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The East Carolinian

SUMMER EDITION

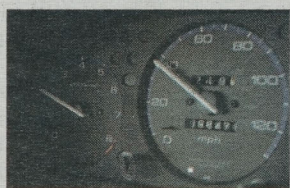
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WEDNESDAY JULY 30, 2008



ECU alumnus Danny R. Scott will implement the first-ever diversity-based scholarship at the university. See why he chose to give back to his alma mater....**Page 6**



Speeding tickets can be avoided by following a few simple steps. Find out how you can save your money and driving record....**Page 7**



The Pirates have an exciting season this fall—from soccer to football to golf. Get the scoop on what's coming up with these sports....**Page 10**

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Campaign meets halfway mark, \$100 million more to go

Campaign supports plan for the future of ECU

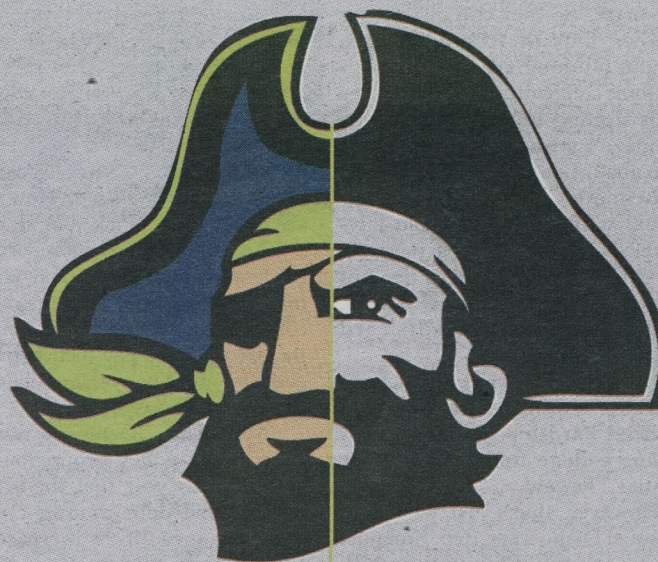
JIMMY GALLOWAY
STAFF WRITER

At the end of a record-breaking fundraising year at ECU, the Second Century Campaign has raised \$106,829,000 of its \$200 million goal. Gifts and pledges to ECU from all donors reached \$36.2 million in the 2007-08 fiscal year, an all-time high.

"Raising half the financial goal for the Second Century Campaign represents great progress, yet we know the second half of a campaign is always more challenging," said Mickey Dowdy, vice chancellor of University Advancement at ECU.

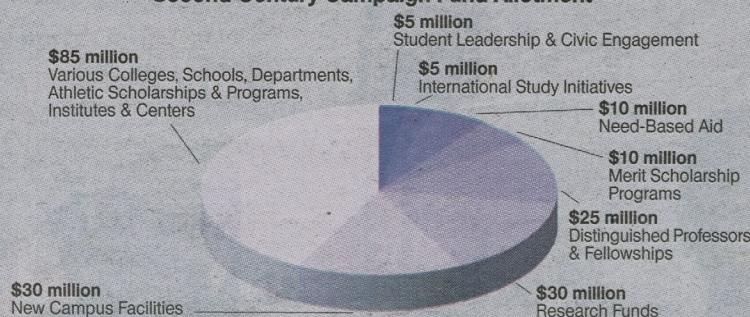
"We are grateful to the alumni, friends and donors who have supported the Second Century Campaign and look forward to even greater things to come."

The Second Century Campaign was announced on March 27, 2008 to support ECU Tomorrow: A Vision for Leadership and Service, the university's strategic plan adopted in 2007. Its financial goal is to raise \$200 million by December 31, 2012 to support the



51% complete \$106,829,000
49% to go \$200,000,000

Second Century Campaign Fund Allotment



university's initiatives for its next hundred years. It also aims to enrich the lives of ECU students, the citizens of eastern North Carolina, the state itself and beyond.

"This bold and ambitious plan for ECU lays out five strategic directions by which we will chart our course into our second century," said Chancellor Steve Ballard, "Make no mistake: the state will not respond at a level equal to our opportunity. I am convinced, however, that just as in the past, the entire ECU community will seize the opportunity that is now before us."

ECU Tomorrow lays out several goals for the future of education at ECU, such as preparing students to compete in the global economy, a renewed commitment to student learning and success and a commitment to making higher education accessible to all students. The goal of accessibility will be achieved with a new level of collaboration with high schools in the area to help in the transition from high school to ECU, as well as expansion of distance-learning programs and weekend classes for working adults.

"One of the major goals of see **CAMPAIGN** page 3

ECU hosted college prep camp

GEAR UP NC opens kids' eyes to the idea of college

NIA RICHARDSON
STAFF WRITER

High school students can get an early glimpse of the college experience as ECU hosts GEAR UP NC, a college preparation and awareness program for rising seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth graders.

GEAR UP NC (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs North Carolina) serves the purpose of introducing young students to college and making sure that they start and

complete college after high school.

This weeklong program will engage students in learning about careers in fields such as nursing, teaching and engineering. They will also participate in academic enrichment workshops to learn study skills, conflict resolution, problem solving and team building skills. The students will also participate in health and wellness and diversity programs.

GEAR UP NC is a statewide program aimed at increasing the enrollment of students from low-income families into college by making them aware early on of



Contributed Photo

GEAR UP NC staff member preparing the students for the day.

see **CAMP** page 3

Lawmakers aim to tighten rules for credit card companies

Stricter guidelines for college students in the works

(MCT)

Credit card companies beware: Congress is watching.

A flurry of bills is in the works in the House of Representatives and the Senate that would rein in how those companies do business.

One proposed change that has triggered interest among lawmakers, particularly as the economy sours, would make it harder for college students to qualify for credit cards.

"It really is just too easy," said Christine Lindstrom, the director of the Higher Education Project at the nonpartisan Public Interest Research Group. "They will do anything to be the first card in college students' wallets. They don't do credit checks. They don't even know if students have income."

Companies often set up booths on college campuses and entice students with freebies such as T-shirts, sports caps, coupons for food and more, all in exchange for filling out an application.

Brett Thurman, a student government president at the University of Illinois at Chicago, told a

congressional hearing last month that he walked into a restaurant near campus last fall and saw four laptop computers set up to process credit card applications.

A free sandwich was the reward. "Students are poor, so applying for a credit card with a \$2,000 credit limit is like winning the lottery for us," Klassie Alcine, a student leader at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, said in an e-mail. "So they end up getting between four to 10 credit cards without blinking an eye."

Some companies have strict rules about signing up college students and make a strong effort to educate them about financial management.

Kenneth Clayton, a credit card official with the group, told lawmakers at last month's hearing that while some students are not responsible with their finances, most manage their credit card obligations well.

"Restricting access to this form of credit would result in great financial hardship for most cardholding college students and their families," he said.

However, that's just what two Missouri Democrats, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and Sen. Claire McCaskill, hope to do. They have each worked in their respective chambers on

legislation to tighten the rules.

Under their measures, students without jobs or the written approval of parents or guardians would have to be at least 21 before they could qualify for credit cards.

"You cannot sign up students who have no source of income," Cleaver said. "If you do, parents or some co-signer would have to guarantee that bill would be paid."

McCaskill proposed her legislation last year; Cleaver, more recently. Both are hopeful that their ideas will be included in the overall credit-card bill that Congress develops. That probably won't be until next year.

How widespread is credit card use among college students? How much are they in debt? Pick your study.

According to a recent report from Student Monitor, a national syndicated market-research survey, 41 percent of college students have credit cards. Of them, 65 percent pay their entire bill every month. The average balance for those who don't is \$452.

Meanwhile, Demos, a nonpartisan public-policy group, found in a report this year that the average credit card debt among college students ages 18-24 increased 11 percent from 1989 to 2004. Nearly 20 percent were in "debt hardship," up from 12 percent in 1989.



Nick Bennett, a 19-year-old sophomore at Missouri State University, says he owes about \$800 on his credit card. He's slowly paying it off by working at a sporting goods store this summer. Even with the debt, Bennett said the card was a lifesaver.

"I wouldn't be able to pay frat dues or pay for books," he said.

However, if students such as Bennett aren't that concerned,

some people on Capitol Hill are, especially with the turmoil in the lending industry.

"No one should get a credit card that has not demonstrated credit-worthiness," McCaskill said. "The reason these kids are all getting the credit cards is because the credit card companies know that if the kids get into trouble, their parents, in all likelihood, will bail them out."

On Campus
Life According to an Upperclassman

Forming a world view starts by having enough money to see the world.

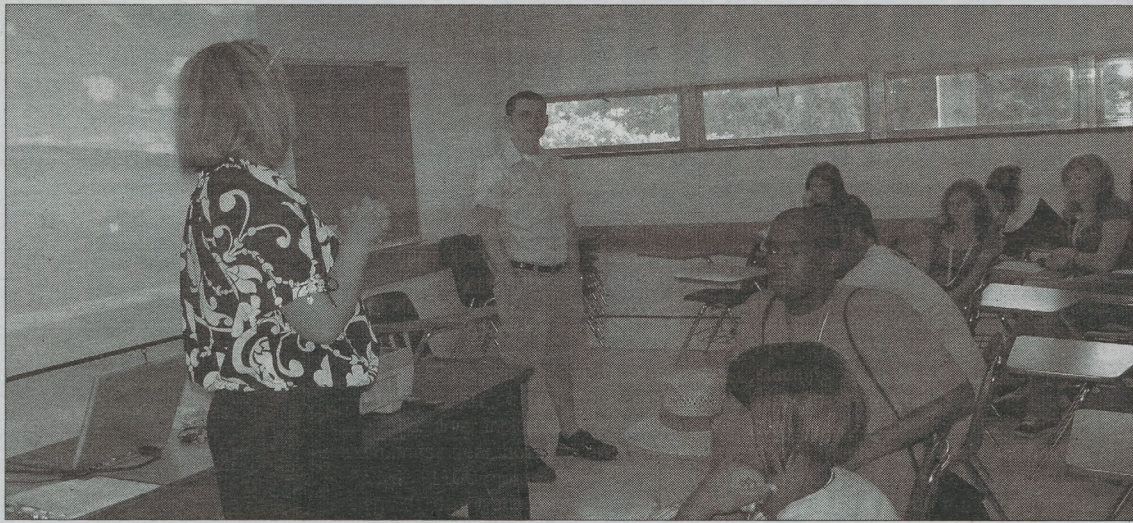
For more free financial life lessons, like how to get the Student Package with free checking*, a savings account with Keep the Change*** and Online Banking service, check out my online show at bankofamerica.com/oncampus premiering this August.

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Bank of America
Bank of Opportunity

CAMP continued from page 1



Contributed Photo

Martha Parrish sharing with the students about opportunities in teaching at a camp session.

the possibility of college and the opportunities available.

"We follow them all the way through high school, making sure that they take the appropriate classes and activities to ready them to enter into a university program," said Director of Student Outreach, Tarrick Cox.

Students participating in the ECU camp are also active participants in GEAR UP programs in their counties, where they receive

counseling, support and academic skills. The program is designed to boost performance in the classroom, and in turn, encourage teachers to have more rigorous academic standards and encourage parents to get involved.

According to Cox, the program has reported a high success rate since it began in 2003. "We've just received report that a large number of our first group of

students have enrolled in college," Cox said. "Thirty of them will be freshmen here at ECU."

ECU served will serve rising seventh and eighth graders from Martin County the week of July 28-Aug. 1. GEAR UP NC at ECU is sponsored by the ECU College of Education.

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

CAMPAIGN continued from page 1

the Second Century Campaign is to raise \$30 million to fund merit- and need-based scholarships, international studies initiatives for students and the Center for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement," Dowdy said. "The campaign will provide some of the resources necessary for ECU's greatest assets—its students—to fulfill the university's mission and become leaders in the community, state and nation."

Leadership development is another component of ECU Tomorrow. The Center for Transformational Leadership in Eastern North Carolina will aim to develop service-oriented leaders in the region. The BB&T Leadership Center will work with faculty to incorporate leadership and service-learning into their curricula. The Chancellor's Leadership Academy will develop staff and faculty leaders and ECU's Center for Student Success will ensure that all students graduate with demonstrated competency in leadership.

ECU Tomorrow is also dedicated to economic prosperity in eastern NC. ECU will provide educational programs to develop and support a competitive workforce in the state and will support an entre-

preneurial mindset throughout the university, strengthen partnerships with businesses, elected officials, and economic developers and increase investment in innovation and research. ECU aims to be the third-largest research university in the UNC system and lead in innovation in health sciences and information technology.

ECU plans to expand its medical programs and services, significantly expand and improve health-care facilities, expand research in health sciences—with emphasis on health concerns of the region and state and extend the reach of the Brody School of Medicine by establishing a satellite campus in rural eastern NC.

The arts, culture and the quality of life in Greenville are also part of ECU Tomorrow. ECU hopes to enhance and expand its position as an arts and cultural center. It will also partner with the city of Greenville and businesses to support a renaissance of downtown Greenville.

The football stadium and other facilities will be expanded to bolster the athletics programs.

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



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1. Watch your beverage.
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Complete the *College Alc* course online at www.ecu.edu/studentlife/dos/alc by Friday, October 10th.*

Failure to do so will result in your records being tagged and the inability to register for Spring '09 classes.

5. Don't get Tagged!

*All first semester freshmen under the age of 21 are required to complete this course.



RANT OF THE DAY

To the North Campus Crossing ninja:
I love you!

{ www.theeastcarolinian.com }

Forget skinny

Dove embraces the
"normal" woman

ANDREA ROBERTSON
OPINION WRITER

The makers of Dove bath and body products are no longer working just to make women who use their products feel beautiful; now they want women to know they are beautiful inside and out.

Impossible standards purported by Hollywood of what makes a woman beautiful have prevented many women from viewing themselves as attractive. A positive body image and good self-esteem are battles that many women fight and often lose.

Dove asked women living in the U.S. if they felt they were beautiful--only two percent answered yes. Eighty-one percent of women surveyed said that they feel the media and advertising set an unrealistic standard of beauty that most women can't ever achieve.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that the rate of teen girls committing suicide rose 76 percent in 2004.

Eating disorders and the misuse of sex as validation are other common ways that women also try to boost their self-esteem.

Sadly, none of those options truly make women feel good about themselves or see how beautiful they really are.

Dove, realizing the issues women face when confronted by an unrealistic definition of beauty, has made it its mission "to make more women feel beautiful every day by widening stereotypical views of beauty."

In order to take action against this problem, Dove created two programs: the Dove Self-Esteem Fund (DSEF) and the Campaign for Real Beauty. Dove hopes that these programs will help girls and women all over the world defeat the many issues women face regarding society's perceived definition of beauty.

Through the DSEF, Dove, along with the Girl Scouts of the USA, conduct self-esteem workshops and after school events for girls ages eight through 17. At these programs, girls participate in at least an hour-long educational program that teaches each of them

about a positive self-image.

With the hope of reaching five million girls by 2010, Dove has already helped an approximate 2.3 million girls.

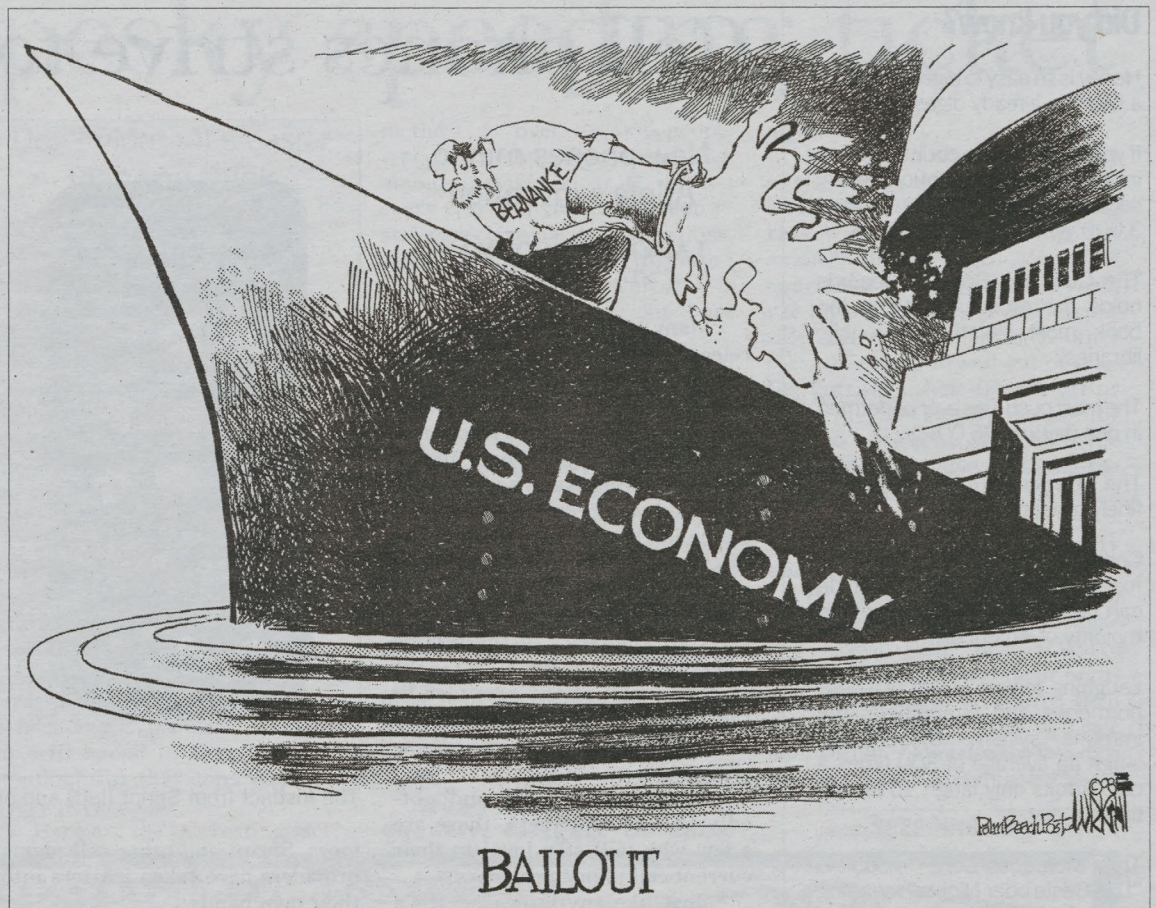
Dove also provides a portion of the profit from every purchase of their products to the DSEF in order to help conduct the workshops.

The Dove Campaign for Real Beauty led to the decision to stop using professional models in their ads. Dove's plan to use "regular" women of all ages, shapes and sizes is targeted toward the average woman in the U.S.

With their programs, Dove hopes that women will eventually speak out against the issues of unrealistic standards most women have set for themselves.

Their cause is worthy, and the powers behind it are to be commended. It would be great if other companies would soon follow their example.

This writer can be contacted at
opinion@theeastcarolinian.com



PIRATE RANTS

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

This internship/real world thing is hard. I'm ready to come back to school!

Is anyone else ticked that our first home game of the season is being played in Charlotte? There's nothing like paying \$50 and driving 5 hours just to tailgate and support the Pirates at a "home" game.

Is it bad that I walk into class whenever I feel like it, but I run to get the paper every Wednesday just so I can read Pirate Rants?

I'm tired of my feet slowly sliding out from under me when I'm standing in front of a urinal. Guys, if your aim is that bad, cut it off and go to the ladies' room.

Just because I am in a ninja suit doesn't mean that I'm causing trouble. Your attempts to catch me are pathetic.

Isn't it just a LITTLE nuts how we have to pay \$72 for a C2 parking sticker, which only allows you to park three miles away from school, wait in the elements for the bus to come (that is, if there's enough room for you), and drop you off at one of only two places on campus? IT'S CRAP IF YOU ASK ME!

To Mulder and Scully: I'm going to see your new movie. Is it bad that I thought about both of you when I saw the preview?

Three spoiled milks in two weeks? Thanks, Wright!

I am SICK AND TIRED of liberal, left-wing news and media outlets always giving the misconstrued side of the news. Is it possible to give us the news, straight-forward, without having a political agenda?

Since the school colors are purple and gold, don't you think it would be a great idea to pave the sidewalks with gold? Just a suggestion...

I need a random make-out so bad it's scary.

Am I hot enough to look at, smile at and flirt with, but not hot enough to ask out?

My best friend makes me sick to my stomach.

Please stop handing me Obama crap. I am voting for McCain, and there's nothing you can do to change that.

I used to respect my father-in-law.

Now I think he's a clown.

Sooner or later, we all pay for our sins.

Only time will sober a driver. Coffee and cold showers will only make a wide-awake drunk.

I can't wait to quit my job--working until 3 a.m. to serve the drunks downtown sucks!

To the North Campus Crossing ninja: I love you!

Seriously ... enough with the Pepsi monopoly.

If you're looking for a Bridget Jones ... I'm your girl!

Why is Obama in other countries doing whatever he is doing? He is not the president yet, so why is he making diplomatic visits to other countries? He's still a senator; doesn't he have a job to be doing in the U.S.?

When did my hometown stop being my home?

Why are Barbie dolls always skinny?

ECU needs to get a refund on their financial aid employees.

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Erin Edwards
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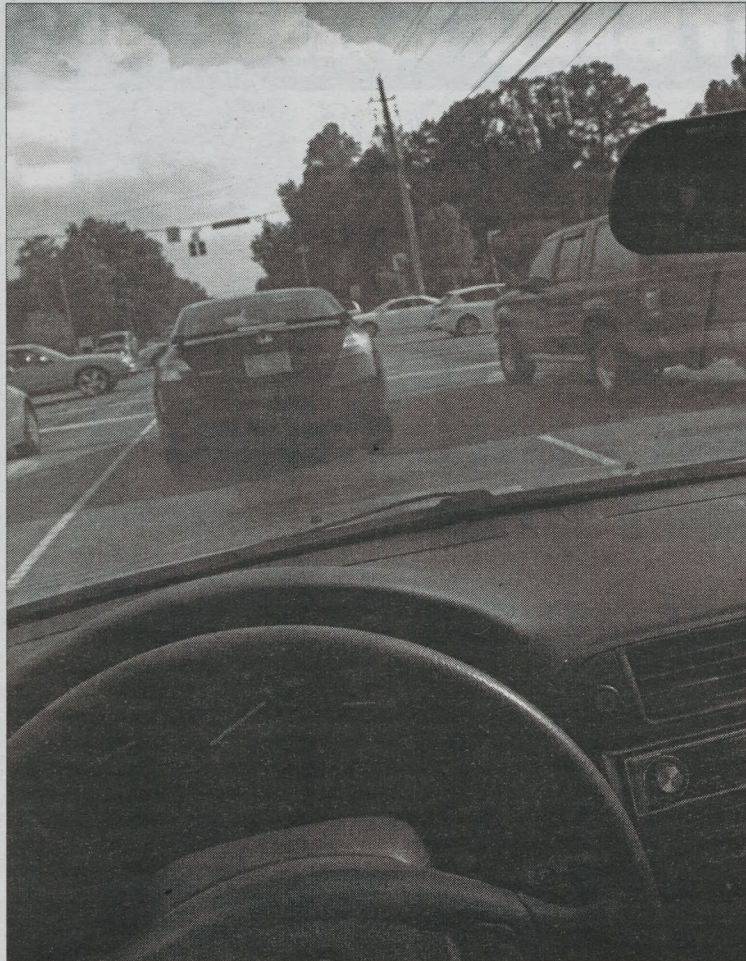
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Speeding is tempting, but you can avoid tickets by following a few steps.

Photo by Jessi Braxton

Ways to avoid that pesky speeding ticket

Don't worry- it's easier than you think

ERIN EDWARDS
FEATURES EDITOR

You're late for work so you slam the gas pedal to save time. You check around the road as you go faster, just to make sure there are no cops around.

Thinking you are safe, you increase the speed even more until you see those familiar blue lights reflected in your mirrors.

You've been caught. As you pull over to the side of the road, you start making up excuses for getting out of the ticket.

But wait, how did you get yourself into this position in the first place? While it is almost safe to say that every driver has or will speed in their lifetime, it's doubtful that cops pull over every perpetrator.

Here are the interesting facts:

in the U.S., over 100,000 people receive speeding tickets each day, amounting to almost 41 million every year. Individuals between 17 and 24 receive the most violations, along with men receiving more than women. North Carolina is the No. 8 state dishing out those dreaded pink slips of paper.

However, this can all be avoided by following a few simple tips from AOL Auto:

Stay within 5-10 mph of the surrounding traffic.

If you insist on speeding, stay within this speed range and among other drivers on the road. Cops are more prone to pull over the leader of the pack, so stay within the pack, because only one car can be pulled over at a time. The safest place is in the middle, because the lead driver's chances are higher of tipping off a cop's radar.

Don't change lanes frequently, tailgate or drive

aggressively.

While you shouldn't do any of the above, because it is unsafe and rude to other drivers, doing this will make you stand out among other drivers. Always be courteous to others on the road, use a turn signal and stay a considerable distance between other cars. Weaving in and out of traffic, cutting other drivers off or following too closely is easy for cops to notice, so keep with the flow of traffic and avoid being the center of attention.

Watch your speed carefully and stay in right lanes.

If you're the only car on the road, then don't speed, because you are just asking for it. If you're traveling on an interstate or highway with little to no traffic, then flip on the cruise control to a safe momentum. Don't use the fast lane unless you are passing someone

see **SPEEDING** page 8

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DIVERSITY continued from page 6

dent body can benefit from having different thoughts and different types of people represented in the College of Business is the purpose of this scholarship. I would like to eventually see a people of all nationalities utilize this scholarship."

In the spring 2008 semester, the College of Business had 2,624 undergraduate students, of which 22 percent were non-white. Two percent were international students.

The aspect of giving to students who have a financial need is another reason why Scott wanted to put this scholarship into place.

"I didn't grow up in a wealthy family, [so] if I can help a student who is needy financially, that would be great," he said.

Each deserving student who receives the scholarship will be awarded \$2,300 for the school year.

Scott graduated from ECU in 1984 with a B.S. in Business

Administration and says that giving back to his alma mater is a gratifying experience.

"When I look back at my time at ECU, from the classroom to campus life to social life, it kind of made me who I am," he said.

The first recipient of the scholarship will be announced in April of 2009. Applications for the Danny R. Scott Scholarship will be available beginning Feb. 1, 2009.

Scott has worked for Anheuser-Busch for 19 years and was recently named the vice president of diversity for the company. He currently resides in St. Louis, MO with his wife, Connie Shelton.

For more information about the Danny R. Scott Scholarship, visit the College of Business' Web site at ecu.edu/cs%2Dbus/.

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

SPEEDING continued from page 7

bushes or cutouts in median strips. Also, the time of day is important as well, because speeding at night can give law enforcement more reason to stop you if they believe you might be intoxicated.

Don't speed!

While these tips might be helpful in certain situations, the best way to avoid a speeding ticket is to not speed at all. Speeding is illegal and is responsible for many accidents and victims each year. There is no perfect way to avoid

it, but actually staying within the speed limit is safer for you and for others on the road.

If you happen to get a speeding ticket, there are plenty of ways to try and get out of it, but ultimately, the deciding factor is the decision made by the driving laws and the courts that uphold them. In that case, get your wallet ready and kiss your good driving record goodbye.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com

thanks for reading
The East Carolinian
this summer



we'll be back this September
every Tuesday and Thursday

**You met.
You flirted.
You had sex**

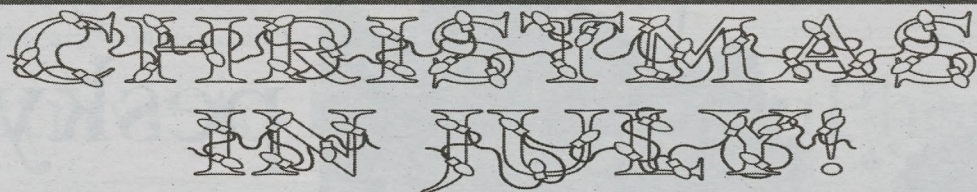
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IPHONE continued from page 9



Verizon unveils
Verizon Wireless' new Voyager phone will compete with Apple Inc.'s iPhone.

Features

- Touch screen, 240 pixels by 400 pixels
- Memory card slot, holds up to 8 GB of memory
- 2 megapixel camera
- HTML browser
- Plays variety of music formats
- Bluetooth capabilities

Voyager

iPhone

Special design
Clamshell design allows lateral opening

Additional screen

Full QWERTY keypad

Approx. size

© 2007 MCT
Source: Apple, Verizon Wireless
Graphic: Melina Yingling

a Wi-Fi connection and Internet Explorer. It can hold over 1500 contacts and has a stand-by time of 14 days.

Tamika Becton, a senior majoring in Management Information Systems, feels that the release of these new cell phones gives customers the opportunity to have new phones like the iPhone without switching to AT&T.

"I have been with Verizon for five years and I enjoy it," said Becton. "I have no plans to switch."

Verizon also has their alternative to the iPhone--the LG Dare. The LG Dare offers touch screen navigation in addition to the full QWERTY keyboard. The camera on this phone has smart picture technology and can automatically detect and focus on the face when taking a picture. This phone is compatible with VCAST music and VCAST videos.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com

Taking a journey with Chuck Klosterman

Readers see the world a bit more Klosterman-like

CAT POTTER
HEAD COPY EDITOR

Perhaps one of the most intriguing parts of Chuck Klosterman's publications are their titles. I first heard about the former *Spin* writer (who has also written for such publications as *GQ*, *The Washington Post* and recently as a columnist for *Esquire*) when a friend of mine was reading his book; *Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs: A Low Culture Manifesto*.

I am ordinarily not one to judge a book by its cover, or its title I guess, but I must admit that I was more than intrigued.

I ventured out for Klosterman's most recent publication, 2005's *Killing Yourself to Live: 85% of a True Story* and found that I was not let down in my expectations.

Killing Yourself to Live is a non-fiction account of Klosterman's 21-day journey across the U.S. on assignment from *Spin* magazine, to visit the places where famous rock stars died. He elects to inform the reader (and his editor) that the importance of an assignment like this lies in the fact that he wants to know "why the greatest career move any musician

can make is to stop breathing."

His adventures are best summed up in a declaration he makes early into the book: "I want to walk the blood-soaked streets of rock 'n' roll and chat with the survivors who writhe in the gutters."

I never read the article for *Spin*, but the book of his adventures exceeded my personal expectations.

A book that is structured around exploring "the places where everything stopped" for rock stars like Kurt Cobain, Jeff Buckley, Elvis Presley, Duane Allman, etc. is much more than an account of these destinations.

This book puts the reader beside Klosterman in his "Tauntaun" (his nickname for his rented Ford Taurus) and discusses every aspect of life with Klosterman himself, in a brilliant, heavily musical sort of way.

Chuck Klosterman has a musical intellect. He experiences three relationships throughout his trip, meets locals at restaurants and bars in every town that he visits and somehow finds a way to compare many of them to songs he has heard or the way songs have made him feel in the past.

Near the beginning of the book, Klosterman admits to having over 2000 CDs and then disappointingly confesses that he will only bring 600 on the trip. After reading this,

I thought that he might be a bit pretentious with all of his musical facts and figures, but soon found that he earned the right to boast about his musical collection.

His ability to relate everything to music is sincere and proves him a very knowledgeable rock critic.

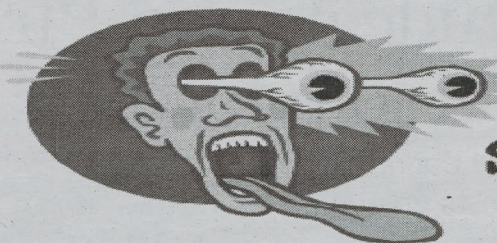
He gives a hugely detailed account of how he believes Radiohead's Thom Yorke accidentally predicted the events of September 11 in the band's 2000 album, *Kid A*.

With each new town, person, or event he somehow relates it to something he has experienced in the past, or something he hopes to experience in the future and almost always views it from a musical perspective.

This book will not make you cry or laugh or cheer for any of its characters. *Killing Yourself to Live* is a bit cynical, much like the writer seems to be. When reading a book like this you are seeing the world as the writer sees it and taking part in their conversations and their adventures.

For the amount of time it took for me to read this, I saw the world the way that Klosterman views it, or at least for the 21 days he was in his Tauntaun. The trip was a bit cynical, humorous and addicting--and I enjoyed every minute of it.

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



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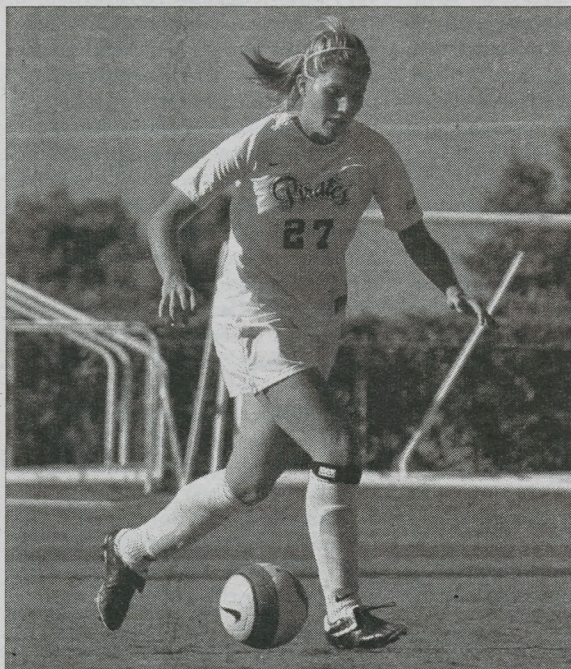
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Successful recruiting could yield an exciting fall



Midfielder Amanda Broz was named to the C-USA All-Freshman Team last season.

Terry Holland
previews fall sports

KELLEN HOLTZMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Returning talent and impressive recruiting classes could spell success across the board for ECU athletics this fall.

Of the nine autumn sports getting set for preseason practices, only two (football and women's golf) made post-season NCAA appearances last season.

As usual, football will attract the most attention and will likely provide the best opportunity for national success.

ECU football always attracts a lot of preseason hype around Greenville but this year the hype has some real credibility behind it. The Pirates are entering the season with a winning streak for the first time since 2001, following a 40-27 Galleryfurniture.com Bowl victory over Texas Tech in 2000.

This year's anticipation demonstrates just how much the Pirate Nation's expectations have changed since Head Coach

Skip Holtz and Athletics Director Terry Holland's first preseason in 2005.

"When we scheduled the nine-game Virginia Tech football series, I said that our goal would be to enter the Virginia Tech game in Charlotte with at least some media members believing that ECU might win that game against one of the ACC and nation's premier football programs," Holland said of the football climate change.

Certainly, the "media members" Holland refers to may be sending some praise to the Pirates this season.

ECU's murderous non-conference schedule may have some fans biting their nails, but conquering the difficult schedule could bolt the Pirates into the national spotlight once again; the perception of ECU football around the nation is no doubt under renovation.

"Nobody said it was going to be easy," Holtz said at the annual Conference USA Media Day. "I think the one thing that has been the most positive is having the opportunity to play four BCS teams out of the league...I think it's helped us climb that ladder a little bit quicker than we

would have if we weren't playing such a competitive schedule."

The women's golf team enjoyed a successful season last year, finishing 12th at the NCAA East Regional in Athens, Georgia. The team also finished second at the C-USA Women's Golf Championship.

Underclassmen played a huge role in the Pirates NCAA tournament run last season, with freshman Amber Littman and sophomore Abby Bools registering spectacular seasons.

Bools, the reigning C-USA Player of the Year in women's golf, will be counted upon heavily to keep her team in the spotlight.

Both the men and women's basketball teams are looking to bounce back from sub-par seasons.

Head Coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener's Lady Pirates disappointed last season after a remarkable run in 2007 to the C-USA tournament championship and NCAA tournament.

With star backcourt players Jasmine Young and LaCoya Terry returning for their senior seasons, this could be a team

see **FALL** page 13

This week's poll:

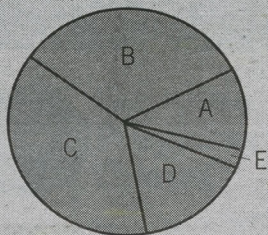
Who has the top football team in the Carolinas?

- A. Clemson
- B. Wake Forest
- C. UNC
- D. ECU
- E. South Carolina
- F. Other

Poll Results:

How will the ECU football team fare in non-conference play (Virginia Tech, West Virginia, N.C. State)?

- A. 4-0 11%
- B. 3-1 32%
- C. 2-2 39%
- D. 1-3 16%
- E. 0-4 2%



Ranking the Carolinas



Clemson Running back C.J. Spiller joins James Davis in one of the best backfields in the country.

Death Valley has an
ACC title on its mind

JARED JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

We continue our march toward the start of the college football season by ranking the top five teams of the Carolinas. In a list sure to cause controversy, the only

requirement is, that a team must be 1-A. Of course, that means no Appalachian State. While the Mountaineers are certainly a great team demonstrated in that they have won three straight division 1-AA titles, they don't play nearly the schedule that teams on this list do. For every Michigan and LSU, there is a Western Carolina or

see **RANKINGS** page 12

Mudcats and Pirates will join forces

Five County Stadium
hosts unique event

KELLEN HOLTZMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

When most Pirate fans think of minor league baseball, the Kingston Indians are probably the first team to come to mind.

When most Mudcat fans think of the Pirates, the Pittsburgh Pirates are probably the first team that comes to mind. The Mudcats spent the 1991-1998 seasons as members of the Pittsburgh organization.

Tomorrow night against the Jacksonville Suns, ECU and the Carolina Mudcats will join forces in what is being built as "Paint it Purple Night" at Five County Stadium in Zebulon.

The event will help kick off the 2008-2009 sports season as Pirate fans take in a little diamond action from the AA affiliate of the Florida Marlins.

ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard will be on hand to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the celebration. Ballard, a former short-

stop, shouldn't have any trouble getting his pitch to the plate; the former Arizona Wildcat led his team to the 1970 College World Series during his senior season.

Ballard's baseball legend may have trouble competing with the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl trophy, which will also be on display at the event. Fans can also use the festivities as an opportunity to receive information on Pirate Club membership as well as season ticket options.

In June, only 2,500 spots were available for season tickets after a rapid sales rate.

"At the pace we are going, which is 10 percent above where we were last year, we will not have any individual game tickets available for the Virginia Tech game in Charlotte, and the West Virginia and Houston games at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium," Assistant Director of Athletics for Tickets & Marketing Scott Wetherbee told Ecupirates.com following the announcement.

In little over a month, the sales explosion left even less left.

see **MUDCATS** page 13

Charlotte Bobcats finally re-sign Emeka Okafor

Former UConn star agrees to \$72 million deal

(AP)

The Charlotte Bobcats ended a year of uncertainty with top rebounder and shot blocker Emeka Okafor on Tuesday by coming to terms on a six-year, \$72 million deal with the restricted free agent.

The move comes a year after Okafor turned down a contract for similar money and assures new coach Larry Brown will have the team's top inside presence when he begins his record ninth NBA coaching job in the fall.

"It was very important for us to get a deal done," said general manager Rod Higgins. "He creates a sense of security around the basket for us. He's a guy that I think his skills are still developing in a lot of ways. Having Larry as our head coach now, Emeka will benefit having a great coach to teach him."

Higgins confirmed the deal Tuesday morning after ESPN.com first reported late Monday that the two sides were close to an agreement. Higgins said Okafor should sign the deal in the next few days.

Okafor was the second overall pick in 2004 and the expansion Bob-

cats' first draft pick. He turned down Charlotte's offer of \$12 million a year last year, but settled on the same figure a year later.

Few other teams have enough salary-cap space to offer restricted free agents big money. Many, including Andre Iguodala of Philadelphia, Josh Smith of Atlanta and Luol Deng of Chicago, remain unsigned.

Okafor could have accepted a one-year qualifying offer worth about \$7.1 million and become an unrestricted free agent next year, meaning the Bobcats would get nothing in return if he left.

But Okafor decided to accept the security of a long-term contract after Charlotte sweetened its offer.

Okafor's deal is similar to contracts given this offseason to big men Andrew Bogut of Milwaukee and Andris Biedrins of Golden State. But it marks the biggest player contract owner Bob Johnson has agreed to pay since he bought the team.

"It's unfortunate when people criticize our ownership," Higgins said. "Last year we brought in Jason Richardson and signed [Gerald] Wallace. We're continuing to bring in very good talent. Securing Emeka just shows that our ownership and Bob are committed."

Okafor averaged 13.8 points and

10.7 rebounds a game last season, the fourth consecutive year he's averaged a double-double. Okafor also led the team in blocked shots (1.7 per game) and field-goal percentage (53.5). Brown had said it was critical they retain Okafor for his defense and inside presence on a team that struggled to rebound last season.

Okafor said during the last week of the regular season that he wanted to remain a Bobcat, but he clearly had a strained relationship with coach Sam Vincent. Managing partner Michael Jordan fired Vincent after Charlotte finished 32-50 in his only season.

Brown coached Okafor, but played him little, on the disappointing bronze-medal United States Olympic team in 2004.

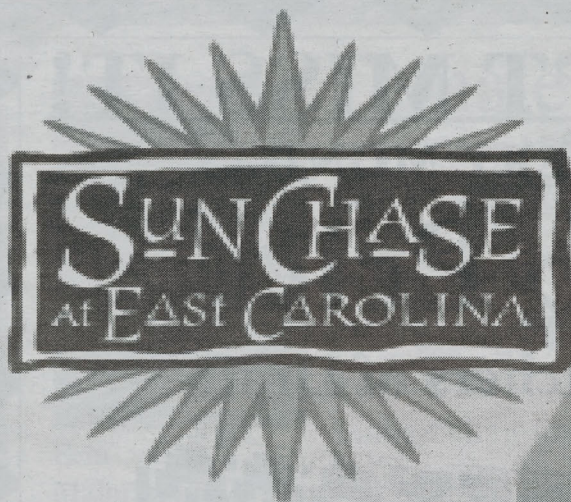
Okafor was plagued by a chronic ankle injury that limited him to 26 games in the 2005-06 season. But he played in 67 games the following year and all 82 last season.

While his offensive skills don't compare favorably to Orlando's Dwight Howard, taken one spot ahead of Okafor in the draft, Higgins said Okafor's defense is invaluable to the Bobcats.

"Emeka played in 82 games last year and played at a high level," Higgins said. "We felt we needed to have him, with his inside presence."



Emeka Okafor was selected as the NBA rookie of the Year in the 2004-2005 season.



Who says you have to wait until graduation to enjoy the good things in life?

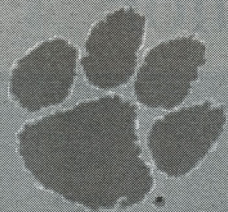
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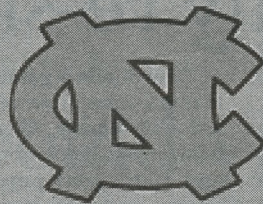


RANKINGS continued from page 10**1. Clemson**

The Tigers are without a doubt the deepest team in the Carolinas and could be poised for a national championship run. Last season, Clemson went 9-4 overall and 5-3 in the ACC, culminating in a 23-20 overtime loss to Auburn in the Peach Bowl. While the conference record wasn't outstanding last year, fellow ACC coaches and media ranked the Tigers as No. 1 in the ACC preseason poll released last week. If the offensive line can hold up this season, the Tigers could be destined for great things. They must be prepared however, as they open against Alabama in one of the most anticipated games of the season.

**2. Wake Forest**

The Demon Deacons are considered to be strong ACC championship contenders this season. While perhaps they are not the national championship contender like Clemson, the attitude at Wake Forest has come to expect conference championships after posting back-to-back winning seasons the past two years. Last season, Wake Forest went 9-4 overall and 5-3 in the ACC. The Demon Deacons capped off the season by winning the Meineke Car Care Bowl, 24-10 over Connecticut. This year, Wake Forest figures into the ACC race in the latter part of the season.

**3. Carolina**

Many will wonder why the Tar Heels rank so high on this list; after all, they won only four games last year. While Carolina only went 4-8 overall and 3-5 in the ACC, progress in the team started to shine through in the latter part of the season. The ACC coaches and media picked the Tar Heels to finish second in the coastal division behind Virginia Tech in the preseason. If Carolina can get off to a good start, a 9-3 or 8-4 record in the regular season is not out of the question--or they could be in exactly the same place they were at the end of last season.

**4. ECU**

The Pirates seem to be relatively low on this list, but many questions remain about the team. It is a no-brainer that the defense is going to be great, but when it comes to the offense, it remains to be seen if ECU can deal with the loss of running back Chris Johnson. In addition, it will be interesting to see if Patrick Pinkney or Rob Kass can duplicate their success from last year. After going 8-5 overall last season and 6-2 in C-USA, the Pirates beat Boise State 41-38 in the Hawaii bowl. After back-to-back 7-5 regular seasons and bowl appearances, one would think that anything less than a conference championship would be a failure.

**5. S.C.**

The Gamecocks were everyone's pick last year to be among the best in the SEC. While they were for a couple months, South Carolina eventually wound up with a 6-6 record overall and went 3-5 in the mighty SEC. This year the schedule is kind to the Gamecocks and they will have to play some of their best football just to match last year's .500 record. With that said, it wouldn't be wise to think Steve Spurrier couldn't take this team to a good bowl game if all the cards fall into place.

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

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ALL ABC
PERMITS

FALL continued from page 10

to look out for in the fall. Baldwin-Tener also landed a solid recruiting class, including the likes of Jean Best, a 6-foot-5 center out of Beddingfield High School in Wilson. Best dominated the post in the high school ranks last season, averaging 18 points and 11 rebounds a contest.

The men's team operates in a bit more of a modest environment; success is not yet judged by mere wins and losses.

"Turning the corner for this team means finding a way to have a chance to win on a regular basis against the better teams on our schedule," Holland said, a former head basketball coach at Virginia. "Wins would be nice, but being competitive is usually the first step to actually winning consistently."

Last season, the soccer team began the season on great form, reaching as high as 13th in the Soccer Buzz Southeast Region rankings.

This season, the trio of leading goal scorer Blair Heffner (F) and All-C-USA performers, Amanda Broz (MF) and Amber Cambell

(GK) should lead to an even better season. An impressive recruiting class should help the team overcome a difficult schedule, that features five contests against 2007 NCAA tournament participants.

The volleyball team turns its focus to replacing one of its all-time greats, Kelley Wernert—and will rely heavily on players like senior libero Trish Monroe and sophomore setter Katie Koop.

The cross country, men's golf, swimming and diving, men's and women's tennis will all kick off in the fall as well.

Holland believes that any one of these teams have had strong enough off-seasons to produce a successful 2008-2009 campaigns.

"Every single one of our sports have had strong recruiting years so I believe that any of them could put the pieces together to be an NCAA Tournament team and/or a conference championship team," Holland said.

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

thanks for reading
The East Carolinian this summer

we'll be back this September
every Tuesday and Thursday



MUDCATS continued from page 10

Two weeks ago, it was announced that ECU had eclipsed 20,500 in season ticket sales, with only 1,500 remaining as of July 20. Last season marked the first sell-out in school history. Occasions like these could push sales over the top.

Five County Stadium, which seats over 6,000, was built in 1991 and is located just off of U.S. 264 West. The stadium recently hosted the AA All-Star Game for the first time in 10 seasons.

The Mudcats, founded in 1959, have produced notable MLB stars like Matt Holliday, Dontrelle Willis, Miguel Cabrera, Jeremy

Hermida, and Bronson Arroyo.

The Mudcats will also be holding their weekly "Thirsty Thursday" promotion, selling fountain size drinks and beer for only \$1.

PeeDee the Pirate is also scheduled to attend; so expect some interesting antics from the likes of PeeDee and his protagonist for the night, Muddy, the Mudcat.

If all goes well, this could become an annual event between ECU and the Mudcats. ECU Marketing Representative Corey Bass played an integral role in setting the event up. Bass, who works in the fundraising department for

the Mudcats, expects the event to be successful, in part, because of Greenville's love of baseball.

"I think it could," said Bass on whether the event will continue. "We thought it would be a good way to incorporate people from Raleigh and the Nash and Wilson County areas and get everybody involved."

Fans can contact Corey Bass at 252-737-4532 or go online to the Mudcats Promotion Schedule for more information.

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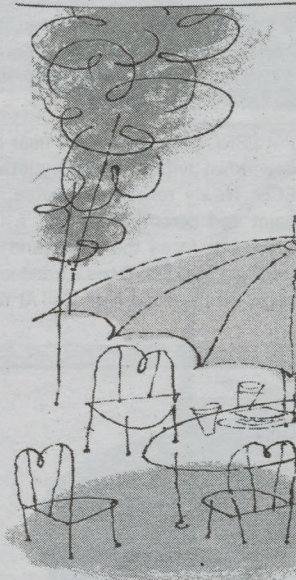
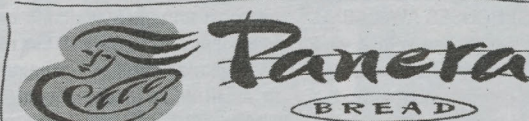
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Part-time Audiovisual Person needed. Must have knowledge of digital editing programs. Call 252-752-1600 and ask for Caryn.

Make money by giving away FREE products. Call 252-321-8389 for details and ask for Deb. www.123getonefree.com.

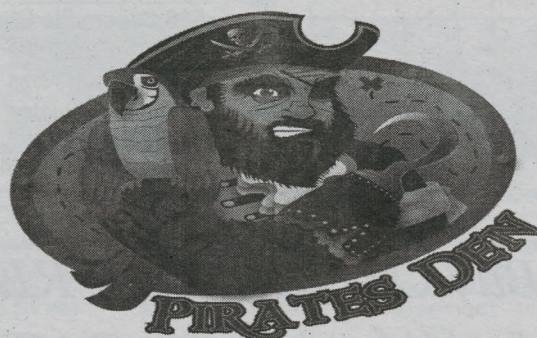
Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$7/hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, visit our website at www.ecu.edu/telefund and click on JOBS.

DISHWASHER/SALAD PREP part-time evenings, \$6.50 to start and must work weekends. Apply at Plum Tree Bistro (731 Red Banks Road) between 5:00 and 5:30 PM. Do not call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our department (Student Legal Services) will host a used cell phone drive to benefit the Family Violence Center of Pitt County. The main collection site will be 1704-B Arlington Blvd. (Call for directions). To assist the campus community we have planned on-campus collections one time per month. The collection dates at the Wright Plaza are from 11-2 on 6-25-2008, 7-30-2008, 8-27-2008, 9-24-2008, and 10-29-2008. For further information, contact Dawn Gibbs @ 737-1067 or gibbsmi@ecu.edu.

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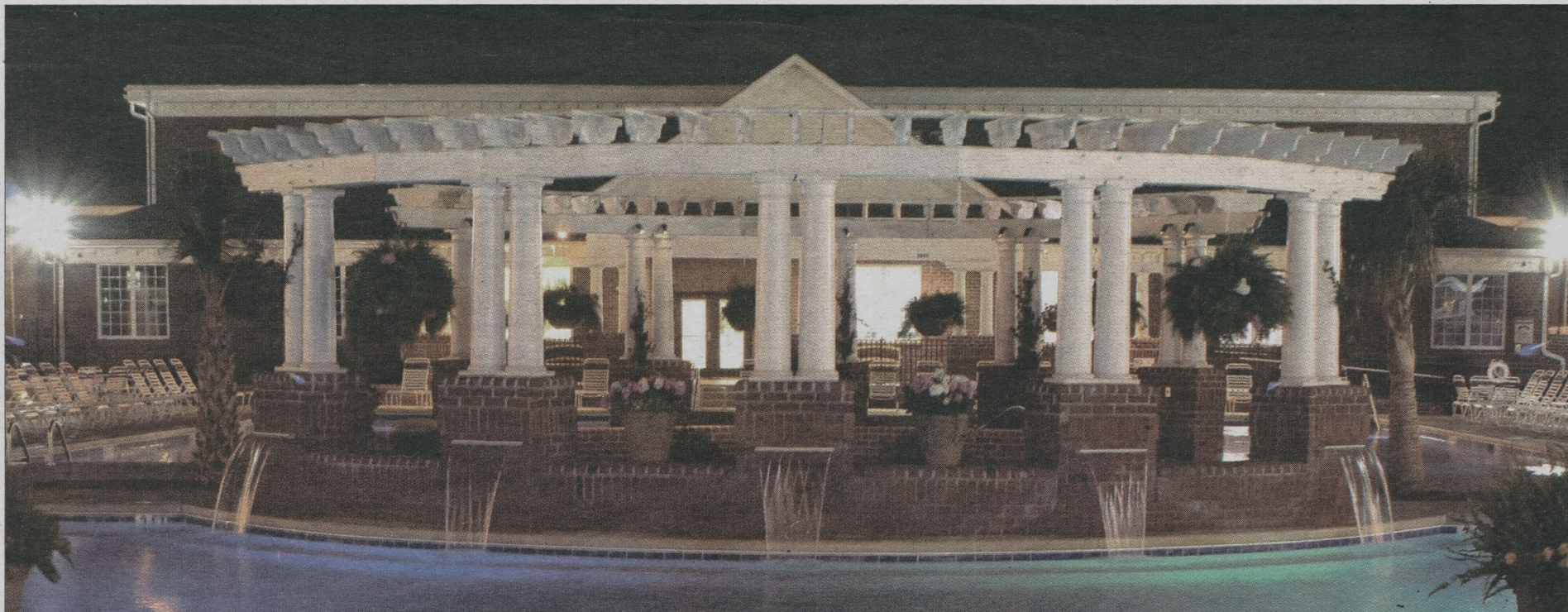
\$5

DAILY FOOD SPECIALS

Mon - BBQ Sandwich, Fries & Drink
Tues - 10 Wings - Traditional or Boneless
Wed - 1/2lb Burger, Fries & Drink
Thurs - Any Chicken Sand, Fries & Drink
Fri - Fish Sandwich, Fries & Drink
Sat - 1/2 Price Arrr-petizers
Sun - Buy One, Get One 1/2 Off

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Hours of Operation: 11:30am - 2:00am



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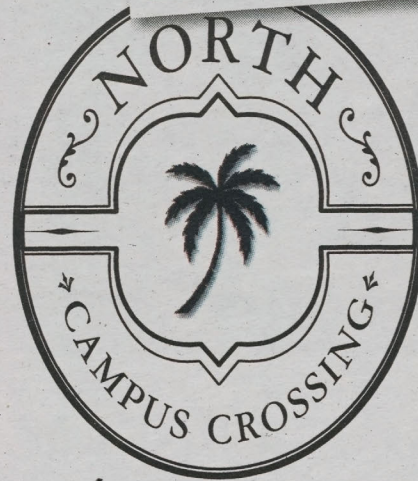
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- Full Court Gymnasium
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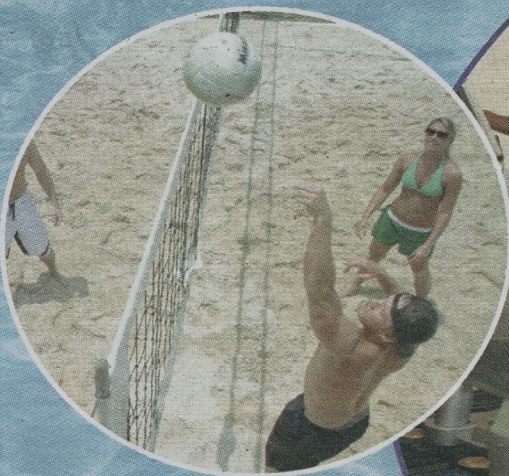
* Individual lease price for 4-bedroom 1375sf floor plan. **\$40 utility allowance that excludes phone service. North Campus Crossing does not discriminate against race, sex, religion, national origin, disability or familial status. North Campus Crossing is managed by Wellington Advisors, LLC. North Campus Crossing © 2008. All rights reserved.



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