



## “What is Banner?” question answered

Say goodbye to Opal; new online system for students and faculty

**KIMBERLY BELLAMY**  
SENIOR WRITER

The Information and Computing Services are attempting to introduce Banner to ECU through marketing and information sessions.

“The overall majority probably still does not know how to use it. Most people probably won’t learn until they’re forced to use it,” said Don Sweet, associate chief information officer and Banner project director.

The first student informational session will be held Thursday, Feb. 15 in Mendenhall 221 at 6:30 p.m., which will train students to use the different modules of the program.

The next informational session will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 28, in Mendenhall 244 at 6:30 p.m. “There will be at least two information sessions this month and a couple next month,” Sweet said.

Angela Anderson, Banner Student Functional Lead, said that registration stimulation has been a method used to test the effectiveness and usability of the program.

“So far we have received very good feedback from people who participated in the registration stimulation,” said Anderson.

This type of practice testing for Banner has been completed by student and faculty volunteers.

According to thisisbanner.com, marketing tools to increase ECU’s awareness of Banner have included bus posters, TV commercials, giant banners, direct e-mail, newspaper advertisements and more.

The Web site also stated that administrators working on Banner met with SGA, the Residence Hall Association, the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council to get input from members of the student body to come up with marketing strategies.

Another tool to help the university learn about this new service has been accumulated into one full day of information.

According to Sweet, an event called “Banner Up! Day” will occur on March 21 in Wright Plaza.

This event will help students and faculty understand how to use Banner. The event is one day before students have their first opportunity to register for classes through Banner.

Sweet said there will be designated computer labs for course registration with Banner representatives present to assist students.

Some of the advantages of Banner listed on the Web site include the termination of Opal browser for course registration, elimination of social security numbers as student identification, compatibility for PCs and Macs and accessibility to distance education students.

“One of the biggest reasons why we’re going to Banner is systems such as financial aid and



Students imitate a Banner marketing campaign poster at IHOP. Banner will replace the operating system Opal.

course registration have different setups and this puts it all on one system,” Sweet said.

According to Sweet, Banner consists of different modules including university finance, human resources, financial aid and student.

The finance module assists ECU with budgeting, the human resources includes pay roll information, financial aid displays your aid status and processes it, and the student module consist of various sub-topics according to Sweet.

According to thisisbanner.com, the student module can allow you to view the admissions process, financial aid status, student records, student account, hold tags, end of term grades, transcripts, transcript request, degree evaluation, course catalog, enrollment verification request and student records.

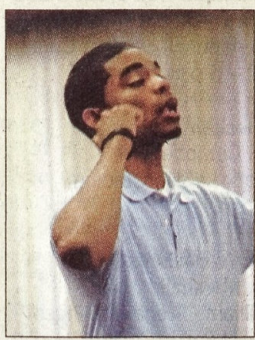
Degree audit will also be available through banner, which tells you what courses you need to get your degree and what course credits will convert over if you decide

to change your major, according to Sweet.

A lot of the services that OneStop offers will now be offered by Banner, but for the time being, the OneStop system will still be available.

Some of the modules have already taken effect such as finance, admissions and financial aid. Sweet said that the finance module was started in the fall of 2003 and went up Feb. 2006.

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Bryson Finney leads the ECU Gospel Chior. Read more about the group.....Page A4



Yikers.com provides jokes, videos and pictures. Find out how to get your daily dose of amusement online.....Page A4



The ECU men’s basketball team has been starving for a win in C-USA. See if senior Courtney Captain and the Pirates could get the job done against Southern Miss in one of the last games at Minges this season.....Page A7



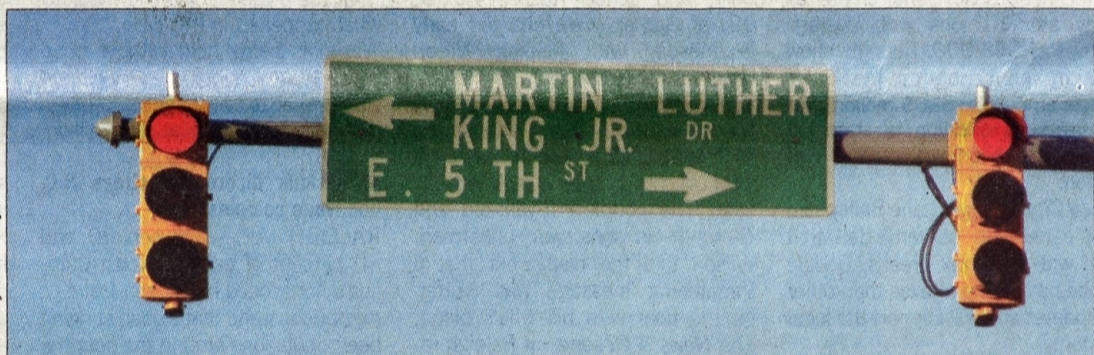
The Pirates of the ice are heading into the BRHC tournament after two last decisive home games against Radford. Find out if the ECU club hockey team picked up any momentum playing Clemson over the weekend.....Page A7

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## Debate continues over approval of renaming U.S. 264 Bypass



The division between Martin Luther King Jr. Street and historic Fifth Street has been cause for debate.

Martin Luther King Jr. Highway still an issue for some residents

**ELISA BIZZOTTO**  
SENIOR WRITER

Last Monday, the Pitt County Board of Commissioners voted 5-4 to approve the renaming of the U.S. 264 Bypass to Martin Luther King Jr. Highway and to revert the road currently bearing King’s name back to Fifth Street.

The proposal, which was first passed by the Greenville City Council in December, is set to take effect this June although the finality of the decision has left some people from all sides of the debate unsatisfied.

“I think when you rename anything that’s always a challenge,” said Patt Dunn, city council member, regarding some of the protest surrounding the decision.

The manner through which Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is to be honored in this county continues to be up for debate.

According to Keith Cooper, co-chair of the Fifth Street/MLK Completion Committee, the issue has been active since 1989 when local community leaders expressed their interests in dedication of a street, road or major highway to the late Rev. King. Almost a

decade later action was taken, and the proposal for the western portion of Fifth Street to be renamed in honor of King was approved. In 1999, on King’s nationally recognized birthday, the portion of the road running through a predominantly African American neighborhood took on King’s name and the portion running through the business-laden uptown Greenville and past ECU remained historical Fifth Street.

Since the decision however, there has been public protest over the division of the street and its two different names and members of the African American community boycotted last year’s annual Unity Breakfast.

In response to this boycott, members of the community and the university created a committee to discuss the renaming issue, in hopes of generating a resolution to put the debate to rest.

“The Chancellor suggested this issue needed a public airing and suggested a series of forums... that would allow a non-partisan, non-prejudice way in which the Greenville and Pitt County community could honor Martin Luther King,” said Austin Bunch, ECU chief of staff.

As a result, ECU contracted with the non-profit enterprise, Visions Inc., to allow an entity that had no investment in the issue, to

provide consultation and oversee the forums. The enterprise specializes in helping communities to facilitate the development of multiculturalism. They documented every spoken and written word that dealt with the issue in order to produce an extensive package that ultimately assisted the decision.

“Honestly, I was very disappointed in the Visions group,” said Charles Ewen, Fifth Street resident and committee member. “There was a lot of warm and fuzzy stuff to start and by the third meeting, it would go to where you would oppose [the extension of Martin Luther King Dr.] and it was for no other reason than racism.”

A series of three forums were held at separate locations and open to any community member who desired to voice their concern on the issue.

Cooper, who is one of the supporters of the extension of King’s name along East Fifth Street, maintains a great deal of animosity over the situation and is dissatisfied with the way in which the decision was made. He believes members of the African-American community were unjustly served through the deliberation process and that the decision to remove King’s name will have a negative

see **DEBATE** page A2

## ECU history and the move to desegregation, racial equality

ECU during the civil rights era

**ZACK HILL**  
SENIOR WRITER

A famous scene from the movie *Forrest Gump* shows a digitally implanted Gump standing by as then, Governor George Wallace of Alabama, attempts to stop two African American students, James Hood and Vivian Malone, from becoming the first African Americans to attend Alabama University.

No such scene occurred in Greenville when Laura Leary

became the first full-time African American student at ECU in the fall of 1963.

“When the gates were lowered they [ECU administration] moved quickly,” said University Historian and Professor of history Henry Ferrell.

Movement was made toward desegregation of all public schools in the nation, as a result of the landmark *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* decision. ECU’s charter specifically stated that the school was to educate “white” students but that clause was removed by the General Assembly in 1957.

Ferrell said African American teachers were invited to attend

summer session classes that same year.

But it would take six more years until Leary was allowed to attend, eventually receiving a degree in business administration in 1966.

Ferrell noted that ECU desegregated before many of the public schools in the state did.

“It was a time of great change and the amazing thing is that it was done so easily,” Ferrell said. Some protests over cultural and racial issues occurred during the late 1960s and early 1970s, but they remained peaceful.

“They had a lot to do with bridging some social issues. It was

the spirit of the times. If you had a problem you protested,” Ferrell said. “There were always white students involved as well.”

In order to encourage more African American students to attend, ECU issued a booklet in 1971 that specifically addressed why the university would benefit African Americans.

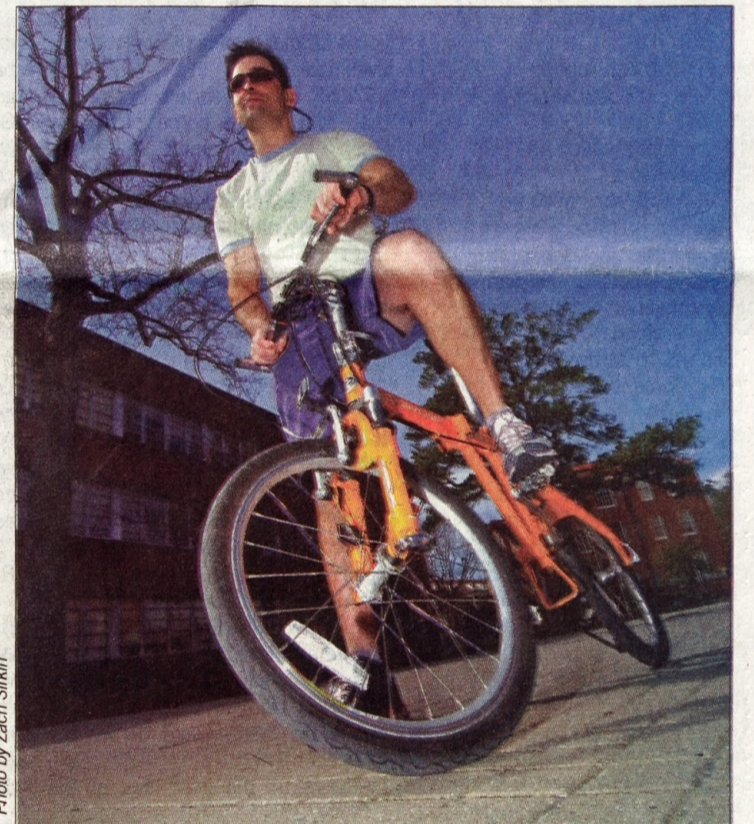
Lathan Turner, assistant vice chancellor for intercultural student affairs, feels that the office of institutional diversity helped make the transition smoother. Turner also gives a lot of credit to Andrew Best, the first African American to sit on the board of trustees.

Turner said that the cultural

organizations on campus went through several changes starting with the creation of the Y Hut in 1975. It became the Ledonia Wright Afro-American Cultural Center in 1976 and then finally the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center.

The Society Of United Liberal Students, was another group that was active in the 1970s. According to “No Time for Ivy,” a book about ECU’s history by Ferrell, the group pushed for more equality among both students and professors. The organization also helped get the Confederate flag removed

see **CIVIL RIGHTS** page A2



Yan Lyansky created a folding bike small enough to carry after riding.

## ECU professor invents Downtube bicycles

Folding bikes a local attraction

**ALYCIA WENDT**  
STAFF WRITER

Students can cut out the hassle of having to lock up their bikes while going to class. Math professor Yan Lyansky created his own line of folding bikes, “Downtubes,” which are convenient for students and faculty on campus.

Folding bikes have been around since the late 1970s. The bikes fold up easily and they are small enough to carry into a classroom or anywhere that people may bike to.

Lyansky has considered bicycling a hobby since his youth. He raced bikes cross-county 11 years ago at the expert level, which at

Watch the Downtube unfold online at www.theeastcarolinian.com.

the time was one level under pro. “This is a dream. Thinking about bikes and designing them is all I have ever done,” said Lyansky. Even though Lyansky plans to make improvements on his bikes, he doesn’t have any financial goals in mind.

“I am just doing the right thing. There are no financial goals involved. It makes me feel good to help people,” Lyansky said.

The bikes are sold mostly online at downtube.com. The bikes are also available on Ebay but the nicest models aren’t sold there. Lyansky plans to

see **DOWNTUBE** page A2

# NEWS

{ Campus & Community }

## CORRECTIONS

The *East Carolinian* would like to correct the following inaccuracies published in Wednesday's paper. In the News section, "Talk it out Tuesday," is the incorrect title for the SGA event, the correct title is "Talk it Tuesday." In the same piece, Kristen Stoneman's title is interim assistant general manager, not manager and the spelling of Elvis Presley was incorrect. It should have been Elvis Presley.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pitt County Citizens Academy

The Pitt County Legal Department is accepting applications for the next session of its Citizens Academy, which will be held every Tuesday March 27 through May 15. The Academy is designed to form a stronger partnership between citizens and Pitt County Government through education. Participants will learn about county services, programs and responsibilities. Applicants must live in Pitt County. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, March 2. Applications are available at the Pitt County Legal Department, and on the County Web site at [pittcountync.gov](http://pittcountync.gov). For information, contact Nancy Wilson at 252-902-3106 or e-mail [njwilson@pittcountync.gov](mailto:njwilson@pittcountync.gov).

### February 20 - 22, 2007 2007 Graduation Expo

Location: Wright Place rear dining area, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Everything the May graduate needs in a one-stop shopping Expo!

- \* Pick up cap & gown
  - \* Find out about senior pictures
  - \* Order graduation announcements
  - \* Visit with reps from the Registrar's Office, Career Center, Alumni Association, Pirate Club, SRC and loan consolidation companies
- May Grads have a chance to win a \$400 travel voucher from Jostens.

### Student actors needed for Confessions

Four to six student actors needed to participate in *Confessions*, a theatrical production in which the lived experiences of people with HIV/AIDS are told. Students will be asked to portray the lives of those living with HIV through monologues. Auditions will be held on Feb. 20 from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. If you are interested in participating, please contact Shawnte McMillan at [mcmillans@ecu.edu](mailto:mcmillans@ecu.edu) or Tywanna Jeffries at [jeffriest@ecu.edu](mailto:jeffriest@ecu.edu) to receive a copy of a script.

### Urinetown

Feb. 22 - 27 8p.m., except Sunday at 2p.m. McGinnis Auditorium Book by Greg Kotis, lyrics by Greg Kotis and Mark Hollmann and music by Mark Hollmann. One of the most uproariously funny musicals in recent years, *Urinetown* is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides he's had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Praised for reinvigorating the very notion of what a musical could be, *Urinetown* catapults the comedic romp into the new millennium with its outrageous perspective, wickedly modern wit and sustained ability to produce gales of unbridled laughter.

## 15 Thurs

**Wheelchair Rugby Drop-in Game**  
The game can be played recreationally by individuals both with and without disabilities. Individual players may register on site prior to each night of play. SRC Sports Forum 8 - 9 p.m.

**HPV: What Every Woman Needs to Know**  
Student Health Service 5:30 p.m.

**Women's Basketball vs. UTEP**  
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum 7 p.m.

**H.E.P.T.A Meeting**  
Health Educators Preparing for Tomorrow's Advancement's second meeting of the year. Refreshments will be served. We will be discussing upcoming events. Bate 1009 5:30 p.m.

**\*Open Mic**  
Open Mic is an open forum to any ECU student to show their talent. From acoustic guitar solos to poetry, any type of talent you have can be put on show. Free refreshments will be served. Pirate Underground 9 - 11 p.m.

## 16 Fri

**Ice Hockey vs. Radford**  
Bladez on Ice 12 p.m.

**"American Blackout"**  
Mendenhall Great Rooms 7:30 p.m.

## 17 Sat

**Second Annual Krimson and Creme Ball.**  
Hosted by the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and the Eta Psi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Open to the general public, donations accepted. City Hotel and Bistro Ballroom

**Ice Hockey vs. Radford**  
Bladez on Ice 3:45 - 8 p.m.

**ECU Hosts Great Decisions Seminars**  
Rivers West Building auditorium 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Women's Basketball vs. Tulane**  
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum 2 p.m.

**Black History Month**  
Gospel Concert Wright Auditorium 5 p.m.

## 18 Sun

**Want to see your event featured here? Log on to [theeastcarolinian.com/calendar](http://theeastcarolinian.com/calendar) to submit event listings.**

## 19 Mon

**Intramural Softball**  
Team registration meeting MSC Multi-Purpose Room 5 p.m.

## 20 Tue

**Intramural Kickball**  
Team Registration Student Recreation Center, room 207 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## 21 Wed

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**  
Mendenhall Student Center 12 - 6 p.m.

**Baseball vs. Campbell**  
Clark-LeClair Stadium 3 p.m.

**Men's Basketball vs. Marshall**  
Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum 7 p.m.

### \*Featured Event:

#### Open Mic

Open Mic is an open forum to any ECU student to show their talent. From acoustic guitar solos to poetry, any type of talent you have can be put on show. Free refreshments will be served. Pirate Underground 9 - 11 p.m.



## BRIEFS

### Local officials defend Google incentives deal

LENOIR (AP)—Leaders in the city that will be the home of a new Google Inc. data center are defending the incentives used to attract the company to North Carolina. Some observers have criticized the \$260 million in incentives used to lure the company to Caldwell County. But on Tuesday, local leaders said most people in their communities back the deal. "I truly believe that 80 percent of the people are tickled to death, and they are getting mad" about the criticism, Lenoir Mayor David Barlow said. A powerful legislative committee is expected to review the incentives deal, which could become one of the richest in state history depending on how much the Internet search engine firm invests. But Barlow said people are forgetting what Google, based in Mountain View, Calif., could do for the local economy. "Where's all the good talk of the

millions and millions of dollars in payroll? Our people need to hear the good news," he said. Google announced last month it would build a \$600 million data center near Lenoir and create as many as 210 jobs with average salaries of \$48,000. Records show that city and county tax breaks for Google amount to \$165 million over 30 years, in addition to state tax breaks and incentives totaling \$94 million. Lenoir City Manager Lane Bailey said people need to be reminded that even with local tax breaks, Google will be paying more taxes than other companies and will support the local economy. "This is a great deal for the city," Bailey said.

### Husband, two teenagers charged in Wendell woman's death

WENDELL (AP)—A Wake County man and two teenagers are charged in the death of the man's wife, authorities said. Jakiem Lance McRay Wilson, 22, of

Wendell, was charged Tuesday with first-degree murder in the death of 24-year-old Nneka Wilson, who was found dead in the couple's home. Roderick Ryan Howell, 17, of Knightdale, and Jamie Russell Holder, 18, of Garner, were charged early Wednesday with helping Wilson cover up the crime. Jakiem Wilson called 911 about 6 a.m. Tuesday, sobbing and saying that someone kicked in the back door of his house and killed his wife. The couple's 2-year-old and 6-month-old sons were unharmed. Wilson told the dispatcher that a threatening message was written on the floor with his wife's blood, *The News & Observer* of Raleigh reported. According to arrest warrants, Howell and Holder helped Wilson after the scene. Items that di o his wife's death were found behind an abandoned service station, said Richard Johnson, chief of operations for the Wake County Sheriff's Office. Johnson did not identify the items,

and authorities haven't said how Nneka Wilson died. They believe the 911 call was staged. "Sometimes suspects try to cover their own tracks," Johnson said. "But the evidence will show exactly what happened in this case." Wilson is being held without bond in the Wake County jail. Howell and Holder each remained in jail Wednesday with bond set at \$2 million.

### Mysterious disorder destroys N.C. honeybee colonies

RALEIGH (AP)—Between 30 and 40 percent of eastern North Carolina's honeybees have been lost to a mysterious trend that's been stinging bee populations around the country, state officials say. The losses have raised alarm among farmers who depend on insects to pollinate their crops. Bees pollinate about a third of the food people eat. Jeff Lee, who rents out his honeybees to pollinate crops of blueberries, cucumbers, watermelons and cantaloupes, said he started noticing an unusual trend a few months

ago. When he would open a bee box, sometimes it would be empty. Lee estimated that he has lost about 30 percent of his 1,000 bee colonies in the past six months. While the trend remains largely a mystery, experts have called the outbreak "colony collapse syndrome." "We're really concerned about it," said Charles Heatherly, president of the N.C. State Beekeepers Association. "Every time you turn around, it seems like another plague is affecting bees." Since the mid-1980s, honeybees have also been plagued by two exotic parasitic mites. Entomologists at North Carolina State University estimate that those mites have cut the number of managed hives in North Carolina from 180,000 to about 100,000. But Adolphus Leonard, a bee inspector with the N.C. Department of Agriculture, said bees are now dying without explanation. He estimated that some 30 to 40 percent of eastern North Carolina bees have been lost to colony collapse syndrome.

## DOWNTUBE

continued from A1

eventually sell Downtubes at the Bicycle Post in Greenville. The name "Downtube" may seem crazy to non-cyclists, but it is actually relevant to bikes. A bike contains different parts which include the down tube, head tube, seat tube and top tube. The brand name "Downtube" is written across the actual down tube of the bike. The bikes start at \$300 and range up to \$500. This may sound expensive, but is moderately cheap compared to competing fold-up bike companies. Usually, mid-grade bikes range from \$800 to \$1,000. "I think it's a great bike for the money. It performs very well compared to the other folding bikes I've tried out," said professor Morgan Griddings from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. According to Griddings, the "Downtube" bike can even be folded up and fit into a suitcase to take on an airplane. It is convenient to take while traveling or just to use as transportation to and from school or work. "Whenever the weather is warm, I would ride the bike to school. I live about three miles away from campus. It gives me a great workout," said ECU associate professor of statistics Said E. Said Downtube bikes fit almost everyone because the handlebars are adjustable for their height and angle. The ability to adjust the bikes is helpful so people will have the right length of arm space that they need. Last year Downtube sold about 3,000 bikes and Lyansky hopes to double that amount this year.

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

## BANNER

continued from A1

Sweet also said that the admissions portion of the student module took effect Oct. 2006 while the financial aid module started on Feb. 12. "The student financial aid team successfully pulled the 2007 - 2008 financial aid records from the U.S. Department of Education on Monday, Feb. 12," said Rose Mary Stelma, assistant vice chancellor for student financial aid. "We feel that we'll be fully up and running for 2007-2008 financial aid processing by the end of the week," Stelma said. The human resources module is scheduled to be up and running by July 2007 according to Sweet. The university signed a four year implementation contract with Sungard Higher Education to get Banner established. Sweet said, by the end of the year, we want to have this project wrapped up because of the four year implantation contract we signed in 2003. According to Sweet, at that time, 13 of the 16 UNC campuses used Banner. The exceptions were ECU, University of North Caro-

lina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State. The decision to bring Banner to ECU was a decision that took time and planning. The ITCS department was asked to consider setting up Banner under Chancellor Muse's administration according to Sweet. Sungard Higher Education did three days of presentations to show what Banner could offer the university. Once the University made the decision to use Banner, they decided to invest a large amount of money into the project. "The budget is allocated at 18.7 million dollars for this year and the budget is right on track," Sweet said. If you are interested in participating in the upcoming registration simulations, you can contact Amanda Fleming, associate director of the registrar at 328-1723 or at [fleminga@ecu.edu](mailto:fleminga@ecu.edu). To learn more about banner you can visit the Web site at [thisbanner.com](http://thisbanner.com). This writer can be contacted at [news@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:news@theeastcarolinian.com).

## DEBATE

continued from A1

effect in the community. "Certain people around East Fifth Street do not want to see Dr. King's name on the letterhead of the university," said Cooper. "A further divide of the gulf of racism will occur if [the road currently bearing King's name] reverts back to Fifth Street." Even expressed his opinion of the issue as a resident of Fifth Street, implying that homeowners had very little to do with the decision. "No one, to this day, has ever circulated a petition to homeowners; no one has ever asked homeowners what they think." In referring to the idea that the issue was influenced by racial sentiments, he stated, "I don't think [those in support of renaming the Bypass] are racist."

Derek Alderman, associate professor of geography and authority on the subject also expressed his dissatisfaction toward the decision. "Instead of doing the same old thing, we had an opportunity to be a lot more creative. This is an institution of higher learning with some of the best resources, there is absolutely no reason we couldn't be more creative," said Alderman. The renaming of the bypass will take effect June 29 of this year at which point the current Martin Luther King Jr. drive will once again become West Fifth Street.

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

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## CIVIL RIGHTS

continued from A1

from campus. Turner feels that though ECU has come a long way since the arrival of Leary there is still progress that can be made. "While we've made great strides, there are still many implications both around our campus and on our campus that we have a long way to go in terms of sensitivity," Turner said, referring to the policies of some downtown

clubs as well as the vandalism of African American portraits on display outdoors several years ago. Turner said that the insensitivity is a problem not only for the black population but for the increasing numbers of students of Hispanic, Native American and Asian descent as well.

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# Opinion

{ Better than a box of chocolates }

## RANT OF THE DAY

Who thinks we should nominate the super sweet lady at Chik-fil-A, always giving people comments and making others' days, to go on Oprah? I do.

## The importance of the death penalty

Why we must execute heinous offenders

JASON PATTY  
OPINION WRITER

The Supreme Court of the United States of America declared that, "Indeed, the decision that capital punishment may be the appropriate sanction in extreme cases is an expression of the community's belief that certain crimes are themselves so grievous an affront to humanity that the only adequate response may be the penalty of death."

The death penalty is a topic that is sure to incite strong reactions from both sides of the fence. Those against it claim that it is cruel and unusual and that no one deserves to die. The execution of heinous offenders serves as a just punishment for the criminal and as a deterrent from crime for others.

As the Supreme Court stated, sometimes the crimes committed are so terrible that the only just punishment is an execution. Life in prison is bad, but with cable TV and magazine subscriptions, sometimes it is better than life outside of jail. There is always the potential of parole in the future, releasing a criminal convicted of an atrocious crime back into society. The most basic effect of capital punishment is that those executed can no longer commit harm to society. They will never again have an opportunity to rape or murder. Life in prison is expensive. It may sound harsh, but I don't want my tax dollars supporting someone whose only contribution to society is rape and murder.

The death penalty also acts as a deterrent for would-be criminals. Most crimes have a clear motive and most criminals have at least given precursory thought to not being caught. Even the most basic street thug will rob people in a dark alleyway and not on the most well lit streets. This shows that offenders are thinking about what they are doing before they do it. Statistics show that when punishments are increased, crime decreases. Saudi Arabia has almost no common robbery because they will cut your hand off for it. It generally only takes seeing one, one-handed man to make you think twice about stealing that wallet. The death penalty is used in the most terrible rapes and murders. Many of these are pre-meditated. That means that if a criminal really thought that we were serious about executions, then there is a chance that he would not go through with his plans and we would have successfully prevented a crime. Seeing someone else punished for something that you are considering doing really brings home the reality of the consequences that you may very well face.

Most opponents of the death penalty argue that it is cruel and unusual and no crime committed is worth taking a human life. I think that most of these people would change their tune very quickly if the circumstances were personal. If the person raped or murdered were their co-worker, neighbor or family member they would want justice. They would want the assurance that this criminal would never strike again and they would want an example made so that others would know the consequences of these actions. It seems hypocritical to not want this type of justice given to all of those that deserve it. While the death penalty is an extreme form of punishment, let us not forget that in order to receive it you must commit crimes that are horrible in nature. The things that those on death row have done are so far above and beyond a painless execution that the two are not even comparable.

If we execute a criminal and he serves as a deterrent to one other potential criminal, then we have saved an innocent victim from a horrible crime. This seems worth it in itself to me. We must have a sense of serious consequence for serious crimes. Without it, there is nothing to prevent those wanting to destroy lives. There is no more serious consequence than the death penalty. Used justly and quickly it will prevent criminals from destroying the lives of law-abiding citizens.



## PIRATE RANTS

The *East Carolinian* does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to Rachel King, Opinion Page Editor, at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com). Log onto [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) to submit a Rant of your own.

This one goes out to the cats that were digging through my OneStop information... You think you can get at my personal business, jack?!

Since I can't be there I want to say how much I am in love with you and how much I miss you. Baby, I love you and you are the most amazing person I have ever met. Also, to all our friends please wish her a happy one-year anniversary and please pick a flower for her and tell her it is from me. I love you with all my heart and I'll see you later, tater.

How can you say you are so in love with your girlfriend when you cheat on her?

I don't know why y'all don't go out already. He likes you and you don't have a big selection to choose from.

I'm sorry for leading you on so much.

We all think you have a body of a Greek god! We want to have a toga party and only invite you.

Has anyone ever gotten more than six hickies at one time?

My roommate has mommy issues.

I'm a senior about to graduate and now I really wish I had joined a sorority. If you have any interests or desires, go after them and have no regrets, because I sure do.

Sometimes I feel so used.

It seems like every time girls talk to me, they just want something like notes from class or answers to homework. What's the problem?

Dear roommate: I hope you enjoy your loud sexual rendezvous with your boyfriend. Just remember—payback's a b\*\*\*\*.

It's almost the last day to drop a class and I can't find my advisor. Why do I need a drop form to drop a class? ECU is so stupid.

I would like to apologize to the guy in the jeep that I gave the finger to on Saturday. You were talking on your cell phone and I thought you were going to sway into the lane that I was in.

Duke has lost four games in a row and I love it.

If I give you an evil look in the bathroom, it's because you didn't wash your hands... Why the crap do people do that? Yuck!

My girlfriend looks like Prince William and I love her!

Does anyone have an extra bubble sheet?

Props to the Women's Basketball team for winning at the buzzer on national television. Go Pirates!

To all the gorgeous girls at ECU, congratulations, I'm single and I'm looking forward to dating you very soon.

It feels good to be a gangsta.

I pity all of the girls at ECU who had my boyfriend, but only for one night. Now I get what you had, but I get it all the time!

Why is it that in all of the computer labs you have to print on both sides, but in the library when they charge you to print each page, you can only print on one side?

Sometimes I want to run away.

If the Rec. Center gets tanning beds, it better start selling cigarettes too.

Can anyone read the new yellow banners on West Campus? All I see is the ECU logo and some waves. Please tell me we didn't pay good money for those.

I am tired of getting drunk and making out with the ugly girls!

I also go to IHOP with my sketchy friends every Thursday. My sketchy friends and your sketchy friends should get together and take over IHOP.

Mi amor, te amo.

Sometimes, I just hate being a girl.

My new roommate is so small I feel like I have to watch my step when I walk around the house.

I sent her a Valentine's Day gift because he won't. And I couldn't watch her be disappointed.

My friends and I still laugh when we know someone is doing number two in the bathroom stall beside us.

Sometimes my roommate and I scream at the top of our lungs to see who can get the loudest. We want to apologize to our neighbors.

Dear roomie—Please learn how to close the door quietly, especially when I'm sleeping. It's called respect.

I miss slap bracelets.

My dog is better than yours.

I love when I have a test or a quiz in accounting although I fail all of them; the TA in there is so hot.

To the man who got my attention and told me I left my gas door open before I drove off, thank you so much. You were my favorite person that day.

When I was a freshman, I slept with one of the dorm coordinators.

OK, I don't know if this is a joke or not but I keep hearing about this model kid and how he's done Armani and stuff. Is this guy real... and why does he go to ECU?

I finally met an amazing guy! A good, supportive, man of God who likes me for me.

The boy on the red bus makes my day, every Tuesday and Thursday!

If you love UNC so much then transfer there! We need people around here who are proud of our school.

Your loss, silly boy, your loss!

Ebay and Pink Boutique are slowly draining my bank account. I swear, I'm totally addicted to designer jeans.

Yea, you're hot, but so are all your friends and, unlike you, they don't treat me like dirt, so guess who I'm still hanging out with.

You look sad every time I see you. Why did you change who you are just for her?

I love Hershey's with almonds!

Can you say "rebound?"

I really like horoscopes. Does anyone think they are true besides me?

My roommate farts in her sleep.

It sucks when I see my hot ex-girlfriend on campus; because then I go home to my, well, average girlfriend. It's all good though, she has a good personality. Right?

I'd just like to say, not everyone in N.Y. has the same "New York accent" you think is so whiny. You should know that if you're from N.Y., too.

If I went to Bayside, I would never have been friends with Screech. He always messed everything up.

The lights in downtown Greenville can see when my car is coming and immediately turn red.

My boyfriend and I are perfect...when I'm not in Greenville.

Anybody else pissed that we don't have President's Day off? Isn't it a national holiday?

Dude, you're my friend and I really want to tell you that your girlfriend is repulsive. I wish you would realize that the only reason you haven't been good with chicks lately is because you keep going after the ones with girlfriends! Seriously, she makes me sick.

I'm allergic to animals, kids and ninjas.

Please bring the troops home. Nobody can defeat terrorism.

I couldn't live with someone who hit my cat. Slap her!

If one more person yells the Wicked Witch of the West song at me while I'm riding my bike, I'm going to turn them into a frog.

I swear someone is playing bongos outside my window.

That's a big "bite me" to you, my friend.

In the Air Wick commercial, it really bothers me that the lady elephant is married to a centipede. How do they have intercourse? What do the offspring look like?

I fell in love with my scuba buddy, too bad she's already taken.

Sometimes, I just want to break out in random Ace of Bass dance moves in the middle of Wright Place.

## When did death become the answer?

An exploration into the paradox of capital punishment

ALEX LAROCCA  
OPINION WRITER

The Guillotine, firing squad, electric chair, gas chamber and now lethal injection have all become "immoral" methods of execution over the past decades. Whether you want to refer to it as murder, killing or execution, there is one thing that many of us have in common: We are, not subjected to these things on a daily basis, or for that matter, on an annual one. In this society we tip-toe around the subject of death as if it cannot happen to any of us and we treat the subject of execution as the ultimate of all punishments. This is a fact and I dare not deny this, and I doubt you should either, so why is it that we bother to execute those we condemn when we cannot come to a moral consensus?

The death penalty is an ongoing issue among Americans from state to state and each government varies on its laws and methods of execution. Not only can we not come to a conclusion as to if the death penalty is a moral one, but we cannot even come to a national conclusion as to which method of death is the more "humane" way. Let's face facts people. When you kill someone it hurts; it hurts to a measure that we cannot understand until it is our time. Many of us fear this time and yet some are willing to delve out this sentence as if they had the hand of God.

There are people who do not consider the consequences of murder no matter what. Are we really to think if someone was planning on murder, which, in most cases murder does not happen this way, if they were on a state line between a state which has capital punishment and one that doesn't they would reconsider depending on which state line they crossed? Sorry, but any form of murder is not considered in a rational way, no matter the consequences.

Look at the societies that practice the most brutal of all capital punishments: Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, China and so on. These are countries which have a large lacking of one quality which we take for granted: Education. No matter what most people of this country, and Europe for that matter, are children of enlightened thinking. In this thought process we give so much more to life and reconsider the subject of murder. These countries that, although perhaps advanced in some fields, lack in general education for their citizens.

Now let us return back to the United States. It is a fact that education deters crime, and for that matter, violent crime. If we were to take the expensive costs of capital punishment and perhaps apply it to, let's say, education, is it not then easily deducted that crime would decrease? This country is not well known for the way in which it treats teachers or pays them. A study done by Duke University concluded that a death penalty trial takes four times as long as a non-death penalty trial and cost \$200,000 more. Think of if that money went towards public education instead of wasting it on lengthy capital punishment trials. If we look outside North Carolina towards other states with capital punishment, we see spending that is just flat out wasted. In Texas it costs tax payers \$2.3 million each year on capital punishment and Florida it costs \$3.2 million. In 1991, 500 officers were fired in New Jersey while the death penalty cost tax payers \$18 million a year. In Florida \$45 million was cut from the Department of Corrections causing the release of 3,000 inmates. Are we not in the midst of a paradox here? Does it not cause more crime if there are fewer cops? Does it not cause more crime to release inmates early?

I understand the recycled rhetoric of "What if your parents were murdered?" Well unfortunately I don't live in an age where I could go and avenge my parents in some turn of ironic slaughter. I live in an age where I cannot kill my parent's, friend's or sibling's murderer. Not only that I am raised in a society which does not promote violence and death. If that makes us cowards or gutless then that is fine because it just means I will be allowed to live longer and not have to worry about death at every corner. I do not want to pay taxes for capital punishment that takes years to be enacted. It is an undeniable fact that if we were to take that same money and give it to education then crime would decrease. If you understand more about life then you learn to respect it. Killing has been around long enough for us to realize that it just causes more killing. Isn't it time we tried something new?

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## Happy Single Awareness Day

A tribute to those not in a blissful relationship

MARGOT ROGERSON  
OPINION WRITER

I woke up yesterday morning, as any morning, got ready and went to school. On my way to class, I asked someone the date of the day. She looked at me surprisingly, "It's Valentine's Day." Maybe it is because I have been single for too long, but I really do not put much emphasis on this holiday. Some might even say that I am not qualified to write on the topic.

My best friend, however, was a wreck. She and her boyfriend broke up a month or so ago, and I am not sure if she has ever spent a Valentine's Day by herself. I felt genuinely bad for her because I could see how much she cared not to have someone with which to share the day. I am sure it would be much harder for those singles who are not used to being alone on Valentine's Day.

The day before Valentine's Day I happened to be sitting with one of my guy friends as he was briefing me about one of his classes. Towards the end of the conversation he stated that one of his teachers had referred to Valentine's Day as, "Single Awareness Day." I thought the phrase was hysterically funny and clever. Sometimes I wonder how many people take it too personally that they are alone.

For all those that feel like being alone on Valentine's Day is equally as bad as being shot execution style. It isn't. I am sure you are a fabulous person, who has just not had the opportunity to meet the one that can make you smile when you feel like crying, who will meet every expectation and then some and who will finish your sentences because he or she already knows what you are thinking. But you will. It may not be today, or next week or the person you will marry, but there are people out there that will care about you. And believe me, you are not alone. So to my best friend, you are not alone, and I care about you. Happy Late Valentine's Day.

## Parenting lessons from CNN

News outlet shows what not to do

JONATHAN GARDNER  
OPINION WRITER

When your child acts up and you don't know what to do, what are your options? When parenting books leave you helpless and you believe there's nothing that can be done, where do you turn? Well, over the last couple days, CNN has become as good a source as any. As of late, all over the country, there have been parents performing horrid acts on their children, leaving the readers questioning: Who allowed these people to breed?

In Pittsburgh, Penn., a man is being charged with homicide of his 2-year-old daughter and sexually abusing another child in the house. The man, angry that his daughter wouldn't go to sleep, knocked her unconscious, walked inside and left her in the snow to die. He then filed a police report, claiming someone had taken his daughter. While investigating this, another child in the house told investigators about the sexual abuse.

In New Orleans, La., a teenager and his mother have been arrested on murder charges, after the teen brought a gun to a fist fight. According to the teen, he brought the gun to the fight after his

mother told him to find his rival, bystanders and "kill them all." Police have not stated why they believe the mother had involvement, but when they arrived to arrest her, they found small amounts of cocaine and a wad of cash.

Finally, in Jonesboro, Ga., a man is facing child cruelty charges after lacing the soup of his 18-month-old daughter and 3-year-old son twice. He first fed his children soup with hot peppers and lighter fluid, followed by soup laced with Prozac and Amitriptyline. He has already plead guilty to filing false claims, after he threatened to sue Campbell Soup Company when his children fell ill.

And while these acts are horrifying, despicable and completely unthinkable, not one of them made the headline of CNN. The news outlet felt their space was better used for crazy diaper-wearing astronauts or the death of an actress who received her biggest coverage after she died. Traveling 900 miles to pepper spray a rival is interesting, but not worth the time it was given in the news. And when it comes to deaths, children fatalities should beat the death of a B-list celebrity that lost all appeal long ago. The media needs to start focusing on what really matters and stop appealing to the glamour of oddity and celebrities.

## Horoscopes:

**Aries**  
Talk to your team about what they've done well, and what they could have done better. They look to you for encouragement and approval, as well as direction.

**Taurus**  
A group you've known and loved for years does you a world of good. Discuss your joy, your hopes and your fears. Allow friends to help you heal.

**Gemini**  
Take the opportunity to upgrade your public presence. A new power suit could very effectively communicate your new status.

**Cancer**  
Reach out and take advantage of new opportunities. Don't do it in person, however. Have somebody else do it for you.

**Leo**  
Some days are all talk and no action. This day, it's the other way around. You'll catch up with all the chores you'd been putting off, and then some.

**Virgo**  
You'd rather be in a secluded spot, expressing your affection. If normal chores interfere with that, jot down a few notes for later.

**Libra**  
Don't hurry into anything, or out of anything, either. Your opinion will change at least once before you make the right decision.

**Scorpio**  
A cozy, comfortable feeling alternates with bouts of anxiety. One minute everything's fine, and the next minute you wonder. Better lie low for a couple of days.

**Sagittarius**  
Life is about education, as you may have noticed. Some things, you learn the hard way. Doesn't matter, a lesson is a lesson, and you're getting wiser all the time.

**Capricorn**  
Temporary frustration gives way to something more like sheer delight. Don't give up when you run into a wall, there's a secret door.

**Aquarius**  
Have many valuable items hidden around your premises. Show the folks who see them as clutter that they're really cold, hard cash. Sell something.

**Pisces**  
New friends clue you in on the easiest ways to accomplish your objectives. You've been doing some things the hard way, as you may have suspected.

## Local Concerts:

The Brad Benson Band is playing at the City Hotel and Bistro from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Feb. 17.

The Coastline Band will be playing at the City Hotel and Bistro from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Feb. 21.

The James Beale Band will be playing at the City Hotel and Bistro from 9:30 to 2 a.m. on Feb. 24.

## Drink Recipe:

### Spiked Sweet Tea

6 cups sugar  
3 cups water, plus 2 quarts, divided  
1 1/2 ounces (or 3/4 cup) loose black tea leaves  
2 ounces your favorite whiskey or bourbon per serving  
Ice cubes  
2 lemons, zested  
1/2 bunch fresh mint

Combine sugar and three cups water in a non-reactive saucepan. Slowly heat until sugar melts. Remove from heat and cool.

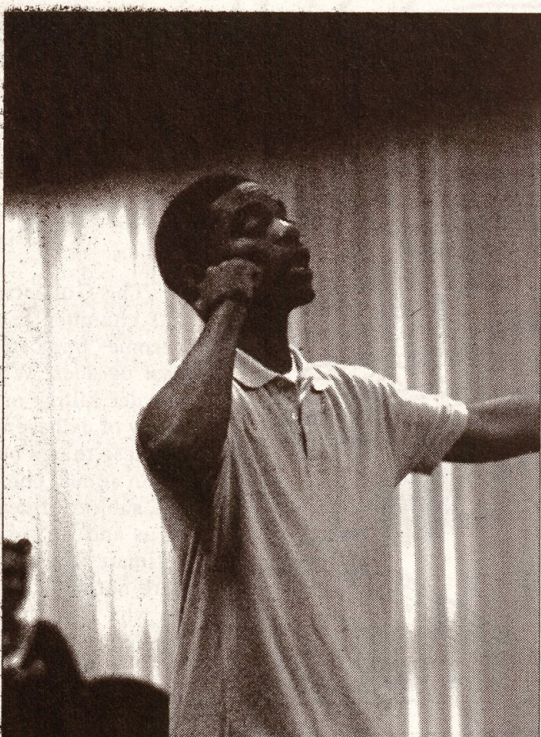
Infuse the black tea in one quart of just boiled water for two minutes. Strain tea into a pitcher and then add one quart of room temperature water.

Combine the tea and the cooled simple syrup, mixing well. Refrigerate until cool.

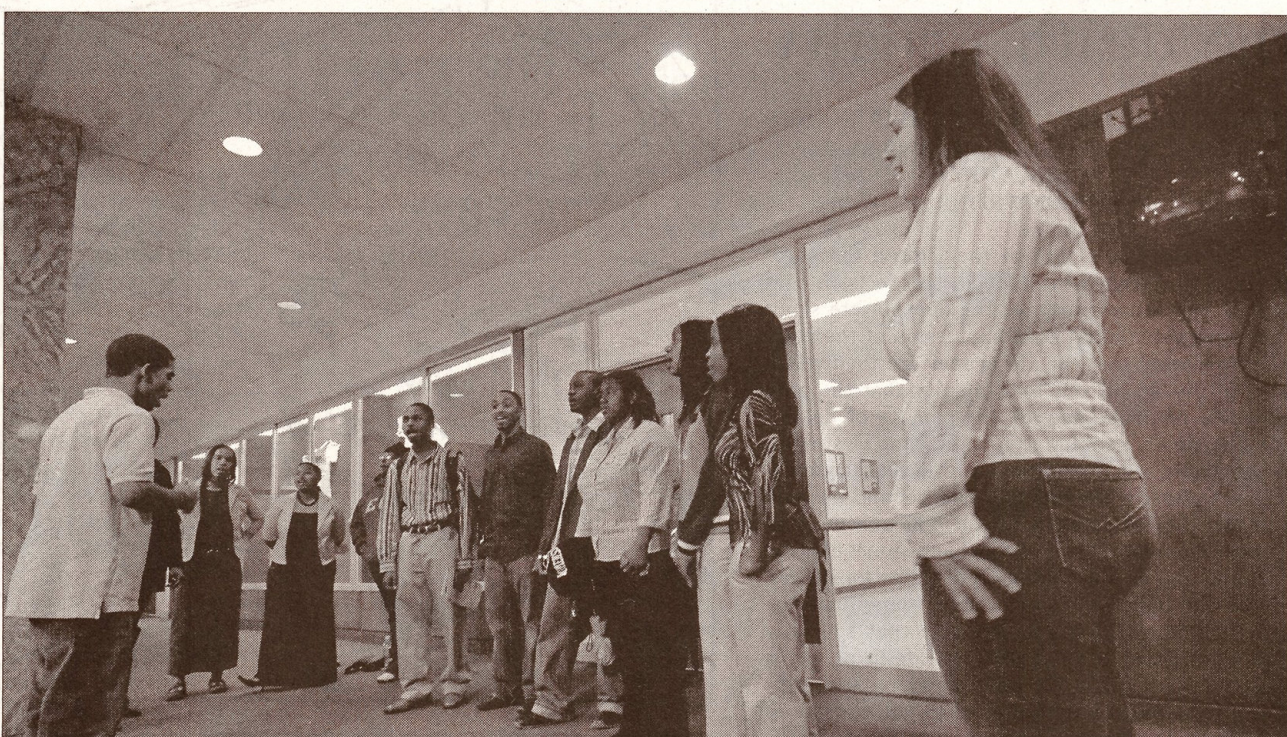
To serve, fill a 12-ounce glass with ice cubes, a pinch of zest, and a sprig of mint. Add two ounces whiskey or bourbon and fill to the top with the sweetened tea. Stir and serve. Repeat as needed.

Please drink responsibly.

# ECU Gospel Choir keeps gospel music alive



Photos by Zach Siskin



Bryson Finney led the ECU Gospel Choir in a brief practice session before their performance during last semesters Hate Out Week.

## Music from its roots

LAURA HUHN  
STAFF WRITER

Black History Month is the time to celebrate the accomplishments and inspiration that the African-American community has provided. Gospel music has long been such an inspiration, a type of music that promises to reach beyond our ears and touch our souls.

In celebration of this month, the ECU Gospel Choir will be performing during the event called "A Night of Celebration: Black History Month Gospel Concert," which is hosted by the Student Union, to keep the significance of gospel music alive.

The concert features the ECU Gospel Choir, along with several other gospel choirs from around the state.

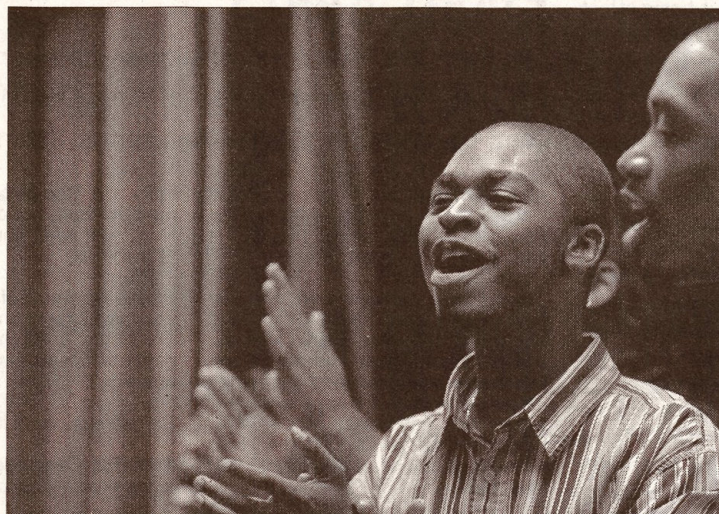
Arturo Cummings, a senior music education major and member

of the ECU Gospel Choir, spoke fondly of this event, and its importance as a fixture of ECU's Black History Month celebrations.

"I believe that this concert allows us to be able to express musically, the progression of the African-American race from slavery to the present," said Cummings. "It allows everyone to see that the style of music may change but the foundational principles that our ancestors had are still expressed through today's music."

The collaboration of the several different gospel choirs is meaningful too because they are able to work together to show their audience just how beautiful gospel music can be. Their passion for the music is a thread which ties every one of the choir members together.

"I always look forward to interacting with other choirs and seeing how our common interest of gospel music unifies us corporately," Cummings said.



Often, choir members express the overwhelming power of the music they are performing by clapping.

The ECU Gospel Choir is a fundamental part of ECU's musical excellence. The faces within the choir may have changed over the years, but the choir's intent has likely remained the same. With each concert, the choir members

are able to bring their love of gospel music to both familiar and unfamiliar audiences, with the hopes that the love will spread.

Tarrick Cox, the university advisor for the ECU gospel choir, spoke excitedly about the strength

of this year's choir.

"This year the choir is 80 strong. There are a lot of first year students as well," said Cox.

Not only do each of the stu-

see **CHOIR** page A6

# Fall Out Boy proves they can't be typecast

The band flaunts their artistic freedom with a new album

JENNY AYERS  
STAFF WRITER

On the fourth full-length album of their career, *Infinity on High*, Fall Out Boy yet again shocks the skeptics with an album unlike any of their others. Some are going to love the album for its experimental smorgasbord of sounds, while others will loathe it for the very same reason.

The band has received a lot of flack from their fans for "selling-out" by making music that is more mainstream friendly and better received by the masses. When they first started out, Fall Out Boy's trademark was their creative, witty and vengeful lyrics paired with striking vocals. By the time they got to *From Under the Cork Tree*, it was claimed that they had lost their edge and gone for a noticeably pop-rock sound as opposed to the pop-punk mix their fans were so fond of.

The lyrics on this album attempt to regain their edge and the vocals have more depth to them, while the band still allows for the poppy harmonies and beats that made their last album such a success. It seems that they are torn between both worlds on this one, claiming in one song "Crowds are won and lost and won again/But our hearts beat for the diehards." While it is hard to say whether they are going to please all of their fans, old and new alike, it is safe to say that they have made an attempt to do so on this album.

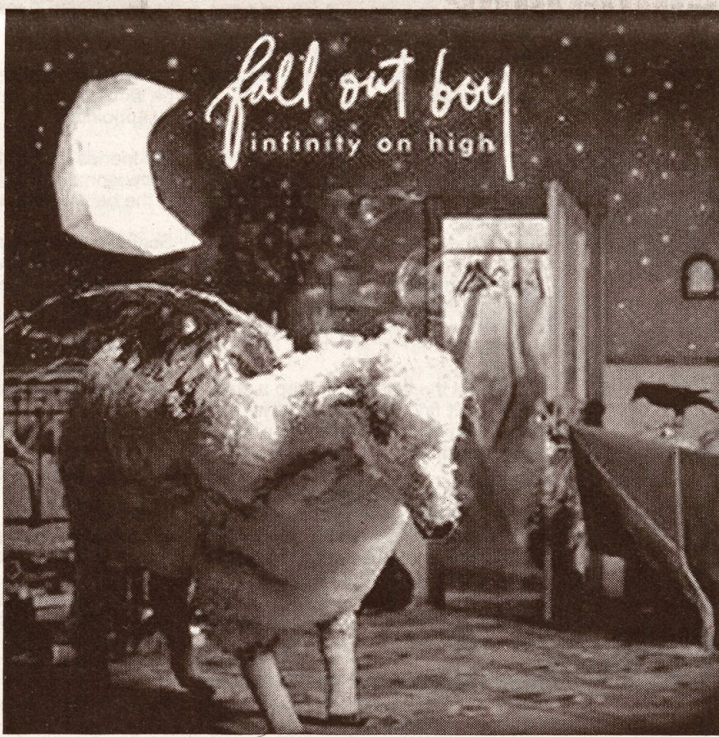
Upon first listen, it may seem as though the band has converted to hip-hop, as Jay-Z himself introduces the album as proof to all the "haters" that Fall Out Boy has still got it. After this evidently necessary clarification is made, the song "Thriller" immediately kicks in with punchy guitar riffs and a seemingly "tougher" sound than Fall Out Boy has previously presented, reminding us that they are sticking with their pop-punk origins.

No two songs sound alike on this album, which may or may not be a good thing. There is a mix of random sampling, choral extravaganzas, symphonic string accompaniments and the occasional guitar or two. The first few songs are pretty trademark of Fall Out Boy (rock numbers with catchy choruses), but the album wraps up with a variety of experimental tracks that cover all the musical bases.

There are a few tracks that stand out as especially unexpected. The song entitled "Golden" is a surprise in that it is a ballad featuring a surplus of piano while singer Patrick Stump pours his heart out.

While some bands can pull off the emotional numbers, Fall Out Boy isn't necessarily one of them. It would help if the lyrics weren't so over the top in their attempted poetics, "I saw God cry in the reflection of my enemies." Perhaps when it comes to the slower numbers they should stick with acoustics songs similar to those they produced on their EP, *My Heart Will Always Be the B-Side to My Tongue*.

The following song, "Thanks fr



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th Mmrs" (suggested shorthand for "Thanks for the Memories"), compensates for the questionable presence as a catchy, yet dramatic string-filled number. Despite the poor judgment in spelling, this track is one of the more memorable ones on the album because it sounds like nothing Fall Out Boy has ever written.

A song that is sure to turn some heads and make the "diehards" groan is "The (After) Life of the Party," which sounds like a Phil Collins remake that has landed in the wrong era. No description can really do this one justice, you will have to go to the

band's Web site and take a listen to understand the extreme contrast this song delivers.

The album as a whole is by no means the most original or amazing piece to come out of the pop-punk/emo/genre-confused scene, but it is certainly unexpected of Fall Out Boy. Most people will either thoroughly enjoy the fluidity of this album or they will simply reject it as another "sell out" album. If only for the sake of judging, *Infinity on High* is definitely worth a listen.

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

# The voice of Pirate baseball unmasked

The man behind the microphone

YAZID FINN  
STAFF WRITER

Patiently sitting in my room on the first floor of Garrett Hall, I await the numbers on my watch to read to four o'clock. As they do so, I shift my view to the microphone, which echoes the time. Like something out of a TV sitcom, Pirate walks in the door.

Pirate's real name is Chris Edwards, but his enthusiasm for our school's sports landed him the dorm-wide nickname of Pirate.

I ask when he became interested in not only sports, but also the idea of announcing the gauntlet of sporting events.

Edwards: "I think I've always had an interest in sports since I was young, whereas the fascination with announcing came about my freshman year of high school. I was going to try out for baseball, but had to take care of driver's ed instead."

"Afterwards I decided I could still be close to sports if I joined on as the announcer for one of our teams. I was assigned with basketball and fell in love with what I did. I stuck with it and ended up announcing for just about every sport our school offered all four

years I attended."

EC: "An experience I'm sure you carried with you to East Carolina."

Edwards: "Oh yes, it's a lot of good experience. Coming here and being able to go into baseball - Division One Collegiate Baseball, as big as it is here, as a freshman is fun. It's a great feeling."

EC: "So what's the story behind how you landed this position? How difficult was it?"

Edwards: "It was pretty easy actually. My summer job [was] announcing American Collegiate baseball back home and the coach there opened the door for me. He was good friends with the base-

ball coach here and gave me the number of the person I needed to talk to. We talked and they told me they'd give me volleyball, to start and said if I did well, they'd give me baseball. Seems I did alright," Edwards laughs.

EC: "I'm sure you've noticed some major differences between announcing for your high school and then coming to East Carolina, can you tell me about them?"

Edwards: "Sure there are some big differences I picked up on between the two. In high school, things are a lot more laid back and I can have, you know,

see **PIRATE** page A6

## My month as a monk

Forget the monastery, I'm doing this from my own apartment

ELIZABETH LAUTEN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Here in my final semester at ECU, I needed yet another three-hour class to satisfy the requirements for my Classics degree. Having had my fill of histories, languages and everything else you can imagine, I decided to try my hand at the one class that sounded like it may not only meet my needs for graduation, but also appeared to be something interesting—RELI 5000, a seminar on "Monks, Monasteries and Mysticism." I know what you're thinking, "what in the world is a class like that doing here, at ECU of all places?" Believe me, I thought it too, but I signed up for it anyway.

The class only meets for three hours once a week, so days after my other classes had begun; we met for the very first time. It was then that I realized I stumbled across the one class that had the potential to change my life unlike any other, all because one of its major project choices.

Aptly dubbed "The Monastic Project," students are asked to make lifestyle changes and practice a life similar to that of a monk in a monastery for 28 days. Sound intimidating? You bet. There's a 24-page guide on the requirements and tips. I'm not quite sure what I've gotten myself into just yet, but it began Sunday and I'm slowly starting to see just how difficult life becomes when simplifying everything.

One of the most difficult challenges the project brings is that of new guidelines for eating. Only fruits, vegetables, 100 percent whole grains and nuts are allowed to be consumed. Dairy is only acceptable in moderation, leaving the diet to be very similar to veganism. Artificial flavorings, preservatives and salt are other no-nos. The exact specifications are much more complex, but you get the drift—it's not going

see **MONK** page A6

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# Log on for a daily dose of laughs



Gather your friends up and visit the Yikers.com to relieve some of the stress of the day with a good laugh.

the commentary provided by the sites founder and operator that serves as a cheeky summary for each other the videos.

His commentary has a lot to do with whether a video is seen or not. He is nothing short of hilarious with his comments and sums up the videos in a way that signifies a college student's humor.

Yikers also archives each of their videos in an enormous collection so the user has no trouble finding hilarious videos from years ago. Along with videos, yikers offers daily pictures and jokes.

They tend to get repetitive and sometimes even a little corny. Out of the five or so daily pictures, the site offers only one or two offer true promise for making viewer laughs. Most pictures feature the boring theme of signs unintentionally being risqué or passed-out drunks with immature writing on their faces. The jokes are often very funny and original, and are user submitted and carefully reviewed by the site operator. The great thing about the jokes is that they vary from day to day. A theme you see one day will not be there the next and that provides for a very refreshing atmosphere and of course the inevitable laugh.

Yikers, like all sites, has flaws. As stated before, the pictures leave something to be desired. The major flaw is the

see **YIKERS** page A6

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### Web site of the Week: Yikers.com

**BEN HARRIS**  
STAFF WRITER

The Internet offers many Web sites where users can take a break from the repetitiousness of life and have a good, well-deserved laugh. Many people are familiar with Web sites such as [collegehumor.com](http://collegehumor.com) and [ebaumsworld.com](http://ebaumsworld.com) that offer daily videos, jokes

and pictures.

However, many people are missing out on what is perhaps the overall best site in this category, [yikers.com](http://yikers.com). Just like its companion sites, yikers offers daily videos, pictures and jokes as well as a few free games every now and then. Unlike the other sites, Yikers offers is treasure with much more flair, quantity and quality.

While most sites offer at most six videos a day, yikers offers upwards of twenty. Each

video satisfies the tastes of one personality or another. Users can always find something interesting to view, whether it is laughing at someone trying to make himself a human firecracker by taping firecrackers to his chest, gazing in awe at amateur video shot during the heat of battle in Iraq or fuming in anger at the ignorance of some of the people that allow themselves to be videotaped.

The best part of the videos that sets the site apart from all of the other humor Web sites is

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**CHOIR** continued from A4

dents involved bring their talents to the ensemble, but they are also fortunate to be under the direction of a passionate and capable director.

"I believe that ECU's Gospel Choir is very fortunate because we are able to be taught not only gospel music but good technique as well. We have the privilege of being taught by a director with a master of music degree from ECU, in sacred choral conducting," Cummings said of their director, Dorothea Taylor.

The gospel choir's range of music includes everything from old hymns to contemporary

gospel music, ensuring that their repertoire will be appealing to listeners of every age.

The ECU Gospel Choir has stayed busy with more than the upcoming concert. This month, the choir has been able to share gospel music with an even younger audience, and to share in the community's celebration of Black History Month.

"The gospel choir has been invited by several local schools to share their music in honor of Black History Month," Cox said.

The gospel choir will not be finished after this concert. Throughout Spring Break, they

will be touring the southeastern states sharing their music. They will also be performing on April 1 as part of their 29-year anniversary celebration concert, which will take place in Wright Auditorium at 6 p.m.

"A Night of Celebration: Black History Month Gospel Concert" will be held this Saturday, Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. Admission to this event is free.

Take a part in the celebration and enjoy a unique night of passion-filled gospel music.

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

**MONK** continued from A4

to be easy for someone who's not already a vegetarian. More than that, I cannot do anything during meals aside from talking. So, my nightly "E! News" and dinner ritual are going out the window. Food is not to be wasted either. I must either eat it or save it for the next meal.

Other requirements are not to use tobacco or alcohol, to take a vow of chastity and not to use the telephone. In fact, there are many other requirements as well, but I will refrain from going into

detail until I begin to experience them at length. Aside from all the lifestyle changes, I have a 65-minute ritual to perform dutifully everyday, which includes yoga, breathing exercises, meditation, reading and journaling.

I'm now in the preparation week. The week where I slowly start cutting back on things that I must learn to live without for the next three weeks.

Already, trepidation fills me as I wonder what life without Starbucks for more than a 48-hour

period will be like.

Needless to say, this is perhaps the most intense commitment I've ever made, especially for a class. Despite the fact that I seem to be taking on this whole experience in a playful manner, I am going about it very seriously. So, join me next week as I see what exactly I've gotten myself into and how my month as a monk continues to play out.

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

**PIRATE** continued from A4

more fun with it as well as personality. In college, you have to be a lot more professional, a little more strict and by the book. Don't get me wrong; I still have fun with it, but within reason. It's a job and understandably so. The perks are better though. You wouldn't imagine all the free food I'm given. I'm never hungry."

EC: "Would you recommend other students to join campus

activities, not necessarily sports related, but putting themselves out there and doing something they might enjoy?"

Edwards: "Oh most definitely. If nothing else it allows the student to know what is happening on campus. It helps the student to pay more attention to campus events and what's happening around them. Joining a campus activity is a valuable step any student can take, especially

freshmen."

Chris Edwards is a freshman communication major here at ECU. Edwards can be seen and heard during every ECU Baseball home game. He still announces sporting events in Garner whenever he returns to his hometown.

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

**YIKERS** continued from A5

sites tendency to crash. The site used to experience this maybe once a month, but the problem is becoming increasingly common to where now it happens once a week. The user can access the site and see which videos are featured for the day but cannot actually view the videos or pictures or read

the jokes. The site recently had a message telling users that they are "desperately trying to remedy the problem" but so far, no success has been made.

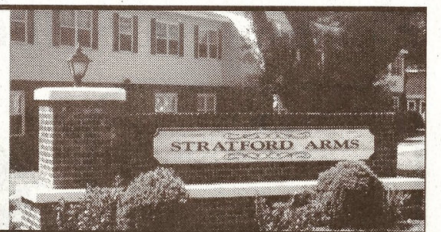
Yikers is a great way to take a break from the hassles of a typical day. While it may not have the exposure of ebaumsworld.com or

the overall wackiness of collegium.com, it still has a quality that none of the others have. The site is only going to grow and in the coming years could possibly be the source for Internet humor.

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

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# Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

## BY THE NUMBERS

### 3

Games that separate first place from sixth place in the Conference USA women's basketball standings; ECU is currently tied for fifth with Marshall at 7-5 while UTEP and Rice are tied for third with 8-4 records; UAB holds sole possession of second place with a 9-3 record, while Tulane sits atop the C-USA standings at 10-2; The Pirates have a very important stretch of games coming up, starting with a home game tonight at 7 p.m. against UTEP; ECU will host conference leading Tulane Saturday at 2 p.m. in its final home game and senior day before finishing the regular season with games at Southern Miss and at UCF

### 2,309

Distance, in miles, from Greenville to Los Angeles; the ECU baseball team will be in Los Angeles this weekend for a three game series with No. 15 UCLA; ECU won its opening series last weekend, taking 2-of-3 from Liberty while UCLA got swept by No. 5 Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.; UCLA regained some momentum Tuesday night as they beat UC Riverside, 3-2; the Pirates will return home late Sunday night and play 21 home games in a row before their next road series, which is scheduled for Mar. 30 against C-USA foe Tulane

### 2

Runs allowed by UCLA's ace baseball pitcher Tyson Brummett in two starts this season; Brummett holds a 1.15 ERA and has recorded 14 strikeouts in 15.2 innings pitched. The two teams Brummett faced were no slouches either, as he allowed only one run each to Winthrop and Miami, who were ranked No. 23 and No. 5 respectively at the time; ECU junior T.J. Hose will try to bounce back after a rough opening start as he figures to match up against Brummett in Friday's series-opening game, which is scheduled to start at 9 p.m.

### 1ST

Conference loss by the ECU club hockey team, which came Saturday in a 6-2 loss to Clemson; The Pirates now hold a 14-1 record in the Blue Ridge Hockey Conference, which still places them first in the conference; ECU will wrap up the conference regular season this weekend as it hosts Radford (2-12) for a two-game series at Bladestown in Greenville; Fridays game is set for 9:30 p.m. and Saturdays will be at 3:45 p.m.; ECU needs to win one of this weekend's game to capture the conference regular season championship and hold the No. 1 seed in the upcoming conference tournament

### 11

Years that Jennifer Kalanick held the ECU track and field school record for 55-meter hurdles; freshman Lindsay Dolan broke the record with a time of 8.21 at the Sykes-Sabock Challenge Cup hosted by Penn State this past weekend; two weekends ago, Dolan set a new ECU record in the 60-meter hurdles; Dolan's 8.76 mark in the preliminary round of the 60 meters was three milliseconds faster than the previous record of 8.79 set in 2005

# Club hockey splits with Clemson

Pirates look to win regular season conference title

JARED JACKSON  
STAFF WRITER

The ECU club hockey team played a series against Blue Ridge Hockey Conference foe Clemson this past weekend. ECU (14-7) was playing for an undefeated conference season and regular season title. Clemson, however, had other ideas as they beat the Pirates 6-2 on Saturday following a loss to ECU Friday night.

"We just lost the hockey game," said Pirates Head Coach Wayne Cox. "That's going to happen sometimes. The key is to never have a bad loss. I don't necessarily think we had a bad loss, but certainly we could have gone undefeated this year."

ECU was unable to shut down Clemson's prolific scorers on Saturday.

"The key to the game was we have to stay out of the penalty box, run four lines, and take the body," Cox said. "Clemson has three guys that can put the puck in the net but we can wear them down. If we would have taken the body on Saturday the way we did on Friday we would have beat them."

On Friday night against the Tigers, the Pirates came to play from the get go. Mitchell Sears scored the first goal for ECU with 9:12 remaining in the first period. Zach Johnston followed with a goal less than a minute later. Seth Percy added another goal with 3:59 left in the period and the Pirates held a 3-0 advantage after the first.

The second period started exactly where the first period left off. Within the first eight minutes of the period, Dan O'Hehey, Dan Duda and Pat Szwec had all scored to give ECU a strong 6-0 lead. Clemson would score with 3:22 left in the second with a Jim Lazorik goal but the damage was already done.

The third and final period Friday night featured a goal by each team in the first six minutes of the period. Johnston scored once



The ECU club hockey team was slapping the puck around against the Clemson Tigers. On Saturday the Pirates made only two goals on 49 attempts.

again for the Pirates at the 17:59 mark, and Lazorik also added another goal for the Tigers with 14:30 left in the third. The Lazorik goal would be the final goal of the contest, as ECU won 7-2.

Connor Brearley, the Pirates starting goalie, thought the team played great Friday but came out

flat on Saturday. Brearley allowed only two goals on 27 shots Friday night, while allowing six goals on 24 shots Saturday.

"Friday night I think we were firing on all cylinders," said Brearley. "Saturday I think we came out a little bit flat and Clemson had a full night's rest and capitalized on

everything we gave them. It was definitely a frustrating game."

In Saturday's game the Pirates indeed played flat, as Brearley stated. Mike Leone and Steve Latona each scored two goals in the first period for the Tigers, while Kevin Jarvis and Steven Allbright each added goals for ECU.

The second and third periods featured only one goal a piece in each period. Mitch Butts scored in the second for Clemson while Matt Whirley added a goal in the third for the Tigers. Clemson would win the contest 6-2, and ECU

see **HOCKEY** page A8

## Pirates lose to Southern Miss

Men's basketball team takes a beating

BENJAMIN LLOYD  
SENIOR WRITER

ECU cannot get a win from Southern Miss, a team they've owned, holding a 6-3 advantage in the two schools history. The Pirates were heading into Wednesday's game without their best scoring big man John Fields, who received a knee injury in their last match against Houston. Southern Miss dominated the game, winning 80-42, giving ECU its worst loss of the season.

ECU holds strong at the bottom of Conference USA standings with a record of 0-11 and 5-19 overall. The Golden Knights move to 16-8 overall and 6-5 in conference play to move ahead of Tulsa.

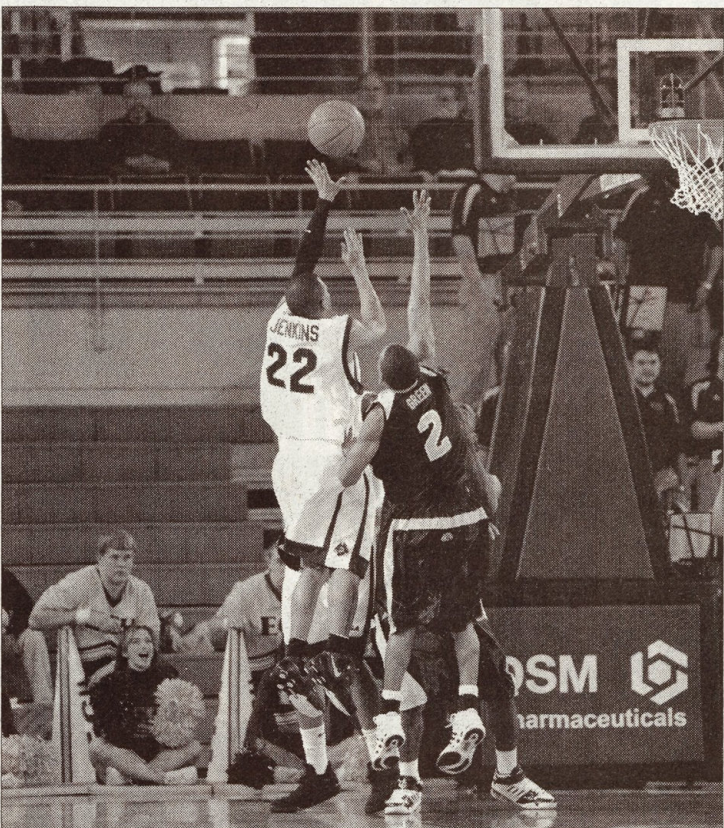
Going into Wednesday's game senior guard Courtney Captain was just three 3-pointers shy of hitting 100 in his career. Captain finished the game with 13 points but only managed to knock down one shoot from behind the arc.

Southern Miss started the game by manhandling the tip-off, which set the pace for most of the first half. The Golden Knights excellent defense put ECU on a scoring drought that spanned four minutes, while they scored 16, after Darrell Jenkins had a 3-point play, the old fashioned way. The Pirates could not get back into the game, shooting only 33.3 percent from the floor and 22.2 percent from the free throw line. Jenkins seemed to be the only Pirate trying to fight back as he drove the lane for nine points in the first half.

Southern Miss out-rebounded ECU 25-13 all while shooting 62.1 percent FG and 71.4 percent from the 3-point line. Southern Miss finished the half 47-22 on Jeremy Wise's 18 points, five assists, and six rebounds. Fellow freshman guard Jarvis Hill had nine points and Sai'Quon Stone pulled down seven rebounds to help the Golden Knights to such a large lead at half.

"They're young. It's one of those weird nights where we made everything and we can't explain the score. You really can't, I can't," said Southern Miss Head Coach Larry Eustachy about Wednesday's game.

The second half wasn't much



Starting point guard Darrell Jenkins has been one consistent on the team.

better for the Pirates as Southern Miss, at one point, stretched the lead to 43, 70-27. Southern Miss' rebounding continued to be a problem for ECU as they added another 20 during the second half.

The Golden Knights slacked a little on defense once taking their starters out of the game, allowing ECU to hit two 3-pointers. But, their offense still dominated, as the lead never got below 30 after the 16:52 mark.

The Pirates finished the game shooting a lowly 33.3 percent from the floor, 20 percent from outside, and 40 percent from the charity strip. The Golden Knights on the other hand, had an amazing night of shooting as they hit 56.4 percent, and made 59.8 percent of their 3-pointers.

The Golden Knights lead C-USA in rebounding, but without having to face ECU big man John Fields, the task of beating ECU on the glass seemed attainable.

Darrell Jenkins finished the game with 12 points and three assists. Captain, who had a late rally in the second half, ended with 13 points on

5-9 shooting playing only 22 minutes. For Southern Miss, who started three freshmen, Andre Stephens had 16 points, eight rebounds and two steals. Jarvis Hill scored 12 points, Stone had nine points, four assists and eight rebounds; and Craig Craft had eight points and eight rebounds.

"Tough night. I just think our effort wasn't where it needed to be, to be able to play a team like Southern Miss who we knew would play extremely hard. They beat us in all facets of the game. We weren't, defensively, strong enough, quick enough. I thought we were a step slow," said ECU Head Coach Ricky Stokes.

The Pirates hit the road as they head to SMU for Saturday the 17th. ECU returns to Minges Coliseum next Wednesday, Feb. 21st, to face Marshall.

Of all the things that went bad against the Golden Knights Coach Stokes had this to say, "We get to play again, we have another game."

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

## Women's golf coach to compete in nationwide golf reality show

Kim Lewellen will be featured in "The Big Break VII: Reunion"

(AP)—Kim Lewellen, from Greenville, N.C., will compete in The Big Break VII: Reunion, scheduled to premiere on Feb. 25 on the GOLF CHANNEL.

In The Big Break VII, the Pirates women's golf coach will compete against 15 of the most memorable characters from the previous six seasons of the GOLF CHANNEL's popular Big Break series. The field of eight males and eight females promises new excitement as old adversaries, fan favorites, and a few surprise guests bring their "A-game."

Flashbacks to unforgettable moments will set the stage in The Big Break VII as old wounds will be reopened and new rivalries created with twists and turns that have become a Big Break tradition.

Pitting highly skilled golfers against each other, The Big Break concept presents challenges that test physical skills and mental toughness. During The Big Break VII, competitors will be eliminated from the series with the last one standing awarded his/her "Big Break," a career-changing opportunity to compete in an event on the PGA TOUR's Champions Tour, Nationwide Tour or the LPGA Tour.

Like the spectacular locations for previous Big Breaks, the seventh edition of the popular GOLF CHANNEL series continues the tradition of visiting top venues as the series will be hosted by the Ginn Reunion Resort in Reunion, Fla. Situated near the heart of Central Florida's theme park corridor, Reunion offers not only a high-quality golf community built on luxury and class, but also 54 holes of truly challenging, unforgettable golf.



LEWELLEN

ECU women's golf Head Coach Kim Lewellen: a biography

GREG KATSKI  
SPORTS EDITOR

Kim Lewellen became the ECU women's golf team's head coach a little over a year ago on Jan. 10, 2006. Lewellen made an immediate impact on the team after taking over.

In her first tournament at the helm, Lewellen lead the Pirates to a second place finish at the Papa Johns Intercollegiate in Miami, Fla., according to the ECU Sports Information Department.

This year Lewellen and the ECU women's golf team look to better their inaugural performance of the 2006 spring semester by taking home first place in the 2007 Papa Johns Intercollegiate in Miami next week from Feb. 18-20.

Lewellen has built a solid foundation with the team leading up to this semester. Under the

see **LEWELLEN** page A8

**HOCKEY** continued from A7

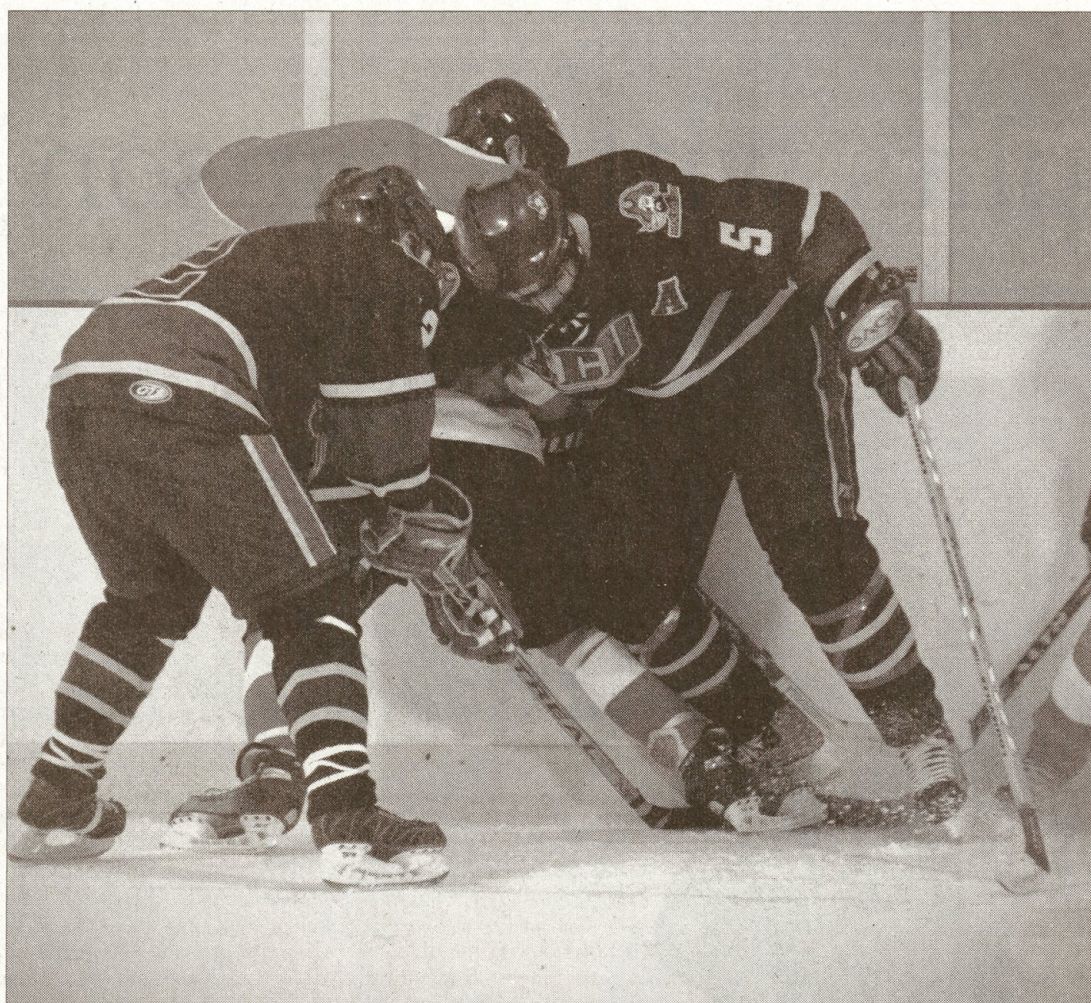


Photo by Terrell Gordy

The Pirates of the ice were looking for a fight Friday night after a poor showing at the South Region Tourney.

would only manage two goals on 42 shots.

Even though he doesn't want to use it as an excuse for the loss, Brearley took a pretty good beating during Saturday's contest.

"The first period, actually the first goal, I messed my ankle up a little bit," Brearley said. "In the second period I got a slap shot in the knee, and obviously in the third I busted my lip open. It wasn't my favorite game to play but I certainly was glad to come out of it and at

least still be able to play."

"We had our best game of the season Friday night and our worst game on Saturday," said junior forward Corey Fleitz.

The Pirates return to the ice this weekend at Bladez on Ice against Radford (2-12) in the last series before the conference tournament. ECU needs to win one of the two game series to seal up a regular season conference championship. The games are set for 9:30 Friday night and 3:45

Saturday afternoon.

"I don't really know what they [Radford] are going to bring to the table," Cox said. "I think basically we have the capacity to win both games this weekend and we really should if we play up to our potential. That will put us in position to go 14-1."

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

**LEWELLEN** continued from A7

tutelage of Lewellen the Pirates took their first ever Conference USA Championship at Ironwood Golf Club, perhaps the most noteworthy accomplishment of the team. The Pirate's team score of 887 en route to the championship was the third lowest in school history, according to the ECU Sports Information Department.

With the C-USA Championship win, ECU earned their third NCAA East Regional berth in program history.

Players on the team have flourished under Lewellen. Lene Krog and Heidi Helliesen both received all-conference honors last season. Helliesen was selected to the All-Conference third team, while Krog was honored as part of the All-Conference first team. In addition, Krog earned the C-USA

Individual Championship and the Freshman-of-the-Year award last season, according to the ECU Sports Information Department.

Before taking over at ECU, Lewellen was the head coach of the men's and women's golf teams at The Citadel in Charleston, S.C. during the 2003 - 2004 season.

Lewellen, who played golf at UNC, was honored as a member of the ACC 50th Anniversary Women's Golf Team while serving as the Carolina Celebrity Classic golf tournament director in 2002.

At UNC, Lewellen was a consensus All-American, earning Division I All-American honors throughout her enrollment.

Lewellen did not have to same success in golf after graduating from college. She entered the LPGA Tour Qualifying Tourna-

ment with no success, according to the Golf Channel.

After playing on the LPGA European Tour with such established professionals as Laura Davies, Karrie Webb and Annika Sorenstam receiving minimal success, Lewellen returned to the United States.

Once stateside again, Lewellen joined the Duramed FUTURES Tour, winning in her second year according to the Golf Channel.

Lewellen found the same success on the Golf Channel's "The Big Break V," where she was the only competitor to participate in every elimination challenge. Lewellen made a run deep into the competition before losing in episode 11.

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

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- 3rd Street Duplex - 2BR, 2BA \$575
- 309 Lewis Street - 2BR, IBA \$625
- Brownlea Drive Duplex - 2BR, IBA \$500-\$525
- Cannon Court - 2BR, 1.5BA \$475
- Cotanche Street - 1BR, IBA \$375-\$395
- Cypress Gardens - 1BR, IBA \$405-\$430
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- Eastgate/College Park - 1BR, IBA \$365-\$410
- 2BR, IBA \$445-\$470
- Forest Acres - 1BR, IBA \$345
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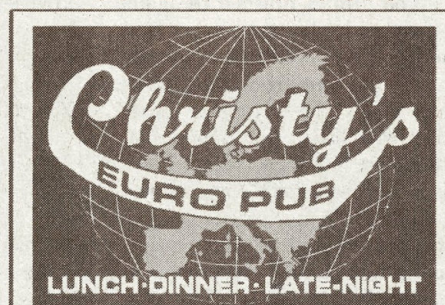
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## Track and field enjoys successful trips to Nebraska and Penn State

(SID)—For the second straight weekend, freshman Lindsay Dolan has set a school record. Her time of 8.21 in the 55-meter hurdles broke an 11-year record previously set by Jennifer Kalanick in 1995.

Led by Dolan, the women's track and field squad garnered six top 20 finishes at the Sykes-Sabock Challenge Cup held at Penn State on Feb. 9th and 10th.

Chante Sessoms took home 8th place in the long jump with a mark of 5.61m. Camelia Morman's mark of 11.73m in the triple jump earned her 6th place honors. Sessoms also placed in the top 15 in the 400-meter dash, taking home 12th place with a time of 56.11.

In the Carolina Classic on the campus of the University of North Carolina, the women's team took

home four top 10 honors. In the shot put, Amy Mueller and Danielle Eiler finished 7th and 10th respectively, with marks of 13.19m and 12.47m.

Charlene Grady placed 7th in the weight throw with a mark of 14.09m. Lindsey Rosales' mark of 3.50m earned her 2nd place plaudits in the pole vault.

As for the men, they took home seven top 10 finishes at the Sykes-Sabock Challenge Cup.

Brandon Small won the 400-meter dash with a time of 47.77. Competitors also placing in the top 20 included Christopher Richardson (15th, 49.98), Travis Covington (16th, 50.21), and Bryson Bowling (18th, 50.34).

ECU took home 3rd, 5th, and 8th place in the 60-meter dash, with Adian Sanderson placing in

the top three with a time of 6.84. Jerek Hewitt's 6.87 earned him 5th in the event while Anthony Green took home 8th with a time of 6.93.

Kevin Thompson finished 5th in the 200 meter dash. Hewitt took home 7th (21.96) and Sanderson was 9th (22.01) in the event, respectively. The 4x400 meter relay team took home 3rd place honors with a time of 3:15.27.

Eric Frasure's mark of 20.04 earned him 2nd place in the weight throw event. Terrance Myers finished 4th with a mark of 19.31m.

ECU returns to action this weekend when the squads travel to Virginia Tech Feb. 16-17 in the final meet before the C-USA Indoor Championships.

### Lindsay Dolan sets new school record two weekends in a row

(SID)—Lindsay Dolan's school record setting mark in the 60-meter hurdles and Eric Frasure's NCAA provisional mark in the weight throw set the pace for the ECU track and field squads Feb. 2 and 3 as they competed in the Husker Invitational in Lincoln, Neb.

For the women, Dolan's time of 8.76 in the preliminary round of the 60 meter hurdles set a new ECU record, breaking the previous mark of 8.79 set in 2005. Following her into the semifinals was Linaire Lindo, who advanced with a time of 9.14. Dolan moved on to the finals, where she posted an 8th place finish with a time of 8.90.

The Pirates 4x400 relay team, comprised of Chante Sessoms, Shalice Anderson, Aisha Bilal-Mack and Camelia Morman, took home 8th place with a time of 3:55.48.

The Pirates saw two athletes place in the top 10 in the long jump as Sessoms took 5th place

(5.60m) and Morman finished 9th (5.46m).

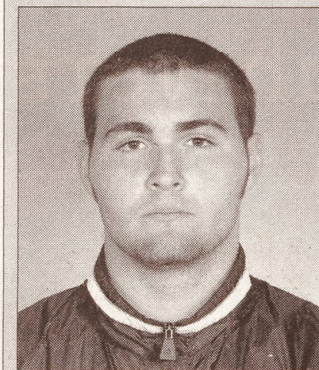
As for the men, Frasure's 3rd place finish in the weight throw with a mark of 20.85m provisionally qualified him for the NCAA Indoor Championships held March 9th and 10th in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Terrance Myers also finished in the top 10 in the weight throw, coming in 6th with a mark of 19.12m.

Adian Sanderson and David Rucker both qualified for the semifinals of the 60-meter dash, but came in 10th and 14th, respectively in the semifinal heat. Brandon Small posted the best time in the 400-meter dash preliminaries with a time of 47.54, and took home 2nd place with a final mark of 47.49.

In the distance events, Matt Dennish finished 8th in the mile run with a time of 4:11.83 while William Collins' time of 8:36.70 earned him 5th place honors in the 3000 meter run. The Pirates 4x400 squad of Chris Richardson, Kevin Thompson, Ron Wright and Brandon Small finished 10th with a mark of 3:21.89.

### C-USA Indoor Track and Field Male Athlete of the Week (Feb. 4-10)



ERIC FRASURE  
SENIOR, THROWS  
CHARLOTTE, N.C.

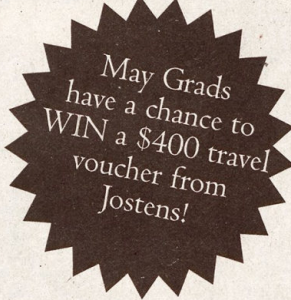
Frasure placed third in the weight throw with an NCAA provisional mark and C-USA top performance of 68'5" (20.85 m) at the Husker Invitational in Lincoln, Neb., last weekend. He also placed ninth in the shot put with a mark of 47'9" (14.55 m). His shot put performance ranks seventh best on the Conference USA Indoor list.

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Thursday, Feb. 22: 10 am - 3 pm

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# ECU BADMINTON TOURNAMENT



February 17th

- 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
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Men's Singles & Doubles


Women's Singles & Doubles

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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.

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## GREEK PERSONALS

The sisters of Kappa Delta would like to recognize sister Briana Yates as February's sister of the month!

The Sisters of Delta Zeta would like to congratulate our new members for Spring 2007. You all are wonderful!

The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta would like to say congratulations to Jessica Rice for being our sister of the week! Love your Alpha Xi's

## OTHER

The UU's of ECU- Radically Inclusive, Spiritually Alive, Justice Centered- Intrigued? Join us to learn "What Is Unitarian Universalism?" THURS February 15 at 8:00pm in Mendenhall 221

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Newman Catholic Center will hold Ash Wednesday services on February 21st at 12:15 and 5:30 pm.

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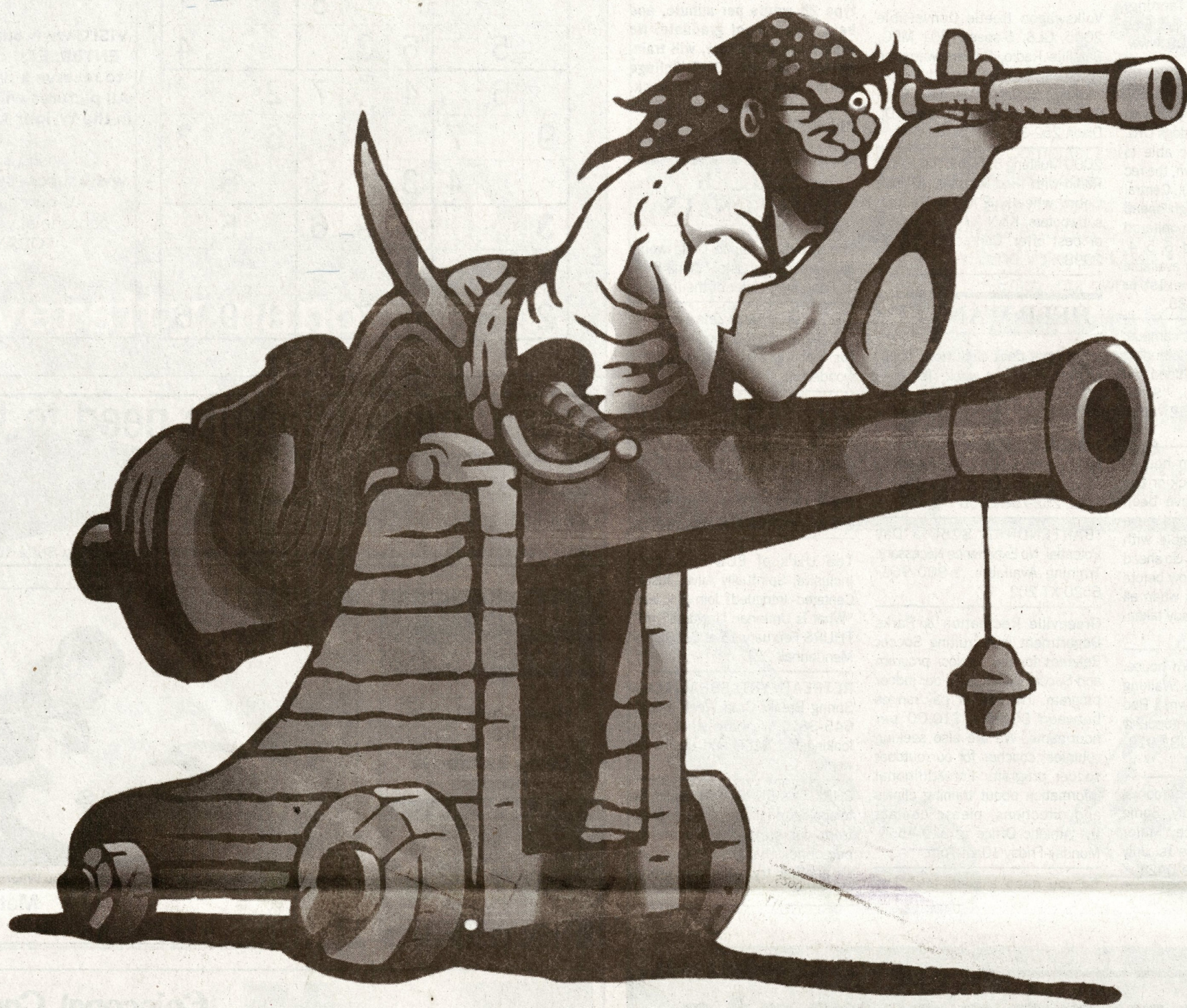
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### Technology Career Fair

Wednesday, March 7, 2007  
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### Business & General Career Fair

Wednesday, March 7, 2007  
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Minges Coliseum - 1st Floor

### Education Career Fair

Friday, March 23, 2007  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Minges Coliseum

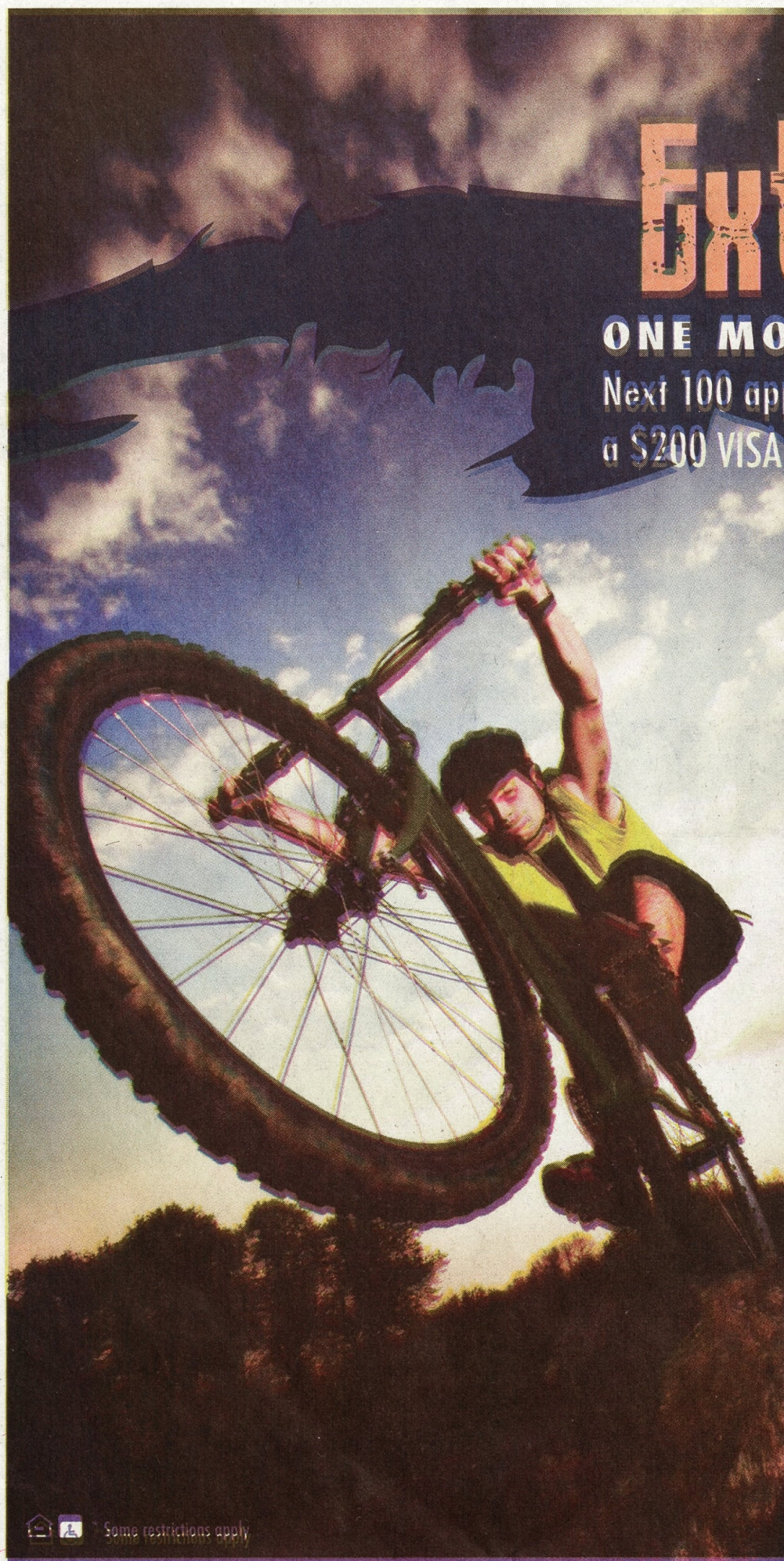


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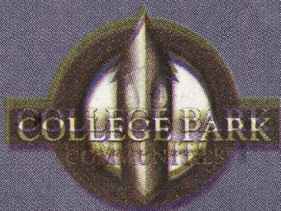
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## Center for Off-Campus and Community Living expands students' knowledge

Teaches good citizenship

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

The Center for Off-Campus and Community Living at ECU adds to the academic knowledge gained at ECU by educating students on the freedom and the responsibilities of living off-campus.

Many students, at some point in their college career, decide to live off-campus. With living off-campus comes the responsibility of not only being a student at ECU but now also being a resident of the City of Greenville.

Therefore COCCL educates students on tenant rights, city ordinances, how to be a good neighbor and citizen of Greenville, and how to become a thriving member of the Greenville/ECU community. The Center contains three main branches: Town-gown relations, off-campus housing and off-campus safety.

Town-gown Relations refers to how students and the University interact with the surrounding city and citizens. This section of COCCL is an advocate for ECU's off-campus population and serves as a liaison between students, the city, ECU and permanent residents of the community by educating and empowering students on how to become a good neighbor of their community and a good citizen of Greenville.

Students are encouraged to meet and greet their neighbors, because getting to know them can eliminate problems in the future. Michelle Lieberman, director of COCCL, has been charged with this branch.

"We educate students on the responsibilities that is expected of them, as they move into a community and become citizens of the City of Greenville," said Lieberman.

Safety is always a major concern when living off-campus.

To help address these concerns, COCCL has recently added an Off-Campus Community Police Liaison position to their staff.

Sgt. Stephanie Carnevale, ECU Police, will be working in conjunction with liaisons from the Greenville Police Department to specifically work with off-campus students to help safeguard them

from becoming victims.

Some of the programs that will be offered include: RAD self-defense training, alcohol and drug awareness training, date rape awareness, operation identification (engraving your valuables) and safety walk-through of residences.

"We have had a great response for the RAD training we are having this March. We had a class size estimated at 20 and had to close the registration at 25 women," Carnevale said.

Sgt. Carnevale will also be going out into the local neighborhoods and meeting with students and residents to help establish better relations in the local community. If you have any further questions or would like to contact the office to set up a specific program, they can be reached online at AIM: [ecuocsafety](mailto:ecuocsafety), or e-mail direct at [Carnevales@ecu.edu](mailto:Carnevales@ecu.edu).

COCCL can also help students with their off-campus housing, including the search for good living conditions or lease/landlord agreements and conflicts. COCCL will have an online searchable database for off-campus housing in mid-March 2007 for students, parents, faculty and staff.

Additionally, COCCL will host an off-campus housing fair on March 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Mendenhall Student Center for students to explore future off-campus housing possibilities.

Justin Gross, who oversees this branch as the assistant director of the center is pleased in the progress they are making to ensure good living conditions for ECU students.

"We are provided a great service to the students that allows them to see the whole spectrum of the off-campus housing options in Greenville. This can be overwhelming for students, who are trying to find the best place to live from the 120 plus apartment communities in the city of Greenville," Gross said.

The Center for Off-Campus and Community Living is available online at [ecu.edu/studentlife/offcampus](http://ecu.edu/studentlife/offcampus). For more information, contact them by phone at 252-328-2847, by e-mail at [snrf@ecu.edu](mailto:snrf@ecu.edu), or by AIM at ECUOff-Campus.

Instant Messages with ECU Off Campus

The East Carolinian IMed the Center for Off-Campus Community Living to learn about responsible party-throwing, messy neighbors and fireworks snafus

EastCarolinian: Testing... testing..

**ECUOffCampus: Good afternoon**

**ECUOffCampus: How is it going?**

EastCarolinian: Hi, this is the *East Carolinian*. We received a press release about the services you offer students through the Center for Off-Campus Community Living today.

**ECUOffCampus: yes, that is us**

EastCarolinian: Do you mind if we ask you a few questions?

**ECUOffCampus: go for it**

EastCarolinian: OK, our newsroom is wondering what tips you have for throwing a party off campus

**ECUOffCampus: This is a link to our Web site that list some tips on how to have a responsible party: [ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/offcampus/Responsible-Party-Off-Campus.cfm](http://ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/offcampus/Responsible-Party-Off-Campus.cfm).**

EastCarolinian: Sorry to be a pain, but our readers won't be able to use that hyperlink. Is there any way you could outline those points for me in this chat?

**ECUOffCampus: OK that is fine with us**

**ECUOffCampus: one of the first things students should consider is to let their neighbors know when they will be having a party. This notification should be at least 24 to 48 hours before the party. This can be done either by talking to their neighbors or with a note. In either case, they should provide contact information of someone responsible and sober at the party. This is in case of a noise issue.**

**ECUOffCampus: Second, avoid overcrowding which might: (1) Block apartment's exits in case of any emergency, (2) result in vehicles blocking your street in case fire, police and/or medical units need to respond and/or (3) force your guest to inappropriately use "outdoor bathroom facilities."**

**ECUOffCampus: Third, periodically during the night, walk outside to check the noise level and adjust it accordingly. Also remember that voices carry and just by moving the party indoors you can avoid disturbing your neighbors.**

**ECUOffCampus: Next, understand that as a student of ECU, you are also responsible for upholding the rules and sanctions of the Code of Conduct for Off-Campus events.**

**ECUOffCampus: We recommend that after the party you clean up around your house/apartment as well as your neighbors, if needed, in a timely manner.**

EastCarolinian: OK, we'll make sure we clean up after our guests. But what about neighbors who don't clean up after theirs, or leave mattresses, old furniture and/or appliances on the edge of their yards, that we have to look at? Is there any way we can speed that cleanup process?

**ECUOffCampus: That is a city code violation, and students need to contact the city at 329-4110**

**ECUOffCampus: or they can call the general information line at 329-CITY**

EastCarolinian: Will do. Last but not least, we know there is a leash law for dogs. But what about cats?

**ECUOffCampus: As far as we know there is not a leash law for cats.**

EastCarolinian: Why not? Cats are pretty mangy.

**ECUOffCampus: You'll have to ask the city about that one, lol.**

EastCarolinian: What about boa constrictors? My roommate wants one.

**ECUOffCampus: Oh my, this office does not like snakes.**

EastCarolinian: Yeah, me either. Hey, we know it's illegal to discharge a firearm in Greenville, but are there any exceptions? Do any apartments have special rules about owning a gun?

**ECUOffCampus: We are not sure on any rules about owning a gun, however it is illegal to discharge a firearm within the city limits, no exceptions.**

EastCarolinian: Alright. A layout designer wanted to know if discharging a weapon was allowed if someone was trying to harm you. I'll let him know.

**ECUOffCampus: Self-defense is allowed, if needed.**

**ECUOffCampus: The ordinance is to stop people from discharging weapons like fireworks.**

EastCarolinian: Yeah, his karate needs some work. Fireworks are weapons? Seriously?

**ECUOffCampus: They can be**

EastCarolinian: Sparklers turned taser... hmm...

**ECUOffCampus: How/when are you going to publish this?**

EastCarolinian: Well, we're publishing it in our Housing Insert so students will know to watch where they point those fireworks.

**ECUOffCampus: That sounds great, thank you. We appreciate you helping us get the word out.**

EastCarolinian: No problem, this IM screenname is nifty. We wish more departments had one. When is the screenname typically online?

**ECUOffCampus: Generally from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. more or less and an off-campus safety branch IM screen name will be on-line shortly.**

EastCarolinian: Very cool, thanks for your time

## Choosing your "Home Sweet Home"

Factors in finding a place to call your own

SARAH CAMPBELL  
PULSE EDITOR

Spring semester is in full swing and many students are beginning to make decisions for next year. One of the hardest and most important things they have to decide on is where to live. Students can choose to live on campus in a dorm, or off campus in an apartment or house. Each of these options comes with their own set of pros and cons, but the deciding factor is ultimately based on personal preference.

Lets start with dorm life, which is an option predominately chosen by underclassmen that are exploring the idea of living away from home for the first time. The best thing about living in a dorm is that they are on campus and within walking distance to all of your classes as well as the library, student recreation center and various dining options. Living in the residence halls also have various benefits including free laundry facilities, cable television, high-speed Internet, daily newspapers, computer lab access and phone service.

Although the residence halls themselves vary, the rooms within each hall offer the same amenities. Each room comes fully furnished with beds, desks, chairs, window blinds, closet or wardrobe space and microfridges. On the first floor of

each dorm, there is study/lounge area for students to escape to. Another positive is that once you pay your room and board fees for that semester you don't have to worry about paying any more living expenses.

Despite the many obvious attractive qualities of living on campus, there are also several downfalls. The complaint most students have is that living in a single room with another person can be a bit unbearable at times. You essentially have no privacy because there is a distinct possibility that you and your roommate will share a similar schedule. Living in rooms that are right beside each other can be a huge negative considering your neighbors may be loud and unruly, luckily each floor has a resident advisor that is trained to handle such situations.

Off campus options include both apartments and houses. The difference between the two isn't substantial, however it is important to recognize that like the dorms they each come with their own set of pros and cons.

Apartments are the most popular choice among upperclassmen that are tired of dorm life and searching for a place to call home. There are many local apartment complexes that are included on the ECU bus route or have their own bus to provide students with quick and easy access to campus.

There are a vast number of complexes that offer amenities especially catered to college students. Apartments come furnished or unfurnished depending on preference. Furnished apart-

ments include full-sized beds, desks, chairs, sofa, end table, dresser, nightstand and kitchen table with chairs. Some other benefits include a refrigerator, washer and dryer, dishwasher, Internet, private bathrooms and large closet space. Of course, these things are going to vary from complex to complex but the overall advantages are about the same.

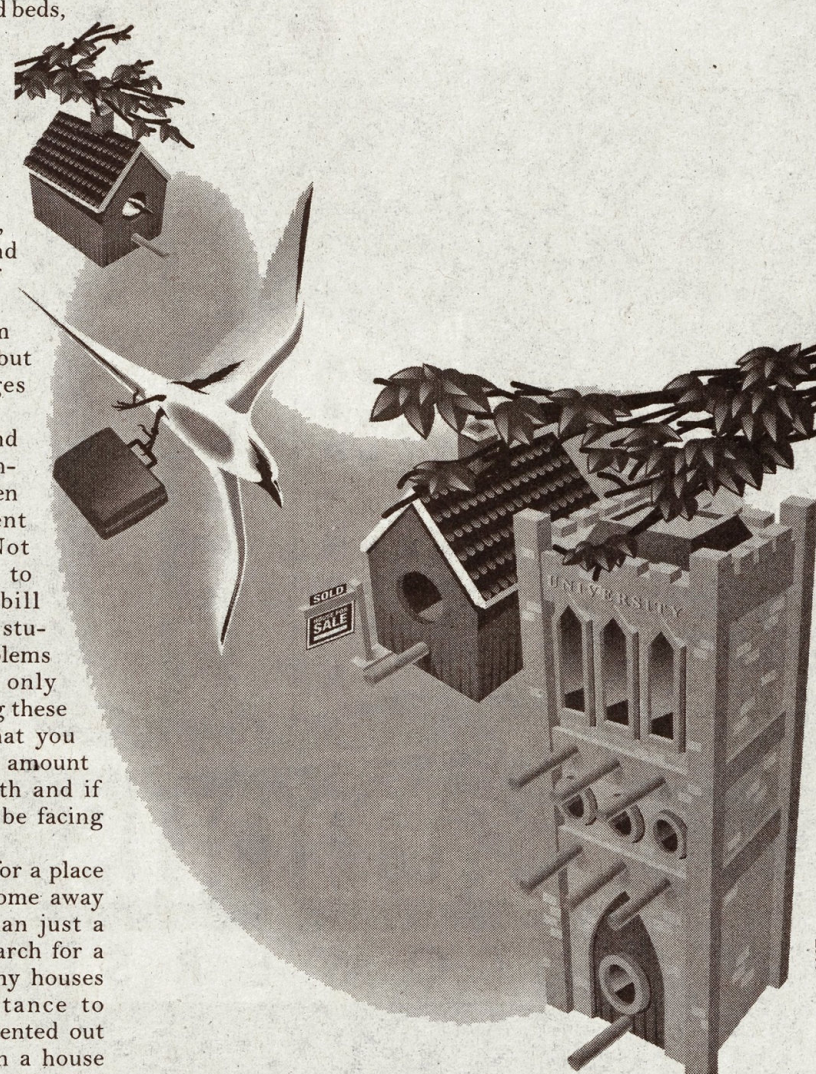
Utilities, water and sewage, cable and high-speed Internet are often bundled with the rent of the apartment. Not having to remember to pay more than one bill every month can save students from credit problems down the road. The only disadvantage of having these things included is that you are only allotted a set amount of utilities each month and if you go over you can be facing unexpected charges.

Students looking for a place that is more like a home away from home rather than just a place to live often search for a house. There are many houses within walking distance to campus that can be rented out to students. Living in a house can provide students with a larger living area as well as more freedom.

However, houses don't include things such as cable, Internet, water, sewage and utilities in the rent and having to pay for each thing separately can become a bit pricey. In addition, most houses

don't come furnished which means you are looking at the possibility of spending hundreds of dollars. If you can get past the extra expenses that living in a house might entail, it is the ideal place to set up home.

In the end, the decision is yours and depending on personal preferences one of these options is bound to be the perfect place to call home.



# It's Electric: Save on your bills

SCOTTY WILLIAMS  
SENIOR WRITER

It's the ultimate nemesis of all who want organized finances.

It's the bane of the collegian's existence and the solo cause of all discomfort associated with living off campus.

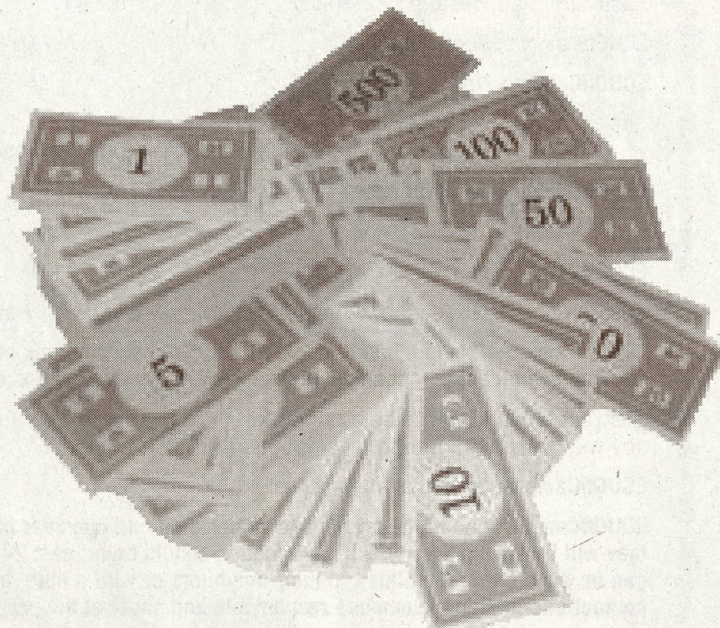
I'm talking about the one piece of mail you never want to get. That's right, the electric bill.

Greenville Utilities should never, ever go broke with the way they charge for lights and heating. No matter how hard you try, the price is so sporadic your budget never feels quite the same month-to-month. With so many electric accounts in Greenville, there's an equal number of people who think they know exactly how to keep the bill down, and a lot of them haven't the foggiest as to where the real budget busters are.

As a three-year veteran of the dreaded electric company, I feel highly qualified to inform you of the secrets to a minimized electric bill. Keep in mind, planning to lower the bill significantly can be like game-planning to stop Michael Jordan at basketball—you can never stop it, no matter what you do. You can only hope to contain it. But we'll take a crack at it.

First, to all your friends and anal-retentive roommates who storm around the house turning off the lights behind you and moaning and groaning about the electric bill, this will shut them up once and for all—the lights do not contribute the most to power usage. The truth is they use very little, and the same is true for the rest of the major appliances. If you were to turn off your computer every night, hit every light as you leave and basically shut down your electric house at bedtime, it would not lower your bill that much.

According to Greenville Utilities, one of the most money-saving things you can do for your electric bill is to make sure your house is weather-sealed and windows are sealed properly; this can



save up to 30 percent on your bill.

Some tips from the other side:

The biggest gobbler of power is that lovely little sliding dial in your living room, the thermostat. If you have roommates that fight over it, be prepared for a high bill. The more you play with it, the higher the bill gets. The best thing to do is find one comfortable middle place and forget about it. Roommates who slide it up and down in a silent argument will send your bill skyward, so work it out somehow. The U.S. Department of Energy actually recommends a thermostat setting of 68 degrees or lower in the winter. Personally, for those of us who are hot natured, people who are cold can put on more clothes. Once you're hot, it could get awkward stripping off layers of clothing trying to cool off.

The washer and dryer can also be a problem, but here are a few simple solutions. For the washer, use cold water. Heating the water uses power, and your clothes will be just as clean in cold water. (Hint: you don't have to be a laundry guru with cold water, either. It's just water, detergent and clothes with no picky sorting.)

For the dryer, clean the filter after every load. It can be tedious to clean that little wire thing, but it will save you money.

The best way to save money is to check your house or apartment for energy leaks and places where heat leaks out (i.e. the refrigerator or the air conditioner) and take care of them. Just updating your window seals could save you a lot. If these items still bother you, just go to the electric company and ask them how you can lower your bill. They're not really evil people, they'll give you a nice little handout that breaks down exactly how much money running certain appliances can cost per hour. They'll tell you this ultimately: Anything that heats or cools will hurt you.

The electric bill is probably the one thing that can ruin your month if it's too high. Nothing makes a person shiver like opening that envelope and seeing those high digits. However, if you're smart with your electric usage, and you can be content in one steady temperature, you should never go bankrupt.

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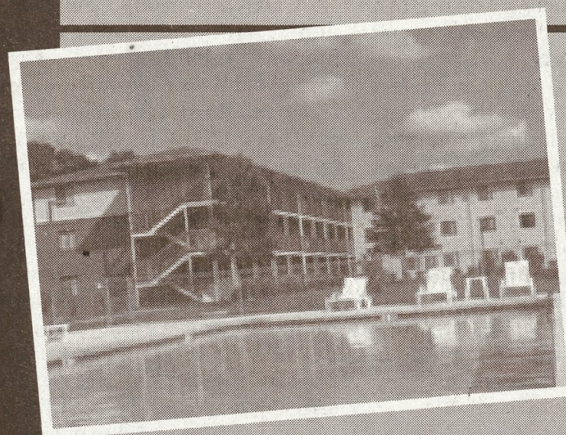
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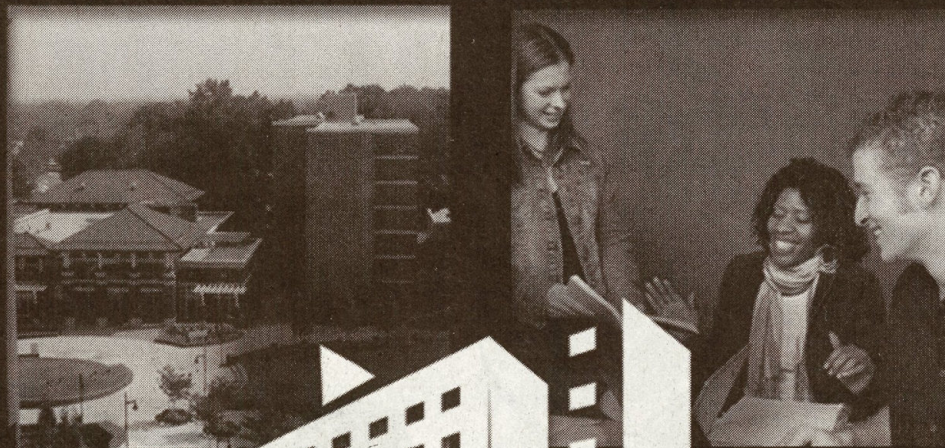


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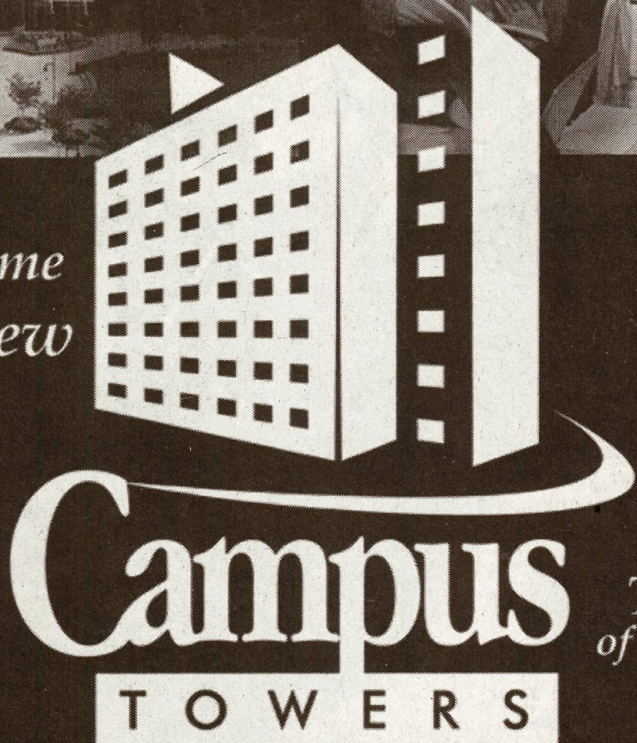
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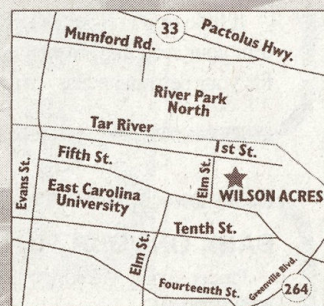
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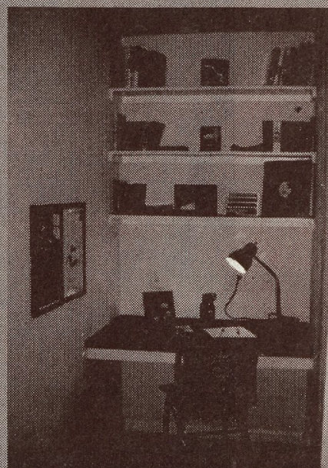
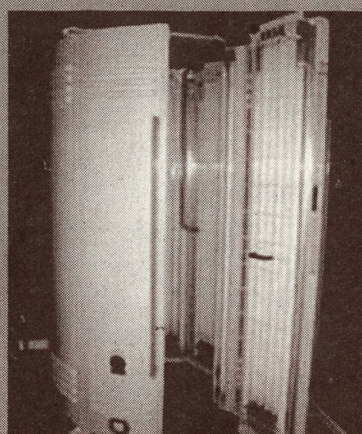
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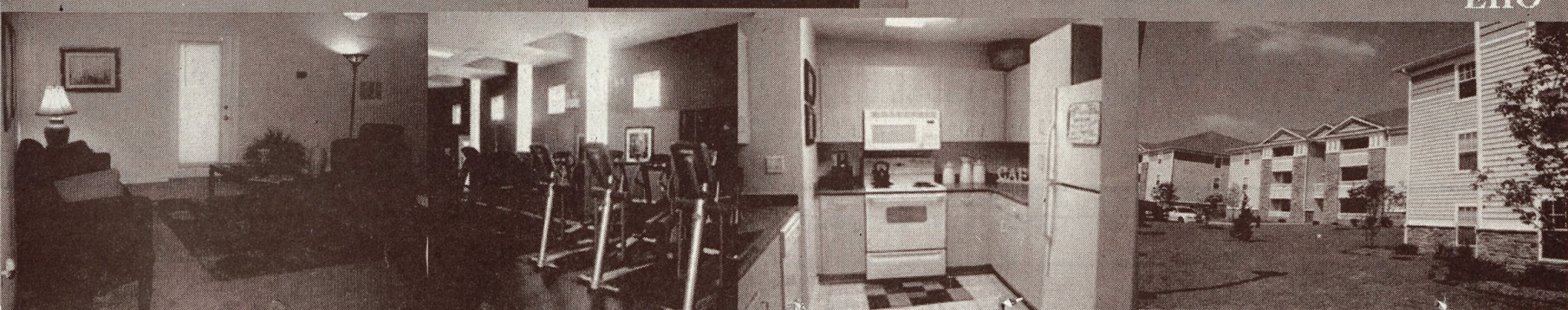
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# Balancing act



## Keep your early finances in check without being weighed down

Compiled and written by Daniel Cooper, Knight Ridder Newspapers

Setting up your first budget does not have to be a burden. Instead, it empowers you with the ability to control your spending. Below is a sample monthly budget listing typical expenses and how much income should be devoted to them.

**INCOME** Your monthly take-home pay **\$2,000.00**

**EXPENSES** Where you spend your money each month

<b>HOUSING AND UTILITIES</b>	<b>\$800.00 (30-40%)</b>
Mortgage/rent, electricity, phone, water, cable television, etc.	
<b>DEBT</b>	<b>\$70.35 (VARIES)</b>
Credit cards, loans and other debts	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>\$295.23 (10-20%)</b>
Car payments, insurance, gasoline, parking and maintenance	
<b>FOOD</b>	<b>\$310.00 (15-20%)</b>
Groceries and eating out	
<b>MEDICAL</b>	<b>\$100.00 (5-10%)</b>
Insurance, doctor visits, prescriptions, etc.	
<b>RECREATION/ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$110.00 (2-6%)</b>
Movies, magazine subscriptions, sporting events, hobbies, etc.	
<b>PERSONAL NEEDS AND OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$210.00 (10-15%)</b>
Clothing, laundry, haircuts, personal items, etc.	

**THE BOTTOM LINE** Funds remaining after expenses **\$104.42**

Having money left over in your budget is always a good thing. It allows you to build up your savings account, retirement fund or save for that special vacation you are planning.

If little or no money is left over, re-examine your expenses and decide where you can trim your spending. Even the smallest cuts add up over time. Always create a budget that fits your personal needs.

### FIND MORE DOUGH ON YOUR PLATE

A few suggestions for how to trim from your expenses for extra cash.

- By paying off your credit cards, you can save additional money by not having to pay interest or finance charges every month.
- Limit the number of times you dine out each week by cooking at home and bringing your lunch to work.
- Shop around to find the cheapest rates on your phone, cable and other utilities.

RALPH LAUER/KRT

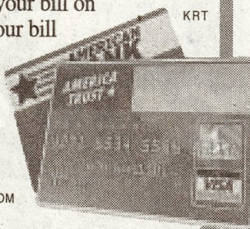
### PLASTIC ON A BUDGET

Credit cards are a valuable tool when used wisely, but they can break your budget if not used responsibly. They offer convenience, provide security and can help to establish good credit. When misused, credit cards can become a major liability. High interest fees and finance charges add up, making purchases cost more than their sticker price in the long run.

Follow these tips to keep your budget and credit card balance in check:

- Purchase only what you can normally afford. Track each credit card expense in your checkbook.
- Pay your balance off at the end of the month. Avoid paying interest and other finance charges.
- Always pay your bill on time. Paying your bill late can result in late fees, higher interest rates and bad credit.

SOURCES: \*PERSONAL FINANCE FOR DUMMIES; \*HATE FINANCIAL PLANNING.COM, YOUNGMONEY.COM

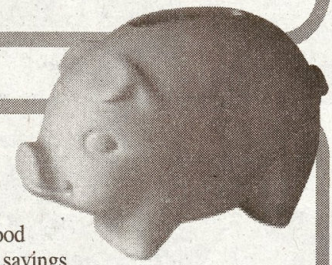


### BANK ON YOUR FUTURE

Proper saving will ensure that you have money when you want or need it.

Setting up your first budget is the best time to establish good spending habits. When creating your budget, consider listing savings as an expense. This will allow you to "pay yourself first" and create a steady flow of cash into your savings account. Here are a few saving suggestions:

- Prioritize your saving goals. Decide what you are saving your money for and how much you need to reach your goals of saving for a vacation, college education, etc.
- Create an emergency fund. At least three months of pay should be set aside for emergencies or if you become unemployed.
- Save for retirement. Even if you are in your early 20s, now is the time to think about saving for retirement. Always invest as much as you can afford in your 401(k) plan. The more you invest, the more you benefit from compounding, thus a larger retirement fund.



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## Roommate relations 101

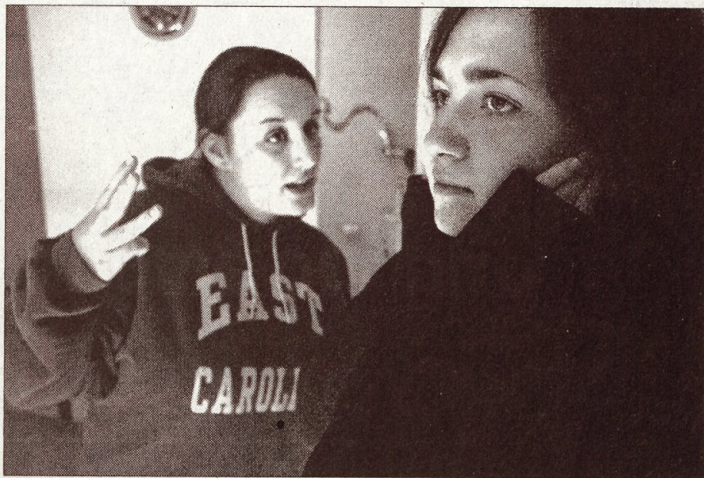


Photo by Lizz Wells

Open communication between roommates plays can help work out differences and resolve conflicts.

### Adjusting to life with a new roommate

SHANNON DAVIS  
STAFF WRITER

When deciding where to live next year, a vital part of the process is, of course, choosing whether or not to live with the same roommate again or to open up the search field and begin interviewing potential candidates.

Some people are lucky enough to be paired up with their "second half," the one person they could not live without, while others are less fortunate and wind up simply surviving rather than sharing a living space.

A senior mathematics major spoke as her freshman year roommate as "an emotionally unbalanced, unmeditated bipolar mess, who four years later is still four years away from graduating."

Sophomore criminal justice major reported that her roommate would have random outbursts of rage causing her to shake uncontrollably; was obsessed with undressing in front of her Web cam on a nightly basis and would constantly smoke cigarettes in their tiny, non-smoking dorm room.

Thankfully, not everyone has horrible roommate tales such as these.

It takes a lot of patience and consideration to have a successful roommate relationship. One person may need to adjust how early or late they dry their hair while the other may need to monitor how loud they watch

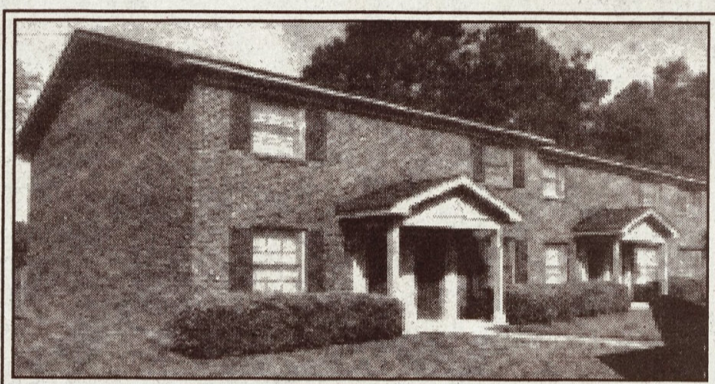
the television when their roommate is studying. Talk to your roommate(s) about their schedules and be aware of their needs in regards to studying. Roommates typically have to share a small amount of space for their belongings and figuring out what goes where and who gets what space is easier to do up front, instead of weeks or months after moving in. Decide which spaces and chores each roommate is responsible for and then stick to it.

Privacy also becomes an issue. Whether living in a residence hall, an apartment or a house, learning to respect privacy and personal space is important.

Roommates can become "best friends forever" in a matter of days or they could become each other's worst enemies. Sometimes both situations can occur. A triumphant roommate relationship is based on open communication and thoughtfulness. If your roommate is bugging you, the only way they will know is if you tell them. Try setting some kind of schedule if the two of you really cannot get along. Set aside time for both of you to be in the room alone, without your roommate bothering you. Schedule quiet time and try to do something together, outside of the room, once a week. This may help to strengthen your relationship inside the room and realize that the other person may actually be human.

Living with someone new can be challenging but it can also be fun so long as people have open minds and honest hearts.

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**Neighborhood Services**

**Roommates**

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There cannot be more than three unrelated people living together as a single housekeeping unit, whether you live in a house, a duplex, an apartment, condominium or mobile home. The following combination of persons can live together as a household: One individual living alone, up to three unrelated individuals, two or more individuals related by blood, adoption or marriage (i.e. family), one family and up to two unrelated individuals (i.e. room renting), one family and up to two related individuals (i.e. room renting).

**Animal Control Related Issues**

**Greenville Animal Control Unit: 329-4387**

Greenville Animal Control enforces a 24-hour leash law stipulating that a dog owner must maintain physical control of a dog by means of a chain or leash when the dog is not on its owner's property. The law also stipulates that it is unlawful to permit a dog to urinate or defecate on a lawn or property that does not belong to the dog owner. Failure to adhere to the leash law will result in a Civil Citation issued to the dog owner.

**Trash Collection**

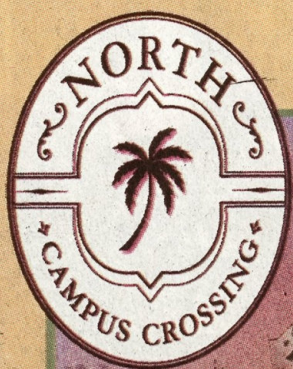
**Public Works: 329-4522**

The City of Greenville provides residential garbage and recyclable collection. If you live in an apartment complex, commercial dumpster service must be provided. It is illegal to throw or deposit upon any street or sidewalk or upon any private property, any type of litter or household trash. Trash receptacles may be placed at the curb no earlier than dusk on the evening prior to scheduled collection and emptied receptacles must be removed no later than daybreak of the day following scheduled collection.

**Litter, Weeded Lots and Housing Conditions**

**Neighborhood Services: 329-4110**

It is illegal to throw or deposit upon any private property, street or sidewalk, any type of litter or household trash. Handbills or flyers that are posted on poles and trees are a form of organized litter. Grass or weeds on any lot that have grown to a height in excess of 12 inches constitute a violation and may be cut by the City after proper notice with all costs billed to the owner.



**OOPS...we did it again!**



NCC is creating another pool and clubhouse just for you! The Pirate's treasure is here along with his shipwreck, a beautiful waterfall, hot tub, and a clubhouse with all the elements of a Pirate's tropical hideaway!

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Pet Friendly



**campus pointe**

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- Fully-Equipped Kitchens (i.e. dishwasher, microwave, refrigerator & disposal)
- Private Bedrooms & Private Baths
- All Utilities Included (\$75/mo electricity allowance/2bd. apt.) (\$105/mo electricity allowance/3bd. apt.)
- Full-Size Washer And Dryer Included In Unit
- Cable TV & High-Speed Internet included
- Individual 12 Month Leases Available
- Flexible Payment Options

**Community Amenities**

- Gathering Room With Large Flat Screen Televisions
- Game Room With Billiards, Air Hockey & Foosball
- Computer/Media Center
- Fitness Center
- Swimming Pool & Hot Tub
- Beach Volleyball
- Minutes From Campus
- On ECU Bus Route

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**DISCOUNTED RENTS**

3 Bedroom-3 Bath  
**GOT TO FILL EM UP**



Brownlea Dr. Off 10th St. **WALK TO CLASS**  
Cathedral Ceilings, no worry parking, private bed/baths, large yards

**531.1731**



- Pet Friendly
  - ECU Bus Route
  - 24 hour emergency maintenance
- 113D Brownlea Dr. Greenville, NC 321-3281 (ECU1)

**PRE LEASING**

- **The Gables at Brownlea**  
2 bdrm/ 1 bath  
Free Cable
- **Dockside Duplexes**  
3 bdrm/ 2.5 bath  
Washer/dryer included
- **Riverwalk Homes**  
3 bdrm/ 2.5 bath  
Washer/dryer included

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