

INSIDE

OPINION: ECU should be charged with animal cruelty because they aren't taking care of the hamsters that make the Internet work. **A3**

LIFESTYLES: There's now an app for Greenville! Turn to Lifestyles to learn about GreenvilleGo, a new app made just for Greenville residents! **A5**

SPORTS: The ECU baseball team had a strong weekend on the diamond against Rutgers. Turn to sports to see which Pirate pitcher shutdown the Scarlet Knights to complete the series sweep. **A7**

BRIEFS

Shooting suspect wanted after four year old injured

Staff Report

According to WITN, Greenville Police are looking for 21-year-old Reggie Tyson for a shooting that injured a four year old.

Police say that Tyson lives at Woodland Apartments, where the shooting took place. According to police, the shooting took place after an argument between Tyson and Montressa Wilkins.

The police have warrants to charge Tyson with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling and discharging a firearm in the city limits.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact Greenville PD at 252-329-EYES(3937) or Pitt/Greenville Crimestoppers at 252-758-7777.

Richardson double murder testimony resumed Monday

Staff Reports

The trial of James Richardson resumed Monday morning in the Pitt County Courthouse. The prosecution continued questioning witnesses from its list.

James Peterson, who was called to the stand, told jurors he loaned his white BMW to Richardson.

Darren Kennedy testified that he saw shots fired from a passing BMW on Fifth Street that night.

Sharon Tyndall, who works at The Other Place, said she saw the altercation with Richardson, reported WITN.

Richardson is charged with the 2009 murders of Andrew Kirby and Landon Blackley, and if convicted, he could receive the death penalty.

Arrington in court on death by motor vehicle charges

Staff Report

ECU student Kamil Arrington was scheduled to appear in court on Monday for charges of death by motor vehicle that were brought against her.

The charges are for the 2010 deaths of Briana Gather and Victoria Carter.

The women died after Arrington fell asleep at the wheel and ran into a tree.

All four women in the car were pledges in the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, according to WITN.

Greenville man charged with kidnapping girlfriend

Staff Reports

Greenville Police have arrested and charged an 18-year-old after he kidnapped his girlfriend.

According to WITN, the kidnapping took place early Saturday morning at the University Suites apartment complex.

According to a caller, the suspect Sherkeil Smith of Ayden kicked in the front door, grabbed his girlfriend by the arm and forced her into his vehicle.

Police conducted a high-risk vehicle stop after spotting Smith's vehicle. Smith is currently in jail under a \$250,000 secure bond.

WEB POLL

Do you agree with Obama's decision to not back the ban on gay marriage?

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



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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Senate passes legislation to ban bath salts

Jamie Harper
STAFF WRITER

The North Carolina Senate has passed a bill to ban bath salts that contain the synthetic drug methylenedioxypyrovalerone, or MDPV, which when abused can result in a cocaine-like high.

The N.C. General Assembly Senate Bill 77 is being reviewed by the House. Approval by the House of Senate Bill 77 would add MDPV to the list of Schedule I controlled substances. Schedule I substances are currently illegal to possess, manufacture, sell and/or deliver under state law. The ban would be scheduled to begin in June after the governor signs it into law, pending final legislative approval.

"At a time when drug use in America is increasing, the marketing and sale of these poisons as 'bath salts' is both unacceptable and dangerous," said White House Drug Policy Director R. Gil Kerlikowske in a statement released earlier this month, according to WRAL.

The bath salts, which can be found in convenience stores, tobacco stores and online nationwide, contain a chemical substance called MDPV. Commonly known as a variety of brand names such as "White Horse," "Zoom 2," "Aura," "Serenity," "Cloud 9" and "Ivory Wave," the bath salts are being snorted, smoked or injected to achieve a cocaine or meth-like high. Side effects include severe paranoia, delusions, psychosis, insomnia, memory-loss and depression.

Megan Buchauer, an exercise and sports science graduate student, said she had never heard of people using bath salts as a drug. "If they are abusing it, then N.C. should ban it," said Buchauer.

CBS News Medical Correspondent Dr. Jennifer Ashton said in a CBS news report, "It's a central nervous system stimulant, so it will increase your blood pressure, increase your heart rate, can cause anything from chest pain, heart attack, stroke."

Dr. Thomas Penders, who is board certified in psychiatry and neurology, explained the side effects he has observed in patients who have abused the substance.

"The worst cases that we have seen have developed severe delusions and hallucinations that are very realistic," said Pender.

Penders explained that a common story from patients involves the belief that someone is invading their home or outside of their home imposing danger to them. Because of this belief, people have attacked others.

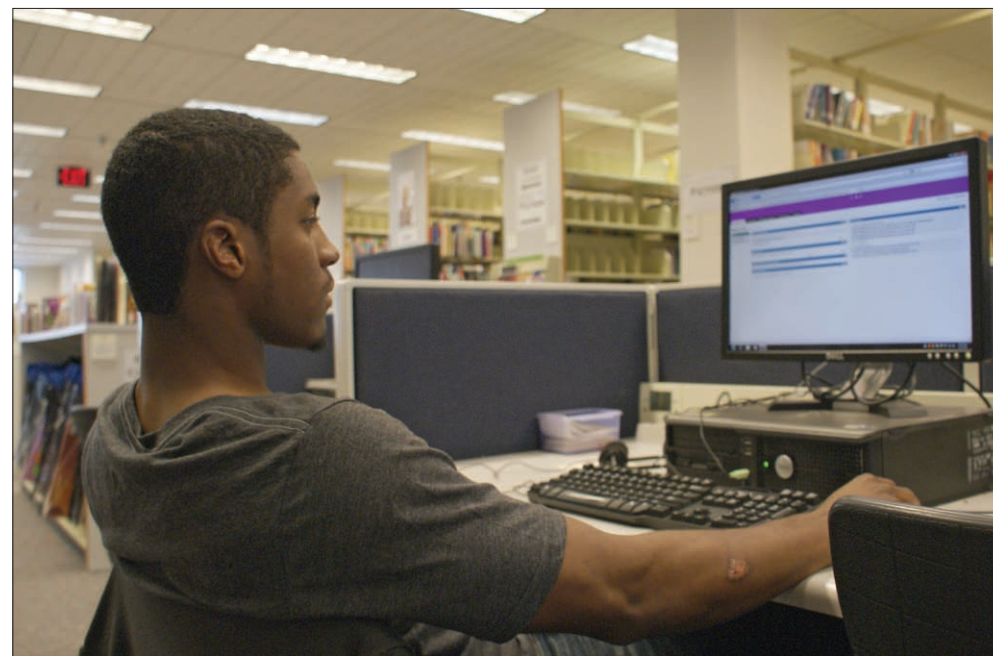
In early March, a Willow Springs mother was arrested after having severe hallucinations and her toddler tested positive for cocaine. According to WRAL, the arrest warrants stated that the mother was hallucinating from taking MDPV, and when she was arrested, she "thought snipers had



Kayleigh Edwards, junior, shopping for bath salts.

CASEY BOONE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

> BATH SALTS page A3



TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Sophomore finance major Travis Brown checks his blackboard page at Joyner Library.

Early College High School

Jamitress Bowden
STAFF WRITER

By reaching out to the youth of Lenoir and Pitt counties, ECU has won awards and provided free college to students who might not have otherwise attended.

Recently, the North Carolina Distance Learning Association awarded ECU's Early College High School first place in the state for the Best Practices in Distance Learning Programming award. In order to win the award, someone has to send in a recommendation in the form of an application. The award was granted mostly because they integrate technology and learning with the Second Life program. The award was a surprise to the staff at ECHS.

Beginning with the spring 2009 semester, ECU had junior and senior students from Pitt County public high schools enrolled and working on credit toward their bachelor's degrees. Many of the students who are selected by their principals and guidance counselors have the opportunity to enter into a four-year institution with at least 18 credit hours and as many as 24

credit hours from the program.

The application process for the ECHS students is slightly different from the process for all other students. Once the school principal and guidance counselor choose the students for the program, the students are required to complete an application and send it in to Whichard Building. Mostly all recommended students get accepted into the program.

With all expenses paid, the students of ECU's ECHS get a laptop and books for their choice between eight courses including ANTH 1000, ENGL 1100, ENGL 1200, SOCI 1010, PSYC 2201, ITEC 2000, BITE 4390 and BITE 4700. The books and laptop have to be returned after each school year to be redistributed for the next school year.

Pitt County students can choose the maximum of two classes from all that are offered; however, the students from Lenoir County can only take BITE 4700 because they just started in the spring 2011 semester. After the first semester, Lenoir County students will be able to pick and choose just as the Pitt County students.

John Pickard, teaching instructor in the Department of Technology Systems, has taught ITEC 2000 for three semesters and developed the class for the ECHS program in order to change how the program is taught in this particular environment. He says that the main challenge of teaching the program in Second Life is helping the students with their problems without seeing their screens and the students not able to see his screen. "It takes a lot of patience," he said.

When asked about his interaction with the problem, he said, "The unique aspect of this program is that the virtual environment provides three-dimensional interaction between the teacher and the students versus the two-dimensional interaction from traditional chat environments."

With the laptops that are provided for the students through the program, they are required to sign into their Second Life accounts and complete their assigned work. When the students sign in, they have access to the virtual edition

> ECHS page A3

Obama will not defend DOMA

Cameron Gupton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

President Obama announced that his administration would no longer defend a federal law banning same-sex marriage in court.

The law Obama is referring to is the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act also known as DOMA. The act states that federal entities can only recognize marriage between one man and one woman and was signed by former president Bill Clinton.

Obama's decision comes as a victory for gay rights activists, coming only two months after the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy.

Katy Ross, the president of the GLBT student union feels Obama's decision is good for the gay community.

"For this to even come up is completely religious," said Ross. "I support those that want to get married."

According to Ross, representatives for Equality NC have been visiting LGBT meetings and speaking on the issue.

"Ian Palmquist, executive director of the group, is coming to one of our meetings April 6. Equality NC is really on top of this."

For the last 15 years, the law has prevented same-sex couples from receiving social security, family and medical leave, and tax benefits.

"After careful consideration, including a review of my recommendation, the president has concluded that given a number of factors, including a documented history of discrimination, classifications based on sexual orientation should be subjected to a more heightened standard of scrutiny," wrote U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder in a letter to Congress.

Though the decision symbolizes a significant shift in the Obama Administration's position, Holder says that the Justice Department will implement the

law until Congress or the Supreme Court makes the final decision.

Obama still does not support same-sex marriages but he has said recently that his position on the matter is "evolving."

Over the last two years, the Justice Department has defended DOMA by citing legal precedents. The Justice Department released a statement stating, "Laws singling out people based on sexual orientation ... are constitutional if there is a rational basis for their enactment."

Anthony D. Romero, executive director at the American Civil Liberties Union, feels that the decision is going to have positive effects on gay rights.

"This is a great step by the Obama Administration and a tipping point for the gay rights movement that will have ripple effects in contexts beyond the Defense of Marriage Act," said Romero.

However, many politicians do not agree with Obama's decision to not back DOMA.

Obama's decision has been criticized by many Republican leaders and was even called a "boneheaded political move," by Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee.

A spokesman for the Speaker of the House Representative John Boehner says the president will have to explain why he thinks now is an appropriate time to stir up a controversial issue that sharply divides the nation.

Some students on campus agree with Republican leaders. Matt Overby, a political science major and a member of the Campus Republicans, says he will support DOMA.

"I think politically as a conservative I should defend DOMA," Overby said. "Once they make a then a state-by-state decision, then gay marriage should be a state-by-state decision."

Freshman athletic training

> DOMA page A3

Calendar Events

Mar. 22- Mar. 27

Tuesday, March 22

E-Book/E-Reader Expo

10 to 12 a.m. at Mendenhall Great Rooms.

Students, faculty and staff can come meet with book store staff, e-book publishers and more to see the future of e-books on college campuses as well as how to better use e-books. The event will be from 2 to 4 p.m. on west campus at the Health Sciences Complex (College of Nursing lobby).

ECU Master Plan Meetings Open Forum

4 to 5:30 p.m. at Croatan Green Room.

Over the last few months, Smith Group and JJR, our master plan consultants, have presented to the university community a series of alternative master plan footprint scenarios. During this time, they have gathered significant feedback and ideas related to the draft options using a series of formal meetings, open forums and an electronic survey. There will be another open forum from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Greenville Convention Center room 1200.

2010 Rhem/Schwarzmann Prize for Recognition of Student Research

4 to 5 p.m. at Joyner Library room 2409.

Established by Ann Schwarzmann, the Rhem/Schwarzmann Prize annually recognizes outstanding research papers written by sophomores, juniors and seniors at ECU.

MTV presents Andrew Jenks

8 to 10 p.m. at Hendrix Theatre.

Free admission for ECU students, faculty and employees.

Wednesday, March 23

ECU Master Plan Meetings Open Forum

12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at West End Dining Hall.

Over the last few months, Smith Group and JJR, our master plan consultants, have presented to the university community a series of alternative master plan footprint scenarios. During this time, they have gathered significant feedback and ideas related to the draft options using a series of formal meetings, open forums and an electronic survey.

Percussion Players Concert

7:30 p.m. at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall.

Free and open to the public.

SAB presents "Love and Other Drugs"

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

Free admission with OneCard.

Thursday, March 24

Lecture: "Leading America to new heights with the STEMM fields"

12:30 to 1:45 p.m. at Science & Technology 144NW.

The speaker will be Major General (ret) John W. Maluda, United States Air Force. There will be an additional lecture from 4:30 to 5 p.m. in the Murphy Center.

Harlem Globetrotters

7 p.m. at Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum.

Tickets can be found at www.ecupirates.com.

(Thursday, March 24 Cont.)

SAB presents "Love and Other Drugs"

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

Free admission with OneCard.

Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series – Iebame Houston

7 p.m. at Wright Auditorium.

The Thomas Harriot Lecture in the Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series will feature Iebame Houston, an Elizabethan scholar and historian for the Roanoke Island Historical Association.

ECU School of Music, Guitar Ensemble

7:30 p.m. at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall.

Free and open to the public.

Friday, March 25

Women's Tennis vs. Charlotte

10 a.m.

Men's Tennis vs. Binghamton

3 p.m.

Baseball vs. Memphis

6 p.m.

SAB presents "Love and Other Drugs"

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

Free admission with OneCard.

BRIEFS CONT.

Victims identified in wreck, teen driver charged

Staff Reports

The victims of an early morning accident on East Fifth Street on Friday have now been identified.

22-year-old Taylor Weiss of Greenville died as a result of Omar Chahid's impaired driving. Chahid is a Pitt Community College student.

Police have also identified three other injured during the wreck as Genna Browning, Emmy Army and Nora Sugar, all of Greenville.

A spokeswoman for Pitt County schools told WITN that Chahid, Browning and Army are former students of J.H. Rose High School.

Saturday, March 26

19th Annual East Carolina Native American Pow-Wow (ECNOA)

12 to 6 p.m. at Minges Coliseum.

The event is free and open to the public.

Women's Tennis vs. UCF

10 a.m.

Softball vs. Tulsa

1 and 3 p.m.

Baseball vs. Memphis

3 p.m.

SAB presents "Love and Other Drugs"

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

Free admission with OneCard.

Sunday, March 27

Baseball vs. Memphis

12 p.m.

Softball vs. Tulsa

12 p.m.

East Carolina University
Tomorrow starts here.

Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences
Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series
presents
The Thomas Harriot Lecture
Ms. Iebame Houston
**"A Brief and True Report of
The Lost Colony Drama in the
New Found Land of Virginia"**

Ms. Houston is an Elizabethan Scholar and historian
for the Roanoke Island Historical Association.

Thursday, March 24, 7:00 p.m., Wright Auditorium

Complimentary tickets are available to ECU students, faculty, and staff and are \$10 for the general public. Tickets are available through the Central Ticket Office by calling 252-328-4788, 1-800-ECU-ARTS, or (voice/TTY) 252-328-4736. For more information, contact Dr. John Tucker at 252-328-1028 or tuckerjo@ecu.edu, or visit www.ecu.edu/voyages.

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

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BATH SALTS continued from A1

shot a hole in the baby."

Other dangerous and common effects of the drug include insomnia and memory loss.

"These people are unable to sleep normally and many of them have lost several nights of sleep. They seem to lack complete memory for the times that they took the drug. One of the things we see over and over again is that they really are not able to tell us that they took the drug; we hear it from somebody who was with them. They may remember they took the drug, but they don't remember when and where and how many times and things like that," said Penders.

Depression is also a common side effect of the drug and has been reported in many patients nationwide. Suicide attempts and suicides have occurred as a result of using the bath salts.

Although long-term effects of the drug are impossible to determine right now, medical professionals believe there is the potential for very dangerous long-term effects.

Reports indicate the drug is very addictive. Pender explained that patients who used the drug for a short period of time have described an intense desire for the drug. These users are not the "traditional" drug users; they have not used cocaine or other narcotics previously. Many patients have chosen this drug because it is legal.

"I think they should ban it if people are using it as a drug. Or they could ID people like they do with some OTC drugs," said Shayna Eisenberg, a senior communication major.

There have been cases involving patients who used cocaine in the past and they have described their cravings for the bath salts as stronger than when they used cocaine.

"We have run across a couple of patients who have used cocaine in the past and cocaine we consider to be highly addictive, particularly if it is smoked as crack. These are people who decided to stop because they are afraid they are going to get in trouble, so they move to this

substance, bath salts, because it's marketed on the Internet as synthetic cocaine. They describe that the cravings for the drug are much stronger than they experience with cocaine. So that's one of the disturbing long-term side effects, is that it seems to have a powerful addicting effect in a very short period of time," said Penders.

Penders explained the chemical composition of the bath salts is similar to ecstasy. Therefore, since permanent memory loss has been reported in repeat users of ecstasy, permanent memory loss is also a possibility for repeat users of bath salts.

Cases began appearing in the Greenville area in December, but although there have been fatalities nationwide, there have been no known fatalities due to the drug in our area.

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

DOMA continued from A1

major Meg Minori feels differently on the topic. She supports President Obama's decision to no longer support DOMA.

"I feel like you love who you love; you can't really help that," said Minori.

Minori said she feels that the government and other entities should not control who marries whom, regardless of sexual orien-

tion.

"As long as you believe that what you're doing is right, then it doesn't really matter what other people think."

Currently, 30 states have a ban on same-sex marriages. Only a few states including Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and the District of Columbia permit the marriages. Maryland

is currently considering a bill that will allow same-sex marriages.

After consideration of Obama's decision, Democrats began a campaign in mid-March that will completely repeal DOMA and allow same-sex couples to receive federal benefits.

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

ECHS continued from A1

of campus just like all other students. The only exception is there is a separate high school campus for them that all other students do not have access to, because these students are minors.

Annual fall visits to campus are provided for the students so that they can see the campus and get a feel of the other half of college life that they do not get to experience. When the students come to campus, there are activities of all kinds set up at the Student Recreation Center, like leadership activities. To get more chances to experience campus, the students receive announcements about events such

as Barefoot on the Mall.

The students also get a chance to speak with Virginia Hardy and Chancellor Ballard on occasion when they log on. This is another way that students can interact with the campus and the people involved. In addition, Director Sharon Collins also goes to the high schools and speaks with them. Collins said, "We have awesome faculty that have adapted to the program and have been really stellar with integrating the program into the curriculum."

With the recent budget cuts campus-wide, expanding the program to other counties in the eastern region of North Carolina

is taking longer than originally expected.

The courses under consideration right now for fall 2011 are statistics, biology and chemistry. The decision on whether to offer corresponding labs for biology and chemistry has not been made yet.

If the student decides to apply to another four-year school, their credits easily transfer. The program has a 100 percent graduation rate and the students who do not come to ECU usually continue at a school within North Carolina.

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.

Major props to the guy playing bagpipes on St. Patty's day, but aren't bagpipes Scottish?

ECU should be charged with animal cruelty because they aren't taking care of the hamsters that make the Internet work.

I'm going to answer each question of my dissertation defense with "do what, now?" It seems to work for the locals.

I really despise women who can't think for themselves. When he leaves you, I won't feel bad that you built your life around him.

That duck face and orange tan goes perfectly with your ugly personality, low morals and slutty attire.

The use of G.D in ONE song during "Putnam County" does not mean Theatre's spirit is dulled. If you came, you'd realize the show actually sends an inspirational message.

Things that don't go together: Peanut butter and an empty jelly jar.

We've GOT to get Tosh.O to film on our campus. I know the Pirates are crazy enough to get his attention!

Having a birthday in my group of friends is hazardous and painful. I am afraid of when I have a birthday; I may not be able to sit down for a week now.

Excuse me, Mr. Gangster: Can you swag a little faster? I'm just trying to park my car.

The library study room walls are paper-thin. Keep that in mind when you decide to take "have sex in the library" off your bucket list.

Why yes, due to a neurological problem, I DO need Adderall to pass my classes.

I always thought it would be cool to date a girl with fake breasts until I realized just how low her self-esteem is for doing it. The trade off is not worth it.

ECU's so called "budget cut" cut out the last 2 classes I needed to graduate. So, while they are building the man made beach and other useless stuff around campus this summer, I won't be graduating.

Do you really think just because you suck in your stomach in every picture people can't see the crease it forms where your ribs stick out? Going on a diet would suffice.

Why do all the ECU bus drivers feel the urge to blast the AC constantly regardless of how hot or cold it is outside?

Excuse my staring, it's just that this is the library and I can't concentrate with you riding your Razor scooter up and down the hall.

Sbarros employees: I really appreciate your work, but you really don't need to make half of my salad full of croutons

Why do you insist on going home every single weekend to see your boyfriend when he refuses to come here to visit you? He must not care as much as you.

I wish you would wake up and realize that I pretty much throw myself at you every time you come around so stop wasting your time on some high school chick!

Just because your girlfriend doesn't go here, doesn't mean you have the right to fulfill your "daily touching quota." Don't be surprised if I smack you next time!

More Pirate Rants on the website!

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

More parking woes

Everyone knows that parking on campus is a hassle. Whether it's hiding your car in a lot while you run around campus or you get slammed with a ticket at the meters for being a few minutes late, everyone has dealt with the stress of bringing his or her car even within a few feet of campus. Those with a few minutes to spare may use public parking and take a slightly longer walk in order to avoid fees and fines.

The City of Greenville, however, has decided to limit this option for public parking. Recently installed parking stations will cost 75 cents for the first hour and a quarter for every 20 minutes after that. This is marginally cheaper than the meters offered on campus, with the additional convenience of using credit or debit cards.

While this is somewhat better than the options for on-campus parking, it still makes life a little more difficult. Replacing one-hour free parking with paid parking adds an extra headache to those trying to save time. The close-to-campus parking was convenient for those of us who simply want to drop something off, run to the library or gym or grab a bite to eat. Now we need to watch our time while paying a fee.

If we're trying to utilize the buildings and services provided in our tuition, we should be able to have available free parking on campus. Since that was never an option, we have to drain some of our money into more parking fees.

Yes, we are in a tumultuous economic time, but if we're getting taxed on gas that's already over \$3.50 and rising, we should be able to keep as much of our money as we can. Though it's less than a dollar for an hour, the money will add up quickly.

The initial TEC report in the March 17 edition stated that this was to help improve the downtown district when, in fact, it will do the opposite. Anyone who has strolled down the streets of downtown in the daytime can tell you that business is already struggling. Now students, as well as citizens and visitors of the town, will be less likely to want to shop in local stores if they have to pay to visit.

The remaining free parking will become abysmal to navigate. The TEC office, located downtown, has already noticed an increase in cars flocking into the free lots. Parking for everyone, even those who have leased spaces, will be more difficult.

At ECU, we're lucky to have a free and extensive transit system. As compared to other UNC schools, our parking passes are relatively cheap. However, this doesn't mean that Greenville, a town where most of its revenue comes from the college, needs to nickel and dime us at every opportunity possible.



ILLUSTRATED BY CRYSTAL NEVILLE

POLL RESULTS

Will rising gas prices change how much you travel this summer?	Yes	57%
	No	26%
	Not Sure	17%

Helping the hidden homeless



Ryan Chandler
OPINION COLUMNIST

There are approximately 30,000 students attending ECU who all come from many different backgrounds. Some come from families of educated parents and siblings. Some are the first in their families to ever attend a university. Some come from wealthy families while some come from lives of poverty.

Whatever the case, everyone is equal when it comes to paying college bills, and unless you do, that degree can't be

attained. So to complete their educations, some students have to go through periods of trials and hardships to complete the dream of one day having that piece of paper that can open up a world of opportunity.

So many students complain about the smallest issues that surround the college life. Whether it's the workload, smokers, textbook cost, tuition – it can all be heard among the chatter of students around campus. All this seems so petty when you realize that someone at this institution is probably fighting through an issue much more difficult.

Many students and their families are being put in a predicament that can bring stress levels to unimaginable heights. With rising tuition, a rough economy and gas prices on a constant incline, there is

a steadily growing number in the population of financially stressed students. Many are wondering where their next meal will come from or where they will lay their head to sleep that night.

The bill has to be paid, so sacrifices must be made. Sometimes this means sleeping between friends' houses, the local shelter, libraries, even on the street. You may think that this can't be true, but it is very much real and alive amongst us all. The person sitting right there in your same classroom could be in this very situation and you would have no idea because they try their best to not let it be known, staying hidden in the shadows of our hallways.

In 2009, around 50,000 college students applying for financial aid checked a box that identified themselves as

homeless, according to Barbara Duffield, policy director of the Washington, D.C.-based National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. The amount of homeless students is higher in 2011, but an accurate statistic has not been presented yet because the data is still being collected.

Many colleges around the country have taken notice of this problem and have begun to implement programs to help the cause. This would be a great addition to our campus and could help ease the pain of those who work night and day paying their college debts before feeding their own stomachs.

UCLA is one of the many colleges that have created a program to assist in the effort of ending this crisis. The program, called the Economic

Crisis Response Team, tries to identify financially strapped students and help keep them enrolled and excelling in school. It also provides food and everyday necessities such as bathing and hygienic products. Students enrolled in the program are free to help themselves to a pantry of food, water and easy meals, making life just a little easier.

Programs such as these can mean the world to a person in financial struggle. I can only imagine how much of a difference this has made in the lives of those students. We should strive to make this an addition on ECU's campus and help those who need the most help in our community. I'm sure there would be noticeable smiles on many hidden faces.

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

Potted plants might be a better option



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

Here in the land of freedom, otherwise known as college, we take our independence seriously. Finished are the days of curfews, the constantly nagging parents in our ears and the berating from coaches, teachers and older siblings. Like it or not, we are adults, and we can and will fend for ourselves.

As our first year speeds on by at an insane pace, many of us start wanting to show our new independence more and more. Some of us discover the world of credit cards, not a very good route to take, but nonetheless we learn our lesson quickly after that plasma television statement comes back to haunt us in the mail. We may also want to take spontaneous and extra-extreme trips during our college years. Just hearing some of the stories my fellow classmates proudly recall about their spring break trips makes me both cringe and laugh uncontrollably. Just remember: nudity is not the answer.

After all of those measures are taken to assure ourselves and everyone around us that, yes, we can in fact do whatever we want, we still end up wanting something of our own, something that we can keep, that shows people that we are old and wise. Enter the horrible, selfish and destructive idea that you need to adopt an animal.

All over the board, people generally say and think that it is a good idea for college students to own an animal, especially a dog. What better way to learn more about responsibility while maybe filling a hole of loneliness left by your last boyfriend? Or maybe you just want to use little "Shelby" to walk around campus during the middle of the day for a leisurely stroll, maybe while

also trying to get a number or two from some girls? Plus, The Humane Society estimates that 3-4 million cats and dogs are euthanized in shelters every year, so why not do our part to help out? It seems like a harmless idea. Wrong.

When buying these animals, college students seem to rarely take the time to even consider time down the road, when maybe their life couldn't handle having this animal. Even though many of us say that we want to have high-paying, powerful jobs, which would require us to hardly ever be at home, what also slips from our minds when holding this puppy in our arms is that we aren't necessarily rolling in the dough and animals tend to like to be fed every now and then. According to CostHelper.com, dog food prices can range anywhere from \$250 to \$1,000 a year, depending on the dog breed and level of activity. This will add up quickly for college students.

We also tend to forget that annoying little fact that we like to have people over for parties during the weekend and maybe that could be a dangerous environment for a puppy or kitten. The worst sight is when a dog is spotted inside a frat house, just walking around trying to find a place to lay down without having beer poured on the top of its head.

A huge majority of college students end up adopting an animal that may be subject to living in an unsuitable environment. They do not understand how to raise an animal and are not in the right mind frame to actually own that animal for some time.

They buy this animal, they raise it improperly, they realize that they don't want it when they graduate, and the animal goes to either a shelter or "grandmom's" house, where it will inevitably stay. Some of us, yes, are ready and able to give an animal a great home and are responsible human beings. Others, unfortunately, would be better off starting with a potted cactus and seeing how things pan out.

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

STAFF INFORMATION

Katelyn Crouse, Editor in Chief

Andrea Robertson	Managing Editor
Katie Bates	Public Editor
Katie Hatfield	Production Manager
Michael Perry	Sports Editor
Jennifer Soares	News Editor
Caitlin Hale	Lifestyles Editor
Kelly Nurge	Opinion Editor
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Samantha Eads	Head Copy Editor

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Contact Info

Newsroom 252.328.9238 Fax 252.328.9143 Advertising 252.328.9245

The *Did You Know's* came from the book "The Book Of Useless Information" by Noel Botham & The Useless Information Society.

Did you know?

56 million people go to Major League Baseball games each year.

A baseball has exactly 108 stitches.

Baseball games between college teams have been played since the Civil War.

Soccer is played in more countries than any other sport.

A forfeited game in baseball is recorded as a 9-0 score. In football, it is recorded as a 1-0 score.

In the four professional major North American sports (baseball, basketball, football and hockey), only eight teams' nicknames do not end with "s." These teams are the Miami Heat, the Utah Jazz, the Orlando Magic, the Boston Red Sox, the Chicago White Sox, the Colorado Avalanche, the Tampa Bay Lightning and the Minnesota Wild.

A device invented as a primitive steam engine by the Greek engineer Hero, about the time of the birth of Christ, is used today as a rotating lawn sprinkler.

Construction workers' hard hats were first invented and used in the building of the Hoover Dam in 1933.

Thomas Edison, the inventor of the light bulb, was afraid of the dark.

A large, flawless emerald is worth more than a similarly large flawless diamond.

The company Kodak is the largest user of silver.

Bamboo (the world's tallest grass) can grow up to 90 centimeters in a day.

The Siberian larch accounts for more than 20 percent of all the world's trees.

Hot water is heavier than cold.

An iceberg contains more heat than a match.

A baby giraffe is about 6 feet tall at birth.

It may take longer than two days for a chick to break out of its shell.

It takes 42 days for an ostrich egg to hatch.

To be called a mammal, the female must feed her young on milk she has produced.

Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn't wear pants.

"Peter Pan" and "101 Dalmatians" are the only two classic Disney cartoon features in which both parents are present and don't die throughout the movie.

"The Lion King" is the top-grossing Disney movie of all time, with a domestic gross intake of \$312 million.

Walt Disney's autograph bears no resemblance to the famous Disney logo.

Donald Duck's middle name is Fauntleroy. His sister is named Dumbella.

Goofy actually started life as a "Dippy Dawg," a combination of both Goofy and Pluto.

Goofy has a wife, Mrs. Goofy, and one son, Goofy, Jr.

"The Black Cauldron" is the only PG-rated Disney animated feature.

Walt Disney died of lung cancer.

In "Fantasia," the sorcerer's name is Yensid – Disney spelled backward.

Greenville:

There's an app for that!



MCT / GREENVILLEGO.COM

The GreenvilleGo application lists local events, businesses and more in one easy place

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

"What's going on tonight?" is a common question asked among students on any given night. However, the answer can often be unknown. If students had one source where

they could discover all of the happenings of Greenville, then another night wouldn't slip by planless. At last, the new smartphone application and website GreenvilleGo does just that.

GreenvilleGo provides users with lists of events happening in Greenville, including sporting events, charity events, concerts and more. In addition, the app lists most of the restaurants, hotels, bars and coffee shops in Greenville, including addresses and phone numbers. Smartphone users can even call the restaurants and be navigated to their locations with a click of a button, and users also have the option of having these businesses listed in order of proximity to where they are at any given time.

"It's a central source of information of what's going on," said Britt Sholar, co-developer of GreenvilleGo. Sholar, along with co-developer Ashley Barfield, created the application, which launched about a month ago. "We had the idea and thought 'There's no way we can create an application,'" said Sholar. However, Sholar and Barfield, both ECU graduates, did just that.

"One night we were just

hanging out and Googled it to see if there was anything like this," said Sholar. "In a month we decided that we were going to do it." GreenvilleGo is run through a company called Town Wizard that does all of the technical work but does not have control over content. Up to 75 towns across the country now have similar applications, with 50 of these just having launched in the past two months. "It's growing really fast," said Sholar. He explained that "no one else can do Greenville," as he and Barfield have the rights for the town.

The application is free and is compatible with Androids, iPhones and any other Apple product, and it already has somewhere between 100 and 500 downloads. However, GreenvilleGo has a website for those who do not have said smartphones. What's more, users are encouraged to be participants of GreenvilleGo, with the option of uploading local photos and videos to the website, which can be viewed through the application and online. "That's our whole goal – for the community to be involved," said Sholar.

"We would love to have

feedback directly from users," said Sholar. "We would like to get a feel for what people are actually looking for, students especially, that they'll use on a daily basis." Furthermore, if anyone wants to have an event featured on GreenvilleGo, it is absolutely free. "We're never going to charge. It's always going to be free," said Sholar. "Even if we never make any money off of it, it's always going to be free."

"Most students have smartphones and it will be a good, easy source of information," said Sholar. "They're the ones who want to know what's going on." However, Sholar urged that GreenvilleGo is not just for students but for the community as well, along with Greenville visitors.

"When we were in college, there was no simple, easy way to know what was going on," said Sholar. "Now there is."

"Like" GreenvilleGo on Facebook for a chance to win prizes, which include an iPad, iPod Touch, iPod Nano, as well as various gift cards. Visit GreenvilleGo.com for more information.

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



DOUG MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A group of students gather together for a 3 versus 3 basketball game at the Student Recreation Center to practice for Ballin' for Autism.

Ballin' for Autism

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Bold Sports Talk will host a 3-on-3 basketball tournament at the Student Recreation Center this Saturday to raise money for the Autism Society of North Carolina.

"We wanted to do some kind of philanthropy event getting the community involved," said Jordan Smith, student and public relations assistant at Bold Sports Talk. "There are not many things that go on that are for autism."

Bold Sports Talk is WZMB 91.3's only sports talk show. Students Kevin Jones and Nabeel Amadih host the show on Mondays from 12 to 2 p.m. and Fridays from 12 to 1 p.m., which is known for having well-known athletes and sports writers on air.

"I reached out to the Autism Society of North Carolina, and we decided we wanted to do a 3-on-3 basketball tournament," said Smith. "Obviously we have a deep passion with sports, and we wanted to combine it with something that will be good for the community – all of Greenville, not just ECU."

Smith has been working hard to bring the event together. "It's been a huge project for me," he said. "I've gone around trying to get sponsors, getting teams and everything else." Furthermore, all event hosts are students.

The tournament is aiming to have 16 teams, each consisting of three to five players. A bracket will be set up, and each game will have two 10-minute halves. Winning teams will move on to the next round and losing teams will be eliminated.

The tournament is open to the community and there is no age requirement. "You can be 60 years old if you want to play," said Smith. "It's open to the public."

Though the tournament only has room for 16 teams, people are welcome to come watch the games and join in on the cause. "We're looking for a big participation, expecting a lot of people to show up. We're trying to make it a community-wide event of all ages, genders and races," said Smith. "Anybody that's around the area that wants to come in and help out can. We're not turning anybody down."

Participation in the tournament costs \$20 per team. "We're also taking monetary donations for anybody who is willing," said Smith, who estimates that the event will raise around \$420. All donations will go to the Autism Society of North Carolina, particularly the Greenville branch.

The Autism Society of North Carolina's website states that the organization "works to directly improve the lives of individuals and families affected by autism. We help real people facing real challenges. We are service driven, rather than

research driven." Furthermore, all of the money raised for the society stays within the state of North Carolina, "helping people who live and work in our local communities."

"We've gotten a really good response from businesses around the community, a better response than we expected," said Smith. Local businesses have donated prizes for the winning teams, but Smith assured that ultimately every team that participates will receive a prize, including gift cards and coupons. AMF has donated two lanes of free bowling, which may end up being the prize for the winning team.

"The whole purpose is for helping out the Autism Society of North Carolina," said Smith. "It's not about winning. It's for the autistic kids."

Teams can be added to the tournament on a first-come, first-serve basis up until either Wednesday, March 23, or Thursday, March 24, depending on how fast the tournament will fill up. However, once there are 16 teams, no more teams can be added. To add a team or make a donation, Jordan Smith can also be contacted at 336-416-9689.

For more information, check out the Facebook page for the event, which can be found by searching "Ballin' for Autism."

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

ECU's own 'Marvel'



Don Palumbo, professor in the English Department, teaches various courses, including Science Fiction and The Short Story.

English professor's journey to ECU

Michael Davis
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

He's studied math, chemistry, biology and English, written for Marvel Comics and taught English for over 40 years. His name is Don Palumbo, ECU English professor extraordinaire.

Though a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Palumbo attended the University of Chicago in the late 1960s, studying, of all things, mathematics. Soon realizing he did not understand math, Palumbo focused on biology and chemistry, eventually winding up as an English major after reading Faulkner's "The Sound and the Fury" in his required humanities course during his sophomore year of college.

"English was something I was interested in," said Palumbo. "I've always been

fascinated by how stories can conjure up this whole complex image of the world that the story takes place in and how vividly you can imagine it. Yet, it is really just words on a page."

Failing to get a high school teaching job after graduating in 1970, Palumbo went back to school to pursue his graduate and master's degree, but this time at the University of Michigan.

Departing from the Maize and Blue, Palumbo taught at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, and Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Mich., for seven years. He then went on to become a writer for the classic Marvel Comics, which has produced comics such as "Spider Man," "The Incredible Hulk" and "Captain America," to name a few.

As a writer for Marvel Comics, Palumbo wrote plots and scripts for the fiery-headed motorcyclist known as the Ghost Rider. The only prob-

lem, said Palumbo, was that "I wanted to make the story about some gimmick or some superhero thing or science fiction; but what they wanted was for the story to be about character, which I understand now after 40 years of being an English teacher."

Along with writing for Marvel Comics, Palumbo also was an administrator at a community college in Ohio, where he helped organize community orchestras, dance troupes and local art exhibits, along with other community activities.

Finally falling upon Pirate Nation in 1992, Palumbo became an English professor in his beloved Science Fiction course, serving as the English department chair for his first five years.

Through the years he has written many scholarly articles, along with a fantasy-based short story that is a parody of science fiction, which was published in a scholarly journal. Now Palumbo spends his ECU days filled with teaching courses such as Science Fiction and The Short Story, his two favorite courses to teach.

"I've been to five or six different places before winding up here. This is just such a great job, and that is part of the reason why I am not going to retire any time soon," said Palumbo.

His two most popular courses, Science Fiction and The Short Story, are both classes that look into the inner details of science fiction novels and short stories. Reading famous authors and their works, Palumbo engages the class in thorough analyses of each work, finding the hidden pieces to each puzzle.

"Through the fence, between the curling flower spaces, I could see them hitting," wrote William Faulkner in the opening line of "The Sound and the Fury." So begins the novel that forever changed Palumbo's life, for if it weren't for this work, he might be a biologist or chemist somewhere other than ECU.

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

DOWN TIME

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Freshman Lewis named Hitter-of-the-Week

ECU Media Relations



ECU freshman outfielder Jordan Lewis has been selected as the Conference USA Hitter-of-the-Week according to an announcement Monday by league officials.

Lewis led the ECU offense last week, posting team-best marks in batting average (.533), hits (8), doubles (2), slugging percentage (.667), total bases (10) and on-base percentage (.563).

The Fremont, Calif., product went a combined 3-5 during the doubleheader against Charleston Southern Tuesday and drove in the game-winning run in the second contest with her first-inning single.

Lewis reached base 67.7 percent of the time leading off an inning and had a team-best three hits with runners in scoring position.

Lewis and the Pirates (23-9, 3-3 C-USA) have the week off before returning to the field Saturday when they host league-leading Tulsa (22-7, 6-0 C-USA).

The last two years, the programs have finished first or second in the conference regular-season standings.

Brandt garners Pitcher-of-the-Week honors

ECU Media Relations



A pair of outstanding pitching performances this week have earned ECU junior LHP Kevin Brandt the Conference USA Pitcher-of-the-Week award for the period ending March 20.

Brandt appeared in two games on the week, including making his second start of the season. The southpaw worked a total of 12.2 innings with 18 strikeouts, one walk and one unearned run on five hits in his two outings.

SPORTS

BRANDT BLOWS AWAY RUTGERS

Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

For the second time in just a few weeks, the Pirates welcomed the Rutgers Scarlet Knights to Greenville. While it may have been a different day, the result was the same as ECU outscored the Knights 15-5 to sweep the three-game series.

In the series finale Sunday afternoon, the Pirates jumped on top early and refused to take their foot off of the gas to grab the 6-0 win.

While the offense was cooking from the first inning on, ECU didn't need to produce a lot of firepower as starter Kevin Brandt pitched probably the best game of his career.

Brandt struck out a career-high 12 Scarlet Knights while throwing seven scoreless innings, giving up just two hits while walking just one.

"Kevin's a competitor," manager Billy Godwin said. "The difference in him was he was really able to command his fastball today; his changeup was a big league pitch."

The Pirate offense struggled at points early on in the series, but they were able to put two and two together on Sunday, scoring in four separate innings.

ECU got the scoring started early and kept it going throughout the game. Trent Whitehead led off with a single to right field and an errant pickoff throw by Scarlet Knight pitcher Nathaniel Roe allowed him to advance to second to gain scoring position.

The Pirates would add another run in the fourth before exploding in the fifth and seventh innings, grabbing two runs in each frame.

In the fifth, designated hitter Jonathan Holt led off the inning with a base hit to center. Mike Ussery then took a ball to the



Lefthander Kevin Brandt pitched a series sweeping shutout against the Rutgers Scarlet Knights on Sunday. His performance earned him the C-USA Pitcher-of-the-Week award.

side, putting runners on first and second for Whitehead. Whitehead laid down a sacrifice bunt, moving both runners into scoring position.

Thompson finished the game going 2-for-4 with four runs batted in, raising his team leading batting average to .338.

about it, just keep hitting the ball hard," Thompson said. "The game eventually evens out."

Thompson wasn't the only one finding his swing. It seemed like the entire Pirates' roster determined to break out

"The coaches brought me in and told me not to worry

BASEBALL page A8

SETTING THE BAR HIGH



Tynita Butts leaps of the bar during the high jump event. Butts finished fourth at the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Abbey Way
STAFF WRITER

Tynita Butts did not know what track spikes were when she competed as an 11-year-old at the Hershey's Youth National Track and Field Championships. As a senior in high school, she was ranked No. 1 nationally in both the high jump and long jump and was the first female in Virginia to long jump 20 feet.

"I was really excited, and I am very grateful and spiritual; I gave thanks to God right away," Butts said.

Earlier this season, she broke her own high jump school record with a leap of 1.87 meters (6 feet 1.35 inches) at Christopher Newport. This jump would have been high enough to earn an automatic qualifying trip to the 2008 Olympic trials; the 2012 standards have not been released yet.

"It just opened up my eyes for opportunity. I never really pictured myself going past high school track," Butts said. "Even to go to the trials would be a blessing, but

to make it to the Olympics - that's every athlete's dream."

According to her coach, Joe Blaney, her chances of making it to the Olympic trials are very good and her jump was good enough to qualify for the USA Track and Field Nationals, which is held in the off-years of the Olympics.

"I was hoping that she would go 6-foot-2-inches this year and I think she can do that because her consistency is getting really well established between 5'10 and 6 foot," Blaney said.

According to Butts, who stands at 5-foot-8-inches tall, high jump is a very technical and difficult sport that still makes her nervous at each meet. "When I started jumping 6 feet, it was so high. I was like, 'This is crazy. I can't believe I'm about to do this.' But now when I see 6 feet it looks like 5'10," she said.

Head track and field coach Curt Kraft said that Butts is unique and special. "She, in some ways, is a once in a lifetime kind of athlete. We never know when we will be able to work with someone like her again," Kraft said.

Butts was named Conference USA Freshman of the Year both indoor and out-

door, has three top-10 NCAA championship finishes in the high jump, two C-USA high jump titles and was C-USA runner up in the long jump and also holds the school record in both.

"She is a very focused person, but she also has the ability to enjoy life; it doesn't all revolve around high jump," Blaney said. "I put God before everything and that's honestly a big reason I'm here at ECU, because I have such a spiritual connection with coach Blaney," Butts said.

Butts has nicknamed Blaney "Gandhi" because she said he is the wisest man she has ever known.

"If I broke my legs right now, I can honestly say I would still be a happy person, because I love other things, not just track," Butts said.

She also enjoys learning American Sign Language, watching movies, working with disabled kids and hopes to coach deaf athletes in the future.

Butts is a sociology major with a concentration in marriage and family and wants to provide counseling for families one day.

THE BAR page A8

SOFTBALL GRABS TWO AT MARSHALL

Stephen McNulty
STAFF WRITER

ECU softball (23-9, 3-3 C-USA) won two of its three games against Marshall (11-15, 1-5 C-USA) this past weekend. The Pirates took both games in Saturday's doubleheader, but fell to the Thundering Herd on Sunday.

ECU dominated the opening game, scoring three quick runs in the first inning. Marshall responded with a run in the third, but it would be no match for the Pirates. In the top half of the sixth inning, ECU piled on seven more runs.

Freshman Abby Wynne hit a bases-loaded, ground-rule double to score Jordan Lewis and Alex Fieldhouse. Then Kristi Oshiro followed Wynne up with a double to the gap in right-center that scored two more for the Pirates. When the inning ended, ECU held a 10-1 lead, enough to call the game due to an eight-run mercy rule.

Ten runs on the board were plenty for Toni Paisley (17-5) to set the ECU All-Time Wins record. The win came just one day after the right-hander was selected 10th overall in the National Pro Fastpitch College Senior Draft.

The Pirates also found their way onto the board early in the second contest. Oshiro continued to get on base early and scored on a double off of the bat of Lewis. A home run in the bottom of the fourth inning by Marshall's Rebecca Gamby tied the game at 1-1.

The game remained tied through the seventh inning with neither team really finding any offense. Then an Alex Fieldhouse leadoff home run in the eighth and an RBI double by Oshiro gave the Pirates a 3-1 extra inning lead. Despite giving up a run in the eight, Paisley secured the 3-2 victory for the Pirates and a sweep of the Saturday double-header.

SOFTBALL page A8

MAKING THE GRADE

Rating the growing Pirate basketball fan base

OPINION



Chase Kroll
STAFF WRITER

The ECU men's basketball team's loss to Jacksonville University in the first round of the ColledgeInsiders.com Tournament marked the end of a very interesting season for the team and its fans. While the idea of "grading" may be the last thing a college student wants to think about at this time of year, the Pirate basketball season is very hard to put a grade on.

On one hand, ECU was

GRADE page A8

SOFTBALL continued from A7

Oshiro combined for three RBIs and two runs while hitting 4-8 in the two victories.

ECU again jumped out early on the Thundering Herd Sunday, scoring with two outs in the top of the second. However, this time it wouldn't be enough. Gamby drove a Toni Paisley pitch out of the ballpark to give Marshall a 3-1 lead in the third, and the Pirates could only manage one more run in the rest of the contest. It was again the ECU bats that struggled to get things going in the third game. The Pirates managed just three hits despite Coach Tracey Kee's adjustments. Kee used four different pinch-hitters in the game, none of which found a hit.

Paisley finished the weekend picking up two wins and a loss. She struck out 16 batters while giving up just four earned runs, settling her season ERA at just 1.24. Junior Suzanne Riggs accounted for both runs by the Pirates on Sunday with a run scored and an RBI double that drove in Wynne. Riggs now leads the Pirates in home runs (3) and RBIs (21). Oshiro upped her average and is now batting .344 with an on-base percentage of .482.

The Pirates return to action this upcoming weekend against Conference-USA rival Tulsa (21-7, 5-0 C-USA). ECU and Tulsa have finished first and second in the regular-season standings for the past two years, and Tulsa currently tops the conference. The three-game series starts with a 1 p.m. doubleheader Saturday and finishes with a 12 p.m. first pitch on Sunday.

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



Infielder Krisi Oshiro gets prepared to break from second base during action against Hofstra earlier this season. Oshiro aided the Pirates to two wins at Marshall on Friday and Saturday.

DOUG MACKENZIE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

BASEBALL continued from A7

of their collective slump, combining for a team batting average of .342, making for a well-rounded performance.

"I thought it was by far our best performance," Godwin said of his team's balance of pitching and hitting. "Overall, from a pitching, defense, timely hitting and offensively standpoint, I was really pleased with our guys."

Righting the offensive ship is something the Pirates desperately needed, but the story of the day was without a doubt Brandt, who did not even allow a base runner until the top of the fourth inning.

Throughout his career as a Pirate, Brandt has struggled to find consistency resulting in him not starting the year in the rotation. However, Brandt seems to have found himself in the last week posting numbers worthy of not only a regular spot in the rotation, but maybe the status of ace as he has gone 1-0 having pitched 12.2 innings allowing just five hits, one unearned run, all fanning 18 batters.

Getting a solid start this season was crucial for a young hurler who has taken down programs such as, UNC, N.C. State and South Carolina.

"I wouldn't say this is my most memorable (start), but it's up there," Brandt said. "It's always fun when you come out and you're just feeling your stuff."

The Pirates took game two of the weekend series in similar fashion to Sunday's as they jumped out to a quick lead. They then rode the bullpen to a series clinching victory. Standout closer Seth Simmons recorded his 24th career save, breaking the career save record previously held by Corey Scott.

The most thrilling tilt of the series was the opening game where ECU was unable to produce any kind of offense heading into the ninth inning trailing Rutgers by a 2-1 margin.

Down to their last strike in the ninth, true freshman Ben Fultz launched his first career home run over the right field wall, tying the game at two and sending the crowd into a frenzy.

After a scoreless 10th inning, ECU came up in the 11th looking to close things out. Wooten hit a leadoff double and the Pirates would put two more base runners on loading the bases for Chris Gosik. Gosik knocked a soft dribbler back to pitcher Joe Esposito, who was unable to field the ball cleanly allowing Wooten to score from third, giving the Pirates the win.

ECU will take a week off before opening conference play against Memphis next weekend.

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

THE BAR continued from A7

will be perfect for the job.

"She has a genuine spirit. She is a very real person. She is not phony. She is not cocky. She is just very humble and knows what she wants and knows how to go after it, but at the same time, knows how to just be herself," Ericka Charles, a senior, said.

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GRADE continued from A7

able to do some things that have never been done before by any other Pirate squad (like win a Conference USA tournament game). On the other hand, ECU basketball fans have come to accept mediocrity at best, as this was the men's basketball team's first winning season in 14 years. So grading this year's performance is based strictly on what "type" of Pirate basketball fan you consider yourself:

The "School-Spirited" fan Grade A

If you're the type of fan who simply cheers for the team in the purple and gold, then to you, this men's basketball season was great. ECU achieved the second-most wins in school history, second only to the 1974-75 campaign where the Pirates recorded 19 victories. They won a program-best eight games in C-USA play, entered the tournament as a higher seed than their first-round opponent and advanced all the way to the C-USA semi-finals.

ECU's appearance in the CIT tournament was their first postseason appearance in 18 years. No other previous Pirate team had won more than five conference games or won a single conference tournament game. Even better, this was all accomplished under first-year coach Jeff Lebo.

The North Carolina faithful Grade: B-

To the fans who live and breathe for in-state competition, heated rivalries and bragging rights, ECU was successful in starting to distance itself from the middle-of-the-pack teams. This is not to say that the Pirates are anywhere near the dominance of a UNC or a Duke team, but they did post a respectable 7-2 record against North Carolina schools (including an exhibition game over Montreat before the season started). ECU's only losses came against N.C. State and Charlotte. The Pirates recorded a victory over Charlotte later in the season.

The fans diagnosed with "March Madness" Grade: D

So the regular season wasn't quite your thing. You're the fan who spends hours filling out the perfect bracket for the fame, the glory and the office pool's \$75 first-place prize. If that's the case, beware of ECU men's basketball. The Pirates have only made it to the NCAA tournament twice – in 1972 and 1993. This year was the fourth time ever that ECU has made a postseason berth at all. Even worse, against teams that made the NCAA tournament this year, the Pirates were 2-6 (They beat Memphis for the first time in school history, and UAB in the second round of the C-USA tournament). Of the NCAA tournament teams that ECU played, none made it past the round of 64.

The "Individual Player" fan Grade: C+

This fan couldn't care less which team wins a game and

is more interested in Jimmer Fredette's point total or how many dunks Blake Griffin can accumulate in a single game. If this fan were to grade ECU's season, they wouldn't be very disappointed. Jontae Sherrod, who led the team in scoring this season, was named third team all-conference. The Pirates all-time assist leader Brock Young, in a season marked by injury, was named C-USA's "Sixth player of the year," given to the best player coming off the bench. In the C-USA tournament, Darius Morrow averaged 21.7 points and 13.3 rebounds and was selected to the all-tournament team, the first Pirate to ever be given that honor. ECU had the individual talent this year to at least keep this type of fan entertained in what's supposed to be a "team sport"

All in all, this men's basketball season for the Pirates has been the best in recent memory and could lay the foundation for great seasons to follow under Coach Lebo.

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Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)
- #5 VITO**
The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)
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- #9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB**
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- #10 HUNTER'S CLUB**
A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
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Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)
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Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)
- #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB**
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)
- #14 BOOTLEGGERS CLUB**
Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!
- #15 CLUB TUNA**
The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.
- #16 CLUB LULU**
Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)
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Walk to ECU! 3BR house at 113 E. 9th Street. Recently remodeled. Available now. Pets OK with fee. \$750/month. Other properties available soon. Call 252-902-9686.

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to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: umpiring, scorekeeping, setting up for practices and games, and ensuring proper care of program / facility. Hours are from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday - Friday, and Saturday mornings and afternoons. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from April 18 - mid June. Umpires and scorekeepers will be paid \$8.00 an hour. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm. To apply, please visit www.greenvillenc.gov. Applications accepted until Wednesday, March 23.

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The eBook/eReader Education Exposition will be held today from 10:00-12:00 in Mendenhall Great Rooms and from 2:00-4:00 at the Health Sciences Complex in the Colleges of Nursing and Allied Health lobbies. Email wilsonki@ecu.edu for more information.

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