



If you are searching for a new locale to enjoy a tasty meal tonight, drop by Tripp's for delectable dishes and friendly service. Read a full review.....**Page A4**



For some ECU students graduating in four years is the only option, but for others taking time out to enjoy the experience is equally important. Find out more about the trend of the five-year plan.....**Page A4**



The ECU softball team went toe-to-toe with some top-notch competition. See if the Pirates could get a win against No. 24 Wolfpack and defending C-USA champion Tulsa.....**Page A6**



The ECU women's rugby club team finished off another stellar season over the weekend. Find out if the Pirates could manage a Division II Southern Region championship.....**Page A6**

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Recording industry battles piracy

ECU has own plans in place to curb illegal downloads

ELIZABETH LAUTEN
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Once forerunner in peer-to-peer file sharing, Napster was shut down by the Recording Industry Association of America in 2001. Despite Napster's misfortune, hundreds of other P2P networks emerged within the online world. From there, it was no longer feasible for the RIAA to sue each company, so they began to file lawsuits against individual downloaders instead.

Despite the RIAA's best efforts to halt file-sharing, it still continues to grow.

In their endless quest to counteract illegal downloads, last month the RIAA announced a new anti-piracy initiative, which targets students on college campuses.

This new plan implements a "pre-litigation letter," where they will send letters to colleges and universities and ask that they forward the letter on to students.

Instead of threatening a lawsuit right away, the RIAA is now giving students 20 days to settle at a "discount," instead of going to court where the fees generally range from \$3,000 - \$5,000.

"This is initiating legal action against individuals who engage in illegal file sharing of copyrighted materials using peer-to-peer systems. Roughly 400 of these actions will be taken against college students," said David Ward, president of the American Council of Education.

To help deter students from illegal downloading, ECU offers students an alternative with the Ruckus music downloader.

Ruckus is a program that targets the college market and serves the needs of students by



ECU students can download music legally using Ruckus, a free music-downloading service available on campus.

making available music to download in a legal manner.

"Ruckus is offered to every ECU student for free, there are some charges for additional services like downloading music to an MP3 player or purchasing music," said Aaron Lucier, director of operations and associate director of campus living.

Although Ruckus has been available for a year at ECU, many students still don't know

about it.

"I did a search online [for music downloading] and I found it there. I didn't hear about it from ECU though," said Michael Nemesi, freshman Garrett Hall resident. "I don't use Ruckus as much this semester though. I mostly use iTunes now."

For some students the benefits of downloading illegally still outweigh steep RIAA consequences.

"I download music illegally still. I don't think there's anything wrong with it. I think that the record industry should have taken advantage of the Internet a long time ago," said an anonymous Scott Hall freshman. "The copyright laws should be revised, they were written for a different time."

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

ECU alumna recognized

Gloria Chance initiated into Phi Kappa Phi

ADELINE TRENTO
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi held its annual initiation ceremony and banquet.

The ceremony, which took place in Minges Coliseum, honored the accomplishments of ECU students, faculty and alumni.

"Phi Kappa Phi is a national honorary and it is one of the premier honor societies on campus," said Ronald Newton, president of Phi Kappa Phi. "Each Spring we recognize those who have demonstrated scholarly achievements by inviting them to join this organization."

Gloria Chance, an ECU graduate, was honored at the event and inducted into the Honor Society for Outstanding Accomplishments of an Alumni.

At the ceremony, Chance was presented with the Phi Kappa Phi award as well.

"This award is a distinct honor and a privilege," said Michael Bassman, assistant vice chancellor and director of the Honors Program. "Given the number of alumni that we have at East Carolina University, it is very difficult to select one distinguished person."

This year, the university's centennial year, it was especially important that we picked someone who has achieved academically, someone who gave back to the community and someone whose accomplishments were outstanding."

Chance graduated from ECU in 1988 with a BS in decision sciences and a specialty in computing information systems.

Currently, Chance is the Senior Vice President and Chief Officer of eCommerce at the Wachovia Corporation.

see ALUMNA page A2

Other senators asked to oppose OLF

Easley asks senators from outside N.C. to oppose landing field

(AP)—Gov. Mike Easley, unhappy with the reticence of the state's two U.S. senators to take a position on the Navy's proposal to build a landing strip in eastern North Carolina, said Tuesday he's asked senators in other states for help in blocking the project.

Easley said he's already received support from members of North Carolina's U.S. House delegation to hold back money for the 30,000-acre site in Washington and Beaufort counties, where the Navy wants to build the so-called outlying landing field.

But because North Carolina GOP Sens. Elizabeth Dole and Richard Burr have yet to agree to do the same, Easley said he's talked to senators from Dela-

ware, Maryland and Virginia about applying pressure on the Navy to discuss an alternative.

Environmentalists believe the Navy has ignored the dangers of putting jet aircraft in the same airspace as the thousands of waterfowl that spend the winter at nearby Pocosin Lakes Wildlife Refuge. Many of those birds come from states north of North Carolina.

"I'm not getting any help out of our senators yet, but I have been talking to other senators ... because their ducks come down here too," Easley said. "Everybody has a stake in the outcome. I think now that we have some people up there in the Senate that I know from those states, we'll be able to get a coalition that will make them sit down and be a little more reasonable."

Easley didn't say which senators are willing to help. An Easley spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to

an e-mail requesting details.

Easley, a Democrat, has taken a more active role opposing the project since the Navy said in February its environmental study concluded the site near the refuge was the best place for the landing strip.

Pilots flying F/A-18 Super Hornet jet fighters based in Virginia and North Carolina would use the strip to practice night aircraft carrier landings.

Easley said he was upset with the Navy for what he called its failure to listen to the growing number of voices opposed to the site.

"I don't believe the United States Congress is going to sit by and let them destroy an entire Atlantic flyaway refuge," Easley said. "That would be the most irresponsible thing environmentally that's been done in the history of this state that I can recall."

Binge drinking more common than voting among N.C. college students

Report finds low election interest among young N.C. residents

(AP)—More young people in North Carolina engaged in binge drinking than voted during recent presidential elections, according to a report released Monday by a campaign reform group.

The nonpartisan Democracy North Carolina cited this and other anecdotal data in support of efforts at the General Assembly to allow people to register and vote on the same day before an election as a way to boost voter turnout.

Under state law, residents must register to vote 25 days before an election. About 915,000 of the 6.4 million voting-age citizens in North Carolina aren't registered to vote.

"Young people and busy blue-collar workers don't pay attention to the election until the final week or so, and by then it's too late," said Bob Hall, Democracy North Carolina's research director. He said the lack of participation slows "the development of democ-



Thirty-seven percent of people age 18 - 25 are categorized as binge drinkers, while 29 percent voted in a major election in 2000 and 2004.

racy of, by and for the people."

About 29 percent of young people between the ages of 18 and 25 voted in a major election in 2000 and 2004. That compares to the 37 percent of people aged 18 to 25 identified as "binge drinkers" in a 2004 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report. The report classified binge drinkers as individuals who had at least five drinks on one occasion in the past 30 days.

Youth voting is only about half the rate of adults age 65 or older, about 67 percent of whom voted in 2000 and 2004.

About 48 percent of eligible male voters in North Carolina voted in 2000 or 2004. That's slightly lower than the 49 percent of men who owned a gun, according to the report, which cited state

see VOTING page A2



Owning a pet could incur additional fees for those who live in apartments.

Pets in apartments add to cost of living

Students incur additional fees to have their pet live with them

ALYCIA WENDT
STAFF WRITER

Most students who want to bring their pet to college have to pay an additional fee to their apartment landlords.

Pets are only allowed in a small number of apartments around the ECU community.

Apartments that allow pets include The Exchange, Wilson Acres Apartment Homes, Tar River Estates and Sunchase.

"Since the pet policy came into effect just last year, it has pleased our residents a great deal," said

Hannah Jackson, marketing associate for Sunchase.

The pet policy for Sunchase apartments is a one-time \$250 non-refundable fee. This fee is good for as long as the resident stays in the Sunchase apartment complex. The only conditions are: The pet cannot be over 50 pounds and it cannot be an aggressive breed.

According to Jackson, the only problems that have occurred in the apartment with pets are residents not cleaning up after their pets and not paying the fee for their pet.

"When I came to ECU to look for places to live, I chose where I was going to live according to whether or not the apartment

see PETS page A2

News

{ Campus & Community }

CORRECTIONS

The *East Carolinian* is dedicated to accurate reporting and will not correct errors published in the paper.

To submit a correction, send an e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Color Copies Now Available at Joyner

Color copies are now available at the Library Copy Center. The Library Copy Center is in the basement of Joyner Library and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is a full-service copy center, with faxing also available. Cash or check only. Call 328-2326 for more information.

Library Copy Center, Joyner Basement
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Scholarships being offered by NC National Guard

The North Carolina National Guard is currently offering two, two and a half and three year scholarships. Those interested can see SFC Jimmy Smith in Room 344-A Rawl Building to pick up an application packet. Information can also be obtained by calling (252) 916-9073. 344-A Rawl Building

24th annual Pigskin-Pig-out

Amusement rides, local performers, live music, Southern barbeque, pirate football, fireworks and more.
Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium

"Real Talk" with Jonathan Perry

April 17
Hendrix Theatre, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
This nationally renowned speaker will discuss how HIV/AIDS has impacted his life as a college student, a man and an African-American who is openly Gay. The event is open to all students and the public.

Scholar of African history

April 18
Science and Technology Building Room C-309
A leading scholar and historian, Michael A. Gomez, of the African Diaspora will visit ECU to discuss how culture and history shapes identity. Gomez will present "Complicating the African Diaspora: Issues of Scholarship and Identity."

PirateFest

April 13 - 14
The first annual PirateFest will include a weekend of festivities scheduled to celebrate Town, Gown and Lore. Events to include Pirate re-enactments and Pirate-themed contests, arts and crafts, food vendors, the annual Great Pirate Purple-Gold Pigskin Pig-Out, art walk, International Festival, live music, Painted Pirate Art Project kick-off and an Alumni Weekend Awards Program.

Barefoot on the Mall

April 19
This event gathers musicians from all genres for an all day concert and features various games, rides and food vendors.

4 Wed

Kick Butts Day smoking cessation
Wright Plaza
9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. Gardner-Webb
ECU Tennis Complex
2 p.m.

Japan Center East presents "Work in Japan" & Bon Odori
Murphy Center, Second Floor
5:30 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. Barton
ECU Tennis Complex
6 p.m.

ECU features Book Arts event

ECU's Book Arts Guild will host international book artists and fine press dealers, Vamp & Tramp, (Bill & Vicky Stewart). Free and open to the public
Jenkins Fine Arts Building auditorium
6 p.m.

5 Thur

Women in Science: Strategies for Success
The panelists will include Ron Newton (biology), Lorrie Basnight (pediatrics), and Halley White (pediatric dentist in Wilmington). Virginia Hardy, interim chief diversity office, will moderate.
Science & Technology Building, room C307
5 p.m.

"It's Your Line" Stand-Up Comedy Contest
Eight ECU students to come and deliver their stand-up routine while judges rate their performance. While they decide the winner, The SWASH Improv will do a quick 30 minute show!
Pirate Underground
7 - 9 p.m.

6 Fri

State holiday. No classes.

7 Sat

Men's Tennis vs. UNCW
ECU Tennis Complex
1 p.m.

Baseball vs. Rice
Clark-LeClair Stadium
6 p.m.

8 Sun

Want to see your event featured here? Log on to theeastcarolinian.com/calendar to submit a listing.

9 Mon

Want to see your event featured here? Log on to theeastcarolinian.com/calendar to submit a listing.

10 Tue

The School of Communication's Oratorical Exhibition
The theme for this year's Exhibition is "Speaking Out for Change."
Hendrix Theater
6:30 - 8 p.m.

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

* Featured Event

The School of Communication's Oratorical Exhibition
The theme for this year's Exhibition is "Speaking Out for Change."
Hendrix Theater
6:30 - 8 p.m.

BRIEFS

Bush, Congress wrestling for upper hand in Iraq war debate; neither side willing to back down

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush and Congress are wrestling for the upper hand in the Iraq war debate, with neither side willing to back down and a top Democrat saying for the first time he wants to yank money for combat. Bush was expected to speak Tuesday to reporters at the White House on Iraq war funding. The president's remarks come one day after Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, who previously has stopped short of saying he would support measures to cut off funds, announced he would try to eliminate money for the war if Bush rejects Congress' proposal to set a deadline to end combat. The House and Senate are preparing to send Bush a bill by the end of the month that would approve of some \$96 billion in new money for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but also set an end date to combat in Iraq. The House wants to order troops out by September 2008, whereas the Senate wants troops to begin leaving right away and set a nonbinding goal of ending combat operations on March 31, 2008; Bush has promised to veto the legislation. "If the president vetoes the supplemental appropriations bill and continues to resist changing

course in Iraq, I will work to ensure this legislation receives a vote in the Senate in the next work period," Reid said in a statement. The Senate is in recess for a week.

Tony Blair says next 2 days are critical to resolving dispute with Iran over captured navy crew

LONDON (AP)—The next two days are "fairly critical" to resolving the dispute over a seized British navy crew, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Tuesday, after Iran's chief international negotiator offered a new approach to end the standoff with Tehran. Blair told Scotland's Real Radio that Ali Larjani's suggestion of talks offered hope of an end to the crisis. "If they want to resolve this in a diplomatic way the door is open," the prime minister said. But if negotiations to win the quick release of the 15 sailors and marines stalled, Britain would "take an increasingly tougher position," he said. The navy crew was detained March 23 by naval units of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards while the Britons patrolled for smugglers near the mouth of the Shatt al-Arab, a waterway that long has been a disputed dividing line between Iraq and Iran. Iran says the team was in Iranian waters. Britain insists it was in Iraqi waters working under a U.N. mandate.

Mitt Romney urges all listeners to watch his presidential campaign blossom

BOSTON (AP)—When early polls showed him trailing Rudy Giuliani and John McCain, Mitt Romney urged all listeners to watch his presidential campaign blossom over the long election season. On Monday, it burst into full glory after just three months. The former Massachusetts governor, still relatively unknown across the country, bested not only McCain and Giuliani in first-quarter fundraising, but posted a staggering \$23 million that rivaled the \$26 million previously announced by Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton. Giuliani, the former New York mayor who has amassed a sizable lead in national popularity polls of GOP candidates, reported raising \$15 million, while McCain, the Arizona senator, said he raised \$12.5 million. The results not only cemented Romney's status as a first-tier competitor, but they also threatened to further erode support from McCain's already-flagging campaign, and to dry up funding for other lagging candidates.

Thousands camped out on higher ground in Solomon Islands after tsunami wrecks town

HONIARA, Solomon Islands

(AP)—Some of the thousands left homeless by a tsunami ventured back into the devastated Solomon Islands town of Gizo Tuesday, picking their way through rickety buildings in search of food and water. But most were still too scared to leave the hillside, where they have been camped out since a powerful undersea earthquake sent waves up to 30 feet high crashing into the South Pacific country's islands. At least 28 people had been confirmed dead in the Solomons from Monday's tsunami and quake, measured at a revised magnitude of 8.1 by the U.S. Geological Survey. The victims included a bishop and three worshippers killed when a wave hit a church on the island of Simbo and a New Zealand man who drowned trying to save his mother, who remains missing. Another five unconfirmed deaths were reported in neighboring Papua New Guinea. Officials said the total was likely to rise once communication with surrounding villages on the island is restored. "Some settlements have been completely wiped out by the waves," Alfred Maesulia, information director in Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare's office, told The Associated Press.

Researchers seek ways to prevent people with brain injuries from getting epilepsy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Survivors of traumatic brain injuries—from car-crash victims to soldiers wounded in Iraq—face an extra hurdle as they recover: Thousands of them will develop epilepsy months or years later. The risk is especially high for certain kinds of war injuries. Studies of Vietnam veterans suggest up to 50 percent, says Dr. Nancy Temkin of the University of Washington. Major new research is beginning into ways to predict exactly who is most at risk and how to protect their vulnerable brains. Among the efforts: pilot studies to see if the newer seizure-treating drugs Topamax or Keppra might actually prevent epilepsy if they're taken immediately after a serious brain injury. "It is among the most frustrating things in medicine to know that someone's at risk ... and be unable to do anything about it," says Dr. Marc Dichter of the University of Pennsylvania, who is leading the Topamax study and pushing for better recognition of such patients. Adding to their struggle: Epilepsy may not begin with the classic jerking seizures, but instead with memory loss, attention problems or other more subtle symptoms that doctors can mistakenly attribute to the original brain injury, post-traumatic stress or some other factor.

ALUMNA continued from A1

She is also a strong community leader and has been involved with several different organizations including the GirlTalk Foundation, the McColl Center of the Visual Arts, the American Heart Association and the C.W. Williams Community Health Center. "We selected Gloria Chance because we wanted to honor someone who has distinguished themselves in their career and in the community," Newton said. "We wanted to recognize the excellence that she has shown and her successes that exemplify an outstanding alumna of this university." Several students received awards at the event as well. Melanie Houston received the Outstanding First-Year Student award, Jeremy Trad Godwin received the Outstanding Senior award and Elizabeth Irene Sheetz

was the Eldean Pierce Graduate Fellowship Winner.

Along with these awards, more than 170 students and five faculty were honored at the ceremony and inducted into Phi Kappa Phi.

"This is just a great opportunity," said Chris Baker, senior biochemistry and chemistry major. "Phi Kappa Phi is a very prestigious organization and it is a way to distinguish yourself from the rest of your class. Everyone that was inducted today is a great student that dedicates time to schoolwork and also the community. It is an honor to be involved and recognized with all of these people."

For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, students can visit ecu.edu/pkp/.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com

PETS continued from A1

complex could easily accommodate my dog Lucy," said junior and Exchange resident, Kayla Sullivan.

The Exchange apartment complex will allow pets only in their two bedroom apartments. For a three or four bedroom apartment, all roommates must agree before one can bring a pet and there is a fee of \$250 for a pet.

"As a pet owner, it would be nice to see more places become pet friendly and make it easy for college students to bring their "family" members with them. A fenced in dog park would be nice, too, where they could run and play off of leashes," said Sullivan. Wilson Acres Apartment

Homes charges a one-time fee of \$100 to \$300 depending on the weight of the pet. They also require a \$100 refundable pet deposit.

Tar River Estates' pet rate depends on the weight of the pet. Residents need to pay a \$100 refundable deposit and then a non-refundable \$100 to \$300. Any pet over 20 pounds is categorized in the \$200 to \$300 range.

"The apartment complexes charge entirely too much for someone to have a pet. Most pets will cause less damage than some drunken college student having a party," said Adam Sink, freshman Tar River Estate resident. According to Sink, he only

VOTING continued from A1

and university surveys.

A bill working its way through the Legislature would allow people to register and vote on the same day during a 2 1/2-week early voting period in even-numbered years at locations in all 100 counties. The change would make it easier and more convenient to vote, according to the group.

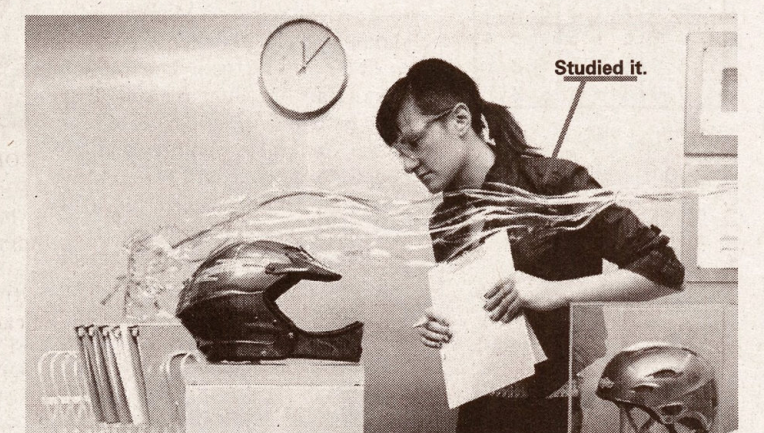
Current law already allows the early voting, but people must be registered beforehand to participate. Before 2002, only people who were out of town or had other legitimate excuses could mail absentee ballots before an election. The law was changed to allow all registered voters to cast absentee ballots by mail or in person, which helped boost voter turnout in the 2004 election, the group said.

The state's overall voter turnout has improved during the past

20 years. North Carolina was ranked 45th in 1984, when 47 percent of voting-age adults cast ballots. In 2004, the state was ranked No. 35 with 55 percent. Minnesota ranked No. 1 in 2004, at 73 percent.

Hall attributed North Carolina's increase in 2004 to the 984,300 people who cast ballots during the 2 1/2-week early voting period—or about one-quarter of all voters.

Dozens of Republicans votes against the same-day registration bill last week in the House, arguing the provision didn't do enough to prevent voter fraud. Democrats disagreed, and they turned back a GOP amendment that would have required people who want to register during early voting to show a photo identification.



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Opinion

{ It's Rant-a-licious }

Democratic disappointment

JUSTIN SUMMERS
OPINION WRITER

On March 23, the Democrats in the House of Representatives passed the "U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health and Iraq Accountability Act." This act passed by a very narrow margin and will essentially give the Bush Administration another 100 billion dollars to do what they see fit to "win the War on Terror." Many people are saying that the passing of this bill was a victory for Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats because it is setting a timetable for Iraq, something the president has urged he will not do. While this act does set a deadline to end the war, Sept. 1, 2008, it is hardly an effective step in ending the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This Bill issued was a choice between two negative outcomes, in my opinion. The first option was to vote with Bush and continue the occupation of Iraq far into the future with no set date for the withdrawal of our troops. The second option was to vote with the Democrats and to withdraw the troops in 2008 assuming certain benchmarks of success are met while providing billions of dollars for war-spending in the mean time. So essentially, this vote was not a victory for those who want to end the war, but a superficial victory for Nancy Pelosi and others who like to say they are going to bring the troops home while doing nothing to cut the funding to the war. Howard Zinn, a great historian and anti-war activist, compared the situation we are in now to a situation in Civil War America. In reference to setting timetables, Zinn asked if "before the Civil War, abolitionists would have agreed to postpone the emancipation of the slaves for a year, or two years, or five years, and couple this with an appropriation of funds to enforce the Fugitive Slave Act." No, they wouldn't have because they knew that slavery was morally and logically wrong and it had to be stopped as soon as possible, just as the war in Iraq should be ended.

In reference to logic behind troop withdrawal, Zinn added, "If our troops are preventing civil war, helping people, controlling violence, then why withdraw at all? If they are in fact doing the opposite—provoking civil war, hurting people, perpetuating violence—they should withdraw as quickly as ships and planes can carry them home." The overall sentiment in Washington is to withdraw the troops, so why wait on superficial deadlines and benchmarks of "success?"

The "U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health and Iraq Accountability Act" is just one of many disappointments for the millions of people like me who elected the democrats in November. I voted Democrat to protest the Bush Administration's failing occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan, and as a democrat, I feel betrayed by my elected officials. It's hard to believe there is no one out there willing to put an immediate end to the war by cutting off funding for the war and using the money that is already in motion to bring home our soldiers. Our politicians may never come to the realization that more fighting is not the answer, so for now all we can do is mobilize and inform the only people who can convince them, ourselves.

From role model to rags

Taking the idol worshipping too far

JONATHAN GARDNER
OPINION WRITER

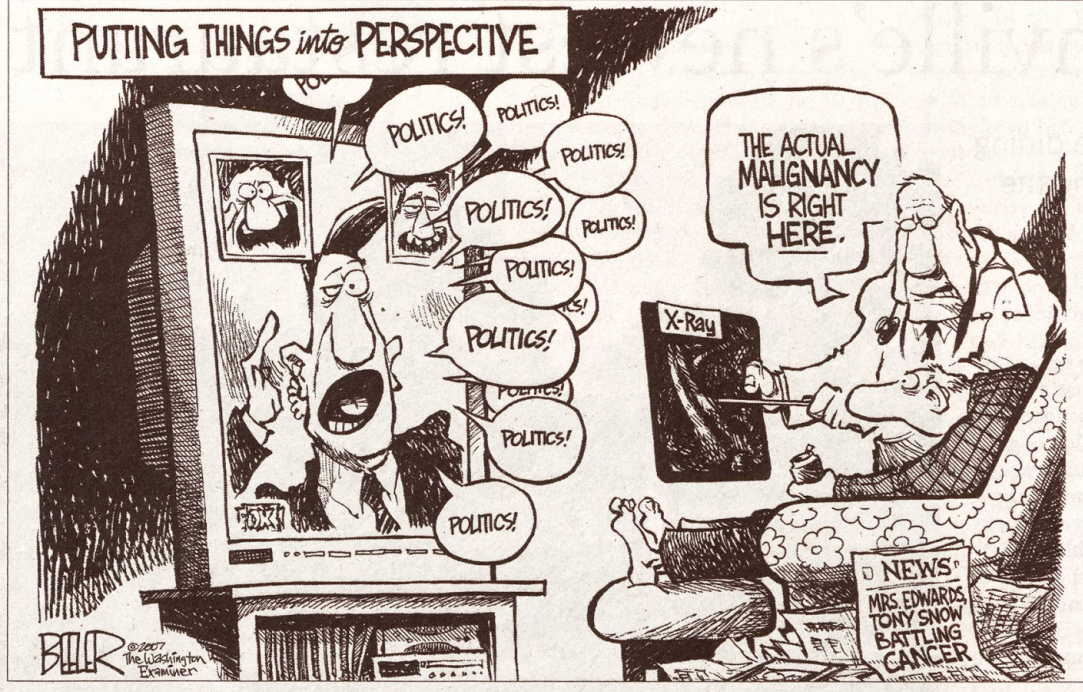
Everyone had a role model growing up. Everyone had someone who they looked up to, someone that could do no wrong. Many times, it would be a relative, a coach or some other positive role model. However, being the generation raised on television, it would occasionally be someone put into the spotlight, whether it was an actor, an athlete or some other kind of celebrity. And while they looked glamorous in the spotlight of the media, once the light faded, these role models showed their true colors.

Starting her career toward the end of 1998, Britney Spears was the hot thing for a while. Her hits like "...Baby One More Time" and "Oops!... I Did It Again," were on the radio, and more importantly, on the lips of every little girl around the country. Spears was used to promote big names, like Pepsi, and had her own series of toys. Yet look at her now. She was married twice, she is in and out of rehab, and she shaved her head for no apparent reason. Right now, she is making Kevin Federline look like the responsible parent.

Considered by some to be the greatest running back of all time, and inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1985, OJ Simpson was the top of the sports world. He was the first player to rush for over 2,000 yards in a season, and he reached the Pro Bowl six times. After retiring from football, Simpson moved onto his acting career, gaining parts in *The Towering Inferno* and *The Naked Gun* trilogy. The villain for *The Terminator* was to go to Simpson, but was decided otherwise, because audience might not accept him as a villain, due to his "nice guy" image. Of course, what Simpson became famous for has nothing to do with his football career, or his acting career. In a controversial decision, OJ Simpson was found not guilty of murdering his wife and her friend.

Once considered one of the most successful and most powerful actors in Hollywood, his recent religious views have dropped Tom Cruise from the spotlight. He was the star of *Top Gun* and *Days of Thunder* as well other successful movies like *Cocktail* and *Jerry Maguire*. Yet, by 2003, Cruise was the joke of Hollywood. His preaching of the teachings of Scientology and his claims that psychiatry "is a Nazi science" has quickly dropped his influence in the world of Hollywood. The "South Park" episode "Trapped in the Closet" poked fun at Cruise's Scientology beliefs and implied Cruise was homosexual.

All of these celebrities were role models to someone, and yet look at them now. Just because they're famous doesn't mean they're superhuman. Why were these people role models when more obvious candidates could have been found closer to home? Take notice of the teachers, the coaches, the officers and the firefighters. They all work hard and receive next to no credit for their work.



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. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

I'm so busy now I don't even have time to read the Rants. If this gets put in the paper I'll probably never even know!

How cool would it be if there was a shaved ice machine or something in Wright Plaza for when it's hot?

Some blonde came walking up the stairs in Bate Monday with a tank top cut so low I think I saw her soul. I love you, and everyone that looks like you.

No, chocolate is not poisonous to squirrels.

How old are you? Please stop messing around with little girls. All you're going to end up doing is breaking their hearts.

Your hair is the color of hay. Unattractive.

Your boyfriend has a child, and everyone but you seems to know about it.

The guys who live in the apartment below me suck. They're immature and they're always pissing off someone. They throw printers out their window and throw water balloons at people they don't know.

Grow your beard back out.

Dress like a tramp and you will get treated like a tramp... whether you are a virgin or not.

Thanks for slapping her!

Do you know who I am? You must not know who I am.

Yeah, I did really sleep with your mom. Did you think I was joking? I don't see why you're upset.

Yeah, I haven't called either of you for lunch or anything in the past couple of days because both of you suck and to be honest, you cramp my style.

After only my third game of beer pong, I finally got my finger to hit the ball and make that noise that the pros can make.

Please! Turn on the water wall in the Sonic Plaza, and bring back the fog!

Dancing in the clubs downtown is like having sex with clothes on.

I was drunk and bought an ugly girl a beer but I went home with her hot friend!

Don't you hate it when you run into someone that you haven't seen in a long time and you're super excited but they just don't share that same enthusiasm? Kinda sucks the coolness right out of you...

Is she hot? She has a great personality.

Why is it that when someone gets a boyfriend or girlfriend they completely blow off their best friends? I hate significant others of my friends... I never see my buddies anymore because they are too wrapped up in their relationships that won't last anyway.

Today I was driving home from the gym and three beautiful girls on Fifth Street were walking and all of a sudden stopped. They lifted their shirts and looked at each other's belly button rings. I almost got in a wreck. Thank you.

Fair representation means fair... I don't call this fair, this is a scandal...

Walking through the square this

morning I saw a girl with a tank top on, and no jacket. I know she had to be cold! The things we do to show a little skin.

ECU democrats... We need to step our game up.

This election was so dirty! How can you people bring yourself so low just for votes...

I want her.

Where are the clubs that play techno music? I want to go! And no, I do not want to watch you smack that!

Jif? I think not. Stick with Skippy.

Re-election now!

I'm about to break up with you because you are more of a woman than I am. I mean, I have honestly never met someone as easily offended as you are.

I'm just looking for a guy who wants to sit around and listen to music with me on my bamboo rug. Is that too much to ask?

Yo, dog, take a bath. Seriously, you stink.

So, I saw one of your good friends today. It made me wonder why I went after you when he's much hotter and has a better personality any ways. Hmm.

Like I said before, I'll do my dishes when I'm ready. Remember that. I knew that I wasn't going to like my suite mates from day one. I'd rather eat mustard and pancakes at West End than even acknowledge their existence.

I love the refreshing, meaningful feeling you get after working out.

I know I need to give you your pants back, but they're so comfortable...

FAFSA is so awful. I hate when they send me papers to send in additional things.

Is it wrong that I enjoy the happy drunk of wine on a regular basis?

I don't want to get married; I just want the ring and a five-year engagement...

What are all these undecided ECU student flyers for? I mean, what were they thinking?

I would like to thank all the redheaded girls who were out today. You are all beautiful.

I'm too lazy to make my own bed. I wish my mom was here to make it for me.

Your game is a problem and if you don't stop playing it when we are spending time together there is going to be a big problem.

Why does my boyfriend always call me fat?

I have something to say to you... and I think that it's important that I say it out of the cage.

I put diesel fuel in my car.

I love my boyfriend more than anything and would never ever cheat on him!

To all you lady Ranters out there who keep asking where that perfect guy is. That guy who is not a jerk but not too nice either, not too short, but not a giant, who has good hair, deep pensive eyes and a million-dollar smile. That guy with high moral character, and a

sense of humor... I'm right here, and I'm humble too.

Solve allergies, chop down the trees!

If nobody wants to see you together, maybe you should just get new friends.

I hate when girls call a guy too nice. It just means they don't know what they want.

Kings or Circle of Death—after a few drinks, who actually cares?

You have the nerve to call me gay when you're far worse? It's just I'd rather my flame burn bright, than be a puny pilot light.

Is it really that necessary to say "like" that many times?! If it isn't, please stop. Thanks!

Did anyone know that it was illegal to leave up birthday decorations in a dorm more than 24 hours? Apparently it is, just to warn you. You will get written up. Are we in prison? Can we have a life? Only 36 more days and we are out of here.

I want to marry a Spartan, too!

I know I'm in a relationship, but I really want you to want me!

If you want to block the harmful sun rays from your face, try suntan lotion and not sun glasses.

How sad do you have to be to be looking at porn on the computers in the library at noon? Please, for all of us, take it home!

My RA hates me because I have more of a life than she ever will.

I'm a straight chick, but I think Sandra Bullock is the prettiest woman in the world.

No, I don't want to hang out with you. I know we used to, but then I found out you were a complete creep and just being friends wasn't on your mind. You know I've had a boyfriend since I've known you. Stop bugging me.

Why can't I tell this girl that she is beautiful? I see her in Todd all the time, and I've seen her a few other places. She looks at me with beautiful eyes, but I can't just seem to say anything to her. You're beautiful. Are you single?

I had a dream last night that I was a crispy chicken sandwich.

People! No one cares who you're sleeping with, who you're cheating on or what naughty thing you did last night. They don't even know it's you, so what's the point? Stop being Rant whores.

I want a puppy!

My boyfriend couldn't get into Rumors with me because he showed the bouncer his military ID. I'm sorry he's been deployed twice, risking his life for you and your freedoms, and that's just not good enough to get into your club. But I guarantee I'll never go there again, and I really hope others will join me in that.

Watch more anime!

A pessimist is a person who knows the cost of everything and the value of nothing.

Yes, I am walking down the street and singing loudly, and no, I don't care if you think I'm nuts.

You say you love her you have feelings for me.

RANT OF THE DAY

Yes, I am walking down the street and singing loudly, and no, I don't care if you think I'm nuts.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

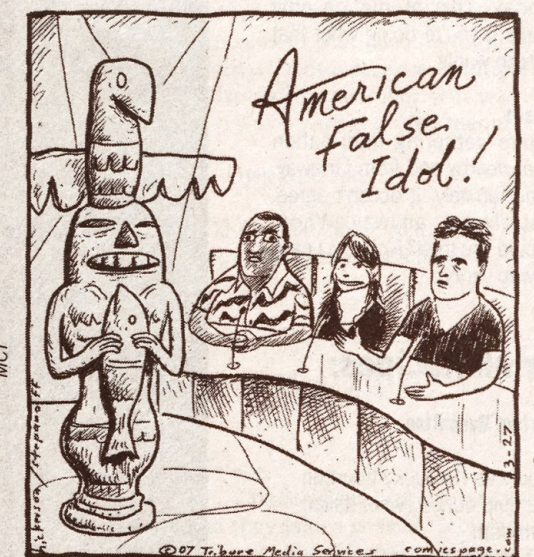
Dear Editor,

I wonder if it is possible that the right official at ECU have never thought about retirees beyond faculty retirees from that institution. I am a staff retiree with more than 30 years of service at ECU in the department of chemistry. I think I probably speak for others in the same dilemma when I say that except for my very fine and thoughtful former department, I feel that the university has largely forgotten my service. It is as though after I received the gold watch and the silver platter, I got a polite shove out of the university door.

First, there was the free parking permit (call it what you like, Emeritus or not) which was later revoked as having been a mistake. I believe the only staff retirees who even requested such a reward for loyal service are those like myself who wanted to contribute to the university and make use of some of its services at the same time. For example, I attended most of the performances by the school of music on a regular basis. I was a session ticket holder for years to the Alexander series. I still attend as many of the events of my former department as possible. When I do visit the campus, I must find a parking meter to feed while I am parked there and keep returning to the meter to continue feeding it. Some would consider it a disgrace or at least very rude to treat any retiree this way. I wrote the ECU traffic office a letter expressing these concerns after the revocation of my parking permit. I did not receive even the courtesy of a reply.

Now we are about to celebrate the centennial of the institution that I spent over 30 years working for, growing up around and even attending classes in. I also worked for more than a year as Staff SGA Photographer. None of this, even got me an invitation to the centennial events. I had to call and ask to be invited. I was told by another staff person on the phone that "we only sent out notices to faculty members." One might understand the feeling that some of the retired staff feel that our loyalty, our service and our time is deemed less valuable by the university because we are former faculty. I know many faculty members who also view this oversight as a disgrace. I love the university as much as anyone and I am proud of my small part of the schools history. Some of that history lives in the photographs that I took in the 1960s which may reside today in the university archives as well as the *East Carolinian* and the 1967 *Buccaneer* of then East Carolina College, just to name two of the student media. Some of it lives in the expressions of gratitude I still get from my former colleagues for a job they say was well done. I guess after all is said and done, that is good enough for me. It should not however, be good enough for ECU and for the state of North Carolina.

L. Bruce Whitaker
ECU Staff Retiree
Chemistry Department



"You seemed very stiff, very wooden. Hollow, even. Very chirpy. Very fishy. What happened, Totem? We used to worship you!"

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The follies of Affirmative Action

Shouldn't this just be called racism?

JASON PATTY
OPINION WRITER

One only has to mention affirmative action to get a strong reaction from almost anybody. ECU has recently had quite the show of feelings on the subject with an affirmative action bake sale by the ECU College Republicans and the subsequent protest by the Black Student Union on Friday.

How our society has deemed affirmative action a tool for equality is beyond me. The media constantly tells us that it promotes fairness, justice and equality. This is a blatant lie. How is a process that favors one race over another ever considered fair?

The United States is an amazing country full of opportunities for everyone. We have more chances to get it right than anyone does anywhere else in the world. Simply being born in the U.S. is a tremendous advantage for anyone.

Why, then, have we decided to reward some more than others? Why have we decided that it is more important that we have a racially balanced group of employees than a group that is qualified? Why must I hire a proportional number of minority employees when there are more qualified applicants? Is that not racism? Favoring one race above another simply because of the color of their skin? Isn't that what we have tried to eliminate in society for the past 50 years?

Giving one person a job over another because of their race is as absurd as selling cookies for different prices based on race. I would think that the Black Student Union would be offended by the idea that they needed extra attention and favoritism from employers. Surely, that organization must think that everyone truly is equal. If so, let's let our merits and accomplishments determine where we go in life. Better yet, let's live in a world where we are judged by the content of our character and not the color of our skin.

Pulse

{ Pirate Buzz }

Horoscopes:

Aries
Now that you have the resources, how will you allocate them? This is a test question, and you'll get to pay, however you choose. So think it over.

Taurus
You're charming but so is your adversary. Which one will persuade the other? Ask for more than you need so you can give something minor away.

Gemini
Important people are impressed by your efforts, and also by your results. This appreciation hasn't turned into more cash in your pocket, yet.

Cancer
It's not easy to concentrate on your work, and maybe you won't have to, much. Looks like the routine is running smoothly for the most part.

Leo
Keep studying and practicing new skills. You're getting better. Keep at this routine for twenty years or so, and you'll become a master.

Virgo
You're smart enough now to find the error in your own reasoning. Don't keep doing something that doesn't work. Do something different.

Libra
You don't have to explain everything, so don't even try. Spend your energy more usefully by going shopping.

Scorpio
You can afford to get yourself something you've always wanted. This is certainly not an impulsive purchase; give yourself permission.

Sagittarius
Don't walk away and leave a mess. Clean it up and toss it out. You'll be amazed at how much better you feel once that trash is out.

Capricorn
Relax with your friends and celebrate your recent victory. Then get ahead with making the plans for your next strategic maneuver.

Aquarius
An older person, impressed with your diligence, offers you more money. This prediction only works if you're doing what that person wants.

Pisces
You're gathering information from nearby and from far away. Unfortunately, it doesn't agree. Not always, anyway. Whom should you trust? Nobody. Learn how to verify.

Drink Recipes:

Perfect Manhattan
2 ounces Kentucky bourbon
1/2 fluid ounce sweet Italian vermouth
1/2 fluid ounce dry French vermouth
1 dash Angostura bitters
Maraschino cherry or orange twist

Fill a cocktail shaker or small pitcher with ice. Add the bourbon, both vermouths, and the dash of bitters. Cover and shake vigorously, or stir, until combined and chilled, about 30 seconds. (In general, by the time the shaker mists up the drink is ready.) Strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with the cherry or orange twist and serve.

Orange Mojito
1/2 orange, cut into 3 wedges
1/2 lime, cut into 3 wedges
2 teaspoons sugar
1 or 2 sprigs fresh mint
2 1/2 ounces white rum
1 cup crushed ice

Put the oranges, limes, sugar, and mint in a large rocks glass. Muddle the leaves and citrus by pressing them with a pestle or a wooden spoon until juicy and fragrant. Add the rum and ice. Cover with a cocktail shaker and shake vigorously, or stir, until combined and chilled, about 30 seconds. (In general, by the time the shaker mists up the drink is ready.) Serve.

Greenville's newest restaurant hits the spot

Tripp's offers fine dining without breaking the bank

BEN HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Greenville is in a rapid state of development, with new restaurants and stores opening every month. It is impossible to go a couple of blocks without seeing a newly erected Sheetz or Zaxby's. While the pace of development of these fast-food establishments greatly outdistances the rate of fine-dining restaurants being constructed, Greenville still manages to sneak in one or two here and there.

Tripp's, the newest in Greenville's fine-dining catalogue, leaves very little to be desired in a restaurant by offering the customer great service and excellent meals. Like any restaurant of its kind, Tripp's experienced a busy grand opening.

I had to make use of the parking lots of businesses I never knew existed to leave my car. My sullen attitude was unabashed by the infinitely long line that greeted me at the door. I gave the hostess my name and settled down for what I expected to be an hour of envious longing directed towards the lucky souls who were called ahead of me.

While waiting on the comfortable wooden benches, I noticed Tripp's inviting and well-designed architecture. The inside of the restaurant was lined with a clean



Located on Redbanks Road beside BB&T, Tripp's offers students a tasty meal accompanied with delightful service without breaking the bank.

mahogany colored floor and pillars, and was doused with just the right amount of lighting which, when mixed with the red-orange light of the setting sun, provided the customer with the perfect amount from which to eat without the worry of being permanently

blinded. To my surprise, my party and I were called to our table a mere 15 minutes after signing in. The courteous hostess kindly guided us to our table and subsequently gave us our elaborate and colorful menus. Tripp's has placed their

booths about 6 inches off the floor, giving me a view over the increasingly larger crowd. In accordance with Tripp's excellent service, our waitress, despite being bogged down by at least a half-dozen other tables, was at our table in just

a few of minutes, interrupting me from my admiration of the restaurant's architecture and its affect on the wonderful atmosphere. Tripp's menu is very easy to follow and offers many descriptive, see **TRIPPS** page A5

Students delay graduating in four years



ECU students may opt to take longer than four years to earn their degrees for various reasons.

Real world offers no cheap thrills
LIZ FULTON
SENIOR WRITER

In little over a month, students from all over the country will be donning that cap and gown, walking across a stage and starting the next chapter of their life. While most will not look as dapper as ECU graduates in royal purple, the outcome will be the same—college is over and real life begins.

For many, the idea of retiring from university living is way off in the horizon. In fact, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 25 percent of ECU students will actually complete their degree in four years. Overall, 35 percent of college students at four-year institutions graduate on time.

Our generation must be on to something when students nationally are finishing up school in six years. The NCES reports 54 percent of ECU students graduate in six years and 56 percent nationally.

"For me it's about quantity and quality," said fourth year communication student Daniel Brock. We have the rest of our lives ahead of us, so why rush it? After all, 30 is the new 24."

These days it is all but impossible to graduate in four years. If a freshman shacking up in Garrett Hall comes to college without a set major in mind, bet on being a semester behind.

Majors such as nursing and education require many prerequi-

site classes for getting into their program, and one dalliance in psychology or music therapy will have you shopping for a Hover Round before coming close to completing your degree.

Some may wonder what is the advantage to graduating in four years.

Coming from someone nicknamed "the frailer" for working hard to stay on the dean's list and graduate on time, there does not seem to be an upswing. No magic door opens that gets you closer to finding a job, and I sure can't get those nights back where I felt inclined to stay in while my friends went out.

"Honestly it's the biggest mistake of my life," said elementary education major Ashley Peele. "I am just one step closer to the real world."

For those paying for their education or embarking on graduate programs, finishing your undergraduate studies does make sense.

After college, ridiculous textbook prices and coming up with cash for the cable bill are replaced with health insurance and mortgages. Making money can become the goal and there might not be enough of it to go around.

So if you're looking to stay in school, change your major as often as possible and channel the traditions of professional students that came before. It's just like a saying scribbled on a wall at a house party: "Graduating college in four years is like leaving the party at 10:30." Really, who does that?

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

Keys to tackling problems at work

Solutions to typical workforce conflicts

JESSICA DUNLOW
STAFF WRITER

Whether someone works in a restaurant, a gym, a clothing store, a corporate office or even a newspaper office, there are going to be conflicts in the workplace. The question is how to handle them.

Common sources of conflict include a blurred definition of responsibility, a limited amount of resources and conflict of interest.

Responsibilities amongst co-workers only arise as a problem when there are many people employed to perform the same task. Therefore, projects that involve the participation of numerous parties can fall between the cracks with everyone relying on someone else to complete the work at hand. Then, when Mr. Boss-man steps into the office, everybody blames someone else, when really the problem is simply lack of communication.



Cliques similar to this one are not confined strictly to campus life, they can arise in the workforce as well.

It is imperative to keep lines of communication open within the workplace. That way, when an assignment comes down that different people have responsibility for, the parts of the project are delegated as soon as possible.

If someone picks up extra slack maybe they will get praise for it, rather than numerous people taking credit for the work one person did.

"I hate it when I work really hard on an assignment and one

of my co-workers swipes all the credit for it," said Erin Beech, senior business major. "It puts me in an awkward situation because I don't know whether I should tell my boss or just let it be."

Keep in mind that manage-

ment may not care who is doing the job as long as it gets done, and going straight to the boss could alienate coworkers. Instead, take time out to talk things over with that coworker and express frustrations in an effort to clear the air.

Limited resources can also lead to interoffice conflicts when many people need the use of one or more materials. In addition, if an office only has one fax machine, a limited number of personal computers, copiers and printers, the tensions increase because the demand is high but the supply is low.

It is nearly impossible to control the amount of supplies available within a workplace, unless one is the office manager in charge of purchases, so developing a sense of tolerance is necessary. The real decisive factor is patience. If there is something that is in use by someone else, avoid the temptation to sigh loudly and walk away as if it is the end of the world.

Conflict of interest complications depend solely on the per-

see **WORKPLACE** page A5

Steps to a better body

(MCT)—If you haven't gotten your 10,000 today, maybe you should.

Steps, that is.

Many of today's fitness regimens recommend walking 10,000 steps per day. There's only one problem: Almost nobody knows how far that is.

Do you burn 200 steps putting around your dorm or apartment in the morning before school and/or work or a thousand? Does a walk around a city block knock off 5 percent of your daily goal or less than 1? Sure, you can guess or try to count all your steps. But that's inaccurate at best and annoying to say the least.

Recently, in the name of good health, we bought a pedometer and measured various daily activities step by step. Walking the dog around the block? Going to the grocery store? Two hours of clothes shopping at a local mall?

We know how many steps it takes.

But we didn't stop there. Just for fun we set out to find how far we'd go if we walked 10,000 steps all at once.

The answer: much farther than we thought. With our 10,000th step we wound up where? More than 5 1/2 miles away.

We can hear your incredulity now.

"I have to walk 5-1/2 miles to reach 10,000 steps?"

Relax. You don't have to do it all at once. Remember, every step counts.

But why even bother trying to get 10,000 steps per day?

Two words: your health. And, yes, just by walking, you can make significant gains.

"I think 10,000 steps should be everybody's daily goal," said Kristie Harbaugh, owner of Twin Fitness in Overland Park, Kan. "I tell my clients to buy a (pedometer) and see how many steps they get," she said. "Most people only get about half that."

The idea of walking 10,000 steps per day is enjoying a renaissance in the United States. It originated in the 1970s with Japanese researcher Yoshiro Hatano, who advocated walking to help slim down his increasingly obese country.

Today walking has gained popularity for many reasons. It's easy, there's no equipment to buy and, unlike jogging or other high-impact exercises, there's virtually no risk of injury.

And talk about health benefits. A University of Tennessee study published in the journal *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise* revealed women who averaged more than 10,000 steps per day had 40 percent less body fat and waist and hip measurements that were more than eight inches narrower than those who averaged fewer than 6,000 steps.

Then there's the Amish. Researchers measured the daily steps of 98 Amish adults and found that men took an average of 18,425 steps and women took 14,196. Compare that with about 4,000 steps for the average American adult (other studies put this number at less than 3,000), and it is easy to see why only 4 percent of Amish adults are considered obese compared with 31 percent of the general population.

But you don't need to walk long to see benefits. In an eight-year study involving 6,000 women, researchers at the University of California at San Francisco found that even a little extra walking can help you hold onto the neurons you have. High-energy walkers, the study found, held the line on cognitive decline far better than the more sedentary subjects.

By all accounts, your brain loves to walk. Walking increases blood circulation, and because it's not particularly strenuous, your leg muscles don't hog all the extra oxygen and glucose it produces. As you walk, you're oxygenating

your brain. It's good for the rest of your body, too.

It increases your breathing, your heart rate and your lung capacity while shaping and toning your muscles. What's more, numerous studies of senior citizens who walk regularly showed significant improvement in memory skills compared with non-walkers. Walking also improved their learning ability, concentration and abstract reasoning. Additionally, one study noted, stroke risk was cut by 57 percent in people who walked as little as 20 minutes per day.

Dixie Thompson, director for the Center for Physical Activity and Health at the University of Tennessee, said that because extra walking lowers blood pressure and helps the body process glucose, it also can dramatically reduce your risk for heart disease and Type 2 diabetes. Of course slow walking isn't as good as fast walking, Thompson said, but it beats inactivity and still has health benefits.

There are even social and family-bonding benefits.

"People can walk in groups of two or three," said Harbaugh of Twin Fitness. "The time passes very fast. That's key, because people often become bored with their workout. If we can make it more fun, people will work out more. And I encourage families to go on walks right after dinner twice around the block and take their dog with them. If children see their mom or dad walking, that's going to encourage them to become active, too."

Bottom line?

There's nothing to lose by aiming for 10,000 steps per day. Look at it this way, experts say: Even if you reach only 8,000 steps, you've still doubled your amount of daily walking. And that will still pay big benefits.

Now get out there and start walking.

TRIPPS continued from A4

reasonably priced and tasty meal choices. Nevertheless, after much difficult and prolonged debating to find the perfect meal, I had to make a choice as to not hold up the entire group.

After placing my order for chicken fettuccine alfredo, I resumed my review of the restaurant. For diners who are annoyed by the inevitable rising decibels of a crowded restaurant, Tripp's is designed acoustically to where sound is cut-out as much as possible. Within another short period of time, my waitress brought me a caesar salad.

Within the realm of cooking, two dishes are nearly impossible to mess up, salads and ham sandwiches. The salad was devoid of any dressing or semblance of taste. Luckily, in line with the quick pacing of the restaurant, my meal came shortly

after receiving the salad. I've had chicken fettuccine alfredo from nearly every restaurant in Greenville and without a doubt Tripp's alfredo was among the best. My party seemed to concur with my admiration for the cuisine.

Around the restaurant I also noticed many of the patrons shared my sentiments of the food's quality as well. Overall, Tripp's proved to be the best addition to Greenville dining since Olive Garden. The food, with the exception of the salad, prices and service were exquisite and the atmosphere was one of the highest quality. Tripp's deserves multiple visits, as the customer will want to try every meal on the menu.

Overall Grade: A

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

WORKPLACE continued from A4

sonalities and work ethics of co-workers. For instance, when a team of managers has been given the opportunity to propose a change and only one member of the team is concerned with the team while the rest are out for their individual advancements, the project will be tainted with turmoil. If these individualists outnumber the team players, it can cause major problems.

Within groups, it is necessary to establish common goals amongst team members before moving forward with a single task. In addition, it is important to recognize that everyone benefits from a job well done, and that a complete job requires team input.

Although these three problems occur in the workplace, it always seems that cliques amongst workers are the greatest barriers. Cliques evolve primarily out of common bonds and can include those with tenure, different professions and economic or social differences. People with higher salaries within a company may "hang" together, leaving those with smaller responsibili-

ties out.

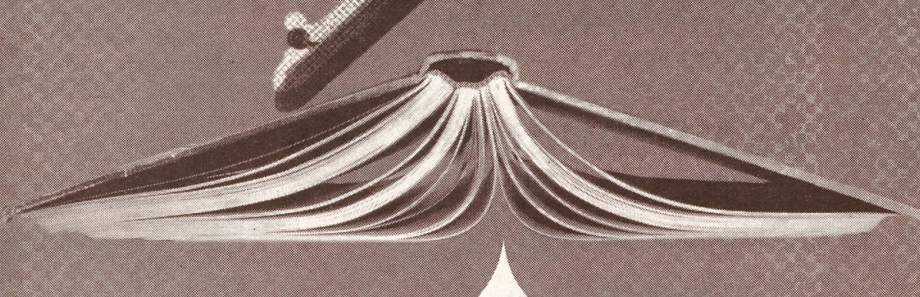
"Cliques deter from teamwork and they take a possible inclusive group and make them exclusive. It is important to handle cliques in the right way," said a member of the ECU faculty who wishes to remain anonymous.

The best way to solve the clique problem is through prevention. When in an office environment, try to include everyone. However, if a clique has already infested the workplace, then it is imperative to acknowledge the need for different types of people and a variety of skills to successfully run a business, therefore explain that the cooperation of these workers and talents will benefit the company when working together as a whole.

No matter the profession, there are always problems. Learning to handle a number of workforce issues can greatly affect the effectiveness of the team as well as the individual.

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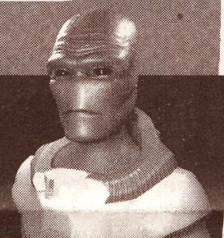
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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

33

Innings that the ECU and N.C. State baseball team's have played in their last three combined games; N.C. State has won the last two meetings (one earlier this year and the other last season) by one run in 10 innings while ECU won last April's meeting, 2-1 in 13 innings; also, each of the last four meetings between the two rivals has been decided by one run; the Pirates will look to get some revenge as they travel to Raleigh to play the Wolfpack at 6 p.m. tonight; ECU's starting pitcher will be freshman right-hander Mike Anderson, who has a 1-0 record and a 1.50 ERA this season



Freshman Utility Player Cristen Aona hustles down the first base line after getting a hit against Tulsa. ECU was constantly on base during the series.

Most Valuable Pirate

St. Ledger



Last week, St. Ledger had five hits, two home runs and drove home the winning run against N.C. State, and knocked in the game winning double in game two of Saturday's doubleheader with UAB. For the season St. Ledger is hitting .305 with 8 home runs and 17 RBIs. St. Ledger is following up a strong season last year in which she earned a spot on the 2006 All-Conference USA Second-Team. In a display of clutch hitting St. Ledger was second on the team in batting average with runners on base last season (.317). She will most likely be considered for additional accolades this year and could garner up an honor on the 2007 All-Conference USA First-Team.

St. Ledger humbly explained her recent knack for clutch hitting: "I think I just have the opportunity to come up at some clutch situations and I knew where they were pitching me so I just looked for one pitch to hit and I did."

272

Strokes by the ECU men's golf team at the Bradford Creek Intercollegiate on Monday, which is a new school-record for a team score in a single round; ECU had three players shoot a six-under par (66) in the round as Juniors Chris Ault, Andre Thorson and freshman Tripp Brizendine did so; four of the five Pirates shot under-par to break the former record of 274

4

Home runs by the ECU softball team against N.C. State last Wednesday; the Pirates split a doubleheader with No. 24 Wolfpack as they lost the first game 12-2 before bouncing back with a 9-8, 11-inning thrilling victory over their arch-rival, Junior Erin St. Ledger recorded two home runs on the day, while Sophomores Vanessa Moreno and Jessica Johnson each added a homer to help the Pirates pick up one win against the Wolfpack; in game two of the doubleheader, ECU was down 4-1 heading into the last inning but scored six runs in the inning to take the lead 7-4; N.C. State then responded as it scored three runs in the bottom of the inning to push the game to extra innings; the Pirates scored the winning run in the 11th inning to win the game

1

Hit, one RBI and one run scored for former ECU standout and current Arizona Diamondback's starting third baseman Chad Tracy in the Diamondbacks Opening Day win over the Colorado Rockies on Monday; Tracy, who is arguably the best ECU baseball player ever, batted cleanup and started at third base for the diamondbacks on Opening Day; Tracy had his best season as a pro last year as he finished with career-highs in runs (91), hits (168), doubles (41) and RBIs (80) in 154 games played; the Diamondbacks are also the only MLB team that has three C-USA players on its current roster as starting catcher Chris Snyder, who played at Houston, and 2005 C-USA player-of-the-year Micah Owings, who was an All-American at Tulane, join Tracy for the Diamondback's C-USA trio

2

Wins for ECU softball pitcher Toni Paisley against Tulsa in as many days this past weekend; Paisley pitched all seven innings, allowing no runs and four hits in the Pirates 3-0 victory over the Golden Hurricane on Saturday and pitched all seven innings again on Sunday in ECU's 3-2 win; Paisley, a freshman from Lakewood, Calif., allowed two runs off five hits on Sunday; Paisley now has an 11-3 record and a team-low ERA of 1.58 on the season

7-0

Record for the ECU softball team in night games this season; the Pirates have an overall record of 28-12 and are 6-3 in C-USA; ECU is also 21-12 in day games, 24-10 against right-handed pitchers and 15-1 in games where one team fails to score a run

Pirates impressive week includes big win over Pack

ECU notches first win over ranked opponent

JOSEPH MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team took two out of three games from defending Conference USA champions Tulsa this weekend at the ECU Softball field.

The Pirates split two games of a double header on Saturday and were triumphant Sunday when two wild pitches drove in the winning runs.

The series victory over Tulsa followed ECU's split of a doubleheader with No. 24 N.C. State in Raleigh last Thursday, the Pirates first victory over a ranked team this season.

In Thursday's opener at Walnut Creek Park, Junior Erin St. Ledger and Sophomore Jessica Johnson smacked back-to-back solo home runs in the first inning. Unfortunately for the Pirates that would be the extent of their offense production in game one, as the Wolfpack dominated the rest of

the way en route to a 12-2 victory in six innings.

Game two of the doubleheader was filled with more offensive fireworks than a clear night sky on the Fourth of July.

The Pirates trailed 4-0 in the top of the sixth inning when St. Ledger blasted a solo home run to put ECU on the board and begin the rally. Johnson and Senior Joyce Rodenburg each hit bases loaded singles to tie the score at four a piece. Sophomore Vanessa Moreno then picked an ideal time to hit her first homer of the season, a three-run shot that gave the Pirates the lead, 7-4.

The Wolfpack responded by scoring three runs of their own in the bottom of the sixth to force extra innings.

Each team scored a run in the ninth inning, and finally in the 11th inning St. Ledger knocked in fellow Junior Paige Baggett for the winning run off an error by the N.C. State shortstop.

Head Coach Tracey Kee was proud of her team's resiliency in

see **SOFTBALL** page A7

C-USA STANDINGS

	Conference		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Houston	11	1	30	11
ECU	6	3	28	12
UCF	6	6	27	16
Marshall	6	6	22	16
UAB	5	6	24	19
Memphis	3	5	21	12
Tulsa	4	7	18	20
UTEP	3	6	24	13
Southern Miss	2	6	11	25

Women's rugby club slugs local competition

Pirates enjoy another successful season

BENJAMIN LLOYD
SENIOR WRITER

Many ECU club teams have performed well during the last couple of years, but none have succeeded quite like the women's rugby squad.

This year, the Pirates finished with a 6-1-1 record, taking their only loss in the Division II Southern Region finals against College of Charleston, 15-13.

"It was an emotional game," said ECU Women's Rugby Club President Elisa Ford.

Last season the Pirates got to the finals of the Division II Southern Region tournament, but lost to the University of Georgia by one point. ECU was then informed that UGA had used ineligible players and that the Pirates would be allowed to go to the Division II National Finals.

Unfortunately, because of the discrepancy, the club team had not been told in a timely fashion and could not gather the funds to attend the national tournament.

The Pirates opened up this season with a slaughtering of in-state rival UNC Greensboro, 37-0.

The club is young this year, with a majority of the team is comprised of rookies, so it was important for their confidence to start the season with a decisive win.

Leading ECU in scoring in the game against UNCG was Jen Larrimore, followed by Danielle Dobbs, Elisa Ford and rookie Janeice Underwood.

The Pirates followed up their shutout of UNCG with another strong performance, blanking Guilford College, 15-0.

ECU's next opponent proved to be much tougher. A hard fought matchup with Elon ended in a tie between the two squads, 10-10.

The Pirates last three games pitted them against ACC foes

Duke, Virginia and Wake Forest.

The women's rugby club defeated Duke, 20-5 and UVA, 15-5. The Pirates then put on a massive drubbing of Wake Forest, taking down the Demon Deacons, 56-5. It was Wake Forest's inaugural year with a women's club rugby team.

After winning all but one game in the regular season, ECU was invited to the Division II Southern Region tournament.

The Pirates faced off against UGA, exacting revenge for the loss they suffered in the final round of this same tournament last year. The club team defeated the Bulldogs, 17-15, before their only loss of the season to C of C.

"Our coached didn't expect us to get this far because we have so many rookies on the team," said Ford. "So we were really excited to get to play again."

Since the women's rugby club team's inception in 2000, they have been to three Division

II National semifinals and one National Finals event.

Next season the Pirates are hoping that their returning players will be able to give them that extra push to make it to nationals again.

"Hopefully this upcoming year we can recruit more girls and the people that have played this year will have more experience," said Ford. "Any extra help we will take."

Rugby is an exciting blend of aggressive football maneuvers and the skills of soccer. Players of all shapes, sizes and skill levels can play. The object is to outscore the opposing team by carrying or kicking the ball in the end zones and touching down for an official try.

For additional information contact ECU Women's Rugby Club President Elisa Ford at ecuwomensrugby@yahoo.com.

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

Men's golf finishes third at Bradford Creek Intercollegiate

Freshman Tripp Brizendine finishes three strokes back in second place

(SID)—Barton College's Nick Nosewicz shot a four-under 68 Tuesday and finished with an 11-under 205 (67-70-68) to claim individual medalist honors at the 2007 Bradford Creek Intercollegiate. The tournament was held at the 7,151-yard, par 72 Bradford Creek Golf Course.

Radford took home the team title with a three round total of 17-under 847 (286-279-282), one stroke ahead of second place Furman (286-281-281=848).

Host ECU finished in third place with a 54-hole team score of nine-under 855 (295-272-288). Barton placed fourth with a seven-under 857 (285-289-283) followed by Kennesaw State with a six-under 858 (288-292-278).

ECU freshman Tripp Brizendine recorded the best finish of his career as he shot an eight-under 208 (66-71-71) to earn a tie for second place. Villanova's Steve Arnold (72-68-68) and Radford's Hampton Ballard (72-68-68) joined Brizendine as runners-up.

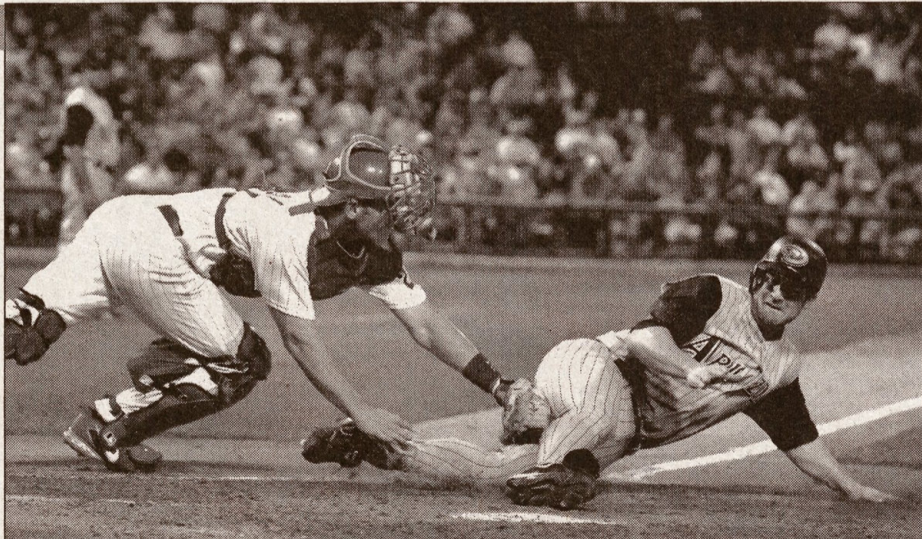
In addition to Brizendine, the Pirates had three other players earn top 10 finishes. Senior Robin Smith and Juniors Chris Ault and Andre Thorsen tied for seventh place with a four-under 212. Smith shot a two-under 70 on the final 18, while Ault and Thorsen each fired a one-over 73.

Freshman Tanner Briele carded a three-over 219 for the event to tied for 33rd. Senior Philip Reale shot a five-over 221 to place tied for 44th with sophomore Markus Leandersson and junior Anthony Reale one stroke behind in 48th.

The Pirates will next compete at the C-USA Championships beginning April 29 at the Texarkana Country Club in Texarkana, Ark.

Chad Tracy one of 13 C-USA players on MLB Opening Day rosters

C-USA PLAYERS IN MLB			
PLAYER	POS	MLB TEAM	SCHOOL
Chad Tracy	3B	Arizona Diamondbacks	ECU
Michael Bourn	OF	Philadelphia Phillies	Houston
Jesse Crain	RHP	Minnesota Twins	Houston
Chris Snyder	C	Arizona Diamondbacks	Houston
Ryan Wagner	RHP	Washington Nationals	Houston
Woody Williams	RHP	Houston Astros	Houston
Dan Uggla	2B	Florida Marlins	Memphis
David Aardsma	RHP	Chicago White Sox	Rice
Lance Berkman	OF	Houston Astros	Rice
Jose Cruz, Jr.	OF	San Diego Padres	Rice
Chad Bradford	RHP	Baltimore Orioles	USM
Micah Owings	P	Arizona Diamondbacks	Tulane
Mike Maroth	LHP	Detroit Tigers	UCF



Tracy is a career .291 hitter through four MLB seasons, with 55 homeruns and 206 RBIs.

Tracy is in his fourth season with the Arizona Diamondbacks

(SID)—A total of 13 players from Conference USA schools appeared on the opening day rosters of Major League Baseball teams as the American and National leagues began regular season play this week. Seven of C-USA's nine baseball schools

are represented, with players appearing on 10 different big league teams. Six of the 13 players are pitchers, while three are outfielders.

The Arizona Diamondbacks are the only major league team with three C-USA players on its opening day roster. Former ECU star Chad Tracy starts at third base, ex-Houston standout Chris Snyder starts at catcher and former Tulane two-way star Micah Owings, the 2005 C-USA

Player of the Year, has earned a spot in the Diamondbacks starting pitching rotation.

Houston has the most major league players with five, followed by cross-town rival Rice with three. In addition to Snyder, the Cougars pro standouts include Astros veteran starting pitcher Woody Williams, Twins reliever Jesse Crain, Nationals reliever Ryan Wagner and Phillies reserve outfielder Michael Bourn. Padres outfielder Jose Cruz, Jr. and White

sox relief pitcher David Aardsma join Berkman among Rice's current major leaguers.

Memphis is represented by Marlins starting second baseman Dan Uggla, a runner-up for National League Rookie of the Year last season.

UCF's current major league rep is Mike Maroth, a regular in the Detroit Tigers rotation, while former Southern Miss sidewinder Chad Bradford begins his first season in the Baltimore Orioles

theeastcarolinian.com

2007 ECU home kickoff times announced

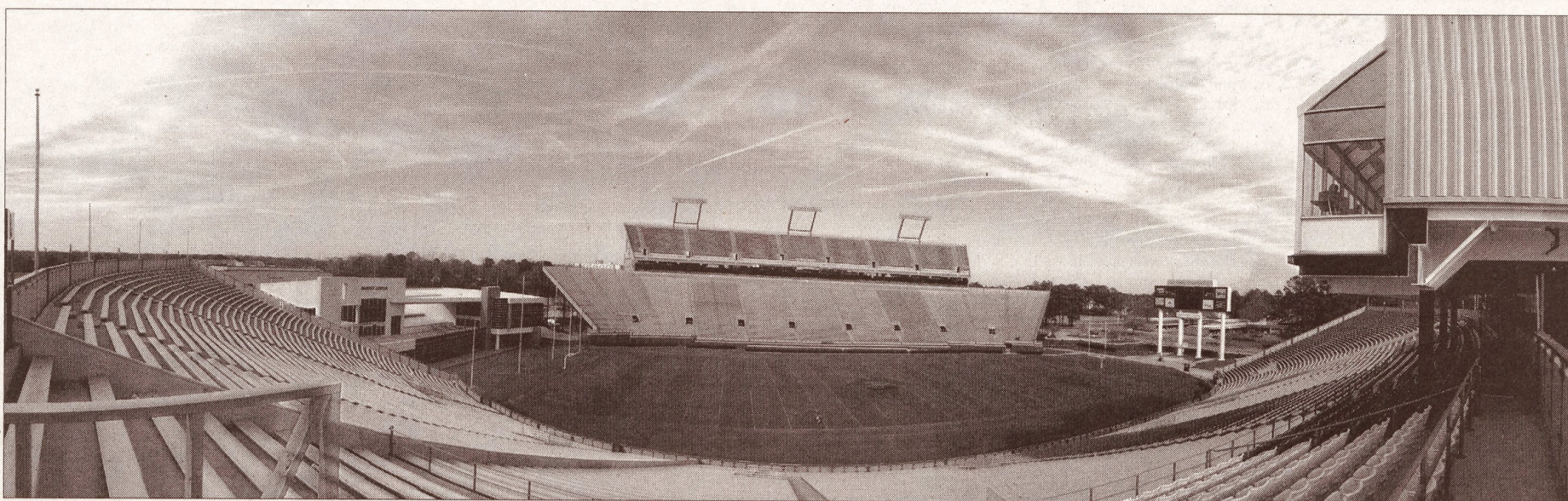


Photo by Zach Siskin

ECU was second among C-USA attendance leaders in 2006, with an average attendance of 37,168 last season. UTEP led all C-USA teams with an average of 42,444 fans per game.

CSTV broadcast schedule also released

(SID)—Official kickoff times for all six of ECU's home football games this fall were announced Thursday which features a balance of night and afternoon contests for a Pirates' schedule that includes battles against regional Atlantic Coast Conference members North Carolina and N.C. State.

In addition to start times, C-USA officials also

released its 2007 CSTV football broadcast schedule, which includes ECU contests against the Tar Heels, Wolfpack and Central Florida.

ECU's home schedule will open with a televised 6 p.m. start against North Carolina Sept. 8 before the Pirates begin league play against defending divisional champion Southern Miss a week later on Sept. 15 with another 6 p.m. kickoff.

After trips to West Virginia and Houston, ECU

will return to Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium Oct. 6 for a 7:30 p.m. match up against UCF and will follow two weeks later by welcoming N.C. State to Greenville for the first time since 1999 in a 4:30 p.m. clash.

The Pirates will close out the month of October and help celebrate Homecoming festivities on the 27th when they host UAB at 3 p.m. before finishing regular season play at 1 p.m. on Nov. 24 against Tulane.

2007 ECU FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

09/08	North Carolina	6:00PM (CSTV)
09/15	Southern Miss	6:00PM
10/06	UCF*	7:30PM (CSTV)
10/20	N.C. State	4:30PM
10/27	UAB*	3:00PM
11/24	Tulane*	1:00PM

*Conference USA game; all times Eastern; times are subject to change due to possible future television scheduling

The ECU Student Media Board invites applications for the 2007-2008 academic year.

EDITOR

The East Carolinian

Applications are available in the Media Board Office (Self Help Building, 301 Evans St. Suite 205A, Greenville, NC)

The deadline for submitting an application is **FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007, AT 5 PM**

For information call the Media Board office at 328-9236

SOFTBALL continued from A6



Photo by Erica Chan

Junior infielder Paige Baggett secures a catch against Tulsa.

the come from behind upset over the Wolfpack. "Whenever you're down by three going into the last inning and you go up by three, scoring six runs and most of them with two outs, it just says a lot about their character, a lot about their effort."

"It was a rollercoaster ride," added Kee. "A lot of times we've fallen on the other side in the loss column after an effort like that but to get into the victory column especially on someone in the Top 25, that was big for us, it was big for our young squad."

St. Ledger said that the Pirates are confident even against heralded opposition.

"I don't think we get very nervous whenever we play teams that are ranked higher than us," said St. Ledger. "I think that we actually play a lot better against teams that are better than us because we feel that we can match up with them really well."

Senior Kelli Harrell received the win in the second game, pitching eight innings in relief. The thrilling 9-8 extra inning win over the Wolfpack gave the Pirates momentum and confidence heading home for their weekend series with Tulsa.

"It definitely shot up our confidence a lot," said St. Ledger. "We were losing the whole game and we just kept putting the ball in play and kept getting key hits and it enabled us to go into 11 innings. We knew once we tied it up that we weren't going to let that one slip by."

In game one on Saturday the Pirates held a 1-0 lead going into the seventh inning, however Tulsa's Sara Dyer led off the inning with a solo home run off of Harrell to tie the score.

Harrell had allowed two hits to that point in the game. A two-run Golden Hurricane homer in the top of the ninth inning proved to be the difference, as the Pirates left two runners aboard in the bottom of the inning. Harrell pitched a complete game and took the loss dropping her record to 15-7 on the season.

Game two proved to have a better outcome for the Pirates. In the bottom of the fifth inning neither team had plated a run until a bases-loaded double by St. Ledger scored three and gave the Pirates the victory, 3-0.

"That's Erin [St Ledger], she's a gritty kid, she's a blue

collar player," said Kee about St. Ledger. "When we need a hit, even if the kids been 0-for-20, she's usually one of the top two I'd like to see come up regardless of what her previous at bats were like just because she's got that 'never say die' attitude, she'll give you everything she has."

Freshman Toni Paisley pitched a complete game shut-out, allowing only four hits while striking out seven and walking only one batter.

The rubber match on Sunday was once again low-scoring. Johnson's ninth home run of the season was a two-run blast that gave the Pirates a 2-1 lead in the first inning. Tulsa evened the score at 2 in the third inning with a RBI single.

The score remained the same until the bottom of the seventh inning. St. Ledger led off the inning with a single. Baggett was then walked advancing pinch runner Sarah Bibee to second. A wild pitch advanced the runners into scoring position and another wild pitch brought Bibee home for the winning run.

The team was thankful to earn the victory anyway they could.

"I think we were all just ecstatic," said Kee. "I seriously think that we would have driven that run in and ended it but any way you can get a victory, we'll take it."

For the second time in two days Paisley pitched a complete game victory improving her record to 11-3 overall. Kee had high praise for the freshman hurler's performance against the Golden Hurricane.

"I thought Tony [Paisley] threw well on Saturday and she had actually earned a start on Sunday," said Kee. "We were also curious to see how she would react, Sunday's such a difficult game to pitch especially after they've seen you for a complete seven innings prior to, so for her to be able to come out and scatter singles around, keep the ball in the ballpark, not give up the long ball, she put us in a position to be able to win that."

The Pirates will travel to Burlington, Ala. this weekend for a three game series with conference foe UAB starting Friday.

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

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Photo by Erica Chan

Freshman outfielder Christina Merrida pulls down a running bunt.

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\$795! 3 BDRM 2 Bath (Dockside) Vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets, and covered parking. Beautifully painted w/ new carpet and flooring, includes all appliances w/ washer/dryer and dishwasher. Call 252-327-4433. August 1, 2007 move in.

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4 Bedroom Townhouse four blocks from campus. Annual lease to start in May perfect for 4 students moving out of the dorms. All inclusive utilities, cable, phone with unlimited long distance, and high speed internet, all included in your rent! Rent is \$379mo for each bedroom. This is cheaper than living in the dorms. Totally remodeled, washer dryer

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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth baseball coaches / site attendants for the spring t-ball program for ages 3-8. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of baseball skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: score keeping, umpiring, coaching, setting up for practices and games and ensuring proper care of program / facility. Hours are from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday - Friday and Saturday mornings and

afternoons. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from April 23 - mid June. Salary starts at \$6.25 per hour. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm

Work Hard, Play Hard, Change Lives! Girl's Resident Camp looking for summer camp staff. Summer Camp positions available as Counselors, Unit Leaders, lifeguards, crafts and adventure programs. May 30-August 12. \$200-\$350/week. Camp located south of Greensboro. Free Housing! Contact: Keyauwee@northstate.net or 336-861-1198. www.keyauwee.com for online application.

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Summer Camp needs counselors, instructors, lifeguards, and nurse Contact Chase Luker, Eastern 4-H Center at 252 797 4800 or email chase_luker@ncsu.edu for more information. Applications available at www.eastern4hcenter.org

Christian Nursery Workers needed Sunday mornings 9:15-12:15 Additional hours available Call 752-3101 or go by Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church 510 S. Washington St.

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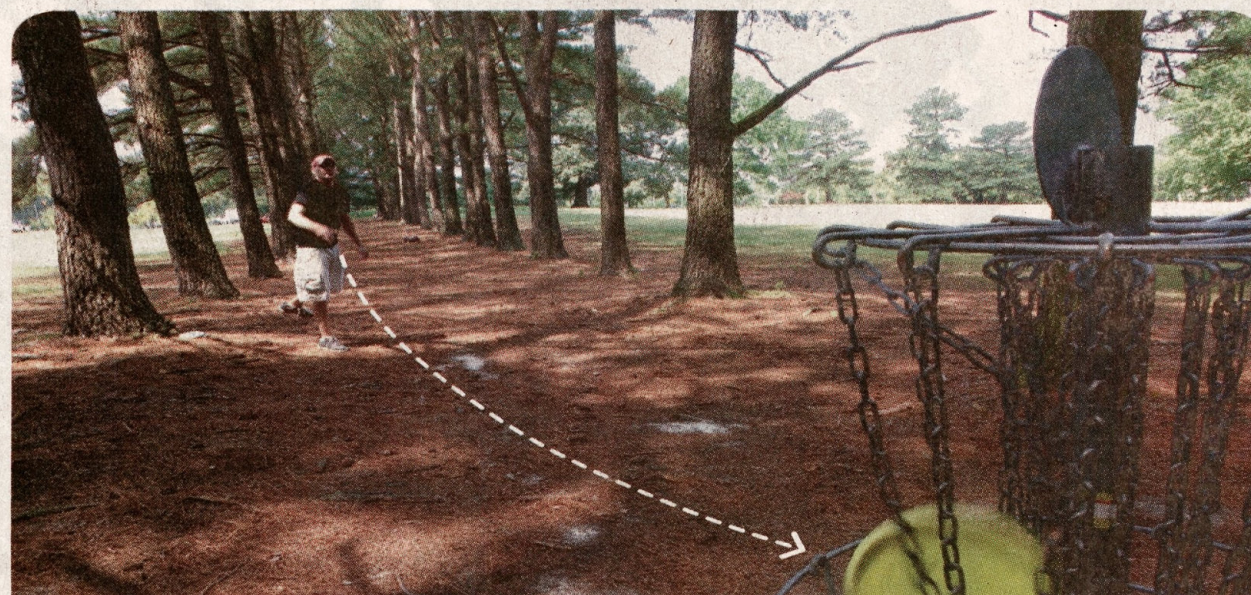
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CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



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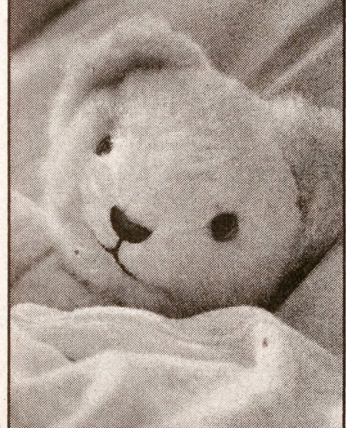
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