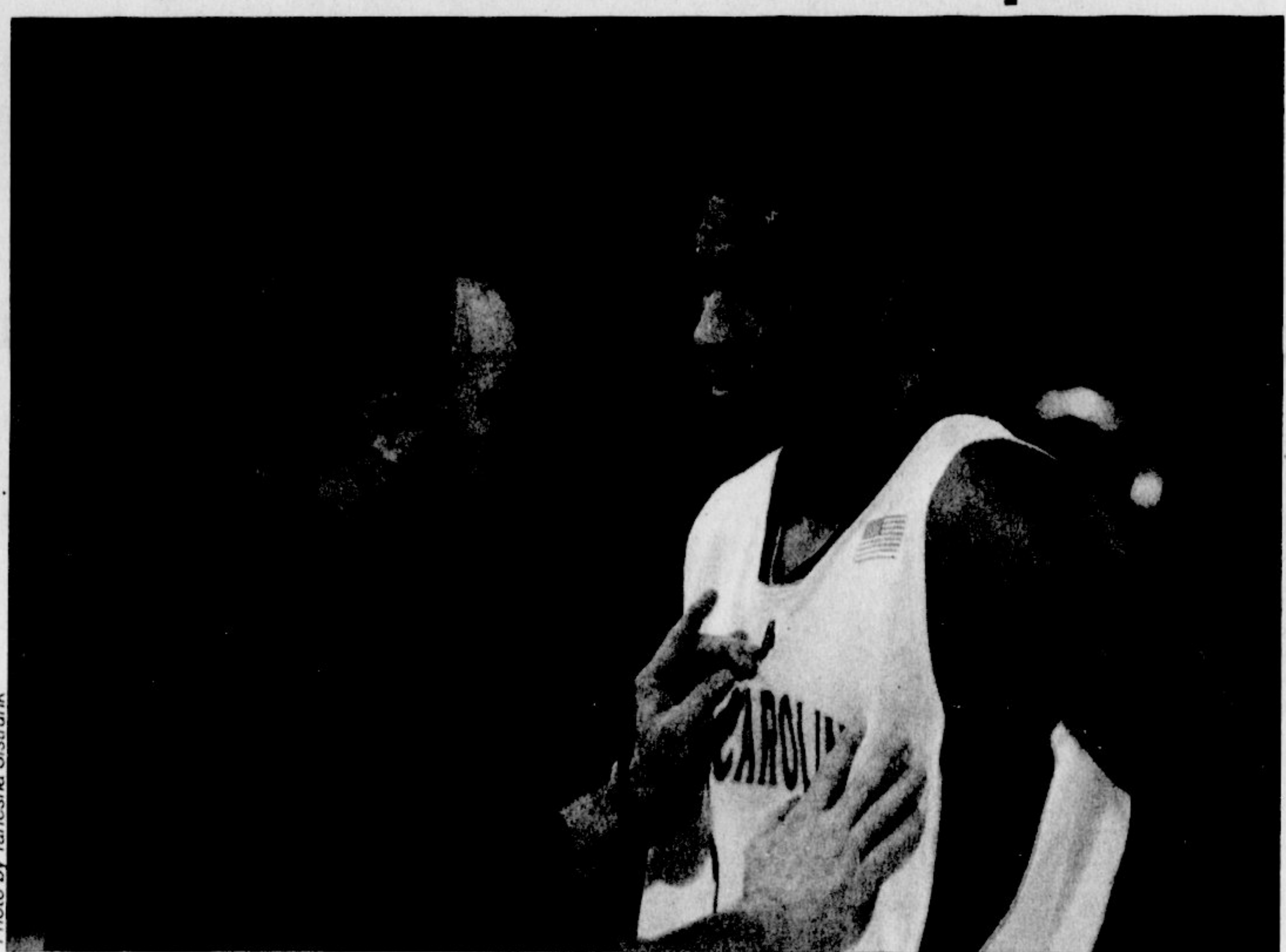
ECU's next test will take place this weekend as the team heads to Atlanta to participate in the Georgia State Invitational. The Lady Pirates will take on teams such as Tennessee Tech, Charleston Southern and Georgia State.

"Anytime when you go on the road it's tough, Kee said.

I feel that we have quality competition. The teams have a strong softball tradition and we haven't played these teams in a couple of years."

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

ECU to take on Marquette



Tommy Hammonds has started to warm up for the Pirates in the last four C-USA games.

Pirates looking to win third straight at home

TRENT WYNNE
STAFF WRITER

The ECU men's basketball team has a rare break in action this week as they prepare for Marquette's arrival to Minges Coliseum Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Golden Eagles traveled to TCU last night but the score was not available before press time.

After starting the season 11-1, Marquette has found a bit of a dry spell lately, going just .500 over there last 10 games including an uncharacteristic 4-5 conference record. With their recent struggles, the last place the Golden Eagles may want to see is

Minges Coliseum, where in both trips they failed to come away with the expected victory.

For the Pirates to send Marquette away empty-handed once again, they will have to focus most of their attention to a stellar perimeter game from Travis Diener and Steve Novak. Diener leads Conference USA in points (20.0) and assists per game (6.8) and was recently named to the mid-season Naismith Trophy award watch list, compiled of the nation's 30 best players. Novak is averaging 12.9 a game and has hit 55 three-pointers on the season.

ECU should not have trouble controlling the boards as well as play on the inside.

The Pirates are C-USA's second best rebounding squad lead by Corey Rouse with 10.1 rebounds a game. Rouse leads the confer-

ence in both the offensive and defensive rebounding categories. Moussa Badiane is also C-USA's second leading shot blocker on the season behind Jason Maxiell of Cincinnati.

ECU had a couple of pretty good road outings last week at Memphis and TCU, but were not able to bring home a win heading into Saturday's showdown with Marquette.

The key for the Pirate victory truly lies within the paint area and ECU will need to exploit the Golden Eagles inside in order to be efficient offensively and pick up their third straight win at home over Marquette and third straight at home for 2004-2005 campaign.

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

Textbook college basketball: Students learn ABCs of ACC

(AP) — Barry Lawing remembers the first time his dad took him to a Wake Forest game, nearly four decades ago. He's been hooked on Atlantic Coast Conference basketball since.

Now a history instructor at Forsyth Technical Community College, Lawing has found a way to bring that passion to academia. For the second straight winter, he is teaching a class on the league's highest-profile sport, a veritable ACC History 101 featuring everything from old game footage to guest lecturers, some better known for scoring than speechmaking.

In a state obsessed with ACC basketball and for a teacher who claims to have attended about 400 league games the mere existence of such a class is as sweet as a J.J. Redick jump shot.

"It's almost like it's a part of your childhood that you never lose," Lawing said. "You grow up with this intense rooting interest as a child, and you follow it through to adulthood. And it's a way you kind of connect with your childhood."

"It's a part of your whole life, and you never really outgrow it," he added. "And to some extent, you don't want to outgrow it

because you can always be a kid when you go to a basketball game and scream."

For Lawing, who has taught at Forsyth Tech for about 20 years, the course offers a break from his Western civilization classes. This eight-week class is strictly for fun and doesn't have an official title. And unlike Jim Harrick Jr.'s infamous class at Georgia a few years ago, where students were asked on the final exam how many points a 3-point shot is worth, this is a noncredit course designed as a community service program.

see **ACC** page B5

Baseball from page B4

do plenty to help ECU offensively. Last season Minicozzi batted .342 with 10 home runs and 50 RBI. He would have been amongst the leaders on any other team in the conference a year ago, but on a team that set numerous school and conference records, Cozz's numbers were just a pittance of the overall total. That will change this season, as Minicozzi has a legitimate reason to lead the team in every major offensive category. But it's going to take more than just one guy to saddle the load, and Cozz has an outlook on the offense.

"Jake Smith, Mike Grace, Billy Richardson and Drew Costanzo are all going to have big years," Minicozzi said.

Throw in Adam Witter, who swings the bat like Paul Bunyan swung an ax, the speedy Brian Cavanaugh, contact hitter Brett Lindgren, a couple of impact newcomers in Harrison Eldridge and junior college transfer Jay

Mattox, and this team offensively, doesn't look too bad.

If anyone knows baseball, it's the guys who either were drafted or were seniors on last year's squad, and according to Minicozzi, they believe this team is very good.

"They're real excited about this team," Cozz said.

"I'm best friends with all the guys and I pretty much see them everyday. I even live with John Poppert, and all of them can't wait to come out and support us."

They won't have to wait much longer as the Pirates hit the road this weekend for a series against nationally ranked College of Charleston. First pitch is scheduled for 5 p.m. Friday, and begins what could be for Mark Minicozzi, one of the greatest seasons anyone has ever had in a Pirate uniform.

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

ACC from page B4

The 23 enrolled students need attend only six of the eight classes "or be a Wake Forest fan," Lawing says to earn a satisfactory grade.

Lawing gives a midterm and final, though each takes only about 20 minutes and the teacher reads the answers aloud after the tests are finished. The students grade themselves, and high scorers can win a prize.

The syllabus resembles that of any college class, breaking down each week's topic and guest speakers. But in few courses do students crowd the visitors after a two-hour class to seek autographs and photos.

For the first class, the focus was University of North Carolina basketball, and the speaker was former Tar Heels coach Bill Guthridge.

The second class focused on NC State and Duke, and the guests were a trio of former all-ACC performers: Duke's Mike

Lewis - NC State's Vann Williford - and 7-foot-4 Tommy Burleson, who led the Wolfpack to the 1974 NCAA championship.

The rest of the lesson plan betrays Lawing's hometown bias. The last six classes focus primarily on Wake Forest, the subject of Lawing's 2000 book "Demon Deacon Hoops," though the schedule also calls for him to cover national titles won since 1982 by North Carolina, NC State, Duke and Maryland.

While the course concentrates almost entirely on the "Big Four" North Carolina-based ACC schools, Lawing is prepared to cover more if the class attracts backers of other conference schools. Last year, that meant touching on Georgia Tech "or one student.

"It's easy to focus on the 'Big Four,' knowing almost all of the fans will be from here," Lawing said.

It's not clear if college courses

highlighting other leagues are offered elsewhere around the country. But ACC commissioner John Swofford, though not officially sanctioning Lawing's course, likes the subject matter.

"The sport of basketball in the Atlantic Coast Conference has a remarkable history, and we are excited to know that opportunities are offered for the passionate fan that follows this league," he said.

During the recent class on NC State and Duke, Lewis, Williford and Burleson sat at a table facing the students, occasionally talking among themselves and pointing at the large screen in the auditorium while watching highlights from their era.

When a student walked in late wearing a North Carolina hat and jacket, Lewis grinned and cracked, "The Tar Heel guy is late."

Lewis, who played for the Blue

Devils from 1966-68, recalled a recruiting trip when Duke All-American Jeff Mullins got him a date for a party that night. He also talked about matching up against UCLA's Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, then Lew Alcindor: "I didn't really play against him - I was just out there in his way."

Burleson told of being cussed out by Kentucky coach Adolph Rupp when the North Carolina prep star said he wanted to play in the ACC. He also demonstrated his hook shot for the class, posting up the 5-foot-8 Lawing.

"Only people who were born here and raised here can completely understand the hysteria that goes on during basketball season," said 18-year-old Annie Weir, who went to class in a Duke shirt.

"It's just a way of life to support basketball in ACC country."



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