

OPINION: I still have five bucks left. Downtown, you cannot defeat me. **A4**

LIFESTYLES: Are you in need of a designated driver? If so, turn to Lifestyles to find out about Greenville's new bus service that offers rides to and from downtown! **A6**

SPORTS: It was a record setting weekend for softball pitcher Toni Paisley. Turn to sports to see how Paisley and the ECU softball team performed in the Pirate Classic. **A8**

BRIEFS

Motorcycle and car collide outside Arby's

Staff Reports

At around 8 p.m. Sunday, a car and a motorcycle collided on 10th Street in front of Arby's.

Paramedics helped the victims but there is no word on charges or the extent of injuries.

Greenville PD asks for input on crime, safety

Staff Reports

On Monday night, the Greenville Police Department held a meeting in Mendenhall Student Center.

The department wants to know how they are doing and asked for community input.

Everyone from students to business owners were invited to the meeting.

Body found in Tar River

Staff Reports

Officers found a body Saturday near the Dockside Apartments in Greenville.

Currently, police are looking over reports for missing people within a radius of 100 miles.

Police have not been able to determine if any crime was committed because of the body's condition.

Results from an autopsy done on the body were expected to be released sometime Monday afternoon.

Traffic delayed after driver loses control of vehicle

Staff Reports

On Sunday night, a 20-year-old female lost control of her car on Greenville Boulevard.

The driver ran off the road and sustained minor injuries. She was taken to Pitt County Memorial Hospital for treatment.

The police do not think alcohol was involved. The wreck caused major traffic delays.

Truck crashes into local clothing boutique

Staff Reports

The driver of a truck fell asleep at the wheel and slammed into Che Bella boutique near the intersection of Greenville Boulevard and Red Banks Road.

The truck ran off of the road, through the parking lot and wrecked into the storefront.

There was no one inside of the store; however, the driver experienced minor injuries.

Proposed bill will allow deadly force to be used on intruders

Staff Reports

The North Carolina Senate tentatively approved a bill that allows victims to use deadly force against intruders.

The current law states that victims must prove an intruder intended to harm, kill, or commit a felony before being allowed to use deadly force.

The Castle Doctrine (SB 34) establishes that an unlawful entry in and of itself endangers the victims and provides legal justification for a forceful response.

WEB POLL

Are you drinking less alcohol than in previous years?

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



The East Carolinian

Tuesday, 3.1.11
Volume 86, Issue 41

theeastcarolinian.com

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

UTEP coach reprimanded for outburst

Cameron Gupton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

University of Texas at El Paso Miners' basketball coach, Tim Floyd, was reprimanded after storming onto the court to confront a referee and was eventually thrown out of Wednesday's game.

Floyd would not leave the game and it took a police officer to finally remove him and take him to the locker room.

During the second half of the game, Floyd was given a technical foul after already receiving a warning for stepping onto the court and leaving the coach's box.

"I was given a warning for having my foot out of the coaching box," said Floyd in an interview with the El Paso Times. "I haven't got a technical all year long, so I went back to the bench. Next thing I know, I have a technical and I didn't know why I got it."

Floyd has admitted that this year he has had a problem staying in the coach's box.

"It has been my experience this year that I've had a lot of men come over to me and say, 'Coach, you need to get back in the box and let us work,'" Floyd said. "I tend to do that. I guess I probably reacted to that first technical, not really understanding why it was given. I probably earned the second one, but that's part of the game."

This was Floyd's first year as the coach of the UTEP Miners. Shortly after Floyd's ejection from the game, an assistant coach of UTEP was also removed from Minges Coliseum.

With 18:48 left in the game, assistant coach Phil Johnson received two technical fouls and was also ejected.

The Conference USA commissioner reprimanded Floyd after the game. Britton Banowsky, the commissioner, said Floyd's actions were "unacceptable."

Banowsky expects coaches to leave games if they have been asked to do so. On Thursday, Banowsky released an official statement regarding the incident.

"I have spoken with UTEP athletics director Bob Stull and UTEP head coach Tim Floyd about the ejections in last night's game. When a coach is ejected, I expect them to leave the floor. Coach Floyd's actions were unacceptable. I have made our expectations clear going forward and do not expect this to happen again."

Sophomore Claire Brown says that she had relatives and friends come to the game and the outburst did not make a good impression. "My aunt had two friends come up for the game," said Brown. "I hate that they had that as their first ECU basketball experience."

The Miners received 27 fouls and five technical fouls; they lost 83-76 to the Pirates. After the game ended, Floyd stated that he did not feel the first technical foul he received was warranted.

Bob Stull, UTEP's athletic director, stated that Floyd's actions were completely uncharacteristic and that Floyd has a positive relationship with officials and that he has known many of them for years.

Stull said that he, Floyd and Banowsky have discussed the situation and are ready to move past it.

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



Coach Tim Floyd was thrown out of the UTEP vs ECU basketball game after storming the court.

Student drinking citations lower than previous years

Alexa DeCarr
STAFF WRITER

The number of underage drinking citations that have occurred on and near campus has gradually decreased over the years, totaling up to nearly an 80 percent decrease since 2007.

According to Scott Shelton, chief of the ECU Police Department, there were 91 liquor law arrests, or citations, in 2010. Previously, there were 424 citations in 2007, 303 in 2008 and 133 in 2009.

Shelton says that the dramatic decrease is not necessarily a surprise. "There is always going to be some students whose only priority is partying," said Shelton. "But the vast majority of our students are good students."

The number of disciplinary referrals for liquor law violations, which means that the offender is referred to the university judicial system, has also decreased. Many of these disciplinary referrals occurred in the residence halls.

The number of disciplinary referrals for 2010 has not yet been released. However, in 2009 there were 416 referrals. Formerly, there were 571 in 2007 and 444 in 2008.

As far as a reason behind the decrease of liquor law violations, Lt. Amy Davis says that there are many factors that determine the increase or decrease in the number of citations and disciplinary refer-

als. "Education and enforcement play a part as well as sanctions imposed by (Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities) and (Student) Housing," said Davis.

The Center for Counseling and Student Development also offers educational programs regarding alcohol and binge drinking, which may have been a factor in the decrease.

According to annual security reports published by other universities, ECU is about average with schools in the area when it comes to underage drinking citations and disciplinary referrals.

UNC-Chapel Hill had 81 citations and 457 disciplinary referrals in 2009. N.C. State had 44 citations and 188 referrals while UNC-Greensboro had 178 citations and 91 referrals in 2010. UNC-Wilmington had two citations and 663 referrals in 2009.

Shelton says he is skeptical of the factors considered when making the list and does not believe that partying is any more of an issue at ECU than at other schools. "I absolutely do not believe that it's worse at ECU," he stated. "Underage drinking is an issue on most campuses throughout the country."

Nicholas Thrasher, a sophomore criminal justice major, also says partying is not a major problem at the university and believes

law enforcement in Greenville handles the issue of underage drinking fairly.

"I went to Coastal Carolina (University) last year and when we would go out on weekends, cops would break up every single party we went to even if there were only 12 people there," Thrasher said. "At ECU, I think cops are way more reasonable. They make sure we're safe and let us know the dangers of drinking, but they let us have our fun and get the college experience, too."

Some students, however, think that law enforcement targets students specifically for underage drinking. "Law enforcement is way too strict in Greenville," said sophomore business major Mike Frank. "We have a rep as a top party school so police are more concerned about kids drinking underage than people getting mugged downtown."

Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) statistics are not included in annual crime reports published by universities. In 2010, there were 6,732 arrests by ALE due to alcohol in the state of North Carolina. However, ALE does not capture student citations separately from any others issued in the state.

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

HigherOne uncovered

What students need to know about potential hidden fees

Abbey Way
STAFF WRITER

A recent CBS Money Watch report is calling Higher One the next college campus rip-off. The free service to 5.3 million students comes with a list of fees.

Cardholders must pay 50 cents every time they use their PIN for a purchase and \$2.50 for a transaction at non-Higher One ATMs. Also, there is a \$19 inactivity penalty per month after nine months with no transactions.

But that's not all. A full list of fees can be found through the fee schedule link on the home page on ecucard.higheroneaccount.com.

Higher One Campus Relations Coordinator Aaron Poach says this fee schedule is easily accessible for students and is a helpful tool to learn how to use their cards without getting hit with fees.

The schedule explains what the service is, the cost of the fee and why a fee is assessed for that service. But the most important column, according to Poach, is "How to avoid this fee."

"We make it within one click to see the fee schedule. We put the fees up so students can see what the fees are and how to avoid the fees, and videos are

available for more commonly asked about fees," Poach said. "If a student is charged for a fee they were not aware of, they are given the information of how to avoid that fee in the future on their statement."

Tyshonda Hawkins, a freshman health and fitness major, learned about her 50-cent PIN fees through her statement. "I think that it's wrong because debit is supposed to be the one that doesn't charge, and I think they should at least let people know because all of those 50 cents can add up in the long run," Hawkins said.

Sam Barnhardt, a junior health and fitness specialist major, had a similar experience. He explained that when he was making a purchase with his card using his PIN, the cashier warned him that he would be charged 50 cents if he does so. "Now I use mine as credit when I get the chance," Barnhardt said. "I don't think it's right, and I don't see why it matters, but now that I found a way to get around it, it's OK."

Choosing to use the card as credit instead of debit is one of the suggestions on the fee sched-

Calendar Events

Feb. 9 - Feb. 14

Tuesday, March 1

"Putnam County Spelling Bee"
8 to 10 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre

Kid Liberty, I Call Fives, Rust Belt Lights, A Sequence Of Ghosts, Every Single Lie, The Aura Rising, and Joe Grizzley (Acoustic Set).
6:30 p.m. at the Topsy Teapot with a \$10 admission.

Wednesday, March 2

Music on a WIM
11:30 a.m. at A.J. Fletcher Hall.
Free event.

Doug Varone and Dancers
7:30 p.m. at Wright Auditorium.
Doug Varone and Dancers will bring their expansive vision, versatility and technical prowess to the ECU stage.

Men's Basketball vs. Memphis (BLACKOUT GAME)
7 p.m. at Minges Coliseum

SAB presents "Morning Glory"
7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Thursday, March 3

Lecture: Life Long Leadership
12:30 and 3:30 p.m. at Wright Auditorium.
ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard will address students and guests on the topic of life-long leadership. His teaching and research have centered on leadership in the public sector, research and development and the innovation process, public policy, and the utilization of scientific and technical knowledge. In his 2010 State of the University Address, Chancellor Ballard identified both leadership and engineering as two of the five opportunities in defining ECU's future. He is an author many times over on the innovation process, energy and natural resources, and managing growth and change.

"Awake, My Soul: The Story of the Sacred Harp"
8 p.m. at Speight Auditorium in Jenkins Fine Arts Center.
"Awake, My Soul: The Story of the Sacred Harp" is the first feature documentary about Sacred Harp singing, a form of a cappella, shape note hymn singing. Shape note singing has survived more than 200 years.

SAB presents "Morning Glory"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.

Friday, March 4

Baseball vs. Pepperdine
5 p.m.

First Friday ArtWalk
Uptown Greenville presents its monthly First Friday ArtWalk series that promotes residents to the downtown/uptown area. There is no charge to attend and participants can enjoy a free ride on the Jolley Trolley while taking advantage of the discounts and specials at select Uptown restaurants and retailers. For more information visit www.uptowngreenville.com.

Saturday, March 5

Great Decisions 2011: "Global Governance"
10 a.m. at New Rivers West Auditorium.
Speaker: Dr. Nancy Spalding, Department of Political Science, ECU. Open to the public. Full-time students and teachers may attend free of charge. Group rates are available upon request. Parking for this series is free and open to the public.

Greenville-Pitt County Homebuilder's Expo
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Greenville Convention Center.
Admission charged.

Baseball vs. Pepperdine
2 p.m.

Sunday, March 6

Baseball vs. Pepperdine
12 p.m.

Greenville-Pitt County Homebuilder's Expo
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Greenville Convention Center. Admission charged.

March 7-14 Spring break!

Emergency funds offered to students

Jamitress Bowden
STAFF WRITER

The university announced that it is offering a helping hand to the students who are in desperate need for some monetary relief after the security breach at U.B.E.

The Sarah Clements emergency loan is available for students who need some assistance continuing living their day-to-day lives. Sarah Clements was an alumna who left money in her will to the university, specifically for a type of student loan. The Clements loan was set up in the 1980s for students caught in an emergency situation, similar to this one, and in desperate need of funds.

The maximum amount that students can borrow is \$500. Each student can borrow money only one time, for one important reason: the money has to be paid back within the semester that the money was borrowed. Dee Bowling of the Financial Reporting Administration was not available for comment about the minimum amount available to borrow.

Kiara Pusey, freshman communication sciences and disorders major, said that she wishes the school had made this resource better known, so that she could have money until the bank reimbursed her.

If the emergency loan is not paid back to the university, there will be a hold placed on the student's account, deterring registration for classes next semester. The \$500 is applied to the student's university bill.

Julie Poorman, director of Financial Aid, encourages students who were victims of the U.B.E.

scandal to continue to work with their banks and file every charge that is not theirs. She also explained that the students from the scandal are prime candidates for the Clements loan.

To gain access to the emergency funds, each student must go to the Financial Aid Office, located in the Old Cafeteria Complex, to complete the process in person. Students must bring a picture ID and any documentation from the fraudulent charges. For the students who had funds taken from their Higher One accounts, they can simply print off the Fraud Alert from the website and bring that form to the offices.

The students who had money taken from either their personal banking accounts or charged to their credit cards, they should bring the documentation from that particular institution. If a student does not have any documentation from their institution, a police report is also acceptable.

Greenville Police Department has a police report with a master list of people who were affected by the U.B.E. scandal. Detective Frank DeSantis is in charge of this case and can be contacted simply by calling or visiting the police department.

Sergeant Joe Friday, who was also a victim, explained the process to get a police report, "You just have to add your name to the list and then ask for a copy of the report."

This loan is always available to students; however, the student must be in an emergency. Each case is determined according to the severity, given that there is proper documentation provided.

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

The East Carolinian is currently hiring
News writers

For more information, contact Jennifer Soares
at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

BRIEFS CONT.

Motions underway in Richardson murder trial

Staff Reports

Pre-trial motions are underway for James Richardson, who was charged with shooting Landon Blackley and Andrew Kirby.

Richardson was accused of shooting the men outside of a nightclub in June 2009.

Currently, a judge is reviewing more than 45 pre-trial motions for Richardson. The judge has denied some of the motions, approved others and left some open.

The request to move Richardson's trial outside of Greenville has been denied. The trial will begin March 14.

Richardson faces the death penalty if convicted.

FEES continued from A1

ule to avoid the charge. "If you aren't looking for this stuff, you wouldn't know about it. It's kind of sneaky how they do it," Hawkins said. "I don't understand why they don't let us know all of these charges before distributing these cards."

Poach said, "We offer many tools and resources for students to learn about their refund options, financial literacy and to get questions answered."

Some of the options are an activation demo, 24/7 customer care and an online student community and financial literacy website. All

of these resources are completely free and accessible through Higher One's website.

Poach said that the company is continuously evaluating the fee structure. Compared to other companies, he said their fees are about in the middle. "We know that we have to make sure that our fees are in line with our competitors' fees. We are always trying to make a competitive advantage," Poach said.

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

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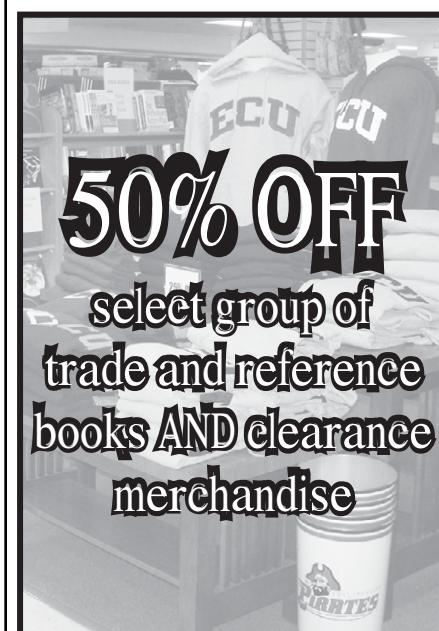
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Ronald E. Dowdy
STUDENT STORES



EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

ECU researchers help to create bioengineered veins

Jamie Coan
STAFF WRITER

New research by university experts and a Morrisville-based biotechnology firm will soon help doctors to pull a human vein off the shelf to use in life-saving vascular surgeries.

The research was conducted by scientists from ECU, Duke University, Yale University and Humacyte, a biotechnology company. It was funded by Humacyte. This research was published in the current issue of the journal Science Translational Medicine.

During the research, the veins were generated by culturing human cells in a bioreactor and this formed a strong tissue. Cells were then taken out of the tissue and the veins were able to be stored for one year in refrigerated conditions. This is the first time researchers have been able to grow vessels using human cells. The veins showed good blood flow and resistance to infection for one year in the large animal models that were tested.

"It's awesome that ECU doctors

were involved in this research," said Lauren Bailey, junior nursing major. "It's groundbreaking research."

The American Heart Association Update on Heart Disease Statistics reports that in 2007 in the United States, surgeons performed more than 400,000 coronary bypass procedures. This surgery is usually done by taking veins from other parts of the body and placing them in the heart. This is a complicated procedure because patients needing bypass surgery may not have suitable veins or their veins might get infected.

Not only can these veins save the lives of people who do not have suitable veins for bypass surgery, but they also have less of a likelihood of developing problems after surgery. The veins are also known as tissue-engineered vascular grafts.

"This new type of bioengineered vein allows them to be easily stored in hospitals so they are readily available to surgeons at the time of need," said Dr. Alan P. Kypson, a cardiothoracic surgeon and associate professor at the Brody School of Medicine. "Currently, grafting using

the patient's own veins remains the gold standard. But, harvesting a vein from the patient's leg can lead to complications, and for patients who don't have suitable veins, the bioengineered veins could serve as an important new way to provide a coronary bypass."

Researchers have reported that when these veins are available during surgery, there is less of a chance for infection and clotting. The veins could be used in dialysis vascular access and for coronary artery bypass graft surgery because they could be made with any diameter.

"It sounds like these veins could save thousands of lives, but it's kind of weird that doctors can grow human veins and store them in hospitals," said Kelly Cox, sophomore English major.

The veins could also help patients on kidney hemodialysis. More than half of dialysis patients do not have healthy enough veins and require an arteriovenous graft placement to have access to their bloodstream.

"Most arteriovenous grafts that

are placed for hemodialysis access are made of a synthetic material, which suffers from significant drawbacks including a high rate of infection, a propensity for blockages due to clotting and a thickening of blood vessels," said Dr. Jeffrey H. Lawson, a surgeon and associate professor at Duke University School of Medicine.

The greatest advantages of bioengineered veins will be that they are not made from synthetic materials, so they will cause less infection and they will be readily available on hospital shelves for when they are needed. "While there is still considerable research to be done before a product is available for widespread use, we are highly encouraged by the results and eager to move forward with additional study," said Shannon L.M. Dahl, senior director of scientific operations and co-founder of Humacyte.

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

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New study on video game addiction

Brian Havens
STAFF WRITER

New results from a study conducted in Singapore have found that 9 percent of gamers (nearly 1 in 10) show signs of being mentally addicted to video games.

The investigation, which studied 3,034 children for two years, has also found that the addiction to gaming has a negative psychological impact on a child's emotions, social skills, relationships and grades.

"I don't think I'm addicted, because I don't have to play every day," said junior Blake Berry, an exercise physiology major. "It's just another hobby."

Sophomore Amanda Woolard, also an exercise physiology major,

sees things differently than Berry.

"Of course (people) can be addicted to video games, because some people might use video games to relieve stress ... so they get addicted to it," said Berry.

Some doctors have speculated that video games can be as addictive as heroin. This is because interacting with video games can stimulate certain pleasure centers in the brain. Addicted gamers will often ignore real-life issues and stresses by playing through them.

Now being considered as a psychiatric disorder, some researchers are referring to the addiction as "pathological gaming." Similar to gambling, pathological gaming is an addiction based on behavior and overindulgence.

As a consequence to this obsession, these pathological players are known to avoid studying, doing their homework or engaging in other scholastic necessities.

There are many factors that contribute to the likelihood of a player becoming addicted. Previous issues of a social phobia or depression can increase the probability of the condition occurring.

However, Woolard said, "I think males tend to play 'Call of Duty' or war games more than women do, but women might play other video games like (with) the Wii ... or the Kinect more than men. It just depends on what game it is."

Although overall video game sales were down 5.7 percent in 2010, the industry still earned a

total of \$18.6 billion. Despite the overall loss, Microsoft's Xbox 360's sales actually raised by 42 percent in 2010, having sold 1.86 million units through the month of December.

Xbox 360's sales owe much of its recognition to the new motion-sensing Xbox Kinect, which allows players to play games without a controller. By relying directly on the detection of body movement, players can interact with their games as never before.

Although more exercise would certainly be good for pathological gamers, it is likely that fitness games would also add on to the lack of real social interaction that people need.

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

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The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding Rants can be directed to Katelyn Crouse, Editor in Chief, at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com. Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

Quit blowing smoke out your rear end, Chancellor. ECU fans had absolutely nothing to do with UTEP's coach having an inexcusable meltdown on the court and I have yet to see one second of video that suggests otherwise.

I will give you condoms, just don't reproduce again.

I want to submit a Rant about the "Letter to the Editor" about Pirate Rants, but I don't want to tear a hole in the space-time continuum.

Did you seriously come to class wearing a church t-shirt and have nasty hickeys all over your neck?

I still have five bucks left. Downtown, you cannot defeat me.

No offense, a Big Double Tray just sounded more appealing than you at 3 a.m.

I bought ten beers. Five of them were knocked out of my hand. Therefore, I consumed five beers. MATH 1065.

I'm sick of seeing the same person on my Facebook newsfeed because they change their status 11 times a day. Get a Twitter!

Isn't it insensitive and insulting to have African Tribal masks on display at West End Dining for the Black History Month Celebration?

Did you skip the day they explained that you can turn right on red?

Really? ECU bought iPads and has had iPods for awhile now? Supplying those does not increase my ability to get a job with the degree I'm paying you for!

We have bold, italics and underline, but we still need a sarcasm font.

To the guy who said ECU girls would look bad without make-up: We would do it if you all stopped being jerks first. P.S. We'd be gorgeous.

Chivalry isn't dead; you just choose to hang-out with douchebags.

Dear 4th roommate: The three of us don't like you. You were a last resort. We make fun of you all the time. Just thought you should know.

To the girl in my meteorology class: If you're gonna wear the same spandex pants every day, at least wash them.

Mapquest should have an "Avoid Sketchy Places" option.

Come on, girls! Just because it broke 60 degrees for a day doesn't mean you have to desperately strip down to booty shorts to get some attention. You look better with jeans on, trust me.

A 50-cent coupon on an \$8 dining purchase for taking a survey? How generous of you ECU. Suck it!

The majority of students don't enjoy step shows in front of the ECU Dowdy student store. They make us late.

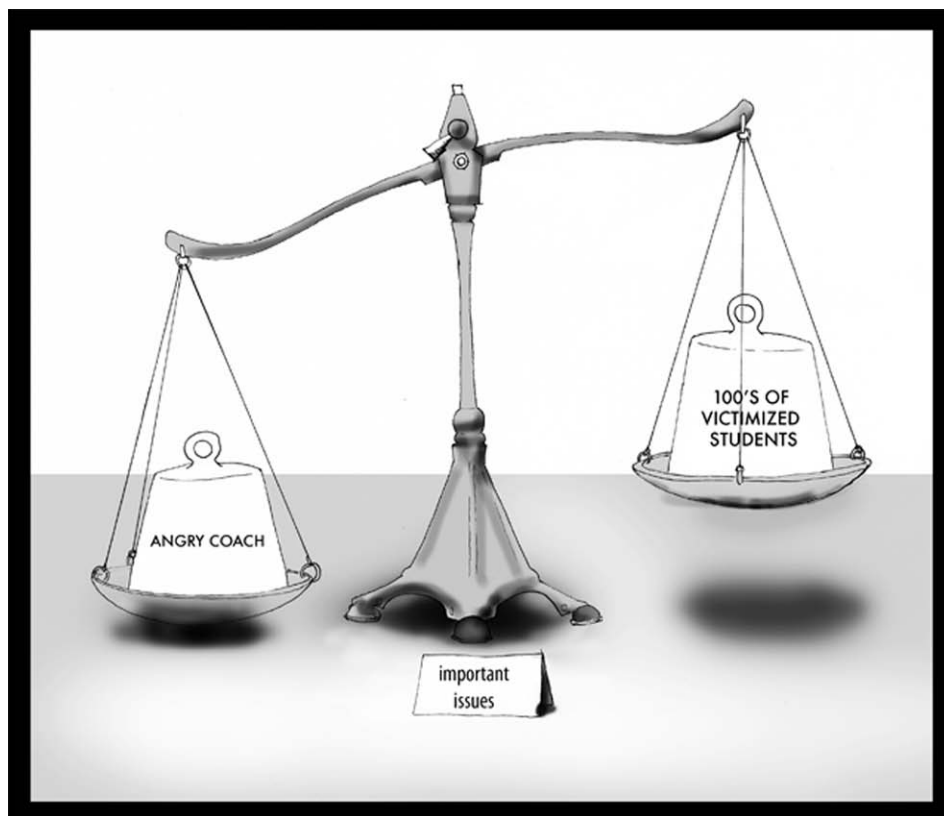
I think my RA is a robot: I have never seen her eat, pee or sleep. Very suspicious.

Dear freshmen: I do not pay \$336 so you can park in my spot on College Hill. Go back to where you belong.

One day you will realize what you had with me and on that day I will laugh.

I love how everyone hates on ECU for being a party school, when half the people I know that party down here go to other colleges.

More Pirate Rants on the website!



ILLUSTRATED BY LOGAN WAGONER

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

Wrong response

On Wednesday night, UTEP Miner's coach decided to rage on the court and was subsequently thrown out, shortly followed by his assistant coach. ECU was shown on the news for more than a rapper being busted for weed or our students getting pepper-sprayed by cops in a snowball fight. However, none of the media coverage blamed the students for coach Floyd's behavior.

In a surprising move, Chancellor Ballard and Athletic Director Terry Holland sent out a joint e-mail berating the students for poor behavior. Supposedly, Ballard was at the game and was not pleased with his students' behavior.

Everyone else who was there suggests that the students were cheering along, just like through the rest of the game. We should hardly be blamed for an adult's behavior. It's a sporting event; people get

involved in the drama.

The most surprising aspect of the e-mail wasn't just the passing of blame to the students; it was the fact that we have yet to have an official response to the University Book Exchange credit card breach. As students are still dealing with financial losses, no one from Ballard's administration has stepped up to explain the cause of the issue or how to go forward. Some students are hearing by word of mouth of the \$500 credit emergency fund, while others are still struggling and not knowing their options.

Perhaps the Pirate's Athletic Department has a better PR team to handle all the potential risks that face their department, but something is going awry with the ECU administration. As you may remember, it took Ballard over a month to respond to the hate crime and abuse that occurred

on campus last semester. Well, a month has gone by since many students felt their wallets drain dry and we have yet to hear a word from our administration.

Maybe we heard wrong and the behavior at the basketball game did warrant an e-mail from the university administration; however, the issue is that something seems to be off with the priority scale. Nobody is perfect, but a trend seems to be developing on the attention paid to certain issues.

In the student announce e-mail, Chancellor Ballard states, "Let's do everything possible to help East Carolina attract the very best students in the future." While it's all biscuits and gravy that he's concerned about the potential Pirates, we think he needs to be concerned with keeping the current students happy; otherwise we'll be less likely to speak highly of our alma mater.

Keep your bad decisions away from me



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

As you walk to and from your classes, back and forth through campus, and inside numerous buildings, you may not notice the clear and at-eye-level sign facing you as you walk inside each building every day. It reads, "Must Smoke 25 Feet From Building."

The sign also gives a 1-800-Quit-Now number that has probably never been called, but more importantly the sign highlights a very troubling problem; obviously a huge population of ECU's campus cannot read properly.

Day after day, this policy on smoking at ECU is violated because of the sheer laziness stemming from the student body, all the way up to professors that have decided their jobs qualify them to abstain from following this simple rule.

Since 2007, North Carolina Institutions were advised to regulate smoking up to 100 feet from all buildings. We all know that would never happen because frankly, all of our

buildings are too close together for that law.

Besides the somewhat feeble advising from North Carolina legislation that is given regarding smoking on campus, it seems as if very little attention is ever really given to the overwhelming number of smokers on our campus. Their lack of manners and basic knowledge of what an ashtray is, as well as the overall image that is portrayed from these people goes unchecked.

Why should there be any attention given to this issue? We are part of the tobacco belt here in North Carolina. A carton of cigarettes is \$65 in New Jersey while a carton here is only around \$20. Some people even get them cheaper because of the local tobacco farmers surrounding and inside the Greenville area. Why not support the addiction when these smokers are boosting the local economy? Oh, that's right, because cigarettes kill you.

It seems as though all basic knowledge of cigarette smoking is completely lost and it's baffling that very few smokers realize what they are doing. Yes, this is a free country and if you want to choose to kill yourself for the overwhelming need to look cool, you can, but then you have to realize your surroundings when you smoke. The law prohibiting them

from smoking within 25 feet of a building is put there so that students aren't walking through a bunch of smoke as they are trying to reach the door for their building. And the proposed gazebos for students who smoke won't help that problem. It's sickening that a gazebo can be considered for smokers who are choosing to kill themselves, but ECU is still not completely accessible for those who are handicapped.

Secondhand smoke has been researched as being just as bad or worse than smoking a cigarette yourself. Many of us non-smokers are forced to walk through or behind a smoky haze as we are trying to get to class.

Smoking in college has always been the rage and probably will be if the legislation keeps being so uninterested in this issue. In most non-smokers' eyes, it is unfair that we have to walk through anything as unpleasant as smoke, get it in our clothes and smell like it for the rest of the day. Secondhand smoke is a very real thing and it is time for ECU to get its act together and realize that penalties should be enacted or harsher laws should be enforced. ECU's campus is way too pretty to always be surrounded by a cloud of smoke.

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

The absence of abstinence



Morgan Logan
OPINION COLUMNIST

Sex is an act just about every life form engages in. College students are no different.

In fact, here at ECU, over three fourths of the population is sexually active. With sex comes a lot of responsibility that many of us are not aware of because of this "abstinence only education" America has imposed in public schools.

Sex education has always been a taboo discussion, especially growing up in the Bible Belt. In Charlotte, we had a program known as "Family Living, Ethical Behavior and Human Sexuality," which only touched the surface of the matter. This program teaches fourth grade students about upcoming puberty. We did have a lesson on HIV/AIDS, but it was taught primarily by answering true/false questions such as "A person can get AIDS by shaking hands" or "HIV can be spread by coughing." Not at all accurate questions.

Acquiring other diseases via sex, or sexual intercourse at all, wasn't discussed until eighth grade when we were taught contraceptive methods. However, today, that lesson has been discontinued. We defined terms such as "abortion," "masturbation" and "homosexuality," but we did not have a lesson on those topics.

In high school, we were finally taught to use a condom properly, yet it was also in high school where peer pressure was at a peak. Not only were high percentages of virginity taken around the age of 16 due to pressure, but myths began to circulate such as "it feels better without a condom."

Since we were not properly educated, we now believe the worst thing to come from sex is pregnancy, which we believe can be avoided if one "pulls out." Along with peer pressure is the stigma of the good condom brands. I know plenty of guys (and females) who will not have sex unless a Trojan Magnum condom aka "The Gold Pack" is present. Seriously?

Most parents were uncomfortable with their children learning about intercourse at such a young age. So we obtain our sexual education from the media and our peers. Is it better to ignore the situation rather than inform us?

Ignorance is bliss. We're young. If you tell us not to do something, we're going to do it. School has reiterated to us, "The only way to be 100 percent protected is to practice abstinence." Phrases such as that lose their meaning when the teenager becomes a young adult and is placed at a university with no parental figure to monitor their behaviors.

College students engage in plenty of risky activities ranging from substance abuse to unsafe sexual behavior. If we are not aware of the risks associated with sex, we're not going to take the proper precautions when faced with the situation.

Because America has implemented this "abstinence only education" nationwide, we have seen nothing but an increase in teenage pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted diseases.

According to North Carolina Healthy Schools, North Carolina is ranked number nine in teenage pregnancy and the cases continue to increase by the years. The diseases most prevalent on campus are Chlamydia, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and genital warts. My guess would be that because we are not taught how to properly respond to the situation, we go into the bedroom blind, so to speak.

I'm not saying we are all ignorant and don't know what to do when it comes sex. We know about STIs and most know what signs and symptoms to look for. However, I think we learn these too late in life.

With college being so liberating, I think all freshmen should enroll in a sex education course, just to reiterate the topics before they are too far engaged in college life. "We have to make sure people receive accurate information," said the assistant director of Campus Wellness, Tywana Purkett. "I would much rather see comprehensive sex education implemented to ensure correct information is given out."

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

Be sure to text your Rants to piraterants@theeastcarolinian.com

POLL RESULTS

Do you think Pirate Rants are too offensive?

Yes 8%
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This writer can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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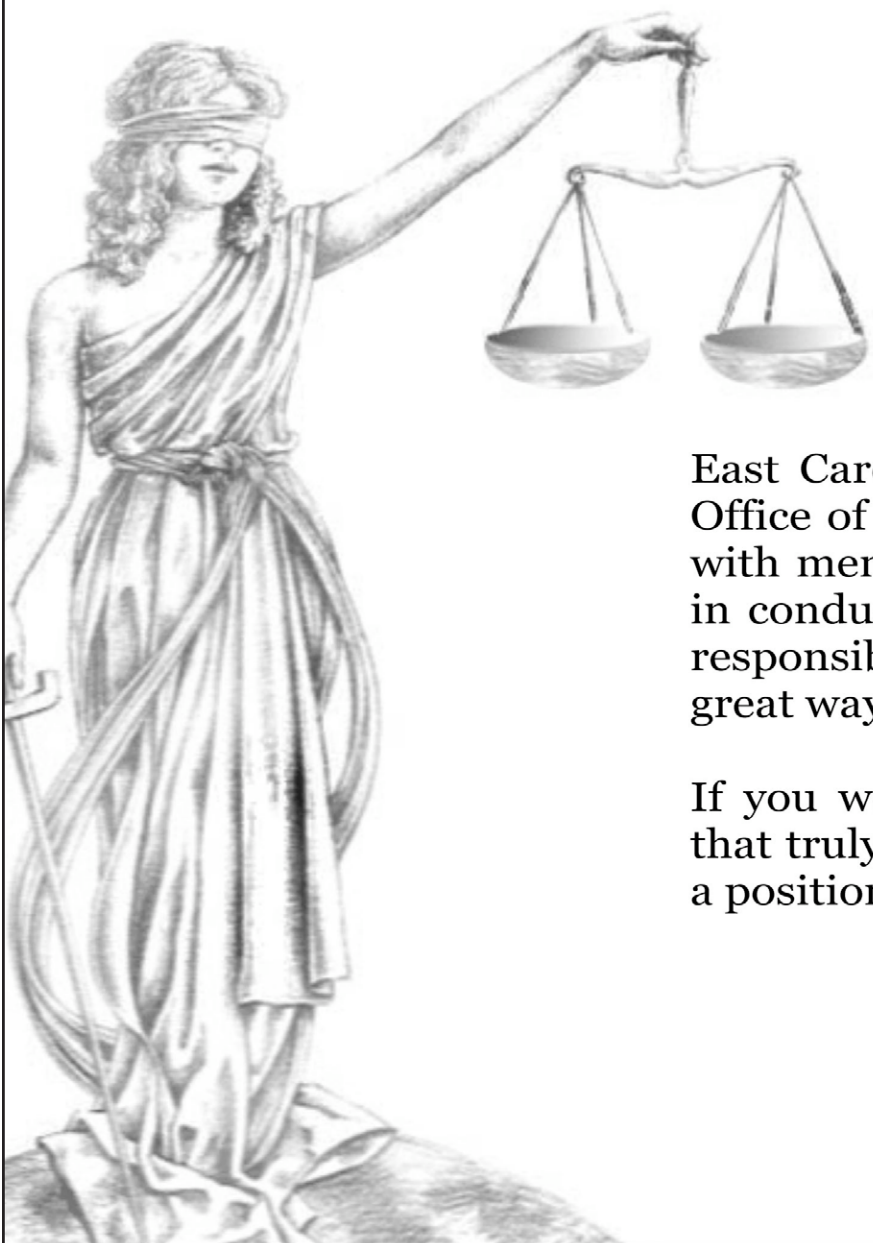
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Tap this!

Energy drink company Untapped Energy comes to Greenville

Ben Noble
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Still Life clubbers flooded the floor as heavy music and strobe lights set the mood for the night. Enthusiasm was contagious and appropriate considering the circumstances. That night, Still Life celebrated their new contract with energy drink company Untapped Energy.

In less than a month, Untapped Energy's ECU branch has become a driving force downtown. Even more noteworthy are the people mastering the new sensation. Three public relations students from ECU have orchestrated Untapped Energy's downtown takeover. Walter Johnson, self-deemed "the mouth," Korey McDonald, "the brains," and Kevin Cooley, "the ears," have come together to form what they believe is a superior promotional body.

"We can get into places other people can't. We market and we market well," said Cooley. Johnson agreed, stating, "We are all PR majors and we know what we are doing."

Since the start of the New Year, these three students have constructed a team of promoters and professionals to help them grow their ventures. Hours of meetings and planning, traveling and networking led to an event that Cooley says "was an absolute blowout."

Untapped Energy is a fast growing energy drink company based in New York. They have knocked Red Bull out of their largest account in the United States and are in the process of expanding their national reach. Co-owner Jonathan Ressler came to ECU last year to speak to the Public Relations Student Society of America. McDonald contacted Ressler via Facebook after the seminar, and Ressler offered McDonald an opportunity to learn about his social media agency and main business, The Big Fat Mouth.

"I spent a summer interning in New York, learning about the brand, working events and learning how to market," said McDonald. "PRSSA creates the opportunity and I learned that it's up to the ambition of the member to take the next step for your future."

After his summer internship with The Big Fat Mouth, McDonald was offered a position with the company. Soon after, The Big Fat Mouth created a program called Untapped Entrepreneur. This program gives college kids a chance to run their own distribution of Untapped Energy. Ressler wanted McDonald to bring his business to ECU.

"The program started off slow so Jonathan asked me if I wanted to try it out at my school," said McDonald. "I was reluctant at first, so I passed on the opportunity."

A semester later, McDonald and friend Cooley began talking about dreams of success and an early start. McDonald felt a need to make an early mark in the marketing world and so he called Ressler to reconsider his offer. McDonald was given just a few weeks to throw together a promotional team and to begin marketing.

"Kevin was my first pick," McDonald said. "Then we needed one more guy, and it was a no brainer that Walter would be the perfect fit with his photography background, connections and promotion skills."

These three PR students have big plans for downtown. They have already sealed the approval of one club and they are networking their way into several more.

McDonald said, "Untapped for us is just the beginning. We have big plans for the future, and we are going to make ECU look good."

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Need a *designated* driver?



CASEY BOONE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Alumnus Chris Rupp's DD Express safely transports students to and from downtown

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

It's no secret that students like to spend their nights downtown, but with Pirate Express only operating Thursday through Saturday night, students were recently left to fend for themselves when trying to find transportation home.

Chris Rupp, a recent ECU graduate, has changed that dilemma with his DD Express bus. Operating Sunday through Wednesday, the Designated Driver Express safely transports students back to the popular apartment complexes in Greenville. The bus also provides students with rides to downtown, so it's not just a drop-off service.

Rupp, who graduated this past December with a degree in economics, remembers what it was like to be a student. In his earlier college years, he recalls riding the buses that operated from downtown a lot. "I worked, when I was at ECU, downtown for a couple of years," he said. "With Pirate Express reducing their time, I just saw a need for it. Kids are still going downtown and they still need a way to get there safely." Therefore, he

and his father Alan Rupp decided to start the DD Express.

The bus runs from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Sunday through Wednesday. To make the ride short, it first goes to a few apartment complexes then downtown, then a few more apartment complexes and then downtown, and so on, until it has served each apartment complex and then the route starts over. It has eight stops, including but not limited to Copper Beech, North Campus Crossing, The Landing and Tar River Estates. The downtown stop is located beside Sup Dogs. Rides are not limited to students and are open to the public. A one-way trip is \$2 and a round trip is \$3, and MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Though there is currently only one bus operating for DD Express, Rupp sees expansion in the future. "We're heading back to the city council in April and we're proposing to them to let us run any night of the week and have up to five buses," said Rupp. The current bus seats 32 people and "could hold 50 to 55 standees," according to Rupp. "We had the exterior redone and repainted and the interior as well. We spent about \$8,000 making sure it was mechanically sound."

Students may find themselves riding the bus more than just at night in the future. According to Rupp,

"Apartment complexes are very dissatisfied with the transit they're getting through ECU. The cost of it is outrageous -- over \$100,000 a year." Rupp said that he has been in contact with said apartment complexes to discuss the idea of using his services in the daytime to transport students to and from campus. "We're talking about them possibly using a fare bus service, which we are, to do their day time and night time bus." Rupp hopes to take hold of this opportunity in the future, and therefore plans on getting at least two to three more buses over the next couple of months. However, the deal is not yet set in stone.

Rupp said that he never saw himself creating a bus service in past years, but he did say, "I've always been the entrepreneur type. I was always working for myself." Rupp does not drive the bus himself, but does all of the managing. In addition to this, he has a full-time career as an account executive and marketing consultant.

"I just came across a demand and an opportunity," said Rupp. "I laid it out financially and it made sense."

For more information on the service and the bus routes, visit www.DDExpressBus.com.

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



DOUG MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU students Hannah Boswood and Angel Edwards kick back at the pool to relax with some towels, books and the sun before Spring Break begins this Friday.

Students reveal their different plans for the upcoming vacation

Madonna Messana
STAFF WRITER

With recent days filled with sunshine and warm weather, students are becoming more impatient as they await the arrival of spring break. While some students will be spending their week-long break in exotic destinations, others will be working or just enjoying the time off from class.

Michelle Monzo, a sophomore apparel merchandising major, plans on taking a Royal Caribbean cruise to the Bahamas sponsored by Carolina Nightlife during spring break with several of her friends. "Students from all of the Carolina schools will be on this cruise," said Monzo. "So it will be really exciting to meet people from the Caro-

lina area and also people from ECU that I haven't met yet."

The Carolina Nightlife cruise will include typical cruise amenities including pools, dance clubs, bars, lounges, shows and more. The cruise also includes a day pass to Senor Frogs in Nassau, Bahamas.

Last year for spring break, Monzo took a trip to Nassau, Bahamas, with her mother and a friend from ECU. "We went there because it was warm weather, a really nice resort and a nice getaway over break," said Monzo.

Monzo explained that the trip was enjoyable because they were able to lie on the beach, meet new people, visit attractions such as Atlantis and go shopping in the Straw Market. "I would recommend students take a trip like I did (last year)," said Monzo. "We were able to do what we wanted, but we still felt safe being on the island knowing

we had someone to look out for us."

Harrison Dandrea, a sophomore criminal justice major, also plans to take a cruise to the Bahamas. Dandrea and his friends are planning on going on a five-day cruise hosted by Carnival Cruise. "I have always wanted to go (to the Bahamas), and it is going to be warm," said Dandrea.

Dandrea is from North Carolina's coast and is excited to be going away from home and spending his time on a beach that will be warmer than the local beaches.

Both of these students' spring break plans are estimated to cost around \$450.

Although these exotic spring break destinations sound exciting, several students will not spend their break catching rays on the beach.

Some students plan to work during the break in

order to have extra cash to spend, especially those who are able to pick up hours at their jobs back home — that way they will be able to visit family and friends and still make a couple extra bucks.

"I'm staying in Greenville to work over spring break, not because I want to, but because money is really tight right now," said Stephanie Whedbee, a junior art major. "It's not my first option, but staying to save money and to catch up on my mound of work for school just seemed like a more reasonable option. I will be dreaming of a white sandy beach while working my butt off, though."

Other students have plans to just go home and relax with friends from their hometown while they enjoy a week away from the frustration of classes. "I plan to go home to Mooresville to see my parents and sister," said Taylor Rath-

bun, an elementary education major. "Hopefully it will be warm enough to play on the lake and tan on my dock with my friends from home."

Natalie Klavins, a freshman exercise physiology major, also plans to return home for break. "For spring break, I plan on going home and spending time with friends and family."

Although it doesn't seem very exciting to go home for break, Klavins is very eager to head home and relax. "It will be nice not to worry about school work and tests and for once I can just do my own thing."

Regardless of spring break destinations, all students can delight in the fact that spring break means there is only a little over a month left of classes until summer begins!

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DAN WILLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Professor Ralph Scott, assistant head of Special Collections, looks through General Frank Armstrong's scrapbook from World War II.

Historical offbeat blogging

Special Collections blog reflects fun and interesting historical facts and photos

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

For those who are interested in learning a little bit about local history, Joyner Library's Special Collections Staff Pick blog is a quick and easy way to do so. Every Friday, a staff member posts an interesting piece from one of the library's special collections, usually a photo with a write up to accompany it. A recent post displays a picture taken in 1958 of a man shoveling snow off of the marquee from the State Theatre that used to be on West Fifth Street.

"I think people always pick offbeat things that you don't think of," said Ralph Scott, assistant head of Special Collections for Public Services. For Valentine's Day, a picture of a 19th century Valentine's Day card was posted. Scott explained that the staff tries to pick posts that roughly fit the theme of the holidays or a certain topic. "For election we could have people back in the 1950s looking at the election board," Scott's favorite post that he did was an X-ray of author Merrill Moore's skull, who believed that this was "the best representation of himself," according

to Scott.

"The Special Collections department, a number of years ago, felt that the library staff didn't know very much about what Special Collections has in terms of holdings we have, the variety of material," said Maury York, assistant director for Special Collections. Therefore, York came up with the idea to start sending weekly images from Special Collections to the library staff with small descriptions.

"It became pretty popular," said York. "It was suggested that we start sending these announcements through campus, which we started doing." Then, Joyner staff member Gretchen Gueguen suggested the idea of having a blog. According to York, "She suggested the concept of the blog as being a good way to manage that staff pick feature. It would be a good way to keep each week's postings in one nice package." This allowed viewers to easily look through past posts as well. So in June of 2006, the blog was born.

Though the blog is aimed at the university community, people all over the world are viewing the blog and commenting on it as well. "If you're searching on that particular topic in Google, this will come up," said Scott. "We get people from China or England who will see something about their ancestors that they would want information about." The comment option on the

blog doesn't only help viewers, but the Special Collections staff as well. "Sometimes we use it as a way to identify who people are in pictures," said Arthur Carlson, assistant university archivist. "People would comment that they recognize someone from the photos." This helps the staff to fill in the gaps in the historical history of pieces of their collections.

Carlson said that the staff looks at the blog as a "fun little Friday thing." The 11 staff members of Special Collections take turns posting on the blog every week. "Everybody gets to pick something that they found interesting," said Carlson. "Something new that came in, collections that have been sitting around for years, sorts of things that have been rediscovered." Staff members usually pick something related to university history or Greenville and Eastern North Carolina history, as well as missionaries, foreign travel and literature.

"The main idea is to help people throughout ECU learn more about the holdings in Special Collections," said York, "With the hope that they will come and actually do a search in Special Collections repository."

To view the blog, visit <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/staffpick>.

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

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Abrams named Player-of-the-Week

ECU senior Jamar Abrams has been named Conference USA Player-of-the-Week as voted upon by a media panel covering the 12 conference schools.

In earning the first weekly honor of his career, Abrams led the Pirates in scoring in both conference games last week, averaging 21.5 ppg in a pair of victories of UTEP and Rice. He scored a season-high 25 points in the Pirates' 83-76 win over UTEP on Wednesday. His 3-pointer at the end of the first half against UTEP gave the Pirates a two-point lead at halftime that they never relinquished.

Abrams made a season-high five 3-pointers in both games and shot a combined 10-of-16 (.625) from behind the arc and 14-of-21 (.667) from the floor. He also averaged five rebounds per game in 32 minutes.

Men's basketball to be televised on FSN

FSN officials confirmed Monday the Conference USA men's basketball game between ECU and Memphis on Wednesday, March 2, will be televised on Fox Sports Carolinas as well as Fox Sports South and Fox Sports Tennessee. Game time remains slated for 7 p.m. inside Williams Arena at Mingos Coliseum.

Wednesday night's game will be the final home game for ECU seniors Jamar Abrams, Jontae Sherrod, Chad Wynn and Brock Young. The Pirates have won back-to-back games after enduring a three-game losing streak to improve to 7-7 in C-USA. ECU is currently in eighth place in the league and only one game out of sixth place. Memphis has lost two of its last three games and has fallen into a four-way tie for second place at 9-5, one game behind leader UAB.

C-USA recently reached a new multi-year agreement for national television rights with Fox Sports Media Group beginning with the 2011 football season through the 2015-16 athletic year. According to terms of the agreement, FSN will showcase a minimum of 20 regular-season football games per season, a minimum of 10 regular-season men's and five women's basketball games, and a variety of Olympic sports events.

Women's golf places fourth at Kinderlou

The ECU women's golf team fired the fourth-lowest score of the 2011 Kinderlou Forest Challenge Monday with a 10-over par 302 and moved into sole possession of fourth place after 36 holes. The Second-Annual Kinderlou Forest Challenge, hosted by Kennesaw State University, is being played at the par-73, 6,349-yard Kinderlou Forest Golf Club.

ECU (611) got solid play from senior Colleen Estes and freshman Sarah Almond, who fired rounds of one-over par, and have the Pirates five strokes out of second place, which is occupied by No. 36 Florida State (606) and No. 38 Chattanooga (606).

Participating in her first collegiate tournament, Almond shot a four-under par on the back nine and is tied for 17th place with a score of 153 (79-74). The Albemarle, N.C. native is tied for second in par-5 scoring (4.70) and has recorded five birdies in 36 holes to rank among the tournament leaders.

Freshman Fanny Wolte (76-78) and junior Amy Stetson (78-76) hold a share of 19th at 154 (eight-over par) and rank among the individual leaders in pars made (23). Rounding out the Pirates roster is senior Amber Littman in 70th place at 165 (83-82).

Individually there is a three-way tie for first with Charlotte Fuilleux (Ga. State), Casey Kennedy (Augusta State) and Laura Weam (Furman) sitting at even-par (146) after 36 holes. One stroke behind in fourth is Coastal Carolina's Brittany Henderson (147) and two strokes out of the lead is Chattanooga duo Emma de Groot and Yushira Burdham at 148.

SPORTS

ECU SWEEPS PIRATE CLASH

Carlos Olivera
STAFF WRITER

The Pirates softball team closed out the Pirate Clash undefeated, with a 6-0 victory over Campbell on Sunday afternoon. The win also extended the Pirates' winning streak to eight games.

The Pirates wasted no time getting on the scoreboard as they took an early 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Freshman Kristi Oshiro led off with a walk and went on to steal second base. Suzanne Riggs stepped in with one out and singled in Oshiro, giving the Pirates the 1-0 lead. That run was also Riggs' team-leading 15th RBI on the season.

"She's been very key for us. She's been injury-prone before and she's not exactly playing injury-free now, and as a coach I really appreciate that," said Head Coach Tracey Kee.

Toni Paisley had another great pitching performance going the distance. Paisley recorded her seventh solo shut-out of the season and picked up her tenth win. She gave up two singles on the afternoon. Paisley also had eight strikeouts, none bigger than Campbell's Taylor McGee to lead off the second inning.

McGee struck out, giving Paisley her 1,000th career strikeout, making her the first person in ECU and Conference USA history to reach that mark.

"It was a good victory. I'm excited and glad it's over with. Now I don't have to think about it anymore," said Paisley.

Oshiro once again got a Pirate rally started with another walk in the bottom of the third. After a Rebecca Lee infield single, and Riggs' walk, freshman Jordan Lewis stepped to the plate and singled in Oshiro, giving the Pirates a 2-0 lead. Sissy Jimenez then grounded out, scoring Lee from third and



Pitcher Toni Paisley begins her windup against Campbell. Paisley reached 1,000 career strikeouts against the Camels.

giving the Pirates a three-run lead. Campbell got out of the inning without any further damage being done.

Lee started another rally on a leadoff walk in the bottom

of the fifth. After Lee walked, Riggs hit a hard grounder that got through the second baseman. The error allowed Lee to advance to third and Riggs to second.

The Pirates would go on to score two more runs on groundouts from Lewis and Jimenez, giving the Pirates a

CLASH page A9

LADY PIRATES EDGE OUT THE HERD ON SENIOR DAY



Sophomore guard Celeste Stewart works the perimeter during the Pirates win over the Herd on Sunday.

Chase Kroll
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Pirates took care of business on senior night this Sunday when they defeated the Marshall Thundering Herd by a score of 48-44 in their second nationally televised game.

Seniors Kim Gay, Allison Spivey and Kelly Smith were honored before the game, and ECU's victory pushed the Pirates to 14-14 (8-7) with just one game remaining in the regular season. The loss for the Thundering Herd puts their record at 8-20 (4-11).

Marshall scored the first two points of the second half to extend their 8-0 run that began during the first half. But ECU rallied to take the lead, capped off with a layup by Jean Best to make the score 23-22. The lead exchanged hands again as Alaya Mitchell hit a jumper to give Marshall a one-point lead. The lead change was one of seven total lead changes in the game.

The Pirates first free throws of the night came with 15:49 remaining in the second half as Spivey made both attempts. With that, ECU controlled the lead for the rest of the game. When Veronica Ruiz made a shot to pull Marshall within one point of the lead, Best took the game into her hands, scoring seven of the Pirates next nine points as ECU went on a 9-2 run.

"You don't win them pretty all the time. Obviously, our offensive production was poor," said Head Coach Heather Macy. "But in the second half, I think we did a much better job being aggressive offensively and getting to the free throw line."

The largest lead of the game came when Spivey made a 3-point basket off of an assist from Crystal Wilson to give the Pirates a 10-point lead. Marshall was able to pull within three points before Wilson made a free throw with just four seconds remaining to seal the victory for ECU, 48-44.

The Pirates finished the game shooting 33.3 percent (17-51)



Junior center Jean Best begins to shoot a free throw during ECU's contest against Marshall on Senior Day.

EDGE OUT page A9

WRIGHT BAFFLES CAVALIER HITTERS

Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The ECU baseball team returned to action this weekend as the Pirates traveled to Charlottesville, Va., to face off against 10th-ranked Virginia in a three-game weekend set. The Pirates were unable to solve UVA dropping two of the three games to the 10th-ranked Cavaliers.

While not getting off to the best start in the series, ECU was able to rebound and snatch away the series finale using a masterful pitching display by junior Mike Wright and timely hitting by Mike Ussery.

With the score at zero entering the second inning, the Pirates knew that they had to get on top quickly or lose an opportunity to frustrate UVA. Chase McDonald led off the second doing what a power hitter rarely does and worked a leadoff walk from Cavs pitcher Cody Winiarski. After McDonald's walk, Pirate manager Billy Godwin decided to play some small ball even with his big batter Zach Wright coming to the plate.

Wright laid down a perfect bunt, allowing McDonald to move to third with no issue. Following the sac-bunt, Ben Fultz, who was making his first start in left field, singled to right field setting up a first and third situation for Philip Clark. Clark was given the light to swing instead of the option to move Fultz into scoring position, and he didn't disappoint. Clark hit a slow roller in the infield and was able to beat the throw, loading the bases for Ussery. Ussery smashed the ball to center field, going over the center fielder's head allowing all three runners to score and giving the Pirates the quick lead they wanted. After Trent Whitehead reached on another walk, Corey Thompson singled home Ussery, making it 4-0.

On the mound, Wright absolutely dominated and baffled the Cavaliers for seven innings. Wright took a no-hitter into the sixth inning where he finally

HITTERS page A9

SHERROD HITS BUZZER-BEATER AT RICE

Jordan Anders
STAFF WRITER

The ECU men's basketball team walked into Tudor Fieldhouse in Houston on Saturday night having lost three straight road games.

After the performance they put on, they probably wish they could play every road game there.

The Pirates dropped in a season-high 14 3-pointers, including Jontae Sherrod's game-winner with 2.3 seconds remaining, and defeated the Rice Owls, 71-68.

The game was a back-and-forth affair, with ECU threatening to put it away several times in the second half, only to see Rice go on a run to close the gap. The Pirates led 68-65 late when Rice's Lucas Kuipers hit a 3-pointer to tie the game at 68 with 34 seconds remaining.

But that left the Pirates plenty of time to draw up a final play to win. On the ensuing ECU possession, point guard Brock Young drove to the basket and fired a pass back out to Sherrod, who calmly drained his fifth 3-pointer of the night to put the Pirates ahead for good.

"Brock made a great read," Pirate head coach Jeff Lebo said after the game. "They gave Jontae a little bit of a seam there, and he raised up and knocked it in with confidence like a senior is supposed to."

The shot simply reiterated the theme on the night, as the Pirates constantly berated the Rice defense from behind the

SHERROD page A9

SAME FACES, DIFFERENT PLACES

Breaking down the 2011
NBA trade deadline

OPINION



Alex Serkes
STAFF WRITER

In easily one of the most exciting and star-filled National Basketball Association trade deadlines of all time, fans sat and watched as several big-time names and key components of some teams were dealt away as the NBA's Feb. 24 deadline reached a conclusion.

Of course, it's no surprise that former Nugget and now current Knick Carmelo Anthony, as well as former Jazz, now current Net Deron Williams would highlight this year's trade talks. The two blockbuster trades that took the NBA by storm in a matter of seconds will serve as an interesting chronicle for the upcoming second half of the season. Along with Carmelo, the Knicks received Chauncey Billups, Renaldo Blackman, Anthony Carter and Shelden Williams from Denver. Denver received a ton of role players

and then some, acquiring Wilson Chandler, Raymond Felton, Danilo Gallinari, Kostas Koufos, Timofey Mozgov, \$3 million in cash, the Knicks 2014 first round pick and 2012 and 2013 second-round picks. The Timberwolves were also silently included in the deal, acquiring Eddy Curry, Anthony Randolph, the Nuggets 2015 second-round pick and \$3 million in cash.

The Williams blockbuster deal was a little more clean, as the Nets acquired him by giving up the third overall pick in the 2010 draft, Derrick Favors, Devin Harris, the Nets 2011 first round pick, their 2012 first round pick and cash considerations.

In terms of analyzing these two blockbuster deals, many critics have much different skepticism. I, for one, think that both deals are quite suspect in their nature. The Knicks gave up a ton of young talent and key role players to acquire another superstar who has yet to win a title in his previous city, just as the case was with Amare Stoudemire. As well as having given up a bevy of picks and young talent in Raymond Felton and Danilo Gallinari for other aging stars such as Chauncey Billups, it will be interesting to see how the Knicks do down the road.

The Williams trade I thought was also a complete failure for the Nets. So much young talent given up (Favors and Harris) and

potential lottery picks for an all-star caliber player who will most likely not resign with the Nets in 2012, as he has openly stated.

Yes the two blockbuster trades that shook the NBA will continue to be talked about well into the summer, however other key transactions went down amongst some teams that deserve some extreme recognition.

The Houston Rockets were very active Thursday morning, as they shipped Shane Battier and Ish Smith to the Grizzlies for the 2009 second overall pick Hasheem Thabeet and a future first-round pick. They also dished out Aaron Brooks to the Suns for Goran Dragic and a future first-round pick. Other key trades included Gerald Wallace of the Bobcats being dealt to the Trail Blazers, Boston's Kendrick Perkins to the Thunder, the Clippers Barron Davis to the Cavaliers for Mo Williams and Jamarion Moon, and Mike Bibby and company shipped out to D.C. for Kirk Hinrich and other prospects.

As the season goes on and until its conclusion, these trade moves will be seriously monitored by analysts, critics or what have you as we see how these teams pan out in the near future.

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HITTERS continued from A8



Chase McDonald connects on a pitch against YSU earlier this season. The Pirates secured a victory at Virginia last weekend.

allowed not only a hit but also a run.

Wright on the day allowed just two runs on five hits while striking out four. UVA was able to get on the board in the sixth and seventh innings, tallying a run in both of those innings. Scott Proscia drove in Chris Taylor, who broke up the no-hitter earlier in the inning for the first UVA run of the game. In the seventh, John Barr scored on a fielder's choice RBI from pinch-hitter Ryan Levine. UVA scored their final run of the game in the eighth when Taylor and Keith Werman put together back-to-back singles. Taylor scored on a strike'em out, throw'em out double play.

On Saturday afternoon it was another close contest between these two clubs as the Cavaliers took the game 4-3.

Tyler Wilson dominated the Pirates, firing a 10-strikeout performance, allowing just two earned runs on seven hits in 6.1 innings. Behind 2-1 entering the bottom of the sixth

inning, UVA scored three runs to take a 4-2 lead. After setting down the first batter of the inning, Pirate pitcher Zach Woods allowed Danny Hultzen to single to center and move to second after his first stolen base of the season. John Hicks would then reach on a throwing error by Jack Reinheimer, putting runners at first and third. Hultzen would score on a ground out by John Barr.

Kevin Brandt would then enter for Woods and would immediately give up a pinch-hit double to Jared King, scoring Hicks. Brandt walked Kenny Swab following that double and then fired a wild pitch that put runners on the corners.

Hicks would score after Swab was able to avoid a rundown. On Friday, the Pirates were blasted from the opening moments, falling 10-1 to the Cavaliers.

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CLASH continued from A8

5-0 lead.

With the undefeated weekend, the Pirates have continued their dominance at home while running their home record to 10-1. The Pirates opened the Pirate Clash with a narrow victory over Towson on Friday afternoon.

After four lead changes, the Pirates took the lead for good in the bottom of the sixth, as Lewis doubled to drive in two runs, giving the Pirates the 6-5 lead. Lewis also added her first career home run. Also playing well was Riggs, who hit her second career home run in as many games.

"Jordan had a breakout weekend for us," said Kee. "When people work around Riggs, Lewis really

steps in and drives in the runs."

The double header on Saturday was easier for the Pirates, as both games ended early with big leads. In the first game, the Pirates took on Fairfield and ran away with a 9-0 win. Lee really stepped up with three runs batted in.

Jimenez added two hits and drove in two runs. Junior Faith Sutton pitched all five innings, giving up just three hits and recording her second victory of the season.

In the nightcap, the Pirates got another strong pitching performance, this one from Paisley. Paisley pitched all six innings, giving up just one hit. She also struck out 11 batters as she recorded her ninth

win on the season. The Pirates also had a big day from the plate as they totaled 13 hits.

Riggs had another stellar game as she went 3-4 and drove in two more runs. Also having a big day was another freshman, Jill Jelnick. Jelnick had two hits, scored twice and drove in two more en route to the 8-0 ECU win.

The Pirates are now off until spring break, as they head to Tempe, Ariz., to compete in the Wilson/DeMarini Invitational at Arizona State University. The first game is scheduled for March 4 against New Mexico State.

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SHERROD continued from A8

arc, making 14 of 27 to post an astronomical 51.9 percent.

Jamar Abrams led ECU in scoring with 18 points, followed by Sherrod who posted 17. Erin Straughn added 11 for the Pirates, who improved to 15-13 overall and 7-7 in Conference USA play.

Abrams, coming off a 25-point performance against UTEP, got off to a hot start by scoring six of ECU's first nine points. Forward Darrius Morrow picked up two fouls

in the first three minutes of the game and was forced to sit out most of the first half.

The Pirates made up for his absence inside by dropping eight 3-pointers on Rice and taking a 43-33 lead into halftime.

But ECU came out and missed their first five shots of the second half and allowed the Owls to come rushing back with a 12-2 run that tied it at 45. Tamir Jackson had 18 points to lead the Owls, who dropped

to 12-16 overall and 4-10 in conference play. Rice forward Arsalan Kazemi added a double-double, with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Only two regular-season games remain for the Pirates. They play their final home game of the season on Wednesday night against Memphis von Senior Night. Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

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EDGE OUT continued from A8

from the field while Marshall shot 30.8 percent (16-52). Best and Gay led ECU with 11 points each, followed by 10 points from Spivey. Best added 12 rebounds to record a double-double for the game. Mitchell led the Thundering Herd with 13 points, and Lateidra Elliott added 12.

Rarely do you see a team score 48 points and pick up a victory, which is a testament to the Pirates' defense.

"We defended because we had to defend," said Macy. Close, gritty games are often decided by technically sound teams that can get the little things done.

"We always huddle up and we tell each other to stop turning the ball over, to make good decisions and that's what it comes down to," said Gay.

In the first half of play, seniors Gay, Spivey and Smith accounted for 12 of the Pirates' 19 points as the Thundering Herd were able to take a 19-20 advantage going into halftime. To start the game, ECU stormed out to an 11-4 lead, forcing a timeout from the visiting team. Marshall countered

with a run of their own, taking a 12-11 lead thanks to Mitchell and Elliot, who scored seven and five points respectively during the run.

With the game tied at 14 and 10:41 remaining, the Pirates scored the next five points as Wilson hit a 3-pointer and Best was able to convert a layup. The score would stay at 19-14 until there were only about three minutes remaining, but then Marshall started to get hot. Tynikki Crook was able to convert a jumper to break the scoring drought for Marshall, and the Thundering Herd scored the game's final six points to take the 19-20 lead.

In what was a pretty sloppy performance by each team throughout the game, ECU recorded 19 turnovers, and Marshall had 14. The Pirates scored 12 points off of those turnovers, compared to just six from the Thundering Herd.

The Lady Pirates return to the court on Thursday for their final regular season game at UAB.

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