

INSIDE

OPINION: Spring Break is like eating a sloppy joe. It gets really messy, goes by really fast and by the end of it you're always ready for another. **A4**

FEATURES: Battle of the Bands is set for Friday night in Wright Auditorium. Find out more in Features. **A6**

SPORTS: March Madness begins today! Turn to sports for a preview. **A8**

BRIEFS

Sustainable Tourism program approved

Emily Cunningham
STAFF WRITER

ECU's Center for Sustainable Tourism recently received approval to begin their new Master's of Science in Sustainable Tourism degree. The graduate program received approval from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors on Jan. 8.

According to Dr. Patrick Long, the director of the Center of Sustainable Tourism, "It's an interdisciplinary program that integrates both science and business so that graduates will be prepared to enter the tourism profession or go on to other graduate work."

Long explained that the new master's program is essential for finding jobs in the future tourism industry. As existing tourism jobs turn over, employers will be seeking employees with a new set of skills, preferably skills that are focused on sustainability efforts. ECU's Sustainable Tourism program hopes to provide these skills to their students.

Students who graduate from the Sustainable Tourism program will be able to work for the state and federal governments, specifically in jobs with the national parks, and the Fish and Wildlife organization.

One of the more interesting aspects of the program is that it is one of a kind. "We're the only center in the country of this nature, the only one that focuses on research, academics and community outreach," said Dr. Long, who also believes that the implementation of ECU's graduate program will inspire other universities to adopt a similar program. Dr. Long also stated that ECU's program would always be the first of its kind and that other programs will only model ECU's program.

The interdisciplinary aspect of the program is also intriguing. The program utilizes seven departments within the university, including Hospitality Management, Geography and Economics. Dr. Long cites the hard work and initiatives of scholars within each of these seven departments as the reason for the existence of the program. "That grassroots initiative is where it really came together to be an interdisciplinary program," explained

> **TOURISM** page A3

Wright Place set to close until fall semester of 2010

Will Hiebert
STAFF WRITER

On March 26, Wright Place will close its doors and construction will begin on Starbucks as well as a new restaurant called Burger Studio. Wright Place is scheduled to reopen this fall.

Burger Studio is a restaurant that uses a Sheetz-like electronic touchscreen ordering stations that allows customers to choose between beef, chicken or veggie burgers and over 30 toppings, according to a September 2009 ARAMARK press release.

The press release also states that all locations are made from "sustainably-sourced materials and energy efficient equipment and lighting," such as bamboo countertops and biodegradable packaging. The inside of Burger Studio will be decorated with paintings of burgers that pay tribute to masterpieces by Picasso, Van Gogh and Warhol by borrowing their styles.

In addition to the food shops set up in Rivers and Bate, ARAMARK has plans to have temporary food trailers near the ATM at Wright Place that will be set up to serve beverages and hot meals to minimize any disruption in service.

In order to promote the opening, ARAMARK will host a burger-mak

> **BURGER** page A3

WEB POLL

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The East Carolinian

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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Student wins award for paper on the Red Scare

Cassie McLean
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Yesterday in Joyner Library, staff and faculty members from Joyner Library and the ECU History Department gathered to celebrate in an inaugural ceremony in the Exhibit Gallery.

Junior history major and Raleigh native Melissa L. Jones won the Rhem/Schwarzmann Prize for her research paper titled "Joseph McCarthy: The Face of the Red Scare."

Every year, the Rhem/Schwarzmann Prize is given in recognition of outstanding student research. Typically, the award, along with a cash prize of \$750, \$500 or \$250, is given to a first, second and third place recipient. This year, however, the committee, consisting of three professors, felt only one student truly deserved the honorary award.

Yesterday's ceremony was

sponsored by Joyner Library and the Special Collections Department.

Maury York, assistant director for Special Collections, opened the ceremony by explaining that the award is given to encourage the use of primary sources within the Collections Department.

"In an era where most turn to the Internet, students get to experience the joy of using primary sources," he said of using the letters, journals, diaries and other historical documents within the archives.

The essays, required to be 12 pages or at least 3,000 words, were judged based on originality of topic, quality of research, quality of style and overall excellence, he explained.

Melissa Jones, recipient of the award, drew most of her information from the Hoover Collection in International Communism, one of the many departments

within the Special Collections Department.

Jones, before reading her essay to the audience, confessed, "When I started, I didn't know much about historical research." She explained that, through the process, she learned to enjoy both research and writing and came out with a better understanding of history, Joyner Library and the Collections Department.

Her research paper explained the history behind the Red Scare of the 1950s, the second in U.S. history. She explained the misunderstanding of the era between socialism and communism and the fear that communism would "infiltrate American culture." Much of her paper focused on the behavior of Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his witch-hunt behavior in seeking potential communists within American borders.

Because of his behavior, Jones explained in her paper, "Many

Americans began to believe that a communist overthrow was viable possible."

After the presentation, donor and founder Ann Schwarzmann called it an "outstanding presentation."

She then explained why she developed such an award. "I felt there was a need to recognize students ... This research is important. This research gives students a first hand opportunity to explore a subject in depth, to be inquisitive and to develop their leadership skills, which hold a significant value in today's world."

Jones humbly explained afterward that she first wrote the essay for her History 3000 class.

"I didn't know the award existed," she said, "Dr. Dudley presented this opportunity to me. He said, 'You should submit your papers for this.' If it wasn't for him, I never would've found out about this."

Jones explained that she hopes to go on to get a master's in public history from either ECU or N.C. State and work as a museum administrator in the future.

As to whether she was nervous to read and present her lengthy research paper, she said, "Yes, very nervous. It was my first official presentation."

Dr. Wade Dudley, the history professor who encouraged Jones to submit her work, said, "Every student in my class has to do research in the Special Collections Department ... I encourage all of my students to present their papers," and added, laughing, "Oh, and yes, earn some prize money."

Jones, who admitted she was very surprised when she discovered she'd won, was certainly glad she had taken Professor Dudley's advice.

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

Board of Education member murdered

Staff Reports

Kathy Taft, 62, member of the State Board of Education, died Tuesday, March 9, after being brutally beaten the previous Friday night and remaining on life support for several days. The event occurred at 2710 Cartier Drive in Raleigh, where police are pursuing an investigation.

According to The Daily Reflector, Taft was staying at the Cartier Drive home with her sister following a surgical procedure. Raleigh media outlets have stated that Taft's sister called 911 when she thought her sister was experiencing complications from the surgery. After examination at WakeMed, the case was ruled as an assault.

Police Chief Harry Dolan said Thursday that the department had limited information regarding the case.

"Be very conscious that the department has said it can't rule out a random act," he said. "Know that if I had further information about a suspect that I was looking for, if I had a sketch, if I had any information to answer that question, I would have already provided it."

It seems, for now at least, the mystery will continue.

Judge Don Stephens has ruled to uphold his decision to keep 911 tapes and documents relating to the case sealed, the Daily Reflector reported. The purpose, it says, is to protect the integrity of the investigation.

Dolan added, though, that he felt very good about the progress they were making with the case.

After six days of investigation within the home and withholding much information relating to the case, it is hoped that the mystery will be solved soon.

The Taft family has offered a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a positive suspect.

The Daily Reflector later reported that a memorial service was held for Taft, who was from the Greenville area, locally on Friday night at Wilkerson Funeral Home. The outreach from the community was noticeable as the parking lot and nearby streets filled.

Greenville's florist shop reported a significant number of orders placed by people from across the state. Michael Glenn of Jefferson's, a boutique and full-service florist, said to the Daily Reflector, "There are a lot of people wishing to send their condolences. The orders clearly reflect an outpouring of love for

the lady and the family."

Chrissy Pearson, communications director for the Office of the Governor and a close friend of Taft, said, "I have known Kathy Taft as a dear friend for more than 25 years. The kindness she showed me, as a fellow woman from down east working to make a difference, is something I will never forget. Her passion for education and for finding every opportunity to better serve North Carolina's children has clearly made this state a better place to live and raise a family. For that, we all owe Kathy a debt of gratitude. I will miss her terribly."

Taft, who began her educational career at ECU, has greatly affected the lives of local community members, including Student Government Association's Treasurer, Tremayne Smith, who said, "They've lost a good friend and a hard worker. They've lost someone who truly cared about education."

One thing is evident: Kathy Taft's effort in eastern North Carolina and her presence as a friend and loved one will be dearly missed.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kathy Taft, a respected member of Greenville's community, passed away last week in Raleigh. Taft was 62 years old.

Survivor shares tale of Holocaust

Chris Thomas
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Upon first glance of Nesse Godin, a short, friendly elderly woman with bright blue eyes, blonde hair and a thick Eastern European accent, it would be difficult to imagine the horrors she witnessed and endured. During a short lecture delivered by Godin to a crowd at Hendrix Theater on Tuesday, though, she painted a very vivid mental picture of infamous travesty that was the Holocaust.

"I am not a teacher or a lecturer. I am a holocaust survivor," said Godin.

Godin was held prisoner for much of her adolescence by Nazi soldiers that invaded her homeland of Lithuania in 1941 when she was 13 years old. According to Godin, her town of Siauliai was a place where religious tolerance and brotherhood could be found wherever you went.

"Lithuania was a democracy," said Godin. "Everyone lived nicely together ... In my town, Jews and Christians got along."

That came to an end for Godin and the Jews of Lithuania after the summer of 1941. Changes, said Godin, were immediate. Jews were quickly stripped of their rights, their property and their lives.

Godin recalled an event where several able-bodied Jewish men were forced to strip, dig graves and were then shot by SS officers. They were then buried in this grave, some men dead and others still alive.

"We never thought the Holocaust would come to us," said Godin. "But that was when we knew."

Godin and her family were soon taken to a ghetto where hunger and fear were as much a part of life as breathing. Newborn babies, something Jewish women were forbidden to have in the ghetto, were found and killed by the SS in an event retold by Godin. She also lost her father while living there. In 1944, the ghettos were closed and Godin was moved into a concentration camp.

"I was told to strip when I arrived. They beat us until we screamed," said Godin. "I was only 16 years old. Everything was taken away from me apart from my name."

Through helpful hints from fellow inmates and through what she called "a miracle," Godin survived the concentration camp, the back-breaking labor she had to endure there and the death march she and fellow inmates had to partake in starting in the winter of 1945. They had no idea what had been going on outside the walls of



LUKE RAYSON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Nesse Godin, Holocaust survivor, details her experiences during World War II at a lecture this week.

the camp.

"We didn't know the Germans were losing," said Godin. "We had no idea what was going on in the outside of Stutthof."

Early that spring, Godin was liberated by the Soviet Army, and in 1950, she came to the United States where she would begin her work as an advocate for peace. Since then, Godin has received numerous awards for her work around her home in the Washington, D.C. area and around the nation. Upon her arrival in the United States, though, she was apprehensive about telling her story even to those closest to her.

"When I came here in 1950

and I told my family about the Holocaust, they told me to zip my mouth," said Godin. "So I didn't [speak up], but then I saw the discrimination that was happening here in America and I couldn't keep quiet any longer."

Godin's ties to the university, though, go back further than her speech on Tuesday. Godin had grandchildren that attended and graduated from ECU and was slated to speak last year, but according to Alex Davis, assistant director for Student Activities and Major Events, her lecture was delayed due to uncontrollable circumstances.

"Nesse was supposed to be

here last year, but a snow storm prevented that," said Davis.

Davis and the SAB believed it would be important for Godin to come to ECU and speak because though they've survived unspeakable horrors, but lived to tell the tale.

"Though she's in good health and spirited, there aren't many more of them left," said Davis. "It's an opportunity to hear stories from the holocaust from someone that was there. That's an opportunity that won't be around forever."

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

TOURISM continued from A1

Long, who was formerly the director for a Sustainable Tourism Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder, explained that during the review process, the degree program was well received at every level, even by the UNC Board of Governors, who had recently passed a sustainability program for the entire UNC system.

The MS in Sustainable Tourism program is also dedicated to providing its students with work experience while enrolled in the program. According to Long, all graduate students are working out of the center and are involved in various research projects.

Shannon Arnold, who gradu-

ated from ECU in 2008 with a degree in communication and hospitality management, is currently enrolled in the graduate program. After graduation, Arnold worked in the State Tourism office in Raleigh, where she met Dr. Patrick Long, who introduced her to the idea of a potential Sustainable Tourism program being brought to ECU.

"I realized that the industry was moving toward a sustainable approach and I had a knowledge of tourism but now of sustainable tourism," Arnold said as her reason for joining the program. She also explained the benefits of working with such a novel program. "The best advantage is that we have a little bit of say-so in how the program

is shaped. We can say if a class is applicable or not," she explained.

Arnold also said that she was allowed input into how her personal class schedule is arranged. For example, she stated that she picks classes that are geared more toward the business aspect of tourism while other students may choose to focus on research.

There are currently only five students enrolled in the Master's of Science of Sustainable Tourism, but Dr. Long stated that the program is currently accepting applications and hopes to add eight to 10 students for the upcoming fall semester.

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

BURGER continued from A1

ing competition this afternoon in Wright Place. There will be 10 teams of two or three students who will be given 15 minutes, a pre-cooked patty and an assortment of "mystery toppings" to complete their masterpieces. The winning team will receive Burger Studio T-shirts, one free burger every week for three months each and will have their burger added as a special menu item from August to September.

According to Stephanie Coleman, ECU's accountant for financial services, the renovation has a budget of \$2.7 million, which will come from a 3 percent increase in the price of meal plans sold to students passed by the SGA Senate

last November. Although the cost is high and the timing of the construction means Wright Place and the Croatan, the two primary central campus dining locations, will be closed at the same time, senior Daniel Thornton trusts the decision: "It's going to be tough on the students for the rest of the semester, but when completed, it will provide for a better tomorrow for the students and all the future students for years to come."

ARAMARK has plans to open Burger Studio at over 600 campuses across the nation.

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

Diversity Week begins

The schedule for next week is as follows:

- Monday:**
Multicultural Speed-dating
6 p.m.
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center
- Tuesday:**
Robyn Ochs, Harvard Professor
4 p.m. Mendenhall Social Room 14
7:30 p.m. Bate 3007
Sponsored by GLBTSU & SAB
- Wednesday:**
Wright Plaza
10:50 p.m. and 12:50 p.m.
Culture Fest
6 p.m.
Mendenhall Brickyard
- Thursday:**
Passover: A Jewish Holiday
6:30 p.m.
Ledonia Wright Culture Center (Limited seating; RSVP 328-6495)
- Friday:**
Caribbean Cricket Grill Tournament
3:30 p.m.
Mendenhall Grassy Area

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Corrections

- On Tuesday, March 2, in an article titled "JETS competition in full swing at ECU" TEC erroneously printed that the Junior Engineering Technical Society competition was hosted by ECU's engineering department. The JETS competition was in fact hosted by the Department of Technology and Computer Sciences.
- On Thursday, March 4, in an opinion article titled "Do you believe in magic?" the columnist insinuated that the Wizarding World of Harry Potter was a part of Walt Disney World. The Wizarding World of Harry Potter is a part of the Universal Orlando Resort.

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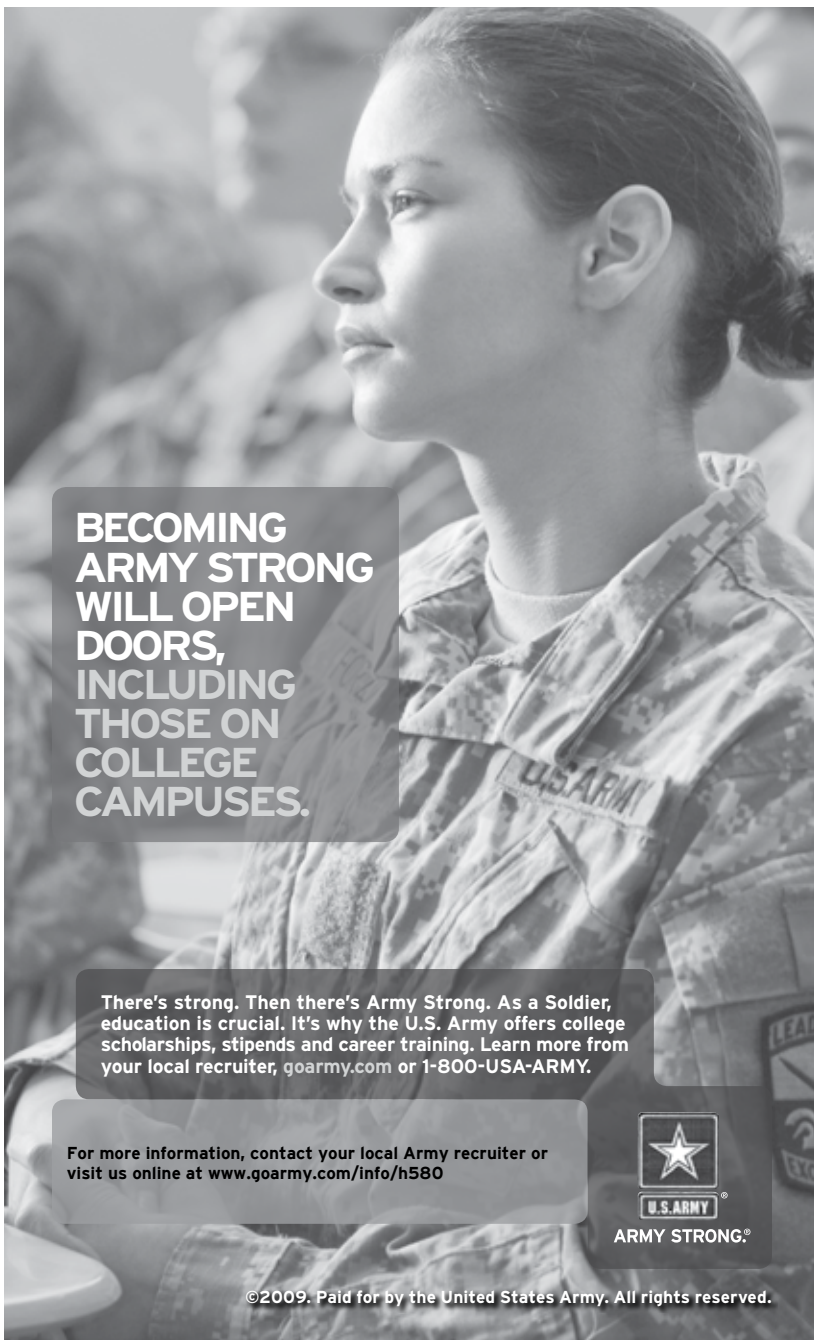
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The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to Katelyn Crouse, Editor in Chief, at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

Nip/Tuck is over!!! So sad to see it go...Especially, because now I won't have an excuse for putting off my all my work until the last minute! It truly was TV's guiltiest pleasure... Goodbye McNamara/Troy.

You are 19! Don't decide to be engaged for your entire college life. That's stupid. You most likely won't marry them anyways.

I'm going to get a tattoo of a bear on my foot so that when I take my shoes off it will be a barefoot bear foot

HAHAHAHA! Your Pirate Rant didn't get in but mine did.

My friend told me he couldn't play disk golf because he had to do HW all day... you OCD p***y it takes an hour!

I'm procrastinating so bad that I just Googled procrastination.

To my roommate's girlfriend who is rude to my dog: I hope she bites you

To the guy that just laughed at me for writing/reading fan fiction: I'll show you my English grade if you show me yours.

I hope the nursing school or cops never find out about that little hit and run incident... that would probably be a bad thing for you huh?

So high last night...had to go to the store and buy 2 boxes of gushers a fruit by the foot... and two bags of carrots... got to still be healthy right?

My Macing off powers are strong.

Dear boyfriend: If I catch you talking about my best friend again, we're through. Hoes before bros.

You're cute. Smile!

Note to self: If you aren't doing anything wrong, when you see a cop don't run...He will chase you, it's instinct

Word to the wise: If you don't like someone, DON'T DATE THEM FOR TWO MONTHS and realize it's not going to change!

What do tigers dream of? ...

People need to quit acting like straight divas while walking around campus.

To the British kid with the black jacket: You are SO cute!!

The bouncer at the plank is freakin' sexy!

I love sitting at sup dogs late at night to watch all the drunk people stumble around & make fools of themselves. Keepin' it classy Greenville.

To the two guys who ran across campus last week in rainbow sombreros and plaid shirts: You were both incredibly hot :)

Even during school breaks I learn things. Like drinking green apple vodka straight is painful, and Everclear pong is the worst game ever.

Dear Spring Break, When did I get a tattoo?

If I don't get a pirate rant in this week, I'm quitting school for the rest of the semester.

Spring break is like eating a sloppy joe. It gets really messy, goes by really fast and by the end of it you're always ready for another.

Alright roommate, I cleaned the room and apologized profusely for being generally gross. Can you please stop avoiding me now? I feel so alone....

Put my laundry on the floor again and I swear that World War three is gonna happen!

What takes a pirate 30 minutes to achieve and only lasts for a few seconds? AN AARRRRGGGGGasm!

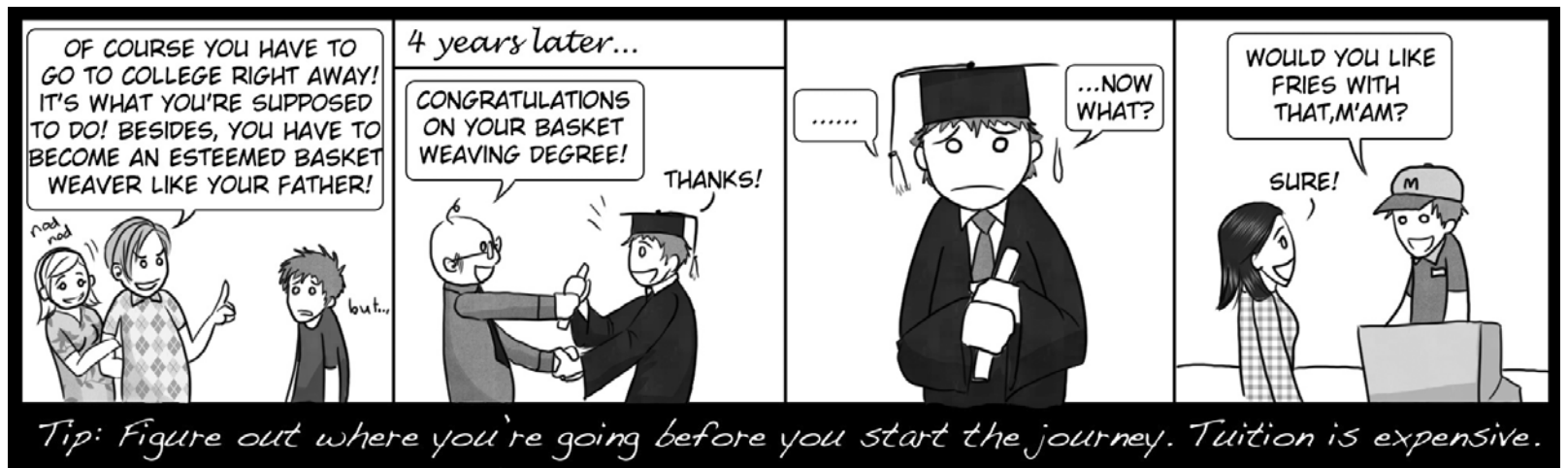
To the people who kept trying to "sneak" a picture of me: Just ask next time. I don't mind and it's easier for you. Signed, the guy with the liberty spikes.

To ALL Joyner Library users: the student study room walls are in no way, shape, or form SOUND PROOF!!!! Keep that in mind.

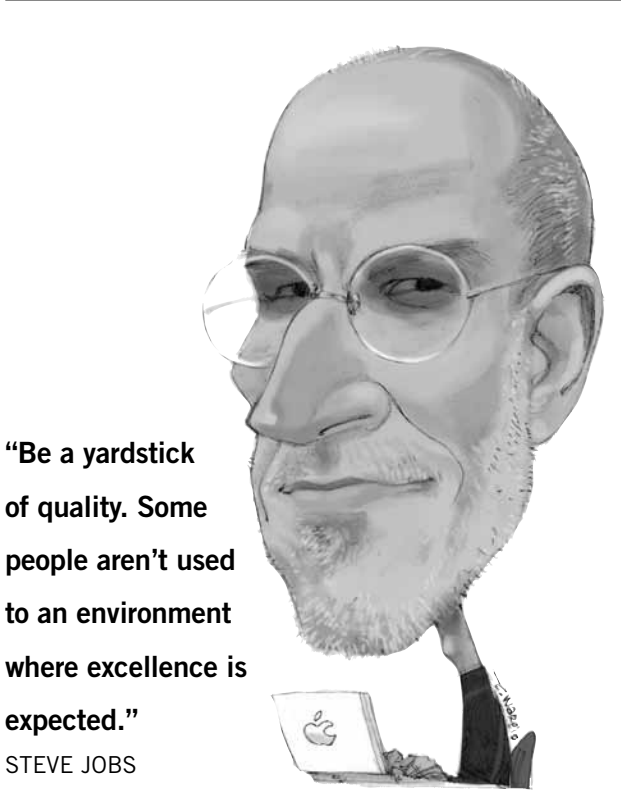
It gets a little warm outside and all of sudden people don't know how to act.

My friend claims that the buses now announce its destination. I think she's hearing things.

I just want to explode into the night sky and fly away like a huge bat laughing and s*****g all over the town of Greenville.



ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH



“Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren’t used to an environment where excellence is expected.”

STEVE JOBS

Majorly cold feet



Leila Falls
OPINION COLUMNIST

Graduation is near, so you only have a couple months left in the ECU bubble of life. You're so used to having a part-time job, doing schoolwork and just having fun. But what happens when you join the world, no longer as a college student? Life after college is not always as magical as you expect. There's so much new pressure. There is no ratemyboss.com or university excused absences or snow days or such thing as classes that don't require attendance. There will be a new way of doing things, so get ready.

What happens if you have cold feet about your degree or lost your passion? If it is something that you loathe, talk to your adviser to figure out a new option. At least all the classes you complete don't go to waste: some count as electives or fill the general requirements. You can even create a multidisciplinary minor. The point is, not all hope is lost. Sure, you will graduate later than expected, but it is better to be in a program that you don't despise. If you dread it now, chances are it will only get worse.

Sometimes you will end up experiencing a frustrating degree-related problem. Since I am trying to complete my English degree, I have to complete four levels of a foreign language. I chose Italian, which I absolutely love. I am currently enrolled in the second level and recently discovered that reaching level four is impossible due to the availability of the class and my graduation plans. The verdict: I have to do four levels of Spanish instead. I was frustrated at the fact that I would have to give up Italian and start up another language. Somehow when I took the placement test, I placed into level three! Those years in high school and even Italian helped me out. Even though this dilemma made a bump in my plans, I have to get over it.

Being the Van Wilder of school does not mean that you

have expired; you've just got a delay. As frustrating as it is to be a passenger on a delayed flight that ends up being reworked, you will eventually arrive at your destination. Maybe they accidentally booked you for first class and you'll end up sitting next to a celebrity. Believe me, this could definitely happen.

What if you start thinking about what you are going to do with your degree without a guaranteed job? Don't panic, everyone has trouble finding their perfect job. Maybe that time-consuming internship wants to hire you immediately or there's suddenly a better job opening at your work. Sometimes pure luck or raw talent can work for your advantage. You never know what opportunities you'll end up with or how much networking can help. Find an internship and build that portfolio. The fact that you have a college degree is a strong start and makes you a better candidate for the job world.

Natalie Portman received a degree in psychology at Harvard after four years. She pursued her degree, but she ended up with an acting career. You never know what the future holds! You have to be a go-getter and prepared for opportunities. Having backup plans can even help you out. If you have to be in a wait-list in New York for a while in order to keep your internship, or if you have to retake that MCAT and do some more volunteer hours to get into that medical school, do it. Most of the time, you have to work for what you want. If Natalie Portman never made it in the acting world, she could have started another career path with her degree.

When graduation rolls around, don't listen to your grumpy relative who thinks that you wasted your time at college and received a stupid degree. Don't worry that you don't have a guaranteed job or your dream career is not happening yet. You did it: you are graduating college. So what if things don't fit perfectly into your plans? Keep a "Hello, World! This is me" attitude. Your life may end up taking an unexpected turn, but having an open mind is key.

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

The post-break perils and a harsh return to reality



Ben Cochran
OPINION COLUMNIST

Spring break is over and reality hits harder than that phone call where your girlfriend says, "I'm late." If yours was anything like mine, you consumed quite a bit of alcohol. Normally, I would shrug it off and admit that I probably need to work out a little more to make up for the seven days of sloth. Thanks to my Nutrition 2105 class, I now know exactly how many extra calories I have to work off, provided that I can keep the beer count accurate.

According to our text, alcohol has seven calories per gram. Dietitian.com claims that an average can of light beer contains 11 grams of alcohol, thus yielding 77 calories per can of beer just from alcohol alone. Given an average daily intake of about six beers, the grand total for spring break amounts to a whopping 3,200 calories.

Our fine treadmills at the Student Recreation Center have unequivocally shown me that a 180-pound individual walking at a 4.5 mph pace at a 2.0 incline for 15 minutes will burn 157 calories. To work off spring break's

consumption, I would have to keep that pace for five hours and 15 minutes. Spread out over a week, it's not that imposing of a figure. But cramming that extra workout into an already packed post-break week is significantly more challenging than actually completing the calf-burning exercise. The reason? Poor planning by our professors.

Half of my professors loaded up this post-break week with tests, thinking that the other half of my professors would chock the pre-break week with midterms. I can't fault them for their intentions. They wanted to alleviate the rigors of a studious life as much as possible. But the resulting situation is a week of parole bookended with weeks of solitary confinement at Joyner.

It is not reasonable for students to be subjected to this kind of peril. To spike the weeks surrounding spring break with unnecessary stressors is detrimental to our GPAs as well as our emotional well-being. I understand that the ebb and flow of the semester singles out these weeks as a natural time for tests, papers and projects, but the reality is that it is simply too much to ask.

Right, wrong or indifferent, most students will not even glance at a textbook over the break. Given this certitude, professors should be banned from giving any sort of test during

the week following spring break. Load up the week before with exams and papers aplenty; that's fine. It will make the break all the sweeter. But to taint the week of freedom with impending midterms is like telling me I can't use my food stamps for alcohol or prepared food. What's the point of being poor if I can't drink all day and eat KFC? Similarly, what's the point of spring break if the same restrictions apply?

I can rant and rave all I want, but it won't change the situation. Something's got to give, and I refuse to let my grades take a beating just because I'm a borderline alcoholic. So it looks like I'll have to defer my date with the treadmill until such time as my professors decide to ease up. Or, and I highly recommend this alternative to everyone else, I could burn off all these extra calories by running in the Cooper River Bridge 10K in Charleston, S.C., on March 27.

If you've never experienced low country South Carolina in the spring, you're seriously missing out. The shrimp and grits are like manna from heaven. ECU Club Running will be there in force, so you'll find yourself in good company amongst the other 40,000 participants. But be sure to don your eye-patches — we're doing this Pirate-style!

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

Must see: Washington, D.C.



Emily Winterhalter
OPINION COLUMNIST

Right about now, most ECU-goers are recuperating from a much-needed spring break.

Maybe you spent your time back home with your family and friends, or stayed in Greenville and managed to squeeze some relaxing into your schedule. Maybe you traveled somewhere on a school or volunteer trip, or went somewhere warmer and don't remember much except that you had an awesome time.

Summer is approaching, and many of us will be, or are planning on, taking another trip during the longer stretch of vacation. In that case, I strongly suggest taking advantage of some of the many tourist attractions available to us right here on the East Coast, specifically Washington, D.C. From where we are, it's a manageable road trip: only a handful of hours by car.

You're bound to gain some pride in the U.S. after seeing all that we have accomplished, in a concrete way. Some of us went as kids, not interested or fully informed on the role D.C. plays, and has played for years, on our society. Now that we're older, we can really appreciate the sights. Best of all, Washington, D.C. has something for everybody interested in going.

For the history buffs, visiting D.C. would be your lucky day. Where else in the world

can you find stories upon stories of historical artifacts only found in the Smithsonian? In addition to the 19 Smithsonian museums, there are varieties of other interesting museums like the International Spy Museum, Holocaust Memorial Museum and the National Museum of Crime and Punishment. Close to the city limits is Arlington National Cemetery, and the history encountered upon visiting is overwhelming. Also, if you're lucky enough to get approved for a White House tour, that's another thing you don't want to miss.

If you're searching for a fun nightlife, I would point you nowhere else except Georgetown. In the area by Georgetown University, there are a number of state-of-the-art restaurants and clubs full of students from Georgetown and George Washington University.

If being outside is your thing, D.C. gives you a city experience with the opportunity to walk almost anywhere you're going. The National Mall, which is in the city's center, is a historic grassy area housing many of D.C.'s outstanding monuments and memorials. Also, the National Zoo is all outdoors and houses many exotic animals in conservation.

For those with a love for food, aka the majority of the male population, D.C. has some of the best eating around. Where, aside from China, can you get Chinese food more authentic than in Chinatown? In addition to most major restaurants being found in or around the city, there are many distinct restaurants in the area known for their quality

food and ambiance.

Ladies, we love to shop, do we not? In about half the time to NYC, almost just as good shopping can be found. Inside D.C., the Shops at Georgetown have countless shops and boutiques along the street. Tyson's Corner is D.C.'s largest shopping destination and the country's sixth largest. Outside D.C. in Arlington, V.A., is the Pentagon City Mall, which has almost any store you can imagine, plus a few designer stores that are hard to find anywhere around here.

For anyone interested in law and/or politics, what better to understand and observe the system than to visit or take tours of Congress and Supreme Court buildings? If you go at the right time, you can observe some Supreme Court arguments in action.

ECU had a school-planned trip to Washington, D.C. this year, I wasn't with them, but as you may have assumed, I did spend my spring break there. While I wasn't cruising the Atlantic or sipping margaritas on a tropical beach, I still had a great time.

The nation's capital is somewhere everyone should visit once in their life. The historic things found within the area can be found only there. The area wedged between Virginia and Maryland is the setting for some memorable sights and experiences, in turn creating an unforgettable trip. So, next time you're planning a road trip, don't forget to add our nation's capital to your list of possibilities.

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Aries - Although harmony is in the ear of the beholder, you choose to power your way to gratification. They put a soft pedal on the piano for a reason. Use it to tone it down. The challenge today is to use all this energy without going off the deep end. Love every minute! Then, share that feeling with your partner.

Taurus - Prepare for the drill sergeant to run everyone ragged. Extra effort is needed to please a powerful female. Don't try to get creative today. You receive more support for your ideas. The person in charge listens carefully but demands the final say. Be flexible.

Gemini - Share your weekend experiences with the female who set you on the right path. Notice how much more relaxed you are? Financial pressure causes you to rethink part of your plan. Imagination allows everyone to trim down in a logical, systematic way. It turns out well.

Cancer - Your partner puts everything into perspective. The new view includes more harmonious furnishings in a room the two of you will share. Your partner's attention is scattered. Expect input from two or three very different sources. Don't make a final decision.

Leo - Break out of a dull pattern at work and bring in some new data to shake things up. It won't take long for people to get the picture. Co-workers spread out their work all over the available space. Be careful where you step!

Virgo - Clear the decks in order to do all your work as quickly as possible. Order in your work environment goes a long way. Associates go in different directions today, but all want you on their teams. How to make it work? You'll figure it out.

Libra - You may not have a PowerPoint presentation, but you have a powerful message to deliver. Add sugar to make the medicine go down. Some of your logical ideas are getting away from you as others inject emotions. Present a clear vision of the goal to the team.

Scorpio - The office despot arrives early and stays late. Create a diversion with a female associate or friend. Chatter abounds. Distract with chocolate. You feel an urgent need to start the next project. Others are still mulling over yesterday's results. Ease them into the future.

Sagittarius - Redirecting your mind to the task at hand takes some doing today. Get practical, and get going on necessary changes. It'll be worth it. You happily control three irons in the fire. But six? That takes intense effort and focus. Divide the problems and conquer one at a time.

Capricorn - Add feminine touches to your home (even if it's a home full of guys). Water the plants and check supplies. Everyone benefits today from a softer touch. Broaden your perspective. There are four or five factors to incorporate into a practical plan. Consider the flow of elements.

Aquarius - To love your neighbor, you must take care of yourself first. Work out a win-win agreement, then fulfill your end of the bargain. You could easily spread yourself too thin regarding both activities and finances. Set aside the rent money before you start.

Pisces - Your associates believe they have the final say, yet an older person has reserved veto power. Focus your persuasion on that person. Insistence on getting your way works out. You wanted more recognition, and you accept it in the form of cash. Others are willing to pay.



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

Nobody does it like you

Vivian Stockton
SEX AND RELATIONSHIP
COLUMNIST

The other day, I was sitting in front of my computer with nothing to do, which believe me is quite a rarity. Not only was I sitting there with nothing to do, but I was completely alone, an even bigger rarity than the former. Due to a jam-packed schedule of class, work, boyfriend and friends, I never seem to have free time on my hands.

As I sat there thinking about how nice it is to relax and how I don't get to do it that often, it got me thinking about something else nice and relaxing that I hadn't been able to do in what felt like eons - masturbate. And you know what they say: "Idle hands are the devil's playground."

Realizing this, I excitedly got up from my computer, closed my curtains, locked my bedroom door and grabbed my seemingly forgotten vibrator from its drawer. After adjusting the volume of some music so it was playing just loud enough to drown out the buzzing of my toy, I prepared myself for some self-satisfying bliss.

About seven minutes into it, I got a phone call from my best friend - IGNORE. About two minutes after that, I get a text mes-

sage from her: "Call me ASAP." One interruption is bad enough, but two just killed the mood for me. How could I continue to enjoy myself when my best friend needed me?

So I cleaned myself up and called her just to find out that what I thought had to be an emergency or at least something important was nothing more than silly chatter. Cool, once again I got cheated out of the intimate me-time I had been missing, and trust me, there is nothing worse than getting worked up for a letdown.

And I'm sure you're wondering what purpose masturbation serves to someone who has a boyfriend no more than 10 or 15 minutes away who is more than willing to come and screw me to my heart's contentment. It's true that I am in no way deprived of sex. I have what I consider to be a healthy sex life - at least once every time he and I see each other.

But there is something magical about being able to get yourself off without having to worry about anyone but you. No kissing, no handjobs, no blowjobs, no changing positions and no cuddling afterward - it's just a sweetly simple release.

When I was a teen and a novice to sex with all these flowery and romantic ideas about

"love making," I was completely against the idea of my boyfriend masturbating. I thought, "Am I not good enough?!" We would get into countless fights that revolved around the same tired argument: Him masturbating made me feel insecure and him masturbating made him feel good. Let's face it; it's hard to ask a man to break away from his hand - it was there first.

After the novelty wore off of having to tell someone how to touch me, or reposition my pelvis so he was hitting the spot just right, or resigning myself to just not getting mine, I discovered the glory known as masturbation. No one can do it like you and you're guaranteed to cum every time, assuming that you're not interrupted by an "emergency" phone call.

Now don't get me wrong, there aren't many things that are more satisfying than having your man ravish every inch of your body, bringing you both to simultaneous orgasms that result in the two of you collapsing on tangled bed sheets in each others' arms, but that doesn't always happen, now does it?

However, you can rejuvenate your spirits and add a little pep in your step by taking approximately 15 minutes out of your day to please yourself.

Masturbation is a good thing. It's how we get familiar with our bodies so we can teach our partners how to touch us to make us feel the best - perfectly put by Eugene Levy in American Pie, "It's like practice for the big game."

But more than just practice or self gratification, masturbation actually makes you a healthier person! First of all, it's the safest kind of sex a person can have. It's a mood booster, a natural sedative, a stress reliever.

According to research found in a 2007 article in Sexual and Relationship Therapy, masturbation helps men have healthier immune systems and help prevent prostate gland infection.

For women, masturbation helps prevent menstrual cramps and other painful symptoms brought on by menstruation, helps prevent yeast infections and helps relieve chronic back pain.

So next time you feel like getting a little handsy, take advantage of it! Be a little selfish; treat yourself to some you-time! And if you're feeling a little shy or embarrassed by this taboo activity, no worries! No one has to know - it isn't like you're going to grow hair on your palms.

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

The ridges on the sides of coins are called reeding or milling. A dime has 118 ridges around the edge. A quarter has 119 ridges.

How valuable is the penny you found lying on the ground? If it takes just a second to pick it up, a person could make \$36 per hour just picking up pennies.

It's rumored that sucking on a copper penny will cause a Breathalyzer to read zero.

On the new U.S. \$100 bill, the time on the clock tower of Independence Hall is 4:10.

The Australian \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 notes are made of plastic.

The face of a penny can hold 30 drops of water.

The first coins issued by authority of the United States government were minted in 1787. These pennies were inscribed with the plainspoken motto, "Mind your own business."

The original 50-cent piece in Australian decimal currency had around \$100 worth of silver in it before it was replaced with a less-expensive 12-sided coin.

At the height of inflation in Germany in the early 1920s, approximately \$2 were equal to a quintillion German marks.

For a deck of cards to be mixed up enough to play with properly, it should be shuffled at least seven times.

Playing cards in India are round.

Playing cards became the first paper currency of Canada in 1685, when the French governor used them to pay off some war debts.

The Nine of Hearts playing card is considered the symbol of love.

The Ace of Spades playing card symbolizes death.

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

More people use blue toothbrushes than red ones.

Oral-B is a combination of "oral hygiene" and the letter B, which stands for the word better.

Some toothpaste contains antifreeze.

Dentists recommended that a toothbrush be kept six feet away from a toilet to avoid airborne particles resulting from the flush.

Americans spend \$1.5 billion every year on toothpaste.

4,000 people are injured by teapots every year.

A toothpick is the object most often choked on by Americans. Every year, more than 8,800 people injure themselves in some way with a toothpick.

On average, 100 people choke on ballpoint pens every year.

40,000 Americans are injured by toilets every year.

In 1981, a man had a heart attack after playing the game Berserk – video gaming's only known fatality.

Battle of the Bands makes for an exciting Friday night alternative

Five NC bands compete for a chance to play 'Barefoot'

Marlana Sifter
STAFF WRITER



En Serenade will be performing in Friday's Battle of the Bands

The Student Activity Board's Entertainment Committee invites all of ECU to witness the 2010 Battle of the Bands, which will take place Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and will be free for all ECU students.

Out of about 16 demos submitted from across North Carolina, the committee selected five bands to perform for the competition. The event has been sponsored annually by SAB since 1982.

After the bands play a sample of their music, consisting of about six songs each, a panel of judges will determine the battle's winner. Judges include members of school radio station WZMD, student government, SAB and various other entertainment organizations. The band awarded first place will win \$500, as well as the opportunity to play at the 31st annual Barefoot on the Mall, which will be held Thursday, April 22. Second place winner will be awarded a prize of \$250.

Previously held in Hendrix Theatre, the Battle of the Bands will this year have the privilege of playing in Wright Auditorium, where conditions behind stage and in seating are able to cater to a much larger affair.

Event coordinators, such as technician James Palmer, will have the chance to organize ahead of time rather than in between acts.

"Hendrix can hold only 750, while Wright holds up to 1,100," said SAB Entertainment Committee Chair, Jonathan Butler, a junior majoring in media production.

"Wright has dressing rooms and more space backstage for equipment. It gives the bands the opportunity to do a real show, unwind, be prepared and set up before they go on," he added.

The opening act of the night, a Chapel Hill group named En Serenade, will start the event off with a show of their punk-infused sounds. Band members include Kyle Cox on guitar/vocals, Matt Smith on bass, Dillon Shambley on vocals, Trey Gardner on drums and Ryan Morgan on guitar. En Serenade is signed onto Forsaken Records.

Playing second is a hip hop/electronic band from Raleigh, Mixed Solution, who are known for their blend of experimental, soul and hip hop music. Members consist of singer, rapper, co-songwriter who goes by the name Milmo; along with DJs, who works with beats, guitar,

bass and vocals; Quiet Mike, who works with visual and graphic arts and Meg, who serves as lyricist for the band. Mixed Solution is signed with the major record label MSR.

At 7:15 p.m., Christian/Indie Rock band Crimson Refuge will take the stage. The group has played with many major bands, such as Stryper, Lydia and The Secret Handshake. Originally from Rocky Mount, members are listed as Justin, Bryan, Cory and Will.

Hailing from Charlotte, alternative rock group Born Under Punches will perform at 8:15 p.m. Band members include Todd Langdon on lead vocals and guitar, Cheetah on drums and backing vocals and Carsten on base. The group views the possibility of winning the competition as an exciting bonus to performing.

"We don't usually go 'barefoot' on or even in the mall, but of course we'd love to win and have the opportunity to play!" said drummer, Cheetah.

Born Under Punches, rather than applying early like some of the bands, was tipped off about the event just a couple of weeks ago by an ECU student.

BATTLE page A7

"Heart Stoppers" raise money for the American Heart Association

Caitlin Hale
ASSISTANT FEATURES
EDITOR

Need a date for Friday night? Have some cash?

If the answer is yes to both questions, then Rehab Lounge is the place to be this Friday night. The Bellamy will be hosting its first "Heart Stoppers Date Auction" at the local downtown lounge on Friday, with all proceeds going to the American Heart Association.

The American Heart Association was chosen as the charity for the night by the Bellamy because the apartment complex wanted to "support a good cause" as well as "help out the community," said Emily Hancock, junior family and community services major for the Bellamy. "Supporting the American Heart Association seemed appropriate because heart disease is a leading cause of death," she added.

Doors will open at 9 p.m. with free admission until 10:30 p.m. During this time, the five heart stoppers will be able to mingle with those attending the event. "We hope to be able to convince people to bid big bucks on us during that time," said Hancock, who serves as one of the five heart stoppers of the evening.

The names for the other heart stoppers for the night have not yet been released. "All heart stoppers are either Bellamy staff, Rehab Lounge staff or Bellamy residents," said Hancock. "They are all aged 19 to 24 and are almost all ECU undergraduate or graduate students." She also added that a few of the Rehab Lounge bouncers

would be up for grabs as well. Bidding will start around 10:30 p.m. The venues of the dates will be distributed after the bidding is complete. The person who donated the most money (who spent the most on winning their date) will have first choice of the location of the date. Afterward, date locations will continue to be chosen by the amount of money donated. Locations will include all expenses paid visits to restaurants around Greenville, including Finelli's, Cold Stone Creamery and Japan Inn. "We will have some surprise locations including restaurants and trips to the spa," added Hancock. The winner and the heart stopper will then decide the time and day of the date.

Donna Davidson, property manager for the Bellamy, said she reached the idea of holding a date auction due to the joking of many of the leasing agents for the complex. "They joked about the cute residents that live at the Bellamy and how they would love to auction them off to raise some money. I turned it around on them and said what better way to raise some money than to auction off the staff!" said Davidson. "I guess the joke is on us," Hancock teasingly added.

Davidson went on to add that she decided to host this event to try to build a better reputation within the community. "We want people to know that we not only care about our residents, but the Greenville community as well," she said. "We want to be known for being a

BELLAMY page A7



Johnny Depp stars in "Alice in Wonderland" released in theaters on March 3.

Audiences are amazed by 'Alice in Wonderland'

★★★★☆

Ethan Anderson
STAFF WRITER

Tim Burton's new film, "Alice in Wonderland," was released March 5 and came in first at the box office, grossing over \$116 million on the first weekend.

"Alice in Wonderland" is also at the top of the box office charts in the UK and has grossed more money across the world than it has domestically.

The "Alice in Wonderland" movie is rated PG and is intended for all audiences. However, if you are familiar with Tim Burton's style of movie-making, you may reconsider taking very young children to this movie. He has been famous for movies such as "Beetle Juice," "The Nightmare before Christmas," "Edward Scissorhands" and many more. The special effects are done very well in this production and it may be a bit intense for children who have difficulty grasping the idea of

reality in movies.

Burton's version of "Alice in Wonderland" is not just a simple remake of the Disney classic we all remember. In this movie, Alice explores wonderland as a 19 year old. The entire movie is based on her returning to Wonderland as an adolescent to complete her destiny. The creatures of Wonderland need Alice's help. However, 13 years later, Alice does not quite look the same as when she first visited Wonderland. Because of this, no one is exactly sure whether this 19-year-old girl is the "real" Alice or not.

In attempt to uncover the truth and confusion of the situation, Alice decides to stay in Wonderland and help. She reunites with her old friends the Mad Hatter (Johnny Depp) and the Cheshire Cat (Stephen Fry). As she gradually becomes reacquainted with everyone, Alice begins to realize that her visit in Wonderland is indeed not the first. She then takes it upon herself to meet her destiny face

to face and rise against the Red Queen (Helena Bonham Carter). Johnny Depp's highly anticipated appearance in this role never ceases to impress audiences. Although the lead role in "Alice in Wonderland" of course goes to the character of Alice, the Mad Hatter may have been the primary reason of catching the attention of the audience. Mia Wasikowska an uncommon name in the movie industry, plays the role of Alice. Although Wasikowska is young and inexperienced, she partnered well along side one of Hollywood's most famous. Wonderland is famous for all of the peculiar things that happen throughout the story. One way viewers can embellish on this aspect is to view the movie in 3-D. Recently, watching movies in 3-D has become more popular. However, this luxury has been a very controversial issue. There have been some com-

ALICE page A7

PIRATE EATS Greenville's a Tavola Market Café serves finest Italian Cuisine

Ethan Anderson
STAFF WRITER

At 620 Red Banks Road, you will find another one of Greenville's great Italian restaurants. A Tavola Market Café is in a relatively central part of Greenville. It is located in the same shopping center as Moe's Southwest Grill. The restaurant is a lot larger on the inside than it appears. As you walk in you, will notice that the restaurant is divided into two sides. On the left side, there is a nice bar set up with other tables to sit and eat. On the right, you'll see the kitchen and grill along with another dining area.

If you are trying to budget yourself, you should definitely try out one of their paninis or any of their other delicious sandwiches. The Cuban panini comes with shaved pork loin,

sliced pickles, Swiss cheese and Havana sauce on sourdough. Two other common panini dishes are the pesto chicken and grilled vegetable: both are only \$7.50 and like all other sandwich dishes, they come with two sides.

If you aren't quite ready to try out something too strange, you can always stick with a classic choice like the a Tavola burger or the Pitt Co. steak and cheese. This juicy eight-ounce Angus burger is served with veggies and two sides for around \$9. The steak and cheese is made of thinly shaved rib eye, served on a toasted hoagie bun.

A Tavola Market Café also has a great selection of pasta and seafood. They serve all of the classic Italian dishes such as lasagna, baked manicotti, baked ziti, spaghetti with marinara and fettuccine alfredo.

I found that the a Tavola

Café's selling point for me was in their pizza. I tried the swine and cheese, which comes with pepperoni, Italian sausage, applewood bacon, ham, mozzarella and cheddar cheese.

There are many other gourmet-style dishes like the Naked Greek, which comes with toppings of fresh spinach, sun-dried tomatoes, red onion rings, feta cheese and a misting of balsamic vinaigrette. There are two different sizes: the nine-inch, which is \$7.50, and the 14-inch, which is \$11.95. Their rendition of the Calzone and Stromboli is incredible. You should be expected to spend at least \$10, but considering the size of this meal, it is well worth the money.

This is a great place to get gourmet quality pizza at a good price. If you are of the appropriate age, you may be interested to try out the great wine selection and bar. The a Tavola Market



REBECCA HARTMAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Tavola is a restaurant located on Red Banks Road. Café would be a great place to go with a group of friends. The setting is very sophisticated, not to mention the service is helpful and speedy.

A Tavola Market Café is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to

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Alexander Paul

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BELLAMY continued from A6

charitable property," added Hancock. "I think this is a step in the right direction."

So for those looking to donate to a good cause while at the same time winning a wonderful date with one of the Bellamy's heart stoppers, come out to Rehab Lounge and take part in the fun. Remember to get there early to have a chance to mingle with the heart stoppers of the night!

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ALICE continued from A6

intense effects. Some say that the constant 3-D effects are a strain on the eyes and may cause headaches. For audiences that suffer from this problem, the viewing experience of this Hollywood blockbuster may be in jeopardy. Burton's rendition of "Alice in Wonderland" is sure to impress audiences. He does a good job of making an interesting new story that doesn't take away from the expectations of mystery and wonder.

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

BATTLE continued from A6

"We were invited by one of our biggest fans, so in a some way, shape or form, you could say it was popular demand," Cheetah said.

Scheduled to play at 9 p.m., southern rock band Vegas Masquerade will perform their mixture of rock and metal. Guitarist Andrew Bott, lead guitarist Skyler Kuhn, Bassist Matt Dixon, and Patrick McLamb, who plays the vox, are from Kinston.

When asked if he would describe the Battle of the Bands as a great substance-free weekend activity, Butler described it as "a good alternative evening event," and a "great, fun environment that is alcohol-free."

Butler continued, "That is what we do at SAB: the events are an entertaining alternative to 'going downtown.' If you love music and have an ear for something new, this will be a great evening for you."

Cheetah reportedly agrees. "Sure, we would play an alcohol and drug-free event any night of the week!"

A fairly good turnout is expected. The bands playing, as well as the day of the week, will often affect the amount of students and non-students who will be in attendance.


"The bands present will usually dictate how many fans are coming," said Butler.

"Holding the event on a weekend night allows more people to come from out of town and see their favorite band."

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

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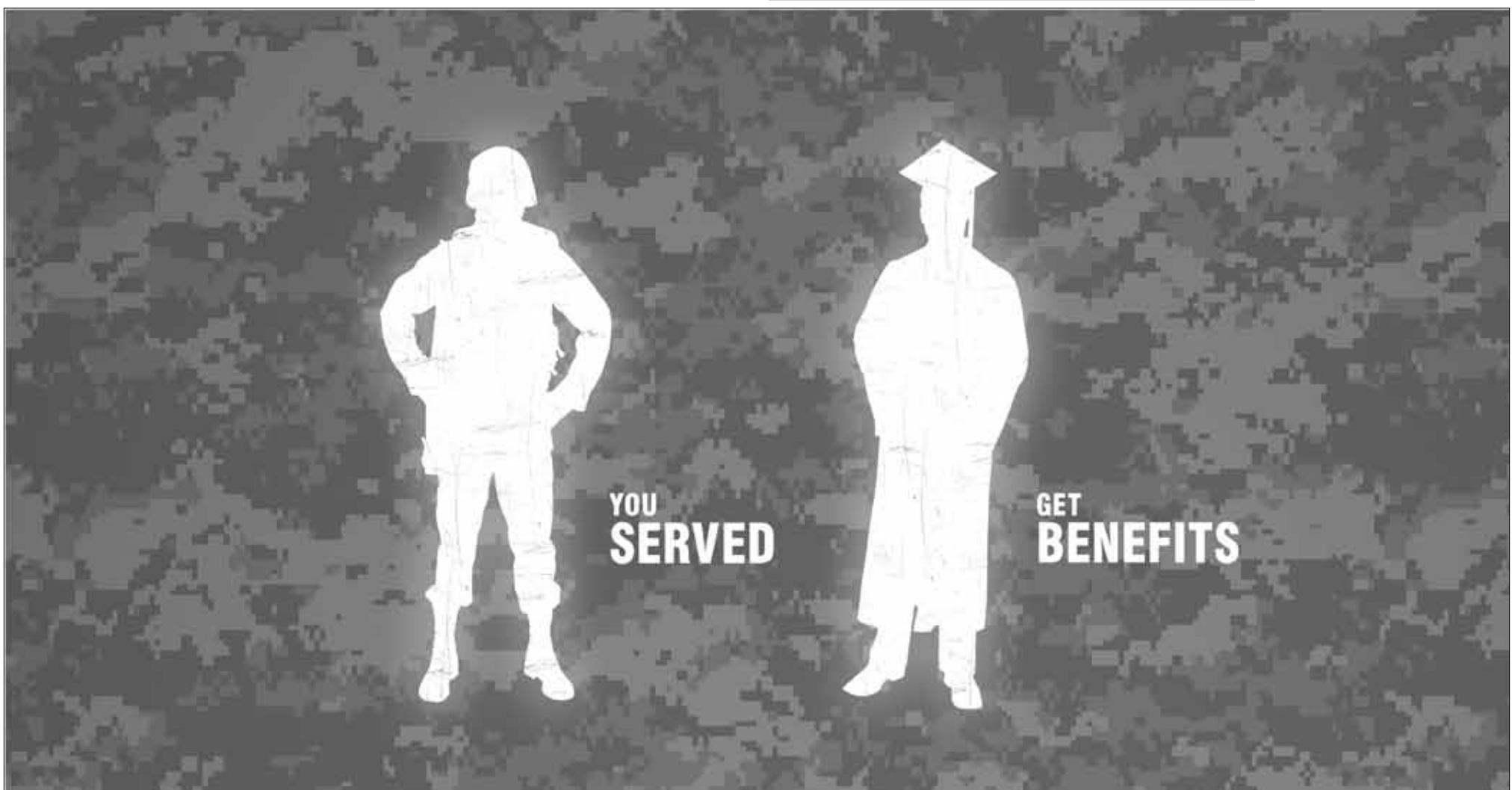
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Staff Reports

Track captures event titles at UNCW

While teammate Tynita Butts was representing the ECU track and field program at the NCAA Indoor Championships March 12-13, a few athletes gained valuable experience at the UNCW Invitational that they hope will propel them toward the national outdoor meet in June.

Three Pirates earned event titles at the meet, while freshman Matthew McConaughy set the men's school record in the javelin throw with a heave of 67.89 meters. That mark shattered the qualifying mark for the USA Junior Nationals and is currently the top mark in the nation. All three ECU winners had never competed in their respective events before joining the Pirates.

Maegan Lewis, the 2009 Conference USA outdoor champion in the hammer, took first with a mark of 55.72 meters, good for fourth nationally, while Ashleigh Lee earned fourth place at 47.03 meters. Nicole Tozzi captured the title in the javelin, recording a 45.12 to put her fifth nationally and to add to a fifth-place showing by Taylor Harris (35.02).

In addition to McConaughy's school standard, Sam Barnhardt also grabbed a top three finish in the javelin, checking in at 53.73 meters.

The Pirates begin the outdoor season in earnest this weekend, traveling to Conway, S.C., for the Coastal Carolina Shamrock Invitational. The meet is slated for March 18-20 at the Coastal Carolina Track.

ECU releases 2010 football schedule

Contests against seven bowl qualifiers, including a home matchup against Texas Bowl winner Navy and road games at Atlantic Coast Conference members Virginia Tech and North Carolina, complement a mid-October date versus North Carolina State at newly-expanded Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium according to a release of ECU's complete 2010 football schedule by Conference USA officials Tuesday.

The two-time C-USA champion Pirates will begin defense of their title in the season opener by hosting Tulsa at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 5, in front of a national television audience on ESPN.

2010 ECU FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 5 - Tulsa (ESPN/Sun.)

Sept. 11 - Memphis

Sept. 18 - at Virginia Tech

Oct. 2 - at North Carolina

Oct. 9 - at Southern Miss

Oct. 16 - N.C. State

Oct. 23 - Marshall

Oct. 30 - at UCF

Nov. 6 - Navy

Nov. 13 - at UAB

Nov. 20 - at Rice

Nov. 27 - SMU

SPORTS

A8

Thursday, 3.18.10

sports@theeastcarolinian.com

No. 16 ECU hopes home stand is brighter than Sunshine State swing



ECU ace Seth Maness picked up the long win in the Pirates California road trip last week.

Pirates host Monmouth this weekend for three-game series

Michael Perry
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Following a difficult California road swing over spring break, No. 16 ECU returns home for a three-game weekend series with Monmouth.

The Pirates (9-6) dropped three-of-four in the Sunshine State, one to Cal State Northridge and two to Pepperdine, but they managed to leave on a good note, posting a 3-2 victory over the later on the arm of right-handed starter Seth Maness (2-2).

Heading into this week-

end's matchup, ECU holds a strong 10-1 lead in the overall series over Monmouth, with the Hawks losing the last five meetings, including a three game sweep in last season's contest.

Monmouth (2-4) has been the victim of a long winter as five or their scheduled games have been cancelled or rescheduled. Though off to a rough start, the defending Northeast Conference Champion Hawks finished last season 32-25 and received a berth to the 2009 Oxford Regional.

In a closer look at Monmouth, lead by head coach and former Pirate Dan Ehehalt, this year's team introduces a younger looking squad.

The Hawks lost eight seniors including standout second basemen Chris Callazo, as well as juniors Ryan Buch and Brett Bach to the Major League Baseball draft.

At the plate, Monmouth has struggled early to make contact as the team batting average sits at .230 and the overall on base percentage is .277. Leading the way for the Hawks at the dish include Bobby Dombrowski, Jamie Rosenkranz and Nick Pulsonetti.

Dombroski leads the team in hits (seven) and holds the highest batting average among starters (.350). Rosenkranz has one of the team's two homers and boasts a slugging percentage

of .682, while Pulsonetti hold the team best in RBI with six plated runs on five hits.

On the mound for Monmouth, possible starters include Nick Meyers and Kyle Breese. Last week, the tandem attack of the two senior lefties, Breese and Myers, allowed the Hawks to sweep last weekend's double-header and pick up their first two wins.

Meyers (1-0) has kept hitters at bay in his two starts with an earned-run average under one (0.90). He also leads the team in strikeouts at seven and has only allowed six hits in his 10 innings pitched.

Breese (1-1) has only allowed three earned runs in his 13 2/3 innings pitched.

Including this weekend's series, ECU will complete their second consecutive five-game week but will remain home for the next 14 contests.

Taking the mound for the Pirates, the assumed starters will be Kevin Brandt, Brad Mincey and Seth Maness, but others could possibly get the nod.

Last weekend, Brandt, Zach Woods and first time starter Shawn Armstrong all suffered their first losses on the West Coast. Maness notched his second win and Mincey was absent from the four-game starting rotation.

Relief from the bullpen has been clicking as of late as ECU kept its California opponents scoreless in 11.2 innings.

As of Wednesday, closer Seth Simmons has made five-straight saves, including one keeper against Gardner-Webb

on Tuesday. Simmons now sits tied for second among Pirate closers with Gregg Bunn (2002-04) at 16 career saves.

With the sticks, the Pirates have been slightly over par with a .290-team batting average but have excelled in the game of long ball as they have ripped a combined 15 homers on the season.

Freshman first basemen John Wooten currently leads the team with four home runs and has played a total of 12 runners on his 16 hits.

Standout shortstop Dustin Harrington, despite recently ending a 22-game hitting streak Tuesday, sports a team-best batting average of .400 and an on base percentage of .438. Harrington hitting in the two spot has been much improved at the plate this season.

Designated hitter Kyle Roller has been deterred from flexing his offensive muscle as he has been walked 12 times and has taken five bean balls, but even so, Roller still has produced 10 RBI on 12 hits and has jacked three round trippers.

Also contributing well at the plate has been Corey Thompson and Cam Freeman.

After returning from a makeup game at High Point Wednesday night, the Pirates will prepare to pick up three needed wins against Monmouth. Game time at Clark LeClair Stadium will be 7 p.m. on Friday, 3 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

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

March Madness: The true title contenders

OPINION

5. Syracuse:

The Orange spent seemingly the entire regular season in cruise control with a few hiccups in conference play being the only blemishes. They boast the Big East player of the year in Wesley Johnson and impact players at the guard slots in the starting line-up and off the bench. They shoot well, defend and take care of the basketball like a national title contender should. However, their play in the Big East tournament left plenty to be desired.

Cuse's zone defense will help curb the fatigue on the likely six-man rotation to be employed by Boeheim, but an off game from even one of their shooters could spell an early exit for a team who three weeks ago looked like a lock for the Final Four.

The good thing is, they have a fairly easy draw to the regional final, but there they could run into a Pittsburgh team that beat the Orange in their only meeting this season.

4. Georgetown:

West Virginia seems to be the top pick of the Big East contenders, but I like the Hoyas. West Virginia looked inconsistent during the entire Big East

tourney. They played themselves out of and back into games so frequently it seemed like their offensive rhythm was on a morphine drip. Plus, it's hard to trust a team that consistently wins on buzzer-beaters because eventually they do stop falling.

Georgetown, on the other hand, looked every bit like the talented, athletic team we expected to see all season. More than any team during their conference tournament, the Hoyas displayed an ability to adapt their play to best exploit the weaknesses of their opponent. They have athleticism at every position on the floor and pass and share the ball as well as any team in the country.

3. Duke:

The Blue Devils caught a break from the selection committee and have by far the easiest road to the Final Four. A potentially tricky second round match-up against Louisville would seem to be their biggest roadblock to the regional final.

If Duke can make it there, at worst they would face an inexperienced Baylor squad or a Villanova team that hasn't won back-to-back games in over a month.



Hart Holloman
SENIOR WRITER

The Ides of March bring about various certainties in American life that have become as unavoidable as the next superstar scandal, and one of the biggest advents of the "ESPN Age" is the ever-evolving, inexact science known as bracketology. Records, RPIs, injuries, etc., are discussed ad nauseam by everyone from Doug "Grandmaster of the Ever-Shifting Bubble" Gottlieb to the cast of writers and pundits that litter afternoon TV. By the time the play-in game kicks off, even my mom thinks she has the bracket that's going to take the pot this year. (With 'Nova in the final four, let's be serious.)

So, what else is there to do but talk about it a little more? I won't touch on the finer points of bracket dissection like the enigma of the 5/12 match-up, but here's a quick look at the major contenders.



John Wall (left) and John Calipari (right) have led the resurgence of Kentucky basketball this season.

The Devils are well coached as always behind Coach K., and everyone on the team seems to know and be committed to their particular role on the team. If you need evidence, check out the smile on Bryan Zoubek's face after he sets 18 screens on a possession that leads to a Kyle

Singler 3-pointer.

Singler and Jon Scheyer will need to be more consistent with their shots than they have been in recent weeks, but barring a

TITLE continued on A9

Bustin' brackets: A look at who could be Cinderella



Two hot picks to create upsets in this year's NCAA tournament, Temple and Richmond, face off in last week's A10 tourney.

OPINION



Addison Harvey
STAFF WRITER

Every year at the conclusion of the NCAA basketball regular season a whole new season begins.

This is after all a tournament where a small school like Davidson has the same chance to win a national championship, as does powerhouse Kansas.

Will this year give us a national champion like Villanova in 1985, which won it all as an eight seed or will one of the top ranked teams such as Kansas cut down the nets again?

5. Utah State:

Utah State accumulated 27 wins this season and the veteran Aggies are definitely a mismatch for their first round opponent the Aggies of Texas A&M.

In a rare matchup of Aggies, Utah State's style of offense is

that of many of the 2010 Cinderella picks they like to slow it down and shoot 3s.

Texas A&M and Utah State square off in Spokane, Wash., which is a much shorter trip for the Aggies of Utah State.

I think this is the year for Utah State to break through the first round and even into the Sweet 16.

4. Siena:

Siena has become a mid-major staple in the NCAA Tournament, making their third-straight appearance in the big dance. The Saints have not only made the big dance the past two seasons, but they have won games as a lower seed in the 2008 and 2009 tournaments. In 2008, Siena defeated fourth seeded Vanderbilt before going on to lose in the second round and in similar fashion Siena defeated Ohio State last year in the first round before being knocked out in the second round.

Siena has a very favorable matchup with Big Ten member Purdue in the first round. Purdue who is without their star player Robbie Hummel got bounced in their first game

of their conference tournament by lower seeded Minnesota. Without Hummel, Purdue is an average tournament team and they are vulnerable to maybe the biggest first round upset of the 2010 NCAA Tournament.

3. Cornell:

A key to making a run as a lower seed in the NCAA Tournament is having a player or a few players that on any given day they can get really hot from the floor and score points in waves and Cornell fits this description.

Cornell is one of the best 3-point shooting teams in the tournament and if they get hot from beyond the 3-point arc, they are going to be dangerous.

The Big Red has a quality win over a Big East team in St. John's and nearly knocked off No. 1 ranked Kansas in Allen Field house in the regular season losing by only four points.

2. Richmond:

BUSTER continued on A9

M

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TITLE continued from A8

major meltdown, which I'll admit isn't out of the question, the Blue Devils should be playing in Indy come April.

region. The main thing Self has to watch out for is complacency within his squad.

2. Kansas:

Bill Self fields the most experienced and deep, all-around team in the tournament. The Jayhawks proved throughout the year that they are deserving of the top overall seed in the tournament. They boast a core of experienced players in All-American guard Sherron Collins and senior center Cole Aldrich, while a crew of youngsters lead by super-freshman Xavier Henry add a boatload of scoring and youthful exuberance to the equation.

The Jayhawks, however, have been cursed by their bracket geography. I don't think their region is as difficult for Kansas in particular as it has been made out to be, but it is the toughest region in the tournament.

The good thing for Kansas is that most of the other teams who have a legitimate shot at beating them are in the bottom half of the


1. Kentucky:

The Wildcats feature the most talented squad in the tournament. John Wall, DeMarcus Cousins and Eric Bledsoe form the best freshmen trio college basketball has seen in years. All three have the ability to change the complexion of a game with their skills, but Calipari will need all three to play close to their potential if he wants to cut down the nets and return to Lexington as the conquering hero.

And while the "Super-Frosh Trio" will need to be the driving force behind a title run, the other parts of the team will be just as important to the result. Patrick Patterson in particular will need to have a good tournament if Ashley Judd wants to see her beloved Wildcats hoist the trophy in Indy as "One Shining Moment" plays over the loudspeaker.

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

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BUSTER continued from A8

The biggest question about the tournament field this year is why is the South region so weak?

The top four seeds in the South are Duke, Villanova, Baylor and Purdue. Purdue did have a great season and are probably deserving of a four seed, but ever since their leading scorer Hummel was lost for the year, Purdue has been mediocre. While Baylor is extremely talented and athletic, the Bears haven't won a tournament game in almost 50 years.

Villanova has struggled down the stretch and was sent home from the Big East tournament after one game.

This opens the door for a lower seed team to make a run like Davidson did in getting to the Elite 8 in 2008 and I think a team that could emerge from the South region is Richmond.

1. UTEP:

Rarely is there a 12 seed in the NCAA Tournament that enters

the tournament having been ranked for the majority of the year and the UTEP Miners fit in this category.

UTEP dominated Conference USA this year and topped conference power Memphis as the top seed in the conference tournament this season.

Tony Barbee's team only dropped one conference game this season to Houston and fell to the Cougars again in the championship game causing the Miners to fall in seeding.

UTEP is a very dangerous 12 seed and their first round matchup with Butler is very favorable for the C-USA power.

The Miners duo of C-USA Player-of-the-Year Randy Culpepper and big man Derrick Character creates massive mismatches for Butler.

On the back of this talented duo along with starting guard Julian Stone, UTEP is equipped to make a run to the Sweet 16.

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

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WALK TO CLASS! 1 block from campus. 2 bedroom apartment with hard wood floors and central heat/air. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, high-speed internet, basic cable, water & sewer all included. August 1. 252-916-5680.

WALK TO CLASS: 1102 COTANCHE STREET, near Sheets, close to Starbucks, 3 large bedrooms, spacious back yard, some dogs ok. Central heat/ air, washer/dryer, dishwasher. Basic cable, high-speed internet, monitored alarm system all included in rent. August 1. 252-916-5680.

FOR SALE

TELL YOUR PARENTS TO STOP WASTING MONEY. We all know one of the biggest college expenses is housing. Why stay in a noisy dorm or a small cramped apartment when you can live in a safe comfortable condo for FREE. We have a 1500 sq. ft. condo that has 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen with built in dishwasher, garbage disposal, stove and refrigerator, laundry room and a private patio in back. This condo was built in 2002 and is very energy efficient. Located off Memorial Drive just 3 miles from campus. Our daughter lived there for FREE and the rent from her 2 roommates paid the mortgage with money left over. Asking price is \$67,000. For more information, call Bob at 980-521-3681.

HELP WANTED

Part-time position available. General shop maintenance, clean-up, and materials handling. Driver's license required. Hours flexible

to your class schedule. Apply in person at Parrott Canvas Co. (508 West 14th Street, Greenville, NC)

!BARTENDING! \$250/day potential. No experience necessary. Training available. 1-800-965-6520 (EXT 202).

Attention: CSM Majors. Paid Internships. \$2,500-\$7,500. CW Construction. For more information, email dhelfrich@cw-development.com

Babysitter needed. Approximately 30 hours/week, daytime hours June-August to watch 3 girls (3, 9, & 13). Non-smoker with car required. Must be energetic, fun, responsible, and like to swim. Will play with and supervise kids, chaffer them to activities and do light housework. Competitive pay. Email crawfordy@ecu.edu with resume and/or experience by March 26th.

SERVICES

Cash for textbooks! Don't sell

to the campus stores. Textbook-wizards pays at least 25% more than the wholesale value of your textbooks! Text or email us at 252-229-0342 or selling@textbook-wizards.com for a quote today!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations, Panhellenic Sororities, for 50 years at ECU! A celebration event will be this Friday night in Minges. More than 700 alumnae, undergraduates, and university administrators will be in attendance!

Culturefest will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24th (rain date will be March 31st) at the Mendenhall brickyard.

Overeaters Anonymous Group is sponsoring a free workshop on Saturday, March 27 from 11:00am - 3:00pm at First Presbyterian Church (corner of Elm and 14th Streets). For more information, call 252-353-6546.

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