

OPINION: Since ECU decided to shut down blackboard for ALL of Sunday, I wrote pirate rants instead. **A3**

LIFESTYLES: Looking for an adventure? Turn to Lifestyles to check out the Adventure Center's spring lineup of exciting trips! **A4**

SPORTS: The men's basketball team barely slipped past the Marshall Thundering Herd, turn to sports to find out which Pirate nailed the game-winning free throw. **A6**

BRIEFS

U.S. Army operating room on display at Heart Institute

Staff Reports

For the first time ever at ECU, the U.S. Army mobile operating room for a forward surgical team will be on display.

The display will be on the fourth floor of the East Carolina Heart Institute and will have army nurses, physicians and medics available to answer questions regarding Army scholarships and medical careers.

Forward surgical teams provide lifesaving operating room techniques wherever U.S. soldiers are located. The event also coincides with National Nurse Anesthetist week.

Tours will be given from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27, and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 28.

E-mail and Blackboard down longer than expected

Staff Reports

On Sunday, Jan. 23, Blackboard, Moodle and other student services were down longer than expected during scheduled maintenance. ITCS was performing updates to their data storage environment.

The original time frame for the maintenance was 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., which occurs every Sunday. However, the services were not made available until 7:30 p.m. with the exception of portions of the ECU website, which were finally made available by 7:45 p.m.

ITCS sent out e-mails apologizing to students and thanking them for their patience.

Relay for Life looking for cancer survivors to honor

Staff Reports

Relay for Life is currently looking for students and faculty members who are cancer survivors to participate in their annual fundraiser. Everyone is encouraged to come out and cancer survivors are welcome to enter the relay.

The relay will be held on April 8 and all proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society.

If anyone is interested, please contact Logan Monroe, ceremonies chair of Relay for Life.

Family of eight loses everything to house fire

Staff Reports

The Jose Hernandez family of Pitt County lost all of their belongings and home to a fire that broke out on Monday. The family of eight was not at home when the fire started and firefighters have yet to determine a cause.

The fire began around 11:00 a.m. and took units from Ayden, Eastern Pines, and Winterville Community about 30 minutes to contain the fire.

The home is totally lost and the family had no renters insurance and the house itself was not insured. Members of the family reported that Hernandez has been on dialysis and is currently out of work.

The Hernandez family has been assigned a Pitt County Social Worker to handle their case; she can be reached at (252) 902-0111.

WEB POLL

Do you believe in the privatization of alcohol?

Yes

No

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



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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Several break-ins reported

Tyler Kitchens
STAFF WRITER

While many Copper Beech residents spent their winter breaks away from Greenville, an unidentified intruder took advantage of their absence by committing several burglaries at various townhomes within the complex.

According to information obtained through police reports, 10 townhomes were targeted in a rash of break-ins, which took place over a 10-day period between Dec. 27 and Jan. 5.

Although little information regarding the suspect is available, the patterns and methods used to break into each townhome were extremely similar. In nearly each break-in, the burglar used a tool or device to damage a rear window and enter the townhouse.

The reports stated that the burglar stole a variety of electronics products and jewelry wherever they were available.

In the second reported break-in, both an 18-karat gold class ring with an emerald stone and a 22-inch flat screen TV, valued at \$500 and \$510 respectively, were stolen from the same residence.

Shantel Riddle, regional manager of Copper Beech Townhome Communities, stated that several new steps were being taken to ensure the safety and security of residents' belongings in the future.

"To prevent this type of thing from happening again, we will be getting an off-duty courtesy officer and possibly more than one during holiday periods when residents might be away for a long period of time," said Riddle. "We have also maintained close contact with our security officer throughout this time."

Riddle also said that Copper Beech would be looking into providing more lighting around various parts of the complex to



Several break-ins have occurred at Copper Beach Apartments located near the Cookout on 10th Street.

heighten safety and ease any possible concerns that residents might have as a result of this.

The worst losses occurred in two burglaries

that were reported on Dec. 31 and Jan. 5.

A Greenville Police Department report on Dec. 31 stated the burglar damaged a double-paned

window to gain entry to the townhome while the residents were out of town

> ROBBERY page A2



Privatization of alcohol would mean that alcohol would be sold in various grocery stores around the state of North Carolina.

Perdue opposes privatization

Attempt at privatizing North Carolina's liquor store operations falls again

Jimmy Youn
STAFF WRITER

Although Governor Beverly Perdue has been continuously supporting the privatization of the Alcohol Beverage Control system for a long time, the governor announced on Jan. 20 that she is completely opposed to privatizing North Carolina's liquor store system to receive a one-time payment to aid the budget deficit for the fiscal year.

North Carolina has been controlling the Alcohol Bev-

erage Control system for 70 years, and each ABC board serves as a part of local government representing about 400 ABC stores statewide. North Carolina is one of 19 control states distributing alcohol and is one of four states with a total monopoly over liquor sales. The other states with total monopolies over liquor sales are Alabama, Pennsylvania and Virginia, although Virginia plans to scrutinize the current law for a possible change.

Along with the governor's remark, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners also opposed privatizing the current alcohol system. The commissioners believe that privatization of the system would

increase consumption, as it would bring more retail outlets and bring down the price. Therefore, the commissioners assume that changing the system would pose a risk to citizens' health. North Carolina is currently ranked 48th nationally in per capita alcohol consumption, whereas ranking third nationally in alcohol sales revenues per capita.

After thoroughly studying the situation, the governor mentioned that it would not be worth selling licenses to outside retailers for a one-time payment of \$300 million to increase the revenue.

Conversely, a consultant hired from the ABC commission noted that the state will receive about \$300 mil-

lion selling 30-year licenses to outside retailers. Further, North Carolina could raise its revenue up to \$452 million if there were a 25 percent increase in consumption of liquor, and up to \$588 million if liquor consumption were to rise by 50 percent.

Brittini Mattocks, a second year master of occupational therapy candidate, said, "Privatizing the ABC system will not be a great idea, as the current law mandates that a portion of revenues from ABC stores should be returned to their counties." As Mattocks stated, a portion of the revenues are returned to support alcohol education, rehabilitation and law

> PERDUE page A2

Victims office moved to Mendenhall



The New Victims Office is now located in a dark secluded hallway in Mendenhall Student Center.

Julie Turmelle
STAFF WRITER

The Office of Victim Services has recently been moved from Student Health Services to Mendenhall Student Center — a move that is viewed with mixed feelings.

Sue Molhan, the victim advocate, has been working with students, staff and faculty for the past six years, mostly from her office in Student Health. She helps the community with the advocacy of issues such as sexual assault, unhealthy relationships, stalking and robbery.

While Molhan's position is with campus police under crime prevention, the facility where she would have been working lacked space and was not handicap accessible. She was therefore allowed to work from within Student Health.

Many of the students who used her services found this to be a fitting location, including a woman who was a victim of domestic violence and sexual assault.

"Even though she might not have been in the medical field, I still do think that her office in Student Health Services was good," said the woman who preferred to remain anonymous. "Being a victim's advocate: that does affect your health."

Unfortunately, space is still a growing problem. Molhan's old office needs to be utilized so that Student Health can offer family medicine, an east clinic, a dental clinic and possibly a vision office. The cubicles for these offices are currently being prepared.

Victim Services has now been moved to Mendenhall in room 125. This location may be beneficial because many students know where Mendenhall is and regularly visit. However, some see this as a detriment.

"It's one of the busiest places on campus," said Mollie Daniel, a survivor of date rape who often visits Molhan.

The room is not easy to find because of an unlabeled door before reaching the office.

Victim Services has only been in operation from Mendenhall since the beginning of this semester, so it has not experienced enough pros or cons to fully decide the effectiveness of the location. The new office is significantly smaller than the previous one.

If a victim's situation calls for more space to work or talk, Molhan can book one of the larger meeting rooms in Mendenhall, but this would have to be done some time in advance.

"I feel like we have to travel through too many people to get to her," said the anonymous woman.

As of now, Molhan is working with her department to advertise the new location. She hopes that students will be able to find her new office but acknowledges that it will take a bit of time. It is important to her that victims of crime are able to come to her for advising.

From the beginning, Molhan was only in Student Health temporarily. If the need arises and there is an opportunity, the Office of Victim Services may be moved again.

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

McNeill recovers from bariatric surgery

Cameron Gupton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Head football coach Ruffin McNeill, 52, underwent bariatric surgery on Jan. 13, which reduced the size of his stomach to assist with weight loss. McNeill is currently recovering from the procedure but has announced that he will soon receive a hip replacement.

When McNeill was a running

back for ECU from 1976-80, he weighed between 215 and 218 pounds. Soon after he graduated, he hurt his back playing basketball and strayed from his workout routine, and his weight began to increase. In 2004, McNeill began a conditioning program to help control his weight problem.

In a press release from the university, McNeill stated, "I am pleased to announce I am successfully in the recovery phase of

bariatric surgery last Thursday. It is our plan that this procedure will precede hip replacement surgery later in the spring."

There are several types of bariatric surgeries, but the type McNeill underwent has not been disclosed. After being released from the hospital, McNeill offered his thanks to supporters and reported that he was recovering "successfully."

"My first priority is to regain

an active lifestyle that will not only benefit myself physically, but put me in a position to provide uninterrupted leadership to our football program and service to East Carolina University," stated McNeill.

"While I understand the process has only started, my commitment to get back in the weight room and resume a daily workout routine runs deep," said McNeill. "My wife, Erlene, my daughters,

our football team and the Pirate Nation has and continues to serve as an inspiration for me."

After the success of his bariatric surgery, McNeill announced that he will also undergo a hip replacement in the spring. McNeill has walked with a limp that seemed to become more prominent as the season continued. McNeill said

> MCNEILL page A2

Calendar Events

Jan. 25 - Jan. 31

Tuesday, Jan. 25

LOL Comedy Series: A Pair of Nuts

8 p.m. in MSC Hendrix Theatre

The Emmy-nominated comedy duo, Yamil Piedra and Johnny Trabanco, also known as A Pair of Nuts, will perform.

Wednesday, Jan. 26

SAB presents "Jackass 3"

9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Men's Basketball vs. Southern Miss

7 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

Thursday, Jan. 27

Plunge into Purple: Service Opportunities

12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at MSC Great Rooms

Representatives from non-profit organizations will be on campus to speak with students and faculty regarding service opportunities at their agencies. Sponsored by Volunteer and Service Learning Center.

Women's Basketball vs. UAB

7 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

SAB presents "Jackass 3"

7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Dance 2011

8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Dance 2011 will feature original choreography by ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists.

Friday, Jan. 28

Dance 2011

8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Dance 2011 will feature original choreography by ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists.

SAB presents "Jackass 3"

7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Play: "The Brothers Menaechmus"

8 p.m. at Fletcher Music Center

Featuring a cast of clueless twins, clever slaves, seductive prostitutes, quack doctors, burly sailors, disgruntled wives, gourmet chefs, tottering fathers and even a hungry parasite, "The Brothers Menaechmus" will leave its laughing audiences seeing double. Performances are sponsored by the Classical Studies program and The Center for Student Leadership & Civic Engagement.

Jolly Skully Beer Festival

Greenville Convention Center

Greenville will be holding its first annual beer festival. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door, or for purchase online at www.beerarmy.com.

Saturday, Jan. 29

Dance 2011

8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Dance 2011 will feature original choreography by ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists.

Men's Basketball vs. Houston

6 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

SAB presents "Jackass 3"

7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre

Play: "The Brothers Menaechmus"

8 p.m. at Fletcher Music Center

Featuring a cast of clueless twins, clever slaves, seductive prostitutes, quack doctors, burly sailors, disgruntled wives, gourmet chefs, tottering fathers and even a hungry parasite, "The Brothers Menaechmus" will leave its laughing audiences seeing double. Performances are sponsored by the Classical Studies program and The Center for Student Leadership & Civic Engagement.

Jolly Skully Beer Festival

Greenville Convention Center

Greenville will be holding its first annual beer festival. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door, or for purchase online at www.beerarmy.com.

Sunday, Jan. 30

Dance 2011

8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Dance 2011 will feature original choreography by ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists.

Women's Basketball vs. UCF

1 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

Play: "The Brothers Menaechmus"

8 p.m. at Fletcher Music Center

Featuring a cast of clueless twins, clever slaves, seductive prostitutes, quack doctors, burly sailors, disgruntled wives, gourmet chefs, tottering fathers and even a hungry parasite, "The Brothers Menaechmus" will leave its laughing audiences seeing double. Performances are sponsored by the Classical Studies program and The Center for Student Leadership & Civic Engagement.

Monday, Jan. 31

Dance 2011

8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Dance 2011 will feature original choreography by ECU School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists.

Last day for applications for all study abroad programs

5 p.m.

Study abroad suffers decline

Hannah Jackson
STAFF WRITER

The number of American college students studying abroad has dipped for the first time in the twenty-two years since data has been recorded.

Based on a survey of around 3,000 colleges, a report was done by the Institute of International Education, a New York-based nonprofit organization.

The findings provided information on international students studying in the United States, as well as U.S. students studying abroad for credit at their college or university. The small yet first-ever recorded dip in numbers is mostly due to the recession. The downturn has also paved the way for students to travel to less-traditional locations.

Europe is still the most popular destination, even with enrollments dropping 4 percent. Yet other countries that are visited less by students studying abroad showed an increase in enrollments, such as Africa by 16 percent. ECU has a plethora of study abroad programs in many of the departments and even some that are non-major specific that anyone can attend if they meet the requirements. The trips here vary from Fiji to Africa to India.

A particular program offered at ECU is a trip to London which has not had any problems with student interest. The number of attending over the past four years has increased from 17 in 2007 to 32 in 2009 but then down to only 23 in 2010. The numbers are strong for the program, which is a literature-based trip, mostly for students studying English.

Rick Taylor, the professor heading the London trip, has a positive outlook for the program. "Our numbers have remained healthy in spite of the economy because we've tried hard to keep the cost reason-

able, and we've been blessed by a very strong word-of-mouth about how much fun and valuable the experience is," said Taylor.

For the students who decided not to study abroad, money was not the sole reason; Mexico's H1N1 virus outbreak and drug-related violence affected the number of students being allowed to travel there, with some trips temporarily canceled because of the conflict. Another reason trip attendance is down is due to lack of participation; students see the cost and do not try to apply, which causes some to be canceled.

A 2009 ECU summer study abroad trip was canceled due to not enough students signing up, and therefore it was not economically feasible.

The program was to Kenya, headed by Mary Wangila. The program then sought out ways to increase more student involvement, as most programs have had to do. "We are exploring possibilities for fundraising in order to ensure that those interested can participate in the program," Wangila said.

As for students at ECU who want to participate in a study abroad program but are not sure if they can afford it, sometimes Financial Aid will cover the cost of the trip and there are special programs out there that reach out to students in need.

"Students almost always say the experience is the highlight of their education, and the students who can benefit the most are often those who have never had the resources to travel," said Wangila.

Editor's Note: The deadline for all study abroad applications is Monday, January 31st.

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

ROBBERY continued from A1

and proceeded to steal a CD case that contained around 150 DVDs. Also stolen was a Phillips 65-inch flat screen TV, a Sony PlayStation 3 and an XBOX 360. The report estimated that total damages and losses were around \$2,400.

Five days later, another residence was burglarized with losses totaling \$2,500. Among the items stolen were two high definition TVs, a Sony Blu-ray player and a silver band containing different colored gems.

According to Riddle, victims will not be held responsible for any property damage that occurred as a result of the break-ins.

In spite of the burglaries that took place, many residents don't feel any less safe than they did before these crimes occurred.

"I definitely still feel as safe as I ever have at Copper Beech," said

senior Stacey Watlington. "You have to be smart though. You just can't leave anything valuable in your apartment for a long period of time, especially if people know you're going to be gone. You'll become a target without even knowing it."

Riddle also advised students that they should take great care when leaving their townhomes vacant for extended periods.

"My advice to residents is that before they leave, they should ensure that all windows and doors are locked and secure because unexpected events such as this can happen," she said. "By taking these small steps, the residents themselves can reduce the chance of this occurring."

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

MCNEILL continued from A1

that the hip replacement will "allow the pain-free mobility I have longed for over the last few years."

"I feel like the surgeries will be a positive thing for Ruffin McNeill and the team," said junior Leann Lockamy. "Once he recovers fully, hopefully he will be in better health and will be able to coach the team to his fullest ability. The hip replacement is definitely going to be a great change for him, he has even said that it would be a relief that he really needed."

Sophomore history education major Curtis Wilson is positive about the outcome of McNeill's surgeries. "I can imagine that the surgery would give McNeill a renewed sense of life. When it comes to such procedures, it is as if someone is

getting a new life altogether. This new life also includes new responsibilities, such as accountability, diet management and exercise. All of these new responsibilities might impact his coaching style for the better," said Wilson.

Overall, the students seem to be positive on the outlook of McNeill's surgeries, and as next season approaches, Pirate football fans will see if the procedures made a difference.

"It's going to help his health out a lot," said Marching Pirates band member Derek Burcham. "I think it will help the way he coaches. He will be more active with the team."

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

PERDUE

continued from A1

enforcement.

The Greenville Chamber of Commerce will be meeting today to further discuss this matter.

Trent McGee, director for Public Policy and Workforce at the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, said, "We have been gathering information to take a stand on this issue and will be meeting tomorrow." Brian Ferguson, a first year master of science in accounting candidate, mentioned, "The current system seems fine. The government should be more focused on other important issues."

Governor Perdue adamantly stated that she does not want to be the governor that put liquor in every retail or convenience store. Moreover, the governor has a plan to speak with the new Republicans in the state legislature, yet this will take some time, as it is not the number one priority in the General Assembly.

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

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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.

Just because we're in Psych 1000, doesn't mean that you can constantly jump into the lecture to tell us about your "personal experiences" with disorders. We. Don't. Care. Thanks.

ECU 74-UCF 62. GO PIRATES!

To the guy who ordered a caramel macchiato and told the Starbucks staff to label his cup "THE MAN": STOP GOING TO MY SCHOOL.

To the owner at the Landing who stuck up for her dog: I can tell by your rant in ALL CAPS that you're just as yappy and annoying as your big rat.

Since ECU decided to shut down blackboard for ALL of Sunday, I wrote pirate rants instead.

I've been dying to know: Why do people's voices get SO MUCH LOUDER the second they step on a silent bus?

Being a "regular" does NOT entitle you to staying at a business 30 minutes after closing. Sincerely, "I Have a Life."

To whoever almost hit me and my friends in the head with a cupcake on Sunday night: why waste your time and money just to piss people off? Is it really worth it?!

Every student should come out to Minges for the games this week! You WILL NOT be disappointed!

Hey ECU, here's an idea! Why don't you invest our money in more parking instead of employing people to give out BS parking tickets every 5 minutes?

To the girl whose dog attacked mine at the dog park, you were beautiful and I would love to see you again....without the dogs.

My Macro professor taught income redistribution and transfer payments by comparing them to a bad porno. I understood.

The new Curry Court route sucks! Why does it even stop at college hill? So the college hill students can ride the bus 1/8th of a mile down hill to class. LAZY!

My dream just came true: Sex and SportsCenter. SCORE!

Spring break 2011: Get here now!

I learned a new cheer at the Polar Bear Plunge: PUR-PLE... COLD!

Just because you're going to bed at 9 p.m. doesn't mean you can tell me to stop doing everything because you need your sleep. Grow a pair.

Dear Roommate: I'm so glad I moved out! Have fun getting pregnant & failing this semester!

To the girl who used the bathroom behind the Pirates Cove phase 2 bus stop Thursday night: That was disgusting and not something I would be proud of and tell everyone. That's gross.

You know you're poor when you use pirate bucks to buy tampons.

I vote that Student Pirate Club cards allow students to skip the lines at Chick-Fil-A and Chili's Too in addition to the football games.

To my roommate that says she loves me every time she leaves: I don't love you so stop saying it!

I swear that if any drop of moisture is seen, every freaking girl on campus throws on a pair of rainboots, even if it's not raining.

More Pirate Rants on the website!

Stressful times, desperate measures



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

We all feel it. We all know it. We can sense when it sneaks up on us like the dark shadow of the Grim Reaper, when it takes over us, making our hearts and minds race and controls everything we do.

Stress is a regular occurrence in most of our lives, and it only seems to be getting worse. According to a UCLA survey, college students are feeling more stressed now than college students did 15 years ago.

As the economy proceeds to plummet, we are here, taking classes and getting jobs trying to help our parents out financially. Some of us are even trying to get by on our own, even though I have no idea how you people do it. Our undoubtedly stressful lives have caused many to turn to anti-depressants for help, and in times of procrastination, some turn to popular stimulants, such as Adderall.

What bothers me about students turning to medication for help during these college years isn't that I don't think some people actually need these pills but the overuse of them. Many people turn to medication instead of

correcting a stressful problem in their lives.

In the world we live in today, quick fixes to problems are what many choose to overcome obstacles. We often don't want to admit that maybe instead of popping an Adderall to cram for a test, it would have been better to have not gone out every night of the weekend. Instead of trying to get a prescription for an anti-depressant, maybe we should start eating healthier and working out more first to see if that helps.

Adderall and anti-depressant medication should not be taken lightly. The people who really should be on it have gone to professionals and have gotten a prescription for it, not secretly hatched a deal with a friend of a friend to get some like a gang lord.

This issue is serious not only because Adderall is a drug that can have adverse side effects like sudden death, stroke or a heart attack, but also because seeing these drugs passed around sheds light on how our generation deals with different situations. We are a sneaky bunch of young adults, and it's very clear that if we want something, we will get it.

It would be nice to see a time when everyone who goes through rough times in school and life realizes that fixing the problem and changing how you react to stressful situations is the best answer.

Shawnte' Elbert, health educator, says that she watches students come into her class daily who are going through serious stress in their lives. "It's not hard to recognize the



ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

really stressed ones because of their flushed faces, and I can pinpoint that their immune system is usually down, as well," she said. "Nine out of 10 students will not be prescribed to anti-depressants or Adderall. They will usually get advised to go to the counseling center where they can identify the

stressors in their life."

Students are recognizing that they will not get the medication they want to easily fix their issues and therefore are "jeopardizing their career by stealing another person's medication. This is a huge community concern among the educators," Elbert says.

While professionals are becoming worried, some students are still here, not learning from their mistakes and making poor life decisions that they will most certainly someday regret.

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

So why should you care?

Katie Bates
PUBLIC EDITOR

For you, it's just another normal Tuesday full of classes, making plans for tonight's adventures and reading TEC. For me, today is a little out of the ordinary. Today is the first day I am writing to you as TEC's newest Public Editor.

As Public Editor, I will examine critical errors or omissions submitted by TEC and report back to you with corrections. I will be the facilitator of conversation between TEC and its readers. I will also let you know about any events TEC will be involved with. In order to connect you with us and gain a larger campus readership, I want to know how we can make your reading experience a more enjoyable one.

Last year, a survey was produced and put on OneStop for you to tell us exactly what you thought of our newspaper. I want to make this survey available to you once again. So why should you care, you ask? TEC is made solely for you, its readers. If the readers do not feel they are connected with their own school's newspaper, then we have a problem. We are curious to know how the newspaper is relating to you, or if it is not at all.

Everyone has a tight schedule with school, jobs, friends and partying, which is why we made our survey short and to the point. We also want to reward you for taking your valuable time to help us out. A number of survey takers will be randomly selected to win prizes from various places around Greenville.

The survey is comprised of questions that will allow our readers to tell us how they feel about TEC and the way we deliver community and national news. It will give you a chance to rip us apart and tell us how to better serve you, or to tell us minor improvements you want to see made. TEC wants to incorporate your ideas and opinions into the newspaper in order to enhance what you read. We trust you and feel you have the knowledge to help us succeed in making our newspaper the one to beat. This is a chance to let your voice be heard in more than just a Pirate Rant.

Our readers mean the world to us and we would hate to lose the support because we can't figure out how to connect with you. So please, while you are waiting for your next class, bored during your class or simply want to help us out, take our survey located on OneStop so we can improve TEC and give you a campus paper worth reading.

Editor's Note: The survey is now live on Onestop under the "Tools" and then "My Surveys" page. If you have any questions or issues with the survey please contact Katie Bates at publiceditor@theeastcarolinian.com

STAFF INFORMATION

- | | |
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Our View

All ideas and viewpoints expressed in "Our View" are those selected and discussed by the editorial board of The East Carolinian. Questions? Please call 252-737-2999 or e-mail opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Privatizing alcohol

As almost every college student in North Carolina knows, the Alcoholic Beverage Commission has control over all the liquor in the state. Currently, the ABC stores are all state-run operations, with profits dwindling every year. North Carolina lawmakers are working to make the change from government-owned liquor stores to privatizing alcohol licenses.

What does this mean for you? Well, instead of roaming the streets of Greenville to find the few stores that sell alcohol, you may be able to go into Food Lion and pick up a bottle of liquor with your loaf of bread. Grocery stores would become a one-stop shop for all the necessities.

With the profits of ABC stores failing, the N.C. government is scrambling to make up the costs. Yet, understandably, officials and citizens all have concerns. With an increase in locations to buy alcohol, we may see a rise in underage drinking as well as theft.

These concerns have simple solutions. Other states, such as California, have already privatized alcohol. The liquor bottles all have caps that can only be removed at a register and the only way to get it off is to shatter the bottle. As much as teenagers want to get their drink on, I doubt any of them want shards of glass in their Screwdrivers.

Another option is separating the alcohol from the rest of the store. This would mean either closing off a section of the store and requiring ID to enter or perhaps selling liquor behind the counter, not unlike cigarettes.

Another concern is the job cuts of the government workers at ABC stores, who are being paid with tax money. Yet we will be able to tax the liquor being sold more readily and create jobs with private businesses. Contracting builders for renovations, hiring more employees to deal with the influx of customers and an increase of distributors will bring more jobs into North Carolina towns.

A consultant for the N.C. government said the revenue from licenses would bring the state \$300 million at a time when we're facing a \$3.7 billion deficit. While this is just a slim amount of the money being lost, we feel it's better to be gaining money than to be losing money.

This sounds great to everyone who understands the slightest bit about economics. So what's the holdup? Governor Bev Perdue is opposed to making the changes at the moment. She feels the system has worked well for over 70 years and now is not the time for change.

Unfortunately for Perdue, the times are changing. We're in a major recession and the creation of the ABC was 74 years ago, the time of post-Prohibition. We don't have the same laws and social beliefs as we did in 1937. When everyone is trying to get by on what they have, we feel that's the best time to make changes. If we fail, it can't get much worse.

We may be in the South but we're certainly not trying to buy a bottle of Moonshine from a rusty tub in someone's shed. Restrictions don't need to reflect these time periods. Privatizing liquor is the best way to boost the economy and make life easier, especially for everyone in this college town.

POLL RESULTS

Do you enjoy the new Croatan?

Yes 71%
No 3%

What is the Croatan? 26%

Contact Info

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The actors in the first English play to be performed in America were arrested, as acting was considered evil.

The Wright Brothers' first plane was called "The Bird of Prey."

The first police force was established in Paris in 1667.

The first telephone book ever issued contained only 50 names. It was published in New Haven, Conn., by the New Haven District Telephone Company in February 1878.

One of the reasons marijuana is illegal today is because cotton growers in the 1930s lobbied against hemp farmers because they saw hemp as competition. It is not chemically addictive, as is nicotine, alcohol or caffeine.

160 cars can drive side by side on the Monumental Axis in Brazil, the world's widest road.

The Golden Gate Bridge was first opened in 1937.

Buckingham Palace has more than 600 rooms.

Los Angeles's full name is El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula and can be abbreviated to 6.3 percent of its size: L.A.

There is a place in Norway called Hell.

There is a resort town in New Mexico called Truth or Consequences.

The University of Alaska stretches across four time zones.

The slogan on New Hampshire license plates is "Live Free or Die." These license plates are manufactured by prisoners in the state prison in Concord.

Nova Scotia is Latin for "New Scotland."

There was once a town named Six in West Virginia.

If you come from Manchester, you are a Manchurian.

Worldwide, there are more statues of Joan of Arc than of anyone else. France alone has about 40,000 of them.

There are no clocks in the Las Vegas gambling casinos.

The Great Wall stretches for 4,160 miles across North China.

The practice of exchanging presents at Christmas originated with the Romans.

A third of Taiwanese funeral processions include a stripper.

The three most valuable brand names on Earth are Marlboro, Coca-Cola and Budweiser, in that order.

The largest employer in the world is the Indian railway system, employing more than a million people.

In Washington, D.C., no building can be built taller than the Washington Monument.

At one point, the Panama Canal was going to be built in Nicaragua.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, one person is killed annually painting stripes on the state's highways and roads.

Activist Kevin Powell speaks on civil rights



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Activist Kevin Powell visited ECU last Wednesday to speak about bettering the community.

Former 'The Real World' cast member calls for inclusive community and nonviolence

Marlana Sifter
STAFF WRITER

Writer, activist and entrepreneur Kevin Powell visited Hendrix Theater last Wednesday as part of the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations event on Martin Luther King, Jr.

As guest speaker, Powell pre-

sented his lecture, "Looking for Martin: Dr. King's Dream in the 21st Century," to an audience of students, instructors and community members.

Powell's stop in North Carolina was just one among the 200 or so speeches he will be giving this year. Since he began public speaking full time 14 years ago, he has averaged a couple hundred speeches annually. Since then, he has also run for Congress three times and published 10 books, the most recent being "Open Letters to America" in 2009.

Wednesday did not mark

Powell's first time at the university. He first visited at the beginning of his public speaking career. At that time, his professional accomplishments were limited to author, magazine and newspaper journalist and cast member of MTV's first season of "The Real World" in 1992.

Before appearing on "The Real World," Powell majored in political science at Rutgers University with a minor in English and a "mini-minor" in philosophy. As a college student he became concerned with the social intolerance he began to notice

and joined such efforts as the movement to end racism in South Africa. On "The Real World," he was known for engaging loft-mates in conversations on racism and xenophobia.

The social issues Powell discusses includes the power of women (despite patriarchal social mores), the acceptance and inclusion of all spiritual backgrounds, sexual orientations and a trust in youth.

"This is a generation of young geniuses," Powell said, as he pointed at the crowd. "Everyone here is a genius – a leader in some form or fashion."

Powell says his mother encouraged his dreams of becoming a writer when she took him to the library every Saturday at the age of 11. He says it is "an amazing thing" to read a book and be transported into another person's perspective. However, before setting his heart on becoming an author, a young Powell imagined he might become a magician, a weatherman, or if he practiced enough, second baseman for the New York Yankees.

As one of the first African-American cast members on "The Real World," Powell was an ideal pick for EDC's MLK event, which sought to define the relevance of King in the civil rights era to the present. The most important part of the evening, though, according to Powell, was the panel, which allowed him to engage with students.

The keynote speech began with Powell asking the audience to stand in a moment of silence for every participant of the civil rights movement and also for recent shooting victim, activist and politician Gabrielle Giffords. Then, to facilitate the creation of inclusive social bonds, he asked

that everyone take a minute to walk around and introduce themselves to three or four new people.

Other key segments of the speech included Powell advising against classism and the dangers of using a college education against the community rather than for it. He spoke on widening the access to higher education and also reminded students that they are responsible for their own learning.

"Education is the education you give yourself... and not just for yourself but for others," he said.

He went on to warn students of churches that "make money with false promises and false prophecies" and have a disconnection from the community rather than serving their needs.

Leading the event, member of Alpha Phi Alpha M. Cole Jones spoke eloquently on what it meant for his fraternity to sponsor the evening.

Afterwards, professor of African-American Studies David Dennard questioned a panel of student leaders about King's modern-day legacy and how they intend on continuing it.

Community member Lakeisha Ross came out to hear Powell because she also is a native of Jersey City and had heard of Powell before.

"I had read snippets of what he's done out in the community," said Ross. "And I'm looking to connect with the community in fundraising projects sometime in the future."

Powell wholeheartedly relates to such efforts.

"Public service is my passion," he said. "I can't imagine doing anything else I love more."

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

The Adventure Center gears up for warmer months

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

With the cold weather keeping most students inside, the anticipation of warmer months is not a rarity. As the Adventure Center starts planning outdoor trips and activities for the spring and summer, they're also offering indoor training to prepare students for kayaking, rock climbing and much more.

"We're kind of indoors right now. A lot of skill-building activities so in the spring we can get out and use them," said rock wall manager and student Wesley Gilmore. "We do lots of free clinics."

For example, the center uses the indoor swimming pool to teach students basic kayaking skills. Instructors also use the rock wall at the Recreation Center to instruct students on how to climb alone or with a partner. "There are usually a couple of things going on each week," said Gilmore, in terms of the winter months.

The Adventure Center hosts day trips, as well as weekend-long and weeklong trips, throughout the year, but mostly during the warmer months. Activities include surfing, backpacking, rock climbing and white water and sea

kayaking. "It's an opportunity to get out (during breaks) and not just hang out in Greenville the whole time," said Gilmore.

Students are not required to take any indoor clinics in order to participate in outdoor activities and trips hosted by the Adventure Center. "Everything we do is oriented towards beginners," said Gilmore. "For the most part, you just gotta bring yourself and your clothes. We teach you everything you need to know." All gear is provided by the center and no experience is necessary. However, Gilmore said, "You would be more involved if you learned first because you already have this skill to draw from."

Nevertheless, students should not be discouraged from signing up for anything if they lack experience or haven't participated in one of the center's free clinics. "It's a chill, friendly environment," said Gilmore. "The trips are student-run. The whole center is run by students essentially."

"I'm leading our first trip in February," said Adventure Center employee Anna Turner. "I'm looking forward to that." The trip will be to Pilot Mountain, N.C., and will be a rock-climbing event. This will be one of the center's day trips. "We leave at like 5 in the morn-

ing and get back at maybe 10 or something," said Turner.

The center already has a backpacking trip planned in Tennessee for spring break. Gilmore will be leading the trip and visited the site last month to get a feel for it. "There's a huge valley with big rivers and Indiana Jones bridges," said Gilmore. During the trip, students will camp out, cook over a fire and enjoy the great outdoors. There will also be a white water kayaking trip hosted over spring break.

"The trips are picked by students," said Gilmore, "We're students, too. We live in Greenville, too. We're right on the same level (as students)." The center will also be starting up Friday Floats soon, where students kayak on a nearby body of water on Friday afternoons for only \$7. Outdoor rock climbing trips will also be starting soon along with trips involving all the other activities that the center offers. All of the trips are cheap and affordable for students. Professors are also welcome to join.

"We try to fill up our trips. Right now we're busier than ever," said Gilmore. The center and its instructors get disappointed when enough students don't sign up for trips. "We're looking forward to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Wesley Gilmore, Jamie Maniscalco and Kyle Slosek at Shining Rock Wilderness, N.C.

it. We want to go outside, too," said Gilmore. "We have to have at least three or four," said Turner, in regards to how many people need to sign up for day trips to proceed. However, transportation for day trips can be limited, with eight spots being the maximum. "We have a pretty limited amount," said Turner. However, she added, "We like to make our trips a little small and personal."

This Saturday, the center will host a sea kayaking paddle trip on the Scuppernon River. To sign up for this trip or any other upcoming

trips or clinics, students can visit the Adventure Center office in the back of the Recreation Center to the left of the rock-climbing wall. For a list of free clinics and upcoming events, students can visit the Adventure Center's website through the Campus Recreation and Wellness website. As Gilmore said, "We want to get people involved and outdoors."

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

High-tech workout apparel promises results

Madonna Messana
STAFF WRITER

There is growing popularity with the new high-tech workout apparel like the Power Balance wristbands and Reebok EasyTone sneakers. However, these products have consumers pondering their credibility.

Power Balance wristbands are 100 percent surgical grade silicone with a stretch feature that goes easily over the hand. The wristband contains a Mylar hologram that is designed to react with the body's natural energy flow.

The Power Balance wristband does not make the wearer stronger, but it helps to make them as strong as they should be by interacting with the body's natural energy flow, according to the Power Balance wristband website's FAQ page. Also according to the site's FAQ page, the Power Balance wristbands were created to optimize the body's natural energy flow in an easy and affordable way.

However, many people are asking the question: Do the Power Balance wristbands actually work, or is this bracelet simply functioning as a placebo? Because Power Balance offers a convenient 30-day money back guarantee, consumers can try the bracelets out for themselves and judge the helpfulness of these high-tech workout aids.

Other newly designed workout clothing that is supposed to have a significant beneficial effect on the wearer include the new Reebok EasyTone sneakers, pants and tops.

The Reebok EasyTone shoes are designed to help tone butt and leg muscles as the wearer walks — similar to the Skechers Shape-ups. The Reebok EasyTone shoes have balance ball pods on the bottom of the shoe, which creates micro-instability and softness with every step. The moving air in the balance ball shapes and tones the muscles in the butt and legs.

According to Reebok's website, the EasyTone apparel has ResisTone™ bands and the tightness and placement of the bands makes it harder for the wearer to move. This resistance causes them to work harder in order to activate key muscles in the upper body and legs. For example, the workout tops were created to tone and strengthen upper body muscles, as well as to improve posture and body alignment. The EasyTone apparel is tighter fitting than casual clothing thus ensuring the proper effect.

Online reviews of the EasyTone products explain that those wearing the EasyTone apparel can actually feel the products working their muscles as they are wearing them.

These new forms of workout apparel are making exercise seem much more appealing. With the addition of shoes, clothing and accessories that workout and tone the muscles for the user, many are beginning to change their opinion on the difficulty of working out.

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MCT

Sketchers Shape-ups help tone muscles when walking.

Dance 2011 coming to McGinnis Theatre

Different dances will portray current social situations

Katey Warren
STAFF WRITER

This weekend, the School of Theatre and Dance will present Dance 2011, a performance that combines comedy and technology with various styles of dance.

Dance 2011 will consist of seven routines, ranging from a satirical work and rhythmic tap dance to an intense jazz number and a classic ballet piece. "I think this (performance) is gonna be really great," said Jessie Moore, a sophomore and co-stage manager of Dance 2011. "The numbers themselves are really awesome and really well-done and well-executed."

Though the majority of the dances were choreographed by faculty members of the theatre and dance department, the production will also be featuring a modern dance piece choreographed by Mark Haim, an artist with more than 30 years of experience creating dances.

Haim has created more than 100 works for dance companies around the world, receiving several honors along the way. Since 2002, Haim has also been a guest choreographer for The Wooden Floor, an after-school organization for low-income youth. Moore is grateful to have the "big-time" choreographer's piece be part of the Dance 2011 production. She believes the number will be one that the audience will enjoy and relate to.

"He's a really talented choreographer and he's done a lot of awesome work," Moore said. "I think his piece really connects with us on a very current level, and it has a lot of meaning to it."

The show will begin with Haim's piece, followed by a comedic ballet number choreographed by Galina Panova. Panova's ballet piece is a reconstruction of the classic ballet *Coppélia*. Panova's

piece will be followed by Tommi Overcash Galaska's work "Chasm," a jazz routine danced to rhythmic drumming. After an intermission, Dance 2011 will present Clarine Powell's tap number, followed by Patricia Week's piece, entitled "Invention is the Mother of Necessities." In this piece, Week's dancers portray society's dependence upon cell phones. "It's basically a visual of how technology is taking over our lives, and how we have a loss of communication with each other," Moore said about Week's piece. "It's really neat to see that in a dance piece because everyone can relate to it and it's really current."

Dance 2011 will conclude with Teal Darkenwald's "Inferno," which, according to Moore and others involved in the production, challenges the dancers' stamina with fast-paced technically demanding moves.

Moore hopes that students will enjoy the performance, especially because she believes they will be able to relate to several of the themes portrayed through the dances.

"It's interesting to see a dance production because there's no obvious storyline and no dialogue, but it's all an expression of dance," she said. "And you can get this really cool meaning and plot line just through the dance numbers themselves." Moore also encourages students to come to Dance 2011 to support their peers who "kind of go unrecognized" for their hard work.

The performance will be held nightly at 8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre starting Thursday through Feb. 1, except for Sunday's matinee showing, which will be held at 2 p.m.

Students may purchase tickets for \$10, and all other adults may purchase tickets for \$12. To purchase tickets or for more information, students should call 252-328-6829 or visit ECUARTS.com.

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

DOWN TIME

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

SOLUTION

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



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Sherrod garners C-USA

ECU senior Jontae Sherrod has been named Conference USA Co-Player-of-the-Week, after he averaged 18.7 points and six rebounds to lead the Pirates to a 2-1 week in conference play. Sherrod shared the weekly honor with SMU's Papa Dia, who averaged 19.5 points and nine rebounds in two games. Awards are determined based on voting from a media panel covering the 12 conference schools.

Sherrod helped the Pirates pick up a pair of road wins at UCF and Marshall last week. He led the Pirates in scoring with 21 points against UCF, as ECU handed the Knights their first home loss of the season, 74-62, on Wednesday. He then dropped in 19 points while sinking five 3-pointers in the Pirates' come-from-behind win over Marshall, 82-81, on Saturday.

Sherrod also scored a team-high 16 points against UAB in the first game of the week Monday. Sherrod recorded career-highs for rebounds in consecutive games, first with eight against UAB and then bested that with nine at UCF. Sherrod drained his 100th 3-pointer during the week to become the 14th player in school history to reach the mark.

This is the first C-USA Player-of-the-Week honor of his career.

Connors begins second stint with ECU Athletics

Jeff Connors has been named assistant athletics director for strength and conditioning at ECU according to an announcement from Athletics Director Terry Holland Friday.

Connors takes over ECU's top athletic performance position after spending the last 10 seasons on the University of North Carolina staff as strength and conditioning coordinator and assistant athletics director, a title he was elevated to a year after his arrival in 2001.

His new assignment at ECU will mark his second stint with the Pirate program after an earlier 10-year strength and conditioning leadership tenure with head football coaches Bill Lewis (1991 season) and Steve Logan (1992-2000). Connors' efforts helped produce five bowl appearances, three post-season victories, 15 National Football League draft selections and representation in two final Top 25 polls (9/1991, 23/1995).

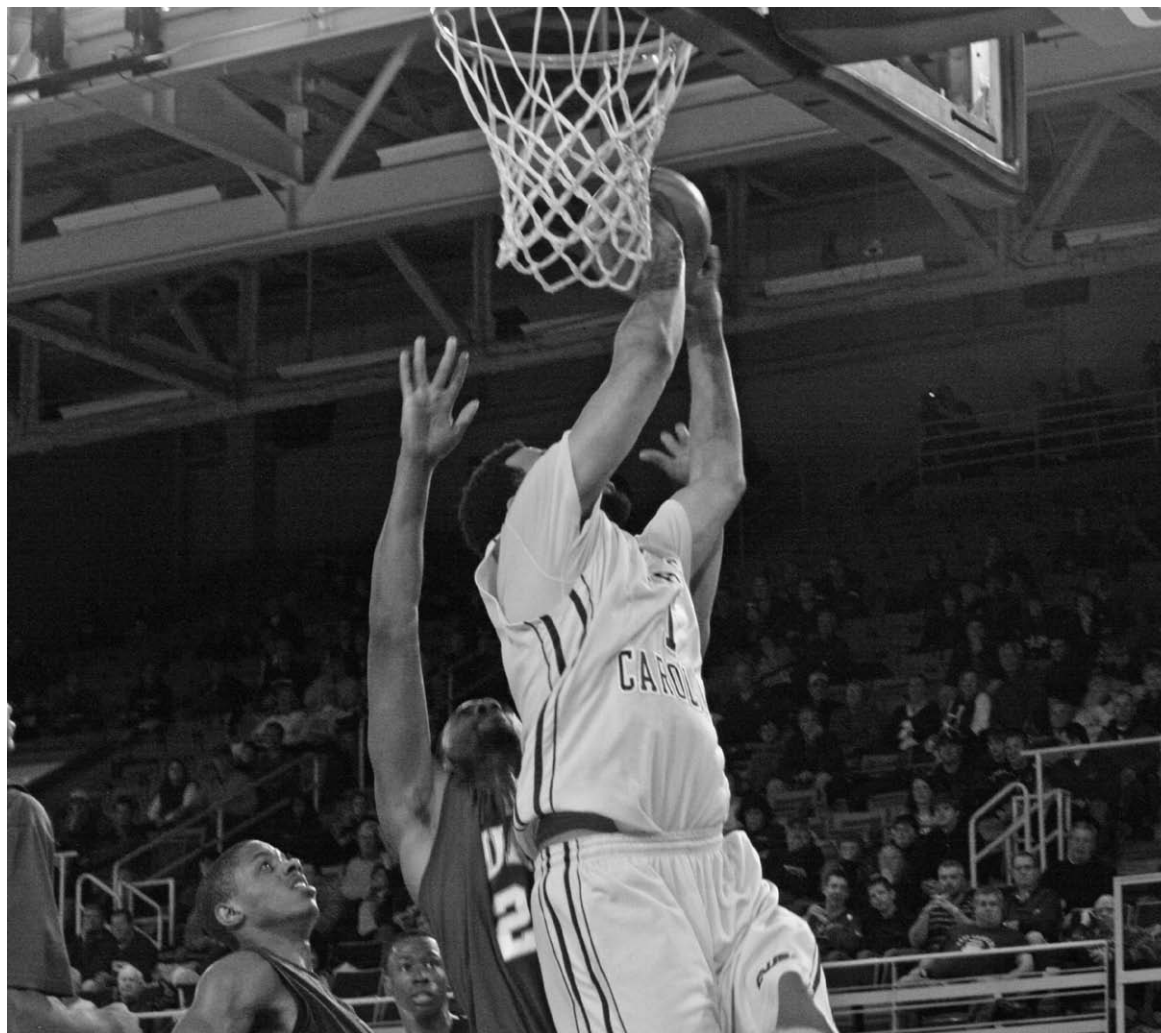
The Pirates also gained a reputation as one of the best fourth-quarter teams nationally under Connors' conditioning guidance. In 1996, the ECU defense did not allow a point in the fourth quarter until the seventh game of the season, and in 1999, the Pirates outscored their opponents 102-56 in the final period. In 2000, East Carolina held a 94-57 advantage in the fourth quarter.

He is also credited for playing an integral role in the design and development of the Pirates' 22,000-square-foot strength and conditioning facility inside the Murphy Center, which opened in 2002 after his departure. Connors, 54, will provide a direct strength training leadership role for Pirate football while providing oversight and coordinating off-season and in-season programs for the remaining 18 East Carolina teams. He replaces Mike Golden, who accepted a head strength and conditioning coach's position at South Florida Jan. 11.

Connors has been honored as a Master Strength & Conditioning Coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches association (CSCCa). The Master Strength & Conditioning Coach certification is the highest honor that can be achieved as a strength and conditioning coach, representing professionalism, knowledge, experience, expertise and longevity in the field.

A 1980 graduate of Salem (W.Va.) College, Connors was a four-year starter at cornerback and was team captain as a senior. He led Salem in interceptions as a sophomore and junior.

Morrow edges ECU past Marshall, 82-81



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Darius Morrow rises to the rim in action against UAB earlier this season. Morrow chipped in the game-winning free throw Saturday at Southern Miss.

Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When Darius Morrow walked to the free-throw line with just five seconds left in Saturday's contest with Marshall, thoughts of the 10 free throws he had missed earlier in the game had to be racing through his head.

Instead of letting those memories doom him to repeating those mistakes, Morrow calmly nailed

his free throw, giving the Pirates an 82-81 win over the Thundering Herd.

Morrow scored a game and career-high 33 points, the most points scored by a Pirate since Lester Lyons scored 33 in 1992. The junior was the key to an improbable last-minute rally that led the Pirates back from the brink of defeat.

Trailing by as many as 15 points in the first half and by 10 at the break, the Pirates opened the second

half by going on a 15-4 run, closing the gap to just one with 13:11 left to play at 54-53. After momentum swings by both teams over the next 12 minutes, the Thundering Herd's Tirrell Baines seemed to clinch the game for Marshall when he hit a 3-point basket with 1:45 left, taking the lead to seven at 81-74.

While many in attendance believed the game was over, the Pirates had different plans, and what followed in the next 1:40 was

a display of pure basketball ability and a belief in the phrase "the game is never over."

After Baines hit his 3, Morrow got open down low for an easy dunk and following a turnover on the ensuing Thundering Herd possession, Jamar Abrams made it a 2-point game after burying a 3-pointer from the wing with 1:19 left.

After both teams traded turnovers, the Pirates were forced to foul and they sent DeAndre Kane to the free-throw line for two shots that could seal the win for the Herd. Kane missed both attempts, setting up the stage for the dramatic finish.

There seemed to be no doubt what the first option was for ECU when they came up the court; they were looking for a win – not overtime. Guard Jontae Sherrod fired up a 3 with just nine seconds remaining that hit off the rim and fell right into the hands of Morrow, who put it back in with the foul. Morrow would hit the free throw and ECU would take the game.

"I just followed the game plan and did what I had to do," Morrow said of his 33-point performance, 21 of which came in the second half. "I wish I had made a few more free throws, but it was a great night for me, the best I've had at ECU."

For the Pirates, it was a tail of two halves. But despite the listless first half performance, first-year head coach Jeff Lebo wasn't worried.

"We said at halftime if we could hold them to 30 in the second half, we'll have a chance to win the game, and I think it was right there at 30 in the second half," Lebo said. "Offensively, we did some good things. Darius had 33 points, and he missed 10 free throws."

With the victory over the Thundering Herd, the Pirates took their conference-winning streak to two games, giving ECU a 3-2 Conference

MORROW page A7

Lady Pirates leave Hattiesburg with a loss



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Jean Best puts up a baseline jump shot against Rice. Best and the Pirates dropped a close contest to the Golden Eagles on Sunday.

Chase Kroll
STAFF WRITER

In a thrilling overtime affair Sunday afternoon, the ECU women's basketball team came up short against the Southern Miss Golden Eagles, falling 70-67. This loss puts the Pirates at 7-11 (1-4) on the season with 12 games

left in the conference season.

ECU's Kim Gay, Chareya Smith and Jean Best led the team with 14 points each in this matchup, while USM was led by Rachel Viger's 23 points. Best also had two blocks and six rebounds in a game where the Pirates rebounded the Golden Eagles

48-35.

As overtime began, the Golden Eagles registered the period's first four points, with the Pirates not scoring for the first three and a half minutes until Best converted a jumper off an assist from Kim Gay.

ECU was able to strategically foul twice, but USM went three for four from the free-throw line to hold onto the 67-70 win.

Opening the second half down by nine, the Pirates went on an 11-2 run to tie the game at 40. From that point on, the teams went blow for blow until the final whistle; the largest lead established during that run was just three points.

ECU was leading 63-62 with just 33 seconds left when USM's Geneshia Dunbar made a pivotal free throw to push the game to overtime.

The Pirates were kept in this game by the superb play of their bench players. ECU's bench outscored the Golden Eagles bench 27-0, led by Best and Allison Spivey. All of USM's points came from their starting lineup, with only one bench player seeing double-digit minutes on the court.

The Pirates were slowed down by just a bad shooting display, going 35.3 percent from the

LADY page A7

High-flying rookies, highlight first half

OPINION



Alex Serkes
STAFF WRITER

After LeBron James decided to take his talents to South Beach in early July, was I the only one who was constantly annoyed at the fact that each time I switched the channel to ESPN all I ever saw was a report on LeBron and the "Big three in Miami"?

I mean, you couldn't go 20 minutes into an episode of SportsCenter without seeing some sort of LeBron James highlight, reported hate messages being sent in toward the situations by fellow NBA players, owners, etc. To top off all that, within that given 20 minutes of a SportsCenter segment, Chris Broussard would eventually make his way onto the set yelling at the screen like the new-age Steven A. Smith about the same things regarding LeBron, Wade and Bosh.

Needless to say, this led to my overall hatred of ESPN for covering only the juicy sports topics

that at times overshadowed the more important events and feats by other NBA teams.

As the Miami Heat began the season trying to "find their identity," with the awful 6-7 record in the month of November and the recent four-game losing streak in January, all eyes have been on them and not the San Antonio Spurs.

It is safe to say, with a 37-7 record, ranking in the top 10 in every major statistical team category in the NBA except points allowed (12th, 96.6 ppg allowed), and being arguably the best defensive team in the NBA, that the San Antonio Spurs are the best team in the NBA approaching the halfway point. However, these feats don't go as noticed as they should be, because the Spurs are not a "flashy" team. They have players who are unselfish, play defense, share minutes and work together as a team. Not one player on the team averages over 20 points a game.

So Amare and LeBron, until you stop worrying about how many points you are averaging and how many minutes you are playing and stop rejecting shots into the crowd rather than aiming them in the game of play toward your own teammates, you can take a good lesson from the Spurs.

With that all having been said, thankfully the "Big three

ROOKIES page A7

Packers, Steelers set for 'Big D'



MCT

Top five reasons to tune in to Super Bowl XLV

Stephen McNulty
STAFF WRITER

There is very little in American culture that gets the type of media attention the Super Bowl gets.

Super Bowl XLV should be quite a show. For the next two weeks, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Green Bay Packers will be on top of the world. And here are five reasons why you have to tune in Feb. 6.

5. History

There aren't many teams in the league that have the type of history that these two teams possess. The Steelers are going for their eighth Super Bowl. That will be two more than any other franchise. The Dallas Cowboys and San Francisco 49ers are second with five. Not to mention it would be the team's third title in the last six years, taking over the New England Patriots as the latest dynasty.

Then you have the Green Bay Packers; the Cheeseheads from Tiletown, USA. The Super Bowl trophy is even named after their legendary coach Vince Lombardi. The Packers are one of the most storied franchises in the NFL and their program's history is amazing.

4. Aaron Rodgers

Rodgers has been hyped up as the next great quarterback for the Packers ever since he was drafted and the whole time he sat on the bench behind Brett Favre. When Favre finally left Green

Bay, Rodgers flourished. He put up great numbers but had yet to take the Packers to the next level. It is quite ironic that in what might finally be Brett Favre's last year in the NFL (please, please, please just stay retired this time!) Rodgers could win the Packer faithful a ring and make them push in the Favre memories a little deeper. Rodgers is emerging as a top passer in the league and a Super Bowl ring will do wonders for him.

3. Ben Roethlisberger

If I have learned one thing over the last five years, it is never bet against the Steelers, and never bet against Ben Roethlisberger. The man may have made some questionable decisions in his life, but he is one heck of a quarterback. If Roethlisberger can win his third Super Bowl in just his seventh season, he will belong among the most elite quarterbacks to ever play the game. Terry Bradshaw (4), Joe Montana (4), Troy Aikman (3) and Tom Brady (3) are the only quarterbacks to start and win three or

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more Super Bowls. Roethlisberger is the only other active quarterback aside from Brady with multiple rings.

2. Defense. Grown Men Defense.

Defense wins championships. Fact. But these two teams don't just play defense, they play defense like grown men. Watching the Steelers and Packers take the field is nothing like watching Big Ten football defense or Syracuse basketball's 2-3 zone. These guys hit, they hit hard and they hit often. It is Clay "Thor" Matthews and Troy Polamalu with their hair flying all over the field. It's James Harrison hits and Charles Woodson plays in the secondary. There are only a few defenses in the NFL that can compete on the same level as the Packers and the Steelers, and when these two forces collide, it is sure to be exciting.

1. It's the Super Bowl. What else would you do?

It is the greatest sports spectacle outside of possibly the Olympics. With two weeks of build up, there are tons of press conference quotes and touching stories about different roads to the Super Bowl. To be sure, Jerry Jones will do everything he can to turn his new stadium into the center of the world for that day. The biggest celebrities go and everyone picks a team. Heck, the Monday following should be a national holiday. If at the very least say you watched it just for the commercials. But honestly, even if you don't have a reason to watch, entering the game you will be thankful you did when it's all said and done. With the National Football League and the Super Bowl, there never fails to be excitement. Not to mention it could be the last professional football you watch for a long time, but to keep the happy mood going, we won't talk about the lockout.

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

LADY continued from A6

field (24-68) and just 19 percent from 3-point range (4-21). The Golden Eagles were able to take advantage of that by shooting 44.1 percent (26-59) and 30.8 percent (4-13) respectively.

The first half of play started as a back-and-forth affair as the teams battled out to an ECU lead by a score of 14-13 with 12:12 left to play before halftime. But after USM's Dunbar made a free throw to tie the game at 14, the rest of the half was firmly in the hands of the Golden Eagles.

USM was able to push out to a nine-point lead with seven minutes to play and maintained that lead up until halftime. The Pirates' Gay led the team in scoring throughout the first half with seven points. Vigers had 13 points to lead the Golden Eagles. ECU shot just 36.7 percent from the field in the first half.

The Pirates will host the UAB Blazers this Thursday at Williams Arena. The Blazers anchor the standings in C-USA with a 1-4 record in conference. Currently, UAB is winless on the road in conference matchups. The Blazers are led by sophomore guard Amber Jones, who averages a team-high 10 points a game. Defensively, UAB features a 6-foot 5-inch center who leads the squad with 24 blocked shots.

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ROOKIES continued from A6



The Los Angeles Clippers' Blake Griffin dunks on Kevin Love of the Minnesota Timberwolves at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, California, on Wednesday, January 19.

in Miami," as well as the reigning champions the Los Angeles Lakers, have not been the main focal point of the 2010-2011 NBA season.

It seems like everyone has officially boarded the Blake Griffin express, myself included. At 6-foot-10, 251 pounds, the guy can work the low post with such pristine art and his ability to finish inside is unprecedented. But that's not the amazing thing. This mammoth of an athlete can play the game like a 6-foot-6 swingman, executing crossover dribbles, between-the-leg moves and occasionally knocking down the 15-foot jumper. Blake Griffin is slowly becoming an unstoppable force in this league. I think we can give Blake Griffin the award for the most awe-inspiring dunker at the halfway point, foreshadowing the dunk contest results perhaps. Who's going to stop him? JaVale McGee?

Another big man who has flown under the radar this year and who leads the league in rebounds, Kevin Love is on his way to an All-Star starting spot and an MVP-caliber year. Love leads the league in rebounds per game on a less-than-spectacular Timberwolves team. Regardless, we saw this same skill set at UCLA and knew that it was only a matter of time before he brought it into the NBA.

But yes, the rookie play has been sensational this year with the likes of Griffin, John Wall, Landry Fields, Demarcus Cousins and the list could go on and on. There is at least one rookie in the top 10 of points per game (Griffin), rebounds per game (Griffin), assists per game

(Wall), steals per game (Wall) and field goal percentage (Cousins). These rookies are certainly foreshadowing the future of the NBA, and I must say it looks quite promising.

Other than the Spurs, and unfortunately the Heat as mentioned above, several other teams have made it onto the hot list for the midway point of the NBA season. The usual suspects, of course, reign in the top 10, with the Magic, Celtics, Hornets, Lakers, Nuggets and Thunder all having tremendous seasons once again. Be careful to not sleep on the Chicago Bulls. Derrick Rose is playing MVP-caliber ball this year, and I wouldn't be surprised to see them as a top-three seed in the Eastern Conference. The Knicks also are playing tremendously, despite playing any defense. Could the addition of Carmelo Anthony mean anything for their championship hopes? Keep a close eye on the Lakers, too. They've shown several signs of weakness over the first half, and it could be interesting to see what happens to them.

The "nots," of course, could have all been guessed prior to the beginning of the season. The Timberwolves, Kings, Nets, Raptors, Wizards and Cavaliers rank in the gutter of the NBA's ranking list. However, all of these teams have young players who are building for the future, and their ranking could definitely taking a spring upward within the next year.

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MORROW continued from A6


USA record and showing the rest of the league that they will not be pushed around this season.

"They embarrassed us last year in Huntington, and I tweeted before the game that we're the hottest team in the league and we've got something to prove," Morrow said, in reference to the 100-49 beating the Pirates took last season from the Herd. "In the past, teams have scheduled us and thought it was an automatic win, but that's not happening anymore."

ECU will now have to put their emotional win behind and turn their attention to Wednesday's home matchup against Southern Mississippi.

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

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Student Homecoming Chair

The homecoming committee is currently looking for a person to fill the 2011 position of Student Homecoming Chairperson.

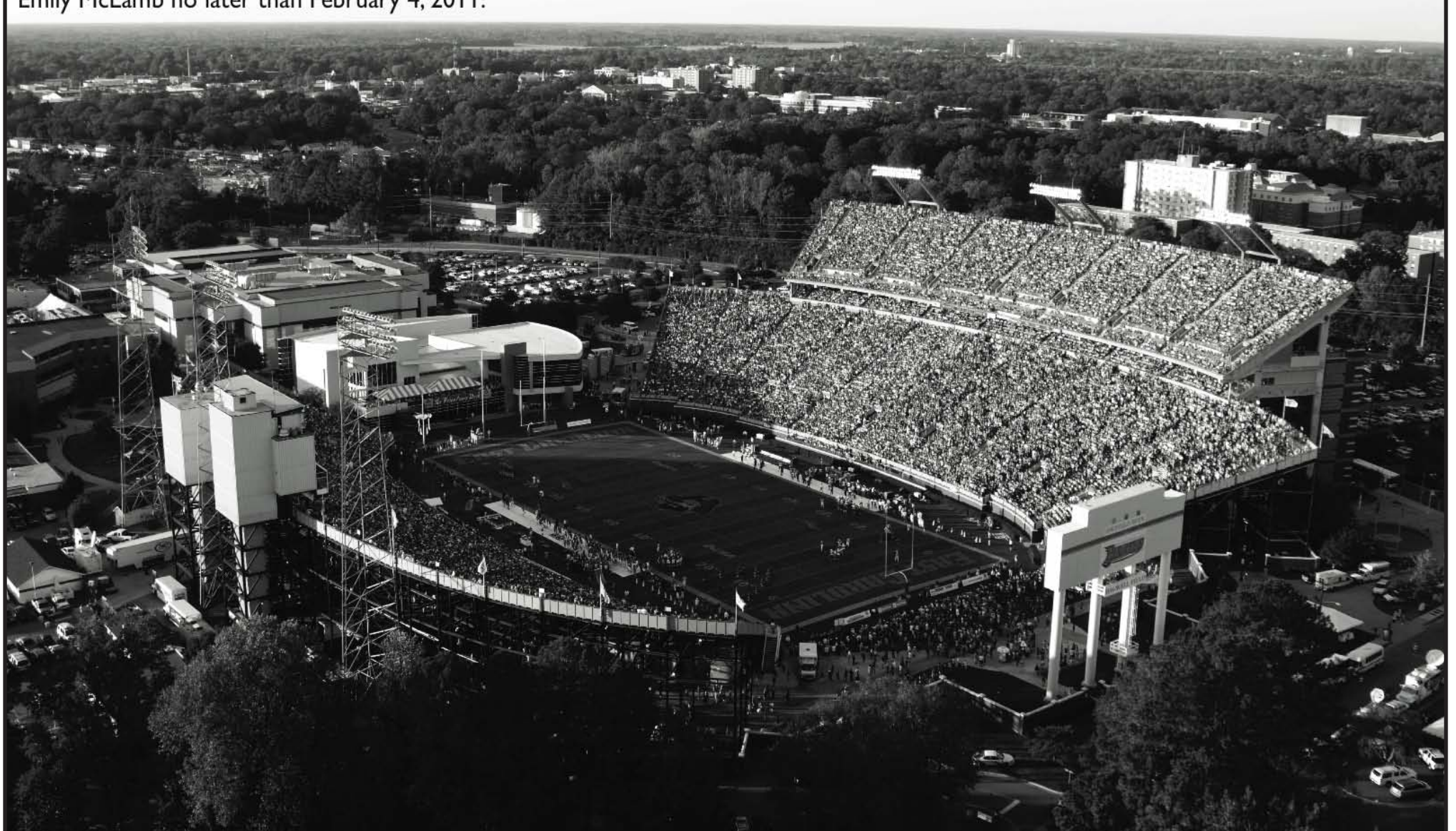
The position calls for the applicant to:

- Oversee eight(8) subcommittees
- Manage a \$30,000 budget and process expenditures in a timely fashion
- Chair all student Homecoming bi-weekly (Spring) and weekly Fall meetings

To apply for the position, all applicants must:

- Be a full-time student in good standing with the University
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
- Have a class standing of sophomore or higher

This is a **paid** student position. All applicants must fill out a student homecoming chair application. Applications can be picked up at the Mendenhall Student Center in the Student Activities/Organizations Office, or by emailing Emily McLamb, Homecoming Advisor, at mclambe@ecu.edu. All applicants must be submitted to Emily McLamb no later than February 4, 2011.



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Houses of all sizes only blocks to campus available for Fall semester. View at www.carolinahomesecu.com . Call 252-327-4433 or email jtant@suddenlink.net

Want to live at Riverwalk? Who doesn't?! Reserve your spot for Fall 2011 before it's too late. For more information, call 252-321-3281.

Looking for an affordable apartment close to campus? Check out The Gables at Brownlea located just blocks from ECU. Cable and Internet included! Call 252-321-3281 for details.

HELP WANTED

Wait staff needed at Professor O'Cool's. Please apply in person between 2pm-4pm on M-F. Must be available for lunch and dinner shifts. No phone calls please.

Greenhouse Preschool is looking for energetic teachers to work part-time. Hours of employment are Monday through Friday 2:45pm-6:00pm. Please apply within. Please call 252-355-2404.

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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting youth soccer referees for the spring soccer program for ages 3-15. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer rules and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: officiating games, ensuring safety of field, and ensuring proper care of program / facility. Hours are from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturdays and 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm for some weekday games. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from March 19 – mid May. Referees will be paid \$12.00 / \$14.00 a game. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm. To apply, please visit www.greenvillenc.gov. Applications accepted until February 1.

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