

**INSIDE**

**OPINION:** To the girl who asked what is up with guys wearing high socks: They just feel good. It's like choosing to wear granny panties over wearing a tight, slender ride-your-buttrac-kind of thong. **A4**

**PULSE:** Check your Pulse: **A5**

**SPORTS:** Want to know what to expect when the ECU football team travels to Marshall this weekend? Turn to sports to find out. **A8**

**UPDATE**

**NSCS inducts future leaders of tomorrow**

**Caitlin Hale**  
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) inducted their newest members — students who have a 3.4 grade point average or higher and rank in the top 20 percent of their class.

The convocation began with a welcome to all the inductees and their guests, given by the executive vice president of NSCS, Ardriana Byrd. Byrd proceeded to introduce the remaining officers, including chapter president Ellen Sheffer, vice president of community service Kimberly Chadwick, vice president of PACE Allie Craver, secretary Lauren Hertzler, treasurer Eden Rouse and social chair Ami Jackson. Chad Ross, the chapter adviser for NSCS was also in attendance.

After the introductions were concluded, student body treasurer, Tremayne Smith, gave the welcoming remarks. Smith spoke of the importance of becoming great leaders and that the community would look to NSCS members to live up to their potential.

"The task of leadership is to get people from where they are to where they're going," said Smith. He concluded by adding, "we [NSCS members] can set sail on the ship of success!"

A video was then shown which included students from colleges across the country telling of their experience with the organization. The students shared how NSCS created many great opportunities and made the daunting task of finding a job post graduation much simpler.

ECU faculty member, Rebecca Sweet, then gave a keynote address. Sweet spoke of the significance of volunteering and being engaged in the community.

Sweet said, "Honor, inspire, and engage [the goals of NSCS] were truly words to live by." She ended by saying, "We will all be better because your [NSCS members] contribution to our lives."

NSCS raffled off three \$50 scholarships. The winners were sophomore nursing major Chandler Hatcher, junior elementary education major Katie Williams and junior English major Sabrina Westerman.

Sheffer closed the ceremony by thanking all those who spoke, along with all the inductees and their guests for attending the event. She went on to explain the positive outlook that the ECU chapter of NSCS has been given.

"The potential for what we can do is endless," she said.

This year, the new inductees along with older members of the chapter will be participating in homecoming, the Saint Jude's Walk, I Stand for Integrity Week, Relay for Life, service projects including collecting can tabs and canned goods, as well as many other projects on campus.

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

**WEB POLL**

**POLL QUESTION**

**Do you plan on going to see Dashboard Confessional perform at the Homecoming concert?**

**Yes**  
**No**

Submit your response online at [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com)

# The East Carolinian

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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

## Post-9/11 G.I. Bill goes into effect

**Emily Cunningham**  
STAFF WRITER

Military students who returned to college this year were introduced to a new G.I. Bill, known as the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, which altered how much coverage they received from the military concerning educational and housing costs.

Students who are eligible to receive coverage from the new G.I. Bill are those who have served on active duty at least 90 days since Sept. 10, 2001. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs' Web site, the new G.I. Bill is also implementing new

changes concerning the children of service members.

The Web site states, "For the first time in history, service members enrolled in the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill program will be able to transfer unused educational benefits to their spouses or children."

The new G.I. Bill brings with it additional changes that are quite drastic compared to those that military personnel were awarded before.

Connie Blake, ECU veteran affairs coordinator, said military students are now eligible to receive full tuition coverage along with a housing allowance and a book

stipend. The old G.I. Bill allotted only a capped amount of \$1,300 in order to cover all the expenses of veterans that choose to go to college.

The new tuition coverage is somewhat limited though. Under the new G.I. Bill, the Department of Veterans Affairs is now awarding full tuition as long as it does not "exceed the maximum in-state undergraduate tuition and fees at a public institution of Higher Learning."

For veterans in North Carolina, this means that tuition lower than that of UNC Chapel Hill will be paid in full. The book stipend

for military students is \$1,000 per academic year and the housing allowance is \$1,300 a month. However, members who are still on active duty cannot receive the housing allowance.

According to Blake, the much-needed changes in the G.I. Bill occurred because the military wanted "to recognize student members in order to show that they want to continue helping them when they get out of service."

Drew Cooper, a freshman at ECU and former Marine, who is attending college under the new G.I. Bill, thinks the new bill is a vital improvement in helping

service members to attend college.

Cooper said, "The Marine Corps takes surveys from time to time, asking service members in what ways could they improve the benefits of their members. I highly suggested that when you go to college, they pay for it."

Cooper said money the military previously allocated to their service members was nowhere near sufficient enough for members to attend college. He said that high cost of living would often force service members drop out of school and work "which doesn't set

> **GIBILL** page **A2**



CARLTON PURVIS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students listen to Voices for Victims adviser Sue Molhan speak during a candlelight vigil at "Take Back the Night," Tuesday.

## 'Overwhelming' turnout for march

**Carlton Purvis**  
NEWS EDITOR

Voices for Victims held its first "Take Back the Night" march and candlelight vigil Tuesday to raise awareness about sexual violence as a part of Campus Safety Awareness Month.

Close to 100 participants, including city officials, marched from College Hill to Sonic Plaza to demand an end to sexual violence.

District 3 city council candidate Marion Blackburn called the turnout "overwhelming."

"There were so many people participating and just such dedication and such goodwill. I'm so glad I could be a part of it," she said.

Male members of ECU Air Force ROTC and pledges from campus fraternities wore high-heels during the march to show their support.

Sue Molhan, Voices for Victims adviser, said they ask the men to participate in the "Walk A

Mile in Her Shoes" event to show support to women who have been victimized.

20 to 25 percent of college women experience an attempted or complete rape during their college career, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

"Historically it's been a women's issue and we're trying to include men by educating them and letting them show their support," said Molhan.

Other attendees included members of SGA, who helped advertise the event, non-profit Stop Child Trafficking Now and the Greenville Police Department Special Victims Unit.

Sergeant Dan Blanchard felt it was important for the unit to show their support because the event fell in line with their goals of awareness and prevention on and off campus.

> **MARCH** page **A2**



CARLTON PURVIS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

AFROTC cadets and fraternity pledges were thanked after they donned high-heels to show their support during "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes."

## Putting the downtown debate in perspective

**Club owner expresses concern, outrage over downtown ordinance proposals**

**Tucker Middleton**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Rob Waldron, owner of the club 519, is not shying away from criticizing the action city council has taken to address the crime problem downtown.

"Of course you've got a problem," he said, "[but] there's a sinister agenda. Certain people in city government want to do anything they can to squeeze us ... to shut down all the bars."

The controversial ordinance proposal Waldron is referring to would require downtown clubs with an occupancy of 50 to 299 patrons to hire one off-duty law enforcement officer, and clubs with occupancy over 300 people to hire two off-duty officers.

Waldron said having to hire two law enforcement officers to patrol his club would cost him an estimated \$43,000 a year — a sum that would put a serious financial burden on his bar and could potentially shut down his

business by doing what Waldron said is the financial equivalent of doubling 519's rent.

The ordinance could be even more catastrophic for smaller clubs, which would almost certainly be shut down as a result of the ordinance's passage, he said.

City council insists they are not trying to shut down any existing clubs, but they make no secret of their goal to stop additional clubs and bars from locating downtown.

Another ordinance proposal would prohibit the creation of new clubs within 500 feet of existing clubs — a zoning provision that would effectively outlaw the construction of new clubs downtown entirely in an attempt to reduce congestion on weekends.

Club owners blame city council for creating the congestion problem in the first place. An ordinance establishing a sub district overlay was passed in 1998. After the ordinance's passage, no club could be created in the downtown area west of Evans Street.

Waldron said the 1998 ordinance explains why all 16 downtown clubs are within four blocks of each other, and why new clubs are typically opened in venues

where other clubs have been housed previously.

Regardless of who's to blame for the overcrowding of clubs downtown, city council plans to be the decision-making body to put an end to the decade-long error. Their reasoning: congestion causes crime, so creating an ordinance to prevent further congestion would reduce dangerous and illegal activity downtown.

Waldron sees little to no legitimacy in this logic. He said the ordinance is an impractical and unfair way of trying to fight crime downtown.

The primary supporters of the ordinance are not the students and young people who come downtown to enjoy themselves, he said, but rather older Greenville residents and "ivory tower snobs from the university community that want to bootleg the higher culture that university offers"



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Summer Evans bartending at The Other Place.

while failing to take into account the wants and needs of students.

Waldron has no problem with extra security downtown — in fact, he would prefer it.

"We've been asking for police presence for years, Monday and Tuesday for Sunday now," he said.

The presence of police is not what club and bar owners are complaining about, said Waldron. Their issue is with the city council's decision to make law enforcement a mandatory expenditure for bars and clubs — something club owners believe is a responsibility of the city and not private businesses.

The council will meet Oct. 5 to discuss what further action to take on the ordinance proposals.

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

## Activist group hosts event to stop human trafficking

### Staff Reports

Eastern NC Stop Human Trafficking is hosting a walk on Oct. 3 in Boyd Lee Park to create awareness about human trafficking.

The event is part of a larger national event by Stop Child Trafficking Now.

The organization is holding walks in 39 cities across the nation over the next week. Other cities participating in awareness walks are Chapel Hill, Cary, Charlotte and Greensboro.

To register to walk or volunteer at the event, go to [www.sctnow.org](http://www.sctnow.org). Civic groups, businesses, churches, school groups, families and friends are all invited to form a team. Each individual who brings \$100 or more in pledges to the walk will receive a free T-shirt.

For more information about the walk, please call Pam Strickland at 252-814-6357 or e-mail [encstophumantrafficking@gmail.com](mailto:encstophumantrafficking@gmail.com).

## MARCH

contin-

ued from A1

This month there have been three reports of sexual violence on campus according ECU Police Department crime logs.

Voices for Victims is one of ECU's youngest organizations, starting at the beginning of September. The march was the second night of activities sponsored by the group for Campus Safety Awareness Month.

Monday, Voices for Victims hosted a screening of "A Life Interrupted," a film about a woman who was raped and navigated her way through the justice system to put thousands of rapists behind bars.

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

## GIBILL

continued from A1

them up for success in life."

For military students to receive the benefits of the G.I. Bill, they must present a certificate of eligibility from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

According to Blake, it was difficult for some students to obtain their proof of eligibility before the start of the school year, since the claims take 28 days to process and ECU started school on Aug. 25.

To account for this, Blake states that ECU's Department of Veterans Affairs did not require the actual letter that proved the student had received verification, if the student could simply bring in proof that they had filled out the application online.

Blake also said that some students are still opting to use the old G.I. Bill. James Johnson, a junior at ECU, plans to continue utilizing coverage from the old G.I. Bill until it runs out. Blake said that if a student wishes to continue to be compensated via the old G.I. Bill right now, they can still apply to be covered under the new one later on.

Blake said the military recognizes that most of their student members do not have a lot of money to obtain an education and wants to help them get back on their feet after serving for their country.

"We owe them a great debt of gratitude," Blake said.

Because of processing issues at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki has authorized advanced education payments up to \$3,000 for veterans who have applied for VA educational benefits and who have not received their monthly education payment as of Oct. 2, 2009.

To receive the payment, student veterans must bring a government issued photo ID and proof of enrollment to their nearest VA regional office. The nearest office for veterans attending ECU is in Winston Salem.

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



Participating in ROTC is another way veterans are getting their college paid for before and after service.

## LOST

continued from A1



Amy Hart has used The East Carolinian's Pirate Rants online multiple times to help lost items find their way back to their homes.

after retrieving his computer and was very appreciative. He thanked her and graciously referred to her as his hero.

Many of Hart's friends questioned why she put so much effort into making sure the computer got back to David. She quiets these questions by saying, "I slightly panicked when I saw it laying out in that empty parking space and could only think about how terrible it would be if I lost mine. Then I got to thinking about if someone possibly stole it and how cool it would be to get a stolen item back. It seems like nobody these days goes out of their way to return someone's possession back to them -- especially strangers."

Many of Hart's friends were skeptical, despite her efforts in going the extra mile

to ensure the computer was returned. She did not tell many of her friends because she felt like she had contacted everyone that really needed to know. But according to Hart, the friends that she did tell about the rant told her that the posting would not work. She is proud to have proved them wrong.

Hart has not heard of any copycat Pirate Rant posters but she thinks that it would be very cool if it were to happen. Hart concluded with, "I feel very special when someone takes a moment of time out of their day to help me out. Why wouldn't I want to share that? It actually feels better sharing it!"

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



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# 2009 HOMECOMING

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# Homecoming King and Queen

Today is the last day to VOTE (Thursday, October 1)

Go to OneStop and vote for this year's Homecoming King & Queen.

The top 5 King and top 5 Queen candidates will be announced at the Cannon Ball Dance on Thursday, October 8th at the Murphy Center.

## Free Senior Portrait Sessions Going On Now!

Dates: Tuesday, Sept. 29st – Thursday, Oct. 1st

### To Schedule:

Log onto [www.ouryear.com](http://www.ouryear.com) with school code 435 or call 1-800-OUR-YEAR (687-9327)

### Locations:

Tuesday (9/29)	Ledonia Wright Cultural Center	11am – 7pm
Wednesday (9/30)	Wright Auditorium	11am – 7pm
Thursday (10/1)	Mendenhall Social Room	9am – 5pm

\*A Friday date may be added pending week's schedule

### Attire:

Men – Yearbook Pose: Suit/Business Attire

Women – Yearbook Pose: Blouse/Business Attire

Cap & Gown portraits (optional) – Choice of black or purple gown (will be provided)

\* Purple and gold tassels will be provided for undergraduates

\* Graduate students must provide their own departmental hoods

### Additional Information:

– There is no cost or sitting fee for graduates

– For distance Education or online students: If students cannot get to campus to take their photos during that week, the Buccaneer staff will accept high-resolution digital photos from students. The submitted photo(s) should look professional, and graduates should be wearing business attire in the photo. The Buccaneer reserves the right to deny a photo deemed inappropriate.

If there are any other concerns, please call: 328-4712

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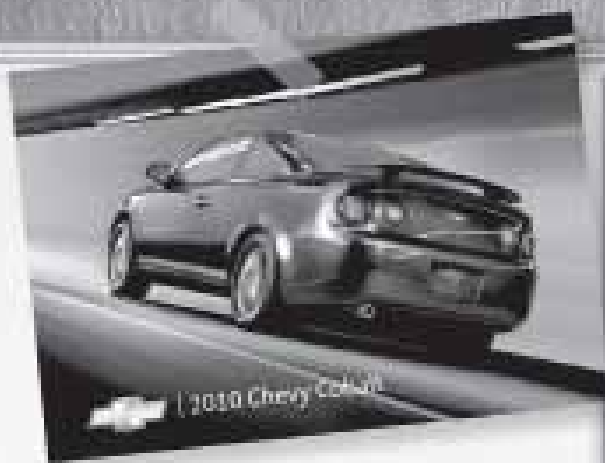
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Need advice? Want answers? Just ask Jane.

Dear Jane,

Dear freshmen girls, you are not as great as you think you are so when I am trying to be friendly by smiling as you walk by please get that stuck up look off your face it makes you highly unattractive.

To the girl who asked what is up with guys wearing high socks: They just feel good. It's like choosing to wear granny panties over wearing a tight, slender ride-your-butcrack-kind of thong.

Is it me or is it getting harder and harder to study this year?

I am sorry but blasting the bass in your car so that the mirrors and plastic on your car and the cars in front, behind, and to the side of you shake does not make you look cool. In fact, you look foolish, IDIOT!!!!

Dear Roommate, maybe if you stopped talking so much, we'd stop telling you to stop talking.

Heat rises, right? So why am I bundling up more with each stair I take up in Bate?

Every time my geo teacher mentioned the geological term dike I burst out in laughter.

Wanted: 3500 able bodied Pirates to vote out the City Council. We can do it. Voting starts October 26-31.

To the guy in my Comm 2420 class that always wears the Boston hat... have you ever thought about switching teams cause I think you're sexy!

I don't think my roommate's parents ever taught her the concept of "inside voices" There is no need to yell when I'm sitting right next to you.

More people would probably like you if you didn't lie all the time.

I hate students who just walk out in front of cars by Bate. Hello, I am in a car if I hit you, you will die, or worse injure you bad enough where you can't go out Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night.

Can't print in Rivers now, GREAT!

Why are pirates pirates? 'Cause they arrrrrr!

Why are you in a GROUP Study room when you're the only person? Be courteous and leave it for actual GROUP STUDYING students!

You're cute and everything, but like, that beer belly of yours just makes you look... ew.

You are the biggest crybaby I know! I hope someday you grow your balls back and realize how pathetic you look with your sad Facebook statuses and whiney conversations with me.



ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH

**WANT MORE?**  
Go to [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) for more of the pirate rants you love.

**"I want to express myself in a different way. I have a performing inclination."**  
- ROWAN ATKINSON

## Pop culture and its obsession with the White House

**Michael Pacheco**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Anyone can see that Obama had left his image in the pop world way before his inauguration; posters, T-shirts, buttons, flags and musical lyrics, all in the name of "change." So, is Obama a politician or a pop icon, or perhaps both?

This question not only applies to Obama but to his wife, Michelle, as well. You see pictures of her on all the "style" magazines. I wonder though, are these the images the first lady should just be shown in? Fancy clothes, personal style that tops any celebrity, courtesy of the White House (your tax dollars), seem to be the only things Michelle is known for.

Being pretty and representing your husband, the president of the United States, is not the only agenda the first lady is supposed to have; charity work, conferences and lobbying for causes comprise the list of "things to do" for the first lady.

What has Michelle Obama done? Does anybody know?

No, most people don't know what she does because the only thing they read about her is what she was wearing. She has made appearances for charity organizations here and there but you won't hear anything more about them and what she did. What designer she is wearing and what make-up line she is using seems to be the only thing these magazines and tabloids are concerned with.

Michelle Obama is not the only trendsetter that has graced the walls of the White House; Jacqueline Kennedy and Nancy Reagan are on the list of fashion trendsetters. Unlike previous first ladies, such as Betty Ford (promoted women's rights), Laura Bush (childhood literacy), Nancy Reagan (Just Say No to Drugs campaign) and Hilary Clinton (health care reform), Michelle Obama so far has no platform and seems to be portrayed only as a dress-up, life-size, Barbie doll. I'm curious to see what role she takes on as her main cause to represent. I am kind of bored with her cut-off sleeved dresses and majestic make-up and hairstyles of the 21st century.

It also goes without saying that Obama has set a precedent as one of the "coolest" presidents to ever call the White House home. With his charismatic speeches, he is compared to leaders such as Che Guevara, a radical Marxist who despised the U.S., and Eva Peron, former first lady of Argentina and labor union activist.

It's difficult to pinpoint what leads to a label as elusive as "cool," but experts say, in Obama's case, it's multifaceted, and if he's not careful, it could be temporary.

John Quelch, the senior associate dean at Harvard Business School and co-author of "Greater Good: How Good Marketing Makes for Better Democracy," says there are four key components to Obama's "cool": he's street cool, family cool, technology cool and culture cool.

He is certainly all of those. But I wonder, how "cool" is Obama without a teleprompter? Is he as loquacious and politically eloquent as he appears on national television? During these times of reform, I am curious of how long he is going to be able to keep up this "coolness."

## Scribbles to the Cap-

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

## Letter from the Editor

**Katelyn Crouse**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



"There's nothing wrong with change, as long as it's in the right direction," -Winston Churchill.

I'm a quote person; I have always been that way. But I truly do believe this quotation. We all fear change, in some way or another. But most of the time I think we just don't understand it.

This seems to be the case for TEC so far this semester, since several additions have been printed and gotten a negative response.

After taking over the position of editor-in-chief over the summer, my staff and I decided to give TEC the makeover we felt it deserved, inside and out. And after reading through stacks of

newspaper, we redesigned TEC. Whether you have hated, loved or been indifferent to the changes in TEC this year, you have at least noticed them...I hope. One thing we have all tried to keep in mind is that this is not only our paper; it is meant to represent, entertain and inform all of Pirate Nation. TEC is about ECU first and foremost.

I honestly hope you have enjoyed TEC so far this semester. We have done our best to give you a variety of different topics to enjoy while you read. My staff and I are here to represent you.

In order to do that, we need to know what you are worried about, what you think we missed or even better...what you think we did well! Whether it is through a Pirate Rant, Scribble to the Captain or just a quick email we want to hear from you.

You can email me personally at editor@theeastcarolinian.com

## Take Back the Night

**Samantha Hughes**  
OPINION COLUMNIST



Have you ever told someone to stop and they just kept going?

I have. Maybe in a different aspect than you have. Let's just say, the end result was unpleasant and traumatizing.

Have you ever been in a fight?

I have. I was fighting so intensely with a boyfriend once that when I went to walk away he grabbed my arm. It hurt, so I pushed his chest to make him let me go. After a minor struggle, a pissed off boy shoved me so hard I reeled across the room, my head hitting the counter top and ribs smacking soundly against the cabinets.

Terrified and confused, I left his house. Calling my best friend, she promptly demanded I go to the hospital.

She was the only person to know about what happened that day for a very long time.

It was not until several months after this incident that I felt comfortable enough to even speak about what had happened.

Rape, domestic abuse, sexual assault and harassment are often called silent crimes. Due to their nature, the victim does not speak up.

Take Back the Night, an initiative that frequents college campuses, aims to "highlight the problem of violence against women as well as the broader issues of sexual violence."

To those of you who remain silent, these events are meant to "Shatter the Silence," to speak out and regain the strength and power you feel like you have lost.

A recent study in North Carolina about domestic violence and rape stated 57 percent of women did not discuss physical abuse with anyone, let alone authorities or doctors.

By remaining silent, victims increase the already quadrupled chance that they will contemplate suicide.

However, these are not encouraging facts to help women who have been traumatized. In a situation already perpetuated by intense fear, confusion and often shame, the statistics that sully prosecution in their favor are dismal.

According to the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which aims to create social change through the elimination of things that contribute to domestic violence, 98 percent of rape victims will never see their attacker caught and almost half of convicted rapists spend less than a year in jail.

It is important that those who suspect a person is being victimized speak up. The silence does not extend just to the victim, but to bystanders who are confused as to what they should do.

If you feel like your friend is in a bad situation, from my experience, they are waiting for someone to speak up. Encourage them to leave the relationship and help them reclaim their life.

As a victim, knowing your rights and what to do is important. You have the right to a trial and to be safe. If your significant other is threatening you or violating you, informing police or authorities is essential. Take action to protect yourself: change your number, vary routines and know how to defend yourself.

I understand that many people turn the other cheek when they witness violence. I recall several times where other people witnessed violence and continued on their way. Why would you not help someone in trouble? Victims want to know why, and if you are their friend and are guilty of this, you're encouraging them to stay in the relationship.

Help them. Speak up. A simple "Is everything OK?" could change the path of their entire life.

Support them in every way possible and encourage them to take action. Most importantly, be their friend.

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

## STAFF INFORMATION

**Katelyn Crouse**, Editor in Chief

**Carlton Purvis** ..... News Editor  
**Andrea Robertson** ..... Opinion Editor  
**Jared Jackson** ..... Sports Editor  
**Katie Stoneback** ..... Features Editor  
**Matt Shapiro** ..... Photo Editor  
**Samantha Eads** ..... Head Copy Editor  
**Samantha Hughes** ..... Pulse Editor  
**Sarah Russell** ..... Production Manager  
**Paul Saleska** ..... Multimedia Web Editor

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### CONTACT INFO

Newsroom 252.328.9238 Fax 252.328.9143 Advertising 252.328.9245

## 5 Things We're Obsessed With This Month

### Caitlin Hale

1. Facebook
2. www.retailmenot.com
3. Gossip Girl
4. Longchamp bags – They carry everything and are the perfect accessory with any outfit. What's not to love?
5. Tailgating/Football games



### Samantha Hughes

1. Pink ice pops
2. Einstein Bro's Bagels
3. mylifeisaverage.com
4. Pedestrian frogger
5. Michael Abramowitz



### Michael Perry

1. All things hockey
2. Vinyl records – Way better than CDs. Plus, you can speed the record player up and make the singers sound like chipmunks.
3. UFC
4. Cooler weather
5. Revisiting Blink-182 – I don't understand why some people hate on them. Why do all the good bands break up?



### Tucker Middleton

1. Death panels
2. The Daily Tar Heel
3. Orange people
4. Library fines – I forgot to turn in my books to Joyner. I didn't even read them.
5. Death panels – Because sometimes pulling the plug on Grandma once just isn't enough...



## WTF?! of the Month

From www.truthism.com  
**Reptilians**

Aliases: Lizard people, Reptoids, Lizardfolk, Anunnaki

### What?!

Reptilians are the supernatural, highly intelligent group of beings that supposedly run the world. According to believers, they are responsible for the creation of mankind and also the things that humans believe (science, religion and politics.) To believers, Reptilians are responsible for all of these things and control all of mankind via their supernatural powers. According to truthism.com, a negative Web site for "commoners" who do not believe in the lizard people, Reptilians are the

"elite" members of society, such as high power politicians and public figures.

### History?

They are suggested to be evident in history all the way back to the dawn of time, mostly because some think they are responsible for creating the world. Ancient people drew them and described them via their forms of art and books. Apparently all of those scaly lizard-people were the Anunnaki, drawn by highly enlightened people who were aware of the serpent race. David Icke, the writer who is most outspoken in his belief concerning the Lizardfolk, claims that even in the Bible, the Reptilians are present in the form of the serpent in the Garden of Eden.

WTF page A5



## Jennifer's Body is unfortunately predictable

Our rating: 2.5 out of 5 stars

Megan Fox stars in "Jennifer's Body." (Doane Gregory/Twentieth Century Fox/MCT)

Caitlin Hale  
STAFF WRITER

What happens when one half of a dynamic duo begins eating boys and throwing up their remains? In Jennifer's Body, absolutely nothing happens, at least until the last five minutes of the movie.

Jennifer's Body, starring Megan Fox and Amanda Seyfried, premiered on Sept. 19, and was advertised as a comedy, horror and thriller flick all wrapped in to one movie.

Sadly, the movie seemed to be none of the above.

The film starts off by blatantly portraying Fox, who plays Jennifer Clark, as the sexiest girl in school who also happens to be a star cheerleader and the girl all the boys want to date.

Big surprise there, right? Needy Lesnicky (Seyfried) acts as Jennifer's gawky best friend since diapers, who repeatedly follows Jennifer's every demand. As the film progresses, Jennifer continues to play the "hot mean girl" who is again and again asked out on numerous dates, while Needy remains in the background.

Other notable cast members include Johnny Simmons, who plays Chip, Needy's devoted boyfriend. Problems arise between the two when Chip begins to question Needy's sanity after she begins to suspect Jennifer of all the wrongdoings that are happening. The lovable Adam Brody plays the very unlovable Nikolai Wolf, the lead singer of a rising band and the character that starts all of Jennifer's problems.

Eventually Jennifer becomes "evil" and strange things begin happening in the girl's hometown of Devil's Kettle, such as teenage boys being... well, eaten.

Since it takes Needy the large majority of the 102-minute long movie to figure out Jennifer is behind the killings, as well as

JENNIFER'S BODY page A5

## ECU/Loessin Playhouse performs a classic 'The Crucible' will run October 1-6

Veronica Carrington  
STAFF WRITER

Starting Oct. 1, Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" will be brought to life by the talented pirates of ECU's theatre program.

Performances will take place on campus in McGinnis Theatre.

"The Crucible" is a recent change in tradition, as the Playhouse usually begins with a musical; nevertheless, this Tony Award winning drama will be sure to please. The play is based on the actual events that, in 1682, led to the Salem Witch Trials, a series of hearings before local magistrates to prosecute over 150 people accused of witchcraft in colonial Massachusetts between February 1692 and May 1693.

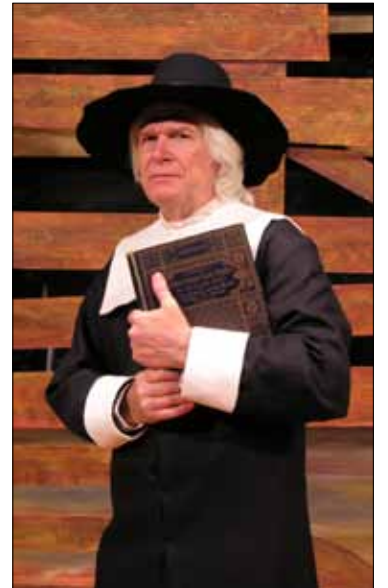
Miller used this story as inspiration; however, the play was actually written in the early 1950s as a response to McCarthyism. During this period, the United States government blacklisted accused communists and the House of Representatives' Committee on Un-American Activities questioned

Arthur Miller himself in 1956.

The Crucible begins as several young girls are caught attempting to conjure spirits from the dead. Instead of enduring severe punishment, the girls accused other villagers of witchcraft; ironically enough, the girls avoided punishment by accusing others of what they were guilty of. The finger-pointing results in extreme paranoia and an atmosphere of fear in which no one is safe and everyone is a potential witch. As the number of arrests increases, so does the distrust within the community. A vicious cycle of accusation, arrest and distrust drives the town into a dark downward spiral.

This play will surely bring insight into the human condition and the psyche of paranoia.

Tickets may be purchased by calling 252-328-6829, 1-800-ECU-ARTS or by going online at www.ECUARTS.com. The ECU/Loessin Playhouse is produced by the School of Theatre and Dance in ECU's College of Fine Arts and Communication.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Halloween Costumes

Michael Perry  
STAFF WRITER

Few things define Greenville like Halloween. The giant party is talked about and viewed by college students throughout North Carolina as ECU's version of Mardi Gras.

Naturally, people would expect those who hold such a reputation would be proficient at all things Halloween, and what could be more fundamental to the holiday than costumes? Whether you're drunk getting Tasered by police downtown or playing it safe at Mendenhall's Midnight Madness, you need to have a good costume.

Here is my personal breakdown of costumes. Experiencing my first Greenville Halloween last year, I fell into a bit of culture shock. There were your traditional Halloween ghouls, ghost and reapers, and the comical superheroes and cartoon characters, but what caught my attention most were the sleazy and perverted costumes.

Albeit some of these costumes are funny, I find that more and more of the costumes are just in bad taste. For example, I've seen a human breathalyzer machine in which the breath tube is placed just below the belt and a full-on costume as a penis. Really?

I realize this is a fun-loving holiday where people just let it go, but for me there's a point where it crosses from edgy to disgusting.

The perverted costumes are not the only ones out there. In large part what makes up the majority of the Halloween costumes are risqué female outfits. Browsing through one of the Halloween stores



MATT SHAPIRO | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

COSTUMES page A5

## Apple unveils new



HANDOUT

## iPod nano

Tucker Middleton  
STAFF WRITER

Music lovers need look no further than their local Apple store for their dream gadget: The new iPod nano has arrived.

Apple first came out with the nano in September of 2005. Over the past four years, the company has released new and upgraded

IPOD page A6



Ronald E. Dowdy  
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**IPOD** continued from A5

models of the nano each September. In the past, most of the changes to the nano have been aesthetic — the second release of the nano upgraded the body material from plastic to a more durable aluminum casing. Each new generation has also included a larger screen for more vivid graphics and video playback.

The newest nano comes with big changes in functioning and accessory tools, unlike its predecessors. A video camera has been added, so iPod owners can now both watch and shoot video using a device weighing only 1.28 ounces.

The nano also comes with a built-in pedometer and an FM radio, something iPod fans have long been clamoring for. The new and improved nano comes in nine colors and is priced at \$149 for 8 GB of memory and \$179 for 16 GB.

**WTF** continued from A6

Apparently, these Reptilians have been taking the form of royal and powerful families since the British Empire began. David Icke said they had the divine bloodlines of kings and reptilian "gods," and the bloodline became a hybrid. These bloodlines run through the veins of all royalty and all the presidents of the United States.

Whoa, WHO?! Icke said that former President George H.W. Bush was a Reptoid, and this is why his son took office in 2000.

The belief is that most, if not all, individuals with any strong political power, including Al Gore and Dick Cheney, are Reptilians. the Garden of Eden.

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**JENNIFER'S BODY** continued from A5

formulate a plan to stop her, this movie begins to feel extremely long.

However, a fortunate surprise was the fact that the acting in Jennifer's Body was not horrific. Fox plays her part extremely well, being that she is basically playing herself (minus the possessed part).

Seyfried stood unpredictably well against Fox by creating a

relatable character that viewers could feel sympathy for. Regardless, the above average acting would not be enough of a motivating factor to see this movie again.

The largest disappointment was that this movie is nothing it claims to be. It is definitely not scary enough (or really at all) to be considered a horror flick, and while there are a few witty lines in the script, it's absolutely not

funny enough to be thought of as a comedy.

This movie was also considered a thriller and unfortunately the most thrilling part of this movie was when it ended.

So if moviegoers are looking to see Megan Fox prance around on the big screen, Jennifer's Body is the movie to choose. Otherwise, wait and catch Jennifer's Body when it hits DVD.

**COSTUMES** continued from A6

in town, I noticed how sleazy the majority of the female costumes were. Not that I think the ECU female population should be covered from head to toe, but I feel that some of the costumes were no more than VERY expensive lingerie.

Not to mention it's one day short of November and you're wearing practically nothing in public.

I suppose as a taken man I look at this from a minority opinion, but I find these costumes to be

inappropriate and would not want my girlfriend wearing something so sleazy.

It's completely old fashioned, but I also believe in leaving something to the imagination.

Besides the inappropriate costumes, the couple ones just makes me laugh. Everyone has seen the couple costumes: Doctor and Nurse, Lock and Key, Dead Bride and Groom.

Ironically, I am guilty of this costume category; it's corny but it's always a popular site on Halloween.

In my opinion, the best costumes are the ones that are homemade. First off, I envy these people for their creativity — these people have costume making down to an artistic science. Secondly, the homemade costume makers' ability to save money while still having a great costume makes this category my favorite.

I hope you as a reader take this purely as my personal opinion, and no matter what category you fit into, have a safe, fun Halloween.

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**ARIES** (March 21-April 20)  
Home disputes and family discussions may this week require delicate timing. Loved ones will now request public loyalty concerning group plans or social promises. Dramatic moments, although eventually helpful, will be unavoidable. Remain diplomatic.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 20)  
A workplace battle of wills may be on the agenda this week. Before Thursday expect rare ultimatums and inappropriate comments from older colleagues. Egos are easily bruised over the next few days. Avoid acting as mediator and refuse to be drained by petty differences.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21)  
Potential lovers may now seek public affection or romantic promises. In the coming weeks new love affairs will rapidly expand to include revised social celebrations or new home routines. After mid-week friends may probe for private details. Remain silent: this is not the right time to reveal personal hopes, dreams or desires.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22)  
Late Tuesday a friend may reveal an unexpected social or romantic problem. Unethical attractions or new forms of sensuality may be on the agenda. Be supportive but stress underlying emotional consequences. Reliable guidance may be needed.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
Group alliances may be disrupted this week by sudden disagreements. Long-term friends may now openly question the romantic ethics or social sensitivities of others. Wait for clarity: this week disputes will be brief but extremely irrational.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
Short-term finances will require creative planning over the next few days. Although resources may be limited, special purchases or property contracts are now highly favorable. Propose new ideas to loved ones and expect concrete, timely answers.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)  
Business colleagues and older officials may this week rely on your expertise. Past experience, public reputation and the ability to lead will now create new job openings. In the coming weeks co-workers may ask for guidance and new direction.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)  
Distant or forgotten friendships may reappear over the next six days. Scorpios born after 1973 will now return to old relationships in order to properly resolve outstanding emotions. Study complex memories and repeated family patterns for valuable clues.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)  
Seniority and workplace respect may be a delicate issue this week. After Tuesday expect previously reluctant or reserved colleagues to express strong opinions and ask for greater authority. Welcome all improvements and expect new roles to soon bring clarity to group relations.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)  
Authority figures will this week be easily dissuaded from new ideas. Competing instructions from managers or unusual disagreements between colleagues may be an ongoing problem. Although new business ventures are promising, expect long-term projects to be postponed.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)  
Love relationships will now experience a wave of nostalgia. Over the next five days expect loved ones to reflect on recent romantic or family breakthroughs. Honesty and acceptance are a continuing theme this week. Use this time to explore new levels of emotional intimacy and expect others to be genuinely supportive.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20)  
Financial proposals will now be easily accepted or approved. This week is an excellent time to plan revised strategies and submit new applications. In the coming weeks workplace and money advancements will facilitate creative home business opportunities. Stay alert to new ideas.



**Vivian Stockton**  
SEX AND RELATIONSHIP COLUMNIST

## 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

# Are there really any benefits?

With classes, homework, studying and other commitments, you've decided you don't have time for a relationship. But you're a hot-blooded man or woman and you still have needs, so you figure that the next best thing is a friend with benefits!

No strings attached. No real talk. Just straight humping.

Sounds ideal for the college student on the go, right? However, results from a study conducted by Michigan State University communication professor, Tim Levine, and former graduate student, Melissa Bisson, showed the opposite.

The study consisted of 125 MSU students and found that 60 percent of them had at least one friend with benefits.

Of these students who had a friend-with-benefits relationship, it was found that less than 10 percent of these relationships moved on to become real romances; one-third ended the sex but remained friends; and one in four decided to end both the sex and the friendship.

The research suggests that the

primary reason for the dissolution of most friends-with-benefits relationships is due to a lack of communication. According to Levine, romantic relationships between college students often lack a lot of talking, and friends with benefits tend to have even less.

A fundamental key to a working relationship is communication, and whether one wants to admit it or not, having sex on a regular basis with a specific person is a type of relationship. You may not be officially dating, but questions are still going to arise and often times these questions will go unnoticed in a friends-with-benefits relationship, leading to ambiguity and unhappiness for one or both members of the supposed non-relationship.

The MSU study showed that the perk felt by participants of friends-with-benefits relationships is, "You get to have sex with no strings attached," but the drawback is, "One usually wants to be more than just friends."

Bisson stated, "There is a struggle in these relationships and it becomes evident that this relationship is not 'fool proof' regarding

attachment and commitment."

So when you decide you want more from your friend with benefits but you don't want to break the rules by asking for romance, you will probably become very dissatisfied with the lack of emotional intimacy. Or let's say you do mention taking your relationship to the next level and your friend with benefits isn't keen on the idea -- you just ruined the no-strings-attached clause for him and now both of you are unhappy with the relationship completely.

And let's be honest, doesn't someone always become attached?

For a woman, the likelihood of becoming attached to your friend with benefits is rather high. When women have sex, they release oxytocin, a hormone that gives you not only a euphoric and relaxing feeling but also a bonding feeling toward your partner. So in your battle to remain emotionally uninvolved, you may not be able to resist falling head over heels.

And while men don't fall victim of a hormone that increases the chance of them becoming emotionally attached simply from having

sex, I think men can be just as bad at dealing with the rules of friends-with-benefits relationships as women. In terms of gender roles, men tend to be more egotistical and territorial, so it stands to reason that he wouldn't want his friend with benefits to be interested or involved with anyone else.

I was propositioned to enter a friends-with-benefits relationship with a Zack Braff lookalike, so I of course jumped at the opportunity and ended up being a silly girl and falling for him. Things ended because I couldn't handle not being more -- we even tried the whole boyfriend-girlfriend thing and failed miserably within a week's time. I randomly ran into him downtown months after we stopped talking altogether and I ventured out and asked him why he didn't like me as I had liked him. He told me it was because he felt like he didn't really know me, and he was right. When we were together, we weren't talking about us or getting to know each other, we were hanging out with friends or getting down to business. Now that I look back on it, I'd like to plea temporary insanity

from too much oxytocin.

Sex changes everything, especially friendships. And a friends-with-benefits relationship can cause a lot more damage than you ever intended. You are at your most vulnerable state when you have sex with someone, which makes it very difficult not to blur the lines of friendship.

It's important to acknowledge the fact that these relationships rarely work out and continuing a friendship with someone who has experienced you carnally may be extremely hard.

Before you enter one of these agreements, you need to make sure that all terms are explicitly stated -- like in a contract. Make sure to be honest and open about your feelings; it might be good to even have a no-hard-feelings, easy-out clause.

When you enter a friends-with-benefits relationship, try to keep sight of the friendship as much as possible, instead of getting wrapped up in what are probably false feelings. And if you can't handle that, then steer clear of this completely because it's obviously not an arrangement made for you.

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

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Addison Harvey



### Score in the red zone:

The Pirates' offense has been anemic in the red zone thus far this season. Once inside the 20-yard line, ECU has turned the ball over and had to settle for field goals more times than it has scored touchdowns. If the Pirates are going to be successful on Saturday they have to score touchdowns when they get to the red zone.

### Contain Darius Marshall:

Marshall running back Darius Marshall ran all over Memphis last week for 203 yards. The Pirates' defense is going to have to step up on Saturday and slow down the speedy junior running back.

### Win the turnover battle:

UCF turned the ball over six times last week while the Pirates only coughed up the ball twice. If ECU can prevent turning the ball over and create turnovers on defense they will be successful in their second conference matchup.



### Pressure Patrick Pinkney:

The Pirates signal caller was able to pick apart UCF's defense last weekend throwing for 293 yards. Marshall's defense has got to pressure Pinkney and force him to make bad decisions if they are going to edge the Pirates.

### Create big plays:

The Pirates have been vulnerable to the deep ball their last three games. The Thundering Herd needs to try and stretch the field and create big plays to get their offense going on Saturday.

### Establish the run:

The Thundering Herd's strength this season has been their stellar running game. Marshall has rushed for 687 yards this year and they need to try and establish the run early verse a stout Pirate defense.

### Varner leads Pirates at VCU Shootout:

ECU sophomore Harold Varner carded a one-under 71 in the final round to finish in a six-way tie for fourth place at the VCU Shootout at Hermitage Country Club Tuesday. Varner was one of only seven players to shoot under-par during Tuesday's final round to earn the first top five finish of his collegiate career. ECU had three additional players conclude the event in the top 50 individually with David Watkins finishing the event in a tie for 20th place with a three-round tally of four-over and Conner Sock finish with a six-over to place 30th. Adam Stephenson shot par through the first two rounds before carding a nine-over Tuesday to finish in 45th place.

## Pirates looking to corral the Thundering Herd

ECU hopes second trip to West Virginia is successful

John Gage  
STAFF WRITER

Coming on the heels of a 19-14 victory over Central Florida in its Conference USA opener last Saturday, ECU is set to travel to Huntington, W.Va. to take on the Thundering Herd of Marshall.

The Pirates are 2-2 overall and 1-0 in the conference with their losses coming against West Virginia and UNC.

Marshall is 3-1 overall and 1-0 in the conference with their only loss coming at the hands of Virginia Tech.

The two teams have built up a bit of a rivalry over the years and there is certainly history between them.

In 2001, the two foes squared off in the GMAC Bowl with future NFL quarterbacks Byron Leftwich and David Garrard, producing a scoreboard-shattering 125 combined points and an astounding 1,141 combined yards of total offense in a 64-61 Thundering Herd double-overtime win.

There is also the tragic 1970 plane crash, which occurred following a game between the two in Greenville and was recently the basis of the film "We Are Marshall."

The Herd is a team in search of a resurgence of sorts.

A once-proud football program, Marshall has seen its success fall off in the past couple of years. This year's Marshall team possesses the talent to turn that around. They were impressive in their victory over Memphis last weekend, and come into the game with some momentum.

"They're playing with an awful lot of confidence," ECU head coach Skip Holtz said.



ECU's Scotty Robinson prepares to tackle Central Florida's Kamar Aiken in a 19-14 Pirate victory. After suffering two-straight losses prior to the win, the Pirate defense took some heat but responded with a valiant effort last Saturday.

A lot of that confidence comes in the form of junior running back Darius Marshall, a talented and speedy back that is averaging 7.9 yards per carry and 166 yards a game.

He has also managed to reel off a 60-plus yard run in every game he has played in this season. Containing Darius Marshall will be the most crucial key to the Pirates getting a victory on Saturday.

"We can't let him get a home run," ECU defensive coordinator Greg Hudson said. "He's a lot like (West Virginia running back) Noel Devine in his ability to take it to the house."

The Marshall offense also features a versatile and talented tight end in Cody Slate. Slate has

taken some snaps out of the wildcat formation and is a dangerous threat in the red zone.

The Herd's offensive line possesses great size and does a good job creating holes for the rushing attack.

Their weakness at this point is at the quarterback and receiving positions.

The Pirate defense, which had been getting some heat for their inability to prevent big plays and bring the quarterback down, seemed to get back on track against Central Florida last Saturday.

ECU returned to the ball-hawking ways that brought them so much success last season, forcing four interceptions.

The Pirate defensive line has

the talent to contain Marshall, but will have to get solid tackling performances from the linebackers and secondary.

Both have had trouble wrapping up in the open field this season.

ECU will also have to continue to create turnovers and contain the receivers as the Pirates are at its best when the secondary is locking down the receivers and the line is able to pin their ears back and get to the quarterback.

After much scrutiny over their second-half offense this season, the Pirates finally notched that elusive second half touchdown that has been evading them this season on a touchdown pass from Patrick Pinkney to Dwayne Harris in the

third quarter of last week's contest against the Knights.

With that being said, the Pirates will have to continue to get better in the red zone, an area they have struggled mightily in this season.

"That is the thing we have to shore up right now," Holtz said of the red zone offense. For the offense to be successful, they will continue to get the ball to versatile receiver Harris in a variety of ways.

"He's (Harris) a special player," said Holtz. "You put the ball in his hands and he's going to make some things happen."

Harris, a former high school

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Seniors Melissa Zentner (left) and Hannah Fenker (right) bark out instructions in Tuesday night's 3-2 victory over UNCW.

## Seniors propel ECU past UNCW, 3-2

### Staff Reports

Down 2-1 in the match, the ECU volleyball team regrouped and rallied past UNC Wilmington, 3-2, on Tuesday night at Minges Coliseum in a non-conference contest.

The Pirates rise to 8-7 overall while the Seahawks are now 9-8 in 2009.

The home team kept two streaks alive with the win, as ECU has beaten UNCW in 13-straight meetings while also extending its midweek winning streak to 15, dating back to the 2004 season.

Seniors Melissa Zentner and Hannah Fenker were two major contributors to the triumph, as each set a new career-high mark.

Zentner put down 25 kills, smashing her previous best of 16 against UAB in 2008, while Fenker distributed 68 assists, topping the 59 she recorded against UNC Greensboro last season.

Additionally, with 17 kills, senior Stephanie Turner moved into 10th on the program career ledger, now owning 862.

"Producing 68 assists is a lot for a setter, but the match did go five sets," Fenker said. "We received some great passing and stellar defense that allowed me to set some good balls to our outsides and middles."

Zentner got things going for the home side with two quick kills as part of a 3-0 match-open-

ing run. The Pirates would stretch the lead to 6-1 before UNCW rallied to tie the frame at 10.

ECU would then respond with a 4-1 run, putting itself up 14-11. That three-point cushion held most of the way through until a Rachel Caricato kill evened the scoreline at 20. After the Pirates built a 23-21 advantage, the Seahawks made it interesting by scoring two of the next three points, cutting the deficit to 24-23, but Turner ended the interval with a kill to put her team ahead 1-0.

The Pirates built leads of 6-0 and 8-2 to start the second set, but UNCW had the answer, eventually tying the frame at 10. After stalemates at points 16 through 21, the Seahawks established some breathing room at 23-21 and matched ECU point-for-point to even the contest with a 25-23 victory.

As in the first two frames, the teams caught up with each other at 10-10. Holding a 16-14 lead on a kill by Lizzy Bruin, ECU could not hold off UNCW's 3-0 run and found itself down a point. Service errors began to plague the Pirate cause, as they committed four in the last 15 rallies, allowing the Seahawks to take a 25-23 win and the contest lead at 2-1.

UNCW jumped ahead by two points at 11-9 in the fourth interval, but four-straight points

by ECU forced the visitors to take a timeout. The respite proved ineffective, as the Pirates scored on four consecutive rallies to build a 16-12 lead it would not relinquish. ECU out-scored the Seahawks 9-5 the rest of the way to cruise to a 25-17 margin of victory and force a deciding set for the second time this season.

"Halfway through the fourth set, we just decided to pick things up," Fenker stated. "There is only so much Coach [Pati] Rolf can do on the sidelines to get us going. We had to share in that responsibility. It had to be up to us to bear down and play the way we are capable of."

It was tense start to the fifth frame, as the squads matched each other all the way to 5-5. A kill by Turner and a UNCW attack error gave the Pirates their first two-point lead of the set, and they would keep that advantage at 8-6 as the teams traded benches. ECU then scored two-straight points to go up 10-6, and would allow the Seahawks to cut the deficit to two with a pair of kills. However, UNCW would not score again, as three kills and a block helped seal the comeback.

The Pirates jump back into C-USA play this weekend, traveling to SMU and Tulsa for a pair of matches.

## Redemptive year for Vick

Alex Serkes  
STAFF WRITER

It was 1999 and with the weight of the world on his shoulders the then 19-year-old freshman Michael Vick stared at the huge jumbotron at the back of the end zone in the enormous Superdome.

The clock read one minute and 21 seconds as Virginia Tech trailed Florida State 46-29.

Vick knew in the back of his mind while muting out the 79,000 fans that he had done his best to rally his team back from a 21-point deficit earlier in the game.

The play is called, the ball was hiked, and Vick is sacked on fourth down.

The play lasts all of 9 seconds; Michael looks at the end zone again, 1:12. I

It was this year, the 1999 college football season in which Vick led his Hokies to an 11-0 regular season mark and a trip to the BCS National Championship in New Orleans.

A year and three months later, Vick was selected the number one overall pick in the 2001 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons.

Though it wasn't just NFL coaches drooling over the 6'1" QB prospect who could run a 4.3 40 and chunk the ball 80 yards.

Three pro bowls, 11,505 passing yards and 3,780 rushing yards later (not to mention an NFC championship game appearance), Vick was on top of the sporting world.

Life would however change for the awe-inspiring Vick in a whirlwind of controversy.

As the tale is infamously told over and over again, in 2007 the federal government indicted the 27-year-old Michael Vick on dog fighting charges due to his involvement in a dog-fighting ring that took place on a property owned by Vick in Surry County, Virginia.

Just as many athletes and celebrities of our time do when faced with a legal situation - Vick lied.

Vick initially denied allegations of being knowingly aware of and involved in the said ring named "Bad Newz Kennels."

He even had the nerve to falsely tell the NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, behind closed doors, that he took no part in the ring his lifelong friends operated.

A series of unfortunate



Seen here practicing, Michael Vick has gone from prison to a halfway home to becoming a Philadelphia Eagle in the last few years.

events for Vick would soon unravel and reveal him for what he truly was and what he truly had done.

"I did it all, I did everything, if you need me to say more, I'll say more," Vick once stated.

Now lets fast forward two-years later, through countless E:60 interviews and SportsCenter "breaking news" reports on the matter, and most importantly, two Vickless seasons of the NFL.

In July of this year the NFL considered Vick for full reinstatement and in late August, Roger Goodell gave granted this wish.

Vick received full reinstatement, however he had to serve a three-week suspension for the 2009 season.

In a press conference interview after signing with the Philadelphia Eagles, Vick said that he had "changed" and that the life and friends, who were the cause of his imprisonment, he once had were cast away forever.

Under the tutelage of his new mentor, former Indianapolis Colts and future Hall of Fame coach Tony Dungy along with a little support from the city of brotherly love, I do believe Vick has changed.

The superstar we once new who brought a new breed and era to the quarterback position has been scrutinized enough, has served his time, and I firmly believe now deserves to return to his job.

Why shouldn't he?

Other league stars have had run ins with the law countless times, a la Ray Lewis allegedly stabbing a man in a Baltimore night club, Adam Jones "making it rain" in a Vegas nightclub which led to a string of fatal injuries, and that of most recent Donte Stallworth who killed,

VICK page A9

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## VICK continued from A8

let me repeat, killed a pedestrian while driving drunk and high (he received a two month jail sentence where he got off in 29 days).

Killing dogs is horrible and jaw wrenching enough, but can't the same be said for humans as well? I think so.

The main question, however, on Vick's return is how will he be incorporated in a teams offense?

With the rebirth of the highly touted Wildcat formation, critics seem to say that he will have the biggest impact on this new factor of the game. I think otherwise. The wildcat offense is one that is ran seldom in a game, one main reason because teams adapt to it.

A few plays can do wonders, but use it too much and it can be

cancerous.

While I believe Vick still has the same cannon arm, the same lightning burst type speed, and the same driving fire to play the game, he must sit back and wait for his moment to shine.

Vick will be introduced in several offensive packages, where we could most likely see him at running back, wide receiver and of course at the quarterback position.

There's no doubt he will have an impact on any teams offense, the question is inevitably how and when.

Last weekend in his first game since being reinstated, Vick lined up in a variety of positions but didn't really make a huge difference factor in the Eagles' game against the Kansas City Chiefs.

While Eagles' quarterback Donovan McNabb has sat out the last two weeks after suffering a few broken ribs, Kevin Kolb has taken over as Philly's signal caller.

But that doesn't matter to Vick who has overcome plenty of adversity in the past few years and battled back to have a fighting chance at one day returning as a starting quarterback.

Vick's recognition on the field must still be fought for, but I believe that his battle for redemption is one he has already won. No MVP, Conference Championship or Super Bowl ring could be better than that.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

## MARSHALL continued from A8

quarterback, has been used in a Wildcat package that has produced two rushing touchdowns in the last two games.

He also is the team's top receiving threat, producing 121 yards receiving last week. The Pirates will also continue to get the ball to Brandon Jackson in the running game.

Jackson has shown the potential to be a key playmaker out of the backfield for the Pirates.

The Herd's defense features

one of the better defensive ends in the country in Albert McClellan, a former Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year.

They also have a very good middlelinebacker in Mario Harvey who is a solid hitter and sure tackler.

The Herd's secondary is not spectacular but it is solid.

The Pirates will have to get better in red zone situations and get production out of their receivers to have success in this game.

"Our confidence level is high

right now," Harris said. "We have a lot of playmakers we can get the ball to."

With both teams coming off wins in their conference openers, there is no reason not to think that this will not be a close game that could come down to which team turns the ball over the least.

Expect another good game in this budding rivalry come noon on Saturday.

This writer can be contacted at

# What is Pulse?

Pulse is a special section inserted into newspapers on:

- October 1
- November 5
- January 14
- February 4
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A10

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