



GPA calculator added back to OneStop

Helpful tool returns in a new format

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR

The popular tool, GPA calculator, is available to students again on OneStop in a different format than its previous setup.

GPA calculator allows students to get an estimate of what their GPA may be at the end of the semester by dividing the number of quality points earned by the number of semester hours attempted.

The tool was removed when changes were being made to convert applications on OneStop to the Banner system in spring 2007.

Banner didn't possess all the applications that OneStop offered because Information Technology and Computing Services (ITCS) produced tools such as GPA calculator.

"The new Banner system that was purchased and implemented does not have certain applications that were developed internally by ITCS for students over the past seven

years for the ECU OneStop," said Don Sweet, associate chief information officer.

"Therefore, ITCS needed to assign resources to convert that application from reading the old (mainframe) system to reading the data in Banner."

Some students didn't feel that not being able to access the GPA calculator was a major inconvenience during spring semester.

"I liked it (no GPA calculator) because I was able to calculate my GPA and not have to go through other ways to find it," said Rachel Jones, junior criminal justice major.

Previously, GPA calculator included the courses being taken so that students would have to enter their expected letter grade.

Now, students must enter the number of credit hours that each class is worth and their expected letter grade.

"To make the application more efficient processing-wise within Banner, we simply listed a generic course and let the student enter the credit hours and expected grade," Sweet said.

Although, the new format

was intended to create more ease when figuring out GPA's, some students believe that it creates more work.

"I used it (the GPA calculator) before when it already had all my classes picked out and it automatically did it," said John Hinson, junior systems engineering major.

"It's a little bit more of an inconvenience and its a little bit more room for error than if it automatically did it," Hinson continued.

The new format for the tool isn't expected to switch back to the old format or change to a new form in the future.

"The application is always evolving based upon input from students and our Registrar's Office. At this point, we anticipate this remaining in this manner," Sweet said.

Students seem to be finding out about the changes on their own time by browsing through OneStop.

"I wouldn't have noticed it until trying to use it at the end of the semester so an email notification would have helped," Hinson said.

Other applications devel-

see GPA page A3



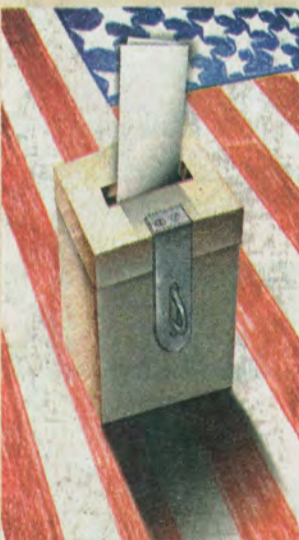
The new GPA calculator can be used after hitting the books all year,



The ECU football team finished the season with a huge Hawaii Bowl victory over No. 24 Boise State. The East Carolinian has a full recap of the roller coaster season that was....PAGE B1

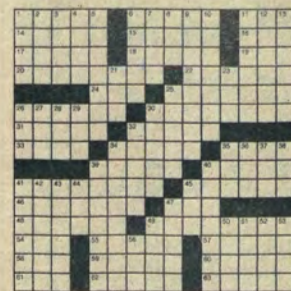


The Pirates' men's basketball team scored impressive non-conference victories over N.C. State and George Mason this season. With the non-conference schedule now wrapped up, turn to the sports section to see just how crucial the upcoming Conference USA slate will be....PAGE B1



As the United States approaches election day, the political events that lead up to Nov. 4 are important as we look forward to the inauguration of a new president....PAGE B8

Crossword



Page A10

- NEWS.....Page A2
- FEATURES.....Page B8
- SPORTS.....Page B1
- OPINION.....Page A9
- CLASSIFIEDS.....Page A10

Allegations against Ballard prove to be false



CHANCELLOR STEVE BALLARD

Anonymous complaints spark controversy

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR

Anonymous complaints resulted in investigations about whether ethical work standards were upheld during the hiring of Chancellor Steve Ballard's son, Nathan Ballard, and a scholarship that was awarded to a relative of ECU Athletic Director, Terry Holland.

One of the complaints questioned whether Ballard had an influence in Nathan Ballard getting temporary employment as an administrative support specialist in the University Honors Program, EC Scholars and Undergraduate Research office.

Nathan Ballard's employment was contracted to last from August 20, 2007 to December 14, 2007, according to the Personnel Action One Form, dated on July 26, 2007.

Individuals that are hired for temporary employment do not reap all the benefits that permanent employees would.

"Employees with a temporary appointment do not receive leave, total state service credit, health benefits, retirement credit, severance pay, or priority reemployment consideration," said Angela Moye, director of employment and clinical support services, in a memorandum on September 19, 2007.

Several factors were challenged when trying to find discrepancies in the employment of Ballard's son.

A review of SPA recruitment procedures, a review

of the policy concerning the appointment of SPA temporary, part-time employees, an interview with the hiring official responsible for Nathan Ballard's employment, and a review of the completed personnel action form, according to memorandum sent by Taffye Benson Clayton, assistant to the provost and university equity officer.

Other university officials provided representation for Ballard after these things had been looked into due to it concerning a family member.

"Chancellor Ballard did not order or ask anyone at ECU to hire his son. He was not involved in the hiring, or in setting his son's salary, schedule or duties. The employment arrangement was entirely between his son and the Honors office," said John Durham, spokesman for the university.

"Further, this hiring was reviewed and approved before the appointment by Human Resources and was reviewed after the appointment by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Equity and was found to be entirely acceptable."

Members of the Board of Trustees admitted that they knew about this arrangement and found nothing wrong with it.

"Nate Ballard was not working for his father. He was not even working in the chancellor's division," said Bob Lucas, chair of the University Affairs Committee of the ECU Board of Trustees.

"All policies and procedures for hiring a temporary, part-time university employee were followed. There are no problems."

Ballard chose to take a dif-

see BALLARD page A3

Transit system goes green



ECU purchased a hybrid bus to conserve gas and money.

Photo by Natassia Negron

Looking to increase hybrid buses

YAZID FINN
STAFF WRITER

While boarding your bus this semester, keep an eye out for one that sports more green paint than the others.

In doing so, you will already be helping to support East Carolina's clean technology initiative.

With the push for the UNC system to reduce their fuel consumption and ECU's own students and faculty interested in decreasing petroleum depen-

dency, hybrid buses will become a staple among ECU Transit Services in the near future.

In addition to lowering their use of diesel fuel, emissions across the board will be drastically lower as compared with buses already in place.

"Approximately 97 percent lower carbon monoxide emission, 50 percent lower nitrogen oxide emission and 33 percent lower greenhouse gas emissions," said Wood Davidson, interim director of ECU Student Transit Authority (ECUSTA).

Hybrid buses also run quieter, cutting noise pollution by 50 percent as compared with average diesel buses.

Drivers have noticed differences in the handling of the hybrid bus, primarily caused from the bus's regenerative braking.

When the bus begins to slow down or the driver brakes - energy being utilized becomes stored in the buses battery for later use.

"The hybrid bus has a stronger engine retarder," said Stephen Zimmerman, an ECUSTA driver.

"When you ease off the gas, it begins to automatically break more than the regular buses."

Hybrid buses change from electric motors to their strictly

see HYBRID page A3

New N.C. State law calls for updates to emergency procedures

Technological advances made to E-911 systems

SARAH CAMPBELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A new North Carolina state law that took effect on Jan. 1 will change the way emergency 911 services operate by creating new standards for cell phone and other technological services.

In an effort to upgrade and streamline E-911 services, a special 911 Board will be formed to meet the needs of the expanding societal dependency on technology. Cell phone, landline and

Internet phone users will be charged a 70-cent fee. Money collected from the fee will be used to create a special E-911 fund that will distribute money to communities with the goal of upgrading technology to meet minimum coverage standards.

Currently the money collected is dispersed to communities as general funds rather than those designated specifically for 911 enhancements.

"The bottom line is, if people have an emergency and they need to be located, no matter how they try to communicate, we need to meet their expectations. If you call 911 from a cell phone, will they find you? If you text message them, will they

find you," said Elaine Seeman, management information systems professor.

Seeman wrote her Ph. D dissertation on the effect telecommunication technology has on 911 effectiveness.

"Citizens generally believe that dialing 911 will bring them help as needed," Seeman said.

"Different counties throughout the state, however, operate 911 response centers using assorted technologies, resulting in diverse operating procedures with varying results."

Technological advances such as GPS, satellite, cell towers,

see 911 page A8

PIRATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Trumpet Recital: Peter Evans
Wednesday, Jan. 16
A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
8-10 p.m.

Peter Evans is an American trumpet player based in New York, who specializes in improvisation Avant-garde music. Evans has toured throughout the United States, Canada, Italy and England. His solo trumpet album, *More Is More* was released on Evan Parker's psi label in 2006, and his debut album as a leader, titled simply *The Peter Evans Quartet* was released in 2007.

2008 annual lecture in Asian studies
Wednesday, Jan. 16
Science & Technology Building, Room OC 209
4 p.m.

Professor Hsiu-fen Chen, associate researcher at Harvard-Yenching Research Institute and associate professor at National Chengchi University, will present "Replenishing the Body & Pacifying the Mind: 'Nurturing Life' (yangsheng) in Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century China." The lecture is sponsored by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Asian Studies Program.

Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series features Cynthia Cooper
Thursday, Jan. 17
Hilton Hotel
3:30 p.m.

Cynthia Cooper is known for her role in uncovering the corporate fraud at WorldCom - to date the largest corporate fraud in history. Cooper will present "WorldCom Warnings: What Went Wrong and Corporate Governance Lessons Learned." Free and open to the public. Sponsored by ECU's College of Business and the Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series and Johnson & Johnson.

Great Decisions 2008
Saturday, Jan. 19
Topic: Iraq End-Game
New Rivers West Auditorium, ECU
10 a.m.-noon

Full-time students and teachers may attend free of charge. The cost for the public to attend all eight sessions is \$49 for World Affairs Council members; \$59 for the general public (before Jan. 11) and \$69 thereafter. Registration includes the *Great Decisions* textbook. Sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Eastern North Carolina and ECU. For more information call (252) 328-5520

Day of Freedom
Monday, Jan. 21
West Greenville Intergenerational Center
9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Event to honor the life and accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Registration will begin at 9:15 at the West Greenville Intergenerational Center. There will be activities to benefit the community, keep children safe and increase children's critical thinking skills. Specific activities include the making and distribution and quilts for the elderly in West Greenville, self defense classes and emergency response packets, and games of chess. These events are designed to introduce the public at large to the services available from Project HEART and the Intergenerational Center in 2008

15 Tues

Live Music
 Sparks in Stereo
 PIRATE UNDERGROUND

Live Music
 Syphilis Sauna
 THE SPAZZATORIUM
 GALLERIA!

16 Wed

Guest Trumpet Recital
Peter Evans
 A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
 8-10 p.m.w
2008 annual lecture in Asian studies
 Science & Technology Building, Room OC 209
 4 p.m.

Men's Basketball
 Marshall
 Minges
 7:00 p.m.

17 Thur

Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series features Cynthia Cooper
 Hilton Hotel
 3:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball
 SMU
 Minges
 7:00 p.m.

19 Sat

Great Decisions 2008
Topic: Iraq End-Game
 New Rivers West Auditorium, ECU
 10 a.m.-noon

Men's Basketball
 UCF
 Minges
 7:00 p.m.

20 Sun

Ensemble de Amis
 Joanne and Charles Bath, Tom Huener
 A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall
 4-6 p.m.

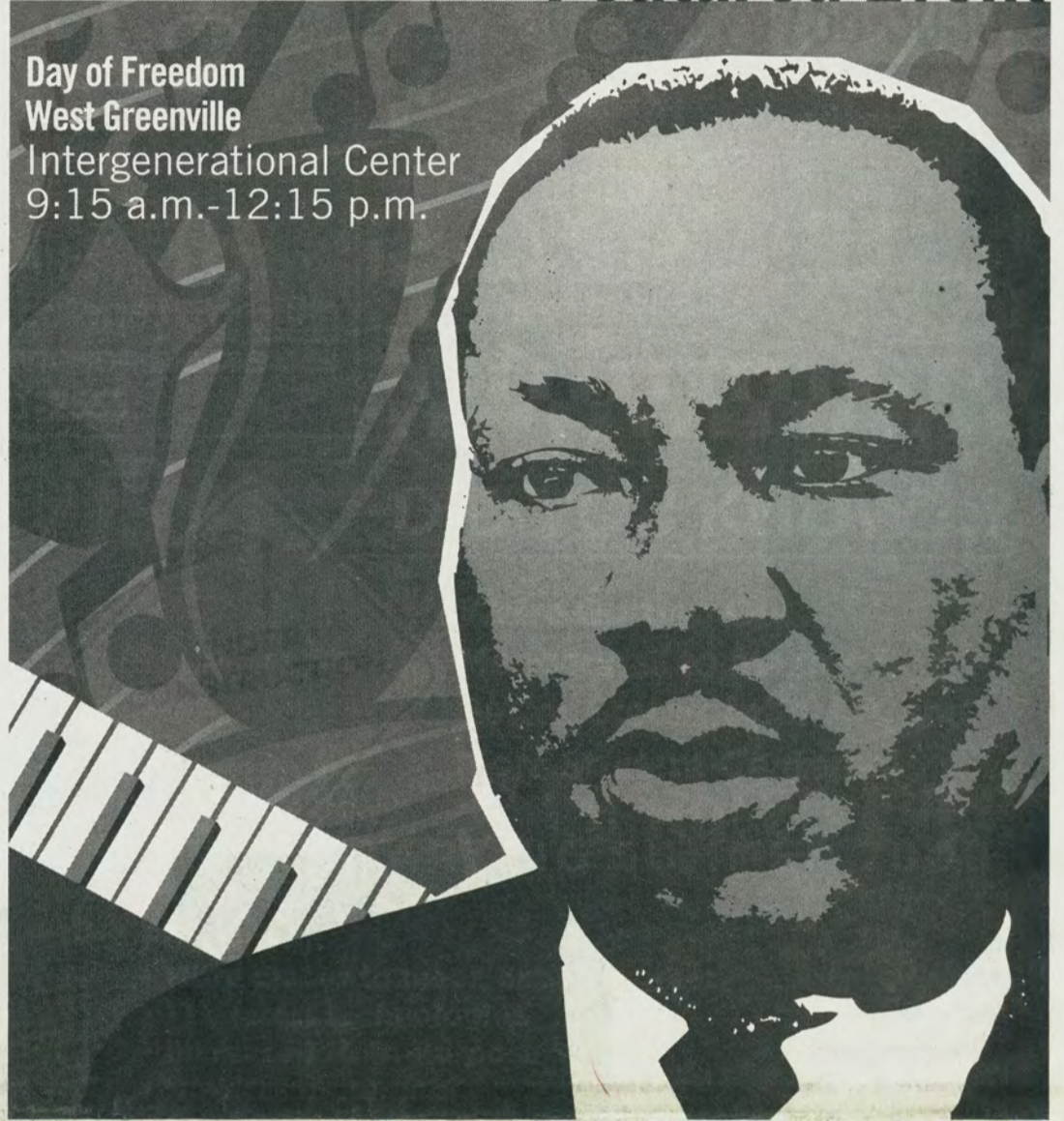
Women's Basketball
 Tulsa
 Minges
 1:00 p.m.

21 Mon

Day of Freedom
 West Greenville Intergenerational Center
 9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

* Featured Event

Day of Freedom
West Greenville Intergenerational Center
9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.



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ΑΦ

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GPA continued from A1

oped by ITCS such as textbook listing went through similar conversions so that it could be made available to students. "Most schools do not have such a tool and Banner also

does not provide it. ECU is fortunate to have a forward-thinking web development staff to develop such applications for our students," Sweet said.

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

BALLARD continued from A1

ferent approach in handling the allegations against him about an alleged approval of a scholarship to Holland's relative.

Initially, Ballard denied knowing about any arrangement to give Holland's relative any financial assistance.

On December 14, 2007, Ballard made a statement saying that he in fact did have knowledge about Holland's relative.

An email sent on August 22, 2007, proved that Ballard read an email about the proposed arrangement and replied to it as well.

The university's internal auditor retrieved the email after a request from Ballard was made to find the email that was in question.

"It turns out that not only

did I read the e-mail, but I also replied to it," Ballard said.

The e-mail did not ask for approval for the arrangement, but it is clear from my response that I did not reject the idea," Ballard continued.

Holland cancelled the arrangement to award his relative financial assistance on September 30, 2007.

Both Holland and Ballard ended up paying for the incident out of their own pockets in different ways.

Holland reimbursed the university by giving ECU a check for \$25,000 to cover the total amount of financial assistance and salary that the relative had received.

"In light of these developments, I have given him (Hol-

land) my personal check for \$12,500. It is appropriate that he and I share in returning these funds to the university," Ballard said.

Ballard ensured that measures are being taking so that similar instances will not occur again.

"My executive council has developed draft policies to ensure such mistakes will not occur again," Ballard said.

"It is my responsibility to ensure these policies are finalized and properly executed."

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

How to Calculate your GPA:

To calculate your GPA, you need to divide the number of quality points you have earned by the number of semester hours you have attempted.

A equals 4 quality points per semester hour (3 hour A = 3 X 4 = 12)

B equals 3 quality points per semester hour (3 hour B = 3 X 3 = 9)

C equals 2 quality points per semester hour (3 hour C = 3 X 2 = 6)

D equals 1 quality point per semester hour (3 hour D = 3 X 1 = 3)

If you are taking the following classes and expect to get these grades, you can calculate your GPA as follows:

Course	Credit Hours	Grade	Calculations
English 1100	3	A	3x4=12
Comm. 1001	3	B	3x3=9
Math 1065	3	C	3x2=6
EXSS 1000	1	A	1x4=4
BIOL 1050	3	D	3x1=3
			GPA
Totals	15		34/15= 2.26

HYBRID continued from A1

Hybrid cars

Gas/electric hybrid vehicles account for about 1 percent of all auto sales in the United States.

Gas/electric vehicles currently on sale

Make	Model	Introduced
Toyota	Lexus RX400H	April 2005
Honda	Accord	2004
General Motors	GMC Sierra	2004
General Motors	Chevrolet Silverado	2004
Ford	Escape	2004
DaimlerChrysler	Dodge Ram	2004
Honda	Civic	2002
Toyota	Prius	2000
Honda	Insight	1999



© 2005 Source: Toyota, Honda, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, General Motors, Power Information Network, KRT Photo Service

mechanically driven power as the speed of the bus increases.

As a bus pulls away from its stop, the bus relies primarily on stored energy and as the bus continues and its speed increases, the bus blends its system of electric power and mechanical power, according to Davidson.

"They have a better turning radius, however accelerate slower," said Megan Braddy, ECUSTA driver.

"As such, they are perfect for longer routes of 30 minutes [Blue 303], in my opinion."

Through the current use ECU's hybrid vehicles, ECUSTA is "evaluating the efficiencies" of the hybrid bus and will use their findings for future investments for more clean technology purchases.

While current date is unknown, three more buses are looking to hit the streets of Greenville in the coming months of this year.

Keep an eye out for the green paint and enjoy a smoother ride on effects of ECU "going green."

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

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Oral history project set to begin during spring semester



First-generation college students get the chance to tell their stories.

First-generation alumni to be interviewed

SARAH CAMPBELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Entering college for the first time can be an intimidating experience for students, but for those who may be experiencing the journey as the first member of their family to attend college the process may be an even more daunting.

First generation students offer the campus a diverse outlook considering their family's educational background and the community in which they grew up.

In order to preserve the impact that first-generation students have on the campus community the Centennial Task Force will be collaborating with Joyner Library to document the oral history of twenty first-generation alumni. The proj-

ect will begin this spring and span throughout early summer, incorporating interviewees from a series of time spans.

Candidates will be selected from the following time periods: pre-1945; 1946-1965; 1966-1985; 1986-2005, in an effort to include a spectrum of students who graduated during each time.

An effort will be made to select interviewees who represent the spectrum of students on campus during each time period. Trained interviewers will ask alumni to discuss their family background, home community, college experience and the impact their education has had on their lives.

The alumni will be interviewed by trained professionals who will tap into the family background, home community, college experience and the impact that education has had on their lives.

After the project is completed the interviews will be available

see **ORAL HISTORY** page A6

ECU's website currently being redesigned to add feature content

Pirate treasures feature currently available

DAVID WILDER
STAFF WRITER

Pirate Treasures, a new addition to ECU's Web Features, is part of an ongoing effort to redesign ECU's Web site.

The feature, a joint effort between ECU's marketing department and Office of Publications, can be found on the ECU home page by clicking on the Web Feature Archives link.

Items currently found in the collection range from a 12-pound silver mace to one of the largest pipe organs on the east coast.

"Our effort is to provide more content to viewers, especially people visiting the ECU Web site for the first time," said Brian Paris, office of publications web editor.

"We plan on expanding this feature with more items. Other departments may have special items but no way to get the word out."

Departments that have items that could potentially be added to Pirate Treasures can contact ECU's Office of Publications.

The current majority of items included in Pirate Treasures are showcased in Joyner Library's Special Collections Department. This compilation includes a Lost Colony signet ring, two historical maps and a Thomas Harriot volume.

The Special Collections Department consists of the North Carolina Collection, Manuscripts Collections, University Archives and Digital Collections.

These collections are open during the week and provide items that students can use for research.

"We have thousands of individual items in our collection," said Jonathan Dembo, curator of special collections projects.

The Special Collections Department has a large role in the eastern North Carolina history, according to L.K. Gypsey Legge, assistant university archivist.

Many rare books, historical manuscripts, university records and memorabilia can be found in the Special Collections Department. The department is located in Joyner Library.

"Special Collections offers an opportunity to get a larger sense of not only ECU as a place but also as an institution," Legge said.

The Web site redesign is "part of an overall effort to increase feature content on the homepage," Paris said.

The Department of University Marketing and Office of Publications is working on a series of stories that are expected to come out at the end of January, according to Paris. The stories focus on the advances of online education at ECU.

The effort to develop new feature content for ECU's Web site began in August and is an ongoing endeavor.

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

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Jan 23rd Rec Showcase

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Membership Appreciation Coffee Bar
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CRW Information Table in Rotunda
All Day

Stepping Into Health Sample Walking Class
12:00 - 12:45 pm, Meet in SRC 210

Wellness Game/Body Checks
3:00 - 5:00 (Wellness Center)
(FREE: BP screening, body fat %, BMI)

Flamenco Dancing Preview Class
5:30 - 6:00PM (SRC 239)

Body Attack 59 Launch/
Group Fitness Workout (courts 1 and 2)
7:00 - 8:00PM

Club Sports Practice Sessions

Budo Taijutsu	Room 239 7:00 - 9:00PM
Tae Kwon Do	Room 238 8:30 - 10:30PM
Jsshiriyu	Room 240 8:05 - 10:00PM
SwimmingPool	6:00 - 7:15PM
Volleyball Court #6	7:00 - 9:00PM



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FITNESS
23

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Hospitality Fair - Technology Fair

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The Hilton

Construction Management Fair

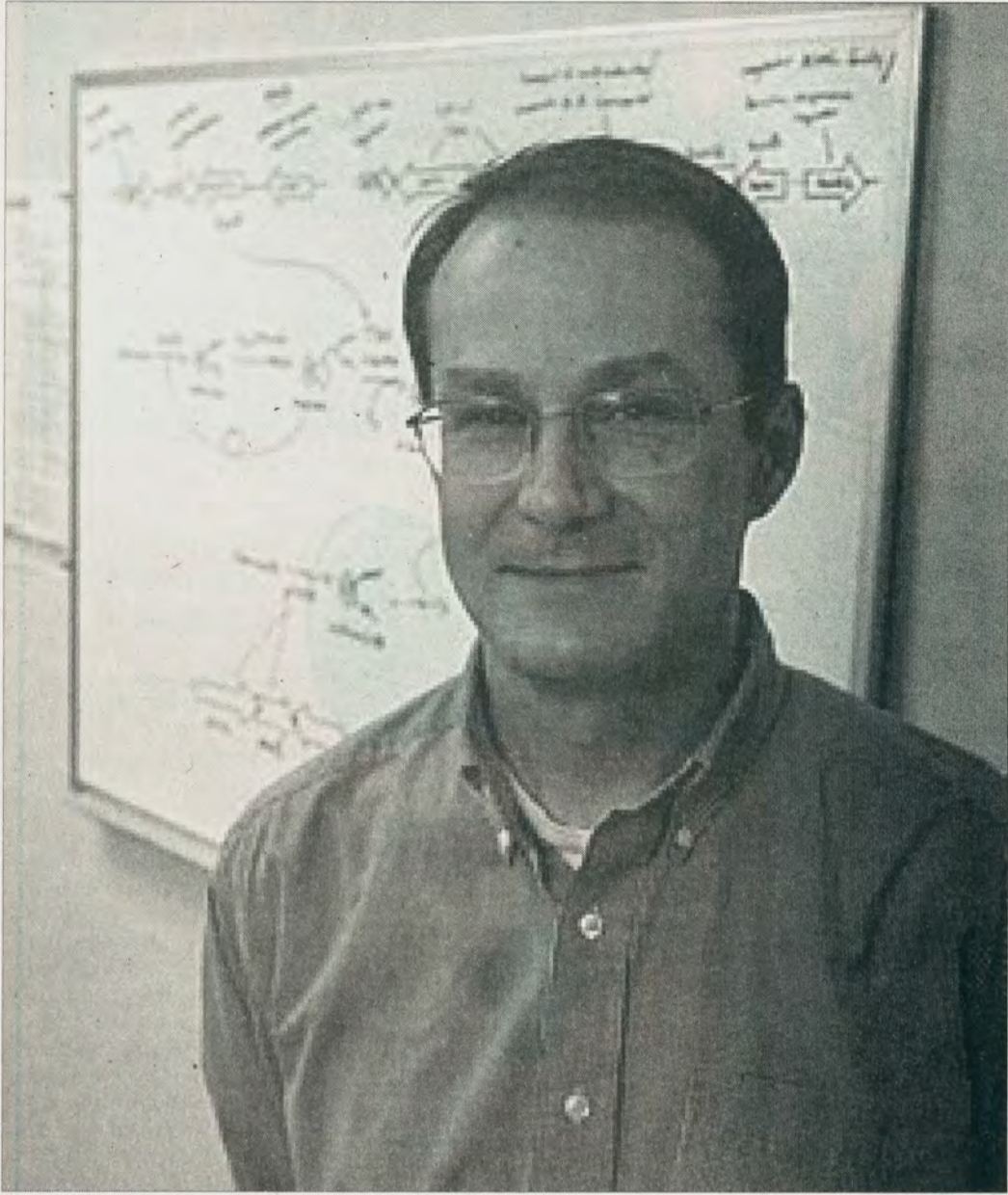


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Professor receives \$1.6 million grant to continue study to stop dangerous germ



Dr. Everett Pesci, associate professor of microbiology and immunology.

Progression to yield the growth of the germ is already being made

KIMBERLY BELLAMY
NEWS EDITOR

Efforts are being made by professors in the Brody School of Medicine to find ways to decrease the amount of a dangerous bacterium called *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Dr. Everett Pesci, associate professor of microbiology and immunology, was awarded a \$1.6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct the study.

Dr. James Coleman, associate professor of microbiology and immunology, will act as a co-investigator for the study.

"*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is an opportunistic pathogen, meaning that it exploits some break in the host defenses to initiate an infection," according to textbookofbacteriology.net/pseudomonas.

Pseudomonas aeruginosa is the cause for 10 percent of hospital infections nationwide, according to Pesci.

Some of the common infections that the bacteria causes include urinary tract infections, respiratory system infections, dermatitis, soft tissue infections, bacteremia, bone and joint infections, gastrointestinal infections and many others,

according to textbookofbacteriology.net/pseudomonas.

Pseudomonas is present in most people because it is an inhabitant in things such as soil and water.

Not all people who carry the bacteria are affected. *Pseudomonas* attacks individuals with weak immune systems, especially those with cystic fibrosis, cancer or burns.

These types of infections are hard to cure because *pseudomonas* acts against most antibiotics.

The main focus of Pesci and

tion of its environment. The signal is called *Pseudomonas* Quinolone Signal (PQS).

"We discovered the *Pseudomonas* Quinolone Signal in 1998 and have identified the genes that are responsible for its production," Pesci said.

"We have also learned a lot about how it is produced and the genetic regulation that controls the timing of PQS production."

Pesci plans to continue his work on studying this bacterium for the remainder of his career even though the grant only lasts for five years.

He discovered the dangers of *pseudomonas* long before he received the grant to find ways to control the bacterium.

"We discovered that there was an unknown active compound when I was a postdoc at the University of Rochester. We then spent two years purifying it before we identified it in 1998," Pesci said.

To continue studying the bacterium, Pesci conducted five years of research before asking the National Institutes of Health for assistance.

The money awarded for the grant will go toward, "hiring personnel and buying laboratory supplies to conduct the proposed research," Pesci said.

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

Coleman's study is to find drugs that *pseudomonas* won't resist.

"We really need new compounds and new drugs that could have an effect on *pseudomonas*," Pesci said.

Some developments have already been made that could slow down the amount of *pseudomonas* in the environment.

Pesci and Coleman have found a signal that the bacterium uses to communicate with other cells to keep track of its size population and the condi-

ORAL HISTORY continued from A4

for scholarly research at Joyner Library's Special Collections Department and online at the University Archives Web site. In 2009 a public showcase will present the results of the project.

Those interested in participating in the project are asked to send a brief

statement about their ECU experience along with personal contact information to Maury York, assistant director for Special Collections, at Joyner Library by April 1. York can also be contacted via e-mail at yorkm@ecu.edu with the subject

line centennial oral history project. Those selected to participate in the project will be notified shortly after April 1.

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

IF YOU'RE CARING FOR ANOTHER FAMILY MEMBER, TRYING YOUR HARDEST AND DOING YOUR BEST ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.



One out of five adults finds themselves as the designated "caregiver" for a loved one who can't manage alone. This role can often snowball, placing more and more demands on the family caregiver. In trying to do it all, you may reach a point of diminishing returns where the level of care – despite your best efforts – may be less than it could or should be. That's where we can help. Visit www.familycaregiving101.org and discover a world of support, answers and advice – for both of you.



From the National Family Caregivers Association and the National Alliance for Caregiving with the generous support of Eisai Inc.

East Carolina University

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The College of Business

presents

Cynthia Cooper

Internal auditor, consultant, WorldCom "whistle-blower"

"WorldCom Warnings: What Went Wrong and Corporate Governance Lessons Learned"

Part of the Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series

Hilton Greenville

3:30 p.m., Thursday, January 17

The public is invited to attend this free event.

For more information, please contact the College of Business by e-mailing bogeya@ecu.edu, or visit online at www.business.ecu.edu.

The Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series is made possible by a gift from ECU alumni Steve and Ellen Cunanan. Matching funds were also provided by the Johnson & Johnson Foundation.

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.



Most variants of *Escherichia coli* bacteria live harmlessly on – and inside – our bodies, but a few cause food poisoning; heat and washing with soap kill them readily.

Source: American Society for Microbiology, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Graphics: (kitchen) Long, Sun, Senzani, and (office) Senzani, Bradstreet Herald. © 2007 MCT

CHECK YOUR PULSE JAN 16TH!

Medical student recognition banquet to be held Jan. 19

ECU News Services— Graduating minority medical students at East Carolina University will be recognized Saturday, Jan. 19, at the 24th annual Dr. Andrew A. Best Senior Recognition Banquet.

The event begins at 7 p.m. at the Greenville Hilton. It is sponsored by the Student National Medical Association at the Brody School of Medicine at ECU. Dr. Julius Q. Mallette, assistant vice chancellor for regional health services

outreach at ECU, will speak. Best was Greenville's first black physician. He died in 2005. The banquet was renamed for him this year.

The National Medical Association is the only national organization devoted to the needs of African-American physicians and health professionals. The SNMA was founded as a subdivision of the NMA. The ECU chapter holds the ACE Bowl-A-Thon to raise money to help low-income

people with diabetes purchase diabetes supplies, sponsors the Best Scholarship and works to raise awareness of health professions among minority high school students.

Banquet tickets are \$30 for the general public and \$15 for students and may be purchased by calling the Academic Support and Enrichment Center at the Brody School of Medicine at (252) 744-2500 or by e-mailing Akilah Crawford at asc0627@ecu.edu.

Editor of North Carolina Literary Review recognized for achievement

ECU News Services— Margaret Bauer, the editor of the North Carolina Literary Review, has been recognized for her leadership and work with the journal by the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.

The CELJ announced Bauer as the winner of the Parnassus Award for Significant Editorial Achievement at the group's annual meeting held during the Modern Language Association conference in December in Chicago.

Bauer, who is also Rives Chair of Southern Literature in the Department of English at East Carolina University, has served as editor of the NCLR since 1997. The literary journal is housed in ECU's Department of English. Bauer, who earned her doctorate in Southern literature from the University of Tennessee, joined the ECU faculty in 1996.

The CELJ judges

commented about Bauer's work: "In 2007, the journal marked the 100th anniversary of its founding institution, East Carolina University, as well as the completion of its serialized...dictionary of North Carolina writers. Its design quality is impressive, but what most impressed our judges was the sheer tensile power of the writing, a signal tribute to the sustained work of editor Margaret D. Bauer..."

In response to her award, Bauer said, "In 1993 NCLR founding editor Alex Albright received CELJ's best new journal award in recognition of his achievement in creating this unique amalgam of literary magazine with elements of the scholarly journal. Alex's were large shoes to fill when I took over as editor in 1997, and I appreciate this award's testimony that NCLR continues to live up to its early promise."

The Parnassus Award for Significant Editorial Achievement is based on a single issue of a journal published within the previous three years "that constitutes an unusually high realization of the belletristic journal's mission in combination with application of the highest standards of "learned" editorial practice—understood to encompass editing for selection of high-quality content, compelling arrangement of contents, style, visual appeal and readability, etc. ... The award recognizes significant realization of editorial mission."

The Council of Editors of Learned Journals, an allied organization of the Modern Language Association, is an association of more than 450 editors of scholarly journals devoted to study in the humanistic disciplines.

IF YOU'RE CARING FOR ANOTHER FAMILY MEMBER, KNOW THAT THE BIGGEST HEALTH RISK MIGHT BE YOU.



One out of five adults finds themselves as the designated "caregiver" for a loved one who can't manage alone. Recent findings reveal that this role can be precarious – for both parties. While trying to do it all, you can become overwhelmed and risk your own health. As this happens, the level of care you're providing may also suffer. Fortunately, there is help and relief out there for both of you. Visit www.familycaregiving101.org and discover a world of support, answers and advice.



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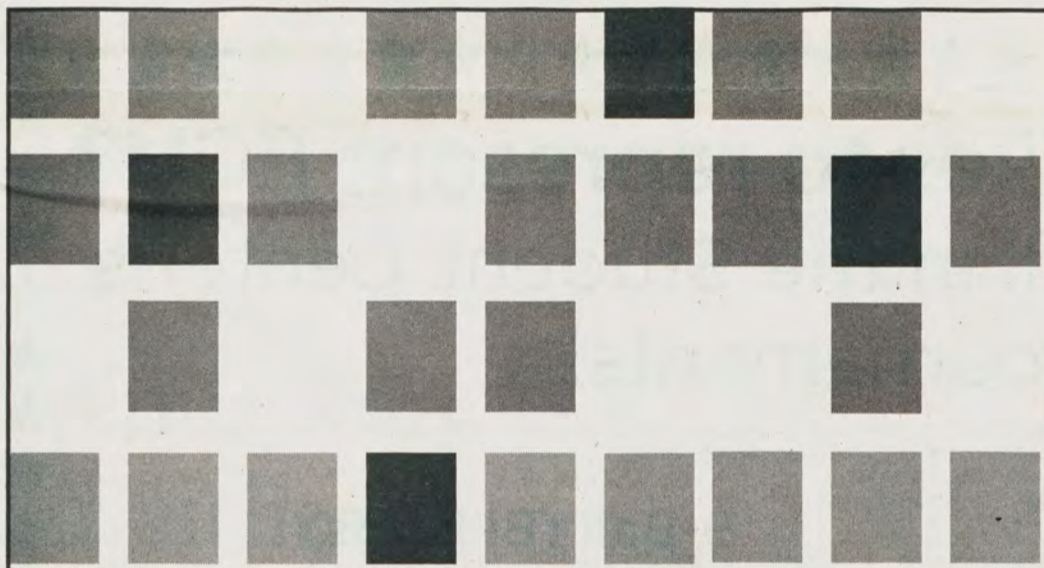
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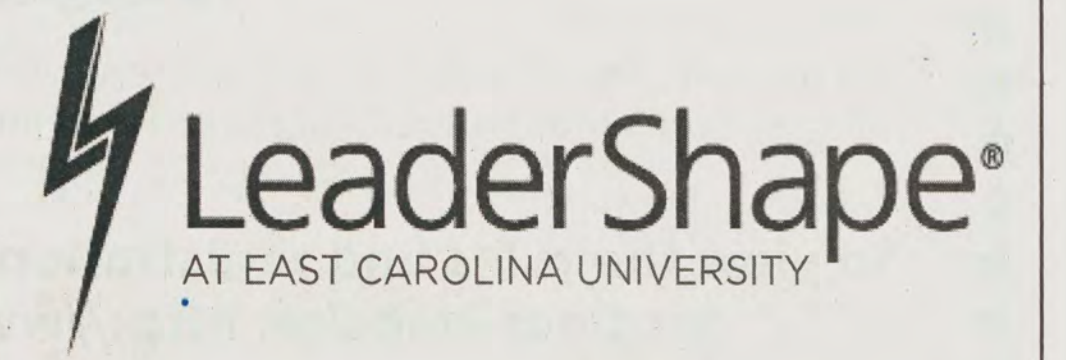


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Institute is open to all students who will be returning to ECU for the 2008-2009 academic year.



New extended deadline to apply is January 24, 2008.



911 continued from A1



Changes are being made so that emergency assistance will have a better scope of your location in the event of an accident when calling on cdevices other than land

wireless e-mail, voice-over Internet phone and text-messaging have created a new set of expectations of emergency response services.

Each country is responsible for implementing their own emergency response system, but some have not been able to keep up with the rapid pace in which communication has begun to evolve or the expense of the necessary changes.

A team of researchers in the College of Business has been studying how telecommunications technology in N.C. affects 911 emergency calls for nearly a decade.

Seeman, working with College of Business finance colleague James Holloway and management information systems colleague Maggie O'Hara, as well as former ECU MBA

student Arno Forst, studies E-911 in the United States as well as the models used throughout the European Union.

A number of academic journals have published their work, which deals with comparative emergency laws and regulations.

"In the spirit of competition, the FCC allowed there to be different standards in the United States, figuring the market for services would follow," Seeman said. The European Union, in comparison, established a single standard for cellular service.

"A lot of states have problems with 911 coverage. North Carolina is a leader with this legislation; it's a big issue," she said.

Seeman, Holloway and O'Hara plan to continue their research by examining how the new laws in N.C. will affect

and improve telecommunications coverage for emergency responders.

A multidisciplinary Division of Information Management and Telecommunications Research (DIMTR) is set to be housed within the Bureau of Business Research in the College of Business at ECU.

Research, education and service in the areas of management information technology, wireless, wireline, VoIP telecommunications, emergency services, and business and administrative operations will be the primary focus. Students from management information systems, business, law, public policy and non-business fields will participate in the research.

This writer can be contacted at editor@theeastcarolinian.

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Do you have what it takes to represent ECU?

It's time to show your skill in the Student Center's Recreation Tournaments!

Bowling

Monday, January 14, 2008
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
MSC Outer Limitz Bowling

9-Ball (Billiards)

Wednesday, January 16, 2008
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
MSC Pirate Underground

Spades

Saturday, January 19, 2008
2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
MSC Multipurpose Room

Table Tennis

Wednesday, January 16, 2008
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
MSC Pirate Underground

Chess

Saturday, January 19, 2008
12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
MSC Social Room

No Registration Fee!

Participants selected as winners will represent East Carolina University at the Association of College Unions International Region 5 Recreational Tournaments being hosted by Virginia Tech February 22-24, 2008, in Blacksburg, VA.

To view the rules and registration information for each event, please visit our website: <http://www.ecu.edu/universityunions>

Why Uwe Boll is a genius

And no director comes close

YAZID FINN
OPINION WRITER

Alfred Hitchcock, Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino, Stanley Kubrick ... give me a break. No one imaginable compares to the brilliance of Uwe Boll. The German director easily casts a shadow over Hollywood with every stunning film he produces and directs. Uwe Boll is a breed all his own, with, in my opinion, only the notable director Michael Bay coming close with his groundbreaking films.

Just look at the award-winning movies Boll has under his belt: *House of the Dead*, *Alone in the Dark* and *BloodRayne*. Pretty much the greatest films of their respective years, beating out crap like the pretentious *Good Night, And Good Luck* or the fluke *Mystic River*. Why, when *Alone in the Dark* and *BloodRayne* were announced to be coming out in the same year, my head nearly exploded from the news? It was almost too much Boll for anyone to handle in the same year ... almost.

Some may try to argue that Uwe Boll is a modern-day Ed Wood, comparing the legendary German director to some mid-20th-century American hack. Please. Just look at the source material of the two directors. Ed Wood's films were destined to fail the moment he began typing. Uwe Boll takes a different path. Uwe Boll probes the human psyche. Boll keeps his ear to the ground of modern society and his eyes open for what he knows his audience wants. This of course entails videogames, and lots of them. I mean, why pay 50 bucks to play something for 30 hours when you can easily drop 10 dollars and have someone play it for you in less than two? It does not make sense any other way!

The profits that Boll makes per film speak for themselves. Just like *The Blair Witch Project* and the original *Saw*, the German director is making nearly ten-to-one on his money for every film he fathoms into existence. With every poorly constructed video game that hits the market, Boll is there to take that game off the shelves and adapt it to the big screen, knowing full well his \$500,000 will net over \$5 million in box office revenues.

I would have dusted off the sleeping bag and camped outside a theater for *In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale*, that released this past Friday, if I had not already promised my significant other a relaxing Blockbuster night. It is no worries, however, as I promised myself to have my priorities in order for Boll's next release. I mean, who needs chicks when you have everything a guy could possibly want: poor dialog, senseless violence, and a plot that is harder to follow than a Republican presidential debate.

This writer can be reached at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Opinions are like airheads

Say what?

J.D. LEWIS
OPINION EDITOR

Today marks a change at The East Carolinian. I have taken over as editor of the Opinion page from Rachel King. After a couple of years with the paper, Rachel was ready to try something new. She did an excellent job, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

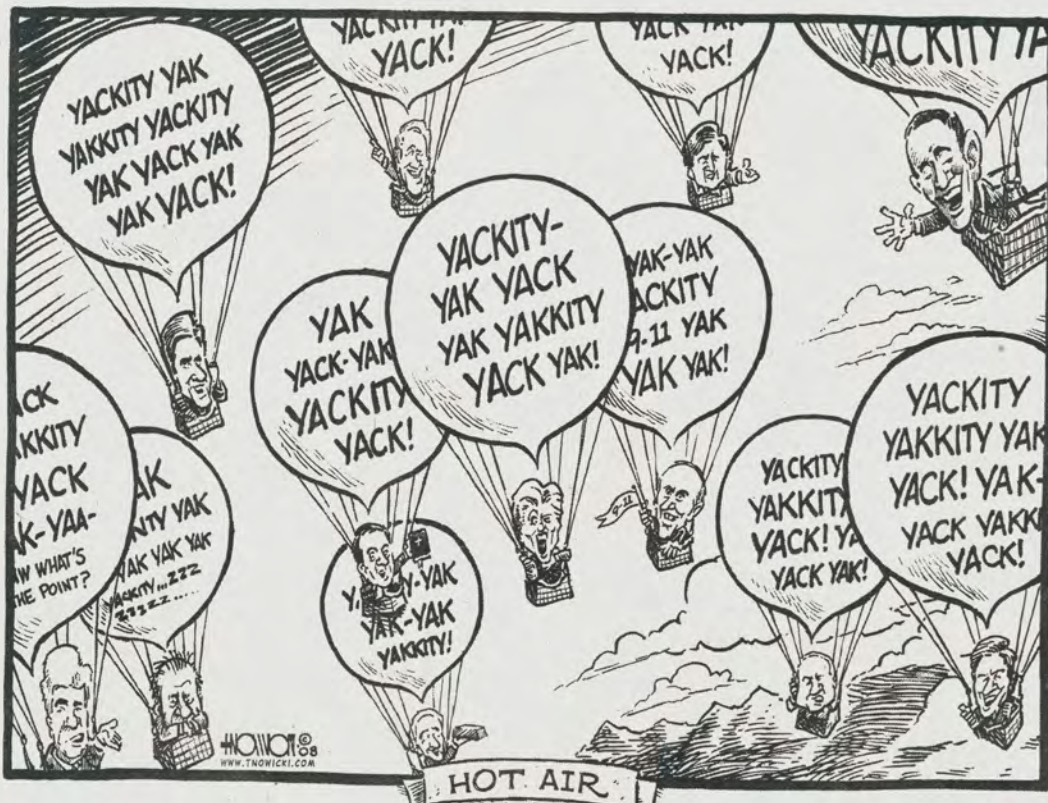
Now it's my turn to try something new. I've written for newspapers on and off for 12 years, but I never took part in the business side of things. I missed most of the training sessions I had scheduled with Rachel, thanks to the flu, so I'm playing this whole editor thing by ear. It'll mean less writing for me and more time trying to figure out how to do something with a computer besides surf eBay, but everyone on the staff has been supportive so far. Once I get the hang of things, I know I'll be okay.

We've still got the same excellent staff of opinion writers and a couple of newcomers have expressed interest in coming on board, so you can expect the same witty insights you've come to know and love this semester.

It's a crazy world out there, and it's going to get crazier as this seemingly endless election season drags on. Everybody knows what opinions are like — unless you saw the network TV version of Clint Eastwood's "The Dead Pool," and you think they're airheads — and we all have one. We'll be more than happy to share them with you.

This writer can be reached at
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PIRATE RANTS

The *East Carolinian* does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to J.D. Lewis, Opinion Page Editor, at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

I don't care what anyone says, UGGS are SEXY. And yes, I am a guy. Keep wearing them ladies!

I have to admit those Mormon guys with the nametags are way cute.

I regret nothing in my past ... except you.

Don't complain about not being specially added to a closed course when your Facebook picture is of you doing a beer bong.

Last night was yummy!

Just figured I would put some letters to form some words because I really don't have anything to say. BE easy.

If you are a single, sweet, decent looking guy, please call 1-800-I-Need-A-Boyfriend.

Why does my psych prof have pictures of his grandchildren on his academic webpage? Are they content for the course?

You know you are too drunk to drive when you swerve to miss a tree and then realize it was your air freshener!

Searching for a good ol' handsome rugged cowboy. Any still out there?

I miss the Pirate Rants like whoa now that I don't live in Greenville anymore.

I don't seem obvious, do I?

I love how they are so quick to take our money and drop our classes, yet they won't fix the dysfunctional system that gives us all headaches when we pay thousands of dollars to come here. What's wrong with this picture?

I miss you!

I think it's pretty sad that ECU didn't do anything to their Web site when we won the bowl game. Don't you?

I just wrote a BOOK! AARRRRGH!!

Iranian invasion. Oil prices break their own record. Britney's back in the news. This is gonna be a fun year!

Finally! After a year and a half of stripper roommates, bunk beds, community showers, plantar

wart outbreaks, mandatory hall meetings and quiet hours, I'm in an apartment!

I really wish there was some type of drug that can help slow drivers to drive faster.

I wish you would just clean your fish tank. It smells like you do when you throw up from drinking for a week straight!

The French I textbook is \$150! This is not gonna happen, not to me. I'll take Underwater Russian Basketweaving first. This is a note to all of you: Since you are required to finish at least one foreign language, take Latin or Ancient Greek. The textbooks are only about \$40. The book companies think they're forcing you to acquiesce to their price-gouging. Learn a language no one speaks anymore.

I love how today was the first day of school and ECU just called me this morning to tell me I was accepted.

Who knew that I'd miss the indoor-outdoor carpet so much?

To the Taurus from Theta Chi: You are a terrible driver. Get off the phone!

Why did school start on a Friday? Am I the only one that doesn't make sense to?

I'm already excited about next football season!!

FINALLY!!! My annoying roommate transferred out, and her girlfriend moved out of my hall. Spring semester is going to be so good!!!

Here's the thing. I'm totally okay with homosexuals, but how come an all-girls hall prohibits my boyfriend from sleeping over, but my roommate's girlfriend can stay the night whenever she wants? I don't want to see my roommate rolling around in bed with anyone, boy or girl.

Your boyfriend disappears for two weeks to smoke pot, which he enjoys more than you ... wow, you picked a winner!

Where have all the pirate rants gone?

Am I the only person who decides to stock up on bubble sheets during

finals week and takes about 30 of them? It's not that I can't read the sign that says "Three Sheets Per Visit," I'm simply being economical.

I miss the dirty G-Vegas.

Sugar-free Red Bulls explode if you leave them in the fridge for a while.

I recently discovered that the fruit cups found at Java City are good for 5 cup-sized servings of PJ.

Everyone would really appreciate it if you ate the super crunchy potato chips in the crinkly foil bag ANYWHERE besides the quite study floor of Joynor.

My well-organized box of note cards is so sexy.

Girl, you stink. Take a bath.

ECU transit might have to add another route from downtown to Cookout.

My love, you are my true heart because when I'm with you, you bring out the best in me. Forever within my memory you will remain, and my thoughts and actions now and forever will be motivated and guided by you.

No, Sir, it is NOT okay that you mimicked that Asian woman's accent on how she pronounced that dude's name. NOT OKAY... that was rude!

So I lied when I said our making out wouldn't affect me. I want you even more now!

If I had a guitar, you would be the reason there are teardrops on it.

Dear Linksys customer, I hope you know that I'm stealing your internet!

Do you think she'll know it's us?

It's pretty sad that even you agree with the Pirate Rants that I write about you.

I waxed my girlfriend's back yesterday.

Stop looking like you are hoarding acorns in your cheeks.

In return for my plucking your eyebrows, you pop my zits. It's a win-win situation!

I hate ketchup ...

Like a lot

ALEX LARocca
OPINION WRITER

I don't know when it really started. I can recall when I was very young going to McDonald's and dipping my delicious french fries in that red death syrup, but somewhere along the line — let's say high school — my tongue and my mind verged into one constant thought: Ketchup is friggin' gross!

Now I don't like to badger too many people with how I feel about something, but when I see people use ketchup it makes my heart wrench. For years now I have been enjoying my french fries and hamburgers without that salty fart taste infecting everything that I eat, but I sometimes feel I just don't get it. And I don't. I am not sure where my logic derives from, but let us really think about ketchup for a moment.

My first thought: What the hell is ketchup? Really, someone tell me, because I know that when you mash a bunch of tomatoes together you get marinara sauce. Mash them lightly, hard or medium, the results will never be ketchup ... ever. So logically from time to time, I read the ingredients of the red taint: vinegar and tomato paste. How does this happen? There is nothing in the ingredients that leads you to believe that adding these things together should equal a salty, tomato-like gel that goes — it doesn't — with potatoes and meat.

So where are we left in a society where everyone is using a condiment that has no identity? I suppose it comes down to a personal battle that everyone must face for themselves, but unfortunately some people take it too far, and I cannot keep it to myself anymore.

These situations come into play when I see that murderous act of ketchup on a steak, on chicken, or, God forbid, on pork. How were you people raised? A friend of mine used to have to eat cheese and ketchup sandwiches because he was so poor. Is this the key? Is it poverty that keeps ketchup going? Because I will tell you right now, I have never been rich, but to use ketchup as some sort of enhancer like salt is almost like calling cancer an enhancer.

Although I usually stand alone in my battle against the red demon, one thing that many people, including the users, all agree on is the smell. Why, dear God, does ketchup smell so bad? Now I can understand some people don't mind the smell when it is on food — I can't — but when it is separated from its parasitic relationship, it can stain lives.

As I have delved into the ingredients question with no avail, I will present another: What can produce such a horrid smell? One might think vinegar, but I know what that smells like and I don't mind it. Mayonnaise doesn't smell that bad and mustard is quite neutral. In fact, mustard is a great substitute for ketchup if anyone is interested in a withdrawal program.

In the end though, and I do mean the end, everyone will more than likely have to stand trial for their condiment abuses. Years ago, I went a little overboard on honey mustard, but I claim responsibility for it. Can you withstand the trial of ketchup abuse? Think about it...

This writer can be reached at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

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This writer can be reached at
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T.V. addicts should find a new hobby

I want *Heroes* back,
but I'm on the writers side

JESSICA DUNLOW
OPINION WRITER

I think it would be super cool to be a television writer. They get to create all the amazing shows we watch and become addicted to. You know that deep down you cannot focus on day-to-day life without having your weekly dose of "Grey's Anatomy," "Heroes," "John Stewart" or "Family Guy." Yes, there is that underlying motivation to promote the writers' cause because we so desperately need some sort of entertainment other than booze and homework.

However, what is causing the writers' strike? It is important to understand why they are picketing the studios, because it inherently affects us all. According to the Writers' Guild of America, the studios are depriving the writers of these hit television shows, along with those of talk shows and late night programs, of their proper compensation considering the rise in television DVD sales, internet promotions on iTunes and other web sources, and the networks' allowing shows to be posted on studio Web sites.

According to recent news releases, Tina Fey ("30 Rock"), Tim King ("Heroes"), Seth McFarlane ("Family Guy"), Matthew Perry ("Friends") and dozens of other actors who support writers stormed the picket lines, and unfortunately, the networks are not understanding. Seriously? How can they not?

The writers are the most imperative part of a television show. Without them,

there would be no witty jokes, no sappy love stories and no quirky nerds stealing the hearts of the nation. Writers work their creative minds off to provide the general public with some ounce of culture, and the networks repay them by undercutting their genius with lacking compensation.

The networks say they will not consider negotiations until the strikers return to work, whereas the picketers refuse to return without talking first. It is a game of chicken, and we would all like to see the writers win. The movie industry will not suffer because the studios have screenplays stacked up from years past, and they can choose from the scripts they already paid for. Even then, screenplay writers join the ranks and walk the lines. The Director's Guild of America contains numerous writers and directors walking the picket line, so it is hard to understand why they are being stubborn and refusing to talk (*cough* greed *cough*).

Despite my desire to enter the television writing field, it is the ethical obligation to side with the writers because they are underappreciated for their hard work, and if the actors are acknowledging them, so should the rest of us.

In addition, regardless of the fact that it would pave a smoother way for aspiring television writers of the future, it means our shows could enjoy full-length seasons. I don't know about you, but if I have to be left hanging as to whether or not HRG and Claire find each other again on "Heroes," I am not going to be a happy camper.

This writer can be reached at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

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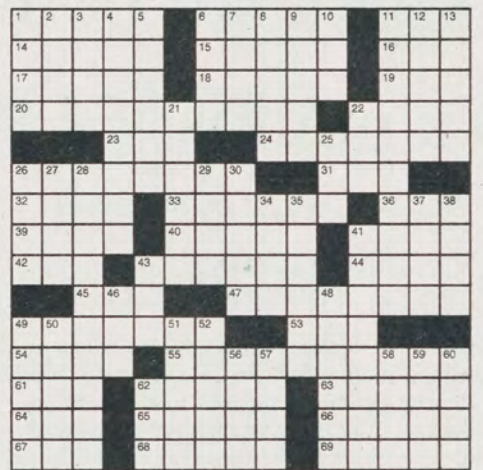
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Crossword

ACROSS
1 One of David's sons
6 Pic
11 Feminine pronoun
14 Metal mixture
15 Ventilated
16 Turkey mister
17 Cat calls
18 Burning
19 Militarize
20 Eglantine
22 Sicilian mount
23 Spanish river
24 Associations of teams
26 "On the Waterfront" co-star
31 Misyery
32 Distinctive air
33 Husky-voiced
36 Disseminate
39 Sketch
40 In a dominant position
41 Marine color?
42 Turf piece
43 Agree
44 Engaged
45 Wedding vow
47 Listening devices
49 Andaman and islands
53 Itsy-bitsy
54 Muscat's country
55 Stridency
61 Tatami
62 In the future
63 Dazzling display
64 Grow mellow
65 Release
66 Actor Savalas
67 Comic Skelton
68 Chip maker
69 English county



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Solutions

7 Sound system
8 Bay window
9 Haute, IN
10 Lyrical poem
11 Tall and proud
12 Singer Lena
13 Thompson and Samms
21 Caterwaul
22 Self
25 Dumbfound
26 Glasgow guys
27 Continental currency
28 Wiped out
29 City on the Rhine
30 Lot
34 Libertine
35 Spread out awkwardly
37 Unseat
38 Methods
41 Times away
43 Corn holder
46 Ho of Hawaii
48 Take out
49 Ballplayer GarciaParra

50 Public persona
51 Deathly pale
52 Scarlett
56 Temper tantrum
57 Figure of devotion
58 Building additions
59 Vendor's success
60 Hades river
62 Actress MacGraw

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{ECU's Inside Source}



STATS

ECU

First Downs
22
Rushing Yards
322
Passing Yards
154
Total Yards
476
Penalties-Yards
7-50
Turnovers
1
3rd Down Conversions
6-15
4th Down Conversions
1-1
Red Zone Scoring
6-6
Sacks
1
Field Goals
2-2



VS.



BSU

First Downs
22
Rushing Yards
98
Passing Yards
270
Total Yards
368
Penalties-Yards
4-50
Turnovers
4
3rd Down Conversions
6-12
4th Down Conversions
0-0
Red Zone Scoring
3-3
Sacks
2
Field Goals
1-1

Pirate Nation poll question:

What was your favorite play of the Pirates' 2007 football season?

- A. Ben Hartman's game-winning kick against UNC
- B. Rob Kass' 34-yard touchdown pass to Juwon Crowell as time expired against UTEP
- C. Chris Johnson's 96-yard kickoff return to open the second half against UCF
- D. Ben Hartman's game-winning kick against Boise State in the Hawaii Bowl

To vote on this week's poll question go to the eastcarolinian.com and submit your vote. Current results can be found by clicking on the view results button under the poll question. The final results will be posted in next Tuesday's edition of The East Carolinian.

A season worthy of reflection

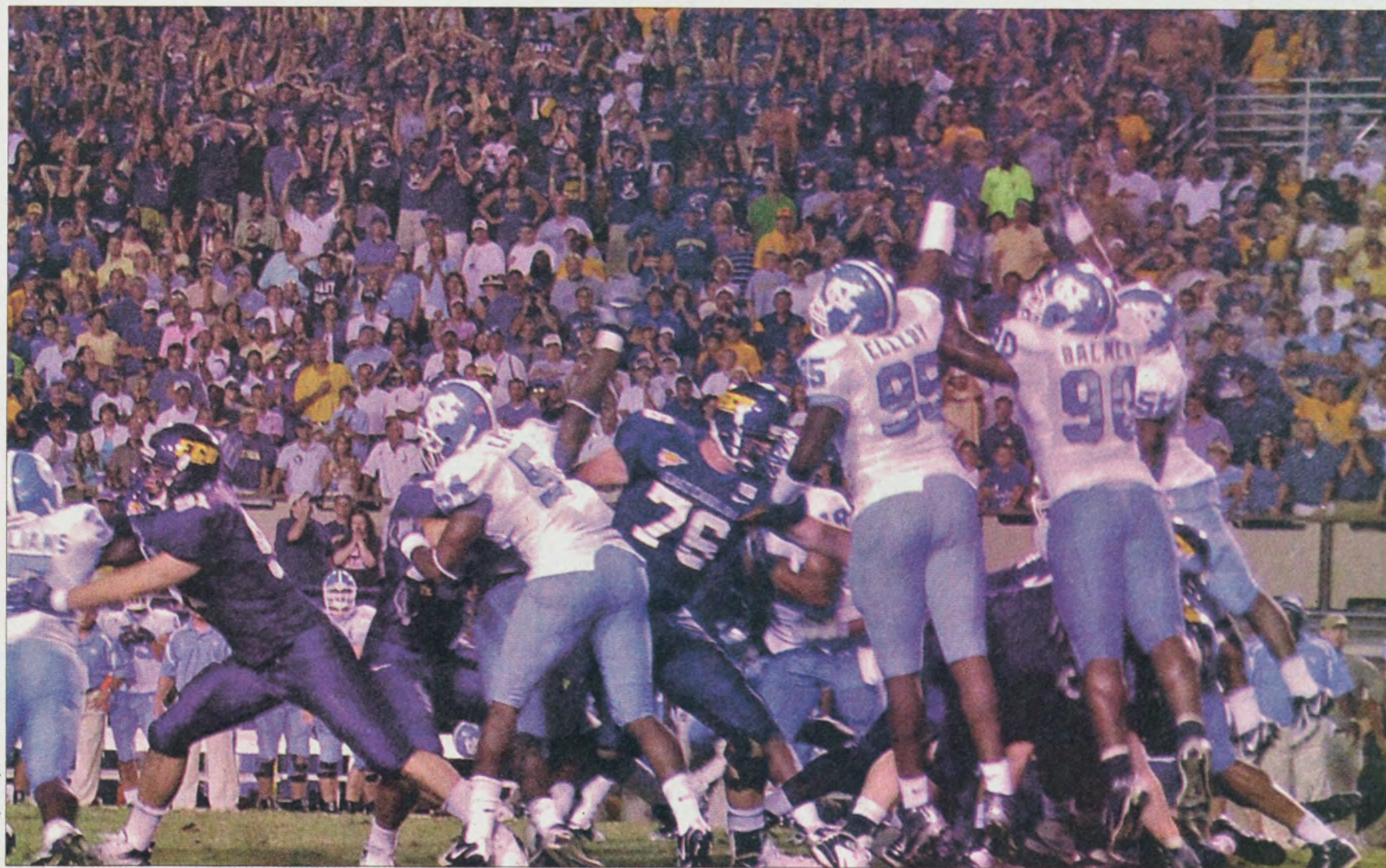


Photo by Robyn McLawhorn

Ben Hartman kicks a game-winning 39-yard field goal to beat rival North Carolina at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, which was one ECU's most important victories of 2007.

Roller coaster season ends on high note

JARED JACKSON
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Four years ago the Pirates were one of the worst football teams in division 1-A.

Now, ECU [8-5,6-2] will long be remembered for the 2007 squad that came together to not only hoist the Hawaii Bowl trophy for the program's first bowl win since the 2000 GalleryFurniture.com Bowl,

but also for solidifying the program's status as one of the best non-BCS football schools in America.

The schedule did ECU no favor when Virginia Tech was slated to be the Pirates' first opponent last spring, but after the massacre that took place on April 16 that killed 32 people and wounded many more, the game was vaulted onto the national radar.

ESPN picked up the contest in wake of the massacre and the game looked as if it would

be a blowout leading up to the contest after Pirates' starting quarterback Rob Kass was suspended the week of the game for a DUI.

The Pirates, who were 27 ½ point underdogs on the road, didn't have much to lose and actually lead 10-7 for a short while before a Brett Clay interception was returned 17 yards for a touchdown that would put the Hokies up for good.

During what would eventually become a 17-7 loss for the Pirates, a new star emerged.

Junior quarterback Patrick Pinkney exploded onto the scene in Blacksburg and proved to be a burden to the talented Hokies' defense, as he was able to run for 48 yards and also go 14-of-25 for 115 yards through the air.

"This team is not afraid of contact, and this is a very physical team," Holtz said after the game. "We played Virginia Tech and we challenged them, told them we're going to have to make it a physical game and they didn't shy away from it. I was proud of the way they came

out here and competed."

After going toe to toe with one of the best teams in the ACC, ECU returned home to face another foe from the conference and in-state rival North Carolina in each program's second contest.

Pinkney made the most out of his first collegiate start, going 31-for-41 for 406 yards and three touchdowns. That incredible stat line would earn him the second

see REFLECTION page B2

Opinion: Conference play should determine program's future



Photo by Robyn McLawhorn

Senior point guard Darrell Jenkins guards a N.C. Wesleyan player during an earlier non-conference tilt for ECU. Conference USA teams should provide stiffer competition.

Decision will have to be made

RONNIE WOODWARD
SPORTS EDITOR

Mack McCarthy is making things difficult on ECU Director of Athletics Terry Holland this basketball season.

Holland introduced McCarthy, who has been an ECU assistant coach since 2005, as the

Pirates' interim head coach for this season after Ricky Stokes unexpectedly stepped down just months before the season.

Prior to the season, both Holland and McCarthy said a decision on a permanent coach would not be made until after the season.

But about a month ago, McCarthy did something no ECU coach, interim or not, has ever done—beat a team from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

And not only was it the Pirates first win over the ACC in 58 games, it was against hated rival N.C. State.

After ECU's 75-69 upset victory in the Wolfpack's first ever trip to Minges Coliseum, confidence and optimism surrounding ECU men's basketball program was as high as its been in years.

After the crucial win, McCarthy's interim tag also seemed in question.

In the postgame press conference, one reporter asked, "Does Mack McCarthy deserve an extension?"

Sophomore center John Fields made his answer very clear.

"I'll be the first one to say yes," Fields said. "When we lose, he just wipes his hands and tells us to keep working."

"He believes in us and I really believe in him. I think he should get an extension."

Senior forward Taylor Gagnon, who has played for three different head coaches during his career, said that the N.C. State win was a "great win for everyone involved."

But three weeks later, ECU unexpectedly lost to NAIA member Lee, 77-75, at Minges Coliseum.

McCarthy has said that the Pirates have

see OPINION page A7

REFLECTION continued from B1

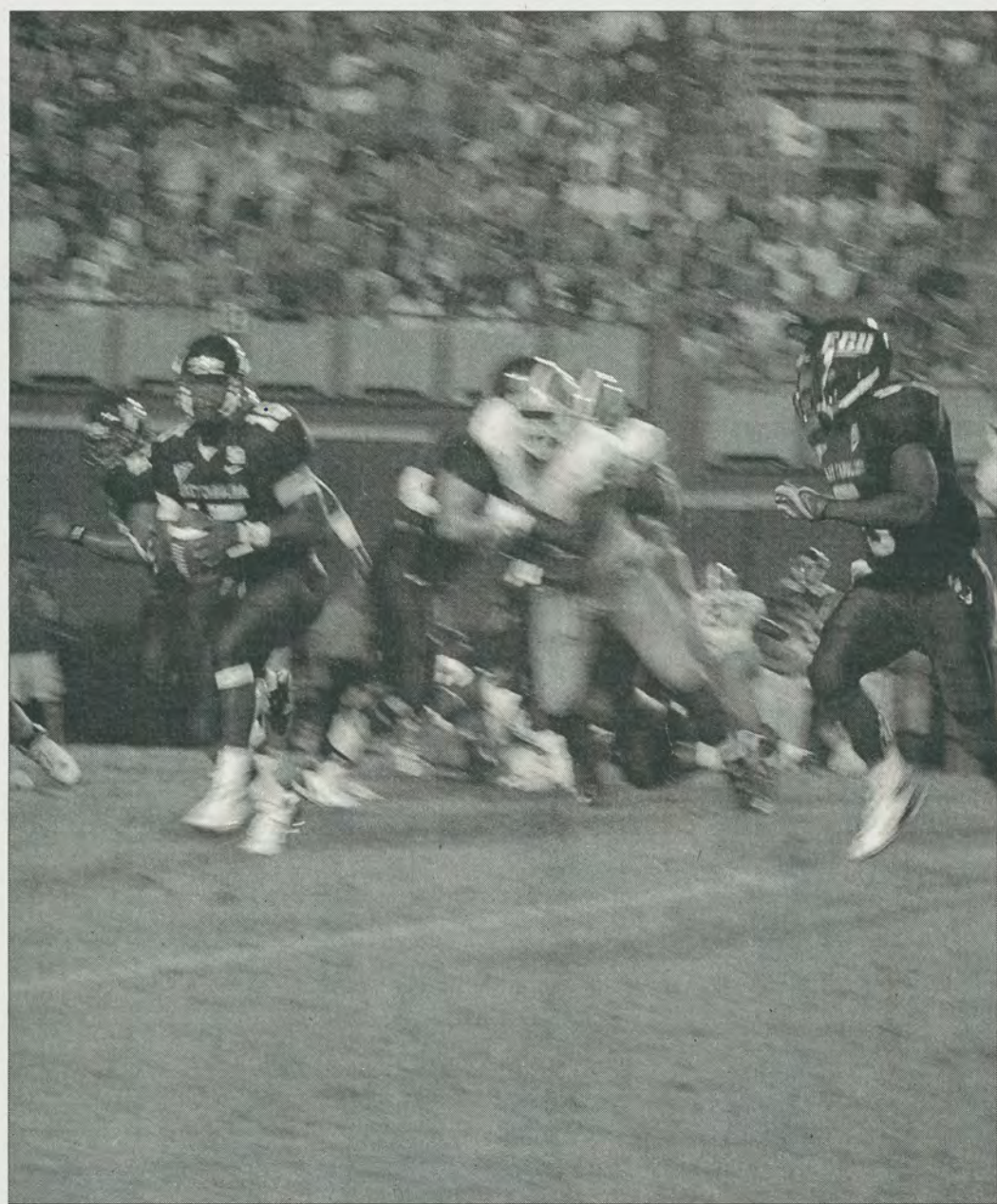


Photo by Ripbyn McLawhorn

Quarterback Patrick Pinkney used his legs and his arm to beat North Carolina.

best passing performance in school history.

Also exploding onto the scene was senior running back Chris Johnson, who racked up 136 receiving yards and two touchdowns. The explosive senior had 258 all-purpose yards against the Heels.

But even these two couldn't seal the deal for the Pirates. The victory rested on a foot of a kicker, Ben Hartman, who was 1-of-4 before nailing the game-winner.

"You just have to block out everything that has gone bad," said the Pirates' kicker. "I knew it was going to come down to me and I just said, 'forget about the other three and make this one; this one counts.'"

And with the stands in Dowdy-Ficklen deafly silent, Hartman's kick sailed through the uprights and the Pirates defeated UNC for the first time since 1975.

"We're growing, we're moving in the right direction," Holtz said after the victory. "We still have a long way to go but I couldn't be more pleased with the attitude, the way these players are working and the commitment level that they have."

The next two weeks would feature heart-breaking losses, as the Pirates fell to rival Southern Miss, 28-21, in the opener of C-USA play and then to national powerhouse West Virginia, 48-7.

"We have to get ourselves off the ground and brush off," Holtz said in the week leading up to the pivotal Houston game. "I told the team that nothing is ever as good or as bad as it seems. Reality falls somewhere in between and I think things are not as bad as they seem right now. We have to step up because life is a series of battles. You will rarely, if ever, be on the very top or bottom."

ECU would answer all of the questions surrounding the program with a 37-35 road victory over Houston that many Pirates would simply make down to good luck.

The Cougars missed all three of their field goal attempts, two of which came with less than two minutes left in the game, and the Pirates made their only attempt, which was the difference in the game.

Surprisingly, the game marked Johnson's first 100-yard rushing game of the season, as the playmaker ran for 147 yards and two touchdowns.

"We got the rushing game going," said Holtz. "I thought Chris Johnson had an excellent game; he ran hard, ran physical and really did a nice job with it."

Also, redshirt sophomore Rob Kass played the entire second half for the Pirates and threw for 110 yards and one touchdown in his first significant action since being suspended prior to the season opener against Virginia Tech.

The win over Houston was the first over three-straight

crucial conference victories for ECU.

In the 52-38 victory against UCF, Johnson continued his dominance as he set the ECU record for all purpose yards in a game with 372.

Johnson took a kickoff back for a touchdown, rushed for a touchdown and caught a touchdown pass in an astonishing display of his set of skills.

Kass was effective once again as he was 12-of-23 for 201 yards and three touchdowns against UCF.

In the wildest of college football seasons, no one would have suspected the ending to the Pirates' 45-42 overtime win against UTEP.

With time seemingly against ECU, Kass sent the game to overtime with a 34-yard touchdown pass to Juwon Crowell as time expired.

Then in the extra period, Kass took a quarterback keeper up the middle for a 1-yard touchdown and a victory as the Miners only came away with a field goal in their only overtime possession.

Dwayne Harris was the star for the Pirates as the freshman broke open the third quarter scoring.

First the ECU wide receiver took a handoff on a reverse and dashed 57 yards for a touchdown to give ECU a 25-22 lead. Harris then took a handoff on a double reverse and hit a wide open on an 80-yard touchdown pass, giving the Pirates a 32-22 lead.

"This was a really big game for our morale and for our players," said Holtz. "Just to see their attitude, their sigh of relief, their smiles, their excitement and enthusiasm in the locker room after the game was a lot of fun."

ECU would follow up the miracle in El Paso with a flat performance in a 34-20 loss at home to archrival NC State.

Just about anything that could go wrong went wrong for the Pirates, and after the loss to NC State snapped a three game winning streak, the Pirate Nation was once again searching for answers.

The perfect remedy to the disaster against the Wolfpack was a homecoming date against an overmatched UAB team.

In the 41-6 ECU win, Pinkney emerged from the Pirates' bench as has been the case most of the season. Pinkney was 6-of-7 for 159 yards and two touchdowns.

Sophomore Jamar Bryant also had a break out game in catching six passes for 114 yards and a touchdown.

The momentum gained by the Pirates' destruction of the Blazers carried into the next contest on the road against Memphis.

The Pirates again dominated their competition behind Chris Johnson's career day. Johnson rushed for 301 yards and four touchdowns on only 20 carries.

Patrick Pinkney also ran for 94 yards and a touchdown,

in addition to throwing for 105 yards and two touchdowns.

ECU seemed to be rolling once again and needed to win its last two games to clinch a conference title game berth.

But Marshall didn't seem to get the memo.

The Pirates were embarrassed and surprisingly beaten by the Thundering Herd in Huntington, 26-7.

The Pirates had the following week off to reflect on the opportunity that they had lost, as the bye week finally came before the regular season finale at home against Tulane.

Tulane would prove to be no contest to ECU as the Pirates easily won, 35-12.

After playing the waiting game to see their postseason destination it finally became clear that ECU would be heading to Hawaii to take on No. 24 Boise State.

Behind Johnson's NCAA Bowl record 408 all-purpose yards, ECU captured the Hawaii Bowl title, 41-38, after a game-ending 34-yard field goal from Hartman.

Johnson finished the day rushing for 223 yards and one touchdown. He also had three receptions for 32 yards and a touchdown.

"What the rest of country saw is what we've been watching for three years," Holtz told the Associated Press. "I'm the president of the fan club. I am his biggest fan. He is one of the hardest workers on this team. He's humble. He works his tail off."

Pinkney, who played most of the game, went 12-of-19 for 118 yards and a touchdown. Kass only had one pass completion, but it was very meaningful, as it put ECU in field goal range for the game-winning kick.

The Pirates led 38-14 with 9:02 left in the third before Boise State mounted a comeback for the ages.

With 1:25 remaining in the fourth quarter, Johnson's second fumble of the year was taken back for the tying score.

The game didn't remain deadlocked for long, as Kass came in to direct the Pirates down the field in position for Hartman's game winner.

"I think we learned a lot from that game," Holtz told *The Daily Reflector*. "We got on them the first day they were here in Hawaii to really bring them back in. We tried to draw the line and say this is one of the best bowls in the country. I thought those players believed that, and these players were focused."

With the season over, Holtz and his staff will turn their focus towards the 2008 season with spring practice looming.

But rest assured, the 2007 squad will never be forgotten for bringing ECU and the Pirate Nation back to national prominence.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

FINAL RECORD

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT
09/01/07	at Virginia Tech	L, 17-7
09/08/07	vs. North Carolina	W, 34-31
09/15/07	vs. Southern Miss	L, 28-21
09/22/07	at West Virginia	L, 48-7
09/29/07	at Houston	W, 37-35
10/06/07	vs. UCF	W, 52-38
10/13/07	at. UTEP	W, 45-42
10/20/07	vs. N.C. State	L, 34-20
10/27/07	vs. UAB	W, 41-6
11/03/07	at Memphis	W, 56-40
11/10/07	at Marshall	L, 26-7
11/24/07	vs. Tulane	W, 35-12
12/23/07	vs. Boise State*	W, 41-38

- Hawaii Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii
- Overall : 8-5 [6-2]

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January 16	vs. Marshall	7:00pm
January 19	vs. UCF	7:00pm
January 26	vs. Tulane	7:00pm
February 6	vs. Rice	8:00pm
February 13	vs. Tulsa	7:00pm
February 16	vs. Southern Miss	7:00pm
February 27	vs. SMU	7:00pm
March 1	vs. Houston	7:00pm

WOMEN'S HOME C-USA SCHEDULE

January 18	vs. SMU	7:00pm
January 20	vs. Tulsa	1:00pm
January 27	vs. Marshall	2:00pm
February 7	vs. Tulane	7:00pm
February 15	vs. Southern Miss	7:00pm
February 17	vs. UCF	2:00pm
February 21	vs. UAB	7:00pm
February 23	vs. Memphis	2:00pm

Patriots end ex-Pirate's playoff run

Brady upstages Garrard's valiant effort

AP--Tom Brady was almost perfect. The Patriots still are.

Their poised and prolific quarterback knocked another mark out of the books in their record-breaking season, completing all but two of his 28 passes to lead New England to its second straight AFC championship game with a 31-20 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars Saturday night.

Former ECU star and current Jacksonville quarterback, David Garrard, went 22-of-33 for 278 yards and two touchdowns in his second career playoff start, but it wasn't enough.

Garrard, who is ECU's all-time leader passer and broke 28 school passing and total offense records with the Pirates from 1998-2001, led the Jaguars to a 31-29 road win over the Pittsburgh Steelers in his playoff debut last week.

The Patriots pulled away in the second half to improve to 17-0, matching the 1972 Miami Dolphins, the only team to go unbeaten from the first game of the season through the Super Bowl.

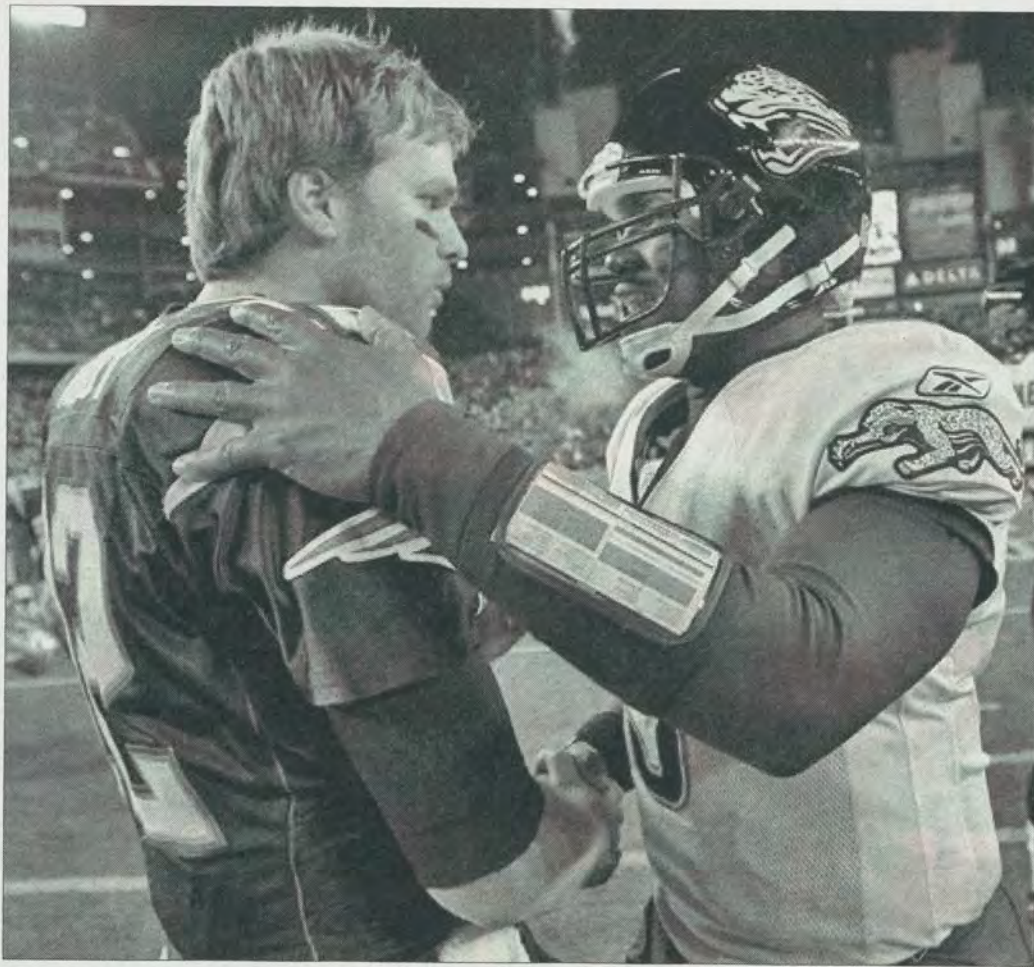
Two more wins and the Patriots will join them — much to the chagrin of some of those Dolphins.

Just one more win next Sunday at Gillette Stadium will put the Patriots back in the Super Bowl for the first time in three years after three championships in the previous four years. They'll face the San Diego Chargers, who upset Indianapolis on Sunday.

"The thing about it now is that none of it matters," Brady said. "For 17 games, it all comes down to this and we were here last year. I hope we perform better."

Brady completed 92.9 percent of his passes, breaking Phil Simms record of 88 percent (22-of-25) set in the Super Bowl after the 1986 season in which he led the New York Giants to a 39-20 win over the Denver Broncos.

And Brady did it mostly without Randy Moss, who had



Tom Brady and David Garrard exchange pleasantries after the AFC Divisional round game.

only one catch against double- and triple-coverage.

"They went back to the old way of covering me," Moss said. "We win as a team. I've never been a greedy guy. I'm not going to start now."

Brady hit all the other receivers — throwing for three touchdowns and 262 yards.

"When they're open like that, it's my job to hit them," he said. "They were open every time, so it's easy to play quarterback."

While Jacksonville's defense struggled to stop Brady and crew, New England's defense had no such problems against the Jaguars' one-two rushing punch of Fred Taylor and Maurice Jones-Drew. The league's second-most productive duo during the regular season combined for just 66 yards.

It was the Patriots who dominated on the ground as Laurence Maroney rushed for 122 yards, including a 1-yard

touchdown.

Add Brady's on-target passing to these regular-season records — 50 touchdown passes by Brady, 23 scoring catches by Moss and 589 points by the team — and Jacksonville (12-6) became just another team that couldn't stop the Patriots.

And they're not done yet. "Brady's been great all year," Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio said. "He's as good as they come."

Brady completed his first 16 passes before the next one went off the hands of Benjamin Watson, who caught two others for touchdowns.

The next nine passes found their targets before one went right through Wes Welker's hands with 6:46 left in the game.

"I thought he managed the team well," coach Bill Belichick said. "Of course, he threw the ball well."

One throw the Patriots didn't make may have helped

the Jaguars take a 7-0 lead.

Garrard completed an 8-yard touchdown pass to Matt Jones on their first possession. He threw as he was going down while in the grasp of Mike Vrabel, and his knee might have touched the turf before he released the pass.

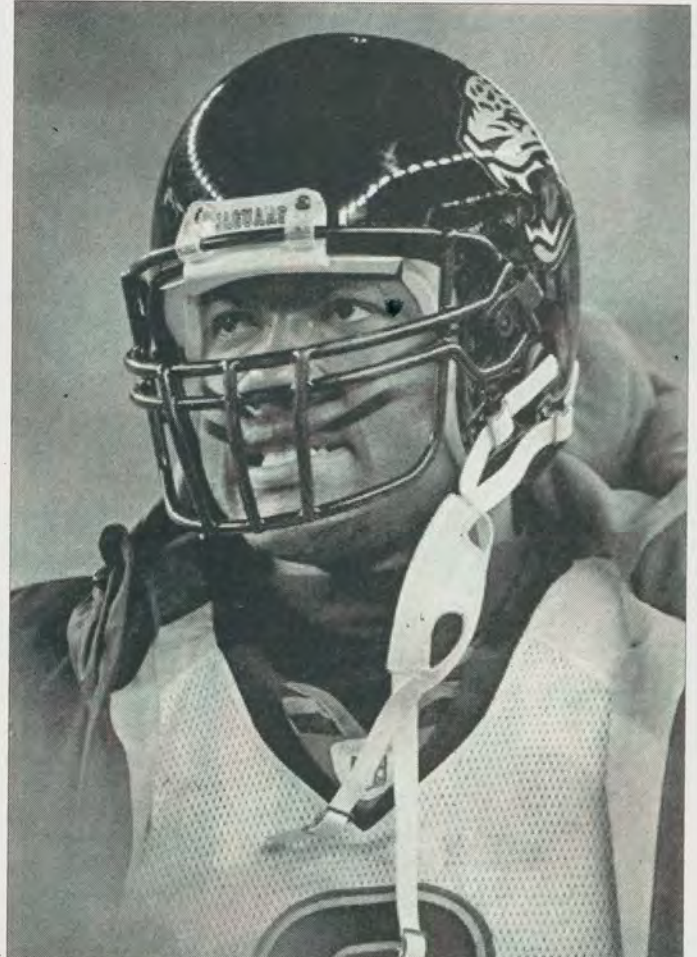
Belichick pulled the red challenge flag from his sock, but held on to it.

"It was just too late by the time we got a look at it," he said.

Brady tied it on the Patriots' first possession with a 3-yard scoring pass to Watson.

New England capitalized on Garrard's fumble on Jacksonville's second possession, when he was hit by Ty Warren and Vrabel recovered at the Jaguars 29. On the first play of the second quarter, Maroney ran in from the 1.

But Garrard kept matching the success of Brady, a two-time Super Bowl MVP. He completed



Garrard, former ECU star, played well in both of his playoff games. 22 of 33 passes for 278 yards, two touchdowns and an interception.

Garrard directed a 95-yard drive after Jones-Drew mis-played the kickoff and recovered at his own 5. With an excellent blend of passing and running, the Jaguars covered those 95 yards in 11 plays — never even reaching a third down — and tied it on Garrard's 6-yard pass to Ernest Wilford.

The Patriots then moved to the Jaguars 19, but a chop block against guard Stephen Neal set them back 15 yards and Stephen Gostkowski ended up missing a 35-yard field goal, leaving the score tied at 14 at halftime.

They came out of the locker room with trickery on their minds.

On a first-and-goal at the Jacksonville 6, Brady put on a good acting performance as he jumped and raised his empty right arm, making it appear as if Kevin Faulk had taken a direct snap. The quarterback,

meanwhile, hid the ball in his left hand.

Then he switched to his right hand and found Welker at the back of the end zone to give the Patriots the lead for good, 21-14.

"I'm looking for my Academy Award on that play," Brady said. "They bit on the run pretty good."

And the Jaguars couldn't come back they way they did a week earlier when they beat Pittsburgh 31-29 on Josh Scobee's 25-yard field goal with 37 seconds left.

One of their last chances ended when Rodney Harrison intercepted Garrard's pass with 4:34 left. That gave Harrison four interceptions in his last four playoff games, tying Aeneas Williams' record for the NFL's longest playoff streak.

"Rodney's interception at the end sealed it," Brady said. "We really needed that play."

Conference USA star enters NFL Draft



ECU defensive coordinator Greg Hudson and his defensive players will never have to worry about tackling Kevin Smith again.

Kevin Smith will not return to UCF

(AP) - Central Florida's Kevin Smith, the nation's leading rusher and Conference USA's co-offensive player-of-the-year this season, changed his mind and will turn pro, he confirmed one week ago.

Smith challenged Barry Sanders' NCAA record of 2,628 rushing yards in a season, but finished 61 yards short.

Smith ran for 147 yards and one touchdown in a 52-38 loss to the Pirates in Greenville this season, but the Golden Knights still finished one spot ahead of ECU in C-USA's East Division and went on to win the conference title.

The running back was hailed as a hero a month ago for deciding to stay in school to earn a degree and help build UCF's burgeoning program.

Another season would have put Smith well within reach of former Wisconsin back Ron Dayne's NCAA career record.

Smith said it had nothing to do with records. He said he made the previous announcement to deflect attention leading up to UCF's Liberty Bowl matchup against Mississippi State. Smith also said the 10-3 loss in that game was no factor.

"Me coming back had nothing to do with records. I was here a lot of years - that's not a reason," Smith told The Associated Press.

Smith is only one of many talented junior running backs who will not return for their respective senior seasons.

Arkansas' dynamic duo of Darren McFadden and Felix

Jones, along with West Virginia's Steve Slaton and Rutgers' Ray Rice are also done with their collegiate careers.

Smith, a high school honor roll student, said he wanted to come back and get his degree — party on the advice of his mother. But he returned to hometown Miami after the bowl game, and they had a long talk about his future.

"She basically told me, 'Do what makes you happy,'" Smith said.

Smith's decision was first reported by WFTV, Orlando's ABC affiliate. Smith said at a press conference Dec. 18 he would return to school, defying analysts who said he had nothing left to prove, and would be risking injury with more time in college.

"Kevin had a great career at UCF," coach George O'Leary said in a written statement. "We thank him for his contributions over the past three years and wish him nothing but the best."

The biggest knock on Smith was that he accomplished those feats in Conference USA, though he also rushed for 149 yards and two touchdowns against Texas this season.

Smith isn't known as a big-time speedster, though he is fast. His greatest asset is patience and vision — knowing where to make cuts to break long runs. He actually hasn't been timed in a 40-yard dash since high school, and said he's eager to prove he can run with the big guys.

"This is what people want to see: 'Is he fast,'" Smith said. "They want to know how fast I'm going to be. They don't have to see if I'm a three-down back, because I played three downs."



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Lady Pirates remain winless in C-USA



Photos by Robyn McLawhorn

ECU has lost three road contests to open Conference play.

Freshman Allison Spivey had a career-high 15 points against Memphis, but it wasn't enough in a 69-50 loss to the Tigers.

(SID)-- Jessica Hall's 21 points led Memphis to a 69-50 victory over ECU Saturday afternoon at Elma Roane Fieldhouse on the campus of the University of Memphis. With the win, the Tigers improve to 4-12, 1-2 in Conference USA action while the Lady Pirates fall to 6-10, 0-3 in league play.

Memphis jumped out to the early 6-1 lead on two straight three pointers from Jessica Hall. The Lady Pirates, sparked by a

Gabriela Husarova jumper, went on a 9-0 run to take the 10-6 lead with 15:30 on the clock. LaToya Bullard's layup triggered a 7-0 spurt by Memphis, giving the Tigers the 13-10 advantage at the 14:18 mark. The two teams traded baskets over the next five minutes before a pair of free throws by Aroha Jennings and one by Savannah Ellis put the Tigers up one, 20-19, with 8:51 to play in the half. Tiahana Bovens layup at the 6:50 mark

sparked an 8-0 run by the Lady Pirates, giving ECU the 28-20 lead with under five minutes remaining in the period. The Tigers responded, going on a 14-0 run to end the half, taking the six point, 34-28 lead into the locker room at the break.

Memphis extended its lead to 11 coming out of the break, 39-28. Terry's basket with 18:42 on the clock cut the Tiger lead down to nine, 39-30. Hall's fourth three-pointer

of the game combined with a Jennings basket extended the Memphis lead to 14, 48-34, with 13:40 to play. ECU scored four straight points to pull within ten, 48-38, with 12:24 on the clock. Four unanswered points by the Tigers upped their lead to 14, but a Terry jumper cut it back down to 12, 52-40, with less than ten minutes remaining. Bovens' jumper at the 7:16 mark once again pulled East Carolina within 12, 56-44. The

Tigers held the Lady Pirates scoreless over the next five minutes, putting together a 12-0 run, extending their lead to 24, 68-44, with just 2:28 remaining in the contest. An Allison Spivey trey ended the ECU drought, cutting the Tiger lead to 21, with two minutes to play. Memphis coasted to the 69-50 victory.

Hall led all scorers with 21 points, going 5-for-6 from behind the arc. Jennings and

Bullard each added 14 points, while Leonard pitched in 11. Spivey led the Lady Pirates with a career-high 15 points. Lauren Cochran added eight points.

The Lady Pirates return to Minges Coliseum for the first time in over a month as they host SMU on Jan. 18. Tip-off is slated for 7 p.m. ECU will remain at home on Sun., Jan. 20 as it welcomes Tulsa to Greenville for a 2 p.m. tip.

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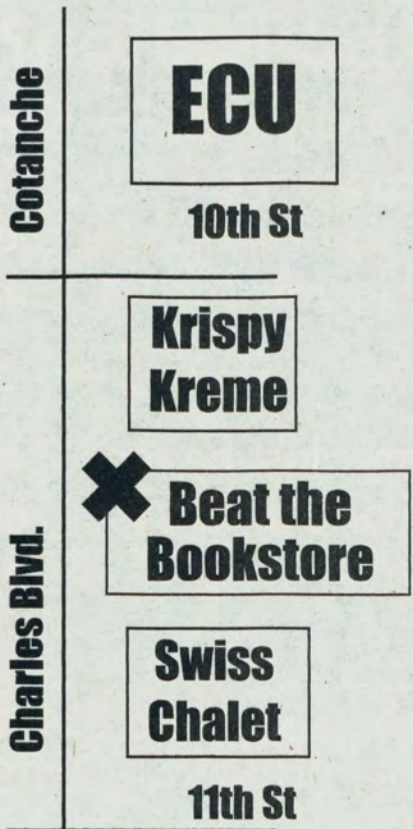
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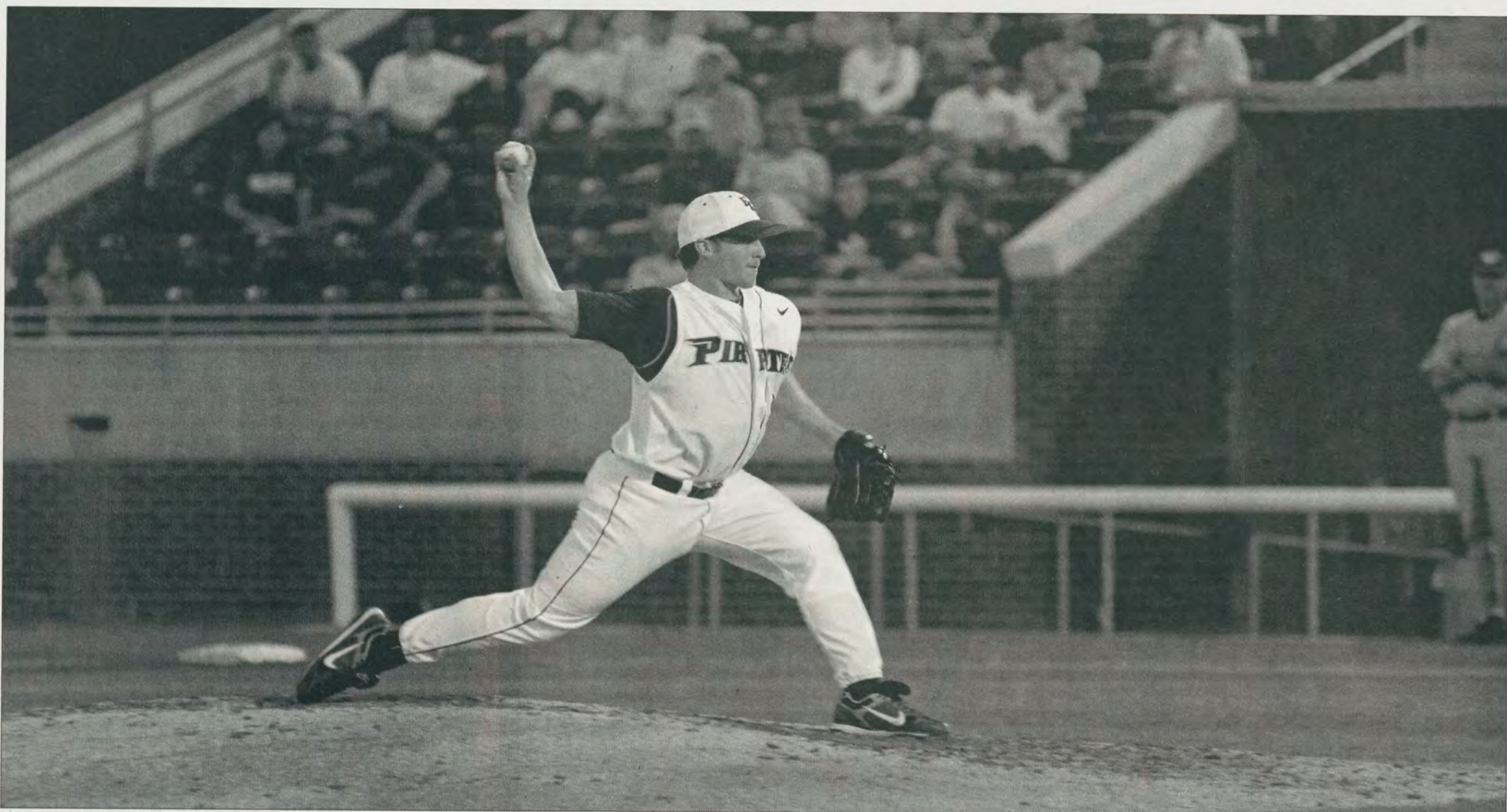
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ECU baseball players named to award list



Senior T.J. Hose will be depended on by the Pirates this Spring. Hose has been one of the Pirates top pitchers in each of his first three season, and is gaining national recognition heading into his final year.

Staff photo

Batts and Hose honored nationally

(SID)—East Carolina junior infielder Stephen Batts and senior pitcher T.J. Hose have been named to the 2008 Brooks Wallace Player-of-the-Year Award Pre-Season Watch List, the College Baseball Foundation announced recently. The duo becomes the first Pirates to be selected to the Watch List in its four-year history.

"Being on Brooks Wallace Watch List is a great honor," said ECU coach Billy Godwin. "It tells me that the Stephen and T.J. are recognized in college baseball as premier players. This is a credit to their hard work and success on the field."

Batts, who owns the second-longest active hitting streak in the nation - 29 games heading into the 2008 season, batted .323 a year ago with six home runs, 56 RBI and was named to the 2007 Conference USA All-Tournament and 2007 NCAA Chapel Hill Regional teams.

Hose enters his third season as East Carolina's top starter and has compiled a 16-13 career record with a 4.10 ERA. A season ago, the right-hander picked up second-team All-C-USA honors after posting a 6-5 record with a 3.97 ERA, and was a two-time C-USA Pitcher-of-the-Week selection and two-time College Baseball Foundation National Honor Roll recipient.

"After a great fall baseball season, we can see that the talent level in college baseball will once again be great," said Raymond Richardson, Chair of Brooks Wallace National Player of the Year Award Committee. "We have several from last year's Wallace Watch that we will continue to follow, and we look forward to tracking the

new additions as well."

The Wallace Award is presented to the nation's top collegiate baseball player in conjunction with the College Baseball Hall of Fame's annual induction festivities. The 2008 award banquet will be held Thursday, July 3, in the United Spirit Arena on the campus of Texas Tech University.

Last year's Brooks Wallace Award went to Vanderbilt pitcher, David Price. Price was the first overall pick in the 2007 First-Year Player Draft and is currently pitching in the Tampa Bay Rays organization. The 2006 winner was standout pitcher/designated hitter Brad Lincoln of Houston, Nebraska's Alex Gordon, now with the Kansas City Royals, took home the 2005 trophy. The inaugural award was given in 2004 to Kurt Suzuki of Cal State Fullerton, who is now catching for the Oakland A's.

The Wallace Award is a dedication to the memory of the former Texas Tech player and assistant coach Brooks Wallace. Wallace was a slick-fielding shortstop at Texas Tech from 1977 to 1980. A four-year starter, he was named All-Southwest Conference and All-District his senior year. He led the Red Raiders to their first-ever appearance in the Southwest Conference Tournament in 1980. After playing two years in the Texas Rangers organization, he returned to Texas Tech and served as a graduate assistant and later as an assistant coach. In the summer of 1984, he was diagnosed with cancer and fought the disease courageously until his death on March 24, 1985, at age 27. The Plano, TX, native was married to the former Sandy Arnold and they had one daughter, Lindsay Ryan.

Staff photo



Infielder Stephen Batts will enter this season on a 29-game hitting streak, which is currently second longest in the nation.

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OPINION continued from B1



Photo by ECU SID

MACK MCCARTHY

been searching for consistency, especially on offense, and that has showed.

Lack of consistency is something that has hindered the ECU program for years however.

Even though McCarthy was the first coach to beat an ACC team, past coaches have pulled off similar upsets.

Bill Herrion, who coached the Pirates from 1999-2005, upset many nationally prestigious college basketball teams, usually at home.

Herrion's Pirates defeated Marquette, led by Dwyane Wade, twice in his tenure. Marquette was ranked ninth in the nation when the Pirates beat the Golden Eagles 51-46 in 2002.

Despite the ability to pull off the occasional upset, Herrion was fired because he couldn't consistently compete in Conference USA.

Stokes, who replaced Herrion, also couldn't keep ECU out of the cellar in C-USA.

Under Stokes, the Pirates were blown out frequently and only managed three conference wins in two seasons.

So with the high of beating N.C. State and the low of losing to Lee, what should

determine if McCarthy continues to coach ECU after this

season?

The answer is simple: conference play.

The Pirates joined C-USA in 2001, but have yet to win a C-USA tournament game and have never won more than five conference games in a season (5-11 in 2001 and 2003).

ECU started conference play last Wednesday with the enormous task of playing at No. 2 Memphis, and lost 99-58.

But the Pirates now return home for two crucial games against winnable C-USA opponents.

ECU hosts Marshall on Wednesday and UCF on Saturday, both at 7 p.m.

With Memphis already out of the way and only one game apiece with UAB and Houston, winning more than just a couple C-USA games is a real possibility—and would greatly strengthen McCarthy's case for becoming ECU's permanent coach.

McCarthy did something no Pirates' coach has ever done with the win over N.C. State.

If he can do something else that no ECU coach has ever done—be competitive in C-USA—a contract extension should be awarded.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com



Photo by Robbyn McLawhorn

Junior Sam Hinnant scored a career-high 30 points in ECU's 75-69 victory over N.C. State.

ECU in Conference USA

Year	Record	Finish	Coach
2006-07	1-15	12th	Ricky Stokes
2005-06	2-12	12th	Ricky Stokes
2004-05	4-12	13th	Bill Herrion
2003-04	5-11	11th	Bill Herrion
2002-03	3-13	13th	Bill Herrion
2001-02	5-11	11th	Bill Herrion

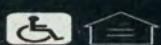
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Features

{Campus Scene}

Comedian Bruce Bruce to perform at ECU

Horoscopes

Aries
Be polite to a stern taskmaster. This is the person who is teaching you to be a hero, an expert, a perfectionist or all three. Learn the rules and follow them. You're on a winning streak.

Taurus
Temper are short, especially on the road and in unfamiliar situations. Take care and don't bite anybody's head off. You know how you can get. Stay cool.

Gemini
One of your buddies accomplishes something you've been trying to do. Don't feel the least bit jealous. This is also a win for you. After all, remember, you're on the same team.

Cancer
Controversy arises. Do you need to get involved? Not necessarily. Let somebody else fight this battle for you. Watch from a safe place.

Leo
You're not in the mood to do your regular chores. Don't quit your job, but do take a leisurely lunch with a person you find fascinating. Maybe that will help you relax.

Virgo
Not a good time to gamble. It is a good time to shop for bargains for your home, real estate included. Check to make sure it's a solid deal, however. All is not as it seems to be.

Libra
Somebody else is the one who comes up with the winning answer this time. It's okay, since this person has your own best interests at heart. It's grounds for a celebration.

Scorpio
Is it really worth the effort? Don't start worrying about that. Difficulties are always about what you make of them. Give them respect, but not fear.

Sagittarius
It's a good time to fall in love. If you already have, you may be surprised to find you can do it all over again, with the same person. It mellows with age.

Capricorn
Don't hurry, take your time and use your imagination. With a few carefully chosen items, you can create a masterpiece.

Aquarius
Provide encouragement, to help one of your friends drop a bad habit. He or she may not think it's possible, but you know it is. It's okay to be tough.

Pisces
You've made a good impression on an authority figure. He or she admires you for sticking to your guns. You're advancing.

Did you know?

The average American eats 2 donuts a day.

Every minute in the U.S 6 people turn 17.

The average American will eat 200 pounds of peanuts and 10,000 pounds of meat in their lifetime.

A new book is published about every 13 minutes in America during business hours.

Betsy Ross's other contribution to the American Revolution, beside sewing the first American flag, was running a munitions factory in her basement.

America's best selling ice-cream flavor is vanilla.

Americans spend around \$3 billion for cat and dog food a year.

Impotence is legal grounds for divorce in 24 American states.

Percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%.

The average American will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.

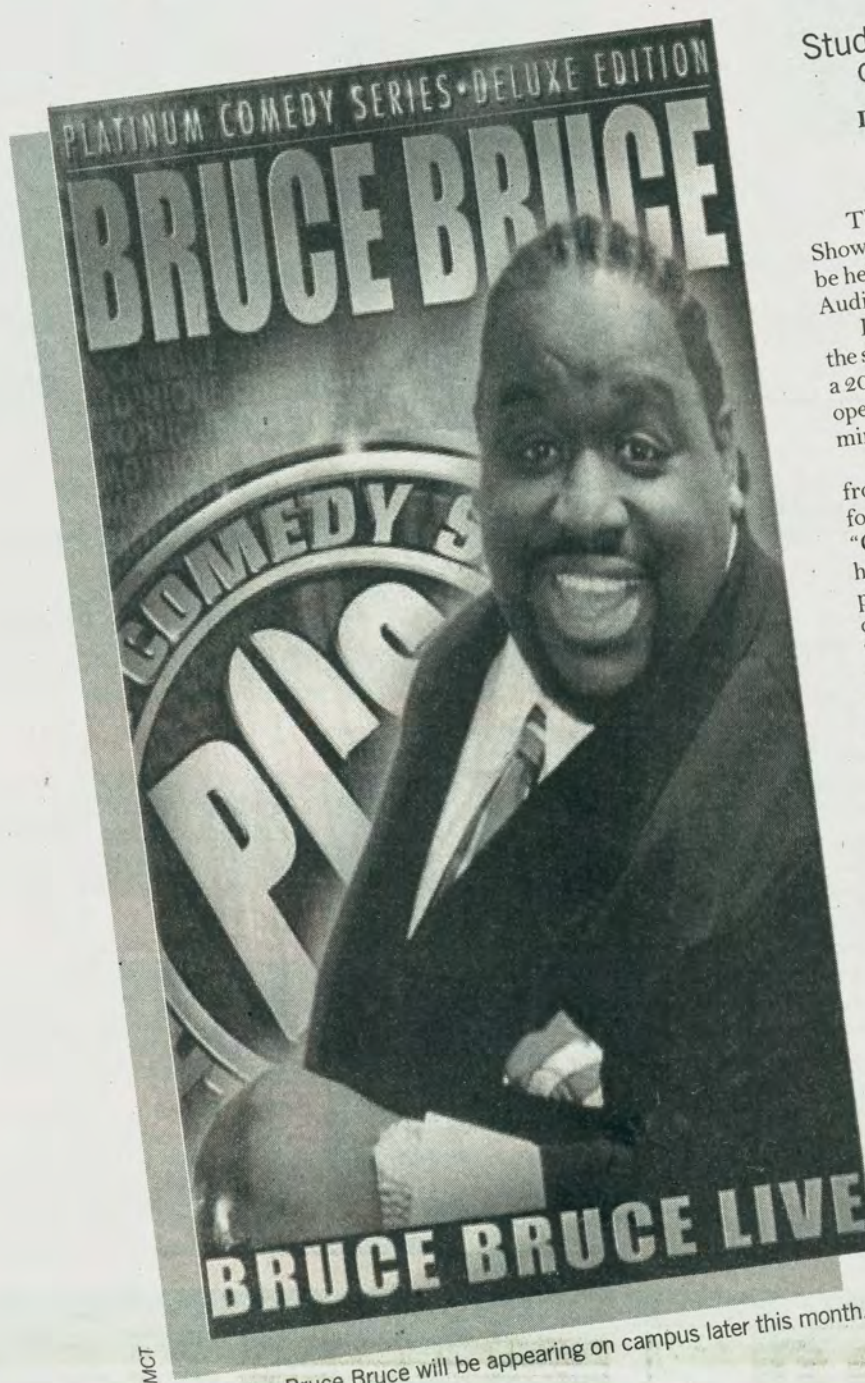
Did You Know, Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.

The tune for the "A-B-C" song is the same as "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Des Moines has the highest per capita Jello consumption in the U.S.

The dollar symbol (\$) is a U combined with an S (U.S.)

Maine is the toothpick capital of the world.



Comedian Bruce Bruce will be appearing on campus later this month.

Student Union hosts comedy show

DAVID PUCKETT
STAFF WRITER

The Student Union Comedy Show featuring Bruce Bruce will be held Friday, Jan. 25 in Wright Auditorium.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will kickoff at 8 p.m. with a 20 minute comedy set. After the opening act, he will perform a 50 minute comedy set.

Bruce Bruce is a comedian from Atlanta, GA, widely known for his appearances on BET's "Comic View," which he also hosted for two seasons. He has performed standup comedy on HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," "Showtime at the Apollo," and "Comedy Central Presents," and has released a one-hour comedy special DVD titled "Bruce Bruce Live."

Aside from performing standup, Bruce Bruce's acting resume includes appearances in the feature films *Who's Your Caddy?*, *Idlewild*, *Larry the Cable Guy*, *Health Inspector, XXX: State of the Union*, *Hair Show* and *The Wash*.

Bruce Bruce has also written an autobiography about his journey to becoming a successful comedian, titled *Baby James Brown*.

Director of Student Experiences David Travis says ECU students' popular vote among other factors, earned Bruce Bruce an invitation to perform at ECU over other comedians.

"Each member of Student Union selected three comedians, which were used to compile a diverse comedian list for the Humor Week survey. Then in

April of last year, the Student Union gave out surveys to students during Student Appreciation Day, and over 1000 students voted for who they were interested in," Travis said.

"From that list, three comedians were selected on the Student Union's price range. Then from those three, one was selected based on availability and which comedian's agent accepted the bid, which was Bruce Bruce," said Travis.

Former Student Union President Michael Caple Jr. says Bruce Bruce's standup routine appeals to a broad audience.

"From the list of comedians we [the Student Union] had, Bruce Bruce was the comedian that appeals to everyone. Everyone can relate to his jokes and the things that he talks about...it's just true comedy and his standup act is not extremely dirty as other comedians, so everyone can relate to it," said Caple.

Caple says it has been several years since the Student Union has hosted an event on the level of the upcoming comedy show.

"To my knowledge, it has been five years since we have done any type of event of this magnitude," Caple said.

All tickets for the Student Union Comedy Show are general admission, and are available for purchase at the Central Ticket Office in the Mendenhall Student Center. Ticket prices are \$10 for students and \$25 for the general public; however, after 6 p.m. on the day of the show, tickets will only be available at Wright Auditorium for \$25.

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

Road to the presidency

Candidates prepare for the final push of campaign

BEN HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

With all of the recent coverage of the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire Primary, it is extremely hard to miss the fact that we are once again in an election year. In November, citizens across the country will be electing congressman, governors and most importantly the President. The road to the presidency is a long one and can start

as many as two years before the actual election. For example, Sen. Joe Biden (D-De) announced his candidacy as early as March 2006. However, the main stretch of the race didn't start until Jan. 3 at the Iowa Caucus, which Dem. Barack Obama and Rep. Mike Huckabee won. On Jan. 5, the Wyoming Republican Primary was held and former Mass. Governor Mitt Romney was victorious. Most recently on Jan. 8, the New Hampshire Primary was held and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) won the vote. These contests, while very important, are only the tip of the iceberg of the electoral process.

see **PRESIDENCY** page B10



Republican candidates for the 2008 election appear for a debate last year in SC.

Learn how to deal with loss



Mourning the loss of a loved one is a natural but painful process.

Grieving can be healthy,
if you do it right

ERIN EDWARDS
STAFF WRITER

One of the many inevitable aspects of a human life is the loss of someone. Grieving is a natural and normal response to loss, which can aid a person in heading toward the road to recovery and moving on with their life. Starting off a new year without someone special be especially difficult.

According to the National Mental Health Information Center, grief is defined as the "normal response of sorrow, emotion and confusion that comes from losing something or someone that is important to you." Whether it is the end of a relationship, friendship or the loss of someone close, grief is a natural part of life that serves as a typical reaction to these experiences.

"Relationships, roommate situations and

friendships that go sour usually result in a student coming in to seek advice," said Renita Moore, who serves as the Mental Health Outreach specialist and coordinator at the ECU Center for Counseling and Student Development.

Of the numerous resources available, Moore notes that many students seek individual counseling.

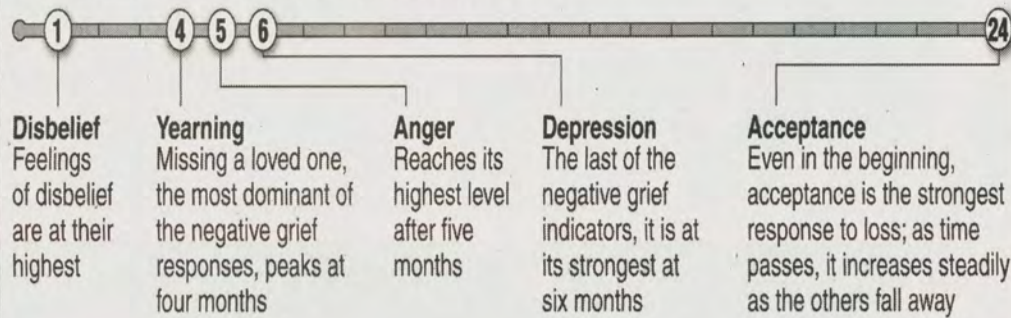
"The most popular type of counseling is a one-on-one session, which allows the student to be in charge of how he or she would like the session to go. There is flexibility in this type of counseling in regards to the needs and benefits of those that seek it," Moore said.

After someone experiences a traumatic event, grief can appear in that person in several different forms. A feeling of numbness and emptiness can occur, as well as physical changes that can include trembling, nausea, fatigue and difficulty eating and sleeping. Also, a person may have an overwhelming sense of guilt, expressed by wondering what he or she could have done. While grief is considered a normal response to a distressing event, it lasts as long as it takes

Five stages of grief

A study that followed bereaved people for 24 months after the loss of a loved one supports the traditional notion that there are five stages of grief.

Number of months after the death of a loved one



Source: Journal of the American Medical Association
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

© 2007 MCT

someone to accept the experience and begin to live with his or her loss. For some, this process can take a few months, while for others it can take many years.

The National Mental Health Information Center recommends a four-step grieving process for every person to utilize after a traumatic experience.

First, the person must accept the loss that has occurred. After this is done, they can begin to work through and feel the physical and emotional pain of grief. Then, after beginning to adjust to living in a world without the person or item that has been lost, they must move on with life. The grieving process is over only when a person completes these steps.

"The counseling center provides ongoing individual counseling to students who are grieving," said Angela Holman, a counselor at the Student Development Center.

"Many students seek or are referred to services for a past loss that is still impacting them, or a current loss. Some students choose to leave school or take a break when going through very painful grief, however, there are many students who stay in school and complete semesters after experiencing a significant loss."

Holman also says that two common issues that bring students into the center for grief counseling are the loss of a relationship partner or parent, and in recent years, those who have experienced the death of a friend (accidental or suicide) and pregnancy loss (miscarriage or abortion).

In addition to counseling services provided by the ECU Counseling and Student Development Center, previous workshops have included sessions related to dealing with the grief of losing a loved one.

Holman recalls that the workshop included "guided reflection and questions to help students explore the ways they are impacted by the loss of their loved ones."

Along with handouts about information discussed, students who attended the workshop were given links to campus resources, including the Dean of Student's Office, the Counseling Center and Campus Ministries, in an effort to provide assistance to their personal and academic needs. Holman would like to have the workshop run again this semester, with students experiencing the same format as before.

In order for one to heal from loss, it is important to have support of other people during the difficult time. Support can come from a number of different sources, including friends, family, a faith community, support groups, as well as therapists and other professionals.

While it may not be easy to confide in another during the grieving process, it is vital to accept help and to not mourn alone. Keeping feelings and thoughts out in the open is helpful. If these thoughts are suppressed over a period of time, the grieving process may be hindered, delaying a full recovery.

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

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- Provide details of any extraordinary circumstances that might outweigh any of the above factors;
- Submit a signed complete application.

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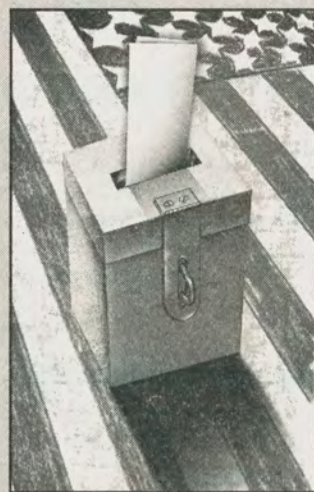
Stop by **Room 16 in Mendenhall Student Center** to get an application. For more information or to submit an application and resume, stop by room 16 in Mendenhall Student Center, email buccaneer@ecu.edu, or call **328-4712**.

BUCCANEER

THE YEARBOOK OF ECU

PRESIDENCY continued from B8

A TIMELINE OF WHAT TO EXPECT UNTIL THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION ON JAN. 20, 2009:



Jan. 15
Michigan Primary

Jan. 19
Nevada Caucus
South Carolina Primary (Republican)

Jan. 26
South Carolina Primary (Democratic)

Jan. 29
Florida Primary

Jan. 30 and 31
Republican and Democratic Debates in California

Feb. 5: Super Tuesday

23 states plan to hold primaries on this day. The winner of both contests is largely expected to be decided based on the results of these and the preceding primaries.

Feb. 9
Louisiana Primary
Washington and Kansas Caucuses

Feb. 12
DC, Maryland and Virginia Primary

Feb. 19
Wisconsin Primary
Hawaii Caucus

Mar. 4

Vermont, Rhode Island, Texas and Ohio Primaries

Mar. 8
Wyoming Caucus (Democratic)

Mar. 11
Mississippi Primary

Apr. 22
Pennsylvania Primary

May 6
North Carolina and Indiana Primary

May 13

West Virginia Primary
Nebraska Caucus

May 20
Oregon and Kentucky Primary

May 27
Idaho Primary

Jun. 3
Montana, South Dakota and New Mexico Primaries

Aug. 25-28
Democratic National Convention – where the Democratic Nominee is formally named.

Sept. 1-4

Republican National Convention – where the Republican Nominee is formally named.

Sept. 6
First Presidential Debate

Oct. 7 and 15
The Second and Third Presidential Debates

Nov. 4
Election Day

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



The Democratic candidates for the 2008 election (L to R): John Edwards, Barack Obama, Bill Richardson, Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Chris Dodd, Dennis Kucinich, Mike Gravel (not pictured).

FRATERNITY RUSH!

JANUARY 22 - 24 2008

What is Rush?

Formal rush is a time for potential new members and initiated members to get to know each other through a series of carefully planned events. After rush has been completed and bids have been extended, you will begin pledging/associating with the fraternity of your choice. It is important to come to rush with an open mind and to give each chapter equal consideration.

Be yourself! Rush is a mutual process, so remember as you evaluate each chapter, they will evaluate you. Do not let other's opinions make the decisions for you, but go with your feelings, for the decision will affect the rest of your life.

--ECU Interfraternity Council



List of current Interfraternity Council Fraternities

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Tau Kappa Epsilon | Beta Theta Pi |
| Phi Kappa Tau | Delta Chi |
| Theta Chi | Lambda Chi Alpha |
| Pi Kappa Alpha | Phi Kappa Psi |
| Sigma Phi Epsilon | Sigma Alpha Epsilon |
| Delta Sigma Phi | Kappa Alpha Order |
| Kappa Sigma | Pi Kappa Phi |
| | Sigma Pi |

All events are from 7-10 pm each night.

All potential new members must register by logging on to <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/greek/Greek-Life-IFC.cfm>, or you can go to ecu.edu and search keyword 'Greek Life' for a link.

For more information or questions you can call
The Office of Greek Life 252-328-4235.

ECU 1 CARD

Reminders about the ECU 1 Card...

• How to GET IT

If you are a new student, or if you are a returning student but have lost your ECU 1 Card, visit us in G-521 Old Cafeteria Complex. You must bring a photo identification, such as a driver's license, and your current class schedule. There is a fee of \$10 for your first card, or \$15 if it is a replacement card.

• Adding FUNDS

There are various accounts that may be linked to your ECU 1 Card:

DINING SERVICES

University Dining Services can set up specific meal plans and/or a declining balance account on your card for use in campus dining facilities.

BOOKSTORE ACCOUNT

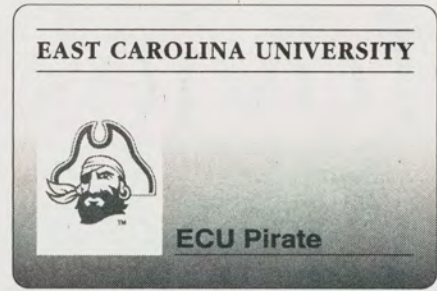
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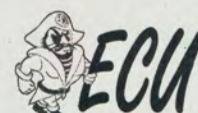
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Movies that shined in 2007



Best movies of 2007

CAT POTTER
STAFF WRITER

2007 was quite the year for new movie releases and many critics agree that some of the best films released were over the past 12 months. The following films are the "must see" movies of 2007. Luckily, some are still in theaters so if you get the chance, catch one of them while you can.

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN - Directed by Ethan and Joel Coen. Released Nov. 21, 2007. This action movie involves a hunter that stumbles upon a large sum of money, drugs and dead bodies evoking quite a bit violence. Film stars Tommy Lee Jones, Josh Brolin and Woody Harrelson.

ATONEMENT - Directed by Joe Wright. Released Dec. 7, 2007. This film is based on a British romance novel by Ian McEwan and involves the false accusation of crime to one of its main characters. Film stars Keira Knightley, James McAvoy and Saoirse Ronan.

SWEENEY TODD: THE

DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET - Directed by Tim Burton and released Dec. 21, 2007, this was one of the year's top musicals. Starring Johnny Depp, Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter, the film is based on the hit Broadway musical and the infamous story of Benjamin Baker (Sweeney Todd).

IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH - Directed by Paul Haggis. Released Sept. 28, 2007. This film is about an officer and his wife who work with police to discover the truth about their son's disappearance. Film stars include Tommy Lee Jones, Susan Sarandon, Josh Brolin and Charlize Theron.

JUNO - Directed by Jason Reitman. Released Dec. 25, 2007. This film has been identified by many critics as the best movie of the year and also one of the funniest. It is about a quirky teenager's unplanned pregnancy and her decisions along the way. Film stars include Ellen Page, Jennifer Garner, Jason Bateman and Michael Cera.

WAITRESS - Directed by Adrienne Shelly. Released May 25, 2007. A pregnant waitress is unhappily married and just

generally unhappy all around. She meets a newcomer to her small town and falls into a relationship she never expected. Film stars Keri Russell, Nathan Fillion, Andy Griffith and Adrienne Shelly.

BEOWULF - Directed by Robert Zemeckis. Released Nov. 16, 2007. Based on the epic poem, the warrior Beowulf must defeat the villain Grendel who is terrorizing towns and also defeats other monsters. Film stars Ray Winstone, Robin Wright Penn and Anthony Hopkins.

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE - Directed by Julie Taymor. Released Oct. 12, 2007. One of the year's best musicals including over 60 Beatles song remakes tells the story of Jude who moves to America and falls in love with a sheltered American teenager. Film stars Evan Rachel Wood and Jim Sturgess.

RATATOUILLE - Directed by Brad Bird and Jan Pinkava. Released Jun. 29, 2007. This animated film involves a rat that goes to Paris to find that his cooking idol is dead. His adventures carry on despite the fact that "humans hate rats."



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Golden Globes cancelled, nominees still received awards



Golden Globe nods
Nominations in major movie categories for the awards from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association to be presented Jan. 13, 2008:

Drama	Comedy*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Gangster • Atonement • Eastern Promises • The Great Debaters • Michael Clayton • No Country for Old Men • There Will Be Blood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Across the Universe • Charlie Wilson's War • Hairspray • Juno • Sweeney Todd

*Includes musicals

Best actor (drama)
George Clooney *Michael Clayton*
Daniel Day-Lewis *There Will Be Blood*
James McAvoy *Atonement*
Viggo Mortensen *Eastern Promises*
Denzel Washington *American Gangster*

Best actress (drama)
Cate Blanchett *Elizabeth ...*
Julie Christie *Away From Her*
Jodie Foster *The Brave One*
Angelina Jolie *A Mighty Heart*
Keira Knightley *Atonement*

Best actor (comedy)
Johnny Depp *Sweeney Todd*
Ryan Gosling *Lars and the Real Girl*
Tom Hanks *Charlie Wilson's War*
Philip Seymour Hoffman *The Savages*
John C. Reilly *Walk Hard ...*

Best actress (comedy)
Amy Adams *Enchanted*
Nikki Blonsky *Hairspray*
Helena Bonham Carter *Sweeney Todd*
Marion Cotillard *La Vie en Rose*
Ellen Page *Juno*

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Source: Hollywood Foreign Press Association
Graphic: Pat Carr

Critics call the awards a 'glorified news conference'

MCT--So much for the glitz and glamour of the Golden Globes.

Actors boycotted the show because of the ongoing screenwriters strike, the 65th Annual Golden Globes ceremony on Sunday was reduced to a glorified news conference.

The 2008 Golden Globes were announced on NBC Sunday night on a one-hour TV program, with Billy Bush and Nancy O'Dell, co-hosts of "Access Hollywood," reading nominees and winners' names, while Entertainment Weekly writer Dave Karger offered quick spins on each triumph.

The network broadcasted an hour-long news conference announcing the winners on Sunday at 9 p.m. EST, accord-

ing to Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which organizes the Globes. Then at 10 p.m., NBC aired a post-awards "party show."

"It's a victory for us," WGA spokeswoman Sherry Goldman said via phone from the picket lines.

Victory or no, the Globes' possible reformation was news to Goldman: "Since we didn't grant [NBC and Dick Clark Productions] a waiver a month ago, they're not really talking to us."

This is a huge departure from the emotional acceptance speeches and suspense of past years.

"It's still a great award," pointed out Howard Rubenstein, of Rubenstein Public Relations. "There will be a lot of publicity, but the publicity will be diminished dramatically. It's really a shame because it's one of the best moments in the entertainment field."

This was the first time since the Globes inception in 1944 that the usual awards show were not held.

The ceremony, which has faced boycott threats from actors who do not want to cross picket lines including Keira Knightley and George Clooney did not have a host scheduled this year.

Hollywood screenwriters have been striking since Nov. 5 for an increased share of profits from Internet and new media sales.

Talks regarding the Globes have broken down among the striking Writers Guild of America, NBC and Dick Clark Productions.

Mark Graham, managing editor of showbiz blog Defamer.com, said the viewers; Steven Spielberg, this year's Cecil B. DeMille lifetime achievement award recipient; and the studios are the ones who will be hurt the most.

"Studios really rely on the Golden Globes for the Hollywood releases," he said. "That's usually when they establish themselves."

No major entertainment awards ceremony in the United States has ever been canceled, though significant events have caused their postponement.

The Academy Awards, which has been held continuously since 1929, were postponed three times. In 1938, flooding in Los Angeles pushed the Oscars back a week. There was a delay of two days in 1968 after Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination and a one-day delay after the assassination attempt on President Reagan in 1981.

The Emmy Awards for television were first handed out in 1949. They were postponed twice in 2001, first after 9-11 and then again after the invasion of Afghanistan. The show eventually aired seven weeks later.

The Grammy Awards have been just as dependable. They were first awarded in 1959, and first televised in 1971, a tradition that continues unbroken to this day.

REVIEW continued from B12



Movies produced in 2007 included *Atonement* (pictured above) and *Ratatouille* (pictured below).



THE GREAT DEBATERS - Directed by Denzel Washington. Released Dec. 25, 2007. A film based on the true story of Melvin B. Tolson a professor at Wiley College in Texas who inspired students to create the college's first debate team. Film stars Denzel Washington, Denzel Whitaker and Nate Parker.

THERE WILL BE BLOOD - Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson. Released Dec. 26, 2007. A film about family, greed, religion and oil in the early days of business. Film stars include Daniel Day-Lewis, Kevin J. O'Connor and Martin Stringer.

THE LIVES OF OTHERS - Directed by Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck. Released Feb. 9, 2007. This German film titled *Leben Der Anderson, Das* is about the story of life before the fall of the Berlin Wall and a member of the secret police that finds himself obsessed

with the lives of a writer and his lover. Stars Christa-Maria Sieland.

BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD - Directed by Sidney Lumet. Released Oct. 12, 2007. Two brothers plot to rob their parent's jewelry store and after a job gone horribly wrong a series of events occurs sending all characters to a shocking climax. Film stars Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke and Marisa Tomei.

INTO THE WILD - Directed by Sean Penn. Released Sept. 21, 2007. College graduate and athlete gives his entire life savings to charity and hitchhikes to Alaska to live in the wilderness. Film stars include Emile Hirsch, Jena Malone, Vince Vaughn and Catherine Keener.

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

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Start planning a spring break trip early



During Spring Break, students can enjoy a myriad of vacation packages like this one.

Where to go and what to do

JESSICA DUNLOW
STAFF WRITER

Spring break is only 8 weeks away and this means

that students everywhere are surfing the net for the hottest places and the lowest prices to party away the stresses of the spring semester.

Quite possibly the most famous destination for Spring Break is Cancun, Mexico. Through Student City, a travel site, you can

pay one sum for plane tickets and a hotel in the hippest area of town. According to their website, in 2007 Cancun had stars from MTV such as Stephen Colletti from Laguna Beach and Steve-o from Jackass. In addition to these four to seven night packages, Student City offers daily beach parties

at their central location at the Oasis Hotel, which holds three swim-up bars.

"Student city hooked us up for Cancun, what's better than a week with your best friends in an exotic country?" claimed ECU Senior Wendi Williamson.

For a different experience, some students head to South Padre Island, Tx., referred to as the "Two-Nation Vacation." Being extremely close to the Mexican border, the weather is clear and beautiful and it is easy to travel the 30 minutes to the border to spend the day. Springbreaktravel.com offers activities such as surf lessons, snorkeling and swimming in the reefs. As with Student City, the local promoters on South Padre offer day beach parties to the students visiting.

Student City also offers a trip to South Padre, and there is a feature called Price Buster on their website that gives students the opportunity to compare prices from two sites. Student City will attempt to lower the price to "bust" the competition, if another company offers a better deal. Student City also hires student representatives that recruit students for packages.

Are you afraid of planes? Stick to boats with the Bahamas Spring Break Party Cruise. For the price this seems like the best deal, departing from Fort Lauderdale, it includes buffet meals on the ship, hotel accommodations for four nights, poolside events and parties. The cruise promises that 90 percent of the passengers will be fellow spring break-ers. The cruise provides casinos, sun decks and live entertainment. In addition, you get the chance to explore the Bahamas, and take advantage of the local beach scene.

Spring Break packages seem like the way to go; however, sometimes it can

be cheaper and more fun to embark on a road trip to a fun destination. A favorite spring break destination is Daytona Beach, Florida. Only 9 hours away from Greenville, the drive down is a great chance to bond with your buds and plan excursions for the week. In addition, if students arrive by car, Daytona is only a mere hour away from Orlando, which houses Disney World and Universal Studios.

However, for those looking for an easier and fun way to spend spring break, try spending an intimate week with friends on North Carolina's Outer Banks. Only up to an hour away from Greenville, there are plenty of house rentals available, and day excursions to Wilmington, lighthouses and other historical sites along the coast.

"There is so much to do at the Outer Banks, it is just easier to take advantage of what is closer to home," said ECU Junior Erin O'Brien.

Spring break is not always about partying. There are other ways to spend Spring Break-- through Alternative Spring Break opportunities. Students spend the week helping families rebuild in the economic turmoil in Detroit. Students can also return to the sight of Hurricane Katrina and Rita to provide extra hands in rebuilding homes that were lost and damaged.

You can apply for these opportunities on www.unitedway.org/asb.

The most important things to remember about Spring Break: Pack clean underwear, remember your ID, take your best friends, do something out of the ordinary and have fun. Make March 9 through 15 a week to remember!

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

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