

OPINION: There are some people in this school that are faker than Taco Bell's meat. You know who you are. **A3**

LIFESTYLES: Skip the traditional box of chocolates this year and try out some Valentine's treats from the ECU Baking Club. Turn to Lifestyles for more information. **A4**

SPORTS: Sports writer, Jordan Anders talked one-on-one with head basketball coach Jeff Lebo this week. Turn to sports to find out how Lebo feels about the Pirate fan base and the growth of the program. **A5**

BRIEFS

Police investigate local man's death at party

Staff Reports

Jacob Randolph Coward, a beloved member of the Greenville nightlife, was found dead early last Wednesday morning at 208 S. Lewis St.

Coward's death is still under investigation, but Jamie Coward, one of Jacob's brothers, said that his family knows that Jacob was at a party the night that he died but are uncertain about the cause of death.

"As far as what happened, we

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Southern Circuit Tour comes to campus

Alexis Headley
STAFF WRITER

The Southern Circuit Tour of independent filmmakers came to the Speight Auditorium in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center on Tuesday for the screening of "Abel Raises Cain."

The independent film is about the life of Jenny Abel, the daughter of an infamous prankster, Alan Abel. She reflects on what it was like growing up with him and follows her father on the road during his most recent hoax.

The tour provides screening of highly talented independent filmmakers in the states of Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Audiences have seen more than 200 films and have engaged in post-screening discussions in over 44 communities.

The tour is a part of a non-profit regional arts organization, South Arts, and it has been making a positive difference in the arts throughout the South since 1975. This organization helps the professional development of artists, arts organizations and arts professionals and advocates for the arts and arts education. This tour is the nation's only regional tour of independent filmmakers. The screenings encourage the viewers to talk about films and their meanings. After each screening, the director/producers answer questions.

Senior English major Melissa Curra said that she enjoys the film classes. "I'm lucky. Being an English major means I can sometimes take these courses and they're so much fun. The class will change how you watch movies altogether," said Curra.

This new minor provides students with a chance to study the history, theory, criticism, cultural uses, aesthetics and production practices of cinema. The classes will address cinema in a social, political and cultural context. This will involve understanding how race, ethnicity, gender and class are portrayed through the cinematic image and how to recognize it, learning how to analyze and engage critically with the visual media.

Spring of 2009 is when the interdisciplinary film studies minor came to the university, and film studies professors are trying to build the minor up by offering more classes and getting more students interested.

"I'm really happy that a lot of students have declared the minor. My classroom environment has changed so much. The student

> SOUTHERN page A2

WEB POLL

Should ECU excuse absences for certain kinds of illness?

Yes

No

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



The East Carolinian

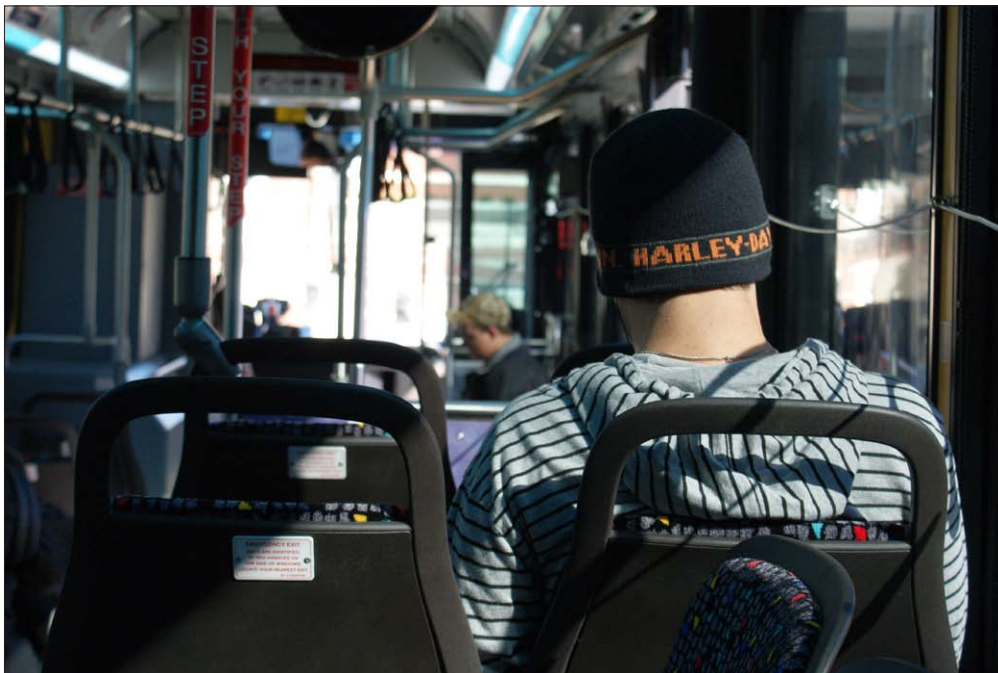
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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

ECUSTA now hiring bus drivers



TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECUSTA is currently looking for drivers to help fill jobs that will be lost to graduating students.

Cameron Gupton

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Student Transit Authority is now hiring new bus drivers because the university stands to lose about 20 to 30 student drivers due to graduation every year.

According to Seth Rodman, operations manager for ECUSTA, training of new employees typically occurs immediately before these drivers graduate.

Students may have seen the "Now Hiring" notice on bus marquee at campus bus stops recently.

"Generally, May is a bigger turnaround time, as more students tend to graduate in the spring, which is why we are currently advertising for new student drivers," said Rodman.

ECUSTA hires based on the number of drivers they expect to graduate at the end of the current semester. The notices on the buses are not advertising a shortage of drivers, but are placed there in preparation for the anticipation of next year.

This is a confusion that Rodman cleared up. "ECUSTA currently has enough drivers for daily operations, but we are continuously hiring new student drivers."

Graduate student and bus driver Josh Parker said that it can seem like there are not enough drivers at times. "It depends on the

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Crime rates drop citywide for past three years

Jamie Coan
STAFF WRITER

Crime rates have decreased overall for that last three consecutive years, while the city's population continues to grow more rapidly as time goes on.

A report given by the Greenville Police Department shows that as the population from 2007 to 2008 rose about 4.5 percent, the crime rate dropped 3 percent. As the population grew 3.6 percent from 2008 to 2009, the crime rate dropped 4.5 percent for that year.

The latest statistics show that the greatest drop in crime was of 12 percent, which occurred in 2010. These numbers are from the Greenville Police Department's preliminary report and are not official yet. The official numbers will be released during the summer of this year.

"I can see how Greenville has a lower crime rate this year," said junior art major Rebecca Waldkirch. "I think that because Greenville is a college town, there are a lot more police officers here. I see a lot more officers here on a daily basis than I did where I grew up in Charlotte."

The crimes included in these statistics are all "Part 1" crimes. This category of crimes includes homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, auto theft, larceny and burglary.

According to the report, there was a 38 percent drop in homicide crimes from 2009 to 2010. Five homicides were committed in 2010; that is three fewer than the eight committed in 2009.

There were 171 auto thefts reported in 2009, and in 2010 there were only 135 reported. That is an overall decrease of 21 percent.

In 2010, there were 1,464 burglaries committed, which represents an 18 percent drop from the 1,787 committed in 2009.

In 2009, there were a total of 5,781 "Part 1" crimes committed in Greenville. By the end of 2010, the number of crimes committed in Greenville dropped 21 percent for a total of 5,118.

According to the report, the only crime that increased in 2010 was rape. Rapes were up 69 percent

from 2009. There were 22 reported cases of rape in 2010, and that is nine more than were reported the last year.

Greenville Chief of Police William Anderson gave this information in his preliminary report to the city council on Jan. 28, as the city council is currently planning Greenville's budget for next year.

Anderson gives much of the credit for the drop in crimes to a better policing strategy in Greenville's downtown area.

In 2007, the Downtown Deployment Plan was put in place by the Greenville Police Department. Not only does this plan utilize more police officers during peak times such as the weekends, it also utilizes video cameras, barricades, motorcycle officers, closed roads, improved lighting and more university police officers. These improvements can all be witnessed any Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday night downtown starting at 10 p.m.

One major goal for the Downtown Deployment Plan is to make officers more recognizable and available downtown at night. This would allow students quick access to an officer to report any issue they see.

"I don't feel much safer when I see the police downtown," said Brittany Dyer, a junior sociology major. "It seems like all they do is sit there and chit-chat. But I do like that they block off the streets so we can walk safely."

The Downtown Deployment Plan cost the city more than half a million dollars, but in an interview, Anderson said that it is money well spent on resources that make the people of downtown safer.

The Greenville Police Department exceeded their annual budget by almost \$300,000 last year alone. Most of this money was spent paying officers overtime for their work in the downtown area on weekends.

The city council is considering advising the police department to hire more police officers to avoid overworking their current officers and to avoid paying them for overtime hours.

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TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Dr. Locklear is the newly appointed Associate Provost for Personnel and Resource Administration. His office is located in 215 Spillman.

New associate provost named

Dr. Locklear is now Associate Provost

Hannah Jackson
STAFF WRITER

Christopher Locklear now holds the position of associate provost for Personnel and Resource Administration as of the start of this month. This is a reconstructing of the position formerly held by Ruth Ann Cook, who served as associate vice chancellor for Personnel Administration.

This is not a new position, however. The existing one will continue to oversee all aspects of EPA personnel for the Division of Academic and Student Affairs. EPA personnel refers to the North Carolina General Assembly State Personnel Act, which was enacted into law in 1949, stating that employees of the state are exempt from this act who are usually engaged in teaching and/or principal research work.

The budget crisis and cutbacks have not affected the Academic Affairs administration faculty, which simply had to reconfigure positions and titles after this past year due to Ruth Ann Cook, who retired in December, leaving a gap in that position. The search ended when Christopher Locklear was offered the job in addition to some of the duties he already performs here on campus. The division of Academic and Student Affairs is responsible for all the academic activities on campus from commencement to study abroad. There are many faculty members committed to fulfilling the goals of our campus that supports nearly 30,000.

The announcement came from Marilyn Sheerer, provost and senior vice chancellor, that Locklear will have responsibility for planning and setting priorities, strategic goals and directions for the Office of Personnel and Resource Administration, along with determining how best to assess and evaluate success in meeting those goals and

directions and clearly articulating how these support the university's overall mission.

Locklear has worked here at the university for the past two years in the roles of coordinator for Policy Development and later as assistant vice chancellor for Resource and Policy Development. He currently also serves as co-chair of the University Policy Committee and will continue in that aspect.

"In this role, I will provide leadership to the division in the following areas: personnel, recruitment and resource management," said Locklear.

Generally, he is responsible for the administration of EPA personnel and position resources under the authority of the provost, for the development and implementation of policies for the effective administration for EPA personnel, coordinating responses on behalf of the provost to problems, questions, participating in divisional strategic planning process, etc.

Cook and now Locklear is responsible for all personnel matters in the Division of Academic Affairs. According to Sheerer, the university looked carefully at the job descriptions and added several duties that Locklear completed in his previous position to better suit the needs of campus and its faculty and students.

Locklear also holds a doctorate of education in educational leadership, a master's degree in school administration and a bachelor's degree in history from ECU.

"The major distinction between my earlier role as the assistant vice chancellor for Policy and Resource Development and my new position is that my primary focus now is on Personnel Administration in the division. However, I will continue to have a role in Policy Development in the division," said Locklear.

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Just don't do it

A recent campus study shows increased 'sexting,' which could lead to trouble.

Abbey Way
STAFF WRITER

Makeda Parker, a junior sociology major, recently finished a research study on sexual content and images in romantic relationships that revealed one-of-a-kind statistics for students.

Some 483 ECU undergraduates completed the 25-item Internet survey that showed 64 percent reported sending a sexual text message, 42.9 percent a sexual photo and 12.7 percent a sex video.

Parker said the sexting results were lower than she had expected. "I thought it would be closer to 70 or 80 percent," Parker said. "If it was from the whole university, it probably would have been different."

Many students had a similar view. "I've done it. I mean, I don't know who hasn't," said Roddie Hoyle, a senior communications major. "I think it's more like 95 percent. Even if you say something little like, 'I want to kiss you,' that's still considered sexting."

Sociology professor David Knox, who mentored Parker, said, "I was thrilled when she brought it up. It's such a good research project."

Parker said she chose this topic because she wanted to research something fairly new and applicable to college students.

Brittany Privott, a senior sociology major, said, "I think it's a new form of communication, so now instead of sending love letters, we are sending love texts or love e-mail."

According to Director of Student Legal Services Peter Romary, the ramifications could be huge. "My best advice to give to anyone is not to do it," Romary said.

Romary also says that sending or receiving sexual photographs can result in a number of consequences depending on the situation. "If the person in the photograph is a minor, you could wind up on the sex offender registry and be likely to have a felony record as a result of it," said Romary.

The individual who receives the sexual photo of a minor could be arrested for possession of child pornography and the sender could be charged with conveying child pornography.

Romary explained that the university is a dangerous place for sexting to occur because a large number of minors enter the campus each year. According to

Romary, even if the person in the photograph is of legal age and if the photo is sent to a minor, the sender can face charges of conveying pornographic material to a minor.

"If a minor is exposed to porn, the chances of the sender being arrested is massive," Romary said.

Romary also added that if state lines are crossed, for example an individual in North Carolina sends a sexual photo to a minor in Virginia, the sender could face federal charges. Also, he said that some states have laws against sending anything which would be considered "obscene."

Another danger that he added was that when an individual sends a photograph, they lose control of where it could end up. "It is not like having a Polaroid picture. It's out there and these things fly all over the place."

He also added that there are often civil cases where a sender attempts to sue the receiver for resending the sexual photo to others. According to Romary, others are rarely sympathetic for the original sender, often with

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ECUSTA

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time of the year, especially earlier in the semester," stated Parker.

When other drivers cannot drive or they are in need of drivers, the hours that are not covered are posted on a list and drivers can select which routes they want to cover, explains Parker. "We can take the hours, but there isn't pressure to do so," said Parker.

Parker drives six different bus routes and obtained his commercial driver's license in about a month. "The job pays well for my situation, and I enjoy it," said Parker.

Currently, ECUSTA has 112 licensed commercial drivers working for the university. The transit authority operates 29 routes on 43 different buses.

In the coming year, ECUSTA does not expect to add any routes to their system but are ready to face any unforeseen changes that may present themselves. "At this time, we do not anticipate additions, but with other changes that may occur on campus, we will modify service as needed," said Rodman.

According to Rodman, to become a bus driver, one must complete a number of steps before he or she is considered qualified. First, interested students must successfully complete an application and be chosen for employment. Once applicants are employees, they begin training to learn safe operation of a commercial motor vehicle, which transports passengers.

"After successful completion of training, which averages one and a half to two months, the new driver is monitored closely while they begin to operate on their own," said Rodman.

According to the ECUSTA webpage, applicants should have a 2.0 grade point average, be able to work a minimum of 18 hours a week, be willing to submit to alcohol and drug tests, have a good driving record and have a valid North Carolina driver's license.

Students interested in becoming a bus driver can download an application via the webpage and drop it off at the main office off of North Memorial Drive.

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

SEXTING

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a response of, "Yes, maybe he did harm you, but you are the one who sent the picture in the first place."

Parker said that students should use their own judgment when sending sexual photos and videos.

"You don't want to have to explain to your mom and dad why

there is a half-naked picture of you on the Internet, and when it's up there, it never goes away," said Parker.

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

COWARD

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don't know right now. We are going by what we hear, but the autopsy report will reveal if there was or wasn't foul play. We are expecting to see those results in the coming weeks," said Jamie Coward.

Jacob Coward was an icon in the Greenville nightlife. Many students knew him as the friendly homeless man that gives the signature "thumbs up." Jacob Coward had almost 5,000 friends on Facebook and his Facebook wall has become overwhelmed with support from students. Many messages note Jacob's friendliness, knowledge of nightlife events and his all-around positive attitude that made students

feel welcome in the Greenville community.

Marcus Coward, another brother of Jacob, says that his family is still trying to find out more information about Jacob's death. "I just wish we could find out more about what happened that night."

"It is so good to know that in Jacob's 35 years here with us, he made such an impact on so many lives," said Jamie Coward.

Jacob's memorial service will be held this Saturday at 1 p.m. at Assembly of Children of God located at 5954 U.S. Highway 17, Washington, N.C.

SOUTHERN

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discussions are so different now," said Klein.

The interdisciplinary minor core requirements involve an introduction course, which will teach the students the basics of film and help them become comfortable with using the vocabulary. Senior Sean Bowen has taken the introduction course and found that it was a very different learning process.

"It was great how I was introduced to classical movies I wouldn't have seen on my own, and the course also mixed in popular movies, too. I started to understand the movies not in just a visual context, but also on a critical level," said Bowen.

Film studies minor is also affiliated with different programs such as the Department of English, School of Communication, School of Art and Design, Department of Political Science, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Department of Sociology.

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

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Barefoot on the Mall T-Shirt Concept/Design Contest

Create a design to go on the back of the Barefoot on the Mall t-shirt giveaways!

Design/concepts must:

1. Incorporate the theme:

"No Peg Legs, Just Bare Feet. Barefoot 2011!"

2. Have no more than 3 colors per design, to go on a white t-shirt.

SUBMIT: All designs and concepts to SABSPECIAL@ecu.edu by 5:00 pm, March 4, 2011

**All designs and concepts submitted become the sole property of the Student Activities Board. We reserve the right to use any design, concept or portion thereof at our discretion.

GRADUATION EXPO for all Spring 2011 Graduates

Tuesday, February 15, 11 am - 7 pm

Wednesday, February 16, 11 am - 7 pm

Thursday, February 17, 10 am - 2 pm

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jostens
www.jostens.com
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Wright Building
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www.studentstores.ecu.edu
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Ronald E. Dowdy
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Caps, gowns and other graduation items will be available at Dowdy Student Stores after the Expo. No purchase necessary to enter drawing, which will be held on Thursday, Feb. 17. One entry per student, May 2011 graduates only.

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.

I'm ranting about your rant so you can rant that I ranted about your rant

ECU sent out a "Test Massage." Is it too hard to ask our staff to spell-check?

Okay U-manor Building 9: Let's get it together and stop puking on all the stairs.

You guys and gals were great versus UCF. Next up: Marshall in Minges Saturday at 5. Only 3 home games left!

There are some people in this school that are faker than Taco Bell's meat. You know who you are.

Pale blue eyes, shaggy brown hair, big smile: That night was more than "meaningless" to me.

Dear girl from the 8th floor: I care about you more than you'll ever know.

When will boys realize that just because we want to actually hookup more than once doesn't mean we're ready to put a ring on it? Grow up and get over yourself!

Be Tray U: The college that takes all your money and spits you out with no job.

To the girl on the Bellamy bus with Chick-Fil-a: I wanted to go over to you and say "You betta give me dat chicken sandwich and waffle fries FO FREE."

Since ECU is cutting professors, I have a suggestion: Cut the Spanish department first! They don't teach anyways, they just read out of the book and expect you to magically know it!

Any girl saying she's saving you for marriage is writing that while up under another guy. Act accordingly.

When sitting in one of the lecture halls in Bate, if you shake your leg, the whole row can feel it. So stop it!

To the girl who I held the door open for at 360 last week: You were saying that there are southern gentlemen after all. You are right. I am hoping you find yours and I'm hoping it's me!

Elvis is dead, Michael Jackson is dead, Biggy and Tupac were assassinated, Weezy in jail. Black Eyed Peas just walking around, without a care in the world, ruining Super Bowls AND Sweet Child of Mine. There is no justice in this world.

I don't care if you get a new dog; just get a new place to live along with it.

Can we hear a lecture about what's on the test instead of your political views?

Never would have imagined that I would get tired of black spandex pants. Mix it up a little, ladies!

Is it necessary for my friend's bachelorette party to be the night of the baseball season opener? Sorry dear, but I might be a little late getting there due to amazing looking baseball players!

My professor uses Comic Sans in all of her PowerPoints. It makes me sad.

To the girl on the 3rd floor of NCC with the dog that barks all day: I called animal control and they told me the Humane Society can come take your dog for neglect. You might want to work something out.

Student health says I have anxiety and depression. Thank God I didn't pay for that diagnosis.

I'm sure the climb up the one flight of library stairs was exhausting for you, but nobody likes a mouth-breather.

More Pirate Rants on the website!

One act affecting many lives



Ryan Chandler
OPINION COLUMNIST

It's not an act that provides physical incentives. There's no automatic deposit shown in your account in payment for your efforts. This reward is purely intrinsic. It provides a satisfaction and purpose like no other.

This act you're wondering about is the endless fulfillment that is received from volunteering and community service. The satisfaction and pride that comes from helping others is a sensation that provides everlasting joy. When you commit your time and effort to an organization or a cause you feel strongly about, the feelings of having a true meaning can be overwhelming.

When discussing volunteer work, immediate benefits fill the mind and no negative thoughts ever come into play. So why not make this act of wonderful deeds a requirement among college students to graduate? The advantages that are developed through extensive efforts in community work can help you in many ways. Your outlook on society and life itself, as

well as skills that can be utilized in the workforce, will improve. Friends, good feelings and a sense of making a difference are all results that can be discovered.

In 2010, 63.4 million Americans volunteered to help their communities. This figure is an additional 1.6 million volunteers compared to 2009. Volunteers with their efforts provided a total of 8.1 billion hours of service in 2009, which has an estimated dollar value of \$169 billion.

Why can't we keep this statistic on an incline? Volunteering is the perfect vehicle to help you keep moving forward and maintain a positive influence in your life.

We sometimes take for granted the community that we live in. People and societies are dependent on each other for survival, so we are our main support. Volunteering is ultimately about helping others and having an impact on people's wellbeing.

What better way is there to connect with your community and give a little back? As a volunteer, you certainly return to society some of the benefits that society gives to you.

Here at ECU, our Greek Life has achieved an average of 20,000 hours a year, also fundraising \$35,000 a year for the local community. We have many ways to get involved. The Volunteer and Service-Learning

Center's goal is to engage students in effective volunteer and service-learning activities in order to strengthen communities, promote an enduring commitment to civic responsibility and enhance the academic experience.

New Greek chapters, such as ATO, are looking for new leaders to guide efforts in making our community a better place. Unlike many Greek organizations, ATO does not have a set philanthropy but allows the choice of where efforts will be most valued.

There are so many ways and opportunities available for the students of this campus to make a difference. Volunteering is about giving your time, energy and skills freely.

Unlike many things in life, there is choice involved in volunteering. As a volunteer, you have made a decision to help on your own accord, free from pressure to act from others. Volunteering brings a sense of achievement and motivation that is generated from your desire and enthusiasm to help.

It may be true that no one person can solve all the world's problems, but what you can do is make that little corner of the world where you live just that little bit better.

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

Scribbles to the Captain

The East Carolinian welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone number and must be signed (except those sent by e-mail). Letters selected for publication may be edited and may be republished in any format. All letters submitted become the property of The East Carolinian. Questions? Please call 252-737-2999 or E-mail: opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Dear Editor,

I was very surprised to learn from your recent article that illness and hospitalization was not considered a reason for a university-excused absence. I would love for there to be another follow-up article containing interviews from the faculty and maybe even the chancellor as to why this is. Over the summer I contracted mono and luckily recovered before classes began in August.

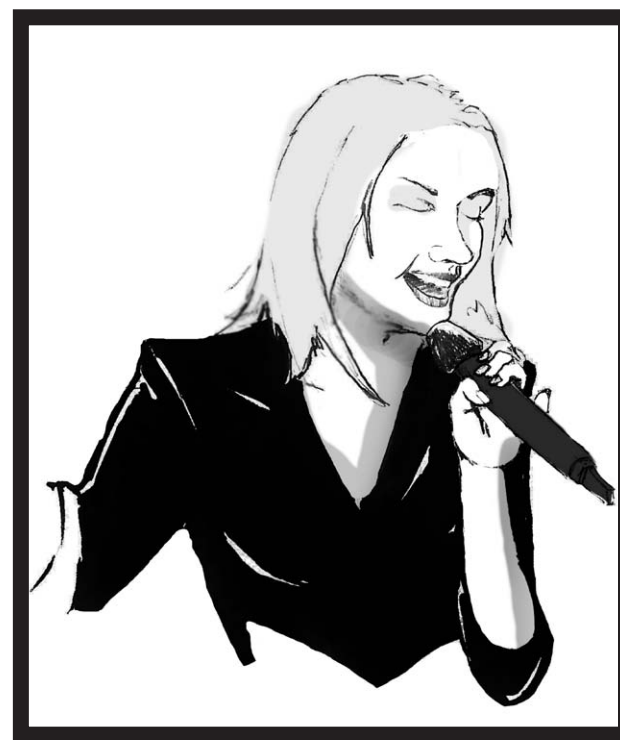
However, if I had not, I

would have not knowingly exposed my fellow students to my contagious illness. I would expect the same courtesy from other students who may carry other illnesses such as the flu without fear of hurting their grade due to a resulting absence and not their actual course work. I would also expect the university that I am paying to attend to understand my desire to stay healthy and "get my money's worth" throughout my time here.

Even more so, I'd expect

this university to understand that the current policy could prevent seriously ill students from seeking the medical attention they may need to avoid possibly being hospitalized and missing classes. So, I am asking for more information from the officials who created this policy as to why a documented illness or hospitalization is not considered a valid reason for an excused absence but a basketball game is.

-A. Taylor.



ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

"What so proudly we watched at the twilight's last gleaming."
-Christina Aguilera

I can wipe my own butt now



Chelsey McClagherty
OPINION COLUMNIST

I'm not sure about you, but my high school always told me that in college I would have to be responsible and independent. I would have to be an adult and take care of myself. College is supposed to teach you to be independent and accept the consequences, good or bad, of your actions.

High school teachers would always say, "I won't be there to hold your hand in college," or "You will be all on your own, no one to make you go to class or tell you to study." Now we have finally arrived, as adults, into the college life and have quickly learned college classes aren't at all what we expected.

I always imagined college with no attendance, no dress codes, no hall pass and no rules about texting in class or using your laptop. I imagined freedom from being treated like a child. College is a time to make your own decisions, good or bad.

The point isn't whether or not it is a good idea to go to class; it's the fact that it's the student's choice to

make that decision. If a student chooses to skip class, shouldn't that be his or her choice? College students are adults, and they (or their parents) are paying for these classes. Students should choose whether or not they can afford to miss class. Students know professors care about them and want them to do well in class, but there has to be a line drawn somewhere.

Some professors have even gone as far as dropping your course grade a full letter grade for every day you miss after a certain amount of days, depending on the teacher and the day of the class.

However, on the professors' side of the argument, attendance policies do increase the amount of students who attend class daily, and it even has a positive impact on grades. Some professors wish they didn't have to deal with the attendance policy either.

"I regret that there is a need to take attendance," said David Smith, assistant professor of German. "Ideally, students would realize that coming to class prepared for discussion is part of their job and that we all grow intellectually through such informed conversations. Regular participation in class activities is critical also to achieving competency in the subject matter. Why would students not attend, especially since they are paying to be here?"

Some professors will even offer extra credit to students with perfect attendance to encourage students

to come. Now, we all love extra credit, but that is not fair to the other students who couldn't make it to class every time due to sickness, a funeral or other things going on in a college student's crazy life.

Some students even reported professors not allowing bathroom breaks during class. I've personally been kicked out of classes for texting on multiple occasions, as well. We have enough going on without being penalized by things such as attendance, cell phones, laptops and bathroom breaks.

I'm paying for this class, I show up and you're going to kick me out for texting? That really doesn't seem like a very productive solution to me. How about I send my text message, no one cares or notices and we all move along with our lives and cut the nonsense. Seems like a better plan to me.

If I miss anything extremely important in the five seconds it takes to send that text message, it will be my loss -- not the professor's. It's not one's business but mine.

The university or the professors shouldn't have to keep up with things such as attendance when we're all legal adults, making our own decisions.

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

LAST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL



FIRST DAY OF COLLEGE



ATTENDANCE... REALLY?



ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

STAFF INFORMATION

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Tipsy Teapot to have an eventful Valentine's Day

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

For those who can't stand the thought of another traditional Valentine's Day or who are looking to do something a little different to celebrate the holiday, the Tipsy Teapot is offering a night packed with events.

With five bands performing on the night of Feb. 14, including a jazz band, the evening should be a musical excitement. The pre-show Valentine's dinner should also be delicious, which will follow an exciting talk on antioxidants.

Starting off the night at 5:30 p.m. will be a Go Science talk, in which antioxidants will be discussed. For over 10 years, Go Science has been serving Eastern North Carolina communities by holding informal science activities. Every two months, Go Science gives a lecture at the Tipsy Teapot, which usually has about 80 attendees. There will be room for about 100 people to attend the discussion, which is free to the public. There is room for about 50 people to attend the after-dinner.

During the three-course dinner, healthy and appetizing food will be served. First, organic spinach salad with all-natural pecans, feta cheese and white tea infused garlic and herb dressing will be served. "White tea is huge in antioxidants," said Delia Liuzza, owner of the Tipsy Teapot. Next will be the main course of baked spaghetti squash with vegetables and mozzarella cheese. The meal will end with a dessert of berries and dark chocolate. Champagne and wine will also be offered for \$15 a bottle. "It's a fairly light meal, but I'm excited about it," said Liuzza.

The meal is not limited to couples either, as there will be a designated singles table. After Liuzza received complaints of people wanting to come to the dinner but not having a date to take with them, she decided to make the special singles table. Singles may even meet a potential partner at the dinner. Liuzza explained that she knows two couples who had their first date at Tipsy Teapot and are now married. The dinner will be \$30 per couple and \$15 per head. Pre-registration for the dinner is required.

Music will begin at 7:30 p.m., with a jazz band made up of ECU students and headed by student and guitarist Brett Comeaux. "He plays the most beautiful guitar," said Liuzza. "They're phenomenally good," she said of the jazz band.

At 9 p.m. until 11 p.m., a block performance of four bands will begin, including Crucial Times, Snake Baptist, I Live in a Giant Bucket and Acirema.

"We've never played at the Tipsy Teapot before but are very excited to, as I've had nothing but good experiences playing in Greenville," said Snake Baptist member Rich Lombardi. The band has been together for six months, with some members having played together for the past two years. The Snake Baptist members are from Raleigh. "We play an aggressive style of music that's heavily influenced by various sub-genres of hardcore and metal, including (but not limited to) Noisecore, powerviolence, Mathrock and OLD screamo."

I Live in a Giant Bucket is characterized as a "straight edge powerviolence/ punk band," according to their website. Acirema, of Greenville, falls under the metal/thrash genre, and Crucial Times is classified as hardcore/punk. "Crucial Times from Vermont is an amazing hardcore band that not that many people know about," said student Wade King. "And Acirema is a great metal/metalcore band that has been around for years." There will be a \$5 donation request for admittance to see the bands.

"I'm really stoked for the show. It should be a ton of fun," said King. "I've seen dozens of shows at Tipsy before and it's a really great venue."

To register for the Go Science dinner, visit www.go-science.org/sciencecafe. For more details, contact the Tipsy Teapot at 252-413-0087.

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



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The ECU Baking Club will be baking cake pops (left) and cupcakes (above) for Valentine's Day.

Baking club bakes Valentine's treats

Cake balls and cookie dough-filled cupcakes are just a few desserts the club offers

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

The ECU Baking Club was officially established on campus last semester, but the club's baked goods are already popular. All the recipes are far from bland or predictable, with desserts such as cake balls, cookie dough-filled cupcakes and peanut butter cup-filled cupcakes.

"Bake sales are so traditional. We try to do cupcakes and something different," said Rachel Pickens, sophomore and secretary of the club. The club also bakes chocolates, rocky road candy, cakes and much more, and they even do custom orders. "We're down to do anything," said Pickens, who also explained that they will bake anything that's requested. "We made a panda cake one time," said sophomore Karissa Lerch, sophomore and president of the baking club, of a custom order for somebody's birthday. They often receive requests from cultural clubs as well. "It's fun to just experiment and try stuff out," said Lerch.

Lerch and Pickens used to bake for fun last year in their dorm. "Last year, we always enjoyed baking and just thought it would be fun to take our joys and turn it into a club," said Lerch. Over the summer, Lerch, Pickens and

Vice President Brad Teague decided to create the ECU Baking Club. "We became an official club in October," said Pickens.

All of the club's baking is done on campus, mostly in the kitchen in the basement of White Hall. "The custodians in White Hall love us," said Lerch, who often gives the custodians free treats. Pickens explained that most of the desserts are baked from family recipes or recipes from members. However, Lerch added, "We've also made up our own recipes." One of which is the club's cake balls. "Our cake balls are so good," said Lerch. Cake balls are made by packing together broken up pieces of a baked cake with icing. Next, the balls are dipped into chocolate and then frozen. "They're amazing," said Pickens.

The club tries to meet once a month at Ledonia Wright Center to discuss what types of events they could sponsor. In between meetings, members bake independently. "We bake for fun on our own," said Pickens. "When it's an event, something we're doing as a club, we try to involve all the members." So far, the club has baked collectively when doing so for events, and they have fun doing it. "During cookie sales, we'd joke around and have fun with each other."

The club currently has about 30 members and anyone who lives in Greenville is welcome to join. "We do our best to help people," said Pickens of new members. "Really, all you have to do is show up for meetings (to join)." The club also hopes to have workshops with

cake decorators and caterers in the future. "We do want to grow and expand."

"We're thinking about doing cupcake wars on campus," said Pickens. Cupcake wars would entail forming two teams and giving each team certain ingredients. Each would then bake, with the objective of the "war" being to get down to the best cupcake.

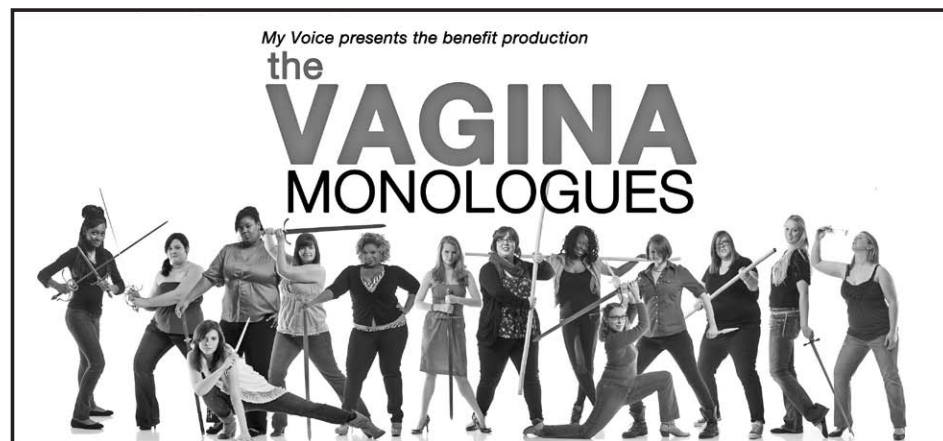
During last semester's exam week, the club delivered cookies on campus for \$5 a dozen, including delivery. For an extra \$1, deliveries could be made to anywhere in Greenville. "We had people ordering over 70 cookies," said Pickens. "The first night was really crazy," said Lerch. The club anticipates holding another cookie sale during this semester's exam week.

On Valentine's Day, the club will be selling different kinds of chocolates, as well as rocky road candies and cake balls in front of Wright Place. Orders can also be placed in advance and picked up at White Hall.

With the money from sales, the club reinvests back into fundraising and toward a T-shirt fund. They eventually want to bake for charity. "We're still so new," said Lerch. "We're trying to establish ourselves this year," said Pickens.

For more information on the ECU Baking Club, such as how to join, place orders or view upcoming events, visit www.facebook.com/ECUBakingClub.

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



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'The Vagina Monologues' will be performed Feb. 13-15.

The 'Vagina' Warriors are back

'The Vagina Monologues' to be performed at ECU

Hunter Ingram
STAFF WRITER

"The Vagina Monologues," an inspirational play that uses women's real-life experiences regarding their vaginas as a means of self-acceptance and discovery, is returning to campus this Valentine's Day.

Told through both heart-breaking and humorous true stories, "The Vagina Monologues" became a massive cultural movement after writer Eve Ensler first debuted in New York City in 1996. Since then, it has been performed every year in countries all over the world by everyday women, who globally read the monologues that have, for 15 years, been an inspiration

to millions of women.

This will be the 10th year that "The Vagina Monologues" has been performed at ECU, and like last year, the event will be sponsored by MyVoice, a student organization focused on the efforts to promote equality on campus.

For Jill Matarelli Carlson, one of the performers in this year's show on campus, "The Vagina Monologues" is something that can be a truly moving experience for people. "This is the type of show that could actually change people's perceptions about, not only vaginas, but of themselves and how they view themselves," said Carlson.

Carlson added, "You go in maybe not knowing what to expect, and you come out changed, which is something that I think is really positive for people."

Carlson, who is also a professor for the theatre depart-

ment, will be performing the monologue, "Because He Liked to Look at It," which deals with a woman who comes to accept her vagina through an experience she had with a man.

After having performed one of the monologues in last year's show, sophomore theatre major Camrin Stonesifer will be stepping behind the scenes as director of this year's production. Stonesifer, who is a member of MyVoice, believes that it is important to perform this play for audiences. "(MyVoice) puts this on as an organization because we feel like the vagina is this hidden thing and we really want people to start talking about it in a good light."

Stonesifer added, "We do it so women will feel more comfortable with themselves, and I really feel like that is a critical part of being a college student, because you are finding yourself and becoming more comfortable

with yourself as an individual."

While the majority of the monologues stay the same every year, Stonesifer believes each year's performances are never the same. "Every monologue is going to be unique to the woman who performs it because when you bring in new people, they are going to bring in new ideas for the monologues, which for those who have already seen it, they can come back and it will be new and funny."

Every year, the last monologue performed in the show is known as the "spotlight monologue" and deals with a current issue in the world. This year's spotlight monologue is entitled "Myriam Merlot," and revolves around the crisis in Haiti.

The cast for this year's performance, which includes students, an ECU alumna and a professor, is true to the meaning of the monologues and includes 14 women from different fields of study and ethnic backgrounds, which Carlson believes is important. "Getting real women's perspectives and getting a variety of ages, races and cultures to perform these monologues is really important and this truly is a diverse group."

Freshman theatre major Caitlin Nielsen is happy to be performing in this year's production for the first time. "The monologues are so beautiful and they take something that may be considered disgusting or not up to par in culture, and lay it out in such a beautiful manner, and to be able to contribute to bringing these people's stories to the stage is great."

After word of mouth propelled the play into the national spotlight back in 1996, Ensler began using the success to help promote the fight against violence toward women and girls. Out of this effort, Ensler created V-Day.

Occurring every year from February to April, V-Day is a time in which performances of "The Vagina Monologues" and other events are planned in communities across the globe. This is done in an attempt to raise awareness and money for local shelters and organizations that help fight violence against women and girls.

The proceeds from this year's performance of "The Vagina Monologues" will benefit The Center for Family Violence Prevention in Greenville. Last year's performance raised \$4,000 for the same organization.

Carlson understands that people have apprehensions about the show, but she believes seeing it will be worth it. "Sometimes I think the name scares people off, and especially men, but I feel like it's important for people to come and see the show, because they will not only be enlightened but maybe even a little inspired," said Carlson.

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 13, and at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 14, and Tuesday, Feb. 15, in Hendrix Theatre. Tickets are \$8 when preordered at the Central Ticket Office or at www.ecuarts.com or are \$10 at the door.

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



Vliegen named Athlete-of-the-Week

ECU freshman Joran Vliegen has been named the Conference USA Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week after an undefeated week. Vliegen earned his first accolade, as he was 4-0 last week against Mount Olive and George Washington.

The rookie from Maaseik, Belgium, competed in the No. 3 and 4 spots in singles play and at the No. 1 court in doubles action. He posted a 6-2, 6-3 win over Mount Olive's Yoann Pham Won at No. 3 singles and helped ECU to the 7-0 sweep in the match.

Playing alongside Jaroslav Horvath in doubles play, the tandem cruised through their Mount Olive match, 8-3, and continued to roll, downing George Washington's top pair of Ugur Atalay and Erik Hannah, 8-5, for the Pirates' lone doubles win of the match. In singles play, he defeated Christopher Kushma on the No. 4 court, 6-2, 6-3.

In dual matches this season, Vliegen is 4-0 in both singles and doubles overall and has helped ECU to a 4-1 start to the year. In addition to being a first for Vliegen, it's also the first for ECU since Felipe Fonseca took the honor on Jan. 25, 2005.

Track breaks records at Penn State

The ECU track and field program had a fine showing at the Penn State Sykes-Sabock Cup Saturday, breaking three school records as the Pirates continued their indoor season. The women took fourth in the team competition against a highly competitive field, which included teams such as host Penn State and Big East member South Florida.

Freshman Aiesha Goggins ran a quick 53.80 in the 400-meter dash while Brittany Copeland raced to a 4:50.70 in the mile and Jordan Neil improved on his own program standard in the 3,000-meter run, clocking in at 8:14.34. All three of the athletes won their event titles in the process and Goggins' time is good for the 11th-fastest in the nation.

Sophomore All-American Tynita Butts won her third high jump title of the campaign, turning in a facility record mark of 1.81 meters. She is currently ranked second in the nation in the event.

Other highlights for the Pirates included a second-place finish for Kim Kanala in the weight throw as she recorded a mark of 17.65 meters, as well as a second-place result for the 4x400 relay squad (3:43.81) and a third-place showing for Goggins in the 200-meter event (24.55).

The ECU men also found the podium, first with Desmond Lawrence in the 60-meter dash as he finished the race in a time of 6.83. Joseph Samuels qualified for the finals of the 60-meter hurdles with a seventh-place finish in the preliminaries before clocking in at 8.39 in the finals.

The Pirates will have one final tune-up before the Conference USA Indoor Championships, traveling to the UNC Invitational Feb. 12.

Lady Pirates to host Nike Girl's Basketball Camps

The ECU women's basketball program will offer two Nike Basketball Camps this summer, according to an announcement from head coach Heather Macy Monday.

Macy will serve as the host for the camps as well as provide instruction. The Complete Skills session, scheduled for June 20-24, is for girls ages 6-15 while the Elite Camp, slated for Aug. 5-7, is open to ages 10-18.

Macy is the director of the ECU women's basketball camps and has been a featured speaker at numerous clinics around the nation - most recently this fall at the NIKE Championship Basketball Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. She has also been invited to present at the same event this spring in Wisconsin.

Lebo looks to build another winner



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Head coach Jeff Lebo talks with his team during a timeout against Houston. Lebo has welcomed the challenge of turning around the program.

Jordan Anders

STAFF WRITER

MTV aired the very first episode of "Beavis and Butt-Head." Bill Clinton was less than two months into his first term in the White House. The No. 1 song on the Billboard charts was "A Whole New World," the love theme from Aladdin.

The date was March 8, 1993. On that date, the ECU Pirates basketball team defeated the James Madison Dukes in the finals of the Colonial Conference tournament, punching their ticket to their second-ever NCAA tournament appearance, where they would be bounced

in the first round by eventual national champion North Carolina.

Since then, Pirate basketball has descended into the depths of basketball mediocrity. They have had no winning seasons since 1996-97, and since their move to Conference USA in 2001, they have finished no better than 5-11 in conference play.

The repeated poor results turned ECU basketball into a mere punch line and made being a fan something that one would divulge only to their closest relatives.

Oh, how things have changed.

ECU's hiring of former

North Carolina Tar Heel player and former Auburn head coach Jeff Lebo back in March of 2010 marked the beginning of a change in the tide of ECU basketball.

Being charged with building up a program is nothing new for Lebo, who took over struggling teams at Tennessee Tech, Tennessee-Chattanooga and Auburn, and led them all to at least one season of 20-plus wins. Lebo insists that he was not afraid of having to do the same in Greenville.

"I wasn't afraid of coming back to a situation that was, in a lot of ways, going to be a really difficult situation," Lebo said.

"I've been to places like that before. I've been to hard jobs."

"So that was something that was appealing to me," he continued, "was to come back and try to get this program competitive."

While the results had not been there in previous years, it was apparent upon Lebo's arrival that one thing was not missing from this team: Desire.

"These guys want to win," Lebo said bluntly. "That's the one thing they said when I talked to them when I first got this job: 'What do we have to do to win?'"

"You have to do a lot of things to win, and a lot of them aren't fashionable. They've tried to do those things, so I've got

a lot of respect for those guys."

Lebo has plenty of reason to feel good about his program. The Pirates are 13-10 overall, and, at 5-4 in C-USA, they have already matched the program's highest conference win total for a season. Better yet, that 5-4 record has them only 1.5 games out of first place in the wide-open C-USA race.

When asked about his team's chances to make some noise in the C-USA tournament, Lebo was confident. "We've proven we can play with anybody in this league," he said.

LEBO page A6

McPhaul, men's golf excited for spring season

Lorianna Whitford

STAFF WRITER

One of ECU's treasured varsity athletics teams is back on the green with inspiring goals and good spirits, ready to conquer the season. Born in the 15th century, golf is a sport that has proven to withstand the test of time. Now as its popularity has grown, it is time for the Pirates to recognize the ECU golf program for representing the university in the world of golf.

Although it serves as a playful hobby to many, golf is no joke to the Pirate golf team. Led by Head Coach Press McPhaul, ECU trains throughout the year to improve in its craft. You can find several golfers practicing throughout different areas in Greenville, but most of the time they can be found training at Ironwood golf course.

The Pirates recently returned from the opening tournament of their spring campaign in Jacksonville, Fla. The JU Invitational served as a time for ECU to get back into the swing of things as their challenging spring season approaches.

"We did OK. We had some good play out of our top three players, but in golf you have to count four scores, and we weren't able to put together a good fourth score, so we didn't do as well as we had hoped because of that," McPhaul said. "They've been working hard in bad conditions, and we knew we weren't going to be very sharp. On Jan. 21, no one out there is really sharp, but the guys worked hard, and I think we're going to be pretty good."

Known as one of the most mentally challenging sports there is, golf takes not only ability and hard work, but it takes a certain level of mental toughness as well.

"You just have to be committed and mentally tough to ride through a few valleys," McPhaul said. ECU's golf team has never made it to the NCAA championship, and the goal of the team this year is to finally make it there.

McPhaul gave a description of the steps to be taken in order for the Pirates to make it to the NCAA tournament.

"What we work towards is to qualify for regionals and advance from regionals as one of the 30 teams that goes to the NCAA championship," McPhaul said. "I believe that our guys have the talent to do that, and I think they have the desire to do that. They have to continue to build confidence in themselves and each other to accomplish it, and they're going to have to be tougher."

When asked about standout athletes, McPhaul proudly mentioned two juniors, Harold Varner and David Watkins.



Standout golfers David Watkins (top) and Harold Varner (bottom) lead the Pirates both on and off the course.

"They are both guys who are very talented and have been good players for us for a long time. They have a willingness and a clear desire to achieve excellence in their sport, so they are very consistent. They show up every day with a great attitude, willing to work."

"They understand that today's work

OPINION



Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Stronger Pirates expected from Connors

No matter how fast you are or how high you can jump, football games are won in the trenches where pure strength is the most important aspect.

When Mike Golden left ECU in January to join Skip Holtz's staff at South Florida, ECU athletic director Terry Holland knew who he should call. Just 10 days after Golden's departure, ECU hired Jeff Connors to head up the Pirates' strength and conditioning program.

Connors, who previously was on the Pirates' staff from 1991 to 2000, rejoins the program after heading up the North Carolina strength and conditioning program for the last 10 years. He oversaw current NFL players Julius Peppers, Kentwan Balmer and Hakeem Nicks.

"I'm elated and proud to return to a school and town where our family experienced the best times of our lives," Connors said. "Coach (Ruffin) McNeill and I share a similar passion for the program. My experience at North Carolina forced me to become a better coach, and I learned a great deal from Coach (Butch) Davis. I'm excited to meet the team as soon as possible and get started."

Adding a guy like Connors will immediately pay dividends for a Pirate squad that was really manhandled up front during the 2010 football season.

"We're thrilled to have Jeff back in the Pirate family," Head Coach Ruffin McNeill said. "He and I have the same team concept philosophy without tolerance for entitlement and egos. I've seen, by first-hand account, what he will bring to our program. I can't wait for our players to get around Jeff and see them embrace and embody his spirit and passion."

Connors brings experience to a Pirate front line that desperately needs it. Numerous times over the course of last season ECU would head into the half within arm's reach of their opponent, but would be outplayed by their opposition who clearly had more strength upfront and was much more conditioned for late-game battles.

In their matchups with Virginia Tech, North Carolina, Central Florida and Navy, the Pirates went into the half trailing by no more than 14 points and leading in one of those games. However, in the second half, where a conditioning coach makes his mark, that is where the Pirates lacked explosion and quickness. In the first half, the Pirates beat their opponents 255-249. While that's not a large margin, it is still consistently winning the half. However, the Pirates were dominated in the second half of games being outscored 217-316.

While the Pirates were getting destroyed in the second half, UNC, where Connors was coaching, excelled in the second half. The Tar Heels outscored their opponents 142-113 including holding the opposition to six or fewer points in six out of the 13 games played on the year.

The two most important parts of the game where Connors will help from the start will be on the defensive side of the ball, as well as in the running game. The Pirates will start a new running back this coming fall, so it's imperative that Connors begins work with that group right away. The tailbacks must improve their strength so they can break tackles and work their stamina up so those 30-yard runs turn into 80-yard touchdowns.

For the defense, Connors will immediately put in place a weight program that will require the defensive front seven to bulk up. Too many times last year the Pirates were beat up front. Under Connors, a 400-yard rushing performance will hopefully never happen again. For the secondary, Connors will look to put in place a routine that will improve the first step of the corners and the breakout speed of the safeties.

MCPHAUL page A6

CONNORS page A6

LEBO

continued from A5

The much-improved on-court product has brought the students back out to Minges Coliseum to root on their Pirates. Lebo expected the fans to eventually come with better performance, but he admits that the magnitude of the swell of support has caught him off guard.

"The crowd support that we've gotten here recently has kind of taken me aback a little bit," he said. "I've been a little surprised at just how many people have come out to watch us play. But that's exciting. Hopefully we can continue that."

The support has been unique, to say the least. Lebo gets a kick out of the fact that one of the members of the pep band waves a giant cut-out of the coach's head to try to distract free throw shooters.

"I wonder if the glare off my bald head bothers the opposing players," Lebo said with a laugh. "That's a big dome."

Lebo has improved this program immensely in just under a year on the job. Pirate fans can only hope that in the next few years, he will take the team to even greater heights.

ECU will host Marshall at home this Saturday.

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

CONNORS

continued from A5



Connors

Connors brings experience and talent to a position that lacked those things last year. Connors will, and I hate to use a pun, strengthen the Pirates and lead them, along with the rest of this ECU coaching staff, back to prominence in Conference USA.

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

MCPHAUL

continued from A5

equates into your success two or three months down the road. They're very consistent in their effort, very consistent in the work that they do and I think those are the reasons that they are our two best players."

Clear and to the point, McPhaul touched on the topic of academics and the expectations for ECU men's golf.

"We look for guys who are excellence-minded," He said. "A young man who is going to take

his academic performance seriously almost always takes his athletic performance seriously. It's the type of work ethic that David and Herald have exhibited." He made a point of explaining that if someone took athletics seriously and didn't take academics seriously, they are most likely going to fall short at some point. This is why he finds it beneficial to find a student athlete who is dedicated to all of their commitments.

The ECU men's golf program

works hard with little recognition. Keep an eye out for your purple and gold athletes on the green. The Pirates will travel to Wilmington to compete in the Seahawk Intercollegiate on Sunday, Feb. 27.

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

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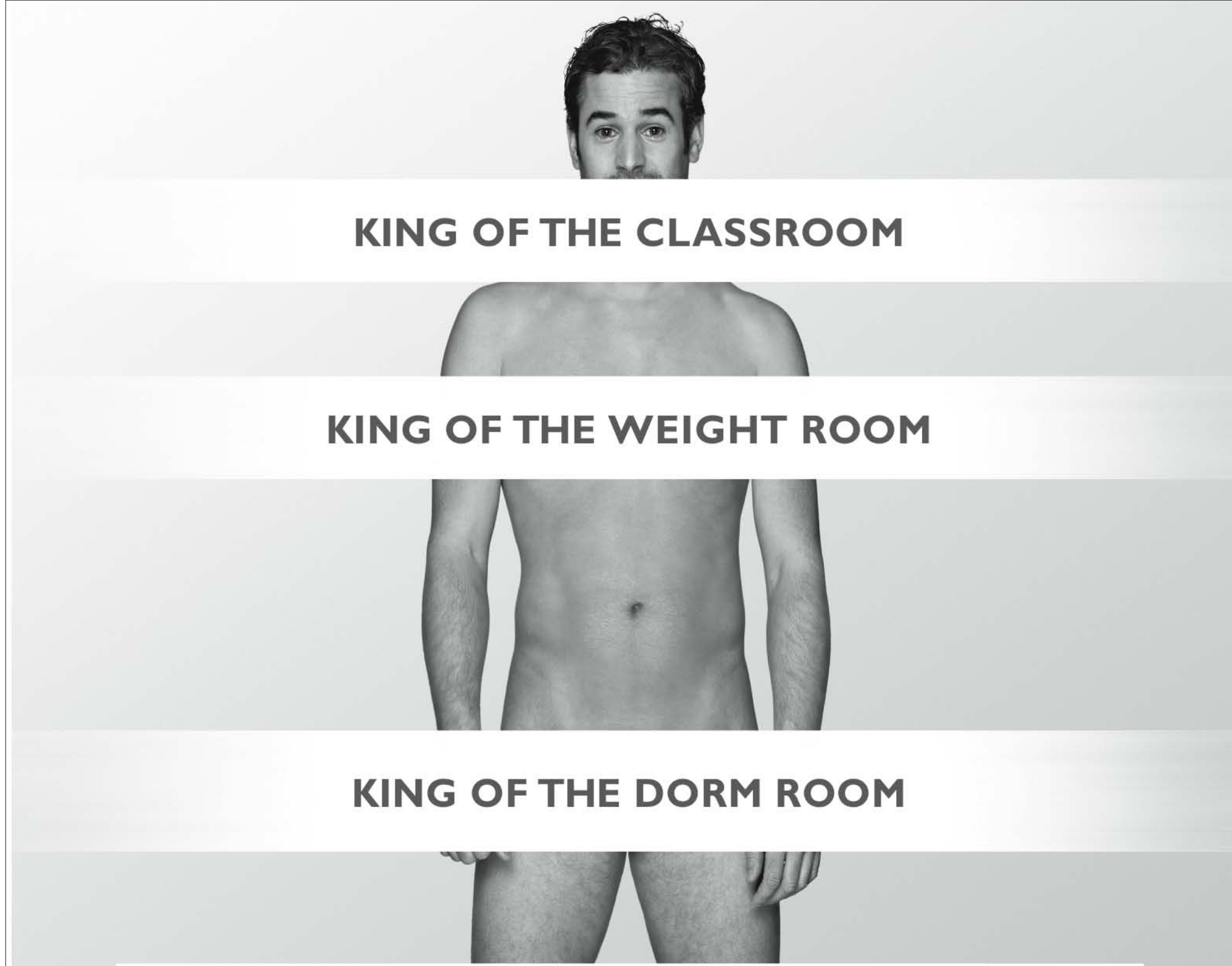
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—Katie Montgomery, freshman, Nursing



"I live in the Pointe and Wimbledon. I like living there because it's more grad students and professionals. It's built better and has better amenities."
—Jordan Brown, senior, English

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Property name	Address	Phone Number
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Pirates Place Townhomes	1526 S. Charles Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858	252-321-7613
The Landing	1920 Exchange Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-321-6783
University Manor	3535 E. 10th Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-758-5551
Pirates Cove	3305 E. 10th Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-752-9995
Forrest Acres	Heath Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Woodlands	Frontgate Drive, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
English Village	Peed Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Park Village	Adams Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Eastgate	Moseley Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Monticello Court	Paladin Drive, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Cedar Creek Woods	Cedar Creek, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Park West	Park West Drive, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
College Park	E. 10th Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
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Wellingham	Wellingham Ave., Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
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Moss Creek	Sussex Street, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Park Village	Adams Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Peony Gardens	1323 E. 10th Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
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South Haven	South Square Drive, Winterville, NC 28590	252-756-6209
Wesley South	108 Brownlea Dr, Ste A, Greenville, NC 27858	252-758-1921
Cedar Court	108 Cedar Court, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Cedar Creek	Cedar Creek Road, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
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North Campus Crossing	3800 Bostic Drive, Greenville, NC 27834	252-752-1212
Tree Top Villas	E. Firetower Road, Winterville, NC 28590	252-756-6209
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Rowntree Woods	2902 Cedar Creek Rd., Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Allenton Estates	Allen Road, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Holly Glen	Holly Glen Drive, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Wilson Acres	1806 E. 1st Street, Greenville, NC 27858	252-752-8277
The Pointe at Wimbledon	1530 Wimbledon Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-355-4648
First Street Place	400 West 1st Street, Greenville, NC 27834	252-227-4644
The Province	504 Boxelder Way, Greenville, NC 27858	252-752-1050
Rosemont	Rosemont Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Tower Village	Tower Place: Firetower Rd, Greenville, NC 27834	252-756-6209
Stadium Apartments	904 E. 14th Street, Greenville, NC 27858	910-470-7222
Trafalgar	County Home Road, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Brownlea Dr. Duplexes	Brownlea Drive, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-6209
Copper Beech	2001 Copper Beech Way, Greenville, NC 27858	252-757-1015
Sunchase	2201 NE Greenville Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858	252-758-8002
The Bellamy	2200 Bellamy Circle, Greenville, NC 27858	252-321-7662
University Suites	2200 University Suites Dr, Greenville, NC 27858	252-756-0751
Campus Pointe	2230 NE Greenville Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858	252-758-6766

*Apartment list provided by Off-Campus Student Services website www.ecu.edu/studentlife/offcampus/. This is a free listing of apartments sponsored by TEC.



"I live in College Hill Suites. It's so close to classes and it's better than your average dorm."
—Laura Mitterling, sophomore, Political Science



"I live at Sunchase. It's pretty quiet, pretty laid back. They host a lot of events for us to do — pool parties, BBQs, free hot dogs."
—Olivia Walker, junior, Public Relations



"I stay at The Landing. I feel like they have great customer service. They get out work orders fast. The room size is great."
—Michael Jarrett, junior, Media Production/Journalism



"I live at a house in Winterville. It's quiet."
—Alex Seifert, senior, Distribution and Linguistics



"I live at Dockside Duplexes. The bus is close by and it's pretty quiet and the rent is reasonable. The best part is the river in your backyard."
—Ethan Anderson, junior, Communication



"I stay at North Campus Crossing. I like the nice carpet and furniture. It's quiet and I like the security with the gate."
—Quin Jernigan, senior, Psychology

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Apartment Security

Regular security measures keep apartment complexes generally safe

Marlana Sifter
STAFF WRITER

Protecting personal property during school concerns every student but requires additional precautions for those living off campus in apartment complexes.

"It can happen at any time, anywhere," said Marsha Kettler, community manager of all-student apartment complex The Landing, commenting on property crime. The Landing, like most other Greenville apartments, hopes to keep occupants and their possessions safe with the help of extensive lighting and 24-hour on-call office personnel in case of emergency.

Kettler also discussed the apartment's panic button in every residence, the double-deadbolt system, gated drive-in, office, clubhouse and pool house. A member of the Greenville Police Department patrols the premises along with another security company, who is hired to patrol specifically on

weekends. Residents also have the option of purchasing an account with a private security company, such as ADT.

"We keep the doors locked... they're usually only unlocked when we're both there," said Courtney White, a junior majoring in recreational therapy, referring to her roommate.

Before long absences, students should remove any valuable personal items from their rooms or remaining vehicles, or at the very least hide valuable items.

Students sometimes neglect to burglarproof cars as well. Potentially valuable items, even a backpack or pile of clothes, should be kept in the trunk or brought into the apartment. Needless to say, expensive items such as a stack of CDs, textbooks or a GPS should certainly be kept out of sight whenever a vehicle is kept unattended.

White says that at Bells Fork Crossing, Greenville police check by each apartment in the small complex at least once a month.

Property crime takes a number of forms, though most often consists of burglary, larceny and theft. State-

wide, the SBI reports its last available crime summary stating that property crime has decreased just over 8 percent. In Pitt County, the same rate involved 4,881 incidents per 100,000 people, compared to a North Carolina county of similar population, Alamance, which reported 3,953 property crimes. Arson, while not of particular concern recently in Greenville apartments, decreased statewide by 10 percent.

Break-ins most often occur over vacation weeks. Over such intervals, the vulnerability of property can be somewhat lessened with the extra security usually hired around these times, as well as the proactive provisions students take for themselves.

Regardless of the time residents will be gone from their home, safety precautions should be taken. Simply remembering to lock the door while running to the grocery store can save residents an immense amount of money and stress.

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

The math behind

roommates

Picking the right number of people to share an apartment

Lynsey Horn
STAFF WRITER

Creating harmony in any living arrangement can often depend on numbers. Too many roommates can lead to arguments and drama, but too few can be boring. So what is the right number that equals peaceful coexistence?

Most apartment complexes in Greenville offer one, two, three and four-bedroom apartments. The pricing for apartments usually goes down as the number of people living in the apartment goes up, but sometimes more roommates can also mean more conflict.

Many students look for a place to live with the best pricing, which often means more bedrooms even if they may be assigned one or more random roommates. Is the lower rent worth living with someone who may or may not be easy to live with?

"I lived in a four bedroom with two random roommates because it was a little cheaper," said Elizabeth Curl, a junior graphic design major. "After my disastrous experience with random roommates, I would have rather lived in a two bedroom with just my friend and paid more."

Curl currently lives in a four bedroom with roommates who she knew before they moved in together,

and she says she loves it. "There's always someone to do something with," said Curl.

Sometimes when fewer people than there are number of bedrooms move into an apartment, there is the possibility that some bedrooms will be left empty. Most complexes try to prevent this. Corey Hunt, community adviser for North Campus Crossing, said that they fill apartments before putting residents into empty apartments. "Our goal is 100 percent occupancy," said Hunt.

Officials for North Campus Crossing, Pirate's Cove and First Street Place all said that the only reasons that bedrooms would be empty is if a roommate moved out or if there were not enough people that had signed an individual lease to fill either a two, three or four-bedroom apartment.

The Bellamy allows residents to split the rent of an empty room to avoid having a random roommate. "The room is unlocked and they are given the fourth utility allowance," said Shilah Hatcher, marketing manager at The Bellamy.

For those who do not want to pay extra rent but still need another roommate, many complexes pair roommates using a profile match-up and allow them to meet and approve

of each other prior to moving in. Many students forgo the hassle of possibly dealing with random roommates while some just prefer to live with fewer people.

First Street Place only offers studio, two-bedroom and three-bedroom apartments. Hannah Erickson lives in a three bedroom at First Street Place and says she likes only having three roommates in the apartment. "It's not a lot of people. It's just enough," said Erickson.

Other students prefer to only have one roommate or even no roommates. "I liked living with one other person because we got along well, but it got quiet when she wasn't there," said Alyson Reed, a senior who lived in a two-bedroom apartment.

So how many roommates is the right amount? It seems to depend on personal preference. When deciding whether a single bedroom or a four bedroom is the right choice, make sure that everything adds up, including the price of the apartment and the compatibility of those involved.

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



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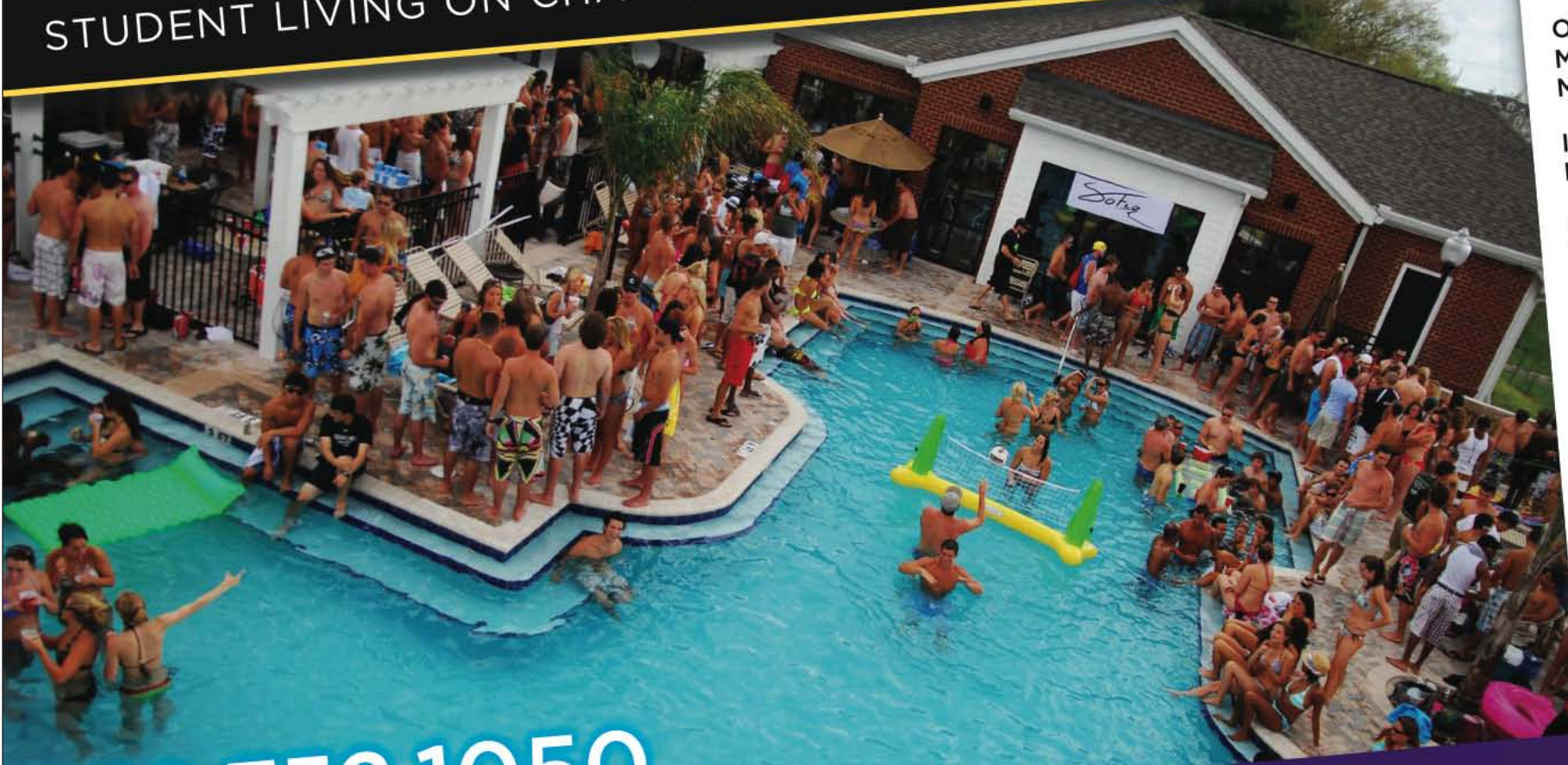
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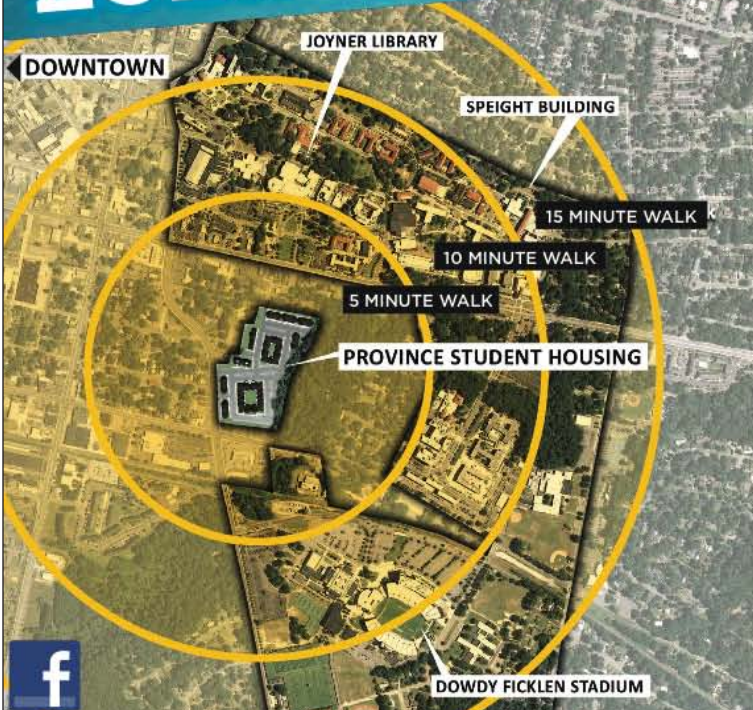
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10 Ten incredible things to inquire to ensure satisfaction

Ben Cochran

OPINION COLUMNIST

During my epic academic journey, I have amassed a wealth of knowledge when it comes to leasing an apartment. Many consider it their first real step of independence and autonomy. While yes, not having an RA is kickass, you could encounter far worse things as a fully fledged leaser. My mission is to help you avoid these common pitfalls and keep you tragedy-free.

To help guide you in your search for the perfect pad, I've developed a list of essential "dos" and

"don'ts." These are just suggestions, so feel free to take them with a grain of salt. But, mind you, I have been doing this apartment search thing for quite a while now, so I feel qualified in this area. I present to you my awesome list: Ten Incredible Things to Inquire to Ensure Satisfaction.

10. How much is the application fee?

While \$350 per month doesn't sound too bad, factor in the application fee, administrative fee, security

deposit, plus first and last month's rent due at signing, and suddenly it doesn't sound so great. I don't know if I could pay half a semester's tuition up front. What kind of message does that send if they want all that money in advance?

9. Are the individual bedrooms leased or the unit as a whole?

A lot of the student apartments in the area lease by the bedroom. So

unless you've got three other friends that you're dead-set on living with, you're going to have to sign up with some randos who may not be all that welcoming.

8. Do they offer roommate matching?

If the apartment leases by the bedroom, then many will offer roommate matching, which tries to hook you up with somebody compatible with your study habits and social lifestyle. Matching is like eHarmony for roommates. Make sure you have a good feeling about the people you're going to be living with before signing a lease.

7. How are the utilities handled?

Many places have an allowance that they give each person for the utilities. But what utilities are included in this figure? Being a leaser means bills. You now have to pay for water, sewage, electric, cable and Internet. Know how that's handled at your prospective new home.

6. Does the apartment allow pets?

Many places actually will not allow pets. If they do, you can bet your bippie that there is a pet fee involved. Don't want to pay the fee? Then stop buying puppies so the ladies will give you attention.

5. What is the bus schedule?

If this is your first time living off campus, you're about to find out what the rest of us are painstakingly aware of: Parking is a huge problem, and ECU doesn't plan on improving that any time soon. So you're going to have to find a way to get to campus. If they don't have a bus running, make sure you're ready to spend money on a parking pass.

4. What is the role of your courtesy officers?

Most apartments have officers living on the premises at all times. Supposedly they are there to ensure safety and respond to noise complaints. But lately, officers from the city of Greenville Police Department have been responding to tiffs amongst residents. A visible and involved courtesy officer staff is a good thing; the alternative is MUCH worse.

3. Do you offer renter's insurance?

Almost nobody pays attention to this part of the welcome pack once you sign a new lease. Many apartments offer insurance through their sales office. Don't get it. It's often overpriced and covers almost nothing. I have renter's insurance through Geico. I pay \$7 a month for \$20,000 of coverage, no matter whose fault it is. So suck it, Trebek.

2. What's the grace period on rent and how much are late fees?

We're all students. When the first of the month comes on a weekend, odds are I'm too hungover to remember to pay rent. If your apartment doesn't have a grace period until the fifth, then in addition to your raging headache, you might be out an extra \$50 to boot. Whammy.

1. How hot are your leasing consultants?

Granted, if you go into the sales office in person, you can probably gauge this for yourself — unless you're blind, in which case you'll have to wait until TEC comes out with its brail edition before you're even aware of my last assumption. This is the most important thing to know. If the office staff is attractive, then turn around and walk right out the door. You don't want to buy something from attractive people. Why? Pharmaceutical sales reps, that's why. Drug companies hire them to sell drugs that probably work, but definitely have awful side effects like anal seepage. Physicians don't hear "anal seepage" because they're too busy staring at cleavage. What metaphorical "anal seepage" might you not hear when you're in their leasing office, about to sign a lease? Ladies and gentlemen, be prudent. And steer clear of hotties trying to sell you stuff.

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

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Katey Warren
STAFF WRITER

Cold temperatures and mounds of schoolwork are keeping students stuck indoors, but local business employees are suggesting that students update their space to heighten their mood and concentration.

"Your living space reflects you and puts you in your comfort zone," said Lucas Rivest, an employee of Lowe's Home Improvement in Greenville. "And organization creates a good work flow."

Most students are on a strict budget and have little money to spend on renovating their spaces, but local stores offer cheap deals on products that help students organize and personalize their rooms. From completing do-it-yourself projects to revamping unwanted items, many students and local home goods store employees are constantly brainstorming and passing on ideas of how to update living areas.

Located off of Greenville Boulevard, Michael's arts and crafts store has a wide selection of budget-friendly items that students can use to decorate their dorms, apartments or houses. With their endless supply of buttons, beads, trim, paint and other decorating items, students can easily refurbish old items to update the overall look of their rooms.

Michael's employee of over three years Rachel Love says that the store's wooden letters have been popular for female students to use as personalized

initials to hang on doors and walls. Love agrees that this craft is not only a simple and easy way to add decorations, but also a "group bonding" project that roommates can complete together.

Love also suggests that students cut costs on personalizing their space by making flower arrangements with silk flowers rather than real ones. Michael's offers both ready-made arrangements and individual silk flowers, so students have the option of creating their own arrangement or buying one pre-made. Customers may bring paint swatches, fabric samples or photographs of a room to give to a Michael's employee, who will then help them find an arrangement that complements that room.

In addition to these decorations, Michael's offers ideas for other do-it-yourself crafts and video links to home décor projects on their website, Michaels.com.

Similarly to Michael's, Lowe's offers basic tools and organizational storage bins that, according to Rivest, are offered at the best prices in Greenville. He says that Lowe's accepts competitor coupons and will beat any of those prices by 10 percent.

Rivest suggests that students save money by building their own desks and bookshelves with supplies from Lowe's and also recommends students spruce up their porches or decks by adding new lighting fixtures or tiki torches.

Interior merchandising major Brittany Franklin has learned how to be creative on a budget by turning vintage pieces into practical bedroom decorations. "I bought a plate holder at the flea market and turned it into a jewelry holder all for one dollar," Franklin said. "It's fun to take ordinary things and add my own creative twist to them."

In addition to scouring flea markets for "trash to treasure" items, Franklin also enjoys saving money on household decorations at stores that sell designer items at a discount, such as T.J. Maxx.

Whichever way students decide to personalize their space, Love believes it will make them want to spend more time there, and make guests want to spend more time there as well. According to Love, personalizing a living area "affects everybody that comes into the house, and people are going to feel more at home."

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

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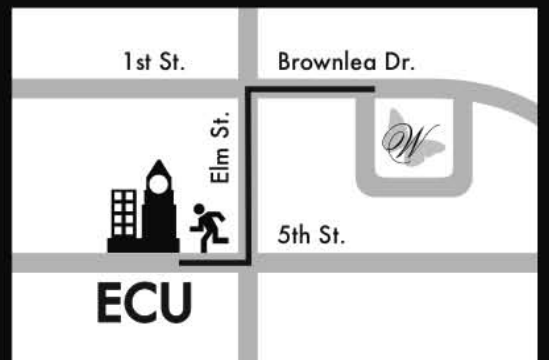


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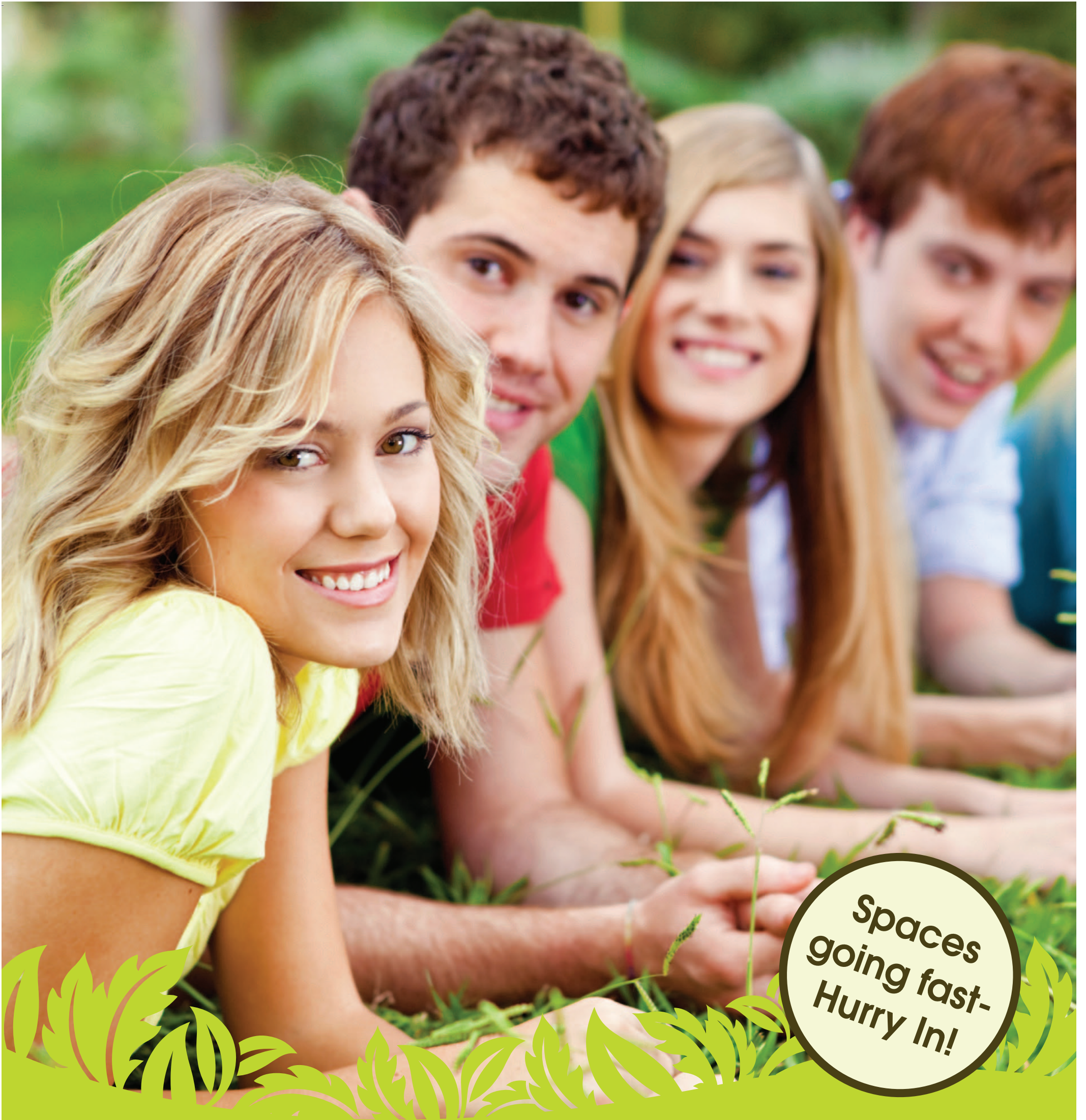


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