

OPINION: I think the body fat test was rigged so you'll come to the REC more
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FEATURES: The Pirate Tutoring Center offers help to any student in need. Find out more in features.
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SPORTS: The Lady Pirate basketball team had a shot at history this past weekend. Turn to sports to find out if ECU could accomplish it.
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BRIEFS

FAFSA February program clarifies paperwork

Staff Reports

With 18 million students eagerly awaiting the decision regarding their financial aid, Sallie Mae has decided to host a "FAFSA February" public service campaign to aid students in filling out an often confusing and stressful application.

At SallieMae.com/FAFSA, students can watch video tutorials that aid them and their parents in filling out the proper forms and answering common questions. Free tips and suggestions can also be downloaded.

Barbara O'Brien, Sallie Mae's director of high school outreach, clarified, "A common misconception about financial aid is that only certain students qualify," she said. "In reality, virtually every U.S. citizen attending an accredited college is eligible for some kind of financial aid — a grant or a low-cost student loan — you just have to apply for it."

On Feb. 11, from 9 to 10 p.m., experts will be available on the Web site to answer questions in a live chat format.

In order to bring students to the Web site, FAFSA is sponsoring a \$10,000 giveaway. By visiting the FAFSA February Resource Center, students can sign up to win. Gold medalists will receive \$6,000, Silver will receive \$3,000 and the Bronze winner will take home \$1,000.

Hilary Richards, part of the Glover Park Group, said, "Applying for student aid can feel overwhelming and complicated. The first deadlines for submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) — the first step to getting students the aid they need for school — are right around the corner.

"Properly filling out the FAFSA cannot only help students plan financially for coming school years costs, but can also make sure they're at the front of the line for some first-come, first-serve student aid," she said.

Lambda Chi loses standing

Staff Reports

Last week, the Lambda Chi Alpha's ECU chapter, locally founded in 1958, was removed from its standing on campus.

Keith Tingley, assistant director of Greek life, clarified by saying, "It was a national decision."

He added, "The university, the Alumni Association and the Interfraternity Council are working together with the chapter on a return date."

Typically, officials wait at least four years before bringing a fraternity back to campus.

Look for a follow-up story in the Feb. 4 edition.

Student immunization clinic held

Staff Reports

Students needing Tetanus/Tdap or MMR shots for enrollment purposes, or any students needing a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test, may walk in at Student Health Services for these immunizations.

No advance appointments are needed as the clinic is first come first serve.

Those receiving the immunizations should be forewarned of a possible 30-45 minute wait.

All other routine immunizations (Hepatitis, Meningitis, Varicella, Gardisil, H1N1, Seasonal Flu, pneumococcal) should continue to schedule an appointment by calling 252-328-6841.

The clinic hours are from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. from Feb. 2 to Feb. 12.

WEB POLL

HAVE YOU USED THE TUTORING CENTER?

YES

NO

Check out twitter.com/ecunews and our fan page on facebook.



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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Snowy weekend relatively tame



REBECCA HARTMAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Freshman accounting major Monique Lagevin and sophomore elementary education major Danielle Carlsen have some fun playing in the snow together.

Cassie McLean

ASSISTANT EDITOR

ECU students enjoyed a winter wonderland this weekend, as they set out to enjoy the snow that fell late Friday night.

According to news channel WITN, ECU received 3.5 inches — just enough to make the travel difficult and the outdoors fun.

Despite being the first snow of the winter for Eastern North Carolina, it did not seem to stir up the excitement it did this time last year. Many students confessed to using the weekend as simply a means to catch up on their schoolwork ... and relaxation.

Megan Murdock, a sophomore at ECU, spent her day in her apartment at The Landing.

"When I woke up Saturday morning to sleet and just a little bit of snow on the ground, I had no interest in going outside," she said.

She explained what she did instead, which seemed to parallel the days of most students. "It turned out to be the perfect lazy day," she said. "A friend and I ate homemade chili, studied for an upcoming test and watched TV for most of the day."

Murdock said, chuckling, that the day was a rare opportunity to "read something other than a textbook"

Devon Falls, a junior at ECU, said his weekend was fairly tame as well. He did, however, brave the cold and try to enjoy some of the snow ... once it was ice.

"Me and my friends saw the snow, which had turned to ice by



RUSSELL CLARK | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Sledding in the grass pit between 4th and 5th Street, enjoying the snow day.

this point, and decided to act like essentially barbarians. We were throwing it around, breaking it, sliding and dancing on it in front of Clement," he said with a smile as he recollected on the fun.

Aside from the fun, though, Falls admits to using the weekend as a chance to play catch-up as well.

"I did get a lot of work done. I was definitely glad the library was open," he said.

It seems students played it safe this snowfall season — perhaps the memories of the last year are still fresh in students' minds. Last year, ECU made national

news when student Steven Bass was both tased and arrested for allegedly throwing a snowball at a police officer during a snowball fight on College Hill, involving more than 200 students.

This year, the environment around campus was jovial and calm, as most students seemed to be indoors keeping warm.

As a result of the remaining ice, ECU administration called for a two-hour delay on Monday, noting that classes starting before 10 a.m. were canceled. While some students, like Devon Falls, were surprised the school announced any delay at all, others had various

opinions.

Bernice Beasley, a junior at ECU, witnessed one student attempting to get to campus despite the slick roadways.

"I was on 11th Street near The Campus Store, and as I was crossing the road, I saw a Honda Civic break on a patch of ice. It caused her to slide toward several students who were just about to cross the sidewalk," she said. While no one was hurt, Beasley said, "Of course, the driver freaked."

As to whether the trek to make a 10 a.m. class was too early,

> SNOW page A2

Arts professor celebrates first published novel

Heather Dinwiddie
STAFF WRITER

On a hot summer day in 2008, while stuck in traffic on Fifth Street, ECU professor Gregory Funaro reverted back to fond childhood memories of his grandparents' pool in Rhode Island. It was then that he came up with an idea for a novel.

"I guess I started thinking about the pool because it was so hot that day," said Funaro. "There were statues around the pool and one of them was Michelangelo's 'David.' As a kid, I used to think they came alive at night."

With this memory, Funaro, an acting professor for ECU's School of Theatre and Dance, came up with the idea for his novel, "The Sculptor."

"The Sculptor' is about a serial killer who recreates Michelangelo's statues using dead bodies," said Funaro.

Funaro began writing the novel in the late summer to early fall of 2008. The novel was accepted by publisher Kensington/Pinnacle Books in January 2009. The official release date was Jan. 1, 2010.

While his novel was just released about a month ago, "The Sculptor" is not the first book he has written.

"The Sculptor' is my second novel, but my first to get published," said Funaro. "My literary agent sent it out in early January. From writing it to selling it on the shelves took it about a year and a half."

Funaro wrote the novel during anytime he could find. It took him about three months to complete the book.

As Funaro, who according to ECU's School of Theatre and Dance Web site teaches the two-year professional actor training sequence in Meisner Technique, went through the publication process, he also managed to keep up with his teaching career.

"Trying to balance a full-time



> FUNARO page A2

Joyner Library receives top marks

Tucker Middleton
STAFF WRITER

The Joyner Library 2009 Annual Report recently released by ECU shows that though the school budget may be taking some hits, the library has not only endured, but also grown in the past year. The report details student satisfaction with library facilities and provides information about new collections and programs the library is sponsoring.

The international survey LibQUAL+ was administered to ECU faculty and students, as well as to 120 other schools nationwide during the spring of 2009. ECU's rankings surpassed the national averages when judging library services, facilities and overall satisfaction of library visitors.

Joyner Library managed to not only surpass national standards of library quality, but also improved its own satisfaction ratings when judged against surveys taken in 2003. Since the 2003 surveys, Joyner Library has seen a significant increase in student and faculty satisfaction with the way they are treated at the library by employees. Numbers have also improved for faculty and students' opinions on the library's ability to meet teaching and research needs.

In response to the 2009 survey,

Joyner has furthered the growth and programs that have made them a success with students. They have added 29 student study rooms and six group study rooms. The library's first floor was redesigned to enhance student study activities, and the digital catalog was expanded to help students find the resources they need with greater ease. The programs implemented by the university have been popular with students, particularly those with a hands-on approach that seek to directly help students with their study needs.

Student study programs

Joyner has seen increased usage recently, due to services such as the writing and tutoring centers, which are housed on the library's first floor.

The Writing Center, which also has locations in the Bate, Flanagan and the Health Sciences buildings, serves as ECU's one-stop location for student writers who are attempting to polish papers or simply get ideas on how to make their writing stronger.

The center employs undergraduate and graduate students from a variety of majors who have excelled at writing and have an interest in helping their peers. Visitors have the opportunity to meet with a center employee one-

on-one for a 30-40 minute session to discuss ways to improve their writing. Students are even encouraged to bring a piece of writing they may be working on for a class. Though the tutor will not edit a student's work in entirety, they will provide helpful assistance that will help the student on future papers. The Writing Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays. Student sessions are confidential and all Writing Center services are provided to the entire student body, free of charge.

Another complimentary service provided is the popular Pirate Tutoring Center. The center provides a wide range of services to the ECU learning community, including private tutoring sessions and group study nights for individual subjects. Group sessions can even be catered to students of specific instructors or course sections, which may offer review sessions prior to exams.

Close proximity has allowed the writing and tutoring centers to collaborate on projects beneficial to the academic community. The centers team up every Tuesday and Wednesday for consultations.

Sophomore Abegayle Neri believes the academic centers are essential to the success of students. Their presence on campus eases



REBECCA HARTMAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Junior history major Ashton Godwin takes advantage of the study spaces provided in the library.

the stress of upcoming exams and paper due dates.

"Whenever I have a paper coming up or I am freaking out about a test, it's good to know there's help on campus," she said.

Neri said that the guidance she received from the Writing Center on a paper was particularly helpful. Neri had a topic but wasn't sure what direction she wanted to take the paper. The Writing Center tutor "helped me narrow my topic down so I could write a better paper. I ended up with an A."

Going Digital

The library has grown to be more than just a building full of books, though. Joyner has been adding to its digital collection since 2000, and users can now access nearly 11,000 primary sources online. One of the most recent collections added to the online catalog is the Daily Reflector image collection, "Seeds of Change." The collection chronicles

> JOYNER page A2

BRIEFS

SNOW

continued from A1

from Texas so I'm not used to the snow. We see it melting as soon as it hits the ground and we're excited."

She added, "Some students, particularly those off campus, may not have been comfortable in the snow and it may have been too early for them."

After a particularly mild winter, this may be the first and last snowy day students receive this season.

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

JOYNER

continued from A1

Greenville's rapidly changing physical and economic landscape from the era of Reconstruction until the 1970s.

The resources document Greenville's transition from an agricultural economy to a business-dominated one. According to history professor Christopher Oakley, the percentage of Greenville citizens tied to the agricultural community dropped from about 50 percent to 15 percent between the years of 1950 and 1970. The abandonment of a rural economy paved the way for the creation of the Brody School of Medicine, which opened its doors in 1977, and further growth and expansion of the university.

The "Seeds of Change" project serves as a valuable resource to the Greenville community. Aside from its educational purpose for ECU students who choose to access the material, it will serve as a tool for community members attempting to gain insight on what historical Greenville looked like. According to the Annual Report, real estate developers have used the images in the collection to recently revitalize Greenville's downtown, restoring buildings to their past structural design. The images will also be used for plans to renovate the State Theater.

The image collection can be accessed online at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/reflector>.

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

FUNARO

continued from A1

teaching profession with this budding career is stressful to meet deadlines, but it's rewarding," said Funaro. "I get the best of both worlds of my dream careers."

"The best of both worlds" in his careers began for him three years ago.

"I don't really know how [becoming a novelist] happened," said Funaro. "One day in the spring of 2007, I just started writing ideas for stories. My wife was a huge supporter of me and read my stuff and my Dad read my stuff also."

Funaro's wife also inspires his work.

"Other than the idea, the main character is based on my wife. The character's last name, Hildebrant, is my wife's maiden name," said Funaro.

Along with his inspiration, Funaro has some accomplishments in mind with his novel.

"I believe you should always write something you would want to read. I want to be entertaining," said Funaro. "They can maybe learn a little about Michelangelo. I just want to give people a good read."

The book can be found at any bookstore or online site such as Barnes and Noble, Borders and Amazon.com. A prequel to "The Sculptor" is expected to be released in January 2011.

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

CALENDAR EVENTS

Tuesday Feb. 2

Celebrating 250th Anniversary of Pitt County 7 p.m. at Joyner Library, Second Floor Exhibit Area Three exhibits celebrating the 250th anniversary of Pitt County will open Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. with a lecture by Roger Krammerer in the Joyner Library Second Floor Exhibit Area. The three exhibits are The Daily Reflector Image Collection, Pitt County Treasures from the North Carolina Collection and Pitt County 250th Anniversary Exhibit: From the Vaults of Special Collections. Sponsored by the J.Y. Joyner Library and the Pitt County Historical Society, which will provide refreshments. For more information, call 252-328-0252

Men's Basketball vs. UCF 7 p.m. Minges Coliseum

2010-2011 Online housing sign up 12 a.m. To get started, go to ECU OneStop. Under the Student Life section, select Campus Living-Housing to access 2010-2011 on-campus housing contract.

Immunization Clinic 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. No advance appointments necessary. These clinics are for students needing Tetanus/Tdap or MMR shots for enrollment purposes only and/or for any students needing a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test. All other routine immunizations (Hepatitis, Meningitis, Varicella, Gardisil, H1N1, Seasonal Flu, pneumococcal) should continue to schedule an appointment by calling 328-6841.

Wednesday Feb. 3

Cheaters 7-9 p.m. MSC Hendrix Theatre This program is brought to you by

Operation Freedom-NC The Eta Nu Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The Kappa Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The Theta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. This program is about the cause and effect on infidelity (cheating) in relationships. We will talk to people who have cheated in the past to find out why they did it. We will also explore the warning signs that "your" partner is cheating.

Thursday Feb. 4

Percussion Ensemble Concert 8-10 p.m. at Fleming Music Building Room B136

Immunization Clinic 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. No advance appointments necessary. These clinics are for students needing Tetanus/Tdap or MMR shots for enrollment purposes only and/or for any students needing a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test. All other routine immunizations (Hepatitis, Meningitis, Varicella, Gardisil, H1N1, Seasonal Flu, pneumococcal) should continue to schedule an appointment by calling 252-328-6841.

Friday Feb. 5

Sixth Annual Jean Mills Health Symposium: Race, Stress and Health 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Greenville Hilton, 207 Greenville Blvd., Greenville One day conference to bring attention to and seek solutions for health issues affecting African-Americans and Hispanics. Early registration by Jan. 30 is \$35 (student fee is \$20). Registration fee includes morning and afternoon refreshments, lunch and educational sessions. Continuing education units are available. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Sherman A. James, the

Susan B. King Professor of Public Policy Studies in the Terry Sanford Institute for Public Policy at Duke University. James' research focuses on the social determinants of racial and ethnic health inequalities and community-based and public policy interventions designed to minimize and ultimately eliminate inequalities.

Immunization Clinic 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. No advance appointments necessary. These clinics are for students needing Tetanus/Tdap or MMR shots for enrollment purposes only and/or for any students needing a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test. All other routine immunizations (Hepatitis, Meningitis, Varicella, Gardisil, H1N1, Seasonal Flu, pneumococcal) should continue to schedule by calling 252-328-6841.

Saturday Feb. 6

Men's Rugby vs. Wake Forest 1 p.m.

Baseball Purple/Gold Rose High School 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Beast of the East Tournament 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Great Decisions Program: Global Financial Crisis 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Rivers West Building Auditorium Feb. 6: Global Financial Crisis Speakers: Dr. Randall Parker, Department of Economics, East Carolina University The global financial crisis that began in late 2007 revealed major deficiencies in the regulation of markets and institutions — all of which came perilously close to collapse. How will governments and the world community respond to this challenge?

Swimming and Diving vs. William & Mary 1 p.m.

ECU hosts the 10th Annual "Meet the Pirates" luncheon 11 a.m. at the Murphy Center's Harvey Banquet Hall "Meet the Pirates" offers fans a chance to get autographs and photos of the ECU baseball team and fifth-year head coach Billy Godwin, as well as enjoy a catered lunch with the Pirate coaches and players. A limited number of tickets are available at \$10

for adults, \$5 for children (12 and under), and \$5 for ECU students (with valid One Card) and advance reservations are required. Reservations will be accepted through 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 1. Fans can reserve their seats by ordering online at www.ECUPirates.com or by calling the Athletic Ticket Office at 252-737-4500.

Sunday Feb. 7

Baseball Purple/Gold Rose HS Noon

Beast of the East Tournament 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday Feb. 8

Immunization Clinic 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Walk-in basis. These clinics are for students needing Tetanus/Tdap or MMR shots for enrollment purposes only and/or for any students needing a PPD (tuberculosis) skin test. All other routine immunizations should continue to schedule an appointment by calling 252-328-6841.

Restaurant Runners

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

To the girl who ran next to me for 30 minutes at Pirates Place: You're hoOT. Same time next Wednesday?

Rinse and Repeat.

To the adorable ROTC guy in the Galley: You made my day! I just wish I hadn't just worked out so I could have talked to you.

No I don't drive the bus...But to all of you who love to complain about how the ECU Transit bus drivers drive: You try driving a 20 ton bus filled with loud college students and tell me how easy it is.

To the person hating on music majors: Keep your ignorant mouth shut. That's all.

It is totally right that your first two years at college you feel like only partying!

I need a self-help book called: Ways to Get Rid of Your Disgusting Roommate.

It's not for single people anymore, I have a boyfriend and I hate Valentine's Day.

I think the body fat test was rigged so you'll come to the REC more.

To the guy I met while listening to crazy preacher man: You're cute. Find me :)

You're a Debbie Downer and the Karen of the group. No one here likes you. That's why the laughing stops when you walk up. Get a hint.

I am a pirate that is now at App State for grad school...Its truly said how horrible this people party...I miss penny liquor.

Studying to save lives isn't the same thing as saving lives; helping drug-dependent teens to work through their addictions with music IS the same thing as helping drug-dependent teens to work through their addictions with music. My major is hard.

Who made dressing like a douche mandatory in fraternities?

to my RA in CHS that thinks he is God, your actually a Nazi

I know you're interested, or at least I think you are. Go ahead and make the first move, it shouldn't always be the guys job.

I have a bet going that you two will hook up at least twice next year....dont dissapoint me, I'll use the money to make you dinner every full moon

I don't think it appropriate when you sleep with two guys a week after you break up with your boyfriend then tell us that we'll never find a good girl like you...you my dear are a skank so dont blame it all on me

Is it ok to tell someone that whenever they are not around there's no drama?

hey, ecu. FYI: clearing a space thats only as wide as a shovel on a side walk that is 5 feet wide does not count as SAFE!... way to F it up ecu..

To the guy in my chemistry class who wore metal cleats to class on Monday..YOU ARE MY HERO! :)

It's usually a good idea to get all the snow off you car before you drive it...otherwise chunks of ice wouldn't fly into my car as you are in front of me.

My roommate and I have discovered that our life talks are too good to keep among us and facebook. Is the East Carolinian interested in a new column?

To the cute new guy in the Bate career services office, I think I'm going to be needing a lot of help with my resume this semester.

I feel like my life is like Sam's Club. There's not a big men's dept there, people can only buy in bulk -it's all or nothing, the strangest things are found together there -like Salami and iPod's?, and there are always free samples given out. And to top it all off, people usually leave to find something better at a different store.

I am confused...why is it that Pitt County Schools are closed Monday, but we still have class? This blows.

Your legs, they're orange, they look like cheesy puffs!!

I want to give my new neighbor the best "welcome to the neighborhood" present he will ever receive. :)

To the girl in my Biology class at 9am, we don't care if you look "rough" and stop arguing with someone when you tell them to be honest about your mascara, no one wants to hear your fake, annoying voice that you think sounds cute!

Who else is pissed that it didn't snow during the week so that we could get a few days off of school?

Just because you are in the marines does not mean that the whole world owes you something douche bag!

As soon as people see snow they forget how to drive.

To the fat girl in the dining hall tonight, no one wants to take a picture of you and put it as their profile pic on facebook. P.S.- There are better ways to get attention.

You were a 10 until you took off your pants..then you were a 4...literally.

It's nice to read the pirate rants you write and know you're always thinking about me. But I really wish you would stop lying, so we can finally pursue this almost relationship we're having.

Yuck butt sex. If my boyfriend asked for that I would swear he was gay, tell him to get out and show him the front door.

I love sister bonding week with my ESA girlS!!

Queue the impatience



Leila Falls
OPINION COLUMNIST

"What can I get you, honey?"
"I'll have a... err... umm... just coffee!"

A few days ago, I experienced a socially awkward attack at the Java City. I always get a fancy drink that involves caramel or a seasonal spice, but I ordered straight-up coffee? I do have my awkward moments, but never when ordering a drink. After I looked down at my bitter coffee, I contemplated whether to drink it or give it away to someone I knew who had old-man tendencies. I kept thinking to myself how my new dilemma was even possible. What was my problem anyway? Why did I order that nastiness? After a few minutes of looking like a nutcase staring at a paper cup, I realized why I was being such a freako.

All around me were herds of people. Then I remembered the days when there was a much smaller student body. Yes, I know having a lot of people around is good for the school both monetarily and socially. However, sometimes it can get nauseating. For example, you can't turn around for a second or else you would accidentally be all up in someone else's Kool Aid. The return of Chick-fil-A has made it quite clear to me that people don't mind breathing down your neck or stepping on you to fulfill their withdrawal craving.

I'm aware that it is a dog-eat-dog world out there, but some people need to calm down. I witnessed a tiny girl get plowed out of the line at Dowdy by a guy with the legs of a gazelle. That gazelle did not even apologize for being a jerk! I know how people get when they're hungry or in need of coffee, but this is

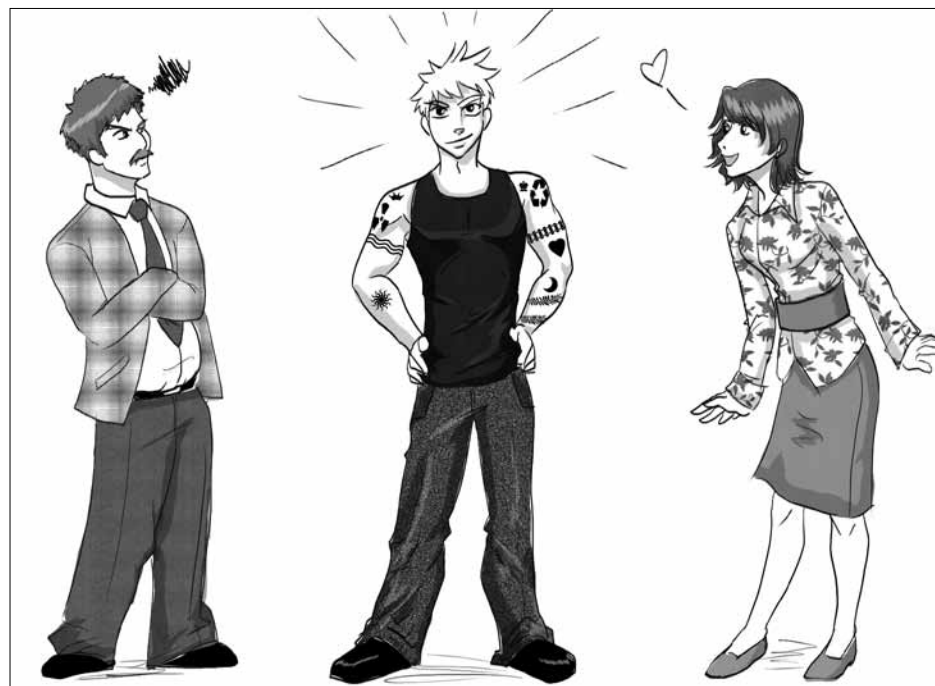
not a New York Starbucks.

Being on campus is like hitting rush-hour traffic sometimes. Even though it is chaotic, people need to show some common decency in line. I'm not innocent either -- I've been found guilty of pulling the sigh multiple times until snail-boy moves out of the way. But in reality, being overly aggressive and grumpy is not going to help make the drink ready faster. Those people working at Java City must be overloaded, especially when it comes time for the 12 o'clock crowd; they don't need to hear someone whine.

Sometimes waiting in line can be a drama. I once heard a guy complain about not getting enough caramel on his Javalanche. Okay, caramel is delicious -- but really? What's my take on this? How is the line traffic going to be reduced on campus? I'm not Captain Planet, so I technically can't do anything about it. It is not like the excess people can be tricked into hanging out in the Dowdy basement until traffic dies down.

Lines are painful. Try waiting in line for Apollo's Chariot forever to find out the ride shut down. Oh, sorry that lady in front of you got the last bit of syrup for the Rose Mocha, which is no longer on the menu. Yes, he just won a free two-liter Coke because he's the 100th customer today. That kid just cut you in line because he used his razor-sharp elbows as a weapon. Stand your ground; don't let people pressure or literally walk all over you -- especially while you're in line. The impatient, Doritos-breath grump can wait a second while you order exactly what you want. But don't take it to another extreme and take forever to reach a decision. Crowded lines will always be around, so why not make the best of it and not be defeated?

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



Tattoos: What do YOU think?

ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH

Is your skin your canvas?



Stephanie Fu
OPINION COLUMNIST

I remember when I was a little girl, I would go to carnivals or even parties at school where a treat just as good as candy would be a little piece of paper with a drawing on it. This little piece of paper was not just any drawing, though -- it was magic to my 8-year-old self because once I applied a wet cloth for 30 seconds onto one side, the drawing on the piece of paper was transferred onto my skin! They were temporary tattoos, and my friends and I would get heart-shaped ones on Valentine's Day, or our choice of unicorns, sports logos or smiley faces on field days at school.

My parents did not mind this in the least, and it did not seem like any of my friends' parents were opposed to our simple, childish activity. However, at a certain age, around 16 or so, it was made clear to all of us that tattoos -- the permanent kind -- were not allowed, and if I ever got one, my parents said that I would basically be cut off from any sort of monetary supplement.

I have come across this same animosity toward tattoos from all different people in my life, and I only agree with about half of it. What awakened this subject in my mind again was a friend calling me the other day on the phone to ask my advice about him getting a tattoo and whether or not that would help

or hurt him the following year in trying to find a job. To try to sort through some of my understanding of the matter, I chose to look at the arguments that my parents and others have tried to give me as to why tattoos should have a "Danger! Do not enter!" sign stamped on the entire concept.

One argument that I have heard is that tattoos are addictive and that once you get one, you can never stop. First of all, let me preface this with a flashing difference between this "tattoo addiction" and other addictions. Addictions to substances like alcohol or nicotine have physiological characteristics that affect the body physically and mentally. There is no substance in the body that can be triggered to make it crave a tattoo. With that being said, I know that people can have addictive personalities and the minute that threshold of inexperienced activity has been crossed, that person can be more inclined to go back to that activity. However, just as addictive personalities are not present in everyone, the urge to get another tattoo after the first does not apply to every single person.

One of the most common stigmas against tattoos is that they represent an inner quality of the person who has it. Mainly, it is a stereotype that only trashy or irresponsible people have tattoos. This is a stereotype that is similar to any racial or any other stereotype -- it is completely unfounded and oftentimes untrue. Someone who has tattoos covering both arms and his or her entire back and chest may be one of the most respon-

sible people who have founded a successful company compared to someone else who has no tattoos but also lacks any motivation to do anything useful.

Finally, there is a claim that, for most people, tattoos mean nothing at all and they are just an excuse for silly people to vandalize their bodies. This brings me to my biggest problem with people's judgments of tattoos. I fully believe that it is a matter of privacy. If someone chooses to get a swallow, that is his choice. It may be a way for him to remember someone who has passed away in his life. If someone chooses to get a tattoo as a symbol of his love for a significant other, then so be it. If someone wants to get a star tattooed on themselves just for the hell of it, then what business is it of anyone else to say anything?

As to my friend's predicament, I think it all is situational. I know for a fact that the kind of job he is searching for is an office job that requires a professional appearance. With this knowledge, I advised him not to get the tattoo in a visible place, but he wants it on the inside of his forearm. After hearing this, I made it clear that it would be his choice, but as a result he would always have to wear long sleeves. Of course, this is his decision and I was merely offering my opinion, but tattoos are similar to Facebook in the job hunt. They are an aspect of privacy and it is personal. As long as nothing is extreme or inappropriate, it should be a private, personal matter.

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



"You're only given a little spark of madness.

You mustn't lose it."

ROBIN WILLIAMS

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

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DID YOU KNOW?

The Did You Know's came from the book "The Book Of Useless Information by Noel Botham & The Useless Information Society

The first atomic bomb exploded at Trinity Site, N.M. India tested its first nuclear bomb in 1974.

A normal raindrop falls at about seven miles per hour.

A downburst is a downward-blowing wind that sometimes comes blasting out of a thunderstorm. The damage looks like tornado damage, because the wind can be as strong as an F2 tornado, but debris is blown straight away from a point on the ground, not lifted into the air and transported downwind.

A wind with a speed of 74 miles per hour or more is designated a hurricane.

An inch of snow falling evenly on one acre of ground is equivalent to about 2,715 of gallons of water.

At any given time, there are 1,800 thunderstorms in progress over the Earth's atmosphere.

A cubic mile of fog is made up of less than a gallon of water.

The two hottest months at the equator are March and September.

A rainbow can only occur when the sun is 40 degrees or less above the horizon.

Meteorologists claim they're right 85 percent of the time.

Astronauts in orbit around the Earth can see the wakes of ships.

Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name was Moon.

Buzz Aldrin was the first man to pee his pants on the moon.

Neil Armstrong stepped on the moon with his left foot first.

The first man to return safely from space was Yuri Gagarin.

Three astronauts manned each Apollo flight.

All snow crystals are hexagonal.

An enneahedron is solid with nine faces.

The billionth digit of pi is nine.

Rene Descartes came up with the theory of coordinate geometry by looking at a fly walk across a tiled ceiling.

A jumbo jet uses 4,000 gallons of fuel to take off.

A Boeing 747's wingspan is longer than the distance of the Wright Brothers' first flight.

The tail section of an airplane gives the bumpiest ride.

The condensed water vapor left by jets in the sky is called a contrail.

When CBS broadcast the first television show in color, no one other than CBS owned a color television set.

A third of 95 developing countries have a waiting period of six years or more for a telephone connection, compared with less than a month in developed countries.

The only continent without reptiles or snakes is Antarctica.

The gastric juices of a snake can digest bones and teeth – but not fur or hair.

Snakes do not urinate. They secrete and excrete uric acid, which is a solid, chalky, usually white substance.

Snakes, like cows, cannot activate their vitamin D without the presence of sunlight.

FEATURES

A4

Tuesday, 2.2.10

features@theeastcarolinian.com



ASHLEY YARBERT THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Pitt County, founded in 1760, recently held its 250th anniversary celebration in Joyner Library.

Joyner Library celebrates 250th anniversary of Pitt County

Marlana Sifter

STAFF WRITER

Beginning at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2, Joyner Library will hold an opening reception in the second floor's administrative office area to unveil three new exhibits in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Pitt County.

The event, sponsored by Joyner Library, as well as the Pitt County Historical Society, involves refreshments from 7 to 7:15 p.m., followed by guest speaker Roger Kammerer's lecture on the origins of Pitt County, and ending in an opportunity to ask questions and take a tour of the library's exhibits. Kammerer is an artist and local historian who is considered a leading expert on Pitt County. He will be speaking on the history of the area, as well as the beginnings of the Daily Reflector newspaper.

One of the three exhibits, the Daily Reflector Image Collection, will be displayed on the second floor in the exhibit area. It can also be found permanently online at Joyner Library's digital collections link. The Pitt County Treasures exhibit will be on display at the North Carolina Collection on the third floor. Special Collection's contribution to the anniversary will be mounted on the fourth floor.

The reception is free and open to the public. Members of the community are invited, as well as the students and staff of the university. Members of the library and the Pitt County Historic Society will also be in attendance.

Maury York, assistant director of Special Collections, hopes participants will take away an



expanded knowledge of Pitt County.

"We want them to have a better understanding of the history of Greenville and Pitt County ... and also recognize the resources the library has available for students studying the history of Pitt County."

Pitt County was formed in 1760 and named after English statesman William Pitt the Elder, who was an outspoken pro-freedom member of the Patriot Whip party in mid-18th century British Colonial government. Pitt County had previously been a part of Beaufort County.

Forty images will be presented on the Daily Reflector, divided into scenes of five pictures each. These portraits will encompass eight themes: education, economics, medicine and healthcare, natural disasters and the environment, politics and government, social and family life, urban development, community organizations and celebrations. These will cover the time period from 1949-1967. There will also be original artifacts, including the first bound volume of the Daily Reflector from 1894.

The North Carolina Collections exhibit will consist primarily of printed materials, such as books, newspapers, pamphlets and broadsides. The broadsides are printed posters that deal with aspects of

Pitt County's history.

The Special Collections exhibit will feature two items each for every one of the 25 decades of Pitt County, as well as a couple from before Pitt's establishment. The earliest artifact dates back to 1708, and the latest from 2009. There will be a range of different kinds of items, such as documents, photos, post cards, letters, diaries, printed materials, sketches, surveys of land in Pitt County, memorabilia and even a handful of Russian stamps from the World War II period. Below each item will be a caption of explanation. Brochures identifying each of the items will also be available.

Dr. Jonathan Dembo, curator of Special Collections, says that the items will illustrate how people communicated two and a half centuries ago.

"They tell the story of 250 years, which is just skimming the surface of a very long period of history."

He also encourages interested students and staff to join in the event.

"The exhibits are geared toward the general public. No knowledge of the history of Pitt County, or any historical background is needed to appreciate them."

The Special Collections exhibit will be on display until June 30th.

Coordinators expect about 80 people will come to the opening reception.

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

Pirates sharpen their academic skills

The Pirate Tutoring Center helps students excel

Veronica Carrington
CONTRIBUTED WRITER

Every Pirate knows the importance of academics while attending ECU, and luckily, ECU's Pirate Tutoring Center offers programs that aid students in achieving academic success.

The Pirate Tutoring Center is located on the first floor of Joyner Library and their goal is to help ECU students through peer academic tutoring, academic success strategies, individual assessment, consultations and outreach initiatives in order to enhance academic performance and success.

For many students, this service is an invaluable asset. Sophomore Megan Garrison has utilized Pirate tutoring since her freshman year, stating, "They really help on topics that are difficult for me and they also answer questions that you may

be too embarrassed to ask in class."

Garrison is not declared a major but still uses the Pirate Tutoring Center to assist with her general education requirements. "I also like that it is located in the library, so that after I finish with the tutors I have a quiet place to go over my work," said Garrison.

Tutoring is available in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Business courses and Math 1065 by daytime appointment. Senior tutors work with students at the Pirate Tutoring Center's main office located in Joyner Library.

Students can call 252-737-3009 or stop by the main office to make a tutoring appointment if they are unable to just drop by.

The Pirate Tutoring Center also sponsors tutoring sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the first floor of the Joyner Library. These sessions do not require an appointment, and

SKILLS page A5



GOOGLE

Current and former tutors of the Pirate Tutoring Center take a break from helping students to pose for a photo.

'The Last Song' is yet another heart-wrenching tale from Nicholas Sparks

5 out of 5 stars

Caitlin Hale

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

For fans of famous titles such as "A Walk to Remember," "The Notebook," "Message in a Bottle" and "Dear John," written by local but highly recognized author Nicholas Sparks, "The Last Song" is another must-read. This touching novel, which was released last August, might showcase some familiar locations to North Carolina natives, as the story takes place in Wrightsville Beach. "The Last Song," which is a yet another touching tear-jerker (which at this point should be expected from Sparks) is also being made into a movie, set to hit theaters on April 2, which will star Miley Cyrus. The story kicks off by introducing readers to 17-year-old Veronica "Ronnie" Miller. Ronnie, along with her little brother Jonah, is being sent from her

home in New York to live with her father in Wrightsville Beach for the summer. Ronnie, who plays the part of the angry, cynical teenager, is furious at the thought of even spending a few minutes with her father. As the story progresses, readers find out that Ronnie holds such negativity for her father due to a nasty divorce between her parents about three years prior. Ronnie, who is used to the fast-paced life of Manhattan, including nightclubs, private schools and high fashion, takes some time to adjust to the quiet, slow-paced lifestyle of Wrightsville Beach. Ronnie feels that spending the summer in this lazy beach town is punishment for her recent strain of rebellious behavior, including shoplifting, adding purple streaks to her hair and her newly found Goth style of dressing. Ronnie's mother, on the other hand, mys

SPARKS page A5

HEALTHY EATS

Healthy Living

A creamy key to longer life

Research suggests that eating fermented dairy products, such as yogurt, may help you live longer.

The benefit's in the bacteria

- Yogurt is made by adding "good" bacterial cultures to milk, which change the milk's lactose (sugar) into lactic acid and give yogurt its tart taste and pudding-like texture
- The body's digestive tract needs good bacteria to check the growth of harmful bacteria, support the immune system, ward off imbalances in yeast levels and enhance digestive health
- A study of very elderly people found a lower incidence of death among those who ate yogurt at least three times a week
- To get the benefits, buy yogurt that has "live active cultures"

Source: World's Healthiest Foods, How Stuff Works, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2009 MCT

Healthy Living

Healthy greens

Cleanliness and common sense are keys to reducing the risk of contracting foodborne illnesses from leafy greens.

Safety tips

- Wash your hands for 30 seconds with soap and water before preparing the greens
- Wash greens well in running tap water to remove visible dirt
- Remove and discard the outermost leaves
- Bacteria can grow well on cut surfaces so be careful not to contaminate the greens when chopping them; use a clean cutting board, free of other foods
- Avoid preparing food for others when you are sick

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2009 MCT

ECU offers many Passport events and Premier Passport events this semester

Madonna Messina
STAFF WRITER

As the spring semester moves slowly along, students taking Health 1000 and Health 2500 classes learn that they must participate in specific Wellness Passport events that are offered by Campus Recreation and Wellness.

There are both Passport events and Premier Passport events offered to health class students, as well as students who are not currently in the health classes. There are many events being offered to students all throughout the spring semester.

Premier Passport events:
"Body Art Safety" – Feb. 3, in Hendrix Theater, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. This presentation will discuss important tips and things to consider and keep in mind about body art and its form of self-expression.

"Katie's Journey: My Stroke, My Recovery, My Mission" – Feb. 4, in Hendrix Theater, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. An "inspirational" presentation from a 23-year-old woman and her battle. She will talk about the difficulties of overcoming both the physical and emotional effects the stroke had on her life.

"A Cure for the Common Relationship: Creative Dating" – Feb. 8, in Hendrix Theater, 5 p.m. A fun, interactive and very entertaining program which will cover any and almost every topic related to relationships. This presentation will be made for both students who are in committed relationships or just looking for one.

Sex Rules! – Feb. 9 in Hendrix Theater, 7 p.m. Featuring Comedian Maria Falzon. She will be giving a comic but informative lecture about serious sex issues.

"Precious" Movie Showing and Discussion Panel – Feb. 11, in Hendrix Theater, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. The movie showing of "Precious" — about a 16-year-old African American girl who is pregnant with her second child, illiterate and facing both domestic and sexual abuse. Following the film, there will be a panel discussion, which will bring up various issues that are brought up in the film.

"Three Cups of Tea," featuring author Greg Mortenson – March 1, in Wright Auditorium, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Greg Mortenson, author of "Three Cups of Tea," will address finding meaning in life, career paths, spiritual development and the importance of education for all.

Safe Spring Break: True Life Stories — March 3, in Hendrix Theater, 4 p.m. This is an annual event that is presented in order to educate students about the many issues that they may face while on spring break. Issues that will be presented include alcohol use, safe tanning, sexual behavior, date rape, tobacco use, tattooing and body piercing. The presentation is to help inform students and gear them with the knowledge to have a fun spring break while still staying safe.

"Thin Documentary" – March 18, in Hendrix Theater, 11 a.m. A documentary featuring four young women who are being treated for an

eating disorder. The documentary portrays their daily struggles with food and weight.

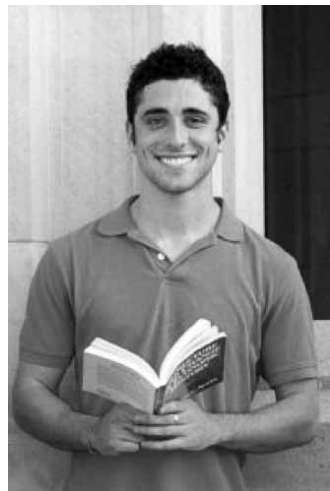
Passport events:
Introduction to Adventure: The adventure program will introduce students to the various offerings of the Adventure Program, including indoor rock climbing, sea kayaking, backpacking, surfing, or outdoor climbing and camping rental equipment. This program is being offered Jan. 20, Feb. 10 and March 3, beginning promptly at 5 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center Adventure Center.

Heart and Sole Walk: A program designed to raise awareness about heart disease in women, as a part of the Wear Red for Women campaign. Students will participate in a one-mile walk; this event will be on Feb. 4 at 12 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center.

Condom Olympics: Students can stop by anytime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to test their knowledge about condoms and safe sex. The event will take place Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Past, Present and Future of Sexual Health Practices: This event offers students the chance to learn about past, present and future sexual practices and behaviors. Students can stop by any time between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Feb. 11.

Nutrition Exp: Students can stop by anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to learn more about various nutrition topics, as well as



Marc Elliot spoke in Hendrix Theatre on January 27th for the first premier passport event of the semester.

participate in interactive activities. This program is offered on April 7 and is currently the last scheduled Passport event.

All of the Premier Passport and regular passport are free for all ECU students; however, some require a OneCard to be presented in order to participate. More information on the Wellness Passport events can be found at www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/crw/programs/campuswellness/passport.cfm.

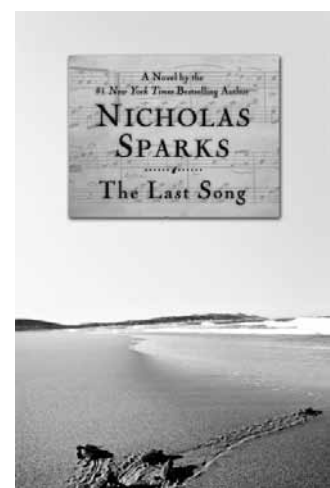
This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

SPARKS continued from A4

teriously claims it would be best for everyone involved if Ronnie and her brother spent the summer with their father.

Despite Ronnie's resistance (to put it nicely) to move in with her father, she eventually begins to absolutely love her new life. Ronnie develops a better relationship with not only her younger brother, but with her father as well. Ronnie begins to realize what a wonderful father she actually has, and that he surprisingly was not the one who ruined her parents' marriage as she initially thought. Ronnie begins to appreciate her father and the lifelong bond between father and daughter becomes apparent again. Ronnie also begins to feel herself preferring the slow-paced life of the small beach town. Most notably of all, Ronnie falls in love.

Will, who is the complete opposite of Ronnie, becomes Ronnie's first love. Will seems all but right for Ronnie ... he's preppy, a jock, filthy rich and a could-be model that all the girls are after, which are all things Ronnie seems to be against. However, Sparks writes "The Last Song" so that readers have absolutely no doubt that their love is real. The jacket of this wonderful novel explains that "The Last Song" is "an unforgettable story of love in all its myriad forms — first love, love between parents and children. 'The Last Song' demonstrates, as only a Nicholas Sparks novel can, the many ways that love can break our



The Last Song, released last year, is yet another hit novel from North Carolina native Nicholas Sparks.

hearts ... and heal them," which could not be more true.

For those who have read Sparks's novels before, it shouldn't be a surprise that this novel may end in tears. Regardless, this "coming of age" tale of a family's love for one another is without a doubt a must-read. However, have a box of tissues on hand from start to finish of this inspiring novel.

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SKILLS continued from A4

subjects covered range from ACCT 2401 to PSYC 1000 and SOCI 2110. The Tuesday and Wednesday tutoring takes place on a walk-in basis and is free to all students.

The Pirate Tutoring Center is also looking for students to tutor their peers in the subjects offered. Peer Tutors work in their most qualified subject area(s) and a student must have earned an A or a B to be qualified to tutor in the subject. Pirate Tutors primarily work one-on-one with students to help with the comprehension of course material and study skills development, and some small group sessions may be held based on student need.

The Pirate Tutoring Center is also a community partner with the ECU Volunteer and Service Learning

Center. Therefore, this enables all peer tutors to receive service hours while tutoring on campus.

If a student chooses to participate in the Pirate Tutoring Program, they provide a much-needed service to peers, as well as gain valuable experience that can assist in personal development. Moreover, Pirate Tutors receive valuable training to improve their own success as a student.

The Pirate Tutoring Center also helps students improve their study skills for formatting a comprehensive study plan. To meet with a Pirate Tutoring Center Learning Specialist, students may contact 737-3009 or tutoring@ecu.edu.

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

Contributed article

Starting Feb. 3, the ultimate indulgence in ice cream will expand its menu of innovative novelties to include new Cold Stone Creamery Signature Ice Cream Cookies. In four delicious combinations, these cookie treats are a twist on the traditional ice cream cookie sandwich and are truly the perfect dessert for enjoying at home with friends and family. Best of all, for a limited time, a four-pack of the novelties will be offered for \$8.99.

In February 2009, Cold Stone Creamery introduced the wildly popular ice cream cupcakes, made in true Cold Stone fashion with a rich chocolate shell, layered with cake, ice cream, fudge and toppings. With the popularity of frozen novelties on the rise, 2010 is the perfect year to add another delicious, unique item to the Cold

Stone menu.

"I expect these new Cold Stone Creamery's Signature Ice Cream Cookies will become a staple treat found in every ice cream-lover's home freezer," said Cold Stone Creamery's store owner, Loy Ehlers. "This indulgent new menu item is the perfect combination of cookies and ice cream — done the Cold Stone way, that is — using our secret ice cream recipe that's made fresh in the store daily."

The new ice cream cookies are made with Cold Stone Creamery's super premium ice cream nestled between two soft chocolate chip cookies, then rolled in a delicious topping complementing the various taste profiles. The four Cold Stone signature ice cream cookies are Kiss N' Tell Chocolate, Cookie Crumb Yum, Cake Batter Sprinkle and Perfect Duet. Descriptions of

Cold Stone Creamery sweetens up Greenville with new ice cream cookies



Cold Stone Creamery, located on Southeast Greenville Boulevard, announces their newest creation, delicious ice cream cookies.

these four flavors follow:

Kiss N' Tell Chocolate: Chocolate ice cream sandwiched between two chocolate chip cookies and rolled in chocolate chips.

Cookie Crumb Yum: Sweet Cream ice cream sandwiched between two chocolate chip cookies and rolled in OREO® cookie crumbs.

Cake Batter Sprinkle: Cake Batter ice cream sandwiched between two chocolate chip cookies and rolled in rainbow sprinkles.

Perfect Duet: Sweet Cream ice cream sandwiched between two chocolate chip cookies and rolled

in crushed milk and white chocolate curls.

For a limited time between Feb. 3 and March 31, these new ice cream novelty items can be purchased at the Cold Stone Creamery at \$8.99 per four-pack. The Cold Stone Creamery Signature Ice Cream Cookies will be packaged in fours as a single flavor or a variety pack, and since Cold Stone is known for serving ice cream to order, guests also have the ability to create their own combination at this location.

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

Live Life In Paradise at Copper Beech

We are now pre-leasing 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom townhomes for 2009-2010!
Come in today to reserve your spot in Greenville's newest community!
Our clubhouse is now open so come check it out!!

Features Include:

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Come visit us on site at
2001 Copper Beech Way
or call us at
(252) 757-1015
www.cbeech.com



Home Sweet Home

ECU baseball earns another top 20 ranking

The ECU baseball team earned its fourth preseason top 20 ranking Friday afternoon when they were tabbed No. 18 by USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll. Last week, the Pirates were picked No. 18 by Baseball America and have also been tabbed preseason No. 18 by Collegiate Baseball and No. 20 by Ping!Baseball. The Pirates (46-20, 17-7 C-USA), who have made 10 NCAA Regional appearances in the last 11 seasons, claimed the 2009 Conference USA regular season and 2009 Greenville Regional titles before advancing to their third NCAA Super Regional on the way to a 46-20 overall record.

ECU welcomes back 20 letterwinners, including 2010 preseason All-America selections Kyle Roller and Trent Whitehead, along with 2008 All-American Seth Maness, 2009 Freshman All-American Kevin Brandt, All C-USA second-teamer Brad Mincey and eighth round and NCAA Greenville Regional star Devin Harris.

Also stepping onto the diamond are eight new faces, which consist of junior college transfer Daniel Warzon (Young Harris), as well as seven freshmen: Bryan Bass, Chris Gosik, Jake Harris, D.J. Jauss, Tyler Joyner, Tanner Merritt and John Wooten. Head Coach Billy Godwin and the Pirates will open the 2010 season against No. 2 Virginia at Lewis Field inside Clark-LeClair Stadium on Feb. 19 with a 3 p.m. first pitch scheduled.

Women's tennis drops first match of season

The women's tennis team dropped an in-state rivalry match to N.C. State Friday afternoon.

The Wolfpack captured the victory by winning two of the three doubles matches and five of the six singles matches at the J.W. Isenhour Tennis Center. Opening up with doubles play, Sandhya Nagaraj and Daria Petrovic rolled past Jessica Cook and Audrey LePottier (8-4) at the No. 1 position. ECU recovered as Petra Vogel and Brooke Walter slipped past Ashley Miller and Chloe Smith (7-6). The streak ended at one as Natalie Collins and Yilian Zhang fell to Tana Illova and Diana Mortlock. N.C. State took an early 4-0 advantage in singles play, led by No. 45 ranked Nagaraj who bested LePottier (6-0 6-1). Lenka Hojkova defeated Cook, Petrovic rolled past Collins and Illova clinched the play after holding off Petra Vogel (6-4, 6-4).

At the No. 5 spot, Walter earned the Pirates' only singles victory over Ashley Miller in three sets, 3-6, 6-1, 10-7. Smith completed the match with a win over Zhang (ECU), 6-3, 6-1. With the victory, N.C. State improves to 1-0 while ECU drops to 2-1.

ECU will travel to Old Dominion for a mid-week matchup on Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 1 p.m.

Ask the Sports Editor

Any questions on ECU, professional or other collegiate sports? Have any comment or concerns? Drop a line to sports@theeastcarolinian.com and perhaps a response to your question will appear in future editions of TEC.

The ECU women's basketball team sets record with 11-straight home wins to open season

Stephen McNulty
STAFF WRITER

The ECU women's basketball team righted its ship this weekend with wins against the UAB Blazers (10-9, 4-3 Conference USA) and the Memphis Tigers (12-8, 5-2 C-USA).

The victories put ECU at 17-4 on the season and a half a game ahead of Tulane in conference play as the Green Wave has a record of 6-2.

The Lady Pirates also set a new team record by improving to a perfect 11-0 mark thus far this season at Minges Coliseum.

Home sweet home was an understatement for the team, who could not have asked for a better time to return to the warmth of Williams Arena.

Coming into the weekend, ECU had lost two consecutive conference games during a treacherous three-game Texas road-trip.

"Our players really talk about not (losing) at Minges. Somebody is not going to come in here and play harder than us and better than us on our home floor ... (the team) takes a lot of pride in it," ECU head coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener stated following the victory.

ECU took the Memphis Tigers for everything they had on Saturday, winning 76-59.

The Lady Pirates put together a 16-3 run early in the

game and then closed out the first half with a 7-1 run to go into the break with a 37-24 lead.

The Tigers were held to just 24 percent shooting in the half, while ECU hit 65 percent of their attempted field goals. The second half didn't get much better for Memphis as the Lady Pirates sailed to an easy victory.

Ashley Clarke led the Pirates in scoring, dropping 16 points, and Allison Spivey was close behind with 15. Kim Gay and Kelly Smith scored in double figures as well, and Jean Best added nine of her own.

Gay also pulled down 11 rebounds to record her second double-double of the year.

"It was good to be home again. We know we can win at home and it really boosts our confidence," Spivey added after the Pirates' win over Memphis.

Thursday night's game was far from short on excitement as ECU secured a 78-74 overtime victory over UAB.

UAB put together an 8-2 run to end the first half, leading 37-30 at the halfway mark.

ECU struggled shooting just 8-of-26 from the field in the opening half.

However, the words of coach Baldwin-Tener lit a fire under the Lady Pirates, who came out with a 19-3 run to start the second half.

When asked what helped with the start of the second half, Gay was quick to give credit to the coach. "The halftime talk ... coach always pumps us up."

However, UAB would not be intimidated in putting together a spurt of their own to tie the score at 63 with just four minutes remaining in regulation.



ECU guard Allison Spivey brings the ball down the court while head coach Sharon Baldwin-Tener looks on.

The two teams went back and forth for the final minutes, finishing with 11 ties and seven lead changes in the contest.

UAB's Amber Jones hit a floater with 30 seconds to go in the second half to tie the score at 72 apiece.

The Lady Pirates buckled down in overtime, holding UAB to just one basket.

A 3-pointer by Smith, a pair of free throws from Spivey and an additional one from Best were more than enough to secure the victory for ECU.

Gay led ECU in scoring with 19 points, including going 3-for-3 from beyond the arc and 6-of-6 from the charity stripe.

"I just found it; we all did, I guess ... we usually start slow

and then get into a groove as the game goes on, especially when we know the other team is out-shooting us by 30 percent," Gay said.

Clarke registered her third double-double of the season; this time with 11 rebounds and 10 assists.

Coach Baldwin-Tener and the Lady Pirates were quick to notice the great play of UAB following the game, more specifically that of freshman guard Jala Harris.

Harris notched 24 points, including 4-of-6 from 3-point range.

When asked about facing Harris for three more years, Baldwin-Tener was all but excited.

"I am not looking forward

to that, there's no question ... not looking forward to going back down there in a couple weeks actually," Baldwin-Tener said. "She's a great player; there's no doubt about that."

ECU heads back on the road to take on Southern Miss and UCF next weekend as they look to keep a strong hold on first place in the conference against a pair of teams that it beat handily last month.

The Lady Pirates return to Minges Coliseum on Feb. 11 to start a three-game home stretch, which opens with UTEP. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

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



ECU senior Darius Morrow had another stellar outing in posting his second double-double of the season.

ECU unable to rally past Rice in tough 69-58 loss

Alex Serkes
STAFF WRITER

On a snowy Saturday night in Greenville, the ported Pirates had the luxury of not having to set sail in the horrid weather to face Rice.

But it didn't matter as the Pirates fell to the Owls, 69-58.

Not having to sweat the horrid weather and the long journey, the Pirates (7-14, 1-6 Conference USA) looked very lackadaisical and worry-free during the warm-up period before taking the court against the Owls (7-13, 1-6 C-USA).

With both teams sitting at the bottom of the conference, it would have to come down to who wanted to rise above the depths of the last place spot in the C-USA.

In the beginning, it wasn't the Pirates who would set sail on the court, but it was the Owls who took flight.

Without any hesitation, the Owls dominated the game mostly in the transition aspect, running the court quickly and efficiently, hitting breakaway lay ups and stop-shot 15-foot jumpers to get the momentum at first swinging in their favor.

Realizing the quick run and gun play of Brock Young and the lack of size ECU had with the 6-foot-8-inch Darius Morrow going up against the Owls' 6-foot-11-inch tower Trey Stanton, Rice employed a 1-2-2 trap style zone which virtually

took away Young's driving ability and Morrow's inside game, in turn forcing the Pirates to result to outside shooting.

The defense resulted in a first-half field goal of 24 percent and a 3-point field goal of only around 17 percent.

Getting beat on the fast break, second chance points, points off turnovers and points in the paint enabled Rice to close out the first half on a 23-7 run.

"We came out flat to start it off," ECU center Darius Morrow said. "But coach Mack (McCarthy) fired us up at halftime and we were able to come out strong."

ECU head coach Mack McCarthy would not say what he said to his players before the start of the second half, but it was as if a switch had been flipped and the tables completely turned.

Fresh out of the frying pan and into the fire, ECU went on a 22-8 lead after halftime while taking advantage of Rice's switch to a man-to-man defense.

Morrow looked like a man possessed in the second half, scoring only four points and grabbing merely three rebounds in the first half. He finished with 20 and 13, respectively, on the night.

Five minutes into the second half, Rice reverted back to its effective zone defense and it was the same song, different verse from there on out.

ECU was able to cut the lead of Rice to four points at one point in the game, making the score 51-47, but the speed of Rice's guards, mixed with the shiftness and ability to run the court of their big men, the Pirates could inevitably not keep up.

To the Pirates' defense, their adjustment of play from the first half to the second half was tremendous and showed character by their players, showing more fire, getting back into transition and showing they were not the same team they were 20 minutes before.

However, problems that have plagued the team all year, such as consistent shooting and free throws, would come back once again to haunt the Pirates.

Missed free throws almost single-handedly nullified the last minute comeback, going 1-of-5 from the charity stripe.

"It was a tale of two halves," McCarthy stated, "and we are still too immature enough to let missed shots on offense bother our defense. We have to get past that, when we miss shots on offense, we have to play that much harder on defense."

The struggles for the Pirates continue, but they will look to get back into gear as they take on UCF tonight at 7 p.m. at Minges Coliseum.

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

Truth finally takes a bite into "Big Mac"

OPINION



Alex Serkes
STAFF WRITER

A day that serves as one of the most historic days in MLB history and a year that inevitably started a new era of baseball while also helping revive our nation's beloved pastime was Sept. 8, 1998.

Unfortunately, the records from that infamous year will forever have an asterisk next to its name, carved in stone.

On this day, a high and in fastball from Cubs pitcher Steve Trachsel went down as one of the most storied pitches of all time as the laced leather ball collided with the bat of then St. Louis Cardinals slugger Mark McGuire and then evaporating like water vapor into the Busch Stadium atmosphere and over the left field wall.

Mark McGuire had officially broken the league's single season home run record with his 62nd shot of the year. The mark was held by New York Yankees right fielder Roger Maris, who hit 61 homers in 1961.

With the swing of the bat, the chase was over.

Hold on, let's back up -- what chase am I referring to?

In one of the most famous, and inevitably controversial, seasons in MLB history, the best home run record breaking "chase" since Mantle and Maris in 1961 erupted between three "legends" of the baseball diamond.

McGuire of the Cardinals, Sammy Sosa of the Cubs and Ken Griffey, Jr. of the Mariners without argument had the best year of their careers.

With the 1994-95 players strike, which not only ended the season for the year but tarnished the idea of what the game once

was, still on everyone's mind, the home run chase of '98 served as a ray of shining light on the game and helped revive a sense the glory of what the league once was during the days of Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson and Willie Mays.

Now we all know how the fairy tale ended: McGuire and Sosa fought it out, going home run for home run down to the final wire, while Griffey eventually stunted due to injuries to his legs.

In the early September battle, McGuire would break the record first, playing against Sosa himself. There is the big hug at home plate between the two, Sosa would go on and reach 66, four short of McGuire's eventual 70.

A storybook ending to one of the MLB's most friendly rivalries and the eclipsing of an historic record first set by the Big Bambino himself, right? Wrong.

In 2004, Jose Canseco, a former teammate of McGuire with the Athletics, potentially "ratted out" several at the time future hall of famers for steroid use with allegations in his book "Juiced," including not only McGuire and Sosa, but Rafael Palmeiro, Roger Clemens and many others.

In a scheduled judicial court hearing on Capitol Hill regarding the book, the players accused by Canseco, and other trainers and known narcotic distributors, McGuire made his most famous statement after pleading the fifth to Elijah Cummings, the representative from Maryland, saying, "I'm not here to talk about the past, I'm here to be positive about this subject."

Eyes widened, minds were blown, aggressions raged and every single St. Louis Cardinals fan's heart dropped.

Without talking about the "past," McGuire's legacy in the game of baseball was forever

"BIG MAC" page A7



MARK MCGUIRE, THE NEW ST. LOUIS CARDINALS HITTING COACH, TAKES BATTING PRACTICE A FEW WEEKS AGO.

Men's Ultimate Frisbee team captures tournament title



The ECU men's club ultimate frisbee team moments after becoming Joint Summit Champions.

Contributed Article

The ECU men's club Ultimate Frisbee team made the trek to Clemson, S.C., seeded No. 2 overall and first in its pool of six teams. After a grueling schedule Saturday, which started with a first game at 8:30 a.m., ECU finished the day 5-0, with wins over Kennesaw State, 11-6; Georgia-B, 11-1; Charleston-B, 11-2; Miss. St, 9-6; and Georgia Southern, 11-6. Except for a slow start against Mississippi State in the fourth game of the day, ECU dominated the other teams with intense, emotional defense and an offense that was unstoppable.

ECU started Sunday morning in quarters against in-state rival Davidson, a team ECU has not beaten in five long years. Davidson started with a zone defense that ECU was able to pick apart, giving them a 7-3 lead at halftime. After halftime it was much of the same, as ECU defenders flew all over the field while the offense continued to have no trouble with the Davidson defense. ECU won 13-6. The Pirates drew Clemson in semifinals, a team they were 3-0 against last season. ECU jumped out to an early lead. Fighting off a late game surge by Clemson, ECU

finished the game, winning 11-8. ECU then played Georgia in finals. Sunday was rainy all day and in the low 40s, but during finals, the rained seemed to let up some so both teams could get their high-powered offenses running. The Pirates came out early with intense defense and went up 4-1. Georgia kept battling but ECU captured a 7-3 halftime lead. The Pirates then coasted to an easy victory, winning 13-7. The win made ECU Joint Summit Champions and was also the first time a North Carolina team has beaten Georgia in over three years.

ECU women's Ultimate Frisbee club team wins Clemson tournament

Contributed Article

The ECU Women's Ultimate Frisbee team traveled to Clemson, S.C., and competed in the Joint Summit Classic III tournament held Jan. 23-24. On Saturday, ECU went 4-0, defeating Virginia Tech, Tennessee, Clemson and Appalachian State.

The team held up to their big expectations by not allowing any team to score more than five points against them all weekend. On Sunday, ECU faced James Madison University in quarter-finals, a rematch of last year's tournament finals. ECU won that meeting 13-12 in dramatic victory but had few problems this year winning 13-3.

The Pirates rode their hot streak into the finals and went on to win the tournament by defeating Georgia Tech and finishing 7-0 on the weekend. Led by senior captains Ashley Scheno and Ashley Bailey, the team hopes to take this momentum and use it as the extra push onto regionals this season.



The ECU women's club ultimate frisbee team celebrates a tournament win in South Carolina

"BIG MAC" page A6

tarnished. Sosa also denied allegations and has stayed quiet until this day. Not McGuire, who just recently come out to ESPN saying he did infact take steroids "on and off for a decade," and for purposes

regarding his health. In my personal opinion, you take antibiotics for your health; you take steroids to get stronger. And so ended the great and questionable legacy of McGuire with a truthful confession: that he had

done steroids. However, does this tarnish his legacy forever? Despite his use, steroids were not as widely outlawed at that time. He was not the only one doing them, and let's face it --

who today in baseball truly hasn't? People shun that memorable '98 season, but we must remember that we cannot knock one's raw talent with the overcast of steroids in the air. As we look back, that single

season helped change baseball and although it seems that McGuire will never make the Baseball Hall of Fame, we must remember what he did that was good. McGuire was a standout player and individual according

to most, but mostly "Big Mac" should be remembered for changing the perceptions of baseball not only in a negative way, but also in a positive way. This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

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schedules. This program will run from March 20 - mid May. Referees will be paid \$12.00/\$14.00 a game. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm. To apply, please visit www.greenvillenc.gov. Closing date for this position is February 15.

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth soccer coaches/referees for our upcoming indoor soccer program. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Applicants must be able to coach young people ages 12-18 in soccer fundamentals. Hours are from 6:45pm to 10:00 pm, Monday - Thursday. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from March 9 to mid May. Salaries start at \$7.25 per hour. Apply

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