

OPINION: If you are going to raise your hand in class and the teacher's not looking, SAY SOMETHING! You're in college, so don't be a chicken! **A4**

LIFESTYLES: TEC sits down with MTV reality stars. Turn to Lifestyles to find out what they had to say. **A5**

SPORTS: Coach Rock Roggeman passed away last week, turn to sports to read about his impact on the ECU football program. **A8**

The East Carolinian

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BRIEFS

New Director of the Center for Counseling and Student Development chosen

Staff Reports

Dr. Matt Dwyer, an ECU staff member since 2007, has been appointed the new Director of the Center for Counseling and Student Development.

Dwyer holds a bachelor's degree from Furman University, a Master's degree from Ball State University and a doctorate from the University of Kentucky.

He has been working in the mental health field for over 10 years.

Greenville zoning board approves club ordinance

Staff Reports

Greenville's Planning and Zoning Commission approved a new ordinance separating night-clubs from residential neighborhoods last week.

The drafted ordinance states that clubs must be at least 500 feet away from any single-family neighborhoods, in addition to an ordinance that requires clubs opened or constructed in the future to be built 500 feet from one another.

City Planners cited past issues with now closed clubs near neighborhoods, such as Unks and Faces Lounge.

Residents near these clubs cite their houses as being unlivable and unmarketable.

The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the ordinance in a 7-1 vote.

ECU alum unite in Triangle to network, raise money

Cassie McLean
STAFF WRITER

On February 18, the Sheraton Imperial in Raleigh opened its doors to a group of ECU alum eager to be the foundation of a new type of alumni association.

Since that day, Nick Francis of Madison Group Consulting and its almost 50 members have eagerly tried to expand Pirate Pulse, the 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, focusing on increasing awareness of ECU within the Triangle.

Additionally, the organization aims to serve as an advocate for issues related to the university and may form a political action committee (PAC).

Why the Triangle? Nick Francis, president of Pirate Pulse and alum of ECU, said, "The largest concentration of alumni are in the Triangle. There's

nothing you can find in the Triangle with ECU on it," he added, "The top high schools ECU recruits from are in the Triangle."

The organization aims to serve as an advocate for issues related to ECU, and may eventually form a political action committee (PAC).

"There is not currently a mechanism in place for Triangle-area alumni to advocate for our alma mater," he said, "Pirate Pulse will help focus the Pirate Nation on advocating for our university, not just having the largest caravan going down highway 264 for sporting events."

Kieran Shanahan of Shanahan Law Group, PLLC, who will serve as legal counsel for the group, said in a press release, "While we have strong support throughout North Carolina, our alumni base is simply not as large as those of UNC and NCSU," says Shanahan. "We envision Pirate Pulse serving as

a strong, focused advocate for ECU."

Pirate Pulse plans on holding quarterly meetings and social events at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park for its members. Guest speakers and networking opportunities are the perks of attending.

"This is an exciting opportunity to elevate the level of interaction of the business community of ECU graduates in the Triangle and across the state," said J. Fielding Miller, CEO of CapTrust Financial, in a press release earlier this month.

Francis explained the motivation to start up his company resided in the fact that it was unprecedented.

"It doesn't exist and it's never been done. It's time. It's one of these new challenges of the status quo," he said.

Francis hopes that among the 16-campus system in North Carolina, ECU can rise to the same status as UNC



CONTRIBUTED

Nick Francis, co-founder and President of Pirate Pulse, an organization to raise awareness of ECU in the Triangle region and beyond.

and N.C. State, who currently dominate because of two reasons, he said: politics

> **PULSE page A2**



CONTRIBUTED

The documentary "Exxxit: Life After Porn" debuted in June 2010.

'Life After Porn' sheds light on controversial industry

Former Pirate, Bryce Wagoner, makes his mark in Hollywood.

Shivani Vyas
STAFF WRITER

"Exxxit: Life After Porn" was released earlier this month. The documentary conquers a controversial topic and places it into perspective for its audience. It examined the careers and lives of many widely known names that contribute to the adult entertainment industry.

Director of "Exxxit: Life After Porn," Bryce Wagoner, tells us the significance and purpose of his work.

"I wanted to emphasize that porn stars are people too. Society has a hard time allowing these woman that have presented themselves as sexual objects back into mainstream America, back into Greenville, N.C. They get shunned by society."

Wagoner wanted to expose the lives and history of these entertainers, in

> **EXXXIT page A2**

NC boat stripped of \$900,000 in winnings

Associated Press

The lack of a fishing license for one crew member may have cost a boat more than \$900,000 in prize money in the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament in North Carolina.

The Daily News of Jacksonville reported that Andy Thomossan, the fisherman who caught a record-setting 883-pound blue marlin June 14, said tournament officials stripped the Hatteras-based boat Citation of the title and the \$912,825 from the total \$1.66 million purse.

"No record. No money. No fish. No nothing," Thomossan said, adding the rules violation was that one of the crew didn't have the required fishing license.

One of the boat's owners, Michael Topp, said the lack of a license for a "for-hire" mate was discovered during a lie detector test. The tournament requires the test for the top money winners,

including the captain, mate and angler as well as "others as deemed necessary."

A recreational fishing license costs \$15 annually for North Carolina residents 16 and older or \$30 for nonresidents, according to the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources website. A 10-day license can also be purchased for \$5 for state residents 16 and older or \$10 for nonresidents.

Also, fishing boat owners can purchase a block of 10 10-day fishing licenses for \$150.

The tournament said Sunday its board was withholding presentation of the prize money until it could research a possible rules violation. Tournament director Crystal Watters said Big Rock officials would have further comment Monday after the board meets.

The runner-up boat that would be the winner was Carnivore, which is captained by Ed Petrilli of Cape Carteret. Angler John Parks of Jacksonville caught a 528.3-pound blue marlin Wednesday.

PULSE continued from A1

and alumni.

"ECU is 100 years old. Carolina is a whole lot older. This is a natural evolution," he explained.

Because the organization is not affiliated with the school system, it does not have to abide by any of the rules and regulations that the Pirate Club or the Alumni Association must adhere to.

Francis said, "There's the Pirate Club already. There's the ECU Alumni Association already. Read the mission statement. Pirate Pulse is independent; there's the power. When you're taking tax dollars, you have to follow a whole lot of rules. We can raise money and decide how we want the university to use it. We can lobby the politics and based on how we want to see the university go. And we will work closely to see that done."

Francis was excited to see the number in his organization, what he described as a "rallying point" climb, as many influential and powerful alumni reside in the triangle area.

"There's power in numbers," he said.

He ended by saying that, while alumni may be very different individually, together they have a common bond.

"It doesn't matter if you're a medical student, a business major, a history major, an English major. It doesn't matter. You're a Pirate and you're from ECU."

Anyone can register at the organization's website, www.piratepulse.org.

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

EXXIT continued from A1

hopes of gearing the public away from the common norm. He explained that despite their best efforts, these individuals are seldom able to live normal lives after leaving the porn industry.

"It is tough for these people to get through this stigma, because the work that they do remains forever. The pictures and videos posted online will never go away," Wagoner said.

Wagoner, an ECU alumnus and a Phi Kappa Si brother, attended ECU from 1993-2002. He spoke about his journey from an undecided undergraduate to the Oscar winning director he is now.

"I started off as an exercise physiology major and even tried political science classes. But due to the time off ECU was forced to permit because of Hurricane Floyd, I was able to rethink things through. I soon decided to change my major to English literature with a theatre minor and the rest is history," said Wagoner.

"During my theatre classes, I learned everything from setting up sets to acting and directing. At that point, I knew that this was something I would like to do one day because I really enjoyed it. I wanted to entertain people with good stories that they can enrich themselves with, whether it was as an actor, producer or director," said Wagoner.

ECU theatre professor of The School of Theatre and Dance, Robert Caprio, recalls memories of Wagoner as an undergraduate.

"Bryce was a very creative student when he was in my acting class. He took a great deal of risks with his creativity and was very energetic. His charm fits right into the L.A. lifestyle and what he does. He has been in movies and documentaries, producing and directing and

getting things started off the ground," said Caprio.

Professor Caprio also tells us about his ideas of "Exxit: Life After Porn" and feels the theme of the movie was something that needed to reach the public.

"I thought it was an excellent topic for a documentary and it was a great idea that needed to be explored. It's obviously a topic that does not really reach the mainstream, as pornography has always been put behind a closet. It was an excellent idea that needed to be brought out in the open and expressed," Caprio explained.

Before becoming a director, Wagoner had roles on the TV show "WWE" and worked as an actor for Bruce Goodison's "The Flight That Fought Back."

"It took a lot of hard work and about 10 years to get to this point. But I think anyone can make it to Hollywood with a good attitude, work ethic and education. Hollywood's tough and I couldn't be more thankful for every second I was at ECU where I received wonderful training. ECU was very good to me because it taught me to be how to be creative and resourceful. I love ECU and I'm proud to be a Pirate," said Wagoner.

Caprio shared a similar opinion to Wagoner, "Follow your dreams and take your fair share of risks. You will get turned down a lot, but to make it in show business or any business, you have to be an aggressive diplomat," said Caprio.

Editor's Note: "Exxit: Life after Porn" was produced by Andy Weiss and financed by Oxymoron Entertainment.

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If you are going to raise your hand in class and the teacher's not looking, SAY SOMETHING! You're in college, so don't be a chicken!

To my neighbors that I just heard bragging about driving home drunk "a lot": I hope both of you get DUI's. :)

I love being at ECU in summer!!! The girls and the bars make it perfect...

Why is it that I can drive from my house to Minges quicker than the bus can get me from Minges to the library?

Everyone has the smallest laptops, phones and iPods. What happened to bigger is better?

My apartment complex can't seem to afford to clean up the several months-old dog excrement from the closed-in stairwells that we, the paying attendants, have to smell and walk by every single day.

I drove by Dowdy at 1:30 a.m. three different nights last week and the stadium lights were on...I thought we were trying to "go green?" How's that working out?

Can someone tell Katy Perry to shut up? Biggest hypocrite I've ever seen.

Roommate who is only at the apartment two days a week: Stop leaving your stuff everywhere in the kitchen. We aren't cleaning up after you.

I hate when I go to sleep and leave my swagga on... runs up the bill!

LOOKING FOR RANTS??...WE ARE OUT!!!

SUBMIT YOUR RANTS

THEEASTCAROLINIAN.COM

Silly Bandz are for kids?



Leila Falls

OPINION COLUMNIST

"Hey, can I borrow your hair tie?" Then you get handed a seahorse and the explanation that it's one of those Silly Bandz.

Time magazine says, "Silly Bandz are the latest in a long list of kid-centric fads — in the tradition of Cabbage Patch Kids, Beanie Babies, Pokémon cards and Crocs." What's the deal with Silly Bandz? Why is everyone so obsessed with them? They are just different shaped rubber bands that stretch but maintain their shape. There are so many types of packs, like fantasy, rock-bandz, princess, baseball and dinosaurs. How cool can a pack of colorful and shaped rubber bands be?

I had to see for myself why these things — which have been banned in several schools — are so awesome. I heard that Walgreens sold some, so I went there to check it out. Right in front of the entrance was an entire shelf of them, 45 hangers full of different types. Each 12-pack was \$2.99 and came with six assorted shapes. I grabbed the Sea Life pack and endured ridicule from my boyfriend. The cashier smirked at me in that way when you are buying something awkward from the store. Well, she did just ring up two packs of glow-in-the-dark Silly Bandz that were being purchased by a whiny five-year-old's mother. I immediately wanted to say, "Hey, they're not for me. I'm writing an article about these things and I needed to use these as research ... okay?" She just kept smirking, and then I realized she was wearing one. She pulled it off and it was an octopus. At that moment, I realized that even adults are a part of this craze! It always bothers me whenever I go back

home and see middle-aged women wearing Tweety Bird T-shirts, so this encounter really freaked me out.

All that went through my head were paranoid hysterical thoughts like, "What is this Silly Bandz — some secret society? A cult? Am I going to end up making my own version of the 'Blair Witch Project' involving these Silly Bandz?"

When I got home, I looked at the package and realized these were called Rubbands. There's not just one company producing these things... meaning even more of them circulate the globe than I thought. I opened the package and found a penguin. I have a penguin obsession, so this originally unbiased analysis took an unexpected turn. I put the penguin on my wrist and immediately was in awe of the cuteness. Great, I found one that I liked. It was comfortable and did not leave indentions on my skin like hair ties tend to do. I stretched and rolled it, but it still turned back into a penguin. Great, I was hooked... a penguin that I could always wear.

After playing around with the bands, I reached the conclusion that I understand why there is a craze and why kids play with them all the time, but there was no way to explain it. Can you really explain why you like to play with silly putty? It baffles me that something so simple is so prosperous. Well, at least it's a lot cheaper than the iPod craze!

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



ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH

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

Pomology is the study of fruit.

Tomatoes and cucumbers are fruits.

Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient for waking you up in the morning.

Fresh apples float because 25 percent of their volume is air.

The avocado has the most calories of any fruit.

The most widely eaten fruit in America is the banana.

The average banana weighs 126 grams.

Approximately seventeen thousand and sand bananas are eaten each week in the Boston University dining room.

Bananas do not grow on trees but on rhizomes.

Cranberries are sorted for ripeness by bouncing them; a fully ripened cranberry can be dribbled like a basketball.

Tomatina is the legendary Spanish tomato-throwing festival.

Pineapples do not ripen after they have been picked.

More than a third of all pinapples come from Hawaii.

The most common pear worldwide is the Bartlett. It is bell shaped, sweet, and soft, with a light green color.

Orange juice helps the body absorb iron easily when consumed with a meal.

In Ivrea, Italy, thousands of citizens celebrate the beginning of Lent by throwing oranges at one another.

Seeds are missing from a navel orange. The bigger the navel, the sweeter the orange.

Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.

Grapes explode when you put them in the microwave.

A cucumber consists of 96 percent water.

Reality TV stars visit Greenville

TEC sits down with visiting MTV stars for their take on Greenville, fame and success

Veronica Carrington
STAFF WRITER

"Things come a little easier when people know who you are."

This is a statement of 27-year-old Kenny Santucci of MTV's "Freshmeat I," "The Ruins" and "The Duel." Among other reality programs, Santucci admits that his life has truly changed since his first arrival on the reality circuit. The Newark, N.J., native has truly worked out the "reality" system and has enjoyed great success since doing so. "Sometimes you have to be a little over the top, but it keeps them [casting directors] asking you to come back." Santucci went through a tedious casting process like most other reality stars; however, he found himself enjoying the process as it opened up numerous doors for him and his future endeavors. From visiting the Playboy Mansion, pursuing an acting career and traveling worldwide, Santucci has enjoyed the benefits of becoming a reality celebrity.

Another opportunity that was presented to Santucci was the opportunity to start Suck Yeah, a clothing company with close friend and former cast member Evan Starkman. The company features tongue-in-cheek T-shirt designs for both men and women and truly represents the down-to-earth personalities of both Santucci and Starkman.

For 25-year-old Starkman, however, reality fame has opened more doors but also made him more aware of the "novelty" of becoming a publicly noticed figure. The Toronto, Canada, native has participated in and won MTV's "The Duel," "The Ruins," as well as "The Gauntlet III." For Starkman, becoming a reality star was an arduous process and he received the casting call for his inaugural reality show, "Freshmeat I," while on a European vacation with his girlfriend. Since being flown out to L.A. for "Freshmeat I," Starkman has enjoyed the fame associated with becoming a widely recognized celebrity. However, the fame and success has not changed Starkman or affected his family. "It can be busy, but it's fun and my family and friends don't look at me different... I'm still me... I'm still Evan."

The combination of constant travel and notoriety has not been lost on "Real World: Sydney" cast member Kelly Anne Judd who has enjoyed leaving the familiarity of Texas and exploring



THE EAST CAROLINIAN | VERONICA CARRINGTON

MTV reality stars Kelly Anne, Mark, Kenny, and Evan visited Greenville last weekend to attend First Street Place's pool

the world around her. The 24-year-old Austin, Texas, southern belle also had a long and arduous casting process; however, for Judd it was a little more nerve-racking. "I didn't know what to expect and that made me a little nervous, but it was a good time and a great experience." At the time of her casting, Judd was a leasing agent for an apartment complex and did not want to expose too much about herself on the show. "I definitely had a wall up... but it taught me a lot about myself and being open to others, as well as having them be more open to me."

For each of the stars, travel has been a major plus and aided in opening their eyes to people and places that they might not have ever been. Stated Santucci in regards to traveling across the United States, "Now I know wherever I go, I have some place to stay." Naysayers of reality television cite that shows like "The Real World" and "Road

Rules" is "fake" and it is not true "reality" television. "Edited and fake are two different things... everything you see... everything that we go through and feel, that IS real," said Judd.

For those interested in being cast for a reality show, Judd as well as Santucci and Starkman state that "being real and being yourself" are the keys to casting. "Casting directors can see through that," stated veteran reality star Mark Long.

Voted one of the sexiest men in reality TV, Mark Long has been riding high on a wave of reality success since "Road Rules USA: The First Adventure." Born in Philadelphia, Pa., Long is one of the most recognized reality celebrities to date. From "Road Rules," Long went on to host numerous shows such as "MTV: Sports," "That Morning Show" on the E! Network and "The After Show" on MTV. Long has used his success to establish himself as a credible

television host as well as a reality star. His charisma and charm are easily visible in person and on camera, which is a strong recipe for longevity in the world of reality television.

Long, however, would like to return to the challenges on MTV since his enjoyment and success on "The Gauntlet II," "Duel II" and "Battle of the Sexes I and II." The University of Florida alumnus graduated with a degree in broadcast journalism and it is no surprise to see him in front of a camera. For Long, this reality journey has led him to meet people and see places that he deems "priceless." "The ability to blend and get along with many different types of people all across the world has been awesome. I've made a lot of good memories."

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

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East Carolina University

'Toy Story 3' brings back fond memories of childhood

★★★★☆

Chris Thomas
STAFF WRITER

As most know, "Toy Story" is Pixar's first feature-length film and is the measuring stick by which other computer animated films are compared. After all, it is the only animated film to make it onto the American Film Institute's top 100 list.

I'll admit, though, I was nervous when I first heard about the production of a third "Toy Story." I think we're all familiar with movies that took it just a little too far with the addition of needless sequels. I couldn't help but wonder, though... had Pixar finally succumbed to the allure of making the "quick buck sequel?" Will this be a throw-away project that no one really put any thought or effort into? Would the reputation and legacy of Woody, Buzz, the Potato Heads and the rest of Andy's menagerie be tarnished forever?

In a word: No.

Much to my relief and, frankly, surprise, this movie was exactly what we've come to expect from a Pixar movie. All the characters are as they've always been and played by the same voice actors (with the exception of Slinky Dog, due to Jim Varney's death in 2000).

"Toy Story 3" takes place about 10 years in the future, just before Andy ships off to college. His toys are apprehensive, knowing they won't join Andy. Through an accident, though, they are sent to a day care where they're met by the film's main protagonist, Lotso (voiced by Ned Beatty), a stuffed bear that leads the day care's toys with an iron fist.

It was difficult to review this film objectively because, unlike most critics, Toy Story was a part of my childhood. I still remember seeing the first one with my grandmother the week after it opened; and for 103 minutes, I was that little kid again.

The pace of the film was lightning quick. It actually startled me a bit when I realized the film had already reached its climax and began its decent toward what proved to be a satisfying ending. "Toy Story 3" had everything a good Pixar movie should have: humor, dynamic character development, beautiful art work and a big helping of humanity and poignancy, something that has become foreign to most kids movies. Therefore, I'm giving this one a solid four out of five stars.

The film industry currently finds itself in dire straits. Sure, bad movies have always been a fact of life; ever since Thomas Edison set up his first camera in his laboratory all those years ago. Now, though, it seems there's little hope for Hollywood. More now than



THE EAST CAROLINIAN | ERIN DUNCAN

'Toy Story 3' is now playing in

ever, films are depending on cheap gimmicks, gaudy special effects, half baked and clichéd plots, and ill-conceived remakes and sequels.

This, though, makes truly great movies that much greater. They're so rare, it seems that finding one is almost a religious experience. What is even rarer are the movies that can transcend the generation gap; the quality films that are suitable for children as well as adults. "Kids movies" that can be viewed by parents and older siblings without an abundance of sighs and groans throughout the viewing. These are the films that don't pander or revert to tired old jokes that were hardly worth using the first time around. The men and women who make these films not only respect children and what they're capable of comprehending, but trust them with a precious commodity: a good movie. It seems that this style of film making has become so rare that it can only be found in one studio, located in little Emeryville, Calif.: Pixar.

If you are like me and grew up with the films of Pixar as a staple of your childhood, you must see "Toy Story 3."

Editor's Note: See the flick at the Greenville Grand. They have the option of seeing it in 3-D or 2-D. Opting for the 2-D showing will save viewers \$3.50)

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

Tom earns Spirit of Service Award

ECU softball senior Kauai Tom has been selected as one of 12 recipients of the spring Conference USA Spirit of Service Award. Commissioner Britton Banowsky announced Wednesday afternoon. The C-USA Spirit of Service Award is designed to recognize the community service efforts of the league's student-athletes, based upon significant community service, good academic standing and participation in their elected sport.

The Spirit of Service Award is presented three times throughout the season, with Wednesday's honorees representing C-USA's spring sports: baseball, equestrian, men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis, outdoor track and field, softball and women's rowing.

Tom, who graduated with a 4.0 GPA as a health education and promotion major, is a four-time C-USA Commissioner's Academic Medal and C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll selection. She was named to the CoSIDA/ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District Team and her second straight C-USA All-Academic Team as a senior. At her graduation, Tom was recognized as the top student for the entire department.

The Kailua, Hawaii, native is also a two-time ECU Academic Excellence Award winner, four-year Chancellor's List member and 2009 ECU PCS Phosphates All-Academic Team honoree. During the 2009-2010 school year, she dedicated more than 70 hours to community service projects around Greenville and ECU.

Home kickoff times finalized for 2010 football season

Kickoff times for the rest of ECU's home games this fall were officially announced Friday, with the schedule featuring a mix of early and late afternoon starts. Each contest will be televised locally, regionally or nationally.

Only the Pirates' battles at North Carolina (Oct. 2) and UCF (Oct. 30) have not been assigned a start time and television designation.

ECU opens the season in newly-renovated Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium at 2 p.m. on Sept. 5 on ESPN2 versus Tulsa, then continues home Conference USA action the following weekend with Memphis. Kickoff against the Tigers is set for 12 p.m. on Sept. 11.



Former ECU coach Thomas "Rock" Roggeman coaching the Pirates' defense against Virginia in 2008. Roggeman passed away from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma on June 14.

Addison Harvey
STAFF WRITER

On June 14, Pirate Nation lost one of its most dedicated and hard working members to a yearlong fight with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Thomas "Rock" Roggeman, a long-time assistant football coach at ECU, passed away at the young age of 47.

Rock, as he was known to all of friends, family, players and fans, joined the Pirates in December of 2004, serv-

ing the last three seasons as the team's defensive tackles coach. Rock's coaching career began like so many other great college and NFL coaches. After an All-American high school career at Sahuaro High School in Tucson, Ariz., he took his passion and love for the game of football to Notre Dame to continue his playing career. At Notre Dame, The Tucson native played nose guard and linebacker. Aside from the knowledge and experience he gained while at Notre Dame from head

coach Gerry Faust, it was at Notre Dame that Rock met future ECU head coach Skip Holtz and defensive coordinator Greg Hudson.

It was a meeting of minds that would prove to be vital for the future of ECU football.

At the end of his playing career, Rock accepted a graduate assistant job under Faust and then newly appointed Notre Dame head coach Lou Holtz. Rock's career as an assistant coach took him all

Making a mockery

2010 NBA Draft class looks to overcome two years of draft disappointment

Alex Serkes
STAFF WRITER

Back in the day, in the time before nationally broadcasted programs and continuous media bombardments, there was a time when the NBA/ABA Draft reigned supreme above all others. Back when Magic Johnson, Larry Bird, Wilt Chamberlin, Jerry West, basketball and the draft mattered to everyone.

Now it seems as if every progressive sports fan only cracks open the chips and pizza and taps open a few beers for Sunday afternoons and Monday nights when football is on. The same goes with the NFL Draft—all eyes are on this spectacle every year. Meanwhile, the NBA Draft somehow gets forgotten and lost in the sports mist.

The 2010 draft kicks off a talented class the likes of 2002 and 2003, where we saw such stars as LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony, Dwayne Wade and Dwight Howard walk across that infamous stage

as they began their NBA journey. After lackluster drafts in 2008 and 2009, where we saw both number one picks in consecutive years succumb to season-ending injuries before they could step foot on the floor during a regular season game.

This year, however, we are in for a treat. There is obviously no argument on who should, and will, be the number one pick this Thursday. The consensus points toward freshman Kentucky guard John Wall, whose frame (6-foot-4, 160 pounds), speed, vision and skill put him ahead of the pack. However, there are several questions surrounding this year's draft, as always.

Will the 76ers forego acquiring a big inside force like Derrick Favors or Demarcus Cousins to replace Samuel Dalembert to get the NCAA player of the year Evan Turner? Will several teams in the lottery trade down, and who will move up? How will these picks set the landscape for free agency in July?

Only time will tell, and this Thursday we will know for sure, but here are my top five picks for this Thursday.

NBA continued on A10

over the United States with stops at UNLV, Alabama State, Alabama A&M, Eastern Michigan, Louisville, Murray State and finally his last stop in Greenville at ECU.

During his career, Rock coached multiple future NFL players, including most recent NFL Draft pick Linval Joseph and NFL free agent signee Jay Ross. Joseph, a second-round draft pick of the Giants, spent three years under the direction of Roggeman, earning All-Conference recognition twice. Ross, a free-agent signee of the New Orleans Saints, started a school record of 38-straight games under the direction of Rock at defensive tackle in route to an All-Conference selection as a senior.

Coach Rock's work on and off the football field extended further than just the defensive tackles. Rock's passion and knowledge for the game of football spread to the entire defense and defensive line. Former Pirate standout C.J. Wilson, a seventh-round draft pick of the Green Bay Packers, reflects on the times he spent with the Pirates' former defensive line coach.

"He was a real good person," Wilson said. "He taught me a lot on the field and off. His famous quote that he always said to me was, 'It's all about the team.' He has made me a better person and football player."

As the 2010 season is on the horizon, with a new coaching staff, a larger Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium and new offensive philosophy in place, the one sure thing

ROCK continued on A10



USA's Michael Bradley in celebration of his game-tying goal against Slovenia during the second half of the Group C contest on Friday at the 2010 FIFA World Cup at Ellis Park Stadium in Johannesburg, South Africa.

All eyes will be watching

Soccer's hope for success in America

Michael Perry
SPORTS EDITOR

In America, soccer takes a back seat to the big four of football, baseball, basketball and hockey, but with the FIFA World Cup

in full swing, most sports fans are in a temporary state of soccer euphoria.

Any and every time the nations of the world meet, it's special. The pride of every country is placed on the backs of the athletes and the fans cheer the hardest no matter

SOCCER continued on A10

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ROCK continued from A8

fans will miss Thomas "Rock" Rogge-man every single day. A hot, humid August afternoon practice, with the team preparing for the upcoming season, will not be the same without Coach Rock's booming voice encouraging his players to work their hardest. Rock came to work every day with the same attitude. It was one of pride and dedication, doing his job to the best of his ability. Even after his diagnosis, Rock never gave up, still coming to practices when he could after his medical leave of absence after the

UCF game where the players carried him off the field.

In a time of transition and uncertainty in ECU Athletics, one thing is for certain — ECU's fans should always remember the work and effort Rock put into his job at ECU. No coach in the entire nation had more enthusiasm and love for his job, his players and ECU than he did. Thank you Coach Rock for all you did for this great university.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

NBA continued from A8

Wizards – John Wall, point guard (Kentucky): No brainer here, Wall has all the tools to be a solid force right off the gun. A pure point guard who can run the floor beautifully; however, he might have trouble scoring points his first year.

76ers – Evan Turner, shooting guard (Ohio State): A tough toss up, but Turner is easily the most NBA-ready player in the draft.

Nets – Derrick Favors, power forward (Georgia Tech): Another toss up, the Nets need a big man to compliment Brook Lopez. Cousins' off-the-court behavior could push Favors into the third spot.

Timberwolves – Wesley Johnson,

small forward (Syracuse): A possible trade with the Nets to try and get Favors could change this, but Johnson is an excellent swing man.

Kings – Demarcus Cousins, center (Kentucky): An extremely tough call in a first round packed with big men, but aside from his head, Cousins is a freak of an athlete.

Other notable names – Gordon Heyward (Butler), No. 12 Memphis; Xavier Henry (Kansas), No. 14 Houston; Eric Bledsoe (Kentucky), No. 18 Heat.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

SOCCER continued from A8

the event.

When international competition is applied to the sport of soccer, or football, the combination proves to be a truly awesome event.

Most other countries place football above all other sports with the FIFA World Cup Trophy as its holy grail. This is one arena that has yet to explode in America, but the good thing for soccer fans is the progression of the sport is happening right now.

America has jumped onboard the world bandwagon with the help of media juggernaut ESPN, who won the bid to televise the World Cup. Boasting the slogan, "The Worldwide Leader in Sports," ESPN's coverage of the World Cup helps support such a claim. ESPN and its oversaturation style of broadcasting is just the thing that soccer needs to run rampant in the U.S.

Admittedly, prior to the last World Cup, I made all efforts to not watch soccer, but I too have swallowed the bait. I've been forced to watch it and it's not all that bad. Soccer is an acquired taste — the tempo can be quick like end-to-end playoff basketball or it can drag on like a lopsided baseball game. However, when two great teams go at it, it quite possibly rivals the last drive down the gridiron, a bases loaded ninth inning and the buzzer beater three.

A prime example of this is the U.S. versus Slovenia game that was played on Friday. America was down 2-0 after the first half of play and then they came back with three unanswered goals. Unfortunately, another stroke of horrible officiating spoiled

what could have been a great moment, as referee Koman Coulibaly of Mali waved off the game-winning goal with no explanation.

The official result would be a 2-2 tie, which enraged Americans, but getting the U.S. flustered about a soccer game could be just the spark the sport needs to really take off.

U.S. midfielder Landon Donovan acknowledged the positives the nullified goal had for soccer in America as he spoke with ESPN on Monday.

"I think we've all been pretty well informed as to response back home via text, e-mail, phone calls, Facebook etc., Internet," Donovan said. "In some ways it's really heartening to see how much people care. And the one thing we do know is that Wednesday night, or Wednesday morning in the States, is going to be a really big occasion and we relish that because we don't get that very often. We know people are talking about it and people care."

With all the dollars and hype that have been put into exposing soccer in this World Cup, and with all the U.S. soccer team has faced on the field, to add any more pressure would seem unfair, but the success of the sport in a lot of ways rides on how far this U.S. team can make it.

America loves to win and hates to lose even more, so as the pivotal last game of the World Cup group stage against Nigeria takes place today, all eyes will be watching.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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