

INSIDE

OPINION: Yo Egypt, I'm really happy fo you, Imma let you finish but France had wanna da best Revolutions of all time. Wanna da best Revolutions of all time. **A3**

LIFESTYLES: Did you miss the Corey Smith show this weekend? Turn to Lifestyles to read a review of the popular musician's show at Pantana Bob's! **A4**

SPORTS: Want to try your skills against the women's basketball team? Turn to Sports to find how a former student became a practice player for the Lady Pirates. **A6**

BRIEFS

Pirate Club changes parking prices for all

Staff Reports

Recently, there have been a few changes regarding the Pirate Club's parking prices. In addition, some parking spaces may be re-assigned, and other parking spaces may be eliminated for a short period of time, due to various construction projects on campus. "We might lose a couple of spaces due to ongoing constructions, but we are hoping to gain more spaces afterwards," stated Mark Hessert, the senior associate director for the Pirate Club.

While the Elmhurst school parking fee will be \$120, all Buccaneer and Skull and Crossbones-level members are required to pay \$60 for a parking pass this year. RV parking will be \$250, yet additional RV parking will cost \$200 more. Also, parking spaces are available in the VIP lot and the Carol Belk lot for RV users for \$200; however, RV users should meet a minimum priority point of 130 or more to meet the Skull and Crossbones points when seeking spaces in the VIP lot.

Additional football parking spaces are currently being offering at Swashbuckler level in Zone 3 at the Carol Belk lot for \$120, whereas Buccaneer-level holders will be parking at the Carol Belk Building starting in 2011.

"We added the lower level, 200 levels, for recent graduates offering at \$120", said Hessert.

The 2011-2012 basketball season parking will be \$60 to park at the Skull and Crossbones level.

The Pirate Club parking holders should submit a request in writing to the Pirate Club Office by April 1 when changing parking locations. Moreover, the holders can maintain the assigned spaces at the same level for those who parked for the 2010 football season. The deadline is April 1 to purchase season tickets and to pay the required parking fees.

Students will still be able to park in the College Hill lot.

Pi Kappa Phi faces suspension after raid

Staff Reports

Two people were arrested and over 60 were cited at a Pi Kappa Phi party last weekend.

After obtaining a search warrant, ALE agents and Pitt County ABC officers found and seized alcohol, marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a sign that read, "\$1 shots of tequila, rum and vodka. Party 'til you pass out, Drink 'til you're dead."

Dylan Baker, 19, of Greenville was charged with aiding and abetting underage possession of alcohol, selling and possessing for sale alcohol without ABC permits and underage consumption of alcohol.

Stephen Charron, 23, was charged with aiding and abetting underage possession of alcoholic beverages. Baker and Charron are both members of the fraternity.

In an interview with WITN, Keith Tingley, the director of Greek Life for the university, said that an agreement between the university and the fraternity's national chapter in Charlotte has suspended all fraternity activities pending an investigation.

Further attempts to contact the Greek Life office have been unsuccessful.

WEB POLL

Do you plan on attending ECU for all four years?

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

Proposal to ban hands free cell use

Hannah Jackson
STAFF WRITER

Three separate bills to ban driving while talking on a cell phone, even one to ban hands-free devices, have been introduced into the North Carolina State Senate.

The proposals are gaining traction due to more and more car wrecks that involve a driver who was on the phone behind the wheel.

Earlier this month, State Senator Charlie Dannelly introduced Senate Bill 36, which would make it illegal to use a cell phone for any purpose while driving. Dannelly said the importance of this bill was sparked by a crash in Greensboro last year when a tractor trailer slammed into a car and killed two children. If the proposal becomes law, those caught driving while using a cell phone would face a \$100 fine.

Dannelly does not believe the bill will pass through because it bans any and all digital media use, even hands-free devices.

"People need to be more aware of the risks of any electronic device that might distract them from the road," said Dannelly.

"There are always going to be distractions when you drive. The hard part is maintaining composure with all those other things going on," said sophomore Heather Brown.

House Bill 31, sponsored by Garland Pierce, would also make it illegal to use any form of digital media, including hands-free devices, while driving. Pierce sponsored a second, similar House bill that



CASEY BOONE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Junior Lucie Crane talks on her phone as she parks her car on campus.

would allow hands-free technology, however.

There is a separate bill that would permit drivers to use hands-free devices. House Bill 44 would make using a cell phone behind the wheel illegal unless the driver is using a hands-free device – the opposite of the other two bills.

Currently, drivers under the age of 18 are not allowed to use cell phones while driving. School bus drivers are also not allowed to use cell phones and all drivers are not allowed to text while driving as of this past year. More than half of all states currently have

some ban on texting or on young drivers using cell phones.

New technology keeps it difficult for lawmakers to prevent accidents and keep drivers safe. With new devices such as Sync, OnStar and GPS, cars do more than just take people from place to place, and even though they promise more safety, state officials claim that there are more accidents from careless errors.

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



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Classrooms are becoming more empty because of the high student drop-out rate.

Retention rates on the rise

Alexa DeCarr
STAFF WRITER

Despite a staggering national college dropout rate, ECU is retaining more students than it has in the past 10 years.

In 2010, the university's goal was to retain 81 percent of the first-time, full-time freshmen who entered the university in 2009. According to Jayne Geissler, executive director of Retention Programs and Enrollment Services, the university was able to achieve that goal.

Although verification is pending from General Admissions, Geissler says the retention rate for 2010 was 81.2 percent. "We're optimistic about retention," said Geissler.

However, to increase its retention rate even further, the university is constantly trying to figure out the reasons that students are

not returning for a second year.

Geissler says that the leading cause of leaving the university is due to financial reasons.

"I would say financial issues are the major reason," said Geissler. "But usually, it's more complicated than that. There are usually many reasons for a student to leave. It's like a domino effect."

According to The Fiscal Times, a digital news and advocacy publication based in New York and Washington, D.C., students do not return to college because they struggle to find or hold a job, they fear accumulating too much debt or simply feel they cannot do the college-level work.

Sophomore construction management major Austin Birch said he thinks holding a job is a major stressor for many students.

"I'm working every night this week, which is stressful to think about," said Birch. "Working so

much interferes with school work. I missed an online quiz last night because I was working."

Geissler says that ECU retains students who live closer to the university at a higher rate than students who live farther away.

While Geissler is hopeful about the future, there is question as to how next year's tuition increase will affect the retention rates.

"It will definitely be a challenge," said Geissler. "But the value of college is going to be more important than ever."

As far as graduation rates go, only 32.5 percent of students who enrolled at ECU in 2005 graduated four years later in 2009. Of the students who enrolled in 2003, 56.8 percent graduated six years later in 2009. Both of these numbers are higher than the university

> RETENTION page A2

Students still feel effects of U.B.E. scam

Cameron Gupton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students are still having issues with their bank accounts weeks after the University Book Exchange credit card breach was allegedly fixed.

Many students who used their cards between Jan. 7 and Jan. 14 to make purchases at the store were victims of credit card fraud. Yvonne Perry, operations manager at U.B.E., said that they put a lockdown on the store on Jan. 15 and that it was secure for students to shop again; however, many are still reporting stolen money.

Initially, students using HigherOne cards seemed to be the majority of victims since it did not contain fraud protection, but now other cards such as State Employees Credit Union and Wachovia are being accessed.

HigherOne has now added fraud protection to its services and students will be alerted when and if issues like this ever arise in the future.

Kristen Caputo, a sophomore who had \$1,000 taken from her bank account last month, is still having problems with her credit card. Just last week, her card information was used to make several purchases in California.

Caputo found out on Friday of last week that her credit card information was still being used, even though her bank told her that her card was safe to use at the end of last month. "The bank e-mailed me and then called my mom. They asked if I was in California and then they proceeded to tell me that they thought there were fraudulent charges on my account."

Sarah Young, an elementary education major, received a call from State Employees Credit Union making her aware of fraudulent charges on her card.

Young had no problems last month when news of the breach occurred and other students were experiencing issues. "It's just crazy because I thought the whole ordeal was over and that I had nothing to worry about," said Young. "The scandal was a month ago and I just now found out that I am a victim of the fraud."

Young had to cancel her credit card and was without it for

> UBE page A2

Taco Bell fires back after 'fake beef' claim

Brian Havens
STAFF WRITER

Fast food chain Taco Bell has recently been battling a claim made by a California woman that their beef only contains 35 percent real beef.

According to sources, Montgomery-based law firm Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles is suing the company for false advertising, saying that Taco Bell should "stop saying that they are selling beef."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture states, "Ground beef can have seasonings, but no water, phosphates, extenders or binders added" in order to be considered

acceptable for consumer use.

The lawsuit against Taco Bell claims that two-thirds of the seasoned beef is made up of preservatives, binders, extenders and other additives.

Although Taco Bell simply denied the claims and remained silent for a short while, the company soon openly combated with the class action lawsuit.

Using the slogan, "Of course we use real beef!" Taco Bell has since devoted a section of their website to inform the public on the status of the lawsuit, as well as list the ingredients that go into their products.

Greg Creed, president and chief concept officer of Taco Bell,

writes in one of his latest updates, "The lawsuit is bogus and filled with completely inaccurate facts. Our beef is 100% USDA inspected, just like the quality beef you would buy in a supermarket and prepare in your home."

The company negates the claim that extenders are used in their beef and states that many of the additives are simply spices, such as salt, chili pepper, sugar and onion powder.

Greg Creed writes that these additional ingredients are added in the mixture to give Taco Bell its signature taste and texture.

Freshman Charli McKee, an English major, claims that she has eaten at the chain since she

was 4 years old and does not plan to stop now. When McKee heard the news about the class action lawsuit against the company, she said, "I don't really care because every food industry doesn't have excellent grade meat anyways, so it wasn't surprising. It's still good food."

Like many college students, McKee learned about the lawsuit from watching television. Comical acts such as Conan O'Brien and Stephen Colbert have covered the issue, bringing light to the situation.

Stephen Colbert, on his television show, joked about the fact that silicon dioxide (otherwise known as "sand") is an ingredient

used in some of Taco Bell's foods. However, studies have revealed that silicon dioxide plays a major role in bone development and is commonly found in foods such as cereal, fruits and vegetables.

As Taco Bell continues to fight for its credibility and public image, their public relations team has begun to reward loyal fans who have stuck by the company through the lawsuit.

Taco Bell is offering coupons for people who click "Like" on their Facebook page, which in turn has gained them over 100,000 new fans.

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

Calendar Events

Feb. 15 - Feb. 21

Tuesday, Feb. 15

"Vagina Monologues"
7 p.m. MSC Hendrix Theatre. Free admission

Wednesday, Feb. 16

SAB presents "Due Date"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Women's Tennis vs. UNCG
3 p.m. Tennis facilities. Free admission

Softball vs. UNCG
4 p.m. at ECU softball stadium. Free admission.

Dinner and Discussion
Friends of ECU baseball at Harvey Hall. Admission charged.

Thursday, Feb. 17

SAB presents "Due Date"
7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Women's Basketball vs. SMU
7 p.m. Minges Coliseum. Admission charged.

Friday, Feb. 18

SAB presents "Due Date"
7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Softball vs. UVA and St. Johns
2 and 4 p.m.

Baseball vs. Youngstown State
3 p.m.

Reinterpreting Rorschach
6 p.m. opening reception at Mendenhall Student Center. Free admission.

"Knuffle Bunny" (musical)
7 p.m. Wright Auditorium

Saturday, Feb. 19

SAB presents "Due Date"
7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Softball vs. Hofstra and Kent State.
2 and 5 p.m.

Baseball vs. Youngstown State
2 p.m.

Women's Tennis vs. Barton
3 p.m.

The Ethnographers with Sugar Glyder, The Future is Me, and I Was Totally Destroying It
9 p.m.
Located at Live bar, Firetower Rd and Charles Blvd

Sunday, Feb. 20

Softball vs. St. Johns
11 a.m.

Men's Tennis vs. ASU
12 p.m.

Baseball vs. Youngstown State
1 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 21

Women's Tennis vs. Campbell
3 p.m.

Softball vs. Hofstra
4 p.m.

RETENTION continued from A1

had hoped. Geissler said the university hopes to move up in the ranks of both retention and graduation. The university has the sixth-highest retention rate and seventh-highest graduation rate out of the 16 UNC system schools.

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

UBE

continued from A1

about a week as she waited for her new card to show up. "It was pretty much a big inconvenience since I only really use my debit card."

Local law enforcement and Visa and MasterCard have been investigating the situation and recent reports suggest that the breach occurred outside of the United States.

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

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S★G★A

TOWN HALL

FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

FEB 17 2011 5PM

LOCATED IN BATE 1028

Come meet your organization Senators and ask questions about current issues going around East Carolina University Campus.



Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at least 48 hours prior to the event at (252) 737-1016 (Voice/TTY).

East Carolina University
STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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

Dowdy Student Store
Wright Building

- Pick up your cap and gown
- Order class ring, diploma frame, announcements
- Special offers from the Alumni Association
Pirate Club/Career Center/College of Education
Campus Rec & Wellness
- Enter to win one of two \$200 gas cards from Jostens OR a \$100 Dowdy Student Stores gift card
- Free gift when you sign the Class of 2011 autograph banner

jostens
www.jostens.com
1-800-854-7464

Wright Building
252-328-6731
www.studentstores.ecu.edu
1-800-488-TEXT

Ronald E. Dowdy
STUDENT STORES
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY



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.

Yo Egypt, I'm really happy for you, Imma let you finish but France had wanna da best Revolutions of all time. Wanna da best Revolutions of all time.

We men are not all douche bags. Some of you just prefer them and won't admit to it.

To the girl who crapped her pants Thursday night in PB's: You might want to think about purchasing Depends.

Ladies, for Valentine 's Day you should have gave your man morning, afternoon, and night sex, a box of candy and cooked breakfast naked. Trust me, he loves it.

I saw the guy who sits beside me in stats on Chat Roulette, all of him! Not impressed, you creep.

To the guy who told me I didn't need to cry because I was beautiful: I hope I see you again.

ALE is like the NC State of ECU students. WE HATE THEM!

Using an umbrella when it's snows?! The south never ceases to amaze me!

To the kid at the party we were calling Justin Bieber: We were making fun of you. Cut your hair.

I think it's funny all the sorority girls are like puppies they all wear their Greek symbols (tags) on their bags, back packs and shirts. At least we know if they get lost which house to return them to.

You must blow at math because the desk will not stop shaking from your erasing.

People, please, it's 9 a.m. why are you getting chips and candy? And I wonder why obesity is such a problem.

Why must the Cashier's Office and the Financial Aid office be so RUDE to students?? It's because of me that they even have a job!

To the guy who tried making out with me while we watched "How To Train Your Dragon:" You are an idiot.

Ever since I started taking microbiology I've become the biggest germaphobe. Thank you microbiology, now I have the urge to wash my hands after touching anything from a public place.

To the boy who keeps "fudging" things up because he's so nervous: It just makes me like you more.

Don't ever have a blood drive on a Thursday! You can't drink for 24 hours

ECU is giving away weekly A-lot parking passes, but still charging handicapped students A-lot fees because they need an accessible space? Fail, ECU. Fail.

I find it quite amusing that you cheat on your boyfriend and get an STD and then HE begs for YOU back & now ya'll want to get married. Have a nice life of fighting & jealousy.

Hey guys, if you are going to have loud pipes on your trucks, make sure you have the power to back up the noise.

I was on Facebook while watching The Facebook Obsession. Here's your sign.

To the girl passing Valentine 's Day cards out in front of Dowdy: Where was the candy at?

Can we just stop sexting and get to the real thing already?

Just thought you should know Bojangles isn't on your diet.

I think you're one of the nicest boys I've ever met. Please stop saying I'm a good friend and realize I'm crazy about you.

Work not so justly rewarded



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

Wise words were spoken recently during a time when most were not expecting it. We were too busy watching the plethora of pyrotechnics exploding from every angle and anxiously awaiting the rumble of feet from two vicious opponents, ready to take the field for the final showdown to win the ultimate Super Bowl XLV title.

Well, we all know who won and took home the victory, but what many missed was during the halftime show -- a rewritten set of lyrics to the popular Black Eyed Peas song, "Where is the Love?" that singer Will.i.am slyly snuck in and directed straight to the head of state. Will.i.am, a huge supporter of Obama during the 2008 presidential election, sang, "In America we need to get things straight / Obama, let's get these kids educated / Create jobs so the country stays stimulated."

Those words could not be more true or important during these times, especially to college students. We are fresh from the books, ready to go out and make a name for ourselves, only to inevitably hit closed door after closed door because of this economy.

Maybe we think finding an internship could help our chances. The percentage of unemployment is still at an ultimate low -- 9.8 percent being the rate in January 2011 -- and many of us are told that an internship is a must these days.

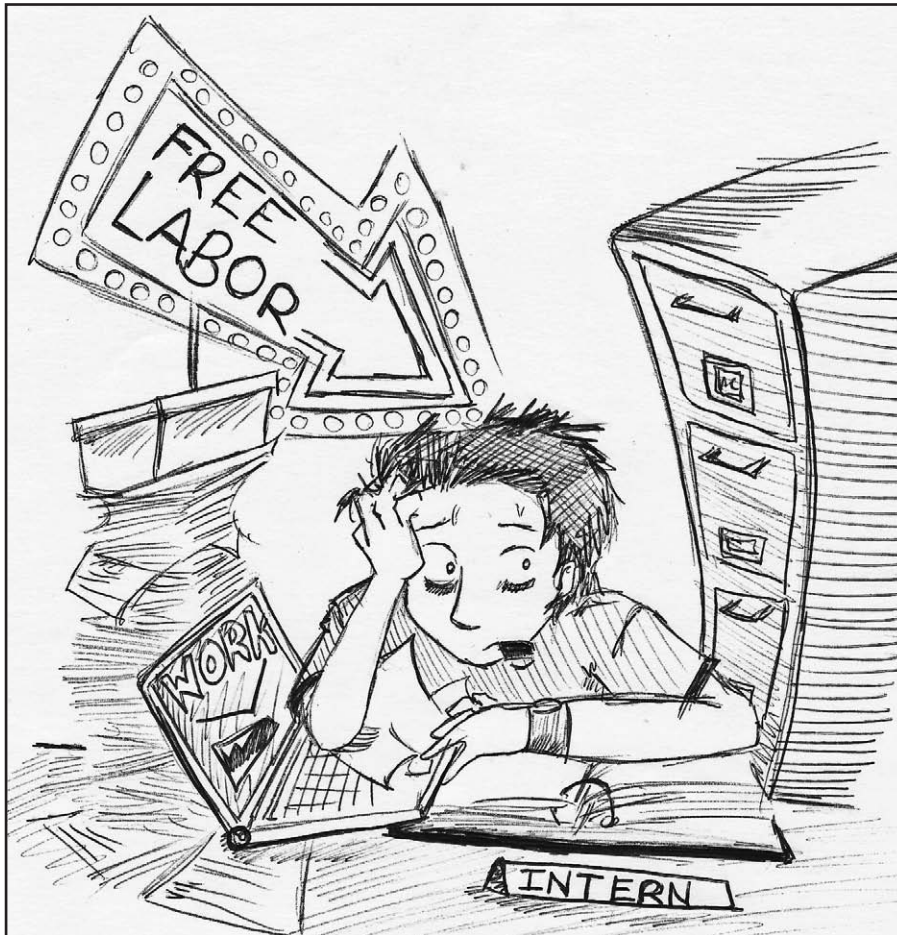
Not only will an internship give us

a head start in entering the "real world," but it will help us to grow in confidence for when we start going out and sending résumés to prospective employers. Yes, finding and securing an internship during college is shoved down our throats just as much as "keep giving us your money and go to graduate school so you can have \$100,000 worth of loans by the time you're 25."

The reality of it all is that because of the un-stimulated economy surrounding us in every direction, most internships that are available to us in college are legal forms of slavery. Why is it even remotely deemed OK in the United States' eyes that a company can make a student work any amount of time doing work for absolutely no money?

Why is it seemingly necessary that every college student who wants to do more than work at the local Starbucks for the rest of his or her life has to work a job for absolutely no money? It's said to be OK because their past internship's boss might pick up the phone and say a few nice words if you put them on a résumé for a reference.

While most internships today consist of labor that, frankly, we could manage as freshmen in college, it is unbelievable that the title of that labor, the insurmountably important "internship" label, is what most future employers look for. Hard work is what most college students need to learn, not walking around an office all day making it look like you're doing something for a couple months just to be able to type "intern" on a résumé.



ILLUSTRATED BY CRYSTAL NEVILLE

Some internships do teach you a lot in regards to your major, office dynamics and information about the world around us that we wouldn't necessarily learn from a regular college class. Some internships do pay some form of minimum wage for your labor during your time with their company. But let's be honest; for those internships, you are probably doing a hell of a lot of work and should be getting paid a lot more than you are.

Many times, it is unfair being a college student. We choose to further our

education, to actually learn something that we have a passion for, and we are rewarded with having to search forever, it seems, until we find some sort of an internship. Then, we work for no pay for months out of the year, and the only good thought we can muster from this experience is, "Well, at least I get to put something else on my résumé."

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

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

Still distracted

The N.C. General Assembly is working to pass a bill banning cell phone use in cars. Currently, anyone over the age of 18 may use a hands-free device, such as Bluetooth or speakerphone, and texting while driving is banned for all ages. The new law would ban any use of a cell phone in the car.

Along with searching for buckled passengers and if someone is hiding a phone on their lap and texting, the police now have to interpret whether a driver is jamming along to their favorite song or talking on a speakerphone.

Fumbling for a phone and dialing a number is a distraction, so the banning of phone use makes sense. But using a speakerphone or Bluetooth requires less effort than changing a radio station. Many modern cars are also including speakerphone as an option in the vehicle. A tap of a button on the steering wheel and you can easily gossip with your bestie while not being distracted.

Talking on a hands-free device is no less distracting than driving with your rambunctious friend in the passenger seat or a bunch of kids in the backseat. Plus, the modern car has so many new features to help distract a driver that a cell phone should be the least of our concerns. With a DVD player blaring out a show, shuffling music on your iPod hook-up and a GPS leading you in the wrong direction, picking up a phone seems simple.

Police should be focusing on reckless driving -- people who are intoxicated or too tired to drive. Even finding people who are texting will be more useful than those who are just talking. According to CNBC, an unimpaired driver takes .54 seconds to brake while a driver who is drunk needs an additional four feet to stop. A driver who is texting needs an additional 70 feet for braking. These are the people who need to be pulled over.

Maybe this is just another ploy for police to make more money and stay busy. The ticket price for cell phone use is projected to be \$100. When it comes to stopping a robbery or murder in the Greenville streets or stopping someone from chatting with a friend, we prefer the former. Cops don't need to waste our time and should focus more on the real issues.

According to National Public Radio, a study of four states that have banned cell phones while driving haven't had any decrease in accident rates since the start of the ban. It seems that drivers aren't following the new policy and the regulation isn't effective. Maybe the new law is just an intimidation method to scare us out of talking and driving.

Can I get a do-over?



Chelsey McLaugherty
OPINION ARTICLE

This semester I'm taking a class that I plan on using to grade replace an unfortunate F I received last semester. Last semester was difficult for me because I was stressed and one of my classes suffered because of it. ECU's option to retake a class and replace an old grade with a new one will save my GPA.

Grade replacements can be used for any course under the 3000 level that a student previously made a D or F in. No additional hours will be received, but depending on the student's new grade, their GPA will improve.

Since fall 2010, ECU processes grade replacements through the Registrar's Office for courses greater than two semester hours. The same course can be grade-replaced four times -- a policy recently

changed from allowing only three replacements.

All of this information and more can be found through your adviser. "Many schools have either a grade replacement or course repeat policy, especially for freshmen students," said academic adviser Daniel Wiseman.

"I feel that four grade replacements is a fair amount. I believe ECU's grade-replacement policy is student-friendly and can certainly make a huge difference in the student's academic career. It allows students the ability to rebound from a tough semester that would otherwise completely sidetrack their academic progress," says Wiseman.

Students, especially freshmen, have many responsibilities to keep up with. Sometimes the weight on their shoulders can be just too much, and they let a class slip through their fingers accidentally. It's almost unavoidable and certainly understandable.

Grade replacing is a second chance to take a class over again and truly give it the best shot. Many students love ECU's grade-replacement policy but still feel it's slightly unfair. Mike Chao, an ECU student and a transfer from Pembroke, stated, "I think that grade replacements should extend above 3000-level classes and also grade replacement policies

should be the same at all universities. It's not fair to other students in other colleges who are taking the same classes but don't get second chances."

Another huge problem is if a student makes a C in a class that they have to make a B in. They then can't grade-replace the course because you have to make a D or lower in order to grade-replace.

Others can argue that students need to just buckle down and work harder to get the class right the first time around. We might be a little spoiled, but coming to college is a big change: moving away from home, learning to live on your own, having more free time, possibly also having a part-time job, possibly managing your own finances. On top of all that, trying to create a social life and meet people while still keeping good grades is difficult.

A huge load of responsibilities, stress and work is dropped on you when a student comes to college. We have all been through it or are going through it. I believe as students we need just a little help, and ECU's grade replacement policy is just the helping hand that the students need.

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

POLL RESULTS

Should ECU excuse absences for certain kinds of illness?

Yes 92%
No 8%

STAFF INFORMATION

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Dr. Wham, Pepsi's Dr. Pepper

Pepsi's 'Cure for the Common Cola' hits NC shelves

Jack Powell
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Wham, whose slogan is "The Cure for the Common Cola," is available in stores now for a limited time. Eastern North Carolina was chosen as a location for product distribution of the new drink produced by Pepsi.

The sole producers of Dr. Wham, Buffalo Rock Beverages & Food Services, is a bottling company located in Birmingham, Ala. Sole producers means any Dr. Wham beverage on the market anywhere in the U.S. came from Buffalo Rock. Annually, Buffalo Rock produces over 40 million cases of drinks regularly. However, not all of the distributed drinks are Dr. Wham. Buffalo Rock also produces other popular Pepsi products, PET drinks and Coca Cola's Dr. Pepper. Besides Dr. Wham, Buffalo Rock also solely produces Buffalo Rock Ginger Ale, Grapico and Sun Fresh brand drinks.

Dr. Wham has a similar flavor to Dr. Pepper with nearly identical nutritional facts and ingredients. In an 8-oz serving size, both drinks have 1 percent sodium, 9 percent carbohydrates and 26-27 grams of sugar with a total calorie count of 100. All ingredients are the same, except the amount of each ingredient differs a little. For example, there is less "Natural and Artificial flavors" in Dr. Wham than in Dr. Pepper. The smell and color of the two drinks are even the same.

Even though Dr. Wham may be "Pepsi's Dr. Pepper," it may or may not be on the shelves in North Carolina long. Since Dr. Wham's creation in 2005, it's only been sold in three states (Alabama, Georgia and Florida) and only in markets where the company does not have the territorial rights to sell Dr. Pepper. Minges Bottling Group, Inc. currently is receiving shipments of Dr. Wham from Buffalo Rock Beverages for product testing. The purpose of the product's testing is for experimentation to see if the drink has potential for profit in North Carolina.

Piggly Wiggly employee Kenny Bennett feels that Dr. Wham may have a future in North Carolina's market. "Dr. Wham sells all right in our store, not as well as Dr. Pepper, but I have seen some regular customers buying Dr. Wham on different occasions," said Bennett. "Most people buy Dr. Wham to experiment with the drink to see what it's all about."

Some students are rooting for Dr. Wham to succeed. "I like it," said freshman elementary education major Katie Joyner. "I'm all for an underdog soda company being picked up by a large franchise." Dr. Wham is slowly weeding its way into Pepsi's second place billion dollar soda franchise, all having started from the southeastern branch of an independent bottling company in Alabama. "Move over Dr. Pepper, there's a new doc in town," said Joyner.

Next time students are thirsty, they can opt to try a bottle of Dr. Wham. A 2-liter can be purchased at most grocery stores for an average price of \$1.50. The soda is also available in diet form.

For more information on Dr. Wham, students can visit www.buffalorock.com.

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

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DAN WILLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Musician Corey Smith played a live show at Pantana Bob's last Saturday.

'Not one regret, I wouldn't change a thing'

An interview with
Corey Smith

Lynsey Horn
STAFF WRITER

When he was a kid, he dreamed of being a rock star, but as he got older, he did not think it was possible.

Years later, Corey Smith is what some would consider a rock star. He is a singer and songwriter from Jefferson, Ga., who performs all across the southeast. Every year, he makes the trip to Greenville to perform in one of the smallest venues that he plays.

"Pantana Bob's is one of those places. People get packed

in," said Smith. "It doesn't have a huge stage or great sound or lights. It's the charm and character. I love all the energy."

This past Saturday was Smith's latest performance at Pantana Bob's and the show was sold out. He first played in Greenville four years ago and decided to come because all across the state people kept telling him that Pirate Country was the place to be.

"It's a big college town known for partying, people who love music and having a good time," said Smith. The crowd showed Smith just how much they love music and having a good time. The bar was packed wall to wall with students and fans enjoying the music of Smith and the opening act, Matt Stillwell.

"There were a lot of people that came out. It was a great

showing. Everybody had a great time," said Adam Toohey, bouncer for Pantana Bob's.

Junior Jody Glacken was one of the people who attended the show and said she enjoyed it.

"Corey Smith was a great live performer and the opening act, Matt Stillwell, was awesome. I loved all the new songs by both artists," said Glacken.

Smith played his newest song, "Drugs," that was written less than two weeks ago.

"I thought it was humorous and it was different than I expected it to be after hearing the title," said Glacken.

"Drugs" is a somewhat sarcastic anthem to everyday vices that are commonly used to get through the day.

"Caffeine in the morning, alcohol at night, nicotine between the meals to curb my appetite. Oh, I'm not in denial, I'm perfectly all right. Caffeine in the morning, alcohol at night," are the lyrics to the chorus. Smith says he enjoys playing his most recent music.

"I am always excited to hear people's reaction to new songs," said Smith.

When Smith is not performing, he lives in his hometown of Jefferson and spends his time with his wife and two kids. He said he does not like to go to bars anymore, but he does enjoy fishing. In Smith's words, "Normal stuff I guess." Even when he is not performing, he does like to play his music and write songs. He said it is a therapeutic process and that writing helps him work out issues in his life.

"I've never been one to try to write a song that would be popular," said Smith. "My music still has purity and integrity."

Songwriting is very personal for Smith, and purity and integrity are the main things to which he attributes his success. There are other aspects that he feels have changed about his music.

"I've grown up a lot. I'm more responsible and wiser. My music is intertwined with me and I hope people say the same about my music," he said.

One thing people do say about his music is that the style is hard to describe. Smith calls his music progressive country and himself, a detail-oriented, hardworking songwriter.

He is a famous guy who lives a regular life and knows how to tell his story through songs. He lives in a small town with his family and likes Mexican food. He just happens to have written the favorite quote of college students across the South: "If I could do it again, you know, I'd do it the same."

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

Outer Limitz employee enjoys campus position

One Pirate shares his experience of working at the campus bowling alley

Madonna Messana
STAFF WRITER

It seems to be difficult to manage having a job while in college. Many students have trouble just finding a job while they are in school, let alone juggling work along with school and a social life.

On-campus job opportunities are sometimes overlooked, but they can be found all over campus. Students are employed at most campus locations that serve students, staff and faculty.

Valuable experience, skills and knowledge can all be gained from working while in school. According to ECU's Hire A Pirate website, about 75 percent of all U.S. college undergraduates work part-time.

Jeremy McMill, a sophomore business major, began working at Outer Limitz bowling alley in August 2010. McMillan enjoys his job in Mendenhall Student Center, and he said it is a great way to meet new people.

McMillan also enjoys the convenience of working on campus because the bosses at

on-campus jobs are more flexible to his class schedule.

Students working on campus are able to take advantage of the bus system that runs from popular student apartments to campus, eliminating the need to provide their own transportation. Additionally, on-campus student workers who live on campus are within walking distance to their job location.

McMillan lives on College Hill and takes advantage of only having a short walk to work each day.

Another benefit of working on campus is that it is easier for students to fit work schedules around an already-busy class schedule. Many students are able to go into work in the morning, leave for a couple of hours for class and then return back to work after class.

"I work my schedule around when I work," explained McMillan. "I have class at 9:30 and then I get out at 10:45 and from there I go to my dorm to change and go into work at 12."

Many students worry that having a job while in school will affect their schoolwork or their social life. However, many of their schoolwork or their social life. Currently, work on campus feel that juggling schoolwork, a social life and



DOUG MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Patrick Davis is also a student worker at the Bowling Alley in Mendenhall.

their on-campus job isn't as hard as it seems.

McMillan explained that he worked Friday nights last semester and it didn't work out, so this semester he's made sure to only be scheduled for weeknights.

Each day McMillan comes in to work, he completes his usual opening duties and then waits around for customers.

"I come in and check my till, which is the money in the register," said McMillan. "Then I make sure my area

is clean and I wait for the customers to come in."

The procedure for handling each of the customers is pretty standard for McMillan.

"First I ask them for 75 cents for the shoe rentals, then I let them decide which lane they would like to bowl," said McMillan. "If something goes wrong with the lanes, I go back there and fix it."

McMillan's least-favorite part of working on campus is having to call someone else when a machine breaks.

He said it's frustrating and a hassle.

When asked what his favorite part of working at Outer Limitz was, McMillan said, "Meeting and greeting customers and getting to know them. It's always fun getting to meet new people."

"It's a great experience," said McMillan, "There are no cons to working on campus."

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



Volleyball to hold open tryouts

The ECU volleyball team will hold open tryouts Feb. 23 at Minges Coliseum, Head Coach Pati Rolf announced Monday. Any current ECU students are welcome to attend the session, which will be held from 6 to 8 a.m.

For more information, students can contact Rolf by phone at 252-737-1425 or by e-mail at rolfp@ecu.edu

Littman tied for sixth in Orlando

Senior Amber Littman fired a two-under par 70 (35-35) and currently sits in a six-way tie for sixth place after the first round action of the UCF Challenge at the RedTail Golf Club.

Littman recorded five birdies and three bogeys during opening-round play and sits four strokes off the lead, which is held by Kentucky's Ashleigh Albrecht (66) and Coastal Carolina's Jessica Alexander (66).

The Pirates struggled Sunday with an 11-over par 299 and sit in a tie for 13th place with Georgia State. Fellow Conference USA member and 14th-ranked Tulane (284) holds a one-stroke lead over Coastal Carolina (285). Most institution UCF is in third after recording a school-record single round team score of 286, while Kentucky (287) and Minnesota (288) round out the top five.

The Pirates return to the course Monday morning with the second round of the UCF Challenge. Play begins at 8:30 a.m. with ECU's tee times beginning at 9:15 a.m. from the 10th hole.

Track wins nine events at UNC

In its final tune-up before the Conference USA Indoor Championships, ECU excelled by winning nine individual event titles at the North Carolina Invitational. The Pirate men were the story of the day as they captured the 60-meter dash, 60-meter hurdles, mile run, 4x400 relay, long jump and shot put.

Jordan Neil took an event for the third time this season, winning the mile by clocking in at 4:13.89. Torrance Hunt, who always plays football for ECU, won the 60-meter dash with a finals time of 6.84 after qualifying in first-place at 6.82. In the high hurdles, Mario Briscoe ran a 8.18 in the preliminaries to advance to the finals as the top seed. He did not disappoint, taking the title in 8.20.

As the top team in the field, the 4x400 relay squad lived up to its billing with a time of 3:25.39 to finish in first place, six seconds ahead of the squad from Davidson. Additionally, reigning C-USA indoor and outdoor shot put champion Dennis Aliotta walked away with first in the event with a season-best heave of 17.22 meters. In the long jump, Austin Lewis and Joseph Samuels owned the top two spots with marks of 7.05 and 6.71 meters, respectively.

Brittany Copeland continued her strong campaign for the women, taking first in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 9:39.59. In the 200-meter dash, a pair of Pirate ladies, Tiffany Harris and Tania Minkins, went one and two – clocking in at 24.97 and 25.01, respectively.

Like their male counterparts, the ladies on the 4x400 relay team cruised to the win, finishing in 3:48.92.

In the field, sophomore All-America high jump specialist Tynita Butts was given the week off to rest for the upcoming conference meet, while Ta'Shawnda Robinson recorded 4.85 meters in the long jump to take seventh and Donisha Brown finished fourth in the weight throw with a toss of 16.44 meters. Harris also showed well in the long jump, capturing fourth place at 5.43 meters.

ECU is back in action when it heads to Houston Feb. 25-26 for the C-USA Indoor Championships at the Yeoman Fieldhouse.

The Herd breaks loose in Minges

Jordan Anders
STAFF WRITER

For a short while on Saturday night, the ECU men's basketball team looked poised to stun Marshall with an unbelievable comeback for the second time in less than a month.

The Pirates came back from a 15-point deficit on Jan. 22 to shock Marshall on their home floor with an 82-81 victory.

Saturday, when Marshall came to Minges Coliseum, the Pirates fell behind by 27 in the second half before mounting a valiant charge. But Marshall held ECU at bay this time and scored a 78-65 victory.

"For us to come on the road and beat a team that's been playing really well in their building with that atmosphere ... is a great road win," Marshall head coach Tom Herrion said after the game.

The game was an uphill battle from the very beginning for the Pirates, who dropped to 13-11 with the loss. They made only one of 10 shots in the first eight minutes of the first half, allowing Marshall to jump out to a 12-4 lead.

Marshall hammered ECU on the boards in the first half, grabbing 14 rebounds before the Pirates managed to get their first. By the end of the half, Marshall had a 25-8 rebounding advantage. That advantage, coupled with ECU shooting 30 percent for the half, helped Marshall take a 34-21 lead into the locker room.

Things only got worse for the Pirates once the second half began. Marshall started the half on a 16-2 run, capped by a 3-pointer by Damier Pitts with 13:53 remaining in regulation. At that point, the Pirates trailed 50-23 and looked like they were about to be run out of their own building.

But suddenly the proverbial lid came off of the Pirates' basket, and they attacked with a barrage of 3-pointers, including treys by Brock Young, Corvonn Gaines and Erin Straughn. That ignited a 25-5 run that brought the Pirates to within seven, at 55-48, and brought the raucous crowd of 6,741 back to life.

With ECU trailing by seven, guard Gaines was fouled on a 3-point attempt. Those three points would have pulled the Pirates back to within four with more than six minutes still remaining.

But all three of Gaines's free throws clanged off the rim, and Pitts brought the ball down for Marshall and converted on two free throws to extend the lead back to nine, zapping all momentum that the Pirates had built up to that point.

"Instead of being down four, it's back to ... nine, so those kinds of plays hurt," coach Lebo said of the exchange after the game.

The Pirates would get no closer than seven after that, as Marshall was able to hit free throws and make enough plays down the stretch to hold off ECU until the final buzzer.

"It was a tough night for us," Lebo said. "We battled hard, but we dug ourselves too big of a hole to try to come back from."

The Pirates only shot 39 percent for the game, leaving Lebo and his players wondering what went wrong.

"We struggled scoring the ball," Lebo said. "We missed layups. We missed foul shots."

"We were getting the shots we wanted, but they just weren't falling," guard Jontae Sherrod added, who led the Pirates in scoring with 19 points. "We just couldn't put the ball in tonight for some

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Darius Morrow is denied at the basket by two Marshall defenders, during ECU's 78-65 defeat at home on Saturday.

TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Outfielder Suzanne Riggs battles at the plate during ECU's five game weekend at UGA, for the Red and Black Showcase.

SID

Softball drops three in Georgia

Carlos Olivera
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team officially started its 2011 season and defense of its Conference USA title this past weekend at the University of Georgia. The Pirates (2-3) didn't exactly get the start to the season they wanted, but they have to come away with some positives.

The Pirates closed out the Red and Black showcase with two straight losses; the final one was a 3-1 loss at the hands of the Maryland Terrapins on Sunday. The Pirates were looking to come away from the weekend with a winning record as they took an early 1-0 lead on the Terrapins.

ECU couldn't muster much offense as they only had three hits on the afternoon. Their lone run came in the top of the fourth when juniors Priscilla Velasquez and Suzanne Riggs executed a double steal to perfection. With two outs, Velasquez stole second, and on the throw down Riggs broke for home and slid safely underneath the tag of Maryland catcher Samantha Mallory.

"We were having a hard time offensively and wanted to utilize our team speed," said Head Coach Tracey Kee. "Suzanne is a fearless runner at third

SOFTBALL page A7

Lady Pirates mauled by Cougars

Chase Kroll
STAFF WRITER

ECU women's basketball team couldn't seem to get into a shooting rhythm at all Sunday afternoon as they lost to the Conference USA-leading Houston Cougars and their high-powered offense by a score of 77-60.

The Pirates, who averaged 73 points a game coming into this matchup, shot just 18 for 59 (30.5 percent), and couldn't seem to stop a Houston team that kept an incredibly fast pace. ECU falls to 13-11 (5-6) on the season.

Houston pushed its record to 20-4 overall and a perfect 11-0 record in C-USA play. No other team in C-USA history has ever started league play 11-0.

The Cougars opened the second half by going on a 12-3 run, stretching their lead to 18. The Pirates couldn't seem to gain any ground on that lead, trailing by at least 13 points for the rest of the contest. With 7:20 remaining in the game, Houston led by 23 points, which forced an

ECU timeout.

The largest lead of the game was 24 points, following a free throw by Houston's Brittany Scott after the Pirate timeout. But ECU scored the next seven points, including a 3-point basket from Allison Spivey. The 17-point Houston lead would end up matching the final score, as both teams went point-for-point in the final five minutes.

Ashley Clarke and Kim Gay paced the Pirates with 11 points each, with Clarke adding 12 rebounds and five assists as well. For the Cougars, Scott finished with a team-leading 20 points, followed by 16 points from Porsche Landry and 12 from Lesslee Mason.

This game ended the 22-game streak for the Pirates in which a bench player has scored in double figures. Off the bench for ECU, Shala Hodges had seven points and two steals and Jean Best had five points and four blocks.

Offensively, the first half was a series of runs. ECU got off to a very slow start, shooting 0 for 9 and quickly falling to a 0-6

hole against Houston. Then the Pirates rallied, going on an 11-3 run. Houston answered with an 11-2 run of its own, making the score 20-13 with five minutes remaining.

From that point on, Houston seized control of the half. They finished the half leading 36-27 thanks to some big-time play from Scott. She scored 13 points for the Cougars in the first half, going 3-6 from 3-point range, while grabbing four rebounds and an assist.

This put the Pirates at a slight disadvantage because Smith and Best are two bigger post players. Houston held the advantage in rebounds 41-49.

ECU's Spivey hit a 3-point shot as time expired in the first half to push her total to 1,000 points for her career.

The Pirates return home this Thursday to host SMU and it will be the annual Pink Zone game and will begin at 7 p.m.

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



Kim Gay goes up for a layup in action earlier this season against Rice. Gay and the Pirates lost 77-60 at Houston on Sunday.

ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

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reason, and they capitalized."

Young, who had 18 points, and Straughn, who added 10, joined Sherrord in double figures.

Marshall had three double-digit scorers, led by Pitts, who dropped 28 on 8-of-12 shooting.

One name conspicuously absent from that group of double-digit scorers was Darius Morrow, who scored 33 points in the victory at Marshall in January. Morrow had only eight points on 2-8 shooting Saturday night.

"It's easy to take one guy out of a game," Lebo said. "They sunk down on Morrow and doubled him. Then, when we did get it in there to him, he missed some that he usually makes, which was a big difference in the game."

Coach Lebo and the Pirates will look to correct on Saturday's mistakes as they play their next two games on the road. They hit the court again Wednesday night at Tulsa at 8 p.m.

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and we just had the right people on base to do it"

The Pirates couldn't hold the lead for long as senior Toni Paisley gave up all three runs in the bottom of the fourth. The three runs Maryland scored were the first runs Paisley (2-1) gave up over the weekend.

Maryland's Candace Beards started the rally in the fourth with a double to left center. The Terrapins' first three batters got on base as Lexi Carroll drove in a pinch runner with a single to center followed by a hit by pitch. The Pirates got out of the inning without any further damage, as they ended the rally with a caught stealing and a strikeout.

Paisley pitched extremely well in the loss. She struck out 13 Terrapins, including the first nine outs coming via the strikeout, and gave up the three earned runs on only five hits. Paisley also walked one batter and hit another.

The opening weekend got off to a good start as Paisley and the Pirates shut out Lipscomb, 1-0. Paisley surrendered just two hits while striking out 12 in the opening win.

The Pirates couldn't keep up the opening win

momentum as they were shut out later on in the day. In the second game of the opening day, the Pirates were shut out 8-0 at the hands of Illinois State. The Pirates struck out 15 times and committed more errors than they had hits, three to one, respectively.

The first dramatic win of the 2011 campaign came in the first game on Saturday morning. Entering the bottom of the seventh, the Pirates and the Iowa Hawkeyes were tied at zero. With one out, freshman Kristi Oshiro reached base on an error and was advanced to second on a single from another freshman, Rebecca Lee.

After a Hawkeyes pitching change, Riggs stepped to the plate and lined a hit, scoring Oshiro from second. That gave the Pirates the walk-off win, improving their record to 2-1.

Once again the Pirates were unable to capitalize on that momentum as they lost a heartbreaker to the host Georgia Bulldogs. The Pirate bats were once again relatively silent as they could only manage three hits.

ECU got a great pitching performance, this one coming from junior Faith Sutton. Sutton,

coming off her poor performance against Illinois State, pitched very well against the third-ranked Bulldogs. She gave up just four hits, while striking out eight batters.

"She put the first game behind her and came back with revenge. I could see it all over her face that she wanted to shut Georgia down," said Paisley.

The Pirates now return home to Greenville for 11 straight games as they officially open up the new ECU Softball Stadium.

"We're very excited. We've never played this many games at home. It was important to get on the road and play the toughest competition and then come home with some confidence," added Kee.

The first game in the new stadium is set for Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 4 p.m. against UNC-Wilmington.

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Practice players help women's basketball

Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Many high school basketball players believe that their playing career ends once they play that last game inside a high school gym.

The ECU women's basketball team has developed a system of using "practice players" to suit up and play against the regulars in order to reduce the chance of injury sustained to major contributors of the Lady Pirates.

Former ECU student Tyler Gray was a practice player during the Lady Pirates' 2009 season and the former Wakefield basketball star didn't think his life would turn out that way.

"I became a practice player in a very unconventional way," Gray said. "I tried out for a walk-on spot with the men's team, but the roster was already full, so they offered me a role as a practice player for the women's team."

Despite being just a practice player, Gray and the rest of the players were expected to act sort

of like the scout team for a football team. Their main duty was to learn the opposing teams' offensive and defensive sets, allowing the Lady Pirates regulars to become familiar with those sets.

"Every day we practiced, the practice team would take the role of ECU's next opponent," Gray said. "We had to learn the other team's play sets in about 10 minutes and then run them against (ECU) on both sides of the ball."

Despite not achieving his goal of playing in a live college basketball game, Gray is very thankful for the chance he was given to, for one year, be able to have a major part in a team's success.

"I liked it a lot. Having played sports all my life, it was really fun and enjoyable," Gray said. "I got to meet new people and the coaching staff. I liked being given the chance to work with the team. It didn't hurt that I got free team apparel either."

Having a practice squad serves the Lady Pirates in two very distinct ways.

First, it allows the team to value each of their scholarships. Second, it prepares the team for their next game far better than watching film could ever do. If a coach has the choice between having actual bodies running the other team's offense opposed to just watching film, they will take the live bodies every time.

Football teams use their scout teams as a kind of tackle dummy. The regulars are given the green light to unleash all their energy, because if a scout player gets hurt, it doesn't harm the team's performance on Saturday. The same is true for the practice players. Their main job is to get the ladies ready. If one gets hurt, they just insert another and continue the drill.

Practice players may not get the glory that the regulars get or their names in the papers, but their importance to the team is seen every time a drive is cut off or a charge is taken.

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

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