



## Student assault sparks issues of dorm safety



Fletcher Hall, located on West End campus where the attack occurred.

JESSI BRAXTON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

**ECU works to improve the safety of its students**  
NATALIE JURGEN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

On Aug. 27 at about 1:50 a.m., a male non-student assaulted a female ECU student in the lobby of Fletcher Hall.

Three students in the hall heard the disturbance and came to the aid of the victim. The students were able to physically subdue the suspect and he was arrested on-site and transported to the Pitt County Detention Center.

The victim was later treated for injuries received during the attack.

ECU officials have drawn a common conclusion that the attacker entered the dorm via "tailgating" or "surfing." Tailgating is when a student holds the door open for the person behind them to enter.

"I received a phone call from both an RA and the police about the attack," said Mandy Plucker, Fletcher Hall coordinator. "When I arrived on the scene the police were there and the perpetrator was in handcuffs."

According to Plucker, the student returned to the dorms Monday after being treated for injuries.

"She is a very strong young woman," Plucker said.

The attacker was later identified as a 2004 ECU graduate. The attacker had recently been living in Tennessee and it is believed by police that he has not lived in Greenville for seven months.

"This was a very unusual incident," said ECU Police Chief Scott Shelton, "It was not predictable whatsoever and could not have been prevented."

Shelton said that the attack was completely random and the attacker

would have chosen someone else if not the victim he chose.

An important question that the attack raises is what will be done to improve the safety of students in the dorms.

Todd Johnson, associate vice chancellor for housing and dining, believes that education is the best way to prevent such attacks.

"Training and changing behaviors of students and encouraging personal responsibility for safety is the best method for preventing such attacks," said Johnson.

Johnson suggested a variety of communication mediums for educating students such as hall meetings and message boards.

The ECU Police Department is also currently enforcing a crime prevention unit and officers are conducting programs on dorm safety.

The Crime Prevention Unit consists of student patrol officers that receive in-house training on safety and security. These officers patrol the residence halls in groups of two. Students are encouraged to utilize these officers if they see any suspicious behavior.

"If students see something unusual, they should feel comfortable calling the police," Shelton said.

These officers also escort students Thursday through Saturday from 9 p.m.- 3 a.m., and Sunday through Wednesday from 9 p.m.- 1 a.m.

"There are 16 residence halls with over 200 cameras throughout the dorms," said Kemal Atkins, vice provost of student affairs. "Each dorm has a live-in coordinator that is a professional staff person in addition to resident advisors on each floor."

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

## Fellow Pirates, meet your Chancellor

ELISE PHILLIPS  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Chancellor Steve Ballard is the man who looks after us Pirates. His duties are numerous and varied, so we thought that giving ECU students a look into his life would be both helpful and informative. The East Carolinian caught up with Chancellor Ballard this week to grill (um, question) him about stuff relevant to students.

**Q: This is the largest freshmen class in the history of ECU. What measures is the university taking to accommodate the growing class size?**

**A:** We are the fastest growing and university in the east. This year's freshmen class had 1,700 more students than last year. We're becoming more and more popular every year, so we are learning how to deal with the growing numbers by looking at our admissions process, constructing new buildings and facilities for our students and utilizing a campus-wide task force for enrollment.

**Q: Are admissions criteria going to get stricter?**

**A:** We have to be careful with admissions, because we are not trying to create an elite atmosphere like UNC-Chapel Hill. What I like best [about ECU] is that we're not trying to be like anyone else. We try to maximize our strengths to become a better



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chancellor Steve Ballard.

university. We want to be more accessible. But don't want to let everyone in, either. I think within five years we'll have very different admission standards.

**Q: With all of the tragedies happening across the nation (Virginia Tech shootings, the Eve Carson murder, the shooting at Northern Illinois), what**

**is ECU doing to prevent these situations at home?**

**A:** Every university is taking a different approach, [and] every case is different. We've learned the best single thing you can do is have police ready to respond in case of an emergency and a

> CHANCELLOR page A5

## Freshman convocation welcomes ECU's biggest class



ASHLEY YARBER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Dr. Richard Williams addresses a group of incoming Pirates.

NATALIE JURGEN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

On August 19 the ECU community welcomed the biggest freshman class in ECU history, nearly 6,000 students, at the new student convocation ceremony held at Minges Coliseum.

ECU faculty and staff stressed the message of tradition, spirit and involvement to the room full of new students.

Dr. Richard Williams, associate professor of Recreational and Leisure studies, welcomed the group and touched on the fact that graduation was 1,365 days away and that each of those days will fly by.

After Dr. Williams welcomed the new Pirates, their attention was shifted to a video entitled *The*

*Vision.*

Dr. Steve Ballard, chancellor of ECU, spoke next.

"This is the largest freshman class ever," Ballard said. "That says a lot about the education you have to expect here."

Chancellor Ballard spoke about the commitment that ECU has made over the past 101 years to be successful.

"Your success is our success," Ballard said. Ballard also offered students four tips for success--go to class and work hard, come back next year, get a degree and learn how to be a leader.

The video, *It All Started Here at ECU*, with ECU Alumnus and President and CEO of Up With

> CONVOCATION page A6

## Today's Carolinian Pirate Rant News of the Day

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Opinion  
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If everything I touched turned into skittles I wouldn't have to worry about getting condoms.

Check inside for a photo spread of what's been going on around campus since you've last seen us.

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## Features

Comedian Greg Giraldo was not welcomed during the Weeks of Welcome by many students and staff.

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## Sports

Turn to the sports section to see analysis of ECU's big win over Virginia Tech, along with a preview of this weekend's game with West Virginia.

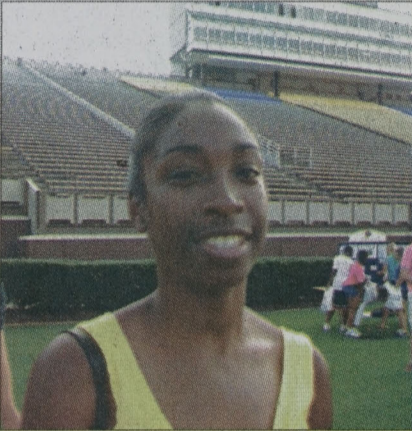
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## Since you've seen us last...



DANNY NUCCIO

"I'D HAVE TO SAY THAT ALL THE FREE STUFF THEY HAND OUT IS THE BEST PART OF PIRATE PALOOZA."



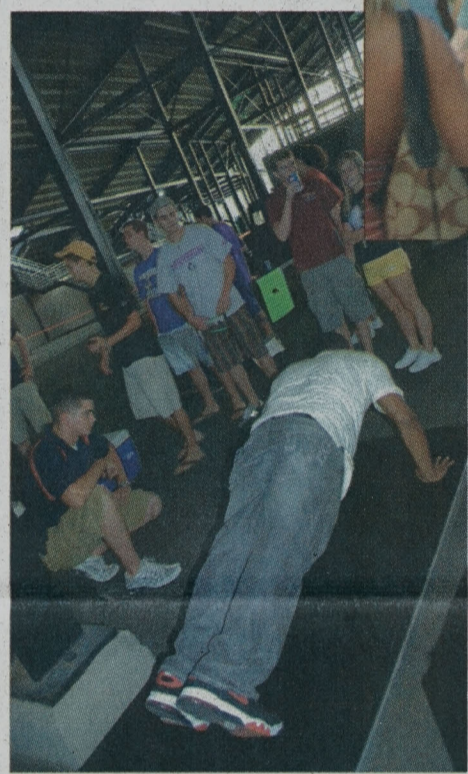
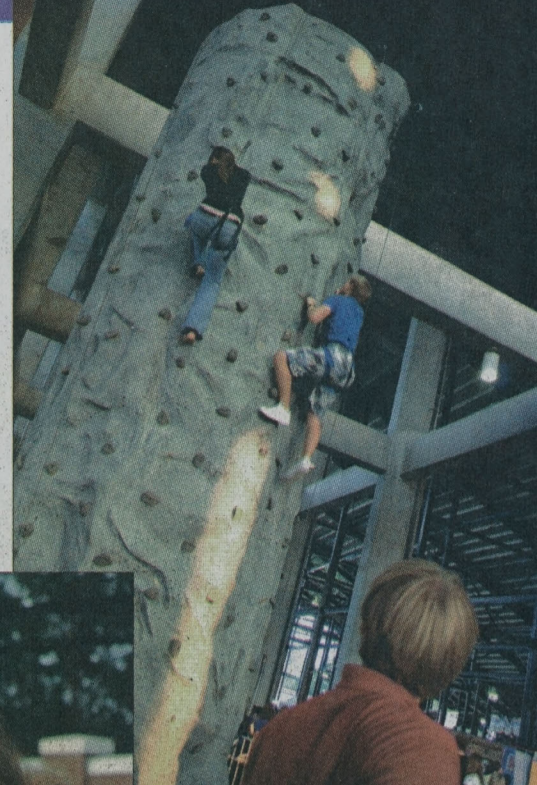
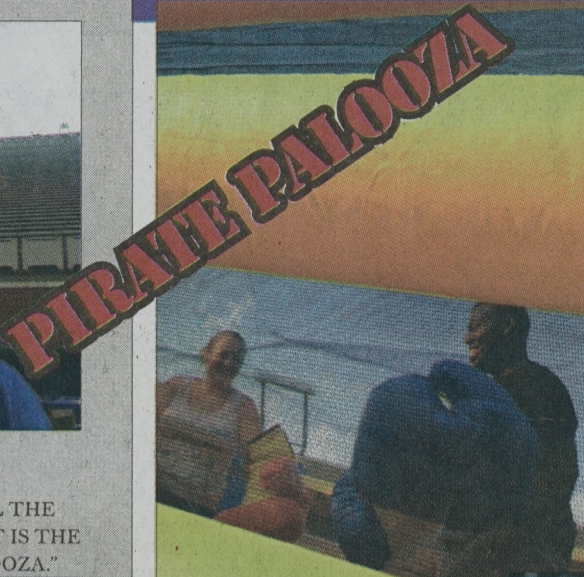
STEPHANIE HOWARD

"I LIKE PIRATE PALOOZA, THERE'S A LOT OF FREE STUFF SO FAR."



JERMAINE FREEMAN

"THIS IS MY FIRST YEAR COMING TO PIRATE PALOOZA, THE BAND IS MY FAVORITE PART."



### FRESHMAN CONVOCATION

Aug. 19 marked this year's freshman convocation. Incoming Pirates filled Minges Coliseum to hear speeches from Chancellor Ballard and SGA President Andrew Griffin. ECU's marching band led the group in singing the ECU Fight Song along with help from the SGA President Andrew Griffin. These incoming Pirates will be ready for this season's upcoming football games.

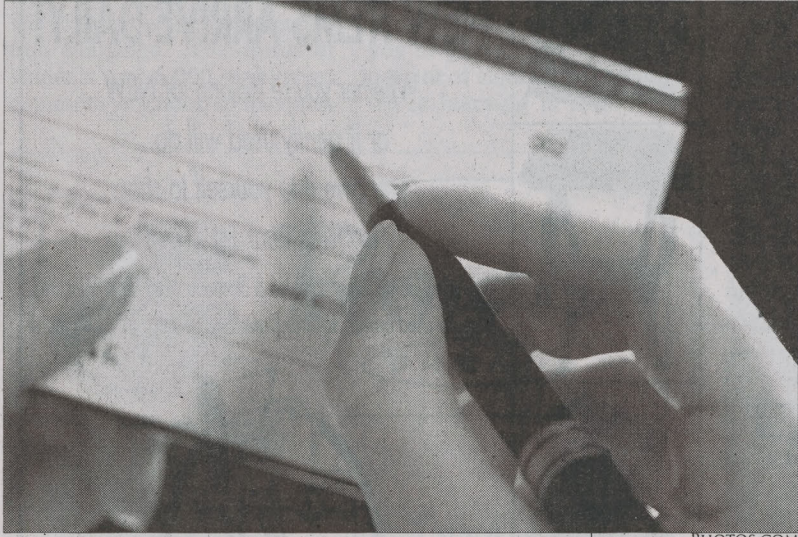


### TODD DINING HALL RENOVATIONS

Newly renovated Todd Dining Hall is now open to students. The Fresh Food Company offers a variety of dining options all under one roof. Students can choose from the Eastern Carolina Smokehouse Grill, pizza and pasta, a produce market, deli, grill, vegetarian options and plenty of desserts. Todd also offers a variety of meal plans to fit every Pirate's schedule. Stop in today and experience all that Todd Dining Hall has to offer!



# Direct deposit mandatory for all ECU employees



ECU employees make the change to direct deposit.

deposit, according to Larry Donley, director of the Student Employment Office. By Sept. 3, the number of students and faculty employees not enrolled in the direct deposit program was about the same, said Marjorie Sutton, payroll director.

Student employees include federal work-study, self-help, and graduate and undergraduate assistant employees. How long have students known about the switch? Since about April 1, Donley said.

"We've given students ample warning and notice," Donley stated. "We are giving [employees] a grace period until the Oct. 31 pay check, but we obviously want them to get it done as soon as possible."

Sutton says that more students have signed up for direct deposit than at the beginning of the summer, when 227 employees failed to make the switch.

"We've tried to educate departments that this is mandatory and that you need to include this [direct deposit forms] as a part of your hiring packet," Sutton said. "This is the way that all companies are going these days."

Until Oct. 31, students who have failed to sign up for direct deposit will only be able to retrieve their checks at certain times and at certain places. When students go to pick up their checks, they will be reminded to fill out a direct deposit form. If checks are not picked up within the designated time and place, they will be mailed to the address on the paycheck.

"Legally, we have to pay every employee that puts in the time," Donley said. "But we are trying to get every student in compliance [with this system]."

Donley says that there might be several reasons why students have

not made the switch to direct deposit—employees haven't gotten word of the change, which Donley finds "hard to believe" or that changes in different student employment organizations have hindered the process, like a change in leadership or location.

The idea to change from paper checks to direct deposit was not the officials at ECU. The entire UNC system, headed by President Erskin Bowles, made the switch for all 16 universities within the system.

"This change will save ECU money, be good for the community and good for the state of North Carolina," Donley said. "The bottom line is that students will get their money much quicker and much easier."

Sutton agrees. "In the past, checks were delivered to departments," she said. "We had to deal with students not finding their check on pay day [but] if they are on direct deposit, the student knows that in the morning [of payday] their money will more than likely be in their account."

The next pay period will more accurately show how many students and faculty employees have made the leap to direct deposit, according to Sutton.

"The next pay period will give a true picture of how well this process is working," she said. "We've worked really hard to put this process in place."

Students can use any financial institution they want as long as that institution accepts direct deposit. Students also have the option of using their Higher One card as means for their direct deposit.

For more information about the mandatory direct deposit program, visit.ecu.edu/hire/repairate.

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

ELISE PHILLIPS  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Starting Aug. 1, student and faculty employees no longer had the choice of receiving paper checks. By Aug. 15, approximately 60 students out of the roughly 3,000 ECU student employees had yet to sign up to have their money sent to a bank account via direct

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## Oil prices still on the decline

(MCT)

Oil prices declined nearly \$6 a barrel on Tuesday on the news that the Gulf Coast region's energy infrastructure escaped serious damage from Hurricane Gustav, and analysts expected the trend of falling oil and gasoline prices to continue.

Oil prices for October delivery fell to as low as \$105.46 in early trading—the lowest they've been since April—before settling down \$5.75 Tuesday to \$109.71 on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Having now crossed the psychological threshold of \$110, prices seem headed toward \$100 a barrel. Oil prices are almost 30 percent off their brief high of \$147 a barrel in July.

The last time oil prices were under \$100 a barrel, the week of March 14-20, the nationwide average price for a gallon of unleaded gasoline stood at \$3.27. AAA said Tuesday that the nationwide average stood at \$3.68, up 90 cents a gallon from a year ago.

For now, all signs point to lower prices. "We see continued weak demand," said James Crandell, an oil analyst with Lehman Brothers, a Wall Street investment bank that has taken a contrarian stance in forecasting declining oil prices.

Lehman expects oil prices to average about \$105 a barrel from October to December, then \$100 a barrel or less at the start of 2009. The reason: Weakened demand in the U.S. now is being followed by weaker demand for oil in Asia and Europe.

"The European area has deteriorated and central bankers have changed their tone there," said Crandell, noting that inflation is no longer as problematic as slow growth in Europe, reducing demand for oil. "In terms of oil demand, we see continued weakness in the United States, which has not gotten better as prices went down."

Another factor, albeit one that's harder to

quantify, is weakening demand for oil and its refined products in China. Chinese consumption statistics have long been viewed as being insufficiently transparent. Oil analysts also believe China was building gasoline and diesel-fuel inventories ahead of the Beijing Summer Olympics last month, reportedly to ensure backup supplies in the event of any major failures along its power grid.

"It's pretty clear that they were building up stockpiles ... not only will they not be building stockpiles but they will be de-stocking," Crandell said, meaning the Chinese will be drawing down from their existing oil inventories rather than sucking oil off a tight global market.

Other oil analysts believe falling oil prices reflect a correction in what was a speculative bubble, and suggest even lower prices are ahead.

"Despite the recent correction, we believe that crude oil prices are still inflated and do not reflect industry fundamentals," wrote Fadel Gheit and Daniel Katzenberg, oil analysts for Oppenheimer & Co., a New York investment-management firm.

In a research note Tuesday, the two suggested that recent hostilities in the oil-rich Caspian region should have reversed slumping prices if global supplies really were drum tight.

"The Russian invasion of Georgia and Hurricane Gustav have failed to stem the slide in oil prices, which proves to us that oil prices are inflated," Gheit and Katzenberg said, adding that "barring a major supply disruption, we think oil prices have already peaked."

The 11-member Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is unlikely to watch prices sink too much further, however. OPEC members meet next Tuesday and some such as Iran have signaled they're willing to withhold supply to support higher prices.

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**NEWSLINE**

**John McCain takes unexpected step**  
John McCain has taken a big step by selecting Alaskan governor, Sarah Palin, as his running mate. Palin, a mother of five, is seen as a family oriented conservative with heart. Democrats, on the other hand, hope voters see an inexperienced candidate with a short resume. Palin, who has been missing from the debate for four days, will make her case on Wednesday. McCain's campaign refused to say Tuesday whether Palin would bring up the biggest story of the week, her pregnant teenage daughter, Bristol Palin. "I think it's a unique opportunity that's a chance for her to get out and tell her story and let people see beyond the media froth that's existed for the past 48 hours," McCain adviser Rick Davis said.

**Protestors take to the streets in St. Paul**

A rowdy group of demonstrators took to the streets of St. Paul for the second day on Tuesday to voice their opinions about the Republican National Convention. On Tuesday the number of protesters and arrests were down from the 10,000 who marched and nearly 300 who were arrested on Monday. More than 500 people marched through the streets of downtown chanting "Who streets? Our streets." At least 10 people were arrested Tuesday, including a showdown with police officers on horseback. The marchers later made their way to the Capitol, and the crowd grew to over 2,000. Rumors surfaced that the rap-metal group "Rage Against the Machine" was going to play on the Capitol lawn but they had no permit and the power was turned off. This marked the third straight day of protest rallies and marches through downtown St. Paul. GOP delegates began arriving Sunday. "There is a war on the poor and we need to better equip ourselves and prepare the masses for what's going to take place," said Willie Fleming, who came up from Chicago's Cabrini Green public housing complex to join the protest.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Damage left in the aftermath of Hurricane Gustav.**

**Second time around, New Orleans gets it right**

Officials were able to successfully evacuate the city prior to the landfall of the category 2 Hurricane Gustav. The newly fortified levees protected the city against the storm, unlike when the levees failed during Hurricane Katrina. However, many of the 300,000 evacuees are distressed about being hundreds of miles from home after a storm that turned out to be a bit of a false alarm. Mayor Ray Nagin says that residents will not be able to return to their homes until Thursday due to widespread utility outages, downed power lines and toppled trees. "Not allowing us to return to our homes is not only outrageous, it is an action that deliberately rewards those who disobeyed the mandatory evacuation order by allowing them to return," wrote one city resident on the New Orleans Times-Picayune Web site message board. "This decision... will jeopardize lives in the future because people will be reluctant to evacuate if they know they will be discriminated against after the storm simply for following the rules."

**Students may have trouble seeking financial aid this fall**

The ongoing credit crunch may make it difficult for families seeking financial aid this fall. Some lenders have stopped offering student loans and are raising lending standards, forcing many students and their families to find alternative sources of financing. New financial options include federally guaranteed student loans, special programs offered at schools and peer-to-peer lending on the Internet. "It's definitely gotten a bit worse," said college-financing expert Mark Kantrowitz, who runs FinAid.org. "The timing couldn't be worse from a student perspective." Private student loans help bridge the gap between the actual cost of education and the limited amount the government allows students to borrow. These loans are offered by lenders such as banks and aren't guaranteed by the federal government.

**Obama attacked at Republican National Convention**

Joseph Lieberman, the Democrats' 2000 vice-presidential nominee, and former Sen. Fred Thompson tore apart Democratic nominee Barack Obama Tuesday night at the Republican National Convention with speeches that attacked Democrats as eager to give up in Iraq.

Thompson, a former Tennessee senator, and Lieberman, an independent Democrat from Connecticut, were the featured speakers at the Republican convention's first prime-time session. Thompson began with a lengthy speech about McCain's heroism as a Vietnam prisoner of war. Thompson said: "It's pretty clear there are two questions we will never have to ask ourselves: 'Who is this man?' and 'Can we trust this man with the presidency?'" Lieberman said he had another mission: to explain how McCain brought people together. Then he proceeded to tear apart Obama. "When others wanted to retreat in defeat from the field of battle, when Barack Obama was voting to cut off funding for our troops on the battlefield," Lieberman said, "John McCain had the courage to stand against the tide of public opinion and support the surge (in Iraq), and because of that, today our troops are at last beginning to come home, not in failure but in honor."

**"Welcome to the Neighborhood" festivities reach out to the community**

YAZID AL-FAYYAD  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A large scale collaborative community outreach effort took place Wednesday in hopes to better connected with citizens of Greenville and off-campus students.

The event, "Welcome to the Neighborhood," took place between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., in which volunteers and organizers sectioned off the city of Greenville into pieces, devoting their efforts to speaking with as many apartment and housing properties as they could manage.

Among the organizations involved in the outreach were the Greenville and ECU Police Department, the Dean of Students, Greek Life, the Student Government Association, Student Legal and Greenville's Impact Unit.

"We're welcoming students and non-students to the community, [and] we also have the [support] of city of Greenville with us today," said student assistant Brad Teasley.

Liaisons from the local neighborhood communities were invited to participate in the program as a way to connect with their student neighbors.

Volunteers traveled with Safe Ride, a division of ECU Transit, or with one of the many local police officers who offered their time for the program.

Among the contents of the goody bag delivered to residents were lists of contact

information for major services provided in Greenville, safety information for living off-campus and pamphlets to educate students on the emergency text message program.

"I think it is important for students to get informed on the city of Greenville because it is the city in which they live," said Lucia Brannon, Interim Coordinator for Off-Campus Services.

The event this year covered a large portion of neighborhoods stretching from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to River Drive and from Reade Street to Warren Street.

Brannon described her hopes that next year's program will be more encompassing, attracting students and community members

to come to them, in a "one-time gathering."

For Wednesday's program, Brannon met with apartment complex managers, planning educational commuter lunches in order to listen to student needs.

Commuter lunches take place the fourth Wednesday of every month and are accompanied by a keynote speaker on various topics including the issue of signing a lease and general safety concerns living off-campus.

"It is student fee money," Brannon said, "and I want to give it back to them."

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

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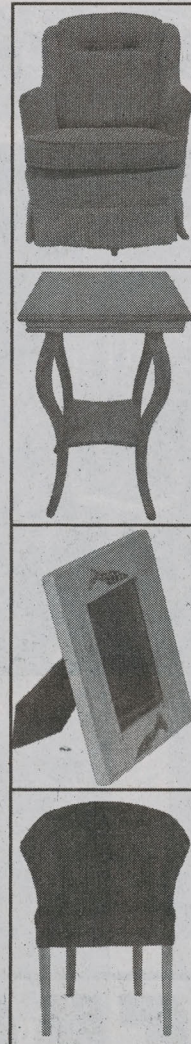
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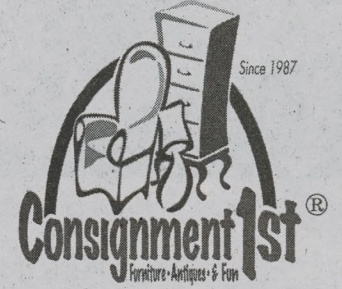
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## CHANCELLOR continued from A1

bigger and better campus safety unit. The biggest obstacle that we've faced is the communication challenge. Two-thirds of students and 6,000 employees commute to school, so the ques-

tion is: 'how do we get the word out to them?' No matter how many mechanisms you use, you're going to miss 30 to 40 percent of students. One lesson we're learning is to move as

fast as you can and learn how to spend your money.

**Q: I've noticed that a lot of students are sort of apathetic toward getting involved in campus organizations. What do you think about that?**

**A:** Not to contradict what you just said, but we know that 10,000 students are actively involved in the community. Maybe the reason that some

students are not as involved on-campus is because they spending their time elsewhere, volunteering.

**Q: What would you say to students who are not as involved as they could be?**

**A:** I would tell those students that getting involved will really make your time at ECU more enjoyable and more worthwhile.

**Q: This semester, how will you make yourself more accessible to students?**

**A:** Every semester I try to do things with students. One year I went to one of the dorms, I paid for the pizza and we just sat and talked. So, I might do that again this semester. [Also], every Wednesday, my wife and I sit down with the honors students...and I always try to do things by request.

**Q: What kinds of things do students talk about when you are out and about on campus?**

**A:** First and foremost, they talk about parking. We've grown so fast that parking is ridiculous, but it's going to get worse, in

fact, as the university continues to grow.

**Q: How would you describe ECU in one word?**

**A:** Authentic or honest. ECU does what it says it's going to do.

**Q: What is the typical day in the life of Chancellor Ballard?**

**A:** There is no typical day. Everyday my assistant and I sit down and look at the priorities for the week. We plan, but it never turns out that way. The trick of this job is finding out who can answer what question...and it's not always the Chancellor.

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



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## Faculty members offer a taste of Russia



ERIN EDWARDS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Photo from the exhibit at Joyner Library.

ASHLEY ABERNATHY  
 THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Russia doesn't make a personal connection to many, which is why two faculty members at

ECU decided to create a photo exhibit of the country titled "Russia - Ancient and Modern," at Joyner Library.

Yelena Francis, a Russian language instructor, and Mark Sanders, head of reference at Joyner, wanted to share the culture of Russia with others.

"Our goal is to remind others of its [Russia's] cultural values," said Francis.

The exhibit is located on the first floor of the library by the reference desk. It includes 15 photos depicting different ancient and modern regions and cities in Russia. Francis, originally from St. Petersburg, Russia, gathered photos from her friends and relatives back home, including one of her own in the exhibit. She took the picture one year ago in St. Petersburg near the Neva River. The different photos range from Russian monasteries to famous monuments and sculptures; one of which was a gift to Russia from the U.S. Even photos of popular Russian food make up the exhibit.

"I wanted to show the Mosaic of Russian cultural attractions," Francis said.

A display of books and albums were added to the exhibit by Sanders.

"I thought it was a great chance to partner with the foreign languages department to highlight a unique collection of materials," said Sanders, who also serves as a liaison between the library and department of foreign languages.

Sanders selected items from a variety of media to target certain audiences. There are CDs, DVDs, children's books and reference titles that are all regional content.

The library displays several art exhibits throughout the year including a recent exhibit by ECU Art Professor and Sculptor Hanna Jubran. However, the Russian photo exhibit is the first of its kind.

Francis and Sanders are planning to create two more Russian photo exhibits in the near future.

"It is a wonderful opportunity for collaboration between academic departments and the library," Sanders said. "Also, the theme of Russia in transition is a very timely topic, especially given the recent events in Georgia."

For those wanting a deeper look into Russian culture, ECU's Department of Foreign Languages hosts a Russian movie night every first and third Wednesday of the month in Bate 1025.

The exhibit is open to the public during library hours. Students as well as faculty are encouraged to come and "experience Russia."

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

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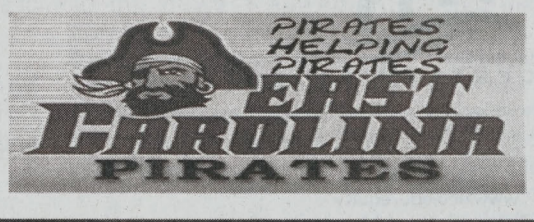
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**CONVOCAATION** continued from A1

People, Tommy Spaulding, was shown next.

Spaulding's message was one of involvement.

"I got involved, and because I got involved the university got involved in my heart," Spaulding said.

Dr. Marilyn Sheerer, interim provost, followed Spaulding and spoke about the ECU creed and the importance of abiding by certain rules. Broken down, Sheerer's messages stressed honesty, respect, thinking before speaking and how to be a role model.

Chair of the English faculty, Dr. Jan Tovey, then addressed the students on the value of academic integrity. Tovey defined integrity as "the steadfast adherence to a strict ethical code."

Following Dr. Tovey's words was Andrew Griffin, president of SGA. Griffin urged students to become involved in campus and attend events with the upcoming Weeks of Welcome.

Dr. Richard Williams then taught the room full of new pirates the most important word in a Pirate's grammar, "AAARGH!!"

"You are now a part of the Pirate family," Williams said.

Student Brian Pollock then sang the Alma Mater.

Vice Provost of Student Affairs, Kemal Atkins, later told students to "take advantage of the opportunity you've been afforded."

Andrew Griffin closed the ceremony with a singing of the ECU victory fight song.



ASHLEY YARBER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
Dr. Marilyn Sheerer speaks about the ECU creed.

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



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Would you like to win \$\$\$ for your English 1100 or 1200 papers?

The Office of Co-Curricular Programs and Cultural Outreach and the ECU Department of English are pleased to sponsor the

**3rd Annual Constitution Day Writing Contest**

If you wrote a Constitution-related paper in English 1100 or 1200 during fall 2007, spring 2008, or summer 2008 please consider entering that paper for the contest!

Entries should be submitted in hardcopy to Dr. Wendy Sharer, Department of English, 2206 Bate Building or by email to [sharerw@ecu.edu](mailto:sharerw@ecu.edu) by 5 pm, Friday, September 5. The top three entries will receive \$50 in cash and a \$50 voucher for the Dowdy Student Stores.



# CONSTITUTION WEEK

## SEPTEMBER 15-19, 2008

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JOYNER LIBRARY WILL HOUSE A DISPLAY ON "CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND THE CONSTITUTION"

AN EXHIBIT BY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS CURATOR, DR. JONATHAN DEMBO, WILL BE LOCATED IN THE GALLERY AT MENDENHALL STUDENT CENTER.

**Monday, September 15**  
**7:00 pm at Hendrix Theater**

- Guest Speaker George Freeman, Vice President and Assistant General Counsel to the New York Times

*He will discuss cases directly related to the first amendment*

Reception will follow in the Multi-Purpose Room

There is no charge for admission.

**Tuesday, September 16**  
**6:00 pm in the Great Rooms in Mendenhall Student Center**

- Panel Discussion: "Freedom of Speech: The Core First Amendment Protection"

*Reception will follow*

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*Prizes will be awarded*

For details and to submit entries, contact Dr. Wendy Sharer, Department of English, sharerw@ecu.edu

**Wednesday, September 17**  
**10:00 am to 1:00 pm**

- Freedom Fair- ECU Designated Public Forum Space

*An opportunity to learn more about the ECU Designated Public Forum Space near the Cupola on the Mall. Tables will be set up by organizations that have an interest on the subject of free speech in the academic environment. Contact Aaron Lucier, 328.2758.*

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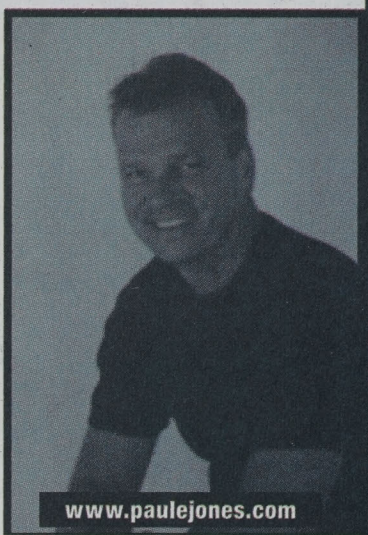
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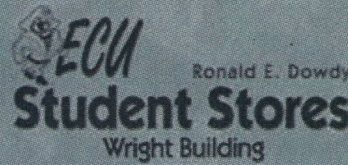



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# Features

{Campus Scene}

## Did you know?

A car traveling 100 mph would take more than 29 million years to reach the nearest star.

In Cleveland, Ohio it is illegal to catch mice without a hunting license.

Medical research has found substances in mistletoe that can slow down tumor growth.

On average, a disposable diaper can hold up to 7 pounds of liquid.

New York's Central Park is nearly twice the size of the entire country of Monaco.

Until the nineteenth century, solid blocks of tea were used as money in Siberia.

During your lifetime, you'll eat about 60,000 pounds of food, that's the weight of about 6 elephants.

A sneeze travels out your mouth at over 100 m.p.h.

Each year, there are more than 40,000 toilet related injuries in the United States.

In 1998, Sony accidentally sold 700,000 camcorders that had the technology to see through people's clothes.

In New York City, approximately 1,600 people are bitten by other humans every year.

It takes about 63,000 trees to make the newsprint for the average Sunday edition of The New York Times.

There are 365 steps on the front of the U.S. Capitol Building - one for every day of the year.

There is a giant mushroom in Oregon that is over 2,400 years old, covers 3.4 square miles of land, and is still growing!

Every year, kids in North America spend close to half a billion dollars on chewing gum.

A goldfish has a memory span of about 3 seconds.

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

Since 1896, the beginning of the modern Olympics, only Greece and Australia have participated in every Games.

The world's oldest piece of chewing gum is over 9000 years old.

It is impossible for it to hail when ground temperature is below freezing.

The game Simon Says was originally called Do This, Do That.

Winston Churchill smoked an estimated 300,000 cigars during his lifetime.

Sweet N' Low was the one-millionth trademark issued by the U.S. Patent office.

Lemon Pledge has more lemons than Country Time Lemonade.

Johnny Carson, Michael Douglas, and Clint Eastwood were all once gas station attendants.

Monaco and Vatican City are both smaller than New York's Central Park.

It was noted in King George III of England's diary on July 4, 1776 that "Nothing of importance happened today."

The most popular reason for not voting in elections, according to the U.S. Census, was "Too busy."

A typical supermarket displays more than 25,000 items.

Dogs and cats consume over \$11 billion worth of pet food a year!

The largest toy distributor in the world is McDonald's.

The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.

The average person will spend two weeks over their lifetime waiting for the traffic light to change.

Orangutans warn people to stay out of their territory by belching.

A tortoise can live up to 140 years old.

In 2005, each person in the world consumed, on average, 77 beverages made by The Coca-Cola Company.

## Comedy Central Indecision 2008 sparks ECU controversy

Students and staff offended by comedian's act

ERIN EDWARDS

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Greg Giraldo made a bad decision and the ECU community is not happy about it.

The comedian, who has appeared on *Tough Crowd with Colin Quim*, *Last Call with Carson Daly*, *Late Show with David Letterman* and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* ventured to ECU for the Comedy Central Indecision 2008 tour on Aug. 18. The show served as a kick off to the ECU Weeks of Welcome, and was free to students and friends at Minges Coliseum.

However, some students and staff deemed the show, most notably Giraldo himself, offensive and vulgar. According to student accounts, Giraldo based his routine on making fun of the hearing impaired, along with asking the audience which animal he or she would like to have sex with.

"Greg Giraldo, in my opinion, was incredibly vulgar and offensive," said Joy Fitzpatrick, who attended the show.

Fitzpatrick added that Giraldo intentionally allowed his comedy act to make fun of those who required interpreters, using them as backup material through the entire show.

"I anticipate my opposing argument to say that college students are adult enough to think for themselves, and although they are, I am more concerned that this particular event was endorsed by such a great institution," Fitzpatrick said.

Kay Christian, the interim director of Student Activities and Involvement, says that the administration understands the concerns of offended students and apologizes for the incident.

"Every year our department brings a comedy act for students to enjoy during the Weeks of Welcome and anytime you have that, you can't necessarily control the comedian's material or what they say and do," said Christian. "We strive to provide a wide variety of entertainment to students, but sometimes there will be moments when some enjoy the show and others are offended."

"In the future, we will work hard to be sure we set our expectations with our entertainment acts beforehand. Without stifling free speech, we need to make sure they have appropriate material for the audience."

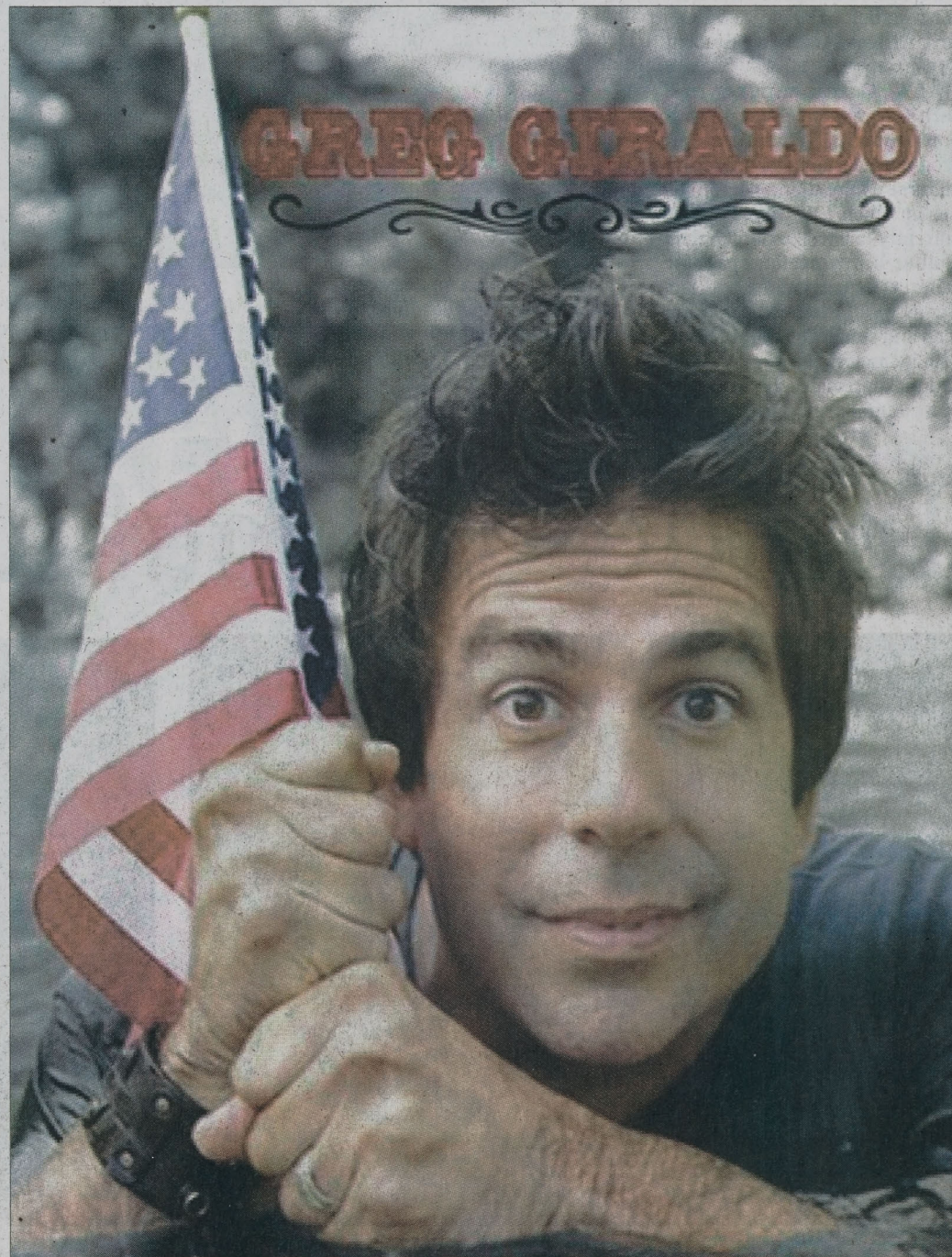
However, while some attendants of the events found the routine too vulgar, others enjoyed the show, including student Jason Wallace.

"I think that Mr. Giraldo did what a professional comic should do," said Wallace. "Any comedian can tell a series of jokes, but he has the skill and confidence to break the fourth wall and interact with the audience."

Wallace adds that although Giraldo might have offended those who attended, anyone who felt uncomfortable with the material of a show can always leave.

"If one chooses to stay, then one chooses to be a part of the entertainment, even when the entertainment might be them," he said.

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



AMAZON.COM

Comedian Greg Giraldo's tour stop for Comedy Central Indecision 2008 has left many offended.

## S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A.?

VON LEWIS

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

At first glance, you might be wondering what S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. means? The acronym stands for the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. The society, established in 1938, now has more than 25,000 members in the U.S. and Canada; all belonging to their respective chapters of the largest men's a cappella singing organization in the world.

"With the U.S. and Canada, and affiliates in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, Germany, The Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, South Africa and the emerging Japanese entity, barbershop harmony is

truly a worldwide brotherhood," said Bartow Houston, a skilled member of the society.

Greenville, indeed, has its own barbershop chapter that meets every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Shepherd Library East Branch, and they are looking for more members.

"The Greenville Barbershop Chapter is currently trying to 'rejuvenate' itself," said Houston. "I first sang with the chorus in 1962, and over the years its fortunes have waxed and waned. I am hopeful that the 'Brotherhood of Harmony' is once again moving in the right direction."

"With a dynamic director and a number of 'veterans,' the only missing aspect is adding some enthusiastic new singers, especially younger men," Houston said.

Houston has been enthralled with barbershop singing for a long time and hopes to pass on the tradition to the younger generations as it was passed on to him.

He recalls, "In 1949, when I was ten years old, a young man moved to my Little Washington hometown to start a choral music program in the local high school. He took a room with a family across the street from where I lived. He let me listen to records (1978) of college men's glee clubs and some barbershop quartets. Although I became 'hooked' on the unique sound, especially those chords, I really could not have explained it then. In 1954, as a high school sophomore, I was selected to sing in a barbershop quartet. That was when my life-long love affair with that genre of music began.

Incidentally, the man who introduced me to choral music, and especially barbershop, retired many years later as Dean of the School of Music at ECU, Charlie Stevens."

Another connection ECU has with the barbershop community is Don Wigent, piano technician and president of the Greenville Chapter, "Brotherhood of Harmony."

"The comradery amongst the people making music and meeting a lot of nice people is fun... the chords are terrific," said Wigent, the 30-year veteran of barbershop singing. "It gives you goose bumps up your back. I have never met a grouchy no-good barber-shopper. I don't think they make those things."

Wigent encourages prospective members to "come, meet the people, listen and learn the

music, and you will have so much fun you won't ever want to quit."

One of Wigent's many favorite moments barber shopping was singing with "The Gashouse Gang," a well-known barbershop quartet. Wigent was given the chance to sing with the quartet while attending a Harmony Brigade. Jim Henry, "The Gashouse Gang's" bass, also coached Wigent's quartet.

For more information about the Greenville chapter, or barbershop in general, feel free to contact Don Wigent at his office, 270 Fletcher building, or give him a call at 252-328-6069. You can also check out the Web site at [www.babershop.org](http://www.babershop.org).

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

## Artists 'Emerge' in Friday night show

ASHLEY ABERNATHY

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Tired of doing the same thing every weekend?

Looking for something different to do on a Friday night?

If so, look no further than Emerge Gallery and Art Center in downtown Greenville.

Emerge, a non-profit art center run by artists and students, offers a variety of shows and exhibits throughout the year. From Aug. 29 to Sept. 27, the center will be hosting its eighth annual "Schwa Show."

The show is a juried exhibition that will display around 60 various pieces of art media. The competition has allowed artists from across the nation to showcase their artwork.

Each participant could submit up to five entries that had to be done within the past three years and never previously exhibited at Emerge.

The show was judged by Lynn Jones Ennis, the curator of the collection for the Gregg Museum of Art and Design at North Caro-

lina State University. Winners will be announced at a reception on Sept. 5 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"[This] just gives people an opportunity to share their artwork with other people," said Vicky Fanberg, exhibit and events coordinator of Emerge Gallery.

More than 300 pieces of artwork were entered into the show, with approximately a third of the pieces done by students at ECU and others by members in the community. Artists as far away as California entered the show as well.

Cash prizes will be awarded to four winners, including best in show, first, second and third place. However, according to Fanberg, just being selected to be in the show is considered an honor.

"To be accepted into a jury show is a moment of recognition for some," Fanberg said. The reception is open to the public and most of the artwork is for sale. Artwork includes any type of media from ceramics and textiles to prints and photos.

Justin Flythe, a senior majoring in photography and an intern at Emerge, submitted

one of his photography pieces in the Schwa Show. This is his first year participating.

"I entered my work into the show just for the exposure," said Flythe. "Emerge is the best place to show contemporary art."

Emerge will be hosting another juried exhibition, entitled Vote-11-08 as soon as the Schwa Show ends.

Fanberg said the show will allow artists to express their opinions on society.

"It will be a broad range of any feelings you may have about any issues," Fanberg said.

Those interested in entering their work into the show can pick up an application at Emerge Gallery and Art Center or online at [emergegallery.com](http://emergegallery.com).

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



PHOTO BY RJ WEBB | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Schwa show features this piece by Austin Sheppard.

# Ledonia Wright Cultural Center has full agenda for school year

LAKEISHA GOODMAN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The halt of the Mendenhall renovations may have affected organizations and offices but the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center took it all in stride and kept on moving.

Rod Bradley, director of the center, believes it is a blessing in disguise.

"We can now look forward to our own building in the near future," said Bradley.

LWCC is named after Ledonia Wright, a former ECU professor who helped organize ECU's first African-American Student Organization.

LWCC offers many services, such as computer lab access with complimentary printing and programs that assist in furthering cultural exploration. The building in which LWCC is housed, currently located next to Greene Hall, serves as meeting space for different organizations and has a cozy room where students can read and study. Demetria Smith, a senior majoring in English Education, appreciates the existence of a cultural center on campus.

"It offers students of all backgrounds an opportunity to learn more about themselves and others in a family-style environment," said Smith.

LWCC has many programs planned for this year, including Hate Out week, which will take place Sept. 15-19. Hate Out Week is a weeklong series of events designed to help raise awareness and unity of all differences that a student may encounter on campus. The week will end with a guest speaker, Judy Shephard, a gay rights advocate, in Hendrix on Thursday night and a Cultural Cabaret on Friday night in Fletcher Music Hall. Admission to these events is free.

On Oct. 4, LWCC will host a Multicultural Student Leadership Conference in Mendenhall Student Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference will consist of several sessions dealing with leadership. Keynote speaker, Rasheed Cornwell, will be presiding. Registration for this event is only \$5 and the deadline for registration is Sept. 30.

On Oct. 29, "Ailey II" will be performing in Wright Auditorium at 7 p.m. "Ailey II" is

an exceptionally talented dance group, based in New York, that tours around the country. Tickets to this event will cost \$5 for students and can be purchased in the central ticket office.

LWCC is also hosting a trip to Washington D.C. on Oct. 11-12, the weekend of fall break. The cost is \$25 for the overnight trip. Certain landmarks will be visited, including the Smithsonian, the Holocaust Museum and the state capitol. Spots are on a first come, first serve basis and the last day to register will be Sept. 20.

For any information on how to attend any of these events, or to help out, stop by the center or call 328-6495.

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



STAFF PHOTO | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

With the entire year planned, the LWCC welcomes all to attend cultural and diverse events.

# Inside the music: album guide



MCT CAMPUS

The timeless B.B. King hits the marks again with his new album, *One Kind Favor*.



MCT CAMPUS

Although the music is overproduced pop, the Jonas Brothers bring happiness to their fans.

STEPHEN MASON  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

**The Stills - *Oceans Will Rise* (Arts & Crafts) \*\*\*\***  
There are three things that make *Oceans Will Rise* work, and none are by accident. First, the Stills know how to be radio-friendly while layering their message into the hooks of their indie-rock driven style ("Being Here," for example). Second, they have mastered the dynamics. There are no points where *Oceans Will Rise* is too loud for too long like a Muse album, nor

does it whisper until you fall asleep. Third, the message they convey-- while obvious--is not as boisterous as someone like Marilyn Manson. Overall, it is thoroughly enjoyable, and let's face it; they make global warming sound fun.

**The Verve - *Forth* (RED) \*\*\***

Unfortunately for Ashcroft and company, the Verve is 10 years too late to reunite and answer the age-old question of "What would the Verve have done next had they not broken

up?" Certainly *Forth* is only partly an answer; the band is older--though not necessarily wiser--and has used any great material elsewhere. There's no "Bittersweet Symphony" here, only imitators; "Valium Skies" is the only track that features reminiscent string arrangements and truly impassioned vocals by Ashcroft. While other notable tracks like "Love is Noise" (which features a sample of a truly strange barking sound) may be remembered by the few remaining fans or the dedicated music connoisseur, the rest is

forgettable. All of the tracks are listenable, but not engaging.

**B.B. King - *One Kind Favor* (Geffen) \*\*\***

The hailed "King of Blues" is back again with an array of blues covers, ranging from the legendary Big Bill Broonzy to the equally great John Lee Hooker. There are no big production values that water down *One Kind Favor*. It is still as basic as blues gets (King goes so far as to have an upright bass in the recording sessions). It is lop-sided as

well; "Blues Before Sunrise" is the mark where King gets into it. After that, every track is golden, especially his cover of Chatmon's *Sitting On Top of the World*. He may be old, but he sounds just as fresh as he did in 1957.

**The Jonas Brothers - *A Little Bit Longer* (Disney) \*\***

Teen pop has always been the prostitute of the music industry; it is easy and it makes a lot of money. You cannot blame the Jonas Brothers for that because truth be told, their

intentions are better. They know their target market and are responsible enough to keep a distance from drug and sex references (something Katy Perry cannot). For that, they are tolerable. As far as the music is concerned, it is full of overly produced, slick, trite nonsense with strained vocals and excessive hooks about relationships they pretend to have had and understood. I will admit, though, the kids can play guitar. This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

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# Tropic Thunder: The good, the bad and the ugly

RJ WEBB

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Tropic Thunder

### The Bad

Amidst the controversy surrounding this film, Ben Stiller, Jack Black and Robert Downey Jr. create the star-studded cast of *Tropic Thunder* who all portray a group of actors on the set of a seemingly typical military movie. The director has trouble getting them into character so he sets them out on a "mission" to find the essence of war. The actors believe that hidden cameras are capturing their antics as they deliver their lines in the jungle. Stiller ends up going off by himself and getting captured as the other's slowly realize they are not in a movie and they have to save their fellow actor. In the end, they all come to some sort of personal conclusion.

### The Ugly

This was not the worst movie of the summer, but it definitely was close. You know when all the funny parts are in the

commercials and when you go to see the movie, the rest is not as good? That is exactly what happens in this film, but just when you think it cannot get any worse, Tom Cruise makes a cameo. The most talked about cameo of the year is built up to be nothing more than bad acting, which almost ruins anything remotely funny done by the rest of the cast. If you stick to what you know about Cruise, you will know that he is just not a comedic actor. Playing the role of Les Grossman, a balding plump Hollywood producer whose agenda spans no more than making the big bucks, Cruise takes what might have been a great comeback role and falls miserably short. Remember, there is a reason he does not play many comedy roles, or is not working much in Hollywood nowadays.

In the meantime, Black just seemed to be in the background just to give the movie comedy credentials from someone who already knows the genre. His character has potential to be funny, but with the lack of adequate screen time, the character Black portrays, misses the mark and in that case, Black seems more like a drug addict in real life than he does in the film. I am a huge fan

of Black and that was a large reason I wanted to see this movie.

### The Good

Downey Jr. stole the screen with his performance as a dude playing a dude inside another dude. I would not mind seeing Downey Jr. getting more comedic roles. He can definitely sell himself as a comedian and a serious actor. Overall,

the best part of the movie had to be the fake trailers that segue way into the actual film, or the film within the film.

**Verdict:** It is a movie worth seeing, but wait for it to hit the five-dollar bin at Wal-Mart or catch it on HBO.

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



A film inside a film enlists A-list actors such as Stiller and Downey Jr.

## Upcoming CD releases

### September 2<sup>nd</sup>

- New Kids on the Block  
The Block
- Underoath  
Lost in the Sound of Separation
- Young Jeezy  
The Recession
- Apollo Sunshine  
Shall Noise Upon
- Chris Tomlin  
Hello Love

### September 9<sup>th</sup>

- Eric Benet  
Love and Life
- Gym Class Heroes  
The Quilt
- LL Cool J  
Exit 13
- Jessica Simpson  
Do You Know?
- Brian "Head" Welch  
Save Me
- From Myself

### September 16<sup>th</sup>

- Avenged Sevenfold  
Live in the LBC & Diamonds in the Rough
- Faith Hill  
Joy to the World
- Nelly  
Brass Knuckles
- Ne-Yo  
Year of the
- Gentlemen  
Pussycat Dolls  
Doll Domination
- George Clinton  
George Clinton and some Gangsters of Love

## Upcoming Events around Town

**Greenville Museum of Art**  
September 12th  
Tonic Design/Tonic Construction Design Build Show Opening

**The Corner**  
Saturday, Sept. 16th  
Future Islands and Double Dagger

**Spazzatorium Galleria**  
Saturday, Sept. 6th  
The Emotron and Mos Giganticus  
Wednesday, Sept. 10th  
Summerbirds in the Cellar

**Tipsy Teapot**  
Thursday, Sept. 4th  
Open Mic Poetry Circle at 8 p.m.  
Friday, Sept. 5th  
Beside the Fire at 8 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 8th  
Movie: For the Bible Tells Me So at 7 p.m.

## Uptown Greenville

Friday, Sept. 5th  
Box Office Numbers

- 1) Tropic Thunder \$11,518,611
- 2) Babylon A.D. \$9,484,627
- 3) The Dark Knight \$8,622,879
- 4) The House Bunny \$8,317,426
- 5) Traitor \$7,868,465
- 6) Death Race \$6,304,635
- 7) Disaster Movie \$5,836,973
- 8) Mamma Mia! \$4,211,495
- 9) Pineapple Express \$3,535,220
- 10) Vicky Cristina Barcelona \$2,815,506

## Top 5 Albums

- 1) Jonas Brothers  
A Little Bit Longer
- 2) Kid Rock  
Rock N Roll Jesus
- 3) Staind  
The Illusion Of Progress
- 4) Soundtrack  
Mamma Mia!
- 5) Ice Cube  
Raw Footage

## Top 5 Singles

- 1) T.I.  
Whatever You Like
- 2) Rihanna  
Disturbia
- 3) Chris Brown  
Forever
- 4) Katy Perry  
I Kiss a Girl
- 5) Kardinal Offishall

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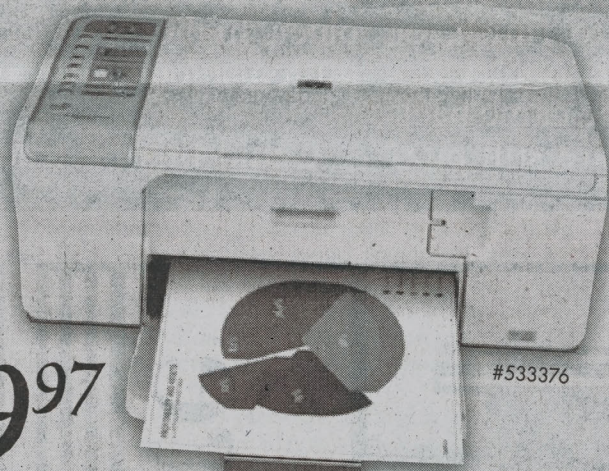
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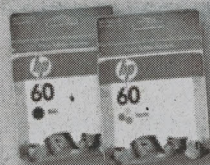
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THE EAST CAROLINIAN

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# ECU URBAN LEGENDS



MCT CAMPUS

For the first installment of "ECU Urban Legends," we will discuss two mysteries that fellow students have written in about.

Did Sandra Bullock really graduate ECU in the 1980s?

This question has been tossed around between students, staff and faculty for almost two decades. Could it be that actress Sandra Bullock, who has appeared in such movies as Speed, Miss Congeniality and Crash, truly is a beloved ECU Pirate?

True, at least according to Joyner Library archives. While the debate has covered all sides of the spectrum, with arguments claiming Bullock left with only three credits to finish, or that she was awarded an honorary degree from ECU or that she came back later to finish, students are still puz-

zled as to whether or not the famous actress is a fellow Pirate.

In an article published by the ECU Report in 1990, Sandra Bullock is credited as a 1986 graduate of ECU's drama department. It also details Bullock's active theater life, in which she appeared in ECU Playhouse productions of Peter Pan, Stage Door and The Three Sisters. Edgar Loessin, who was the chairman of the theater arts department during that time, recalled his memories of Bullock, remembering her stage presence.

I heard that the reason why the shower heads are so low in the halls is because someone tied a rope to an older, higher shower head and committed suicide.

Could this be true? Did a student

end his or her life this way, prompting ECU officials to lower the showerheads in all residence hall bathroom stalls?


Not true, according to Aaron Lucier, director of ECU Campus Living.

"The shower heads were installed over 50 years ago, but as the average U.S. height has increased over two inches since the 1960s, these already low heads appear even lower," said Lucier.

So, there you have it. Two mysteries of ECU have been settled, which have hopefully eased your brain a little.

For upcoming myths, send over your thoughts to features@theeastcarolinian.com. Check back every Thursday to see if your entry made the cut!

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



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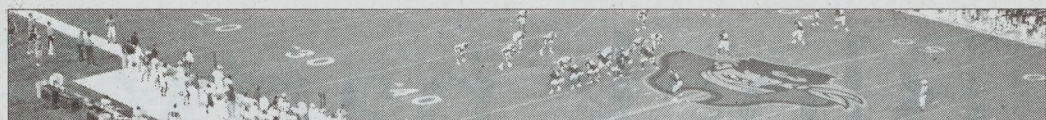
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{ECU's Inside Source}



## ECU Schedule

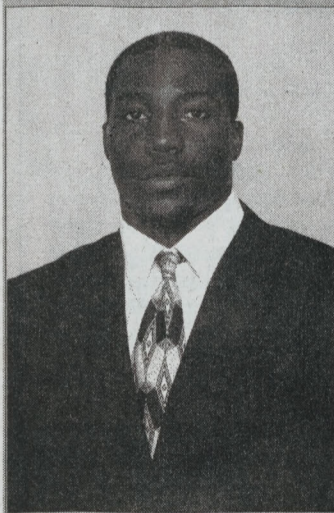
- vs. Virginia Tech  
W, 27-22
- vs. West Virginia  
Sept. 6  
at Tulane  
Sept. 13
- at N.C. State  
Sept. 20
- vs. Houston  
Sept. 27
- at Virginia  
Oct. 11
- vs. Memphis  
Oct. 18  
at UCF  
Nov. 2
- vs. Marshall  
Nov. 8
- at Southern Miss  
Nov. 15
- at UAB  
Nov. 22
- vs. UTEP  
Nov. 28



## West Virginia Schedule

- vs. Villanova  
W, 48-21  
at ECU  
Sept. 6
- at Colorado  
Sept. 18
- vs. Marshall  
Sept. 27
- vs. Rutgers  
Oct. 4
- vs. Syracuse  
Oct. 11
- vs. Auburn  
Oct. 23  
at Uconn  
Nov. 1
- vs. Cincinnati  
Nov. 8
- at Louisville  
Nov. 22
- at Pittsburgh  
Nov. 28
- vs. USF  
Dec. 6

## Most Valuable Pirate

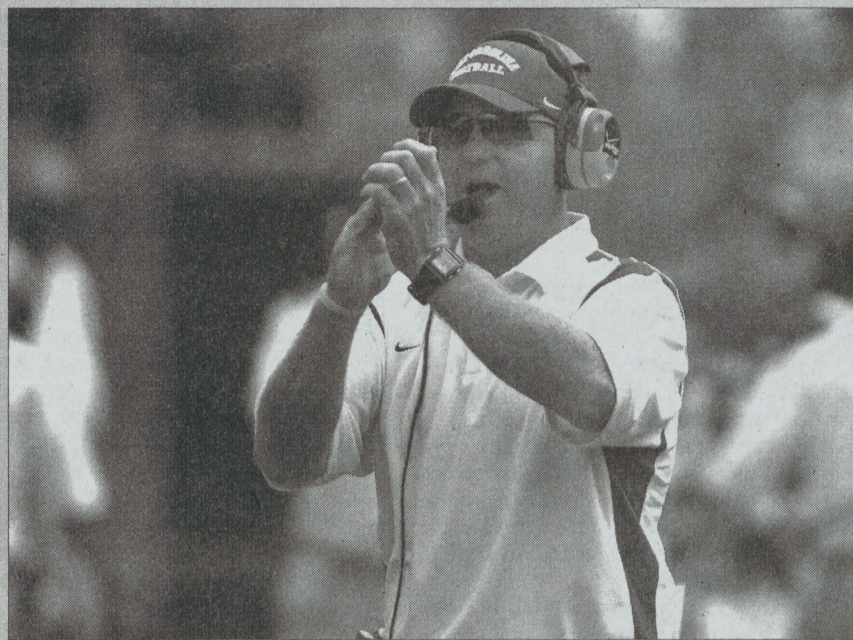
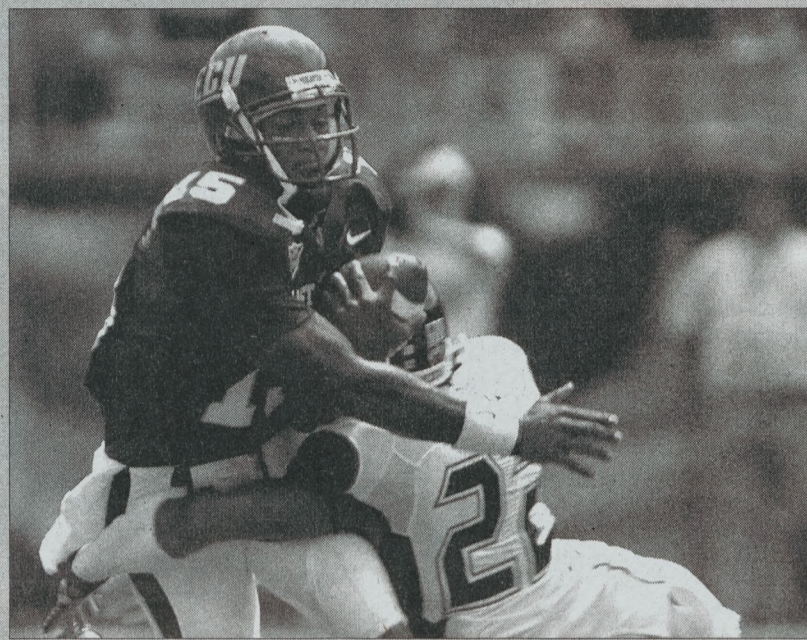


T.J. LEE

For 58 minutes and eight seconds against Virginia Tech, T.J. Lee could not have played worse to his own admission. Early in the game, the senior wide receiver was called for a 15-yard chop block and a third down motion penalty, which were among his most crucial mistakes. However, with 1:52 left to play in regulation, Lee busted through the Hokies' line and all in one motion blocked Brent Bowden's punt, picked it up and ran into the end zone for a 27-yard touchdown return. The score put ECU up 27-22, which in the end was enough to seal a triumphant 14-point comeback.

WEST VIRGINIA AT ECU  
SEPT. 6, GREENVILLE, N.C.

# ECU looks to build upon defining win



ASSOCIATED PRESS

## West Virginia Starting Lineup



### Offense

- QB- Pat White, Sr.
- RB- Noel Devine, Soph.
- WR- Dorrell Jalloh, Sr.
- WR- Jock Sanders, Soph.
- WR- Tito Gonzales, Sr.
- LT- Ryan Stancheck, Sr.
- LG- Greg Isdamer, Jr.
- C- Mike Dent, Sr.
- RG- Jake Figner, Sr.
- RT- Selvish Capers, Sr.

### Defense

- DE- Zac Cooper, Jr.
- DT- Scooter Berry, Soph.
- DT- Chris Neild, Soph.
- LB- Mortty Ivy, Sr.
- LB- Reed Williams, Sr.
- LB- J.T. Thomas, Soph.
- CB- Kent Richardson, Jr.
- CB- Ellis Lankster, Sr.
- FS- Eain Smith, Fr.
- SS- Francho Allen, Jr.
- BS- Quinton Andrews, Jr.

### Special Teams

- K- Pat McAfee, Sr.
- P- Pat McAfee, Sr.
- KR- Noel Devine, Soph., Jock Sanders, Soph.
- PR- Ellis Lankster, Sr.



STEWART

"I hope (the players) go, 'Oh, geez, this is a pretty good East Carolina team.' The films don't lie. We better play with a passion. We better play hard."

## KELLEN HOLTZMAN THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As the Virginia Tech and West Virginia series against ECU continue to grow, the phrase "last year" is becoming commonplace.

ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz pointed to last year's hard-fought loss at Virginia Tech while previewing last Saturday's big matchup in Charlotte. The Pirates seemed to build on their strong showing in Blacksburg a season ago and took success a step further by defeating the 17th-ranked Hokies the second time around.

ECU's fortunes weren't as bountiful a little further north in Morgantown, W.V., where the Pirates were run right off of Mountaineer Field in an embarrassing 48-7 loss in 2007.

The Pirates have few positives to take from that outing—other than the fact that dynamic running back Steve Slaton and speedy receiver Darius Reynaud are now playing in the NFL.

But West Virginia is still led by star quarterback Pat White and has replaced Slaton with an arguably superior back, Noel Devine.

"That's what makes it so hard is—not only they're so good—but how do you simulate them and get ready for their speed?" said Holtz on Monday. "We don't have anybody in our program that runs like Noel Devine and a couple of their wide receivers."

ECU is receiving almost unprecedented levels of national attention after the Virginia Tech win—but Holtz is quick to cut the victory party short.

"It's going to count as one win at the end of the season," Holtz said of the big victory. "And if we go out and lose the rest of the games all season, then everybody's going to say, 'You know what? It was just a fluke.'"

Senior linebacker Pierre Bell echoed his coach's sentiments, downplaying the connection between the Virginia Tech and West Virginia games.

"Confidence doesn't come from winning just one game even though we beat Virginia Tech," said Bell. "It comes from being prepared before we even play."

A good deal of that preparation is likely being spent on Devine. Standing only 5-foot-8 inches, the tailback is no physical specimen. Instead, Devine relies on his uncanny elusiveness and explosive speed to outduel opponents.

Last season, Devine rushed for over 600 yards (3rd behind White, Slaton) in his freshman season. After a season under Slaton's tutelage, Devine has solidified himself as the Mountaineers' premiere back. Last week against Villanova, Devine rushed for a modest 49 yards and added six receptions for 37 yards.

Devine is undoubtedly one of the most talented players in the nation, but a preference for the ball in White's hands—be it to run or pass—may keep the speedster under 1,000 yards rushing again this season.

White is one of the few elite quarterbacks in the country with the capability to pass and rush for 1,000 yards.

"He's tough as a quarterback," said Pirates' defensive coordinator Greg Hudson. "He can read blocks and he's patient back there running. A lot of quarterbacks get nervous and take off. He's cool and he knows where his help is and which angles to take and how to run...He's like herding a cat."

Judging from last week's showing against Villanova, first year West Virginia coach Bill Stewart is planning to utilize White's arm more effectively this season.

The Mountaineers' receiving corps accounted for all five offensive touchdowns against the Wildcats.

Sophomore Jock Sanders and junior Alric Arnett are two of West Virginia's biggest receiving threats. Sanders, with a body frame similar to that of Devine, is also a threat on kick and punt returns.

Arnett is a relative unknown after sitting out last season with a thumb injury, but had a huge game against Villanova in his first appearance since transferring from Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College.

ECU will not replace their star running back as easily as West Virginia, but the Pirates have two candidates who showed great potential against Virginia Tech.

Brandon Simmons and Jonathan Williams combined for 103 yards and one touchdown. Simmons showcased his ability to be a power back while Williams' agility has Holtz keyed up.

"He made the most of his opportunities today," Holtz said of Simmons, following Saturday's game. "I thought [Jonathan] Williams went out there and did some great things, made some people miss, showed some of his talent and elusiveness in the open field. He kept some drives alive for us."

While most of the country notes West Virginia's spread offense attack, the Pirates had better be mindful of its defense. ECU has put up just 17 points to the Mountaineers 75 in the last two seasons' meetings.

West Virginia only returns four defensive starters from last year's squad however, with the strength lying in the linebacker corps.

A more experienced Pirate offense against a raw Mountaineer defense could be the determining factor in this year's game—and go a long way in making last year's seem a world away.

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

## East Carolina Starting Lineup



### Offense

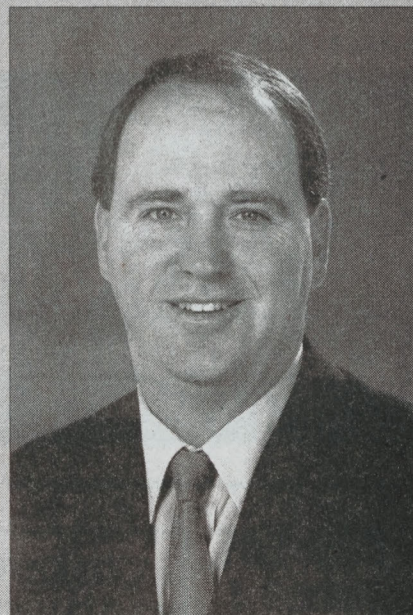
- QB- Patrick Pinkney, Sr.
- RB- Brandon Simmons, Sr.
- FB- Kevin Gidrey, Soph.
- WR- Dwayne Harris, Soph.
- WR- Jamar Bryant, Jr.
- TE- Davon Drew, Sr.
- LT- Stanley Bryant, Sr.
- LG- Cory Dowless, Soph.
- C- Sean Allen, Jr.
- RG- Doug Palmer, Jr.
- RT- D.J. Scott, Soph.

### Defense

- DE- Zack Slate, Sr.
- DT- Jay Ross, Jr.
- DT- Khalif Mitchell, Sr.
- DE- C.J. Wilson, Jr.
- LB- Quentin Cotton, Sr.
- LB- Pierre Bell, Sr.
- LB- Jeremy Chambliss, Jr.
- CB- Jerek Hewitt, Sr.
- CB- Dekota Marshall, Soph.
- FS- Van Eskridge, Jr.
- SS- J.J. Millbrook, Sr.

### Special Teams

- K- Ben Ryan, Fr.
- P- Matt Dodge, Jr.
- KR- Jonathan Williams, Soph., Jerek Hewitt, Sr.
- PR- Dwayne Harris, Soph.



HOLTZ

"I've got great respect for their program and what they do. I think they have difference making speed on the field. It's going to be a heck of a challenge for our football team to go out there on Saturday."

# Block party!

KELLEN HOLTZMAN  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Surprise, surprise—special teams proved to play a crucial factor in a Virginia Tech game once again.

Only this time, Beamer Ball got a dose of its own medicine.

ECU senior T.J. Lee saved the afternoon in the Pirates' 27-22 victory over Virginia Tech last Saturday, bursting through the Virginia Tech offensive line to block Brent Bowden's punt. He then corralled the ball and scurried in for the go-ahead touchdown with 1:52 left to play.

After an unproductive day on punt returns, ECU Head Coach Skip Holtz decided to throw the kitchen sink at the Hokies zone protection.

"I told [special teams coach] Vernon Hargreaves, 'I don't think we've had five return yards all day on punt returns so let's go after it,'" said Holtz.

Holtz wasn't far off—the Pirates had only seven return yards on two punts before Lee's miraculous play.

Lee, a receiver by trade, had a hunch he and his teammates would power through the Virginia Tech line.

"I thought that somebody else was going to block it," said Lee. "Luckily, I was there and was the one that happened to get in."

Lee's stunner sent the already buzzing contingent of Pirate fans overboard. The crowd of 72,169 was the largest to witness a regular season college game in Bank of America Stadium history and third largest overall in college attendance.

"The fans were awesome," Holtz said. "What a great win for the program and for the fans and alumni. When you see all that purple and gold in this stadium here in Charlotte—it's been an awesome, awesome experience."

The win was the first for ECU over Virginia Tech since 1992, trimming the all-time series to 9-5 in favor of the Hokies. The Pirates triumph also marked the first time a Conference USA team has defeated a nationally ranked opponent in back-to-back weeks. ECU closed last season with a win over ranked Boise State.

Trailing 22-13, quarterback Patrick Pinkney put together the kind of drive that draws admiration from coaching legends like Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer.

Pinkney was 2-of-3 on the series, with first down completions to receiver Dwayne Harris and tight end Davon Drew. Pinkney then took the game into his own hands and cut the lead to 22-20 on a quarterback keeper from the 3-yards out.

"[Pinkney] puts them at another level," said Beamer. "He throws accurate. He makes

some good plays. I think he does a good job for them."

Beamer's quarterback, Sean Glennon, figured to have buried the Pirates near the end of the third quarter when he unleashed a 62-yard bomb down the sideline to flanker Dyrell Roberts. Tailback Darren Evans followed up the big play shortly with a touchdown rush over the right side from the 3-yard-line to make it 22-13.

"It was a big win for this program," said Pinkney of the game's significance. "We're just going to keep fighting. Things weren't going our way the whole game and that's the game of football, but we never quit and got the win."

Pinkney's (19-of-23, 1 TD) accuracy never came into question, but a handful of gaffs from his teammates were a Lee-tip away from disastrous.

The Hokies lit up the scoreboard first when Harris dropped a pass from Pinkney that never made it across the line of scrimmage. Virginia Tech cornerback and Rocky Mount native Stephan Virgil alertly picked the ball up and dashed in for a 30-yard score.

On the ensuing second quarter kickoff, linebacker Dalvon Mack struggled to gain control of the return before being walloped by Virginia Tech freshman Jacob Sykes. The Hokies recovered the fumble and promptly answered from the ground again with a 6-yard Kenny Lewis touchdown, making the score 14-0.

Junior linebacker Nick Johnson stole the momentum when an errant Glennon pass nailed him right in the chest. Johnson returned the pick to the 1-yard-line before tailback Jonathan Williams darted in for a score, reversing the momentum.

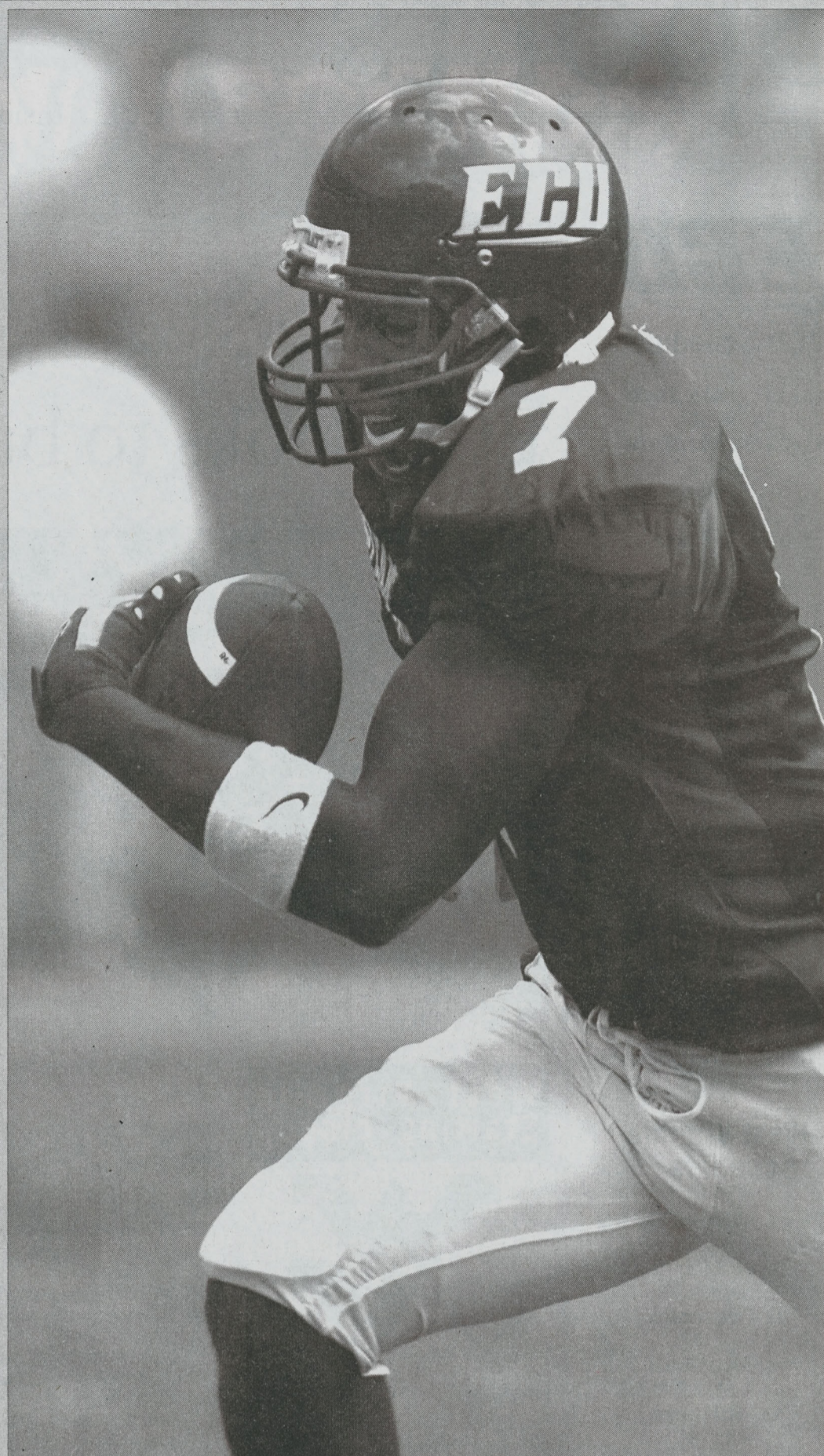
"I was in underneath coverage and the deep players behind me had good coverage, so when I was zoning across the ball just came right above me and I grabbed it," said Johnson, a former standout at East Mecklenburg in Charlotte.

Despite the swing in momentum, it looked as if ECU's special teams would be the source of defeat, rather than victory.

Matters got worse following a Pinkney-to-Jamar Bryant touchdown strike. Virgil emerged again, this time blocking a PAT that would have tied the game. Virgil took the blocked kick all the way to the house to give Virginia Tech a 16-13 cushion.

The significance of the rare play would shine threw after Hokie kicker Dustin Keys missed a PAT following the Evans score. Those two points separated the teams before Lee's fourth quarter heroics rescued a lackluster special teams performance.

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



T.J. Lee races towards the end zone for the winning score in ECU's 27-22 victory.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Student Government Association Elections Voting

Wednesday & Thursday,  
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9am-5pm Wright Plaza



# Opinion: VT win solidifies quest for respect

RONNIE WOODWARD  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer started his postgame press conference last Saturday by saying, "Give ECU a lot of credit. They are a good football team."

At that moment, ECU's national image changed and the residue from the John Thompson days was officially gone.

"Coming in, I knew ECU was going to be good," said Beamer. "They are a solid football team and that quarterback puts them at another level."

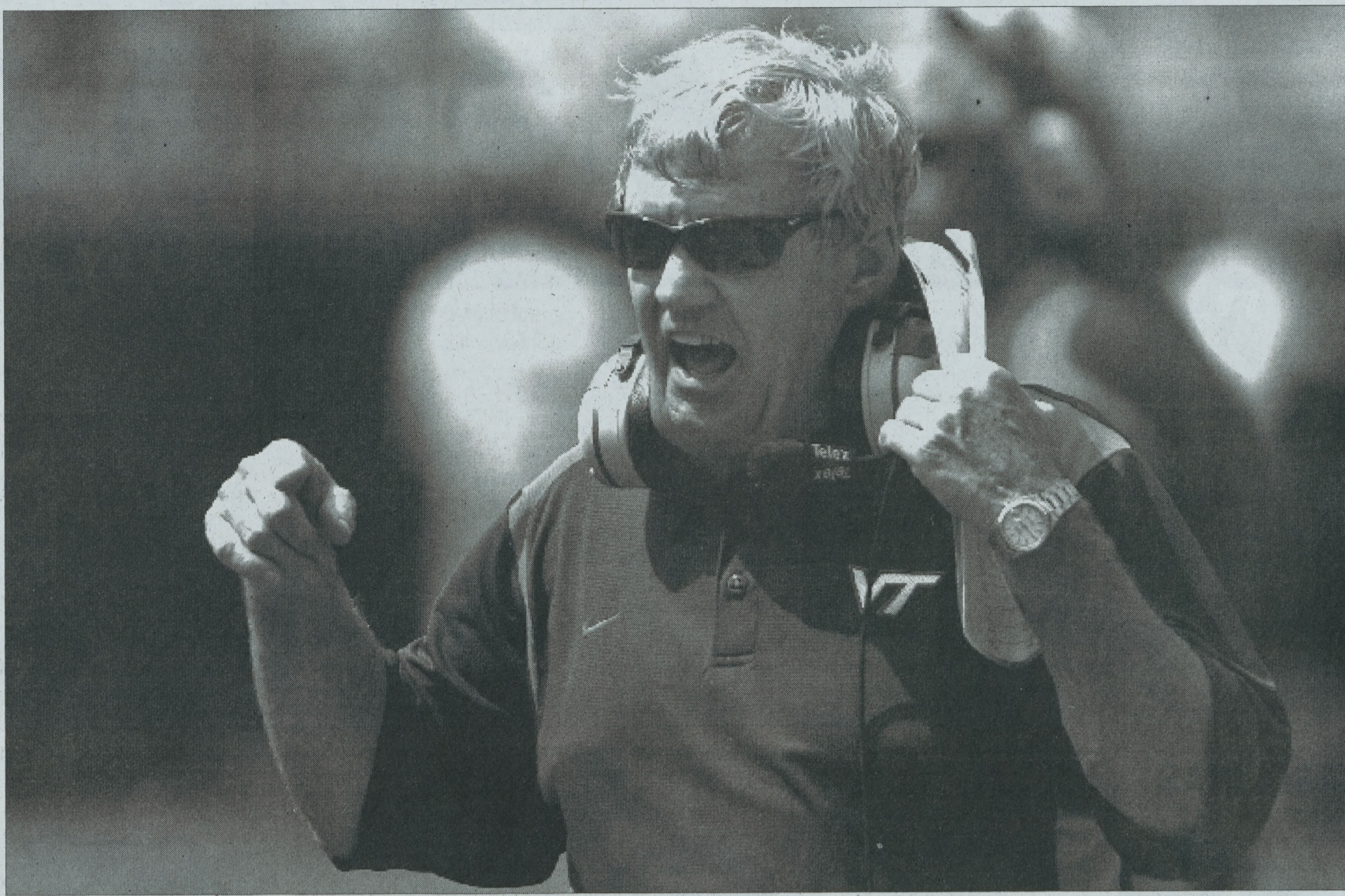
Gaining respect from coaches like Beamer and from college football's national figures isn't easy for teams like the Pirates, who don't play in a BCS conference. Recently, teams like Boise State, Hawaii and Southern Miss have earned respect from college football's "big boys," but ECU now headlines that list.

The win over Virginia Tech coupled with last year's bowl win over Boise State vaulted the Pirates into Conference USA's record books and landed them right outside the Associated Press' top 25. ECU became the first team in C-USA's 13-year history to record back-to-back victories over nationally ranked teams.

ECU now has consecutive wins over two of the nation's top-five winningest programs in the past ten years. Boise State has the best winning percentage of any team in the country in that 10-year span, and the Hokies check in at number five.

"It was a great win from an image standpoint, when you look at it on the national stage," ECU coach Skip Holtz said on Monday. "I think we got a lot of people's attention around the country and they're saying, 'Wow, maybe what they're doing in Greenville is for real and maybe we ought to look at what ECU is doing.'"

"After the [Virginia Tech] game last year, I pulled the team onto the field and I talked to them about remembering what that atmosphere and national stage was like. I told them that you belong on this stage, but nobody is going to give it to you. The only way that we are going to earn respect



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer (above) had many praises for ECU's Skip Holtz during his postgame press conference in Charlotte.

from people around the country and from a lot of the big-time programs around the country is to go out and win one of these games."

That task started as soon as Holtz stepped foot in Greenville.

In the 1990s, under Head Coach Steve Logan, ECU was well respected around the country and was consistently in the top 25 and playing bowl games at season's end. However, Logan only won four games in 2002, and was fired at the end of the season.

Then things got even worse. The Pirates hired John Thompson, a defensive coordinator from Florida. Thompson won a total of three games over the next two seasons and ECU's

national image hit rock bottom. ECU's football program had suddenly turned into a laughing stock and was severely frowned upon by its ACC neighbors.

Thompson's last game at ECU was an embarrassing 52-14 loss to a mediocre N.C. State team in Charlotte, which concluded the 2004 season.

Holtz took over that off-season and his mission of gaining respect from the local teams in bigger conferences started with Duke. As a three-point underdog, the Pirates beat the Blue Devils 24-21, kicking off the Holtz era with a win over an ACC team, albeit a bad one. The next season, ECU beat Virginia and N.C. State. Last year, ECU beat North Carolina in the first home game

of the year and had a 4-1 record against ACC opponents under Holtz at the time.

Last December, the Pirates traveled to Hawaii to play Boise State in what was supposed to be one of the most lopsided games of the bowl season. Once again, Holtz garnered respect for his program, defeating the nationally-ranked Broncos, 41-38, and finishing the 2007 season with an 8-5 record.

That brings us back to Charlotte and back to the stadium where ECU was pummeled in Thompson's finale by its bitter rival, N.C. State.

ECU stood toe-to-toe with Virginia Tech in Charlotte, proving it belongs on the national scene.

Holtz started his tenure with a win over Duke back in 2005 and now has a win over the ACC's best team, gaining respect along the way.

"It was a great feeling, especially beating a team of their caliber," said senior linebacker Pierre Bell of the Virginia Tech win. "It's been a long time coming."

The hard part now is maintaining the national respect that ECU has recently earned.

Holtz has stressed the importance of that this week, noting that ECU didn't do a good job of that last season. In 2007, the Pirates followed their win over UNC with a home loss to Southern Miss and an extremely humbling 48-7 loss

at West Virginia.

The win/loss outcome of Saturday's much-anticipated game with West Virginia might not be as important as how ECU is viewed by the Mountaineers after the game is over. The Pirates will have to prove that the wins over Boise State and Virginia Tech were not flukes, and they can only do that by showing that they belong on the same field as a team like West Virginia.

Proving his team belongs is something Holtz is getting used to—he's been doing it ever since he took the program over nearly four years ago.

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

## Week two: Ranking the Carolinas

RONNIE WOODWARD  
THE EAST CAROLINIAN



1. Wake Forest

Record: 1-0  
Last Week: Won at Baylor, 41-13

The Demon Deacons top this list as they continued their usual recipe for success last Thursday night. They went to Waco, Texas and quietly romped Baylor, 44-13, without many people noticing. Quarterback Riley Skinner was 27-of-36 for 220 yards and three touchdowns, while the Deacs' experience-laden defense held Baylor to 250 total offensive yards. After the game, Skinner told the Associated Press, "We were efficient." Efficient might be a bit of an understatement. Wake Forest will get a much tougher test this week however, when Ole Miss comes to town. Ole Miss looked very impressive in its season-opener and Houston Nutt's debut as head coach of the Rebels.



2. ECU

Record: 1-0  
Last Week: Won vs. Virginia Tech, 27-22

ECU proved that it belonged Saturday in Charlotte. Maybe the most impressive thing about the win was that it wasn't really an upset, it was a hard-fought game between two good teams, and the Pirates came out on top. The win has created an unprecedented buzz around campus and around Greenville. Anticipation for Saturday's game against West Virginia is very high, and the Pirates have a great opportunity in front of them. West Virginia is very talented and very good, but Skip Holtz and his Pirates are no longer a pushover on the schedule—as they proved against Virginia Tech.

CAROLINAS page B8

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# The East Carolinian's staff predictions

Pick 'em: The East Carolinian weekly college football office pool.



<b>HOLTZMAN</b> Sports writer season: 6-2	<b>WOODWARD</b> Sports Editor season: 3-5	<b>JURGEN</b> News Editor season: 3-5	<b>HOLLOMAN</b> Sports writer season: 5-3	<b>PHILLIPS</b> Editor-in-Chief season: 5-3	<b>PARKER</b> Web Editor season: 3-5	<b>JONES</b> Office Asst. season: 4-4	<b>JACKSON</b> Sports writer season: 4-4
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<b>W. VIRGINIA VS. ECU</b>	ECU	WVU	WVU	WVU	ECU	ECU	WVU	WVU
<b>MIAMI VS. FLORIDA</b>	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida
<b>S. CAROLINA VS. VANDY</b>	USC	USC	USC	USC	Vandy	USC	USC	Vandy
<b>G. TECH VS. BOSTON COLL.</b>	BC	Ga. Tech	BC	Ga. Tech	Ga. Tech	BC	Ga. Tech	Ga. Tech
<b>SO. MISS VS. AUBURN</b>	Auburn	Auburn	So. Miss	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn
<b>CINCINNATI VS. OKLAHOMA</b>	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Cincinnati	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
<b>OLE MISS VS. WAKE</b>	Wake	Ole Miss	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake
<b>SOUTH FLA. VS. UCF</b>	South Fla.	South Fla.	South Fla.	South Fla.	UCF	South Fla.	South Fla.	South Fla.

## CAROLINAS continued from B7



**3. Clemson**

Record: 0-1  
Last Week: Lost vs. Alabama, 34-10

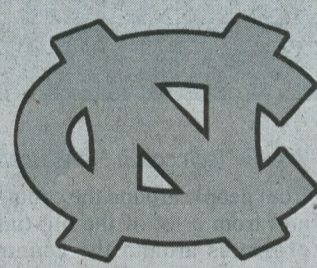
The Tigers fell from the top spot in the Carolina's to No. 3 after being embarrassed on national TV last Saturday night. Alabama physically and mentally dominated Clemson, cruising to an impressive 34-10 victory and mocking Clemson's preseason hype. Clemson coach Tommy Bowden was even calling other coaches around the nation, including his father and Alabama coach Nick Saban, searching for answers this week. But as bad as things might look for the oft-underachieving Tigers, they still remain uber talented and will more than likely go to win the ACC and be a top-15 team. Clemson's national reputation took a hit this past week, but it can easily gain some of it back as the season progresses—it sure has the talent to do so.



**4. South Carolina**

Record: 1-0  
Last Week: Won vs. N.C. State, 34-0

South Carolina's win over the Wolfpack might have created more questions than answers. The Gamecocks didn't look overly impressive, and the game got out of hand simply because N.C. State might be that bad. The defense, which was expected to be very good, didn't disappoint—but the offense, definitely had its problems at times. USC quarterback Tommy Beecher struggled in his first career start and was eventually replaced by back Chris Smelley, who led the Gamecocks to three fourth-quarter touchdown drives. A quarterback controversy now exists and the verdict is still out on how good this team is. USC will play at Vanderbilt tonight, which should help answer some of the questions that weren't answered in its opener.



**4. UNC**

Record: 1-0  
Last Week: Won vs. McNeese State, 35-27

The Tar Heels were coined as one of the nation's top breakout teams this preseason, but they sure didn't look like it against 1-AA McNeese State in week one. UNC wide receiver Brandon Tate pretty much won the game by himself, accounting for a school-record 397 all-purpose yards. The game was a quirky one however, as it was delayed for nearly two hours because of a bad storm in the triangle area. The Heels were up 14-0 when the game was delayed so maybe they weren't really interested in playing after sitting for nearly two hours during the delay. Whatever it was, UNC has a bye week this week and some time to recover and figure things out before playing a crucial game at Rutgers one week from today.

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

# ENDLESS SUMMER

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH

- 8-10** Painting
- 10-12** Board Games & Bingo
- 12-2** Movie, Bowling & Billiards

## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

- 8-10** Painting
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For Rent: Great deal! Move in now! Start paying rent September 1st. Need someone to take over lease. Rent includes own bedroom w/ bath, cable, utilities, water, and Internet. Call Joy at 570-345-8804 or 570-640-8804.

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WALK TO CLASS! HOUSES AVAILABLE: How about your own house with a yard (some dogs OK), a large bedroom, and be able to walk to campus, downtown, the rec center, etc (1 or 2 blocks!). Central heat/air, basic cable, high-speed internet, washer/dryer, dishwasher, monitored alarm system, lawn care are all included. 6, 5, 4, 3 bedroom units. These units look like houses but are duplexes so there is no problem as far as the "3 person" rule is concerned.

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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting various part-time positions for upcoming fall programs. These positions are needed from early September to mid November. Youth Soccer Referees will be needed for the upcoming soccer season. Rate of pay per game is \$12-\$14. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of the rules of soccer and be able to officiate league games for ages 4-14. Games are played on Saturday mornings and some weekday nights. Also, we are recruiting officials and scorekeepers for the upcoming Adult/Youth Flag Football seasons. Scorekeeper's salary will be \$7.25 an hour. Officials will earn \$14-\$19 per game. Each position requires

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Do you need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$7.00/hour plus cash bonuses. Make your own schedule. If interested, visit our website at www.ecu.edu/telefund and click on JOBS.

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## GREEK PERSONALS

Delta Zeta welcomes their newest members for Fall 2008! Congratulations, baby turtles! We are so proud of you!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A new photo exhibition recently opened at ECU. It is a common project of The ECU Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and Joyner Library. The name of the exhibition is "Russia - Ancient and Modern". It is on the 1st floor of the Library and is open during library hours. The exhibition presents photos about Russian culture, literature, and everyday life.

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