

OPINION: So are they closing downtown or not? I NEED TO KNOW!! **A4**

FEATURES: New TEC off opens closer to campus, find out where in features. **A6**

SPORTS: Can ECU get back on the winning side following two-straight losses? Turn to Sports for a breakdown of this weekend's game against UCF. **A8**

UPDATE

ECU creates Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations

Toni Manfredi
STAFF WRITER

As the university adjusts to the budget, restructuring and changes on campus are bound to occur.

Sometimes, such changes dictate the need to eliminate related offices on campus so they no longer run as separate entities, and instead combine them in hopes of managing budget restraints and perhaps increasing efficiency.

This line of thinking has lent itself to the creation of an entirely new office on campus: the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations. According to Dr. Marilyn Sheerer, provost and vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, the new office used to run as three separate bodies: the Office of Institutional Diversity, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Equity and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center.

Associate provost for the new office is Dr. Taffye Benson Clayton. She said in a letter to university community members on the office's Web site, saying, "Over the course of the next three months our new office will undergo an internal, preliminary review period to determine our organizational capacity, the scope of existing programs, projects and initiatives and strategies for maximizing efficiency and synergy across each functional area..." They said that while most of the programs will continue as they have, some will be "revamped and retooled."

Former student administrative assistant for the Office of Institutional Diversity, Kyndall Peele, expressed concerns about this "revamp" stating that the OID "provided a comfort zone for students and gave students opportunities to express how they feel." It also gave students a place to put those ideas into action. She said that while the office is still functioning as a place to advocate for diversity at ECU, it is now more research based in ensuring that the university continues to meet its goals of diversity.

Chief diversity officer, Kimberly Baker-Flowers, said she doesn't think the students have missed out by having the offices combined, and having all three of them as one office will help to cut down on confusion.

The restructuring into one office will hopefully make it easier for students and faculty to know where to go with issues of diversity on campus since it eliminates issues potentially being addressed to the wrong office.

While some students have expressed concern for the future of the formerly separate offices and how the consolidation will affect them, Dr. Clayton's letter states, "The purpose of (the) preliminary review period is not to diminish current momentum but rather to strategically position the newly configured office for greater collective impact."

Considering that the new office is still in its three-month review period, it may still be a while before the results of the consolidation and how it will affect the university and its students can be seen.

In the meantime, while a one page Web site has been created for the new office, the sites for the formerly separate offices neglect clearly stating anything about the consolidation, which may only help to increase confusion until a clear plan is laid out after the review period.

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

WEB POLL

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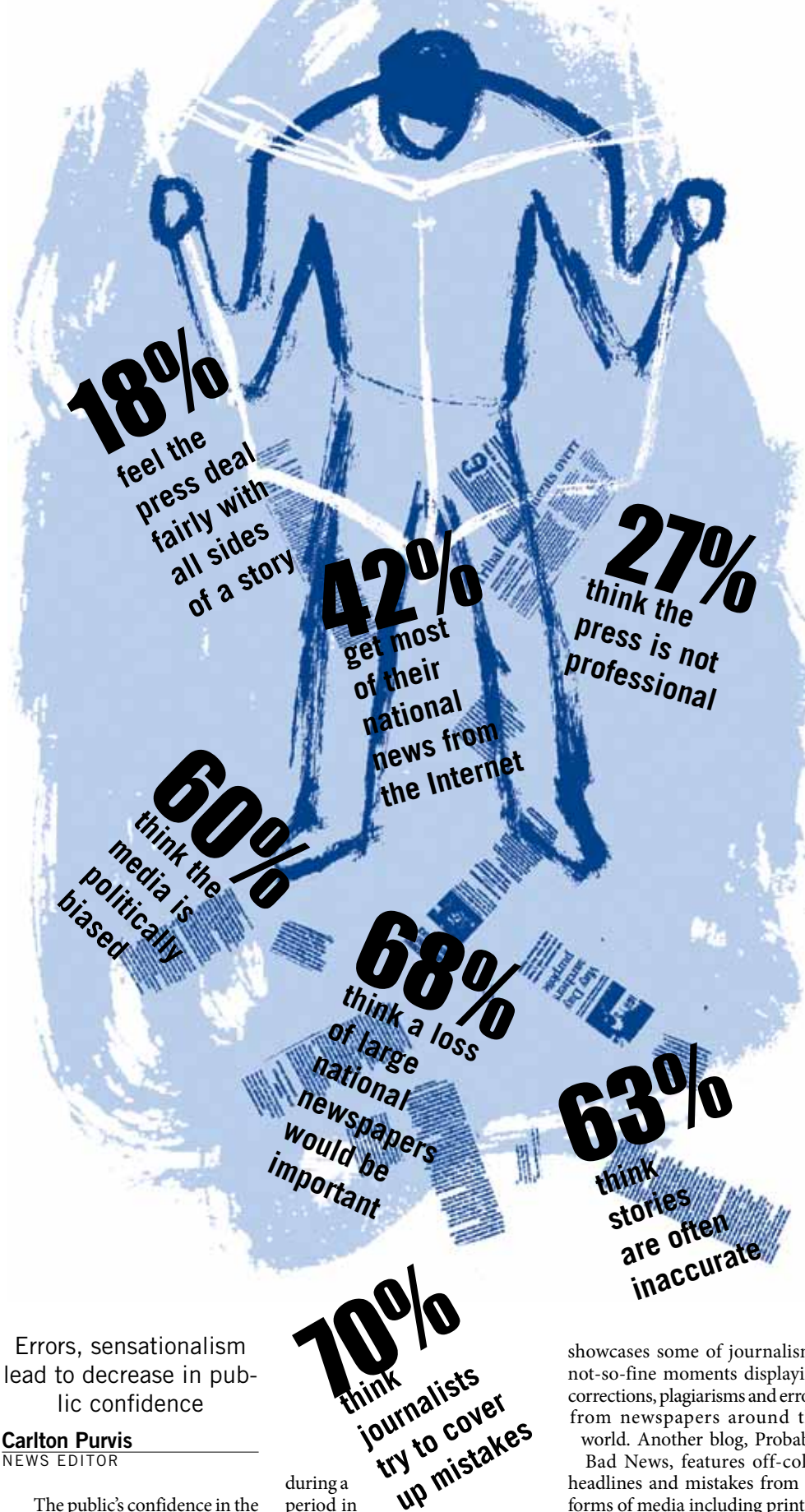
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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Opinion of the press hits 20-year low



Errors, sensationalism lead to decrease in public confidence

Carlton Purvis
NEWS EDITOR

The public's confidence in the media has hit its lowest point in two decades, according to a report published by Pew Research Center last week. The data comes from a survey administered by the Washington, D.C.-based think tank that aims to determine the public view of press performance.

The study says public trust of the media has been on the decline for most of the decade except

during a period in fall 2001, when coverage of the Sept. 11 attacks and terrorism boosted the press's positive ratings. During that period, 56 percent of respondents thought stories were often inaccurate compared with 63 percent now. In 1985, only 34 percent thought stories were often inaccurate.

The blog Regret the Error

showcases some of journalism's not-so-fine moments displaying corrections, plagiarisms and errors from newspapers around the world. Another blog, Probably Bad News, features off-color headlines and mistakes from all forms of media including print to TV news broadcasts. Its slogan: "News Fails, because journalism isn't dying fast enough."

Editor of Regret the Error and associate editor of PBS's MediaShift, Craig Silverman said the numbers from the Pew survey are distressing, but they aren't surprising. Errors in reporting were a

> **PRESS** page A2

Scheduling for senior portraits

Staff Reports

Senior portraits will be taken on campus from Sept. 29 to Oct. 1. There is no cost or sitting fee for graduates. Proofs will be sent to students' homes to give them the option of paying for the portraits.

Business attire is requested for the yearbook portrait. Cap and gown portraits are optional.

To schedule a portrait session, log onto www.ouryear.com, school code 453, or call 1-800-OUR-YEAR (687-9327).

If distance education or online students wish to have their picture included in the yearbook, but cannot get to campus to take their photos,



they may send the Buccaneer staff a professional quality, high-resolution digital photo. Attire for acceptable photos is business wear.

There will be another portrait session for spring graduates next semester.

University offices buddy up for meals

New form to help sick students

Katherine White
STAFF WRITER

Students feeling under the weather no longer have to leave the comfort of their beds and stagger toward the dining hall to get a meal.

With the help of Student Health Services and Campus Dining, students who are ill can fill out a "Get Well" Buddy Form, allowing a friend to bring their meal to them.

Joyce Sealey, the food service director, explained that the Get Well Buddy System idea has been present for a sometime, while the "Get-Well" Buddy Form is new.

"In the past, Health Services has contacted Campus Dining with a situation that a student could not get to the dining hall. We made arrangements for that student's roommate or friend to get food on behalf of the student," Sealey said.

With the Get Well Buddy System in effect, students will be able to use campus dining even if they are unable to visit the dining hall.

"The Get Well Buddy System is an avenue for students who have the flu or are feeling under the weather which will allow a 'buddy' to bring them food from the dining hall," Sealey said.

According to Sealey, in anticipation of the flu season being a particularly bad one, the campus is trying to keep everyone as healthy as possible. Health Services has required hand sanitizer dispensers at the registers in both dining halls.

The "Get-Well" Buddy Form gives permission to a fellow

student to bring the under the weather student take-out food from any dining hall.

Students who wish to use the "Get-Well" Buddy Forms can print out the form, fill it out, sign it and have their "buddy" take it to the dining hall of their choice. The form is good for four days, and the "buddy" who is bringing the ill buddy food will need to have both ECU OneCards. Both students will need to get their meal from the dining hall to go.

However, if a student remains ill for longer than four days, another form is needed.

The "Get-Well" Buddy Form is already available on the Campus Dining Web page or Campus Living's Web page. Students can also get these forms at the cashier stands at both Todd and West End Dining Halls.

In addition to the "Get-Well" Buddy Form, Campus Dining has put together a Get Well kit.

Items in the kit include soup, crackers, bottles of water, Gatorade, tissues, over the counter meds (Tylenol and Advil), cough drops, a spoon and apple sauce.

These Get Well kits are sold for \$15 for the smaller kit and \$30 for the larger kit. They were priced at cost recovery, according to Sealey.

The Get Well kits are designed to last students from two to three days, and are currently being sold at both the Pirate Reade Street Markets.

Students can purchase Get Well kits for friends and roommates by using their meal plan and cash or credit card, according to Sealey.

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

ECU defends against silent crimes

Student legal services collect cell phones, save lives

Veronica Carrington
STAFF WRITER

ECU's Student Legal Services will do their part to combat domestic violence with a cell phone drive being held throughout September and October.

Domestic violence is often referred to as the "silent crime" because it takes place behind closed doors and frequently goes unreported to authorities. It can also be defined as control taken by one partner over another in dating, marital or live-in relationships.

The unseen violence occurs in every culture, country and age group and affects people from all socioeconomic, educational and religious backgrounds.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, domestic violence can lead to other common emotional traumas such as depression, anxiety, panic attacks, substance abuse and posttraumatic stress disorder. Students Legal Services will seek

to abet in the struggle against domestic violence by collecting used cell phones that can be programmed to dial 911 in an emergency situation. The cell phone drive will assist the families involved in the Family Violence Program of Pitt County.

The mission of the Family Violence Program according to their Web site is to break the cycle of domestic violence and promote healthy family relationships in Pitt County. With numerous programs to assist men, women and children affected by domestic abuse, the Family Violence Program provides safe housing and support services to those trapped in domestic violence situations.

Located on Evans Street, the program offers school and community education on family violence and conflict resolution, assessments and individual counseling

for children and their families, parenting skills classes and a survival skills program that consists of workshops that develop competencies in 10 critical life management and job preparedness areas.

Dawn Gibbs, coordinator for this event, on behalf of ECU's Student Legal Services said, "Even if they do not activate the phones collected, they can sell them back to the companies for a nominal fee. The phones are not worth very much, but a large number can bring in much needed additional funding."

Additional funding is sought during this fiscal year, when budget cuts have ravaged almost every business in Pitt County. During the collection dates, they will accept phones, all types of chargers as well as cell phone holders. The donation is tax deductible. Student Legal Services volun-

"Even if they do not activate the phones collected, they can sell them back to the companies for a nominal fee. The phones are not worth very much, but a large number can bring in much needed additional funding."

DAWN GIBBS, ECU'S STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES



Chelsey Waters works to coordinate a cell phone drive to benefit the Family Violence Center.

teers will be collecting phones in Wright Plaza between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sept. 24, Oct. 29 and Nov. 19. Cell phones and accessories can also be dropped off at the Student Legal Services office 1704 B Arlington Blvd. throughout the remainder of the semester. For Gibbs, this event is coming

on the cusp of a very important month of awareness. October is Domestic Violence month, and Gibbs is hoping to raise more insight into the problems caused by this often silent crime.

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

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PRESS continued from A1

major factor, but there were a lot of other things going on, "and it's not good news," he said.

"The most recent survey of newspaper accuracy in the United States found the highest error rate on record in the more than 70 years that accuracy studies have been conducted," he said.

In 2007, online magazine Slate reported on research by Scott R. Maier, an associate professor at the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communication. His research sampled 3,000 articles to examine how news accuracy affected credibility.

The study contacted a primary news source from each of the stories and had them complete a survey on the accuracy of the information. Respondents found 2,615 factual errors in 1,220 articles.

"When reporters get it wrong, it measurably affects how much trust the reader has not only in that story but in the news institution itself," said Maier. "Accuracy really does matter."

Silverman said another factor contributing to the decline of public trust is that people are now able to get their media from a variety of different sources.

"People can compare and contrast the information and it's enabled them to see that there are certainly problems with inaccuracy in many different types of media," he said.

The Tale of two Stations

Viewers of KREM 2 News and KXLY in Spokane, Wash., may or may not have been in the middle of a swine flu outbreak depending on what channel they chose to watch. Coverage of a flu outbreak at Washington State University produced different reports from the two stations. On Sept. 4, KREM 2 News reported 2,000 students at the university were infected with the H1N1 virus.

KXLY ran the story, but they reported school health officials said there were "2,000 students with flu-like illness."

After a few days, most networks and Web sites published the story with the quote from school health officials, but KREM stuck to

its original report, publishing the headline, "WSU swine flu outbreak may be topping out" four days later. What some residents thought to be a swine flu outbreak might have been a case of unconfirmed information.

"I think that in some cases the media jumps to conclusions before they actually have facts," said ECU junior Sarah Gamsey, a special education major.

The differences in reports are subtle, but the impact was not. News outlets across the country, including the Associated Press, ran the story reported by KREM.

"It's complex," said Gamsey. "You want to listen to the media because you want to know what's going on in the world and be up-to-date, but at the same time can you really believe everything you're reading?"

Gamsey said she feels the media is professional for the most part, but because young readers are more likely to pick up a tabloid or magazine than a more credible newspaper, it encourages bad reporting and sensationalizing which further erodes the public trust of the media.

The East Carolinian contacted KREM Wednesday to confirm how they got their information on the outbreak. Leilah Langley, executive producer at KREM said there were 2,000 students with flu-like symptoms and health officials told them it was too early for the seasonal flu. She said KREM was told by health officials that every flu-like illness would be treated as swine flu.

According to Langley, most of their information came from releases they got directly from the school.

"There's room for things to get changed obviously. It's not always the exact same story that gets published online as what goes on the air," she said.

Paula Adams, communications coordinator for WSU health and wellness services said, "As far as numbers, we were not consistently releasing information. We weren't sending out press releases with the information. People getting that information were getting

it from the blog or people directly on campus."

She says many students probably had swine flu, but there was never a statement released by WSU saying they did.

Other than Errors

"While errors are common, 98 percent of the story is usually correct," said Maier. What also mattered was how the story was presented.

"What context did the reporter provide? Did the story make sense with what the readers and sources viewed of their world?" he said. He said what reporters decide to leave in or take out affects credibility much more than getting a name spelled correctly.

Another contributing factor is media conglomerates' involvement in the news, according to Silverman. Because of major media conglomerates, people are starting to see journalists and the press more like government or big business, and less like the watchdogs that journalists see themselves as, he said.

"We're not seen as much as the defenders of freedom of speech and the check and balance on government and other institutions. We're actually seen as a part of that big machine, and that's one of the reasons people trust us less."

But 70 percent of respondents in the Pew report said the press tries to cover up its mistakes. Sixty percent said news was politically biased.

"I hope that when people in the profession start to see these numbers we can look at it and say, 'We have a problem,' and start thinking about addressing that problem," Silverman said.

"I don't think there has been a kind of come-to-Jesus moment in journalism," he said. "We have to do a better job of media accuracy and a better job of correcting our errors. I'm hoping that numbers like these send a message that we really need to re-evaluate the way we deal with errors and corrections."

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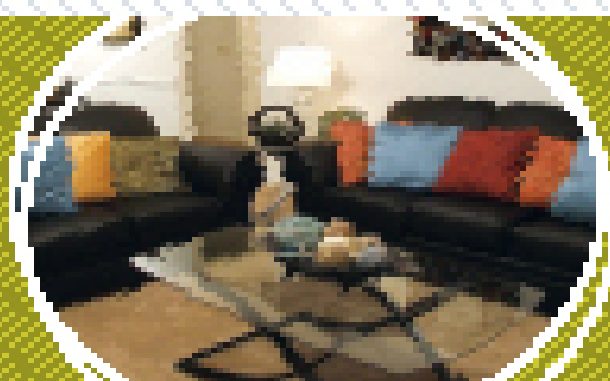
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Free campus parking will be available at the Carol Bell Park and Ride Lot, located at the intersection of Greenville and Charles boulevards. The permit requirement for the lot will be waived, and special shuttles will transport participants directly to the event at Wright Auditorium. Shuttles will pick up and drop-off on the north side of the Bell Building, the side closest to the baseball stadium.

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

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

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 336-727-1200 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

What is so hard for you to understand?! The people on the bus get off BEFORE you get on.

If I have to deal with constant thumping music above me, you can deal with me playing rock band drums for 20 minutes.

If you keep putting your nasty used cigarettes outside of our door, I will continue putting them in front of yours.

I hate that drunk buses don't run until 11!!

I hate smart people.

Whatever happened to Fenix TX?

Roommate, please do your laundry. You complain about my constant febrezing, but can you really blame me??

To the guy in the white shirt that got arrested on the trunk of the silver Mazda in front of SupDogs Friday night: I put it on YouTube under, "guy in white shirt gets arrested on truck of silver Mazda." Please view.

If I'm sending you booty call texts at noon on a Sunday, it's not because I actually want you, I'm just still drunk from the night before.

You should probably break up with your boyfriend if you are going to cheat on him. Just a thought.

To the group of guys in my physics class, stop talking so loud the whole time. It's annoying, and rude. And you're not cool.

Just because we went to high school together doesn't mean I like you. So don't sit next to me anymore.

To my crazy roommate: No one likes you anymore! Maybe if you started being a little nicer, we'll start being nice to you.

I don't mind living on campus, I don't mind having the furthest dorm from campus, I don't mind living with other people, but I do mind when those other people decide it's ok to get plastered and pee in my closet.

To the guy I passed on the sidewalk last night; I'm sorry I farted that loud...I thought it would be a quiet one.

To the girls that live next door to me. You have at least 5 incredibly loud guys in there EVERY night, like clockwork. Are you hookers?

Same Rants, Different Year

To my roommate: please stop using your turbo charged vibrator at 3 a.m. YES I do hear you!

I can't wait for Dashboard Confessional!!!!

So are they closing downtown or not? I NEED TO KNOW!!

To the drunk guy and people that slept all night at Minges for tickets this weekend: You make me proud to be a pirate!

Only at ECU do they give students \$50 coupons for DWI's and Drinking Tickets! They're in the coupon books that look like money.

To everyone that was waiting in the Howell Science complex breezeway for the drizzle to stop, you're nothing but a bunch of pansies.

Got the blues?

Samantha Hughes
OPINION COLUMNIST



Before I went off to college, I had a best friend who was a freshman at ECU. Most of my closest friends were already at college and would frequently tell me how challenging it was.

My friend at ECU would tell me how hard it was and because she was so far away, I missed tell-tale signs of depression. It would permanently change her life.

On college campuses, suicide is the second highest cause of death. It kills approximately 1,000 students each year.

This is a pressing issue for health officials across the nation. The rate of students who have been diagnosed with depression over the past 6 years has risen 56 percent.

Is anyone else a little startled?

Almost everyone I know has felt a little blue from time to time, and some have been diagnosed with depression.

It is one of the top five obstacles of the performance of students. It's easy to see why; the tough course load, balancing a social life and throwing some romance into the mix can sometimes become overwhelming.

Depression affects everyone, like those dramatic commercials depicted on television. While it is unlikely that your pet fish is truly suffering as long as you're feeding him, someone close to you is probably very worried.

Sometimes I become doubtful that depression is not taken seriously enough.

Several times I have heard someone say, "Oh they just did it for the attention," referring to a suicide attempt.

I agree. They did do it for attention. Attention they rightfully deserve and are begging for.

If a friend is exhibiting signs of depression or you feel they may take their life, it is important to pay attention and to take action. Do not let their plea for "attention" or their cry for help be the one that could possibly end their life.

It is also important that

school officials have trained individuals on staff who are capable of handling student depression in order to better assess a student's risk after an attempted suicide. Although a patient may no longer appear "suicidal," that does not mean he or she is well.

A lot of organizations have been started to help prevent suicide and aid in the treatment of depression. 1-800-Suicide, or the Hopeline, has the primary goal of preventing suicides or simply lending a caring and attentive ear. Together, To Write Love on Her Arms, a youth oriented group with similar goals, and PostSecret, the famous social experiment in which people send in anonymous postcards with secrets on them, have created the Pick up the Phone tour.

Their goal is "education, awareness and prevention." This is also my goal.

As someone who has been affected by depression, I now realize I am not alone. One in 12 students on a college campus have a suicide plan, whether or not it is acted upon.

If you have suicidal thoughts or you have been feeling abnormally sad lately, I urge you to take advantage of your resources.

The ECU Center for Counseling and Student Development is free to students and is conveniently located. Its Web site has an online assessment, but do not let the issue become worse. They are on the second floor of Wright Building and open during regular business hours Monday through Friday. You can call them at 252-328-6661 to schedule an appointment.

If you do not feel comfortable with speaking with one of the counselors, even if it is nothing to be ashamed of, call the Hopeline. It is toll-free and always available. If you desire to speak to someone who can identify specifically with college-age groups, call 1-800-Gradhelp.

The resources for you are endless and I encourage anyone experiencing depression symptoms to seek help. Just because you may feel alone does not mean you are alone.

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



ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH

Greenville's secret treasures

Stephanie Fu
OPINION COLUMNIST



As a senior entering my fourth year at ECU, I thought I had seen everything there was to see in Greenville.

There are the clubs of downtown Greenville, the stadiums for sports and of course the campus.

However, there is a lot more diversity in this small Eastern North Carolina town than many would believe.

One of these diverse treasures is the cozy Topsy Teapot on Evans Street. With its recent renovations, the rainbow decorated umbrellas mark not just a unique organic coffee, food and book hangout, but also a place that hosts many different musical performances.

These musical performances range from rock to tangy banjo playing with a soulful voice like that of Wilderness Jane.

Across the street is Hookah Haze, a hookah bar that came to

Greenville a couple of years ago to bring some Middle Eastern culture to the town.

Over on the other side of Greenville, close to Winterville at the intersection of Charles and Fire Tower, the bar Live is in the process of opening up an open-mic night.

Throughout the entire town there may only be a handful of the chain restaurants like Olive Garden and Chili's compared to other cities, but Greenville is rich with different places to eat from all over the world. From one end of the town near downtown, there is Dale's Indian Cuisine and the recently opened and restored restaurant, Winslow's Tavern, with over 40 beers on tap from countries like Belgium and Sri Lanka. This diversity in delicious foods stretches to the other side of town with the coffee and breakfast restaurant, the Daily Grind and the Lemongrass Thai Restaurant.

Kinston, a town that is only a 30 minute drive from Greenville, hosts the Kinston Indians, where for a cheap price you can have an afternoon full of baseball, hot dogs and cold beer when you're aching for some in

between ECU games.

To be honest, I thought that I had seen everything there was to see in Greenville after my freshman year. How can a small town in Eastern North Carolina, where the name is not familiar to most outside of the state, have more to offer than just small town charm?

With elements popping up that are similar to a big city, like an open-mic night and its own unique spots like Winslow's, there is a lot to see and do.

Now I'm starting to see the appeal of super seniority, so freshmen, before you start thinking Greenville only has its campus and downtown nightlife, keep in mind the different activities and places that Greenville offers. Although it is a small town, take advantage of what is has to offer.

It is definitely a one of a kind place to be and this just adds more to my understanding of why Pirates are so excited to meet other Pirates -- they know the secret to Greenville's treasures.

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

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Scribbles to the Captain

The East Carolinian welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone number and must be signed (except those sent by e-mail). Letters selected for publication may be edited and may be republished in any format. All letters submitted become the property of The East Carolinian. Questions? Please call 252-737-2999 or E-mail: editor@theeastcarolinian.com

Dear Editor,
Though I'm sure "Ms. Communal Mattress" was written with the intent to shock readers, The East Carolinian should keep in mind that not only students read this newspaper. Your audience includes faculty, staff, parents, administration, local citizens, alumni, and, most importantly, potential students. When researching schools part of what I would examine was their school newspaper. The Pirate Rants were a huge plus, and I also enjoyed reading the opinion articles. If I had read an article like Ms. Communal Mattress, however, I would have marked ECU off of my list immediately.

There are multiple problems I have with this article. First is the fact that the author is pushing their morals heavily and assuming that everyone else agrees with them. While I don't condone sexual promiscuity I do understand that it's not my place to tell others what they can and cannot do. No one has the right to treat people like they are stupid, tell them that they are not special, and that people are just using them. Referring to

the woman's vagina as the place of the party is also highly inappropriate. What gives the author the right to judge anyone else?

Second is that TEC, by running this article, is enforcing the double standard that it is okay for men to have sex with a lot of different partners, but it is not okay for women to do the same. There wasn't a single part of this article that stated anything about men "whoring themselves out", though they are just as guilty, if not more so, than women of being promiscuous. Women have been fighting for equality for years, and still don't have it in the United States. Running articles like this is just making it more and more difficult for them to achieve any sense of equality. It is the right of the individual to decide how they use their body, regardless of their sex or gender.

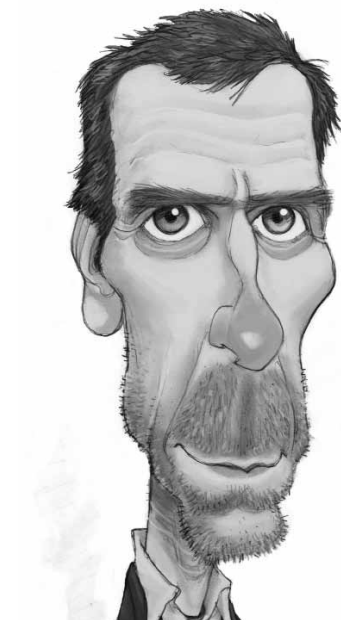
My third point is that there is not one logical reason why someone should avoid sleeping around. The author does not mention condoms, STIs, HIV, AIDS, unwanted pregnancy, or any other important reason why people should be safe and careful about their sexual partners. The only logic that the author has

included is that it will damage your reputation. This is almost the same sex education that high schools provide, which teaches people nothing about the risks involved with promiscuity.

Lastly, seeing that people other than students read TEC, the author needs to stop reinforcing the idea of "Easy U". I know I don't appreciate my college degree being degraded because of some peoples' individual choices. I don't appreciate making light of my college education, and when I chose to attend ECU again for graduate school I didn't sign on to throw away my credentials.

Our school has an incredible Marriage and Family Therapy masters program, as well as classes in various social sciences that give their students a firm knowledge about relationships and sex. I suggest that, in case you want to better your column and authorship, you utilize your resources better. Also, please, be a little more creative - I do not care to be referred to as a "salty wench".

-Leia Cain



"I never was someone who was at ease with happiness."

HUGH LAURIE

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Serving ECU since 1925, the *East Carolinian* prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. The *East Carolinian* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com or to the East Carolinian, Self Help Building, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353. Call 252-328-9238 for more information. One copy of the East Carolinian is free, each additional copy is \$1.

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ARIES

(March 21-April 20)
Key officials may this week reverse established policies or announce sudden improvements. Areas affected are time schedules, payment methods and daily procedures. Revised job titles or new deadlines may also be involved. Expect added changes in the coming weeks.

TAURUS

(April 21-May 20)
Older relatives ask for special consideration or social approval. Lifestyle choices and family habits may require discussion. Listen to all new proposals before offering an opinion. Someone close will this week need understanding and support.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 21)
Financial management is vital. Loved ones may now plan large purchases or extended investments. Carefully consider all possibilities and ask for written proposals. Complex business or money ideas will eventually prove rewarding.

CANCER

(June 22-July 22)
Practical discussion will work to your advantage this week. Job expansion, money promises or home renovations may all be accentuated. Use this time to secure agreements with potential employers or financial partners. Thursday through

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)
Yesterday's decisions will this week be proven accurate. Home ownership, daily budgets or revised family roles now offer tangible rewards. For many Leos extended educational programs or special purchases will soon be within reach. Carefully discuss all long-term plans with loved ones.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Love relationships will this week require clearly defined roles and new emotional guidelines. Some Virgos may soon change their family or romantic lives. Co-habitation, shared expenses or detailed social planning are highlighted. An honest expression of goals is needed..

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Early this week family members may press for private social or romantic information. Over the next few days loved ones will be sensitive to small mood changes. Don't be unnerved. Relatives or close friends may need extra time to adjust to emotional events in their own lives.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Over the next few days friends or close colleagues may require emotional support. Ongoing family disruptions and vital home decisions may be a prime theme. Encourage long-term change and creative solutions. Others will respond positively to genuine concern and fresh insights..

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Long-term housing contracts now provide viable new options. Some Sagittarians will soon begin an intensive phase of home improvement. Property or financial investments will create reliable benefits in the coming months. Respond quickly to all proposals.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Charisma and physical attraction are now a strong influence. Over the next few days potential friends or lovers may ask for greater involvement in your personal life. Passions and expectations may be high. Others will ask probing questions: remain sensitive to sudden outbursts or special requests.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
First impressions may this week reveal the underlying social motives of new friends or work mates. A romantic introduction or business contact may be a key concern. Remain diplomatic but avoid group involvement: emotional reactions are temporarily unpredictable.

PISCES

(Feb. 20-March 20)
Team assignments may be delayed this week by misinformation or low attendance. Find creative ways to postpone important duties or request added time from authority figures. Over the next few days your dedication to group success will be appreciated.



Pirates & Salty Wenches

"Pirates and Salty Wenches" is for entertainment purposes only. Vivian Stockton is not a certified sex columnist. She can only offer advice of an experienced college student. Please direct all comments, questions or concerns to the Editor in Chief, at editor@theeastcarolinian.com

'Sext' me later?

Vivian Stockton
SEX AND RELATIONSHIP COLUMNIST

I was hanging out with my best friend, Mary, when my text message alert went off.

One new message, which read, "I want you so bad right now. Come over."

I can reasonably assume that many of us have sent or received a message similar to that. And I'm also willing to bet that messages of this nature are zapped back and forth between us Pirates on a regular basis.

Sexting, "the act of text messaging someone in the hopes of having a sexual encounter with them later; initially casual, transitioning into highly suggestive and even sexually explicit," as explained by Urban Dictionary, has become very popular with the advances in media.

This is no surprise considering sexual material has been observed in all forms of media throughout history, and now that cell phones have camera and video capabilities, it only seems natural that the trend of explicit text message exchange is on the rise.

I'll never forget my first picture sext. It was completely unexpected and a bit unwelcomed.

I was watching a game with a former flame and his buddies.

Since my flame and I had a very informal relationship, I didn't see any harm in partaking in some suggestive flirting via text with a friend of a friend who lived a few hours away.

When my phone beeped, I immediately checked it -- I can't stand a slow texter, let alone a slow sexter -- thinking it was going to be some more scandalous banter. Yeah, I was definitely wrong.

To my surprise, upon opening the message, all I saw was his massive erection. Horrified that this

was sent to me at such an inconvenient time, I quickly deleted the picture and closed my phone.

As if that wasn't awkward enough for me to have gotten an eyeful of another man's package while I was with my impromptu boyfriend, nudie-photo-guy started blowing my phone up asking for me to send him a picture.

I'm not sure where he got the idea that I had signed up to play "doctor" text messaging style, but I was not down. It took months for him to finally get the hint that he wasn't getting any photo evidence of my nakedness on his phone.

This brings me to my main warning about sexting -- don't send just anyone anything. Remember that any electronic message that you send can be stored and reviewed at the recipient's leisure.

It may be true that Charlie really likes you, but that might not be enough to stop him from showing his intramural football team how freaky you are.

And just because Ashley seems impressed by every sext and picture you send her, doesn't mean that she isn't letting her girls size up your game as well.

You need to be sure that you can trust the person to whom you are sending naughty messages, especially if pictures are involved.

My nudie-photo-guy shouldn't have trusted me -- as soon as I saw our mutual friend, I showed her what he was packing, and she assured me if I had sent him a picture then he would have done the same thing.

And since everybody's doing it, text-messaging experts from Predicto Mobile, a leading text messaging Survey Company, put together a list of tips and I figured I would pass on some of their sext savvy wisdom.

Practice Safe Sext -- Before you divulge all the naughty things you would do, make sure you are sending your message to the right person.

Keep them hidden -- Just a few nights ago, a friend took my phone and proceeded to search for risqué photos. Similar situations happen to everyone all the time, so if you're going to keep a sexting record, make sure it's somewhere only you know.

Keep it Short and Sexy -- Keeping it short means keeping them wanting more.

Text noise alerts -- If you're engaging in public sext, put your text alert on vibrate or silent. Just like with good ol' fashioned sex, no one wants to hear your sext sounds.

Sexting can be a lot of fun, especially for those of us who are constantly on the go.

I know I don't get to talk to or see my man nearly as much as I would like due to class, work and homework, so he isn't always around when the mood strikes me. So every so often I can't help but send a racy sext.

Sexting can also make your partner feel very sexy and wanted. Everyone loves knowing that their special someone is randomly thinking how badly he wants to ravish her at that precise moment.

Like the world, sex and foreplay is always becoming more high-tech. We have all lived long enough to see the technological advances of sex through phone sex to cyber sex to text message sex, and I can only imagine what they will come up with next.

Just keep in mind -- like sex, sexting comes with consequences, so be careful.

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

Sudoku

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

Z	T	6	S	8	7	9	E	L
E	8	L	Z	T	9	S	7	6
7	S	9	6	E	L	T	8	Z
S	Z	E	8	L	6	7	T	9
9	6	8	7	Z	T	E	L	S
T	L	7	9	S	E	Z	6	8
8	E	T	L	9	S	6	Z	7
L	7	S	E	6	Z	8	9	T
6	9	Z	T	7	8	L	S	E

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Did You Know?

In England, "Any person found breaking a boiled egg at the sharp end, will be sentenced to 24 hours in the village stocks".

Every citizen of Kentucky is required by law to take a bath at least once a year.

It's illegal in Alabama to wear a fake mustache that causes laughter in church.

If you are right handed, you will tend to chew your food on your right side. If you are left handed, you will tend to chew your food on your left side.

Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.

The Mercedes-Benz motto is "Das Beste oder Nichts" meaning "the best or nothing".

The Titanic was the first ship to use the SOS signal.

The pupil of the eye expands as much as 45 percent when a person looks at something pleasing.

The average person who stops smoking requires one less hour of sleep a night.

Laughing lowers levels of stress hormones and strengthens the immune system. Six-year-olds laugh an average of 300 times a day. Adults only laugh 15 to 100 times a day.

Dalmatians are born without spots.

Bats always turn left when exiting a cave.

The reason honey is so easy to digest is that it's already been digested by a bee.

Roosters cannot crow if they cannot extend their necks.

Your left lung is smaller than your right lung to make room for your heart.

The first Harley Davidson motorcycle was built in 1903 and used a tomato can for a carburetor.

Switching letters is called spoonerism. For example, saying jag of Flapan, instead of flag of Japan.

It cost \$7 million to build the Titanic and \$200 million to make a film about it.

There are 1,792 steps to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

Most soccer players run 7 miles in a game.

The only part of the body that has no blood supply is the cornea in the eye. It takes in oxygen directly from the air.

Every day, 200 million couples make love, 400,000 babies are born and 140,000 people die.

Colgate faced big obstacle marketing toothpaste in Spanish-speaking countries. Colgate translates into the command "go hang yourself."

The only 2 animals that can see behind itself without turning its head are the rabbit and the parrot.

German Shepherds bite humans more than any other breed of dog.

Large kangaroos cover more than 30 feet with each jump.

FEATURES

TEC moves closer to you

The East Carolinian is back on campus

Staff Reports

Until 2004, The East Carolinian was located on campus in the Old Cafeteria Building.

Currently, the main office is located on the 3rd Street side of the Self Help Building on Evans Street. TEC, along with several organizations, was moved to the Self Help Building in 2004 so the university could use the Old Cafeteria office for other purposes.

In an effort to make TEC more accessible to everyone at ECU, an office has been opened on campus in the basement of Mendenhall Student Center. The satellite office is located in room 18 and will be officially opening today, Sept. 24.

TEC Editor in Chief Katelyn Crouse is the main force behind this change. "I talked to the section editors this summer and we decided we wanted to bring TEC back on campus. So we thought the best place to do that was in Mendenhall," said Crouse.

After working with Sue Martin, the previous associate vice chancellor for Student Life, TEC was given an office in Mendenhall for staff and student use.

Crouse and her staff hope the office will serve as a contact point for the student newspaper. The office will serve as a satellite location for the main office, so that it will be easier to access for students and faculty. The new TEC office will have several options including applying for a job at TEC, submitting a story idea and submitting information for a classified ad.

The Mendenhall office is fully equipped for article preparation, verification and submission and is more centrally located for many students. The location also provides quicker access to on-campus events for the writers covering them. For the first few weeks of operation, the TEC office will have limited hours of operation, but Crouse says she hopes that with time the office can stay open longer.

Current opinion writer, Samantha Hughes, will be working as the office assistant. Until further notice, the TEC satellite office will be open on Mondays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you happen to visit the office during off hours, the door has applications for those interested, as well as contact information on how to reach the student staff. Also, all applications or paperwork can be left in the mailbox for Hughes.

With the new office, Crouse has high hopes that it will be a success. "It may take a while to get people to know where the office is since TEC hasn't been on campus in years, but hopefully people will start to visit," Crouse admits.

Crouse is not the only one who is excited about TEC coming back to campus, Chris Stansbury, the director of Marketing and Communication for Academic and Student Affairs, commented, "I think this is an absolutely vital step for The East Carolinian because they need student interaction to do their job effectively."

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



Samantha Hughes, opinion writer for The East Carolinian, works in the newspaper's new satellite office in Mendenhall.

Online-Sweepstakes.com: A virtual jackpot of free prizes



Online-Sweepstakes.com gives users a chance to win thousands of free prizes and contests.

Katie Taylor
FEATURES STAFF WRITER

Imagine being able to enter thousands upon thousands of contests to win free prizes all from one location. That place is a Web site called Online-Sweepstakes.com.

Online-Sweepstakes.com was founded in 1997 and hosts all

kinds of different promotional sweepstakes. Ranging from free cars, exotic trips and free computers to Walmart gift cards, this sweepstakes Web site has it all. At first glance, every page on the site is identical. One cannot differentiate the home page from any of the subsequent Web pages.

Generic and simplistic, Online-Sweepstakes.com is a Web design nightmare.

Yet while the Web site is not aesthetically pleasing, it makes up for the lack of visuals in content. There are thousands of free sweepstakes added every day. 2,619 sweepstakes for the month

of September alone were listed on Monday.

Some noteworthy prizes listed on the site: "You Race We Win" sweepstakes sponsored by Ford Motor Company and the first prize winner receives a 2010 Fusion Hybrid; for the "Dawn Wildlife Rescue Sweepstakes," the top prize winner wins a trip to California to meet with wildlife rescue teams and the "Home Magazine-HP TouchSmart IQ527 Desktop PC" sweepstakes' top two prize winners will receive a \$999 HP TouchSmart IQ527 Desktop computer.

Although it can be difficult at first to tell one page from another, reading the navigation tabs at the top is easy enough to peruse the site.

The content of the Web site is set up with four main navigation tabs at the top of the page. These tabs include "Sweepstakes Directory," "My Sweeps," "Forums" and "Options/Help."

Once one of the tabs is clicked, several sub-tabs appear. For example, under the directory tab is the sub-tab "Index"

(also known as the home page), "New Sweeps," "Expiring Sweeps," "Top 100 Sweeps" and even an "Add-A-Sweep" tab that allows companies to submit even more sweepstakes.

The sweepstakes pages provide hyperlinks to lists of contests and the contest entry forms, organized by the date the sweepstakes were posted and also when they will expire.

"My Sweeps" is a location on the Web site where contestants can keep track of the sweepstakes they have entered.

The "Forums" page is a conglomerate of blogs and message boards about the sweepstakes hosted on the Web site. Many of the blogs require a free registration with Online-Sweepstakes.com before posting messages will be permitted.

For further information, people interested in participating in the contests can contact the Webmaster of the site or read the frequently asked questions by using the "Options/Help" tab online at Online-sweepstakes.com.

PIRATE EATS

Marabella comes to Green-

Alexandra O'Halloran
FEATURES STAFF WRITER

I walked into Marabella Old World Pizza with the expectation of a typical pizza joint with basic pizza and limited topping choices, but was pleasantly surprised. Many pizza places play it safe with the same basic pizza options, but I found that Marabella provides a wide variety of food for quick and easy Italian cuisine.

The Greenville location is a more casual version of a sit-down restaurant located in Washington, and although it has a smaller menu than its predecessor, it also has more pizza options.

There is pizza, for which there are several toppings, such as ham, arugula, artichokes and many more. There are also strombolis, calzones and different Italian rolls filled with various selections of meat. Large pizzas are about \$15, while stromboli, calzones and rolls range from \$5 to \$6. There are also salads, which are about \$5, and appetizers, which include things from buffalo wings to fries to garlic knots. These range from about \$2 to \$6.

Some pizza, which can be ordered by the slice, is displayed

at the counter where costumers order. There are some pizzas displayed which have very creative toppings, such as cheese fries. The pizza place does not have waiters, as it is an easy order-at-the-counter kind of place, but the staff is friendly and happy to assist.

Marabella also delivers purchases of \$10 or more, which is ideal for college students who want to relax and have food brought to them.

Located at 1898 A, S.E. Greenville Blvd., Marabella is in the former location of Big Apple Pizza.

Marabella was opened in February 2009 by brothers Massimo and Salvatore and is an ideal place for college students to indulge their cravings for greasy, cheesy Italian food with a twist. Mossimo Mannino, one of the owners of the restaurant, said the restaurant in Greenville is geared toward an assortment of people and is meant for anyone to come enjoy.

"We had a lot of requests from different Greenville people to open another one," Mossimo said. So the second location was opened, but with a personality inclined toward a more casual crowd.



John LoPresti making a pizza at Marabella Old World Pizza.

The atmosphere of the restaurant is relaxed with 10 booths inside, two televisions in opposite corners on which sports can be watched and two outside tables.

Marabella's atmosphere lends itself to coming out for a casual date, grabbing a bite with some buddies or even bringing the whole family along for some basic, well-made pizza. The restaurant is painted in a mustard

yellow color with some bricks to give it an old Italian feel, but still has a low-key college and family feel to it.

While the Marabella location in Greenville is not fine Italian dining, it is classic, yet creative Italian food fit for just about everyone. It may be a convenient and different pizza place for students who want to branch out from their usual spots. It is

a concept that attempts to have some authenticity, while still being creative.

To find out more about Marabella or place a delivery order, call 252-754-2700. It may be a great new place to experience an old concept, with a bit of a new spin.

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

Keys to the Game

Addison Harvey

**Play Two Halves:**

This was a key for last week's matchup with UNC and though the Pirates did play their best second half of the season it was still not enough. ECU needs to put together a complete game of two halves if they are going to turn around their season.

Establish the Run:

Many spectators have been skeptical of the Pirates passing game but to be successful through the air they must first establish the run. ECU needs to come out early and have success running the ball to spread out the defense for quarterback Patrick Pinkney.

Create Turnovers:

The Pirates defense has been exposed the past three games, especially in the second half. If they are going to reverse their fortunes they have got to force UCF into turning the ball over.

**Time of Possession:**

Some say the best defense is a good offense and this statement is crucial for UCF this weekend. They need to establish long scoring drives and keep the Pirates offense off the field.

Pressure Matt Dodge:

Matt Dodge has been having a great career year punting thus far for the Pirates. Dodge can completely switch the field and pin opponents deep on their side of the field. UCF needs to try and pressure the Pirates punter and force him to mishit a few punts.

Stop the Run:

If UCF is going to be successful on Saturday they are going to have to shutdown either the passing or rushing game of the Pirates. ECU has yet to have a balanced offensive attack this season so if UCF can shutdown the run, the Pirates offensive woes will continue.

They said it...

"It's always a struggle playing offense especially when we come out in the first half and look like we're rolling on all cylinders and then come out in the second half and have a huge drop off."

-Dwayne Harris, ECU wide receiver

"Coaches coach and players play. We just have to go out there and have confidence in the play calling and look at the bigger picture."

-Brandon Jackson, ECU running back

"Trust me, when we start clicking, we're going to be alright."

- Patrick Pinkney, ECU quarterback

ECU set to begin C-USA title defense



MCT CAMPUS

After suffering two straight losses, ECU will look to band together as it looks to begin defense of the program's first Conference USA title starting this Saturday against Central Florida.

Pirates looking to get back to even ground after two-straight losses

Michael Perry
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Following a two-game slide, ECU will begin defense of its Conference USA title starting this weekend with fellow East Division opponent Central Florida.

The Knights (2-1) will arrive in Greenville fresh off of a 23-17 win over Buffalo last Saturday. UCF will be in search of its first conference victory as they dropped their first to Southern Miss 26-19.

It will be make-or-break time for ECU (1-2) as it looks forward to the first of five consecutive conference games. The Pirates lost their last two games to non-conference BCS opponents and are in search of their first season win against an FBS team.

"I hate where we are right now at 1-2, as do the players," ECU head coach, Skip Holtz said. "But as I said, there's something we can do about it and

something we can do to change it. A lot of that is going to be the preparation for this week."

The Pirates lead the overall series against UCF 7-1 and will be looking to continue a three-year win streak.

Last year, ECU squeaked out a close 13-10-overtime win on the boot of a 39-yard field goal from Ben Hartman in Orlando.

On offense the Knights will turn to Wake Forrest transfer Brett Hodges to go under center.

Hodges, a red shirt senior, is an effective game manager and knows how to run the ball. In last week's matchup against the Bulls, Hodges completed 15-of-20 passes for 141 yards and gained 71 yards rushing.

UCF will utilize its dual threat quarterback in a spread formation with physical running backs Corey Rabazinski and Brynn Harvey.

The Knights offensive backfield will be well protected by two 6-7, 300-pound tackles, Jah Reid and Nick Pieschel.

"When you look at them, they're very big up front," Holtz said. "I'm really impressed with what they're doing right now on offense. "They're running the ball and trying to maul people

"I'm really impressed with what they're doing right now on offense. "They're running the ball and trying to maul people on offense."

SKIP HOLTZ, HEAD COACH

Reining in Hodges and penetrating the stacked offensive line will be key for the Pirates.

Similar to ECU, the UCF defensive line returns a veteran core, which has shut down the run this season. The Knight's front four have only allowed an average of 2.8 yards per carry, while allowing only one rushing touchdown this season.

The key to UCF's defensive scheme will be to apply pressure on Pinkney in order to protect their young secondary unit. At defensive end, Jarvis Geathers will be looking to break the corner and force turnovers.

"Last week alone, he (Geathers) had three sacks and two forced fumbles," Holtz said. "He's very active, makes a lot of things happen and brings a little more speed off the corner."

For the Pirates on offense they will look to improve on protecting Pinkney while handing Brandon Jackson the majority of the running back duties as Dominique Lindsay is listed as

doubtful for Saturday's matchup.

ECU has used multiple running backs this season and will have to split the load between Jackson, Jon Williams, Giovanni Ruffin and perhaps Norman Whitley come Saturday.

The Pirates will also have to extend its first half momentum through intermission if they hope to come out on top against UCF.

"I don't think we have a high enough confidence right now throughout the whole entire offense," Jackson said. "A lot of players put a lot of confidence in themselves but as a unit I don't think we're confident that we can go out there and put up points on anyone."

On defense, the Pirates will have to contain the east-west movement of Hodges while covering its obvious Achilles' heel the deep ball. The ECU secondary has allowed the "big pass play" to become what Holtz refers to as "the elephant in the room."

"We've had 130 defensive

plays the last two weeks and given up 940 yards," Holtz said. "500 yards have come on 16 plays. When you look at it from that standpoint, that's something we have to eliminate."

The good news for the Pirates' defensive squad is that secondary problems could be patched this weekend with the return of cornerbacks Levin Neal and Emmanuel Davis. The two are not guaranteed to play, but Holtz said he was "hopeful."

ECU will look to put together a full 60-minute effort this weekend, as it has been a tale of two halves for the Pirates. ECU is averaging 20 points in the first half this season while only producing an average of 1 point after halftime.

The Knights have been the reverse as they have put together late game rallies this season. UCF has outscored its opponents 46-23 after intermission this season.

With the dynamic of yet another mobile quarterback facing ECU, and the possible reinstatement of Neal and Davis in the Pirate secondary this game has all the makings of an evenly matched C-USA dogfight.

This writer can be contacted at

Breaking down ECU's C-USA slate

Addison Harvey
STAFF WRITER

After back-to-back losses diminished any Pirate dreams of busting the BCS, ECU now takes aim at defending last year's Conference USA title. With the lone exception of an early November contest against Virginia Tech, every game from here on out for the Pirates is a pivotal C-USA matchup.

UCF (Sept. 26)

The Golden Knights and Pirates squared off in a tight conference battle last year in which ECU edged UCF 13-10 in overtime and this year's game looks to be the same.

Both teams are struggling offensively and not off to the best start.

UCF has been prone to turnover in the 2009 season, turning the ball over six times.

If the Pirates can continue this trend this will give them a huge advantage in this game.

ECU has been struggling as of late and this game could be a turning point in its season getting back to .500.

Marshall (Oct. 3)

Huntington, W.Va. has been a thorn in the Pirates' side for years.

Last year, ECU was able to defeat the Thundering Herd on the leg of kicker Ben Hartman, who kicked the game winning field goal in a 19-16 overtime victory at Dowdy-Ficklen.

The Pirates offensive and defensive lines should be one of the best in C-USA this year and establishing the line early will be crucial for their success.

Marshall is off to a solid (2-1) start led by running back Darius Marshall. The Georgia native has 304 yards in three

games and the Pirates are going to have to slow him down in order to collect a victory.

SMU (Oct. 10)

SMU head coach June Jones is one of the highest profile coaches in C-USA. Jones brought a similar spread syle of offense that he used to lead Hawaii to a BCS bowl game back in 2007.

B.L. Mitchell has thrown for 979 yards already but the Mustangs' quarterback also has thrown a whopping eight interceptions over three games.

The Pirates are going to have to pressure Mitchell to force him to make bad decisions.

This will be a tough test for the Pirates, but this is one game I do not see them losing.

Rice (Oct. 17)

Rice lost more talented seniors than any other school in C-USA last season.

Wide receiver Jarrett Dillard and tight end James Casey both took their game to the NFL and the gap they left behind is a tough void to fill.

The Owls are off to a bleak (0-3) start and they have yet to establish a starting quarterback.

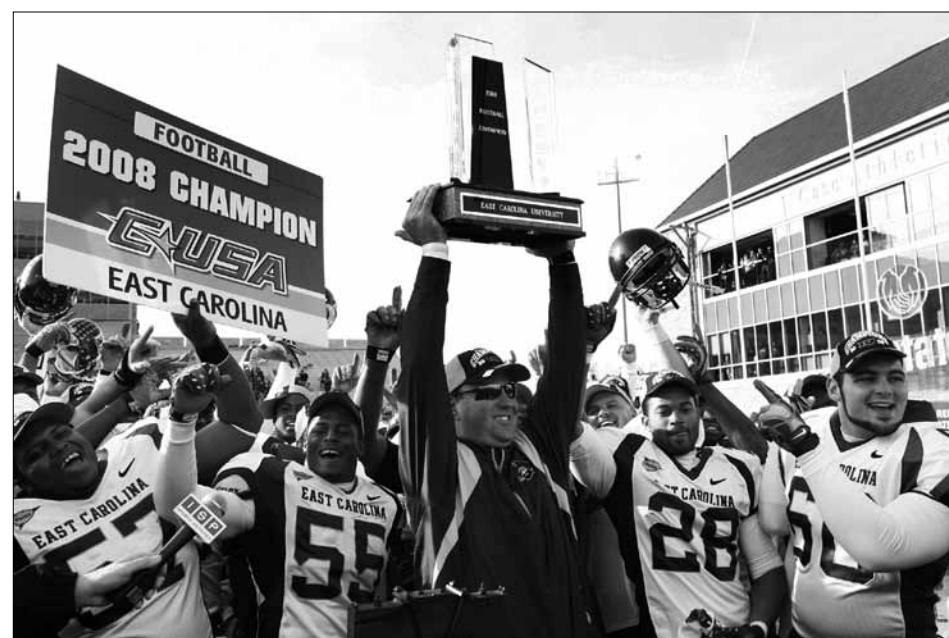
The Pirates need to exploit Rice's less than average defense with running backs Dominique Lindsay, Jonathan Williams, Giovanni Ruffin and Brandon Jackson.

Memphis (Oct. 27)

This matchup forces the two teams to play an unusual Tuesday night game.

The Pirates have yet to play on a Tuesday or Thursday in the Skip Holtz era and how the team reacts to playing on a weeknight will be interesting to see.

Memphis has one of the



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Seen here celebrating ECU's first Conference USA title after a victory over Tulsa last season, Skip Holtz and company must deal with a tough conference schedule ahead in the coming weeks if they want to repeat.

tallest core of wide receivers in the nation.

The Tigers are led by Carlos Singleton (6'9") and Duke Calhoun (6'4").

Defensive back's coach Rick Smith, has to have a group ready to make up for the difference in height with skill and solid route reading.

It is vital that the Pirates have their full core of defensive backs and safeties in this key conference battle.

This will be a key game in the Pirates earning a spot in the C-USA championship game.

Tulsa (Nov. 15)

The Pirates were able to claim their first conference title last season with a close win over Tulsa.

Tulsa is known for their spread style of offense and historically gaudy offensive numbers, but this year the Golden

Hurricanes are struggling to move the ball.

The Pirates will have to create turnovers like they did in 2008.

If ECU can avoid a shootout they will be able to edge Tulsa again.

UAB (Nov. 21)

Senior quarterback Joe Webb is having a solid 2009 campaign for the Blazers. Webb has thrown for five touchdowns adding 367 yards on the ground.

UAB is not historically known for talented football teams but this year's team does have talent.

The Pirates will have to contain Webb and take care of their part on offense.

This game could be one the Pirates overlook with rival Southern Miss. the following week.

If ECU is going to claim its

second C-USA title, they cannot overlook this key home game.

Southern Miss (Nov. 28)

The Golden Eagles have dominated the Pirates the past 10 years. Larry Fedora's team dominated the Pirates last year and edged ECU in 2007 in a tight ball game.

Southern Miss. is loaded with talented and highlighted freshman, All-American DeAndre Brown.

The Pirates defense is going to have to have a great performance overall to slow down talented running backs Damien Fletcher and Brown.

These are the two premiere teams in C-USA East and the battle with the division could all come down to this game.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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