



Vigil held for victims of Va. Tech rampage



Approximately 200 students, faculty and community members gathered last night on the mall near the cupola to hold a candlelight vigil for the victims of the Virginia Tech shootings. Chancellor Steve Ballard, along with ROTC Cadet Troy Barnes and other students, spoke about the tragedy and expressed their grief.



Photos by Zach Sirkin



Individuals who choose to have tattoos or piercing are sometimes stereotyped. Being seen and not heard is a common problem, read more.....Page A5



A variety of new albums will be gracing music and retail stores alike in a matter of weeks, find out what to look for and what's hot right now.....Page A5



Other than the quarterback position, the most heated battle during the ECU football team's spring practice has been on special teams. Find out more.....Page A8



The ECU baseball team traveled to Huntington, W. Va. this weekend for a rain soaked series against the lowly Marshall Thundering Herd. See if the Pirates could buck the last place Herd.....Page A8

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

Test your skills at SuDoKu.....Page A11

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'East Carolinian' editor appointed for 2007 - 2008



Sarah Campbell to lead student newspaper starting in May

SARAH BELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Student Media Board selected the final Student Media leader for 2007 - 2008 yesterday during their final meeting of the year.

Sarah Campbell, a junior communication major, will take over as editor of the *East Carolinian* at the start of the first summer session and continue through next April.

The position, which remained vacant after the Media Board's first round of interviews because only one person applied, was sought by

see EDITOR page A2

ECU hosts annual Powwow



Traditional dances are performed during ECU's Native American Powwow.

Saturday marked 15th year

ZACK HILL
SENIOR WRITER

Dancers and performers from Native American tribes across the state gathered April 14, at the bottom of College Hill for the ECU's 15th annual Native American Powwow.

At noon, a group of about a dozen performers opened up the powwow as part of the grand entry. Drums pounded as they brought in flags and formed a circle under the tent.

ECU students led most of the dances as a position of honor.

The event was hosted by the East Carolina Native American Organization and sponsored by SGA, Student Activities, Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, Epsilon Chi Nu and Sigma Omicron Epsilon.

"The Native American organization is a way to provide support for the Native American students here," said Alecia Hunt, a participant and recent graduate from ECU with a degree in anthropology. "It's their home away from home."

The organization formed during the early 1970s during the civil rights era, according to the Randy Gilland, academic advisor in the college health and human performance.

Photo by Levenia Tyrrell

"It was a way for Native students to come together and support one another," Gilland said.

Joyce Barnes, a Greenville resident, danced in several of the dances.

"This is my culture. This is my people. That's why I dance," Barnes said. "It's who we are."

Gilland said "students deserve all the credit of putting on this event."

He also was grateful to the university.

"Since there is no facility large enough to hold our event in case of rain, we have had to pray for good weather several years. Now this year the university stepped up and acquired a tent for us in case of bad weather," Gilland said. "So each year there is something that happens to make it a better event than the year before."

Booths were set up with Native American artwork and other items for visitors to look at and buy.

"We always try and hold the powwow during open house to help the university in recruiting Native American students to attend ECU and to show that our culture is alive and that we are here on campus," Gilland said.

He said that a problem the powwow has faced is that with more and more powwows popping up around the state, attendance has

see POWWOW page A3

Week promotes minority health awareness



CPR training aids were available to students to practice on during the health awareness week on campus.

Sponsored by Ledonia Wright Cultural Center Emissaries

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

Various events sponsored by the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center Emissaries will occur from April 16 - 20 to promote awareness about the health issues that greatly effect minorities.

The events will cover a wide scope of health topics to encourage minorities to improve their health.

Some of the main health issues that will be covered include diabetes, blood pressure, HIV/AIDS and

mental health issues.

"Minority Health Week is important because issues such as HIV, diabetes and cancer gravely affect people of color and its time that we bring attention to these issues," said Jessica Ledbetter, LWCC emissary.

A different topic will be addressed each day with a different speaker or facilitator conducting the event.

Students were encouraged to visit the Student Health Services from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. April 16 to get tested for diabetes, blood pressure and HIV.

Lanika Wright, physician extender for Student Health Services, hosted a program called,

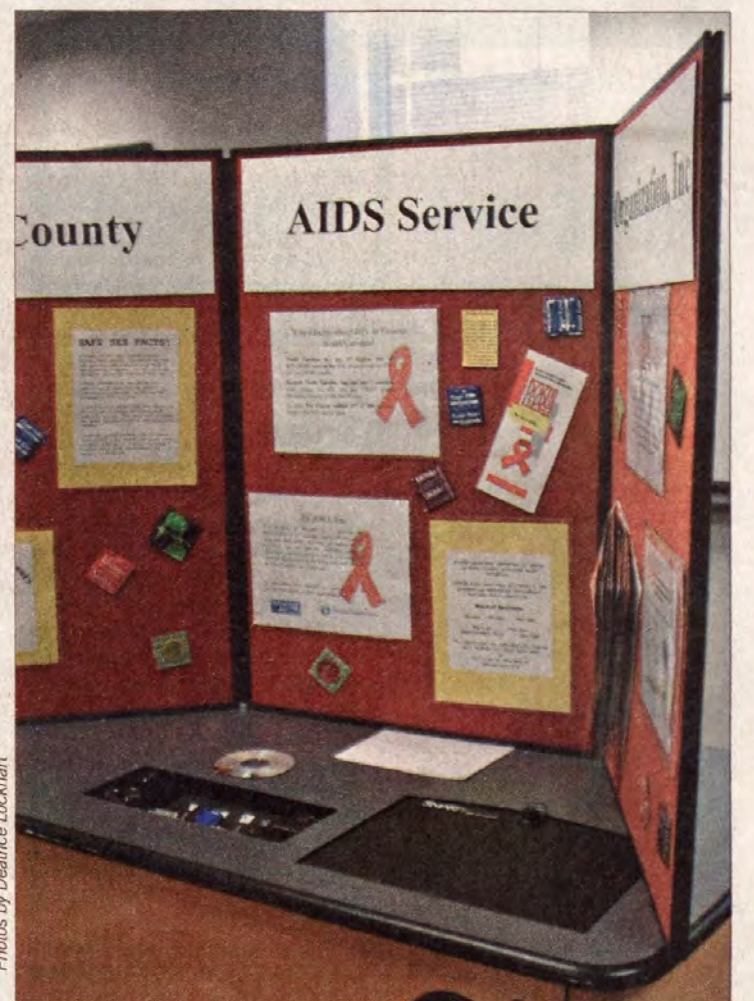
"Sister to Sister," that addressed breast cancer issues, according to Ledbetter.

Prominent speakers will also be in attendance for the events to spread the word about getting minorities healthier.

Jonathon Perry, national HIV/AIDS activist, spoke at Hendrix Theater in Mendenhall Student Center at 7 p.m. on April 17.

Perry has been spreading the word about the subject and has made a national television appearance on Oprah, according to Ledbetter.

Perry was kicked out of Southeastern University because of his



A display board teaches students about AIDS awareness.

see HEALTH page A2

News

{ Campus & Community }

CORRECTIONS

The *East Carolinian* is dedicated to accurate reporting and will correct errors published in the paper.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Survey

A team made up of administrators and students, members of Campus Living, campus safety, campus policy, SGA, student legal services and Neighborhood Relations have put together a pilot survey to assess how students' opinions of safety at ECU. Access the survey online at <http://student-voice.com/ecu/safetysurveyspring2007>.

Casey's Race rescheduled

Casey's Race was cancelled Sunday due to inclement weather and has been rescheduled. The event will now take place Sunday, April 29. Visit casesyrace.com for more updates.

Scholarships offered by N.C. National Guard

The North Carolina National Guard is currently offering two, two and one-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 916-9073. 344-A Rawl Building

Color Copies Now Available at Joyner

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

18Wed

Historian to discuss African Diaspora at ECU
Sponsored by the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center and the ECU Department of History, Michael Gomez, professor and chair of history at New York University, will discuss the African Diaspora. Gomez is also director of the Association for the Study of Worldwide African Diaspora. Free. Science and Technology Building, room C-309 4 p.m.

"Am I Crazy?"

This program is focused on Mental Health issues and will be facilitated by Renita Moore of the Student Counseling Center. Ledonia Wright Cultural Center 6 p.m.

Baseball vs. Old Dominion
Clark-LeClair Stadium 7 p.m.

19Thur

Project Stretch
"Project Stretch" This day is designated to promote physical activity among the students of ECU. The Campus Recreation and Wellness Center is encouraging students to come out and try a class in yoga and aerobics free with a coupon. Students will also have a chance to participate in a swing and salsa dance class, plus a walk around campus. Student Recreation Center

Black Student Union ICON Modeling Group Informational

The Black Student Union will be presenting to ECU, a fresh, new modeling group, better known as ICON. If you are interested in what ICON is all about and what we have in store for next year. Bate 1019 6:30 p.m.

28th Barefoot on the Mall: Pirates Do it Better
Come out to the 28th Barefoot on the mall and enjoy free t-shirts, giveaways, inflatables, and live music. ECU Mall 2 - 6 p.m.

20Fri

"Build A Plate"
This healthy food program will allow students to build their own plate of food while receiving advice from the Campus Nutritionist Janie Eubanks on healthy eating choices. Mendenhall Student Center, room 15 2 - 4 p.m.

Baseball vs. Savannah State
Clark-LeClair Stadium 7 p.m.

21Sat

Storybook Theatre presents "Runaway Bear"
Part of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Family Fare Series Wright Auditorium

Blu Moon Film Festival
A celebration of film, filmmakers and the community of creativity that encompasses us all. There is a \$1.00 admission to the festival, with all proceeds going to the Magnolia Arts Center, a local non-profit organization supporting independent film. Hendrix Theater 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Latinos Unidos Leadership Conference

Individuals who attend will be given valuable and inspiring lectures, ideas and information that will strengthen their leadership skills, when reaching out to their Latino community. Hendrix Theater 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Gardners for Hope holds plant sale for Jenkins Cancer Center

The funds raised are dispersed by the nurses at the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center to buy wigs, prostheses, dressings and health products for patients. McConnell-Raab Hope Lodge, 930 Wellness Drive (off Stantonsburg) 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Moulin Rouge Midnight Spectacular 3
Hendrix Theater 12 a.m.

Baseball vs. Savannah State
Clark-LeClair Stadium 6 p.m.

22Sun

Baseball vs. Savannah State
Clark-LeClair Stadium 1 p.m.

Treasures of the East
The Asian Student Association will be showcasing their talents and different cultures through dances, songs, and acts. Wright Auditorium 1:30 - 4 p.m.

23Mon

Classes End
Student Union's Student Appreciation Day
Influential hip-hop band from Raleigh will be perform at Student Union's Student Appreciation Day. Free Food, Prizes, Games and much much more. Mendenhall Brickyard 2 - 6 p.m.

Reading Day
No Classes

* Featured Event

Thursday, April 19 7 p.m.

TECU hosts Global Warming Lecture
Kevin E. Trenberth, head of Climate Analysis for the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., will present "Global Warming is Unequivocal." The lecture is being held in honor of Robert Morrison, a longtime professor of chemistry at ECU, who was named the 2006 distinguished professor in the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. This is the last of three lectures in the series. Science and Technology Building, room C-307

New executive board and attorney general sworn in



Keri Brockett, Phillip Kendall, Guillaume Bagal and Dena Mazie are inducted during the SGA banquet.

Annual SGA banquet held last Friday

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
SENIOR WRITER

The executive board and attorney general were sworn into office at the annual SGA banquet held at the Rock Springs Center April 13 at 7 p.m.

The executive board consists of the individuals that won the recent election for the offices of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Keri Brockett will make the transition from the executive position of secretary to president. Phillip Kendall, vice president, Dena Mazie, secretary and Guillaume Bagal, treasurer, will make transitions from leadership positions in other organizations or in SGA to these new roles.

Abey Dessie was sworn in as the new attorney general for the judicial board by Nick Genty, former attorney general.

This time of year is very special because of the transitions that are made, according to Marilyn Sheerer, vice chancellor of Student Life.

"We're making a transition from the old officers to the new officers," said Sheerer.

The keynote speaker for the banquet was Bob Lucas, SGA president from 1974 - 1975, the first Association of Student Gov-

ernments president and a board of trustees member.

Lucas talked about the leadership skills that he used as a trial lawyer in the past and how he believes he got those skills.

"Those are skills I developed from being in ECU student government," said Lucas.

The students that are involved in SGA will realize the leadership skills that they received from the organization after they leave the university according to Lucas.

Lucas talked about how he formed ASG and some of the difficult decisions he had to make during his term.

The purpose of the banquet was to celebrate the accomplishments that SGA has made over the year and give special recognition to the members that were instrumental in getting things accomplished.

"This has been a long year of challenges, choices and changes," said Corey King, assistant vice chancellor of Student Experiences.

"Tonight we want to thank you for your academics, what you do in the classroom and taking on what I call co-curricular activities," King said.

Awards and certificates were given to SGA members that were nominated for certain accomplishments.

Some of the award categories were congress member of the year, committee chair of the year,

up and coming congress member, leadership transition of the year and legislation of the year.

Timothy Darden won congress member of the year while it was a tie between Ryan Wiggins and Ashley Yopp for committee chair of the year.

The up and coming congress award winner was Damien Percy and the leadership transition award went to Michaelina Antahades.

Regina Twine received the award for legislation of the year for her resolution that was not in support of the plus/minus grading scale.

Other individuals that were recognized included members of the executive cabinet, class officers, shipmates, judicial branch, elections committee and faculty members that have been significant in the operation of SGA this year.

Some of the faculty present included Steve Ballard, chancellor, Lynn Roeder, associate vice chancellor and Peter Romary, director of Student Legal Services.

Also present at the banquet was the ECU Gospel Choir and ECU Jazz Ensemble who provided music for the event.

To find out more about SGA, visit the Web site at ecu.edu/sga or call 328-4742.

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

HEALTH continued from A1

sexual orientation of being gay and then become HIV positive while attending Johnson C. Smith, a historically black college in N.C.

On April 18, an event called "Does that make me crazy?" will be hosted by Renita Moore, counselor for the Student Counseling Center, in LWCC at 6 p.m.

The event will address the mental health issues and the services offered at the Student Counseling Center.

"I am extremely happy and excited to be apart of such an informative and comprehensive week of events," said Moore.

The Campus Recreation and Wellness Center is encouraging students to participate in physical activity on April 19 for "Project Stretch" day.

CRWC is offering yoga and aerobics classes free of charge if students have the coupon for the event, according Ledbetter.

If students don't care for yoga or aerobics, they can participate in salsa and swing dance events on that day.

A fitness walk around campus will also take place April 19 starting at 4 p.m. in front of the CRWC.

The last event relating to

Minority Health Week will be "Build a Plate," in Mendenhall Student Center from 2 - 4 p.m.

Janie Eubanks, nutritionist, will be present to talk to students about making healthier eating choices.

"Obesity in America is rampant and from that we get earlier development in young girls and high percentages of individuals suffering from low self-esteem and depression over body image," Ledbetter said.

"This week is not a focus on skinny or fat, but healthy versus unhealthy whether you're 100 or 300 pounds," Ledbetter continued.

Students are encouraged to come and engage in the wide variety of activities about different health complications that are common for minorities.

"Minority Health Week has attempted to address multiple aspects of health and wellness while also recognizing the unique challenges and/or perspectives of various minority groups," Moore said.

To find out more about these events and the LWCC Emissaries, call 328-6495.

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

EDITOR

continued from A1

three students when the application period was extended.

Dana White, Media Board chair, said Campbell was chosen for her dedication and experience.

"Compared with the other two candidates [Campbell] is more dedicated and her timeliness will be effective as editor. She'll do a good job," said White.

Campbell, who is the Pulse section editor of the *East Carolinian* and has held the position of assistant editor and features writer, said she is looking forward to bridging the gap between the newspaper and campus community.

"I hope to build stronger relationships throughout the campus by raising awareness of campus events, reaching out to campus organizations and faculty," she said.

"My goals are to change the dynamic of the newspaper into one the students can count on to provide information relating to both the campus as well as the community," Campbell continued.

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

theeastcarolinian.com
 rant, rave, read.

Development threatens Neuse River

(AP)—Poorly planned development is helping make the Neuse River one of the ten most endangered rivers in the country, according to a national conservation group.

The river, which flows for more than 250 miles from the Triangle to the Pamlico Sound, is threatened by urban development moving upstream from its headwaters and the coast, according to a report released Tuesday by American Rivers. The organization, which has published the annual list since 1986, called the river "the new frontier for poorly planned development."

The challenges are mounting for the Neuse River, which the report ranked the eighth most endangered river. A moratorium on new hog farms is set to expire in September, and many municipal sewage treatment plants need to renew their discharge permits next year, said Gerrit Jobsis, director of southeast conservation for American Rivers.

"This is a critical year for the

Neuse River to turn the tide on pollution and ensure it's going to be a healthy river for the region," Jobsis said.

Nominations for troubled waterways come from outdoor clubs, local governments, environmental organizations and other groups, Jobsis said. The Upper and Lower Neuse Riverkeepers nominated the Neuse River for inclusion on the endangered list.

About 2 million people live in the basin of the river, which rises in Durham County and flows southeasterly past Raleigh, Smithfield, Goldsboro and Kinston to the Pamlico Sound, the report said.

Efforts to better protect the river began in 1997, after millions of fish died and were seen floating in the water. Developers are now required to build at least 50 feet from the river and its tributaries, farms must use better applications of fertilizer, and sewer plants must reduce certain discharges, the report said.

But pollution is threatening

to undo those efforts, according to the report.

Some signs of pollution are evident at Falls Lake, a reservoir near the river's upper end that supplies drinking water to more than 400,000 people in Wake County. Treated sewage loaded with nitrogen and phosphorous flows into the lake. Nitrogen spurs growth of aquatic plants, which can rob the water of oxygen when they decompose and cause fish kills.

Report researchers, along with state water quality officials, believe Falls Lake will be placed on the federal list of polluted water bodies next year.

Progress has been made, but more needs to be done as another 1 million people are expected to be living in the river basin by 2020, said Dean Naujoks, the Upper Neuse Riverkeeper.

"Certainly, the development pressure is more the long term issue," Naujoks said. "Everywhere development is occurring, we're having degraded water quality."

POWWOW continued from A1



Vendors show off traditional craftsmanship during the 15th Annual Native American Powwow on Saturday.

been shaky in the last few years.

"We all try not to schedule our events in competition with each other," Gilland said. "As more powwows spring up and the cost of living goes up, vendors, singers and danc-

ers have to choose which powwow they want to go to because you can find one just about every weekend."

A lunch break was held around 3 p.m. Afterwards, several students were honored with rewards and

Christie Hagen, junior biology major, received the Cabrina Cummings Scholarship.

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

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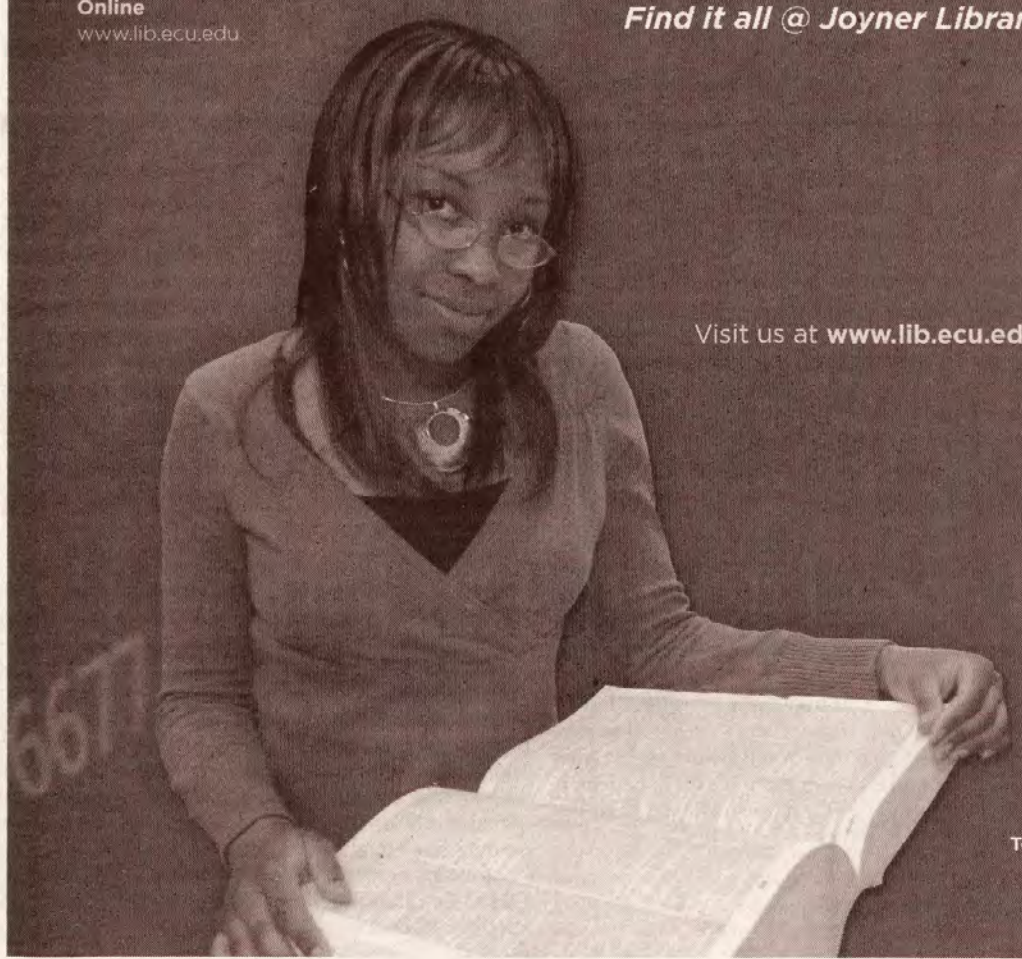
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RANT OF THE DAY

Next year I think we should establish a class like FACE 1000: Intro to Facebook.

Opinion

{ Rants: Get your own! }

America plants Seeds of Democracy

Steal from the poor to give to the rich

CARMIN BLACK
STAFF WRITER

Can anyone give me a clear, concise reason for why we are currently involved in the Iraqi war? Now don't get me wrong, I understand why America first involved itself, and there's no doubt there could have been even more costly ramifications than those we currently face had we not taken a stance against Osama bin Laden and Al-Qaeda. I have made a point to educate myself about Saddam Hussein and his crimes against humanity while in power, and I will even admit that democracy in the Middle East if properly implemented, will serve as the fair voice of the majority.

The real issue for me is not understanding whether or not the U.S. is currently needed in Iraq. In fact, I agree that it would be a terrible thing to pull out today. I have gained a grasp that the people of Baghdad currently want U.S. troops out of their city, however, if we were to leave today we'd be leaving behind total chaos, a bloodbath and a worse controversy in this area than when we first stepped into the picture.

The real issue for me is finding a way to sift through all of the conflicting reasons the media tells us about why we are still involved in this war.

One day you hear it's that the U.S. has uncovered weapons of mass destruction and the next day it's printed that Bush Administration has actually found nothing. Then you'll turn on the TV to hear some specialists telling listeners that the U.S. government is actually only concerned with controlling Middle Eastern oil and that their main propose for this war is to make sure that they preserve the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency.

Regardless of the reasons, one incident I learned about, called Monsanto Seeds, sparked my doubts of what our country's truest intentions are for being a part of this war unlike any other piece of information I'd learned about before.

According to many sources, Monsanto Seeds is a multi-billion dollar agriculture company who is trying to take over the planet, well, if not the planet, at least all the crops growing on it.

This company, based out of Missouri, has found their niche in hiring expensive, genius scientists to develop genetically modified plant seeds, specifically seeds used to mass produce crops.

The scientists at Monsanto Seeds have found ways to create crops that grow with a substance that is deadly to insects and completely harmless to humans. They have also found ways to create seeds that can only sprout for one growing season; many call them suicide seeds because the new seeds that fall from those existing crops are completely infertile, holding no ability to produce crops the following harvest. This in turn forces farmers to have to buy a whole new batch of seeds each year, a practice which only the wealthiest farmers been able to afford to do.

What does this have to do with the Iraqi war? Well, currently in Iraq small farmers operate in an essentially unregulated, informal seed supply system. Farmers grow their crops, and then they gather all of the fallen seeds to replant the next growing season. According to one article, "Iraq's New Patent Law: A Declaration of War Against Farmers," "farm-saved seed and the free innovation with and exchange of planting is now a thing of the past."

Recently the Coalition Provisional Authority under the now former Paul Bremer, has made it illegal for Iraqi farmers to re-use seeds harvested from new varieties registered under the law.

That's right, under U.S. Government regulations, Iraqi farmers are going to have to obtain a yearly license and pay up if they want to use genetically-modified seeds from American Corporations.

Also according to the same article, "Plant Variety Protection (PVP) that provides for the protection of new varieties of plants, is an intellectual property right (IPR) or a kind of patent for plant varieties which gives an exclusive monopoly right on planting material to a plant breeder who claims to have discovered or developed a new variety."

Basically the protection in PVP has nothing to do with protecting the Iraqi farmers, rather, it works to safeguard of the commercial interests of large corporations, in this case Monsanto Seeds.

Basically what this boils down to is that our Government leaders, again are being accused of neglecting the interest of starving, underprivileged people to further protect their own self interest, as well as keep in good standings with large companies who have the power to make them wealthy.

It seems that certain government leaders are getting away with allowing Monsanto to steal Iraqi seed recipes, bring them to the states and patent them, and then turn around and force the Iraqi farmers buy, each harvesting season, a new batch of seeds that have actually always been rightfully theirs.

It just seems to me that many Iraqi people are going to be forced to live under the "American credo: Pay Monsanto, or starve!"



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.

- Why do you look for arguments? He's so slow!
- Even though it's the first time it's happened, I love it when you call just to tell me you already miss me, when you've only been home for two hours for the weekend.
- Photography students shouldn't have to take those lame art classes; I'm not planning on drawing people, just taking pictures.
- I don't want my love to go to waste.
- I don't care about the details, so stop going on tangents and get to the point!
- I still listen to 90s boy bands and love it!
- If you don't like the racism, stereotyping and double standards that occur in our society, don't just sit around and b**** about it! Get out there and do something constructive about it. That's the only way for everyone to come to an understanding!
- To all of you overachievers... y'all screw up everything for everybody.
- I wish I had somebody to drive me to class.
- If you piss me off, you better be careful because I will use my practice Foley catheter on you.
- OK, we get it; you can make a reference to "Family Guy." It's over. Now move on.
- My roommate completes me! I'm so glad I met her!
- Why must you go into detail?
- ECU doesn't have fish in the sea, only sharks. And they bite hard.
- Who has to know our dirty little secret?
- I am a Christian, but nursing school could seriously drive me to drinking.
- If ignorance is bliss, then there are a lot of really happy people walking around campus.
- I hope I never hear the words "Duke" or "lacrosse" again!
- I wonder how many of the mean and nasty Rants are true. Can people really be that cold hearted or do they just write super horrible things to make it in the paper?
- Nah, I'm not a hick.
- I love how you tell me you want to be there for me, and then use that as an opportunity to hook up with me. Nice.
- I'm so sick of everything being about race on this campus... skin color should not matter...
- I don't think someone's Mexican because he speaks Spanish... but I do think speaking Spanish is a sexy trait in a man...
- I can't wait until guys grow up!
- To the girl who waits for her boyfriend to get ready, I am with you. I have to wait for my boyfriend all the time too!
- I'm crushing on the gorgeous golf player in my class.
- I hate it when people use away messages to talk crap about someone.
- Gosh, I need to shower!
- How do you define a thug?
- Don't judge me because I choose not to wear clothes that reveal the anatomy underneath my clothes, maybe I like wearing clothes that are not skin tight!
- I think I should just move into the library... it seriously has become my second home!
- "White Power" is written downtown everywhere; you just can't see it, but I can!
- The extremely attractive girl who sits beside me in Philosophy farted and tried to blame it on me.
- Who votes that MATH 1065 should no longer be required for graduation?
- I hate having to worry about every single thing in college, but then the weekend comes and I forget about it all.
- I wish I could walk my cat outside, but then the people would think I was a nutcase.
- Please, someone save me from being the third wheel.
- Congratulations, you're a heaping majority of the things I look for in a guy. We get along famously, and our parents think we're good enough for each other, but you're too afraid of upsetting a couple of your friends to stop sleeping around with jerks and finding new coals to rake yourself over weekly. Do I need to set off fireworks or something?
- Don't mess with me during finals cause I'm all jacked up on Mountain Dew!
- I'm not sure that I can get all of my stuff packed by the end of the month!
- Just 'cause I'm a girl doesn't mean I'm expected to clean up the mess you made. It's 2007, not the 1920s anymore. Do it yourself!
- What is up with the weather? It is driving me nuts.
- Is it bad that I am so bored that I want to run around naked screaming and causing a scene?
- I'm sorry I have been so ill this week baby, I'm just really stressed.
- I'm in SGA and have been for the last three years. I have voted in such a way I thought other students would vote. If you don't like the way we have been voting then join, instead of saying it shouldn't be around.
- I am wearing the pants I wore yesterday and the shirt I slept in and my roommate is wearing her shower shoes and pajamas. Yeah, it's time for school to be over.
- I'm HIV+ and that doesn't mean I'm just going to die! Get your facts straight! Then again, I don't try to transmit the virus to others, either!
- Nifong is now a verb, as in, "you got nifonged." (ni-FAWngd) - Verb: "to nifong," or to accuse people of a crime regardless of the obvious lack of evidence. A person who nifongs somebody is one who has a zealous sense of rogue injustice and is motivated by politics.
- Sharpton and Jackson should go to Duke...
- I've got something tough to tell you. Uh, I'm fabulous, OK? I'm an incredible dresser, I've got buckets of money, I'm a hoot and a half, and I've got a killer rack. Do you get what I'm saying?
- People think I'm the nicest person ever, but really I hate people—I'm gonna make a good lawyer.
- I got humped by a goat.
- Is it bad that I look at myself in the mirror as much as possible? I just know I'm going to be famous.
- This town is not reality—it's a nightmare.
- It's really pathetic that some girls here are too lazy to exercise and instead just stop eating. I hope you girls know that once you start eating again, you're going to gain it all right back and then some. Maybe you should try losing weight the healthy way.
- I secretly want to be a math teacher.
- I think we have some hot bus drivers at ECU!
- I have a secret dream to be the Cinderella at Disney World that rides in the carriage and waves to everyone.
- I wish I was a frog explorer. Ribbit.

How free are we, really?

Better than 'Madagascar,' it seems

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

From time to time I hear complaints from my friends in the field of their freedoms. These criticisms run the gamut from their own personal business to the United States as a whole. Such as the drinking age to Bush's demand for additional surveillance power.

Now while I enjoy complaining about congress as much as the next guy, keep one thing in mind. The United States has a long way to go to reach other countries in the world. While anyone can go off about what they believe is wrong with America, look at the truth. At least you have the freedom to complain.

When looking for the facts, three agencies come to mind from different backgrounds who work towards documenting and researching countries freedoms. There is the United States' government perspective through the Freedom House, ranking political and civil rights.

There are the economist's views of freedom through the Wall Street Journal, covering such topics as labor and trade freedoms. Lastly, there is the Reporters Without Borders, ranking country's situations through actually visiting the countries they talk about.

While some may not agree with these tables independently, they paint a comprehensive picture when combined.

The Freedom House's data parallels a lot of what you might expect in the American government (apparently most of the Middle East is not free); however a great deal of their list is on the mark.

Many regions we have heard of in conflict in Africa are listed as not free and accurately so. When a citizen of their country cannot leave their house without the looming fear of death, they are not free.

The Wall Street Journal agrees in some aspects with the Freedom House (Cuba, North Korea, Zimbabwe), but differ in others. Whereas the Freedom House has pegged the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia as not free, the Wall Street Journal shows a complete u-turn, listing the two as mostly free.

This holds as well for the Reporters Without Borders in most respects, as countries in conflict are understandably labeled as a difficult situation.

While none of the organizations see eye to eye completely, the lists agree on one fact. The number of countries that share the United States' level of freedom can almost be counted on two hands.

While you may want to criticize recent developments in Washington, be glad for the fact you the right to speak your mind.

The reality of the 192 countries cross-referenced in all three lists, is that the American people are exceptionally fortunate. Do not be so quick to whine about your freedoms in America when half the world would give anything for even the slightest percent of what you possess.



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JUST ASK JANE

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

I constantly debate over whether having a girlfriend as a sophomore in college is the biggest mistake I have ever made. The girl I am dating now lives an hour away and I only see her maybe once a week.

However, I still feel like I am losing touch with my closest friends because I don't go out as much as I used to. I can't really play wing-man for any of them and I get tempted to cheat when I go out.

Back to my girlfriend—We have been dating for around six or seven months, but I have known her since middle school and have been crazy about her since sophomore year of high school.

We both care about each other so much, which makes this decision so hard. I just feel like I am wasting some of my prime years to date around and discover what I really want.

I feel like the bubble I'm in is about to burst soon so any advice would be greatly appreciated.

Best,
Bachelor Wannabe

Dear Wannabe,

Face it—things aren't what they used to be. You're not 10 minutes down the road from her house anymore, and you're right, temptation is out there. If you have noticed and acknowledge that you feel like you may be missing something, then you're well on your way to disconnecting from your current relationship, anyway. I suggest you speak with your girlfriend to see if she's having any of the same feelings.

Your friendships are of the utmost importance. Boyfriends and girlfriends... well, chances are they won't last forever. However, no matter what you decide, friends should support you if they're worth keeping.

I suggest you take a break and tell her why (you can leave out the temptation part; no sense in undermining her trust). You may both be relieved after a while that you did. If not, there's no law that says you can't get back together. You'll always regret what you never try, and if dating around a bit in college is one of those things, you'll never be happy with her if you do end up together.

Good luck,
Jane



Pulse

{ Pirate Buzz }

Horoscopes:

Aries
Get your team fired up, but don't make promises you can't keep. There will not be enough money to pay for everything they want to buy.

Taurus
You ought to be feeling better. The burden is lifting. You're getting things finally accomplished you've been putting off for years. Life is getting easier.

Gemini
Give yourself time to think before you make an important decision. Investigate the facts again. You don't know as much as you should.

Cancer
Don't celebrate too soon. Don't talk about your winnings. You'll have more friends than you know what to do with, if you aren't careful. Mum's the word.

Leo
An older person is very critical now about cost overruns. Not a good time to ask for money. Tell others not to ask either.

Virgo
You're very good at organizing and setting priorities. Help out a person who's paperwork-challenged clean up a mess, for a fee.

Libra
You're working now for your future, if you're really smart, anyway. Stash away enough to live in luxury, later. Don't think you can't, squirrels do it.

Scorpio
The pace is still hectic but you ought to be used to that by now. Keep a close eye on that associate. There's an error-alert in effect.

Sagittarius
You're fascinated by the relationship between philosophy and science. Don't get sidetracked and forget to do an icky but necessary chore.

Capricorn
It's been a while since you did something special for the love of your life. This doesn't have to be a person, by the way. Pets can count here, too.

Aquarius
Test your theory against the old gravity rule. Can it get off the ground? Do this on the drawing board first, not out there in real life.

Pisces
You've mastered one area, but now you're moving on to another. No hovering will be allowed. Study up, and advance rapidly.

Drink Recipes:

Between the Sheets

1-ounce brandy
1-ounce rum
1/2-ounce Cointreau
4 ounces freshly squeezed lemon juice
Simple syrup, to taste*
Serving suggestion: Garnish with fresh pomegranate seeds or an orange twist

Combine ingredients in a cocktail shaker using simple syrup to sweeten to taste. Shake vigorously with ice. Pour into a chilled cocktail glass over ice.
*Cook's Note: sugar syrup is a solution of equal parts sugar and water that is cooked over low heat until clear, then boiled for about minute. Cool and store in a squeeze bottle and use to sweeten drinks, to taste.

Orange Berry Coolers

2 cups strawberries, hulled
2 cups raspberries, picked over
2 1/2 cups fresh orange juice
1/2 cup superfine sugar plus additional to taste
1 tablespoon fresh lime juice, or to taste
Seltzer or club soda

In a blender blend berries, orange juice, 1/2 cup sugar and lime juice until smooth. Force puree through a fine sieve into a large measuring cup or bowl, pressing hard on solids. Chill puree, covered, until cold and stir in additional sugar. Puree keeps, covered and chilled, two days. Fill tall glasses with ice and add enough berry puree to fill each glass by three quarters. Top off drinks with seltzer or club soda and stir well.

Please drink responsibly.

Album releases sure to please music lovers



Tuesday, April 24, Snoop Dogg will be releasing a compilation album entitled Snoop Dogg and the Big Squeeze.

From rock to rap, get the complete list here

JENNY AYERS
STAFF WRITER

If the latest album releases from Hilary Duff and Larry the Cable Guy didn't quite quench your thirst for new music, there are several upcoming albums from every genre ensuring that no one is left in want of fresh tunes.

Several bands on the punk/indie/emo front released new albums just last week. The Nebraska based Bright Eyes' latest release, *Cassadaga*, just came out on Tuesday, April 10, and is perfect if you are looking for something

more mellow and folksy. Guster's new EP, *Satellite*, also provides a more laid-back yet catchy listen.

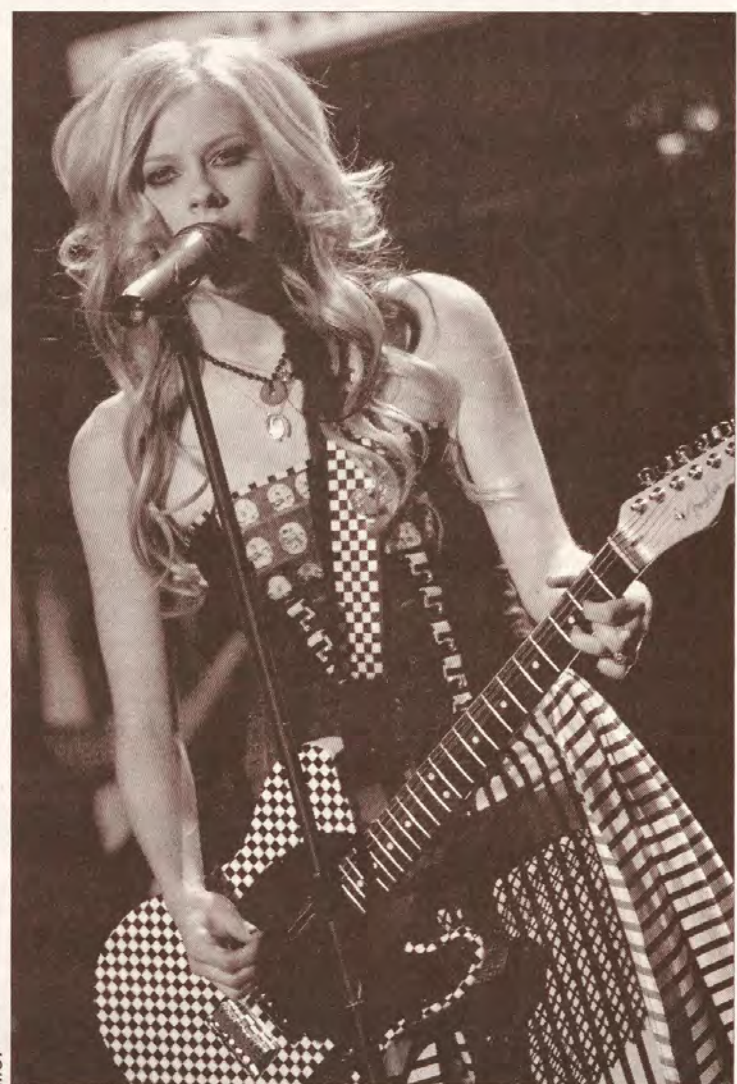
From Autumn to Ashes' new one, *Holding A Wolf By The Ears*, contrasts as much to the former two bands as the title suggests. The hardcore/emo band's latest album was also released on Tuesday, April 10, and has the familiar screaming vocals and in-your-face guitar riffs with the helpful combination of melodic verses for the sake of balance.

Tuesday, April 17, served as the release date for an interesting mix of artists. Blonde, bouncy, and with an infectious (sometimes obnoxious) single already under her belt, Avril Lavigne's *The Best Damn Thing* is her third album and seemingly third attempt to redefine her musical identity. With

such thought-provoking lyrics as "She's like so whatever," this one is guaranteed to be a contrast to her "Complicated" days with a cross over into the world of bubbly pop.

Back in the world of rock, Nine Inch Nails' *Year Zero* also released yesterday. While "mellow" isn't really the word, this album definitely exhibits the band's growth over the years in that it is not as fierce as their earlier days. The mix of their unique lyrics and vocals with electronica-like beats and tracks makes for an interesting listen.

R&B/rap veterans Bone Thugs-n-Harmony are back on the scene with their new album *Strength and Loyalty*. This time around, the guys have featured other big names in the game such as



The release of Avril Lavigne's third album offers fans a unique twist.

Kelly Rowland and their single, "I Tried," featuring Akon, is making its way up the Billboard charts.

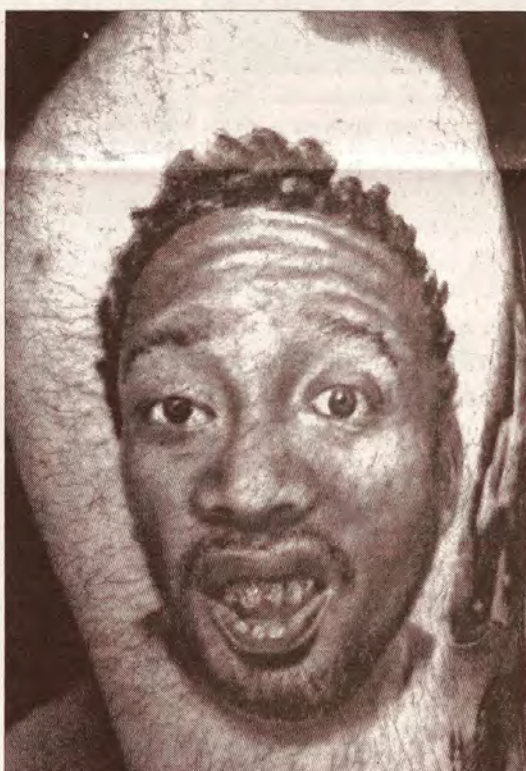
On April 24 another rap veteran, Snoop Dogg, will be releasing a compilation album entitled *Snoop Dogg Presents the Big Squeeze*, enough said. If Snoop Dogg is a little too much, perhaps

Donny Osmond's latest, *Love Songs of the 70s* will be more appealing. Featuring hits such as "I Can See Clearly Now" and "How Deep is Your Love," this album is sure to be a party favorite.

British indie-rock band Arctic

see **ALBUMS** page A7

Tattoos and piercings may fashion negative images



In the eyes of some, tattoos are viewed in a negative light and oftentimes individuals are judged unfairly.

Being seen and not heard

LEIGH CARTER
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, both tattoos and

piercings are viewed in a negative light in today's society.

It is unclear to many as to whether these practices are seen this way because celebrities have shown the practice to be a mere fad that wears off over time, because older generations find it hard to

change and or another unknown reason for the harsh judgment of such a world-wide form of self-expression.

What is not unclear, however, is the unenthusiastic perspective of many individuals who choose to judge those who show personal

expression rather than embrace such a widespread idea in the land of the free.

"Some jobs have restrictions on visible tattoos and piercings," said Terri Fesmire, senior business major. "This may make it harder for some to find work in the field of their choice."

While anyone can walk around campus and see the occasional unusual hair color or exotic use of make-up, such practices are far less observed than students who have chosen to get tattoos or piercings as a way to stand out from the social norm.

"When I see a girl with her tongue pierced I think she looks like a slut," said Matt Petrovick, senior finance major. "I don't look down on them but it doesn't make a very good first impression."

While the first known usage of the word tattoo in the English language was recorded in the diary of Captain James Cook in 1769 during his voyage to the Marquesas Islands, it was the sailors on the voyage that later introduced both the word and the concept of tattooing to Europe.

"When people criticize the practice of tattooing and piercing they do not realize that it is more than self-expression," said Lee McFarland, an artist from Progress Body Modification in Raleigh, N.C. "I make my own

body jewelry out of ebony just like many tribes around the world do and I find this to be a form of art not self-destruction."

Body piercing has been practiced by peoples all over the world since ancient times when mummified bodies were modified in this way. Such bodies with piercings have been discovered, including the oldest mummified body discovered to date, Ötzi the Iceman, which was found in a glacier with an ear piercing 7-11 mm diameter.

Nose piercing has been common in India since the 16th century while tongue piercing was popular with the wealthy Aztec and Mayan civilizations. Ancient Mesoamericans also wore jewelry in their ears, noses and lower lips, and such decorations continue to be popular amongst indigenous peoples even today.

"Many people just get piercing to prove a point or because everyone else has one," said marketing major Holly Pieper. "When I see a guy with a tongue ring I think it is gross."

While the views of many are hard to change those who understand and appreciate the practices of tattooing and piercing stay true to the way they feel about having the right to express themselves in the ways they see fit.

see **NEGATIVE** page A7

A job is just a click away

Career hunting made easy

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

The days of scavenging the local malls and downtown hot spots for work are a thing of the past. You are in college now, studying for a degree that will act as a jumping point for your future occupation. So why make your life any more stressful in finding a job when ECU can help ease the process? With just a point and a click, users are privileged with pages of useful information covering every aspect imaginable about various professions. The site is not just limited to student use, but welcomes alumni, faculty of ECU and even parents of students to peruse any of the information available.

Logging on to the Career Center's Web site at ecu.edu/es-careers.com gives pirates from all lifestyles the opportunity to enhance their resume, learn more about interviewing and receive more information about employment opportunities.

For students, there are such tools as a calendar, listing dates and times for workshops and interviews. Just last month, March alone held

upwards of eight interview sessions with companies such as State Farm Insurance and Sherwin Williams for management and leadership positions. The calendar also highlights career fairs, giving students the chance to project themselves and get their name in the open.

If you do not know where to start, or even what kind of job you would like to have later in life, there is help. The site provides everything from a personality test or even helping students see what they can achieve with their desired major of study. Maybe you do not even want to work in the United States, in which case the Career Center has just the trick. With opportunities as interns or full time paid employees, working overseas or in a foreign country is not just an aspiration, but also a possibility.

Teachers and faculty members are sometimes in need of speakers for their class to cover certain fields. When discussing criminal justice, why not invite a law enforcement official or lawyer to the class? With personal experience on the speaker's side, they become an invaluable asset to the lecture and class presentation. By hearing real advice and experience, students are given greater insight towards a job they may pursue. Employers can use the site to



The Career Services Web site offers students a variety of tools including resume tips as well as interview pointers.

post job openings for aspiring students of the field. In addition to surveying prospective students during career fairs, employers may post listings for their positions online. This process allows students to submit their resume electronically, potentially allowing

students to apply for multiple positions without leaving the comfort of their home until the interview.

As one's familiarity with the Career Center's Web site increases, students see how the site becomes an invaluable asset. Give it a chance the next time you

are looking for an intern position or to get some experience in the field, in addition to making some money. You might be surprised at what you may learn.

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

Cozy eatery combines tasty food and warm atmosphere

Atavola provides flavorful options to satisfy hunger

BEN HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Nestled snugly beside Food Lion in the shopping center adjacent to the AMF bowling center is a tiny restaurant that succeeds by serving big dishes that contain even bigger taste. Atavola is a market style restaurant that serves the traditional soups and sandwiches but with a primary emphasis on Italian dishes.

The restaurant itself is fairly small, encompassing an area of what could be described as half the size of an Olympic swimming pool. I was likewise taken aback as I expected something the size of the usual Ruby Tuesdays based on what I had previously heard about the restaurant.

Upon entering the eatery, I immediately noticed the woodwork that made up the room. The attention to the fine detail by the creator was something one might expect from the most skilled of Italian carpenters.

Our table was near the large 42" plasma television that dominates one of the walls. My interest in the restaurant had now been raised. Were they trying to hide something with this overt

display of entertainment?

The robotically cheerful server came over and provided me with the oversized menus. I gave my order for the customary Coke and proceeded to gaze over the fifty or so dishes, each begging to be divinely chosen. Figuring that Atavola concentrates on Italian dishes for a good reason, I choose the cheese stuffed tortellini with a pesto and tomato sauce.

Having just been paid I decided to become even more adventurous and order a chicken and corn chowder soup appetizer.

The subsequent wait between ordering and receiving gave me ample time to further observe the restaurant. The first thing that grappled the attention of my starved mind was the placement of more than a dozen paintings on the restaurants right wall.

My appetizer shortly arrived and surprised me with a presentation of unheard of taste. Corn chowder, like a house of cards, can be easily ruined by just the slightest ignorance of detail and concentration. Thankfully, Atavola's cook managed to provide chowder that had just the right amount of the all-important balance of chicken, corn and spices.

Before I could even finish my chowder, my main course came

out. My taste buds, furious for my recent inability to finish the chowder, relished in the dish's unparalleled presentation of explosive, cheesy taste.

Never a fan of pesto, I was taken aback by how well it blended with the cheese, extraordinary sauce and noodles. Needless to say, the dish quickly vanished in a frenzy of forks and Coke.

The dining experience was extremely pleasant due to the intimate atmosphere of the restaurant, which allowed for personal attention by the servers but prevented an escalation of noise.

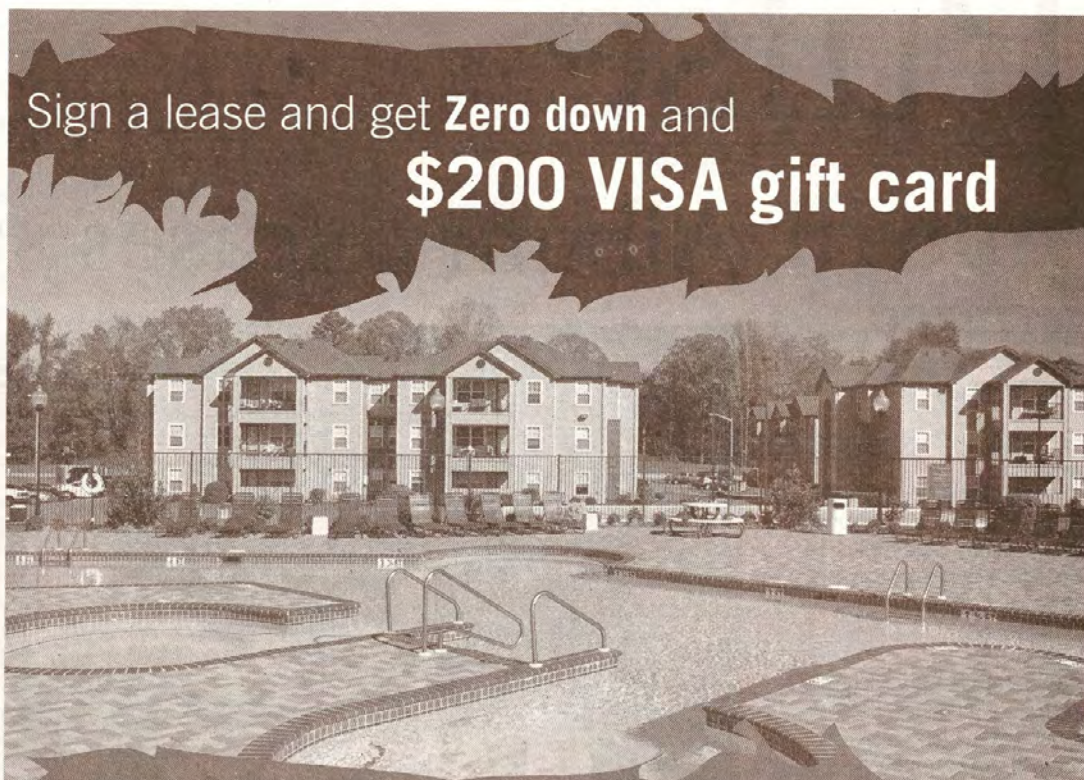
The server quickly and efficiently took up old plates while refilling my beverage. An empty cup and a parched mouth are often the bane of many diners' culinary lives. Atavola's meals are also reasonably priced for the amount of food. It is also a great place to spend a pleasurable night out dining without all of the hustle of larger restaurants.

Great atmosphere, food, service and prices all provide for a great experience. The restaurant is definitely worth many revisits and will undoubtedly become a favored dining establishment in Greenville in the coming years.

Overall Grade: A -

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

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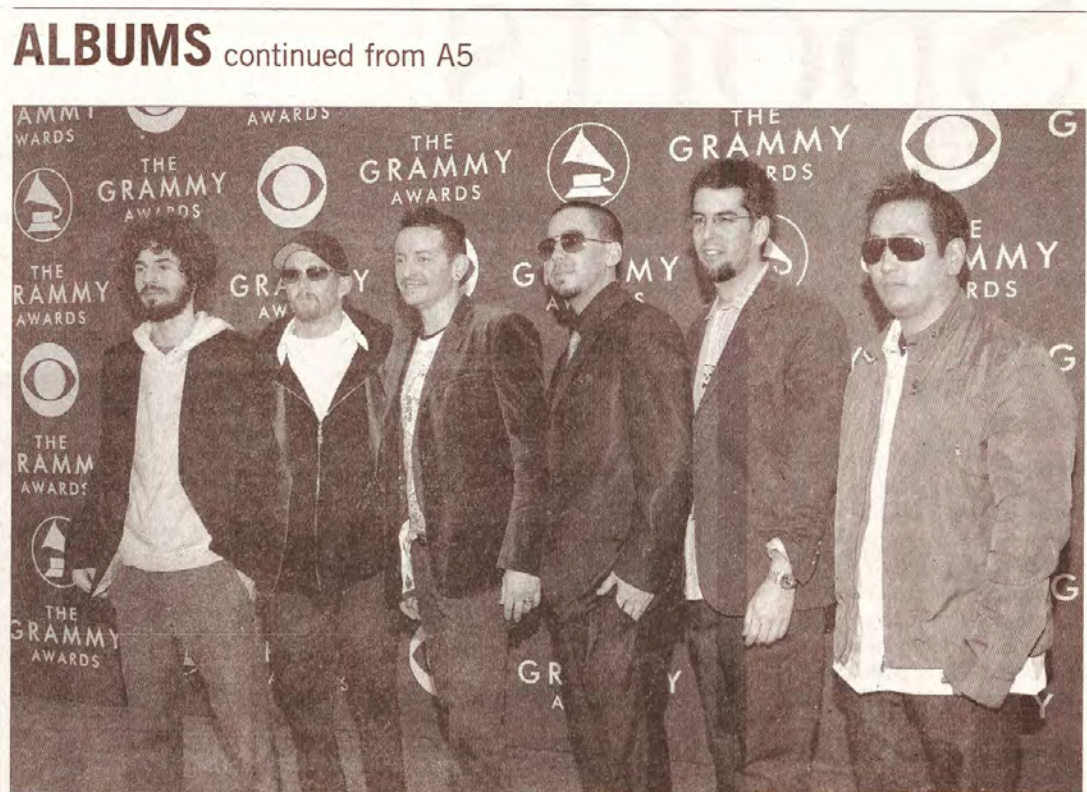
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ALBUMS continued from A5

Linkin Park fans will likely welcome the appearance of their new album which will drop sometime next month.

Monkeys' will also be releasing *Favourite Worst Nightmare*, a follow-up album that's expected to have more depth and range to it than their first contribution.

May also proves to be an interesting mix with releases from Disney champ Corbin Bleu, former diva Celine Dion, a shameless stab at cashing in on hits of old from Paula Abdul, and the reappearance of Linkin Park. Whether you are into pop, punk, rap or milky ballads from the likes of Donnie Osmond, this spring has something for everyone in the way of album releases.

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

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NEGATIVE
continued from A5

"I don't judge people just because they have tattoos or piercings," Fesmire said. "My boyfriend has tattoos on his arms and has ever since I have known him and it doesn't bother me, it is a personal choice."

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



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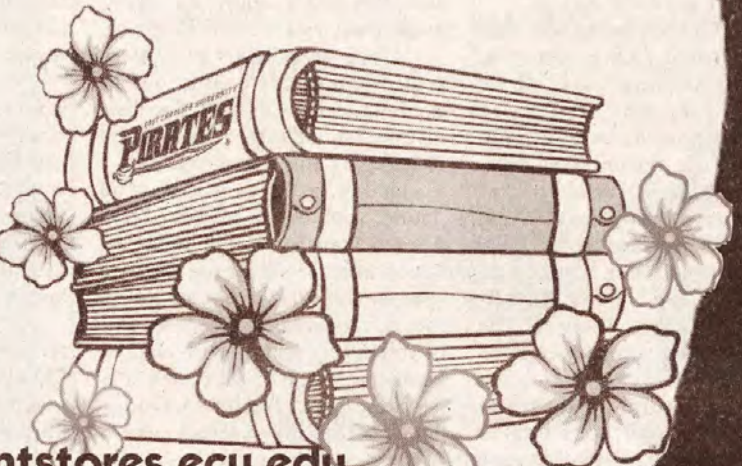
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Sports

{ECU's Inside Source}

BY THE NUMBERS

2

Pinch-hit home runs for the ECU baseball team this past weekend against Marshall; freshman Kyle Roller recorded his first career home run in the first game of Friday's doubleheader in dramatic fashion with a game-winning homer in the eighth inning; junior Mark Letchworth joined the action with a pinch-hit home run in the second game of the doubleheader; Letchworth pinch-hit for Ryan Tousley in the ninth inning, and launched a home run over the left field wall that went an estimated 450 ft.; the Pirates won both games of the doubleheader, 7-4 and 13-3



Sophomore second baseman Ryan Wood follows through a pitch and watches it to sail to the outfield.

ECU bounces back after a four-game losing streak

RONNIE WOODWARD
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Last Wednesday, the ECU baseball team was losing 2-1 to UNC Wilmington and in danger of losing its fifth straight game, but late-game heroics led the Pirates to a 3-2 victory.

With two outs and the game tied at two in the top of ninth, it looked as if ECU's hope for a win would have to come in extra innings. But Brandon Henderson stole second base, moving into scoring position with Sophomore Ryan Wood at the plate. Wood then took an Allen Flood slider into centerfield for a RBI single that ended the Pirates' losing streak.

"It was big that we won that game," Wood said after practice yesterday. "We needed that game."

Wood's game-winning hit was something that the Pirates had lacked the week before, as they couldn't get much offense going against N.C. State or Rice in a winless week that knocked them

out of the Top 25 rankings for the first time since early March.

"There's times when everyone is swinging the bat well and then other days where, as a group, we're not swinging the bat as well," said the Pirates' Hitting Coach Link Jarrett. "You have to make the most of the opportunity when you get a runner in scoring position and have a chance to drive in that key run."

Jarrett said that weather was a factor in the 115th meeting between the two clubs. The Pirates and Seahawks combined for five runs on 11 hits, as heavy winds limited offensive opportunities for both teams.

"That was a huge hit for our program at a time when we needed a big win," Jarrett said of Wood's RBI single. "That was a tough night, the wind was blowing in really hard and neither team could get much going. Anytime we can get a key hit like that is important, even when we're not swinging the bat extremely well and not putting 10 runs up on the scoreboard."

Wood continued his clutch hitting in the Pirates' next game in Huntington, W. Va. against C-USA foe Marshall. Wood tied the

game at four in the seventh inning with a sacrifice fly that scored Dale Mollenhauer.

The Pirates went on to win the game, 7-4, this time getting a game-winning hit from freshman first baseman Kyle Roller.

Since the Pirates were on the road and didn't have their bullpen catchers with them, Roller was actually in the bullpen warming up an ECU pitcher when Pirates Head Coach Billy Godwin and Jarrett decided to pinch-hit the freshman with the game tied at four in the eighth inning.

Roller responded with a game-winning solo home run.

"He was actually catching in the bullpen, ran down here to hit and just had a great at-bat," said Jarrett. "He got a pitch that he could really hammer, and that's what we expect out of him in the future and we got a glimpse of what he's capable of doing."

Roller recorded his first career home run right after his first stint as a bullpen catcher.

"He's never caught in the bullpen like that before, so he's down there in the catcher's gear and then

see **BASEBALL** page A10

MOST VALUABLE PIRATE

WEEKLY BASEBALL AWARD

RYAN WOOD



Wood hit a team-best .444 last week in the Pirates' three wins. His best accomplishment came last Wednesday against in-state rival UNC Wilmington. The 6-foot-4 second baseman recorded the game winning hit against the Seahawks in the top of the ninth, when he took an offering from UNCW pitcher Allen Flood into centerfield, scoring fellow sophomore Brandon Henderson and giving the Pirates a 3-2 win that snapped their four-game losing streak. Wood provided the Pirates with clutch hitting again this past weekend as he tied Friday's game against Marshall at four with a sacrifice fly in the seventh inning. Wood is now batting .301 and has 10 multi-hit games on the season.

MOST VALUABLE PIRATE

MIDSEASON BASEBALL AWARD

DALE MOLLENHAUER



Mollenhauer is quietly leading the ECU baseball team in many statistical categories with the season a little more than halfway over. Mollenhauer has the most hits on the team with 50 and the best batting average (.352). He also leads the Pirates in total bases, at-bats and on-base percentage. The Pirates' shortstop is one of only three players who have started all 36 games so far this season. The junior from Gibsonia, Pa. has now started the last 92 ECU baseball games at shortstop, as he started in all 56 games last season. Mollenhauer has also been exceptional in the field this season, as he currently boasts a .973 fielding percentage and leads the team with 121 assists.

0

Runs allowed by the ECU baseball team's bullpen last week; six pitchers combined to allow only two hits, while striking out nine, in nine innings of work; opponents also batted a measly .080 last week against the Pirate bullpen; closer Shane Mathews moved into a tie for second on the ECU single-season saves chart on Friday, when he recorded his 10th save of the season in a 7-4 win over C-USA foe Marshall; Mathews picked up two saves in two scoreless innings pitched last week, striking out two and allowing only two hits; Mathews now leads Conference USA in saves and relief appearances (23) in 28 1/3 innings pitched

182

ECU student-athletes that were named to the C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll for the 2006-2007 academic school year; the students had to achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to earn the honor; ECU placed the fourth-most student-athletes out of the C-USA schools, UCF had the most on the honor roll with 190 members; a total of 1,773 C-USA student-athletes were honored

17

Top-ten finishes for the ECU women's track and field team in the Carolina Fast Times on Sunday; the Pirates dominated the hammer throw event in Chapel Hill, as three of the top-five finishers were Pirates; senior Chelsea Salisbury won the event with a mark of 58.62m, while ECU sophomore Charlene Grady finished third and fellow sophomore Amy Mueller posted fifth in the event

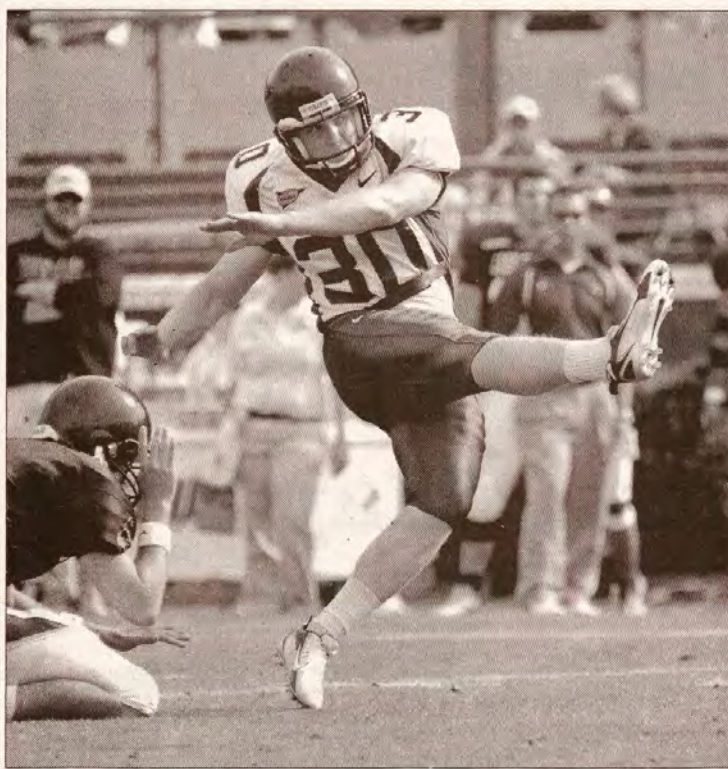
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Multi-hit games for ECU second baseman Ryan Wood in the Pirates' last 10 games; Wood has been one of the baseball team's best hitters lately; he batted a team best .444 last week, leading the Pirates to a 3-0 record for the week; Wood has now pushed his season batting average to .301, and has 11 RBIs, 20 walks and seven stolen bases on the season

11

Strikeouts in seven innings pitched for ECU softball pitcher Toni Paisley on Saturday in a 5-0 win over Memphis; the freshman from Lakewood, Calif. picked up her 13th win of the season against the Tigers, allowing no runs and four hits in her 11th complete game of her young career; Paisley now has a 1.79 ERA and 114 strikeouts in 117 1/3 innings pitched

What do you mean they're just kickers?



Kicker Ben Hartman makes a chip shot during the Purple-Gold match.

A look at the ECU football team's revamped oh-so-special teams

GREG KATSKI
SPORTS EDITOR

The most overlooked unit in the great game known as football could prove to be the most important in determining the success of the 2007 Pirates squad. The special teams unit on any football team usually receives little media attention or fanfare unless it features a flashy kick returner, a la Dante Hall or Devin Hester.

The ECU football team features one such kick returner in versatile running back Chris Johnson. Johnson, a 5 feet 11 inch, 200 pound, senior from Orlando, Fl. is the only key component of the Pirates special teams unit returning next season. Johnson brings a lot to the table as a kick returner and made the 2006 C-USA Football All-Conference First Team as the leagues premier return specialist.

Out of the team's 36 kick return opportunities in 2006, Johnson returned 21 for a total of 482 yards, an impressive average of 23 yards-per-return. Johnson's season high return went for 96

yards and a touchdown.

Joining Johnson on the 2006 C-USA Football All-Conference First Team was punter Ryan Dougherty. Dougherty had a stellar collegiate career at ECU, topping it off with a notable senior season.

Dougherty made 51 punts for 2226 yards, an average of 43.6 yards-per-punt on the 2006 season. Dougherty dropped 15 kicks inside the 20-yard line, by far the most important statistic for any punter. Close, low scoring games often come down to a battle of field position, and this is where Dougherty excelled.

Matt Dodge, a transfer punter and place kicker, enjoys following in the footsteps of the ECU great. "He's a great kicker so it's awesome coming out behind one of the best kickers in East Carolina history," said Dodge. "But I'd like to make a name for myself too."

Dodge, a 6 feet 2 inch, 203 pound, sophomore transfer from Appalachian State will have the opportunity to vie for the starting spot as the Pirates punter going into next season. Dodge, who will be competing mainly with Nathan Przewrzelzski, a 6 feet 5 inch, 175 pound redshirt freshman. Dodge believes that his experience with App. St. will be a great asset for him in the 2007 season.

"Starting on a Division I-AA

National Championship team is going to give anybody some great experience," said Dodge. "I have that game time experience and I know I can perform when the games on the line and it just gives you that confidence to know that you've already been out there for a year as opposed to someone coming out of high school that hasn't been kicking on the college level."

Dodge and Przewrzelzski were exceptional in the Purple-Gold game on opposing teams. Dodge made five punts for 192 yards for the "East Carolina" squad, an average of 38.4 yards-per-punt. Dodge's longest punt went for 55 yards, and he nailed two inside the 20-yard line. Przewrzelzski fared slightly better playing for the "Pirates,"

making six punts for 250 yards, an average of 41.7 yards-per-punt.

The real standout on special teams in the Purple-Gold game was place kicker Ben Hartman. The 5 feet 11 inch, 195 pound, sophomore from Winston-Salem, N.C. first made an impression as a freshman last season. Hartman joined the ECU football team as a walk-on in Fall 2005 and started gunning for the starting job as place kicker in spring practice.

Former Pirate Robert "The General" Lee would eventually keep his job as the primary field goal kicker, but Hartman shared duties throughout the season. More important to Hartman than taking the starting job was the advice he received from seasoned veteran Lee.

"He was a good mentor. We would sometimes simulate game situations and he just showed me little inside things, like fine tuning your mechanics and becoming a better college kicker," Lee said.

Hartman went on to compare Lee to another savvy veteran on last year's squad.

"It's just like with any quarterback, like playing behind James [Pinkney]," said Lee. "You're playing behind one of the best kickers in the nation the past two years and it's just a real blessing for you."

With the experienced kickers

moving on, Hartman became the most mature kicker on the team in spring practice. Hartman got a lot more work done this spring as compared to last year.

"It was a lot more kicking for one. It was different not having [punter Ryan] Dougherty or [placekicker Robert] Lee out here, but we just have a bunch of guys working hard and a lot of spots open so good competition has been going on," said Hartman.

During last season Hartman had time to touch up on his in-game experience, going 3-for-5 on field goal attempts for the season (60 percent) with a long of 47 yards.

Hartman again had a chance to show his outstanding range in the Purple-Gold game. Hartman

booted a 44-yard field goal for the "East Carolina" squad with 9:31 remaining in the third quarter to go along with a 21-yard chip shot earlier in the game.

Perhaps the biggest question mark for the special teams unit comes from the departure of

former Special Teams Coordinator Don Yanowsky. Yanowsky took an offer to coach the same position at Boston College, leaving the Pirates with a huge void to fill.

For now, ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz has elected to coach the unit by committee. Holtz, as well as his assistants, will take time to mentor the young kickers. As a former flanker on special teams for the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, Holtz is sure to have some noteworthy advice for everyone on the squad.

But with the game hanging in the balance, and the Pirates down by a point with the game clock reading 0:01 you can be sure that no one will be giving off-hand advice to Hartman. Hartman has his own way of coping with the pressure of the game weighing on his shoulders.

"I just try to stay calm and relaxed and do what I know how to do," said Hartman.

"Keep my head down and watch the ball."

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

Pirates game, set, match school record

ECU women's tennis looks forward to tourney

KATHERINE HARRY
STAFF WRITER

The ECU women's tennis team finished the regular season this weekend tying their single-season victories record set last year with a 19-9 record. Friday afternoon the Pirates defeated N.C. Central, 7-0. The team dominated, winning all of their singles and doubles matches against N.C. Central (8-9).

Saturday the Pirates fell to Old Dominion 6-1.

ECU women's tennis Head Coach Tom Morris said, "I felt that we played hard and fought hard. Old Dominion is a very good team, and played very well."

Old Dominion, who improved to 16-6 with the win, won all three doubles matches. ODU also controlled singles play, with ECU's only single's victory coming from Mireia Gol, who came back to beat Larissa Santos 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.

In reference to the match, freshman Brooke Walter said, "I thought overall that everyone played well, but Old Dominion is a strong team. They are ranked about twenty positions ahead of us and they really showed that, especially in their doubles play."

Despite the Pirates tough loss they are now preparing for the upcoming Conference USA Championships, which is a four-day event beginning April 19 in Tulsa, Okla.

"I'm really excited to play in my first conference tournament. I hope we play as well as we have been recently and if we could win at least one match we would beat the school's record of 20 wins," Walter said. "It will be a great experience regardless of the outcome, but of course I hope we win."

"This season has been really successful for the team and for me personally," Walter said.

see **TENNIS** page A10

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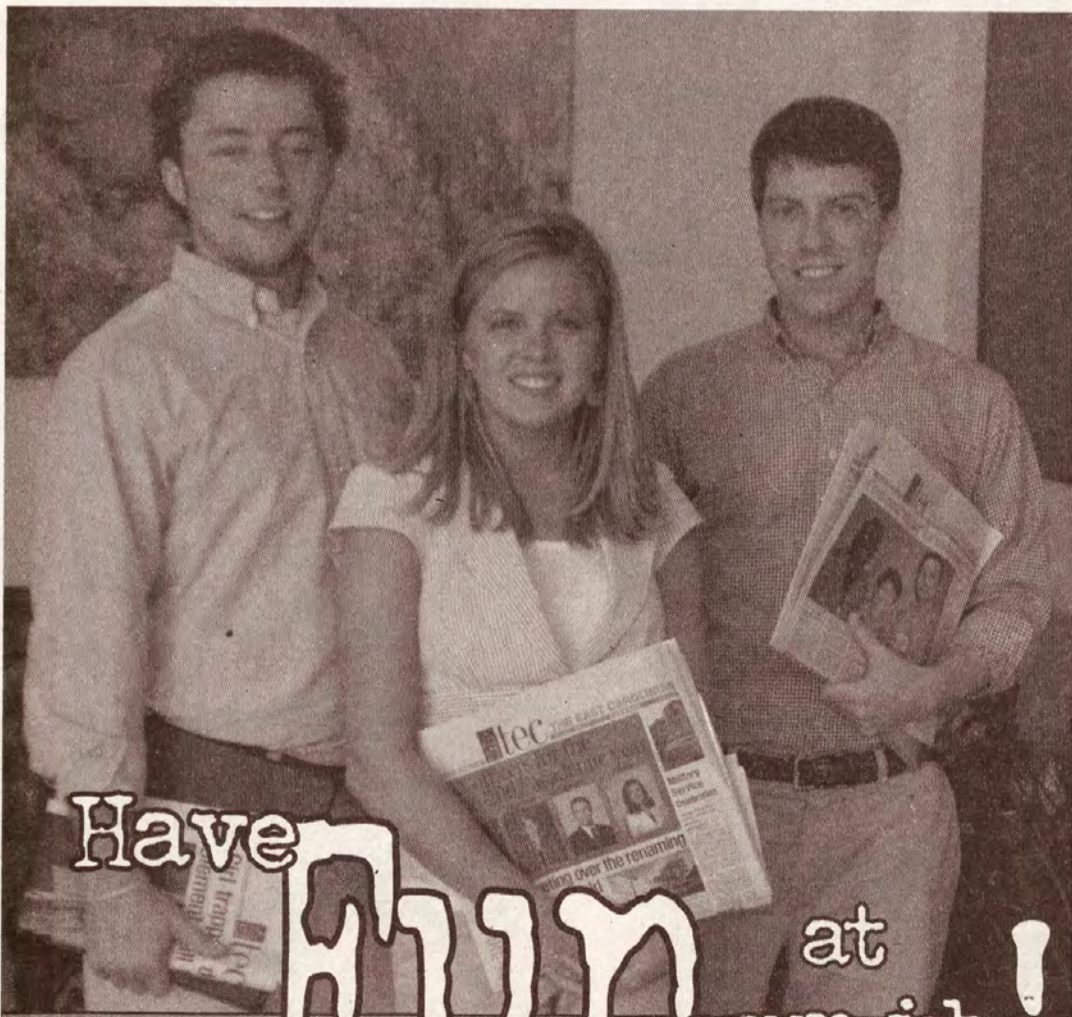
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BASEBALL

continued from A8

runs down and hits a home run," said Jarrett. "He just has to keep doing what he's doing and make the most of his opportunities. He's going to see more activity down the road and there's no doubt he's going to be a great player here."

ECU didn't need any late-inning heroics in its last game of the week, a 13-3 pounding of Marshall.

Wood batted a team-best .444 on the week to go along with his clutch hits. The 6-foot-4 second baseman has now recorded multi-hit games in five of the last 10 games.

Wood, who spent most of the ECU's offseason recovering from shoulder surgery, said that confidence is the main reason for his recent offensive surge.

"He [Wood] has really started to swing the bat better as the season has gone on," said Jarrett. "The guy is a good baseball player, he's come up in some key times for us lately and came through for this ball club."

The Pirates now carry a three-game winning streak and some newfound clutch hitting into a 7 p.m. match up with a strong Old Dominion team tonight at Clark-LeClair Stadium.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

TENNIS continued from A8



Photo by Terrell Gordy

Junior Mireia Gol has been a reliable player for the Pirates all season.

The Pirates hope to end the season on a positive note at the C-USA Championships and beat their single season win record.

"I feel we had a solid year and improved in areas which will help us next year. The team has worked very hard this year and showed a lot of improvement as a result," Morris said. "We are playing very solid doubles and have no seniors on this year's team, so we will be able to build on our doubles teams

next year as well."

Morris added, "The conference is stronger this year than last, so we will have a difficult match no matter who we draw [at the tournament]. We feel that we have a team that can be competitive with any conference team, and are looking forward to the tournament."

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

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			2	7		1		8
5	3	4	9					

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CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE

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Summer Intramural Calendar

1st Summer Session
3-on-3 Basketball
Softball
Dodgeball Tournament

2nd Summer Session
5-on-5 Basketball
Kickball
Racquetball

All teams will register online. Registration information must be picked up by all team captains in SRC 207 between the hours of 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm during the following dates:

1st Summer Session - May 15-17
2nd Summer Session - June 19-21

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HOURS	Monday, April 23	9:00 _{A.M.} to 7:00 _{P.M.}
	Tuesday & Wednesday, April 24-25	9:00 _{A.M.} to 6:00 _{P.M.}
	Thursday & Friday, April 26-27	9:00 _{A.M.} to 7:00 _{P.M.}
	Saturday, April 28	10:00 _{A.M.} to 5:00 _{P.M.}
	Sunday, April 29	CLOSED
	Monday-Friday, April 30-May 4	9:00 _{A.M.} to 7:00 _{P.M.}

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HOURS	Saturday, May 5	9:00 _{A.M.} to 6:00 _{P.M.}
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HOURS	Monday-Friday, April 23-27	9:00 _{A.M.} to 5:00 _{P.M.}
	Saturday & Sunday, April 28-29	NO REMOTE
	Monday-Friday, April 30-May 4	9:00 _{A.M.} to 5:00 _{P.M.}

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