

OPINION: WOW! The blonde girl in my chemistry class that is always on her phone actually paid attention in class today. Probably because she did so badly on the first test! **A4**

LIFESTYLES: Daily routines are made difficult for one Pirate due to Muscular Dystrophy. Find out more in Lifestyles. **A5**

SPORTS: Turn over to sports to see how the Americans matchup in the opening round of the FIFA World Cup. **A8**

The East Carolinian

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BRIEFS

ECU student arrested for indecent exposure



GOOGLE

Staff Reports

An ECU student was arrested on Wrightsville Beach for indecent exposure on Sunday.

According to an article published in The Daily Reflector, Matthew Pick, 23, was tasered before his arrest. He is also being charged with resisting arrest.

According to Ed McMahon, New Hanover County's sheriff, Pick was seen streaking through a crowd of several hundred people at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday. Police officers were on the street as Pick streaked. "The officers hollered out an order to stop," said McMahon. "But he didn't and was tased. He became compliant afterward."

Pick was then jailed over night and through the remainder of the day. He was released on \$500 bond Monday. Pick is expected in court on July 1.

This isn't the first time Pick has had to face criminal charges, though. In 2007, he was picked up for both resisting a police officer and breaking and entering. Last May he was picked up once again for resist, delay or obstruction of a police officer. All of the previously named charges were dismissed.

According to The Daily Reflector, Pick transferred from the University of Georgia to ECU in 2007 and played two games in 2008 before his season ended with a knee injury. Pick didn't play at all in 2009 and he left the team this past April.

Pick declined to comment, saying that he didn't want to bring any more unwanted attention to himself or the situation.



THE EAST CAROLINIAN | DOUGLAS MACKENZIE

Tuition increase is forcing students to be more fiscal with their money.

Potential tuition rise raises student concern

Jennifer Soares
STAFF WRITER

During the upcoming 2010-2011 school year, students could see a significant increase in tuition due to drastic budget cuts imposed by the state.

If the North Carolina Senate's proposal passes, ECU will face an 8 percent cut in funding and other state universities will see similar decreases as well. Due to the decreased funds provided from the state, the Senate will allow universities to raise their tuition by \$750 to make up the differences lost.

The university itself is considering raising tuition by \$300 for in-state undergraduate students, \$750 for out-of-state undergraduate students and only \$27 for graduates. For the upcoming school year, the ECU Board of Trustees has already implemented an increase in tuition by \$90 and a fee increase of \$80 for all students. If there are any more increases, they are all subject to approval by the Board of Governors.

Although nothing has been set in stone, the possible tuition hike has some students having mixed feelings and even anger over how much this will affect their ability to pay for their education.

"Each year that I've been here the tuition goes up and it doesn't make it any easier for anyone," says senior Jovon Hodges. "But honestly, at this point I'm already paying so much for school that it just doesn't faze me anymore."

The students who will be hit the hardest are the ones who currently pay out-of-state tuition to attend ECU.

"I think it is ridiculous," says senior Courtney Gottenkieny, who pays at the out-of-state rate. "Out-of-state students already pay so much more money than in-state residents for the same education and now they want to milk us for even more."

As of right now, the proposed tuition for fall of 2010 is \$2,303 for in-state and \$7,720.50 for out-of-state at the full time rate, which would increase tuition by almost \$150. These numbers

are subject to change because they were not factoring in the current proposed amounts by the Senate.

According to the university, the school has done everything they could in the past three years to cut anything that is not related to tuition or academics.

There are only a few schools that have been considering the full \$750 increase for all students and those include the N.C. School of the Arts and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Nothing has been passed on the bill and the tuition increases would have to be approved by the Universities of North Carolina Board of Governors; therefore, the ultimate outcome still has a long way to go.

The UNC Board of Governors will vote on the possible tuition increases at a June meeting before their final state budget is passed.

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

\$465,000 to Joyner for new improvements

Tucker Middleton
STAFF WRITER

Students may recently have noticed empty desks in the back of Joyner Library. The regrouping in the Reference area is due to summer projects to enhance library infrastructure. The majority of these projects will be completed by the start of fall semester and will provide more resources.

The Division of Academic Affairs allocated \$465,000 to fund the projects. The summer updates will include new computer workstations, study tables and lounge chairs.

The infrastructure upgrades aim to increase student capacity in the library during peak study times, as well as provide for greater student ease. Seating capacity will increase from 345 seats to over 525. New tables will be equipped with built-in electrical outlets, so students will not have to find wall outlets.

Jan Lewis, Joyner Library associate director, said many of the projects were laid out to address the increasing demand for group workspaces. In the 2009-2010 school year, more group study rooms were added to Joyner. The library now has 30 group study rooms. Large plasma monitors were also added to work areas so that students could collaborate on computer projects more easily.

One new renovation due to be completed in the next month is a state-of-the-art Collaborative Learning Center presentation practice room on the library's first floor.

Wainwright said that many of the projects currently underway will be finished within the next two to three weeks, and the library plans to hold a grand opening party the first full week of fall semester.

Students may also be able to check out some of the technology world's newest gadgets-- including laptops, camcorders, tripods, headphones and microphones. The library is hoping to add e-Readers such as the Kindle and iPad to its collection if the budget leaves room.

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

ECU students achieve Moldin Scholarship

Shivani Vyas
STAFF WRITER

ECU's Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences proudly chose the recipients for their Moldin Scholarship this past May.

Isaac D. Morton, a double major in chemistry and biology, and Sarah Howell Kinsley, a chemistry major, were awarded the scholarships for this 2010-2011 academic year.

ECU alumni Richard and Nancy Moldin established the Moldin Scholarship in 2006 for students who met certain qualifications. Eligible students had to be juniors enrolled as full time students in the Department of Chemistry or in the Department of Biology at the time of application, along with having a minimum GPA of 2.5.

The Moldin scholarship provides a \$2,000 award for one academic year, equaling out to \$1,000 per semester. If the eligibility criterion is maintained, the scholarship can be renewed through the recipient's senior year.

"I was ecstatic to receive the award, especially since this was my second time receiving the scholarship. It was nice to see someone acknowledge that I was still doing well and wanted to reward me for it," Morton tells us.

Kinsley says, "It is a blessing to be rewarded and recognized for all my hard work. Especially since I was not only a full-time student, but also maintained two jobs working as a Chemistry tutor for ECU, while spending my weekends at Panera. I was actually very shocked to receive the scholarship, but am honestly very thankful that I did."

Both Kinsley and Morton have had numerous accomplishments as ECU undergraduates and continue to strive for more success.

Kinsley has been a member of the ECU Chancellor's List three times and is also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society.

"I will graduate in December 2011 and I want to go to UNC Chapel Hill for Dentistry school. I want to be an oral maxillofacial surgeon and open up my own practice," Kinsley says.

Morton also tells us about his undergraduate experiences, as well as his future endeavors.

"I started getting involved in the community and picking things I really enjoy doing. I have served as a member of AmeriCorps, providing more than 900 hours of service work to ECU and the surrounding community. I have also done research in organic chemistry and genetics."

"My main goal after graduation is to go to graduate school, continuing on



CONTRIBUTED

Isaac D. Morton



CONTRIBUTED

Sarah Howell Kinsley

my studies in chemistry and also attend dental school afterwards. I would also like to attend medical school sometime in the future, in hopes of learning how to help children with cleft palates and perform jaw reconstruction procedures," Morton says.

These remarkable students have strived and achieved excellence through their resilience. They even offered a few tips for future and current ECU students, in hopes of serving as words of encouragement.

Kinsley states, "I believe that if you manage your time and put your mind to something, you can do anything."

"Always focus in your classes and do not just study for the exams, but study to master the concepts. Everything you learn in your beginning classes will be seen in future classes, so it is important to understand the material," Morton suggests.

The Moldins, both ECU graduates, currently reside in Wilmington. Richard Moldin received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in chemistry from ECU in 1970 and 1973, respectively, as well as a master's in business administration in 1976. Nancy Moldin is a 1973 graduate of the ECU School of Music with a bachelor's degree in music education.

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

Waive out or you're in!

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To effectively waive out, students must simply provide policy information from a current, valid health insurance carrier through a secure online system. Once it has been verified, all charges will be waived.

1. Gather your insurance information, open a web browser and type **www.studentinsurance.com** in the address bar. With the Pearce & Pearce student insurance website displayed, select the UNC system logo.
2. Select ECU to navigate to the secure (https:) website for ECU students.
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When students register for classes, they will simply verify their insurance policy information using the online verification page. Waivers for each academic year need to be completed online by the last day of registration for each semester. In most cases, the verification process takes 1 - 2 weeks.

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For students without coverage from an existing health plan, you will be automatically enrolled into the health policy adopted by East Carolina University. The Student Health Insurance Plan works in partnership with the University Health Fee to provide seamless health care at a reasonable cost to students. The University Health Fee covers provider charges at the Student Health Services (SHS), while the Student Health Insurance Plan helps cover other charges such as lab, x-ray, pharmaceuticals and referrals to community specialists when needed.

1. Open your web browser and type **www.studentinsurance.com** in the address bar. With the Pearce & Pearce student insurance website displayed, select the UNC system logo.
2. Select ECU to navigate to the secure (https:) website for ECU students.
3. Choose "Enrollment" and follow the instructions.

East Carolina University.

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If you think that ketchup comes on a Big Mac, you should be slapped!

Greenville is dead this summer! Where is everyone at?

Guys totally don't know that some people are actually looking at you when you itch your balls. GROSS!!!

Some people at summer school really screw themselves over.

You know, it's common courtesy to hold the door open for someone who is less than a foot away from you.

It's really distracting when people come to class with their laptops and watch tennis matches...

WOW! The blonde girl in my chemistry class that is always on her phone actually paid attention in class today. Probably because she did so badly on the first test!

Dear Roommate: Your upper lip hair is really noticeable; you should really get that removed ASAP.

I'm sorry. Both for you two breaking up and because I just ate some of your Cheez It's.

Summer fun my a**! A job, an internship and class! It sucks trying to be a grownup!

Is it bad that I have haven't even been home a month and already miss ECU?

I sit in the same spot every day, so why does some girl have to take my seat now? Sit where you've been sitting!

My homeschooled cousin put up graduation pictures. It's just her standing in front of her fire place... with a handmade diploma.

I think I've come to realize that I hate people...

Why is it that so many people in my stats class are fiddling around on the computer yet do better on the exam than me, and I actually try to concentrate!!

Working out is totally making me break out... I'm doomed to forever be either a butterface or a butterbod. There is no way out.

Talk crap all you want to about me being on my phone in class. I still get every question right.

Didn't your parents ever teach you: If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all!

OPINION

If BP knocked you up, it wouldn't pay child support



Ben Cochran
OPINION COLUMNIST

I've never been an avid environmentalist, but I do like to pitch in whenever I can for Mother Nature's sake.

My former apartment complex doesn't have a recycling dumpster. So when I used to live there, I wouldn't drive all over the city of Greenville looking for a recycling center to drop off Saturday night's bottles and cans. But if I were in Joyner, I would certainly walk the extra 15 steps from the trashcan to the recycle bin to deposit my Mt. Dew bottle.

So I'm not a trippy-hippie, tree-hugging Birkenstock wearer who is somehow deluded into thinking that there is an inverse correlation between virtue and taking showers, but I do think that we all owe it to ourselves to protect the environment.

This is what I don't understand about the current BP snafu and the seemingly unending oil leak. For those of you who have been living under a rock over the last few weeks, let me do what BP has been unable to do and recap the situation. On April 20th, a fire broke out on the Deepwater Horizon oilrig. Early estimates from BP claim that a mere 8,000 barrels of oil are leaking from the site each day. However, BP has denied a third party team of experts the opportunity to further assess the situation and provide a more accurate and unbiased figure. Footage of the leak has been analyzed by others and it appears that the leak is a lot more extensive than BP is letting on. This far surpasses the Exxon Valdez spill of 1989 as the worst oil spill in U.S. history.

I cannot believe that a company as rich and powerful as BP failed to have a proper prevention plan in place. I

cannot believe that they do not have the wherewithal to curtail this leak and stop it in its tracks. I cannot believe that even throughout all this, the major concern of BP officials is the stock price as opposed to acting with prudence, diligence and competence — that they would call press conferences to assure stockholders and the public in general instead of using their resources for a quick and expeditious cleanup is mind-blowing.

The lack of responsibility is sickening. One way or another, BP must pay — pay for the environmental annihilation, the economic damage to local fishing and tourism industries and punitive damages to ensure that other oil companies spend a fraction of their CEO's salary on a little something called "preventative maintenance."

Every time a hurricane makes landfall or an agitated religious fanatic blows himself up, oil companies have unfairly hiked up prices, citing temporary shortages in supply as the cause. Now there is a dangerous oversupply of oil, and I think that, using the logic of these companies, we should demand a radical price drop in fuel.

Even if the U.S. government does little more than slap BP on the wrist, and even if they post record profits for the third quarter this year, I'm still certain that karma has a way of handling these situations. Tony Hayward, CEO of BP, had better hope and pray that he never has to have a colonoscopy. If there were truly a god in heaven, he would see to it that complications arose during the procedure which resulted in painful ruptures of his alimentary canal, lasting for months on end as the doctors and insurance companies ascertain who's responsible and how to address it. For Hayward, justice has an unusual name: chronic anal seepage, similar to that which has been afflicted upon our earth.

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

STAFF INFORMATION

Katelyn Crouse, Editor in Chief

Cassie McLean News Editor
Andrea Robertson Opinion Editor
Michael Perry Sports Editor
Caitlin Hale Lifestyles Editor
Matt Shapiro Photo Editor
Samantha Eads Head Copy Editor
Sarah Russell Production Manager
Eddie Burkett Multimedia Web Editor

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CONTACT INFO

Newsroom 252.328.9238 Fax 252.328.9143 Advertising 252.328.9245



ILLUSTRATED BY ADRIAN PARHAMOVICH

LIFESTYLES

Living with Muscular Dystrophy



THE EAST CAROLINIAN | DOUGLAS

Samantha Fuerderer navigates around campus in a wheel chair.

Disease adds difficulties to one Pirate's college experience

Kathryn Warren

FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Most ECU students buzz through the weekdays with a similar, simple routine.

They wake up with just enough time to catch the bus to campus, sprint through hallways, bound up the stairs and rush through the doorways to get to class without a minute to spare.

For Samantha Fuerderer, however, this daily routine does not come quite as easily.

The transportation system, bathrooms, doorways and elevators on campus have become major obstacles for her, especially when minor problems with them cause her to completely miss class.

At the age of 19, doctors at Duke Hospital diagnosed Fuerderer with congenital fiber-type disproportion, a type of muscular dystrophy that is characterized by progressive muscle weakness and often accompanied with respiratory failure, difficulty walking and frequent falls.

As her disease progresses, Fuerderer has noticed that glitches in her daily routine become huge obstacles, especially since she now needs a wheel-

chair to navigate through campus.

"I feel like a prisoner in my own body," Fuerderer, a 22-year-old junior at ECU, said. "The best way I can describe what it feels like to be me is if you had a 50-pound weight attached to each one of your limbs constantly."

During Fuerderer's first week at ECU, she encountered one of what would be many problems with the campus bus system. When the bus arrived to pick up students at an off-campus apartment complex where she lives, students rushed onto the bus, leaving Fuerderer, in her wheelchair, without a spot. Though the bus driver asked the students on the bus if anyone would get off momentarily so that Fuerderer could get her chair situated on the bus, only two students agreed. Though Fuerderer finally managed to get on the bus that day, the ride was still not a pleasant one. Within Fuerderer's earshot, two girls commented that they needed to start driving to school from then on.

A second, more dangerous, situation occurred on a different bus ride to campus. All campus buses have a designated handicapped seating area for the wheelchairs to be safely and securely strapped down. On one bus ride, however, the bus driver decided to leave Fuerderer in her wheelchair in the aisle of the bus. "I'm having to hold onto the bars to quit from rolling back and forth,"

Fuerderer said, still disgusted as she recalled the incident. "I was terrified. When I got off the bus, I was like, 'Are you crazy? You can't just leave me in the aisle.'" Fuerderer was also worried about the safety of other students on the bus. "My wheelchair weighs a lot. I could have crushed somebody," she said. Though Fuerderer called Disability Services after the incident, no actions were taken toward the bus driver.

Not only has the bus system become a major obstacle for Fuerderer, but the setup of many of the buildings on campus has given her problems as well. Many of the classrooms and bathrooms are not wheelchair accessible, so Fuerderer often struggles to open doors and get through doorways. Also, her reliance on elevators to get to her upstairs classes has become an obstacle. "I used to have class in Austin, and the elevator would break," Fuerderer said, "and I would just have to miss class." With the help of ECU's Disability Support Services, Fuerderer's class was moved to another building to prevent this problem from reoccurring. "Disability Support Services was always willing to help me," Fuerderer said, and she hopes that other students with disabilities feel they can also reach out to Disability Support Services to accommodate their specific needs.

Though Fuerderer does face many challenges because of the limitations of her disease, she realizes that it has also humbled her. "I think that I'm a lot more sensitive to other people with disabilities," said Fuerderer. Finding new ways to overcome physical challenges has also made her a more innovative person. "You have to find other ways to do things, so that comes naturally to me" Fuerderer said. "I can find ways to do things in life that aren't related to muscular dystrophy, and that makes me excited, especially when it's going to make someone else happy." For example, she enjoys planning birthday celebrations or outings with her friends.

In the future, Fuerderer hopes to go to graduate school and to eventually land a job in the public relations field in which she does not feel limited by her physical disabilities. "I want a job where I feel appreciated because of my actual talents as a person," Fuerderer said, "because I think that I am a smart person and that I can bring a lot to the table." She also wants other students to know that they should not be afraid to ask questions about her disability.

"I'm normal. I just happen to ride around in a wheelchair a couple hours a week, that's it," Fuerderer said.

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



THE EAST CAROLINIAN | DOUGLAS

Messick Theatre Arts Center appears empty due to lack of summer theatre on campus.

Summer theatre moves to Manteo

Marlana Sifter

STAFF WRITER

The School of Theatre and Dance, which traditionally holds its summer plays on its home turf at Messick Theatre Arts Center, will perform instead in nearby Manteo at the Roanoke Island Festival Park.

Director of the School of Theatre and Dance, John Shearin, explained that summer plays would not be practical this year due to budget reductions.

"The state budget made it not feasible to produce here this year," said Shearin.

On the other hand, a great opportunity to take advantage of the national historic venue in Manteo allowed production to be planned for the park instead. Invited to present proposals back in late fall of last year, the Roanoke Festival Theatre subsequently accepted all three of ECU's offers for summer shows.

Roanoke Island Festival Park is a convenient site for the shows, where other live performances of theatre and dance are held all summer long. ECU will provide a great addition to the park's summer entertainment series, which is free and open to the public.

All actors in all three productions are ECU theatre students, with the exception of Shearin, who will be playing a supporting role in one of the three.

The first, "The Fantasticks," is performed from June 15-17, from 7 to 9 p.m. This 1960 musical is written by Harvey Schmidt with lyrics by Tom Jones and was last performed by Summer Theatre in 2006. It is an

5 Five things we're obsessed with

1. Beach music

Even though Pirate Nation is a few hours from the closest beach, we are keeping our summer spirits high by listening to beach music as often as possible. This bubbly summer staple is perfect to chill out to this summer!

2. Korres Yoghurt Cooling Gel

This hydrating gel is a must-have for those who love spending their summer days soaking up the sun. This gel, which can be used on both the face and body, will not only hydrate sun-parched skin, but also relieve any stinging or discomfort due to sunburn. Pop this gel in the fridge for a refreshing chilling effect.

3. Bold prints

Hot this season is bold, bright prints for clothing – ranging from shoes to swimwear to headbands! Prints such as paisley, geometric, floral and animal print in bright, bold colors are undoubtedly chic for this summer!

4. Driving with the windows down

When the weather is nice, it's so refreshing to turn the AC off and opt for a more "natural" coolant. Another nice benefit of this method is saving some cash by sparing the extra gasoline needed to run the AC.

5. Elle Magazine

With the season changing, it's important to stay in tune with the newest styles! Elle Magazine has kept us up-to-date as to what's hot in fashion, hair and makeup and pop culture! Besides, it's a great read for pool time relaxation!

THEATRE continued from A5

play "The Romancers" and concerns two fathers who hatch a plan to try and betroth their children. This performance takes place in the park's small indoor theatre just across from the outdoor venue where the other two shows will be held.

From June 22 through 24, the Theatre Department is very proud to present "Moonshine and Molasses," a unique and jazzy work, entirely original to the School of Theatre and Dance and features the music of folk-rock band Uncle Mountain out of Asheville. The production is a full-length contemporary jazz dance piece based on the music of Uncle Mountain, with choreography by dance faculty member Tommi Galaska. This one hour and 15 minute musical runs from 8 to 10 p.m. and features 16 dancers along with the five-piece band. It takes place at the Outdoor Pavilion.

"George M Cohan - All American Boy!" is a patriotic musical just in time for Independence Day. From June 29 through July 1, this revue of a vital member of American theatre's past

plays out as a selection of just a few of Cohan's 1,500 compositions.

Shearin describes the piece as "a series of numbers tied together by the theme of Americana."

Cohan is considered the father of American musical comedy and worked as an invaluable entertainer, playwright, composer, lyricist, actor, singer, dancer and producer during his long career, which spanned from early childhood performances in a family vaudeville act to his death in 1942. Cohan received the Congressional Gold Medal in 1936 for boosting WWI morale with songs such as "You're a Grand Old Flag." This made him the first member of an artistic profession to receive the honor. "Cohan" takes place from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Outdoor Pavilion.

So even though ECU's summer theatre will not be held on campus, these plays seem more than worthy of the short trip to Manteo to enjoy some friendly summer fun.

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



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ECU senior inside wide receiver Dwayne Harris has been named Rivals.com's 88th-best player in collegiate football, the organization announced Sunday afternoon. Five Rivals.com writers selected the top 100 college players in the country. Voting was based on what players have accomplished and their potential for the 2010 season.

A year ago, Harris helped the Pirates claim their second consecutive Conference USA Championship and AutoZone Liberty Bowl berth with his Most Valuable Player performance in the league title game against Houston. He was the C-USA Special Teams Player-of-the-Year in 2009 as well as being a first-team all-league pick at wide receiver. Harris returned 37 kickoffs for 1,000 yards, including a school career and single-season record three for touchdowns. As a wide receiver, Harris hauled in 83 passes in 2009, tying him with Aundrae Allison for ECU's second-most receptions in a year. Harris's 978 receiving yards were also good for second on the school's all-time single-season list. The Stone Mountain, Ga., native is the program's all-time leader in receptions with 167. He also sits second in receiving yards with 1,878, just 104 behind Troy Smith (1995-98).

Track freshman in the hunt for NCAA Titles

In Conference USA history, Harris will open the 2010 campaign ranked 16th in all-purpose yards (4,092) and second in kickoff returns for a touchdown with three. Additionally, he is 22 receptions shy of entering the league's top-15 list and 46 yards short of the career return yards top-15 ledger.

Freshmen Tynita Butts and Matthew McConaughy look to capture the first national titles in ECU track and field program history as they travel to the University of Oregon for the 2010 NCAA Outdoor Championships. The meet is scheduled for June 9-12 at Hayward Field. Butts qualified in the high and long jump events while McConaughy represents the Pirates in the javelin.

Butts and McConaughy earned C-USA titles in the high jump and javelin at the league's outdoor championships in Tulsa in May. Butts also won freshman-of-the-meet honors and now holds that distinction for the 2010 indoor and outdoor seasons.

Action kicks off for Butts Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. with the high jump. She then must wait until the last day of the competition when she will challenge the field in the long jump beginning at 12:30 p.m. McConaughy will begin his quest for the national title at the same time.

Youthful USA team is primed for the FIFA World Cup

Brazilians favored as an early front-runner

Addison Harvey
STAFF WRITER

Every four years, 32 nations from all over the world meet in one country to compete for the right to claim an ultimate goal in soccer, the World Cup champion.

Not to overly quote the ESPN commercials that have been playing every 10 minutes for the past two months, but aside from the Olympics, the World Cup really is "the one time every four years when the whole world is watching."

Soccer has yet to take off in the United States and may never catch up to sports such as baseball, basketball and football. Even though its popularity hasn't reached its expected heights in our country, there is a time every four years when everyone should watch the game that not everyone loves.

The World Cup is a time for nations to come together and support 23 young men who are wearing their nations' colors and fighting for their ultimate prize. Not a championship for their respective regular season clubs, but a world championship for their country.

This year's international tournament takes place in South Africa. A country that was the home of racial segregation until the early 1990s will host the tournament kicking off on June 11 for the first time in the nation's history. The World Cup matches will be played at eight different stadiums across South Africa from Rustenburg to Johannesburg.

The 32 teams are evenly distributed into eight groups (A-H) with four teams in each. The ultimate soccer tournament starts with pool players, where every team plays the other three teams in their group. Teams earn three points for a win, one point for a tie and no points for a loss. At the conclusion

of pool play, the top two teams in each group advance to a single elimination 16-team tournament.

Out of the eight groups, Group G is far and away the toughest and has been unofficially deemed the group of death with the favorites Brazil leading the group, followed by another South American power Portugal. Also included is North Korea, which makes its first World Cup appearance since 1966, and lastly the dark horse pick Ivory Coast.

The Brazilians are the favorite to take first place out of Group G as they have had the most success in the World Cup out of any other nation, winning five titles. The final spot in Group G may come down to who gets the better result on June 15 when the Ivory Coast takes on Portugal without their top player Didier Drogba.

FIFA continued on A9

World Cup groups



Group A

South Africa
Mexico
Uruguay
France

Group B

Argentina
Nigeria
South Korea
Greece

Group C

England
United States
Algeria
Slovenia

Group D

Germany
Australia
Serbia
Ghana

Group E

Netherlands
Denmark
Japan
Cameroon

Group F

Italy
Paraguay
New Zealand
Slovakia

Group G

Brazil
North Korea
Ivory Coast
Portugal

Group H

Spain
Switzerland
Honduras
Chile

Source: FIFA

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America's pastime: Behind the times?

Michael Perry
SPORTS EDITOR

In the realm of American sports, nothing remains more protected and sacred than Major League Baseball. It's an old-fashioned game, with unwritten rules that rival the code of chivalry.

For those who enjoy baseball, the sport is pure and genuinely American, but the ugly truth reveals that the traditional preservation of the game is hindering its growth.

Football has easily succeeded baseball as America's most-watched sport, and baseball fans have been hit with so many steroid scandals in the past decade, when the next one is leaked, fans are no longer surprised.

As the sport looks to recover from steroids, the latest roadblock has been officiating mistakes, or as it's referred to by most, "the human element." Don't get me wrong, I have a tremendous respect for the work umpires do, especially at the professional level, but no matter how good they are, they are all human.



Detroit Tigers catcher Alex Avila, left, consoles pitcher Armando Galarraga, right, at the end of the game after Galarraga was robbed of his a perfect game against the Cleveland Indians on a disputed call by an umpire at Comerica Park in Detroit, Mich., on June 2.

Unfortunately, the human element cost the Detroit Tigers' Armando Galarraga a perfect game against the Cleveland Indians a week ago today. Not only did it deprive him of his spot in history, it did so on the final out of the game.

Jason Donald chopped one between first and second, pulling Miguel Cabrera off first base, Galarraga and Donald got in a footrace to the bag, Galarraga made the awkward catch and cautiously placed his foot on the base.

Though Galarraga had obviously beat out the 27th out to seal his perfect game, first base umpire Jim Joyce called the runner safe, nullifying the nine grueling innings Galarraga had put in.

That one moment would change the sport and cause the latest outcry for official review, instant replay or even a challenge flag to change baseball.

Joyce later viewed the video after the game and admitted his mistake, and the MLB swept this one under the rug.

Before that play last Wednesday, I would have railed against

the further use of instant replay in the classic game of baseball, but after a totally blown call that cost a young pitcher one of the greatest accomplishments in sports, I have been officially swayed to updating the game.

Instant replay just works better for everybody, but there will always be an opposing voice to any change. Many opposed use "the game is already too slow" argument, but baseball has a loyal fan base that has no problem with the speed of the game. Real fans realize that baseball is more than a game; it's an experience. Even people who think they don't want replay will eventually learn to like it.

Umpires want replay to keep the fans off their backs, players want it so they get the right call and the fans certainly want it, especially considering that all the other big four sports offer video review.

In August of 2008, MLB Commissioner Bud Selig budged

PASTIME continued on A9

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FIFA continued from A8

The USA drew a very favorable group when the groups were selected at random a few months ago. The USA is in Group C along with soccer powerhouse England, Slovenia and Algeria. The Yankees, as people from other nations refer to team USA, square off with an injury-plagued England team on June 11 to start off their run at their first World Cup title. England lost team captain and key defenseman Rio Ferdinand last week and this could be a blessing for the USA.

The USA front line of Jozy Altidore, Robbie Findley, Herculez Gomez and Edson Buddle is quicker than previous USA forwards and could create a huge advantage for Bob Bradley's team against a wounded England defense.

Even with Altidore sidelined with a twisted ankle, which shouldn't keep him out of Saturday's action, Buddle

netted two goals in the USA's final tune up verses Australia while Gomez added the third goal in the team's 3-1 win.

The group's first game between rivals England and USA may determine who the group's number one seed will be advancing to the single elimination round of the tournament pending no slip-ups against Slovenia or Algeria.

The 2010 version of the USA soccer team is a talented one with less hype than in years past, which may be an advantage for the young team. Look for the USA led by veteran midfielder Landon Donovan and goal keeper Tim Howard to make a run similar to 2002 when the USA made its best run in the World Cup before falling in the quarterfinals.

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

PASTIME continued from A8

slightly on his staunch stance against instant replay as he agreed it could be used to confirm home runs.

"Like everything else in life, there are times that you have to make an adjustment," Selig said to the Associated Press in August 2008. "My opposition to unlimited instant replay is still very much in play. I really think that the game has prospered for well over a century now doing things the way we did it."

Viewing home run calls has been a nice addition to the MLB, but there should be more.

In contrast of my newfound support of instant replay, I still believe there needs to be a firm regulation or its use, but 2010 is a good time to seriously consider some updates. However, the

comments Selig made Monday to the media about the Galarraga situation give little light to the hope that change will come anytime soon.

"This has gone on for 130 years. You learn after a while there's nothing new," Selig said to ESPN's Jerry Crasnick. "Grumbling about umpires has gone on since the day they first threw the ball in 1865 to '70."

Selig went on to say that in the baseball circles he's around, instant replay is an unpopular idea, but at his current age of 75, it's questionable if his circles of people hardly are in touch with the overwhelming majority of 21st century baseball fans.

This writer can be contacted at
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