

INSIDE

OPINION: In Greenville, we have beer cans instead of tumbleweeds blowing in the wind. **A4**

LIFESTYLES: One 23-year-old student has never had an alcoholic beverage in his life. Turn to Lifestyles to discover his outlook on sobriety, see how he enjoys life alcohol free and learn about the pressures and prejudices he faces at ECU. **A5**

SPORTS: The Pirate nine topped UCF at home this weekend. Turn to sports to find out which starting pitcher was able to seal the series-clinching victory on Sunday. **A8**

BRIEFS



COURTESY OF MCT

Governor visits counties affected by tornadoes

Staff Reports

According to WITN, Governor Bev Perdue began touring damage in the East on Sunday.

The governor made stops in Wake, Lee, Harnett, Cumberland, Bladen and Greene Counties. On Monday, she visited Bertie, Halifax and Wilson Counties.

The areas were severely damaged by tornadoes, which are considered to be the most devastating to hit the state since 1984.

26 counties in the central and eastern part of the state have reported significant damage from severe winds.

About 130 people are reported as injured and 23 are dead according to unconfirmed reports from across North Carolina.

700 homes are reported damaged and over 130 were destroyed.

Gov. Bev Perdue declared a State of Emergency on Saturday night and lifted weight restrictions on heavy trucks to allow relief supplies and crews to begin recovery efforts.

University files federal suit to protect brand

Staff Reports

On Friday, the university filed a suit to protect its trademarks and brands from unauthorized use.

A news release stated that Roy Hopkins, Jr., "engaged in trademark infringement, cyberpiracy and unfair competition." Hopkins is the owner of HealthyPirates.com, a Greenville publication that employed the unauthorized use of university trademarks on its website.

Senior associate university attorney Paul Zigas stated, "The university has made every effort to resolve this issue without going to court."

According to Zigas, the publication and website uses marks and colors similar to familiar university logos, colors and registered trademarks.

Arson sets fire to Faith House for homeless

Staff Reports

Since the mid-1990s, the Faith House has been a home for the homeless until it recently fell victim to arson reported WNCN.

The Faith House, also known as the Jacob Higgs House, was built in the early 1900s and became a historic landmark in 1993, six years after Bishop Arizona Hartsfield purchased it and converted into a place for the homeless.

After the fire, Hartsfield vowed to do whatever it takes to make sure the homeless have somewhere to go.

There are only 21 designated landmarks in Greenville, stated Seth Laughlin of the Historical Preservation Society. If Hartsfield gets no help in repairing the damage, the city may have one less.

WEB POLL

Were you affected by the recent Tornado damage?

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



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TYRONE DEMERY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

SGA President elect Josh Martinkovic, senator elect for the College of Arts and Sciences Louis Cameron, and student Justin Jones upon viewing the final poll results.

Executive SGA board announced

Jennifer Soares
NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association announced Friday that Ticket B won the executive board elections with the majority vote for the 2011-2012 school year.

The current SGA Vice President Josh Martinkovic won the president position, current President Pro Tempore of the Student Senate Dan Thornton will be vice president, Justin Davis will maintain his treasurer position, and Justice Chelsea Roach will be secretary.

Campaigning began April 11 and ended April 15. Voting was only allowed on Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. After allegations of Martinkovic's ticket campaigning early, members of Ticket B were not allowed to campaign the last day of elections.

Ticket B won the entire election with 62 percent of the presidential vote, 56.5 percent for vice president, 68.9 percent for treasurer and 64.4 percent for secretary.

Current SGA president Tremayne Smith looks forward to passing his duties over to Martinkovic.

"I can tell you I can't think of anyone who is more qualified, capable and deserving of this position," said Smith. "I see myself as the foundation center, and now Josh's team will come in and reap the benefits of what we've done and take it to a new level."

Martinkovic has taken on the role as SGA vice president and has been a member of SGA since his freshmen year. He is also the current president of Theta Chi fraternity.

"I've taken things from each of these (roles), which has made me who I am now, and I am very prepared to step into the role and how to go about it," said Martinkovic.

Thornton is also the president of the Interfraternity council and has been a member of SGA for three years. He is the current chair of rules in judiciary committee and is the president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

"It was an amazing feeling after a long week. It was moving."

> SGA page A2

Professor of Health Education and Promotion passes

Jamie Harper
STAFF WRITER

Edward Douglas Crofts, professor in the Department of Health Education and Promotion, passed away at the East Carolina Heart Institute of Pitt County Memorial Hospital on April 13th at the age of 59.

Crofts received a Bachelor of Science and a Master's of Science in Environmental Health from ECU and was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity.

Daniel Sprau, who first met Crofts in graduate school, said, "He really loved his students. That was his main focus. He didn't want to do a whole lot of research, all he wanted to do was teach and advise students. That was his passion, environmental health and teaching and advising students."

Crofts began his teaching career at ECU in 2000. He taught a variety of courses including Toxicology, Air Pollution, Introduction to Environmental Health, Industrial Hygiene and Construction Safety.

"We will truly miss him. The program is really going to miss him. I don't know if we will ever find anyone quite like him ... He brought his experiences to the classroom. He knew his stuff and could relate well with students. That was a terrific combination," said Sprau, a professor in the Department of Environmental Health.

Cameron Atkins, a senior construction management major, said, "I think he treated every student like you were his best friend. He was really passionate and was an awesome teacher. He was a very easy person to talk to and you could tell he just loved teaching and loved his students." Currently teaching environmental health courses this semester, Crofts was also scheduled to teach in the summer sessions. Other professors have been assigned to finish teaching his spring semester courses. Crofts was actively involved with a variety of activities on



COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

campus and had extensive experience in environmental health.

Jaron Herring, a junior environmental health major, said, "I was considering environmental health and as soon as I met Ed Crofts, I knew that was going to be my major. He's just a phenomenal man and it's such an enormous loss for the program and school as a whole."

ECO-Pirates, an environmental group that raises awareness and action about on-campus environmental issues, worked with Crofts regularly. Herring, the incoming ECO-Pirates president, said, "He was probably one of the most genuine people I have met here at East Carolina."

Crofts was the adviser for ECO-Pirates and was very involved with the organization for many years.

"There were a number of students in environmental health that he affected. That will probably be his legacy. In any department you always have faculty, but there is always one faculty member that the students seem to gravitate to and that was him. He was very personable and the students loved him," said Sprau.

A funeral service was held on Saturday at the Wilkerson Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to the ECO-Pirates.

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

House proposes 17.4 percent cut to UNC-system schools

Cameron Gupton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year has been released by the N.C. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; the budget calls for a 17.4 percent cut, or \$483 million in UNC system state funding.

These cuts come to repair the state's budget shortfall of about \$2.4 billion.

A 15.5 percent cut is recommended by the legislative proposal, but with other things considered, including a \$37.6 million cutback in financial aid funding, the net cut of 17.4 percent was decided upon.

In a press release, UNC system president Thomas Ross said, "Permanent net cuts totaling nearly \$483 million could not be absorbed without inflicting irreparable damage to our academic quality and reputation."

With a 15.5 percent cut, the UNC system would have to eliminate 3,200 positions, including 1,500 faculty, 9,000 course sections and 240,000 class seats throughout the system.

Ross stated that the 17.4 percent cut would be comparable to the combined amount of state appropriations given annually to five of the UNC system schools, including UNC-Asheville, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Wilmington, Western Carolina and Winston Salem State University.

Over the last three years, the system has experienced a cut totaling \$575 million, 23 percent in expenses and 900 administrative positions.

Co-chairwoman of the UNC system, Hannah Gage, feels that universities will suffer from the cuts. "Anything over 10 percent would be devastating," she said.

The cuts will go to fill in the state's budget deficit of \$2.4 billion.

"I'm for the cut, in a good way," said freshman Daniel Johnson. "It's going to fix the state's budget, which obviously needs to be fixed."

Other sections of state education fair better than the UNC system schools. Funding for community colleges is to be reduced by 10 percent and public schools by 8.8 percent.

Junior Jordan Hubbard is concerned the cut may raise tuition. "I know that things have to be cut," she said, "but I'm worried that it may raise tuition. It's already bad enough that we will be losing classes and professors."

The state is already looking at a potential 6.8 percent rise in tuition within the UNC system.

According to representatives, the university system has more resources at its disposal, including tuition increases and endowments, and therefore can handle a larger portion of the cuts.

As soon as the subcommittee passes the budget, it will go to the House for a vote. Once both the House and Senate compromise on a budget, it will be sent to Governor Bev Perdue by July 1, the end of the fiscal year.

According to Ross, the system understands that it is still early in the budget process, and they are doing everything they can to protect the quality of a "UNC education."

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

Graduation speaker chosen

Staff Reports

The speaker for the spring 2011 commencement ceremony will be U.S. Naval Secretary Ray Mabus, and the graduation will be held Friday, May 6, at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium at 9 a.m.

Mabus is a former governor of Mississippi and former ambassador on behalf of the United States to Saudi Arabia. He now serves as the 75th United States Secretary of the Navy. He was chosen because he supervises the naval branch and received his position by presidential appointment. In addition, ECU has not had a commencement speaker from the Navy and they would like to have members from all branches of the government and military come and speak to the graduates and family members.

Senior Vice Provost Austin Bunch and Liz Johnston, director of Disability Support Services, are planning the ceremony together. Bunch is supervising the programming aspect of the ceremony and Johnston is supervising the logistics. Bunch said that a committee was developed to organize the ceremony and choose the speaker. The committee consists of two underclassmen and some faculty members.

When the institutional ceremony ends, that gives all of the separate departments, schools and colleges a chance to have their ceremonies later in the day. The ceremony will also be outside so that every person who wishes to attend will have the opportunity.

"We are ever hopeful that more students will participate in

the institutional ceremony, but it is still their choice to come," said Bunch.

In recent years, ECU has had two renowned speakers: General Gary North and UNC system president Erskine Bowles. In the past 12 years, ECU has chosen not to pay its speakers. Currently, the school is considering whether paying celebrity guests to speak will bring in more students to the institutional ceremony and would be a worthwhile investment for future commencement.

This year there will be a backdrop behind the stage to recreate the stage of Wright Auditorium. There will not be a tent over the stage this year due to past complaints from former students and guests that it obstructs the view.

Calendar Events

Apr. 19- Apr. 22

Tuesday, April 19

Baseball vs. UNCW
6 p.m.

Bandorama Concert: Wind, Symphonic & Concert Bands
7:30 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. Free admission.

"Merry Wives of Windsor" (Play)
8 p.m. at McGinnis Theatre.

String Chamber Music Concert
8:30 p.m. at A.J. Fletcher Hall. Free admission.

Wednesday, April 20

SAB presents "Black Swan"
9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.
Admission with OneCard.

The Principles of Attraction
6 p.m. Speight Auditorium in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center.
What happens when you put a physicist, an artist, a biochemist and a conservator in a room? They talk about art, of course.

Dorianne Laux & Celeste Doaks
7 p.m. Bate 1031.
Dorianne Laux, an award-winning poet whose fifth collection, "The Book of Men," has recently been published by W.W. Norton, will be joined in the reading by Celeste Doaks, one of her former students who teaches poetry at ECU.

Thursday, April 21

32nd Annual Barefoot on the Mall
12 to 6 p.m.

SAB presents "Black Swan"
7 and 9:30 p.m. at MSC Hendrix Theatre.
Admission with OneCard.

Friday, April 22

State Holiday. No classes

Potential MCAT changes dismay pre-med students

Changes may discourage students from pursuing medicine

Jimmy Youn
STAFF WRITER

The Association of American Medical Colleges seeks to implement a new Medical College Admission Test in 2015.

According to a recent press release from the AAMC, the "MR5 Committee," serving as the advisory committee to review the MCAT, released the 14 recommendations after three years of an exhaustive analysis.

If implemented, the new MCAT may be subject to change into four sections: molecular and cellular biology, biochemistry, behavioral and social sciences and critical analysis and verbal reasoning. In addition, the writing sample section may not be included, yet philosophy and ethics questions will be added in the verbal section. Further, the MR5 Committee presumes that the test will be longer – it will take seven hours, with an hour of lunch break, rather than five-and-a-half hours.

Devang Patel, a senior pre-medical student, expressed his opinion that the writing section is futile. "I have been told by many medical students and even some faculty members that no one actu-

ally cares about the writing score. Medical schools already have a sense of writing abilities from personal statements and secondary application essays. Therefore, the writing section does not provide any additional information," said Patel.

With attention to the changes, pre-medical students will be required to take extra classes, especially classes in the humanities, to be completely prepared for the new sections and to meet the new required pre-medical curriculum.

Although the changes will tremendously assist medical schools to evaluate candidates more adequately, they may hinder students to take the new MCAT.

Julia Andrews, a current ECU Master of Public Health candidate and an ECU graduate, earned a degree in health care management and plans to take the MCAT in early August. "Even though I will not be taking the revised MCAT, I certainly believe that this change will add even more pre-requisites to pre-medicine students who already have busy course schedules. It may become even more difficult for students to handle the additional course load, unless these courses are already required," said Andrews.

The AAMC website indicates that a behavioral and social sciences section will be added to aid pre-medical students to understand

knowledge of various concepts and theories related to public health.

"Studying psychology, especially behavioral psychology, may be much more instrumental in effective communication across doctors to patients. Furthermore, it helps to broaden a student's point of view and make for a well-rounded doctor. It also may help future doctors to read patients better and be able to anticipate obstacles that may interfere with a proper diagnosis," said senior pre-medical student Jatin Patel.

Devang Patel further mentioned that "taking a social science class may help students better understand patient behavior, but testing this knowledge is not going to help schools decide who the better candidate is. Also, there is a difference between having this knowledge and applying it. Interacting with patients is a skill that a written test will not be able to measure accurately. The school can gather this type of information during personal interviews by seeing how the applicant interacts with the faculty, staff and other candidates."

The AAMC Board of Directors will meet again in February 2012 to reach the final decision.

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

SGA continued from A1

said Thornton on winning the election.

Davis has been a member of SGA and will continue to be the treasurer for a second year. He was in charge of setting up the emergency funding process at the university and will ensure the long-term stability of it for the coming year.

Roach is one of the justices of the judicial branch here at the university. She is part of a committee who is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of the constitution.

"I am very honored and excited to be voted as student body secretary," said Roach.

Martinkovic and his executive branch have three important issues they want to address. Communication on campus is the main topic, giving students an outlet to voice their opinion on issues and make the executive board aware of any changes they can make.

"I feel like we have a lot of different means of communication but no unified voice where students know what's going on and know where to go to," said Martinkovic.

The second issue is tuition, and Martinkovic wants students to know when tuition will go up, how much it will go up and how

any state-wide budget cuts will affect them.

The third point is the creation of a presidential council made up of student leaders and organizations.

"The idea behind it is to bring the student leaders together into one kind of unified body," said Martinkovic.

Martinkovic and the executive board will be inducted at the SGA banquet on April 26 and will start their positions during the summer months.

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

Come see TEC
at Barefoot on the Mall

Thursday, April 21

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Alumni Association holds student Road Race

Hannah Jackson
STAFF WRITER

The Alumni Association held the fourth annual Pirate Alumni 5k Road Race and mile Fun Run this past Saturday around the edges of campus, starting at U.B.E. on Cotanche Street.

All proceeds from the race and Fun Run benefit the Alumni Association scholarships. The association annually awards deserving undergraduate students scholarships to be used in the following academic year. To date, the Alumni Association has awarded 112 scholarships and last year's race raised \$4,600 for the scholarship fund.

Students, alumni and people of all ages from the community were able to participate in the race, and awards were given to the first three male and first three female finishers overall.

Graduate student Jennifer Mielke shared her reasons for participating in the event. "I enjoy running in a group setting," she said. "This is a great way to do that. Plus, I like getting a free T-shirt."

Many participants formed groups such as the club running team and East Carolina Road Racing, whereas some students ran alone. Junior Kimberly Barr, a music performance major, also talked

about why she decided to run in the race. "I recently started running, and this race is a great way for me to keep my motivation up," she said.

Scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year are available for individuals who are currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate, and potential recipients cannot receive a scholarship if they have already been awarded a scholarship that exceeds the cost of in-state tuition. Students are chosen by their academic performance, service to the community and must have one signed letter of recommendation.

Money raised from various events throughout the year, includ-

ing the Pirate Alumni Road Race, contributes to scholarships.

The association also hosts many events and programs for graduating seniors and for students who are new to campus. Events for students graduating this spring include "Dress for Success," "Networking with the Pros" and "What can ECU do for you?"

Staying or becoming involved after graduating is a big part of what the Alumni Association tries to encourage of students. They hold such events as the Road Race, Alumni Tailgating during football season and other various service projects in the community.

Students who signed up are encouraged to keep coming back to the Alumni Race every year to help raise money for other Pirates.

"I hope to continue participating in the race if it fits into my schedule next year," said Mielke.

Those who are graduating or are even still enrolled can be a part of the association through Forever Pirates and Student Ambassadors.

Student Ambassadors represent the campus by helping to recruit future students, assisting departments on campus, as well as the community. Forever Pirates are members who can join at any time and are connected to campus for life. They have special access to exclusive events and a discount to an alumni life membership.

Many people from the community were there in support of the university. After the Alma Mater and fight song were played, the racers were off.

Kimberly Barr said she would like to be a part again, and as an alumna, she said, "I will definitely try to do this again next year. It is a great way to bring us together and show school spirit."

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.

ECU stands for Everyone Carries Umbrellas.

I feel like so many kids here plead ignorance because that's what they are taught here. Pick up an actual newspaper and learn something.

In Greenville, we have beer cans instead of tumbleweeds blowing in the wind.

I like Pirate Rants. They make me feel smarter than those posting them.

Costs to go to school keep going up while professor pay stays the same and there are nonstop cuts. What is our money going to?

The streets of Greenville should be paved of gold.

I think it's sad that more people are willing to vote on a poll for TEC but not for our SGA members.

Thanks ECU for the alerts about the tornadoes; however, EIGHT e-mails, two phone calls, and an intercom going off is a bit overkill.

Locked in library basement because of a tornado. "The Day After Tomorrow" has nothing on ECU

So if you're gonna wear a razor back tank top, then buy a freakin' bra that can razor back too! I don't wanna see your nasty bra straps. That's just trashy.

SURPRISE: Not everyone enjoys listening to your music. Turn it down.

The south will not "rise again," except to drive over to Bojangles.

While your texting my "ex"-boyfriend I'm lying in his bed and no I am not wearing my clothes.

Dear shirtless zombies: Find, attack and do horrible things to me.

Why do you hide your snacks from me? I thought we were roommates.

To the guy making fun of the big girl in front of him on the bus: Comb your naps, she was actually out of your league.

Bragging about getting drunk everyday doesn't make you special. It's kinda sad.

To the guy in my Anthropology class that wears the same hat tilted to the side EVERYDAY: You do NOT get "action" every night. Please stop.

Please take a hint and stop walking with me to my car. It creeps me out.

Coming into an ethics class twenty minutes late every class doesn't give me much hope for your future.

To the girls sitting in front of me in Chem, one of which is reading Harry Potter and the other looking at furniture online: How is it that you're probably making A's in the class but I'm struggling to not have to retake it?

I actually forgot that retarded is a derogatory word.

Watching you run from ALE and get tazed 4 times was priceless. Thank you for the entertainment, I hope your court case goes well.

I wonder how awkward it is to live with the two roommates fighting over Pirate Rants.

I had to write a fake apology letter that isn't going to be sent, as a punishment for a write up, I got it back with a big F on it, saying I have to do it over because it was awkward. All apology letters are awkward. Campus Living is out to get me.

More Pirate Rants on the website

Arrgh 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

Beyond Playboy Rankings

You go in for your first major interview after graduating. The image of your purple robe and gold tassels is still burned in your memory. When you sit down, the first question out of your hopeful future boss' mouth concerns the reputation of your school: "ECU? I heard that was a party school."

Many of us celebrated last year from the national recognition of being ranked on the infamous "Playboy Top Party School" list. "You can't spell parties without Pirates" was printed in the pages of Playboy. Finally, people understood that we could do illegal activities better than other schools. ECU was ranked number five in the country.

This year, we didn't make the cut. Does this mean that we have parted less in 2011? Likely not. This mostly means we didn't push as hard to make the list through online polling. Last year, a popular Facebook group had people rushing to the Playboy website to get us on the list. The repercussion did not seem apparent at the time. The ultimate payoff of being nationally recognized as being "the cool kids" seemed more important.

Unfortunately for some, ECU was not on the same list this year. Even with such fame as Mario Lopez gracing our downtown scene, we couldn't pull off another national ranking. Fortunately for those of us who care about our degree, we may now have some respect behind at least four years of hard work.

While some people, especially those just

entering our university, may come just for the social aspect, many of us are here for a quality education. When we apply for, and hopefully accept, future job positions, we don't want our intelligence to be undermined by a Playboy list. If people at ECU are truly aspiring to be in Playboy, maybe modeling should be a better goal.

When we're serious about our education, we can earn respect for our degree. ECU can be a first choice for many, but to others we are still "the backup plan" for failure to get into UNC, Duke or N.C. State.

We should never be a backup plan. By feeling that way, we denounce the hard work of more than 100 years of fine education.

The Editorial Board of TEC is proud that we have moved beyond a Playboy ranking. The hard work and perseverance of our student body is shown throughout our pages in every issue. Every Pirate is not only working to achieve a degree, but to better the community, North Carolina and maybe even the entire country. Many of us have aspirations outside of Pitt County. If we accept the stereotype of "party school," all the work of the dedicated Pirates goes to waste.

As graduation nears and many Pirates are considering future plans, packing up their belongings and heading off for exciting adventures, we hope everyone has more to say on their résumé than, that person who hosted the best parties.



ILLUSTRATION BY CRYSTAL NEVILLE

420 friendly



Chelsey McClagherty
OPINION COLUMNIST

April 20 is every pot smoker's favorite number, time and date. In case you didn't already know, 4/20 is a sort of an unwritten holiday celebrated nationwide. Pot smokers all over

the country stop what they are doing and celebrate the many uses and benefits of marijuana.

However, celebrations on the East Coast aren't as open as those on the West. Weed culture is rooted in our society, but most smokers on ECU's campus lead a lifestyle of their own. The collective mentality isn't present on our campus, nor on many other campuses in the east.

Some say the Grateful Dead started the holiday or that it was the code the police used when they arrested someone with weed-related charges. Some will even say it's because there are 420 chemicals in marijuana, which is false.

The most popular belief, however, is a story that dates back to the early '70s with a group of San Rafael High School kids in California. The story goes that a group of friends, two of whom were called the Waldo brothers, met every day at 4:20 in the same spot in Point Reyes forest and smoked some good of Mary Jane. It started when the group heard a rumor of an abandoned patch of marijuana plants and decided to

search for it to score some free herb.

Because of this, California is known for being the most 420 friendly; therefore, they have the best celebration. The ease of celebration hasn't translated as well on the East Coast.

"As far as I'm concerned, 4/20 is just another day," said Chelsea Burdette, member of ECU's National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. "It is a few friends' birthdays, as well as Adolf Hitler's and Carmen Electra's, but it's just another day here because of the laws in regards to marijuana in our area."

Burdette is also the event coordinator for Young Americans for Liberty and feels strongly on the issue. "The laws make it pretty difficult to 'celebrate,' at least openly," she says. "I'm sure those in the West also just see it as another day, but I'd much rather have another one of 'their' days than 'ours.' At least they are allowed the opportunity to celebrate marijuana and to celebrate their personal freedom."

Whatever your stand is on the War on Drugs, 420 cannot be quieted. Many officials worry that the holiday encourages illegal activities. Let's not beat around the bush -- of course 420 promotes marijuana use. 420 is based on the celebration of marijuana, and that will not change.

People will always smoke no matter the laws, which cannot be stopped. The downside is celebrating on the East Coast can lead to your arrest. There are safe ways to celebrate 420 at ECU, however.

HempFest and Greenville Global Marijuana March are on April 20 from high noon until 4:20 p.m.

Amateur students do it better



Ben Cochran
OPINION COLUMNIST

Back when I was in grade school, you had to bust your butt if you wanted to survive. The hard work wasn't necessarily due to the difficulty of the material; it was a result of competing against other extremely smart students for the coveted prestige of a higher class

ranking.

These days, the North Carolina state government is considering paying children \$1,000 per year for good behavior, good grades and high attendance. The bill is being proposed by Fletcher Hartsell, a representative from Cabarrus County.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with that part of our state, it's essentially a suburb of Charlotte. I'm telling you right now, a cash prize isn't going to motivate students from that area. Perhaps tickets to Lowes Motor Speedway or some gift cards to that massive Bass Pro Shop would generate the type of enthusiasm that Hartsell is looking for, but not cash.

Did you know that at one point in time, that Bass Pro Shop right off of I-85 was the most frequented tourist destination in our state? Stay classy, North Carolinians.

Anyway, the monetary incentive wouldn't just be for students in the rural Cabarrus County school systems; it would be for all students in the state between the grades of 1-12. In case you're keeping count, that's 1.4 million students. And if even half of them fulfilled the requirements proposed in this bill, that would mean \$700 million every year would come out of the state education budget and go directly into the pockets of these little rascals.

Do you know how far \$700 million can be stretched? That's essentially 20,000 teachers every year that would have to forego a paycheck. Almost 12,000 new school buses would have to be deferred until such time as the kids stopped performing. And the addition of trailers would be stalled at many schools so the kids would be crammed into already over-packed classrooms.

Cash incentive won't teach the children anything except how to satisfy the lowest possible requirements. Do we really want our children only lifting a finger in order to achieve the bare minimum?

And not just that, but kids are incredibly crafty and resourceful. If cash is their motivator, how much more devious will our children become in their methods of cheating? Or are you really naïve enough to think that these kids will put in the hard work to earn the money honestly? When cash enters the picture, integrity will go running in the other direction.

If we're going to do this, then it should be retro-active. Do you know how hard it is for a kid to attend Martin Middle School whose father isn't a lawyer or doctor? Kids that age are brutal. Maybe if I had \$1,000 for my good grades, I could have bought a pair of real Doc Martens and escape the ridicule that was continuously hurled at me because my mother was thrifty.

The fact is I didn't get paid to go to middle school, but I went nonetheless. The intrinsic value of knowledge and the doors that a solid educational foundation could unlock were all I needed to motivate me to succeed.

But what taught me to value these principles? Figure that out and we might be on to something. But this Band-Aid approach to education will result in a very broken and stunted generation.

So thanks, but no thanks, Hartsell. Maybe we should start giving representatives \$1,000 for every good idea that they come up with so that we don't have to seriously consider this kind of horse excrement.

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

POLL RESULTS

Do you agree with the Richardson guilty verdict?

Yes	93%
No	7%

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'420' traditions revealed

Local business hosts annual event on April 20

Mike Davis
STAFF WRITER

What do you get if you add the date of Bob Marley's death, Adolf Hitler's birthday, the police code for possession of marijuana and the number of active ingredients in marijuana?

For years, marijuana users have passed the peace pipe and lit up the skies with smoke on April 20 as they showed their love for the counter-culture. But why are these rituals on April 20 more special than any other day? Why not May 20 or June 20?

"I don't know of any special meaning behind the day itself, just a day for people to smoke weed," said a knowledgeable source that did not want their name revealed. "Last year on 420, I woke up at 4:20 a.m. to begin, just as I will do this year."

It wasn't because of Bob Marley's death, Adolf Hitler's birthday or the bill number in congress to legalize marijuana that infamously popularized this spring day. The term "420" came to light by a group of high schoolers in San Rafael, Calif., dubbed "The Waldos." In the 1970s, the Waldos would meet at a Louis Pasteur statue outside their school every day at 4:20 p.m. to smoke. Who knew that a group of post-hippie teenagers would later be known for revolutionizing the marijuana world by creating its worldly holiday?

"420 is like any other holiday. It's a good excuse to enjoy the company of your friends and appreciate life," said the same source.

But do not fear — Sup Dogs has saved the day for those out there not meeting with "The Waldos" at old Louis Pasteur's statue this Wednesday. Sup Dogs will be hosting its third annual "Doggie Jams" festival. The event, which goes from 3:30 to 9 p.m., will include two local live bands, a hot dog eating contest and two free hot dogs alongside dollar beers upon entrance.

For the price of \$4.20, Doggie Jams will provide a pre-finals cheap night out to help ease the upcoming weeks. "Doggie Jams is right before exams start, just as the professors lay low on the work," said Sup Dogs owner Derek Oliverio. Oliverio clarifies that the date of the event had no relation to the 420 holiday.

The festivities may last all evening, but the famed hot dog eating contest will only last for 12 minutes, where contestants shove their faces to become victorious. Besides the lifelong glory of being a hot dog eating champion, the wiener gets \$300 cash.

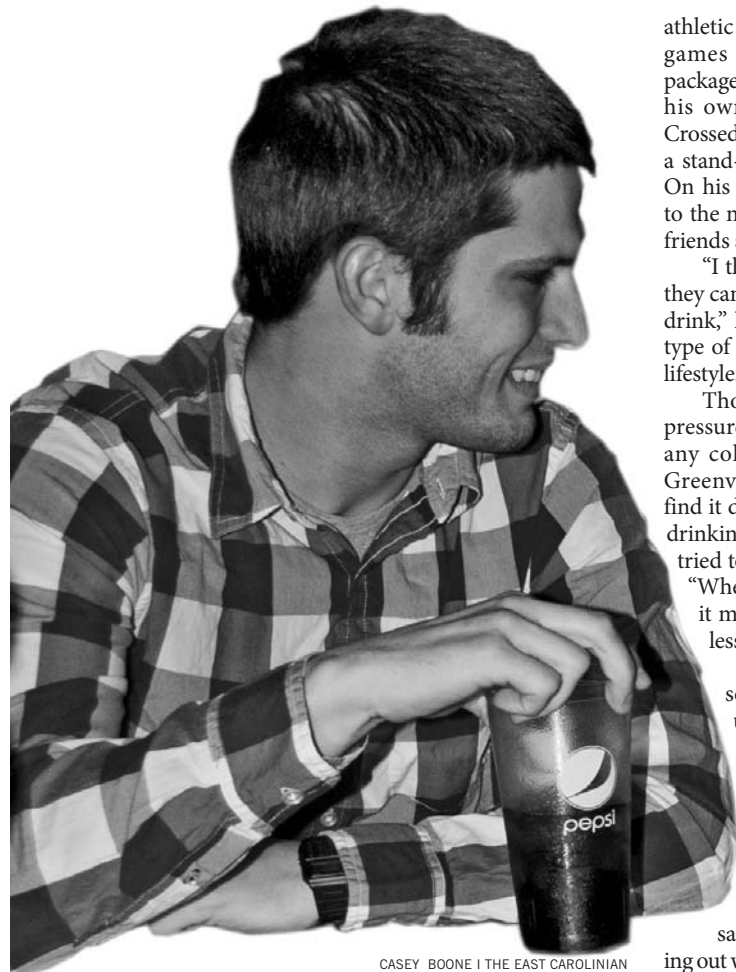
With Doggie Jams attendance increasing the past two years, Oliverio is optimistic that this year won't be any different. "The first year, it was pouring rain and we still had 340 people show up. The next year, we had 846 people show up. We just want everyone to come out and enjoy what Doggie Jams has to offer."

What do you get when you add the 420 counter-culture and Sup Dogs' Doggie Jams? You get two types of festivals where you can kick back, relax, "enjoy the company of your friends and appreciate life."

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

Lifestyles is now hiring!
Contact: managingeditor@theeastcarolinian.com
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A sober student's story



CASEY BOONE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This student chooses a soda over alcohol while downtown.

Matt Hearne has never had an alcoholic drink in his life.

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES
EDITOR

It's no secret that ECU has a party school reputation, but what about those students who don't drink, do drugs or party and still get thrown into that stereotype?

23-year-old senior Jarvis Matthew Hearne is graduating next month and in his four years at ECU has never had a drink. In fact, Hearne has never con-

sumed alcohol, done any type of drug or even smoked a cigarette in his entire life.

"I was never the guy who wanted to drink to have fun or needed to drink to have fun," said Hearne. "I do enjoy my time without having to drink or do drugs or anything like that."

Hearne hasn't chosen to live his life alcohol-free because of any religious reason or traumatic experience in the past, but rather just because it's what he believes in. He likes to spend his time in between schoolwork, watching movies, playing video games, singing karaoke, going to the park and working at ECU

athletic events where he films games and makes highlight packages. He has actually made his own film, entitled "Star Crossed," and hopes to become a stand-up comedian one day. On his 21st birthday, he went to the movies with a couple of friends and ate some sushi.

"I think most people think they can't have fun if they don't drink," he said. "It's a different type of fun, a different type of lifestyle."

Though there is constant pressure to drink or party in any college town, including Greenville, Hearne does not find it difficult to abstain from drinking. "A lot of people have tried to pressure me," he said. "Whenever somebody asks, it makes me want to drink less."

Though there are some people who don't understand his lifestyle, there are others who let him be. "I have some friends here at school that do respect that I don't drink. It's hard to find friends like that," he said. "I've stopped hanging out with friends who wanted to peer pressure me because it's my choice."

Vice versa, Hearne is not prejudiced toward friends of his who do drink and doesn't mind being around people who are drinking as long as they're doing it responsibly. Though Hearne has one friend back home who also doesn't drink, he doesn't have any at ECU who abstain from it.

"I have a problem with the people who are irresponsible about it," he said. "I hate people who use drinking as a get out of jail free card," he said, in reference to people who use drinking as a reason to excuse behavior. Hearne has known people who have woken up under trees or

in random houses the morning after drinking.

"People make mistakes while drinking. I don't have to worry about that," he said, referring to instances such as waking up in jail or in random locations, wondering where his car is in the morning or discovering bodily injuries the next day.

People will often ask Hearne, "How do you know drinking is bad if you've never done it?" His response is, "Because I've seen what it does to people." He explained that he has known girls who got pregnant and people that have caught diseases from having sex while drunk. He has also known people who have died from drinking and driving and people who have abused their families due to alcohol. "The party scene is so dangerous," he said. "It's not a glamorous lifestyle."

One incident involving alcohol that he hated the most was a party that he went to in high school. "I saw people getting sick, fighting, having to be carried out of the house," he said. "I saw girls who were so drunk they couldn't remember their name."

He explained that guys were trying to take advantage of these belligerently drunk girls by trying to get them to go upstairs. "If I wasn't there to tell them 'No' then I might have seen people get raped," said Hearne. "That idea the most scares me. If you get drunk, you run the risk of not being able to control yourself."

One thing that really bothers Hearne is being thrown into the party school stereotype often associated with ECU. He explained one time when he was at a football game, a guy behind him was so drunk that he tapped Hearne on the shoulder and asked him, "Where

am I?"

"I came to this school for an education. Partying was never part of it. It belittles my education," he said, in regards to the party school reputation.

"Students (who party) have this idea of the college experience of drinking and partying and classes come second," said Hearne. "There're more fun to be had in college."

On top of the party scene being unappealing to him in terms of behavior, it is also unappealing to Hearne in a money sense. Hearne estimates that men usually spend at least \$55 per night when going downtown, between paying to get into different clubs and buying drinks. Hearne would rather spend his time and money on something that he can have for a long time, such as a video game or a movie ticket. "If I go see a movie and I like it, that gives me a more substantial conversation than 'Oh man, what did I do last night?'" he said.

During the summer, Hearne coaches high school football and loves that he can be a positive role model to the kids. "They can see someone who enjoyed their college years, loves life, and never drank and never really thought about it," he said. "That makes me more proud than anything."

Hearne enjoys living his life drug and alcohol free and without the worries that usually accompany them. Besides the champagne toast at his wedding or a glass of wine for health reasons in the future, if that, he never sees himself picking up an alcoholic beverage.

"Have I ever felt like I needed alcohol to make myself feel better? No," said Hearne. "At the end of the day, am I happy that I don't drink? Yes."

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

'Scream 4' brings Ghostface to a new generation

★★★★☆

Hunter Ingram
STAFF WRITER

Blood, guts, audiences anxiously yelling "Don't do that!" or "Don't go in there!" and a seemingly endless supply of massive kitchen knives are all present for Ghostface's return to theaters in "Scream 4."

Famous for its commentary on the horror genre and its twisty plotlines, the "Scream" franchise has produced three films that changed the state of the slasher genre when it first debuted back in 1996. But for the past 11 years, franchise director Wes Craven and writer Kevin Williamson have been plotting the perfect time to return to the horror scene.

In "Scream 4," Sidney Prescott returns to where it all began, her hometown of Woodsboro, to promote her new self-help book — a return that just happens to coincide with the 15th anniversary of the first killings. After quickly meeting up with her fellow franchise survivors Dewey Riley (David Arquette) and Gale Weathers (Courtney Cox), the trio is informed that two teenagers have been brutally murdered, effectively kicking off a new game of cat-and-mouse.

With the plot now established, several elements of the "Scream" franchise must fall into place to ensure this installment's place among its predecessors, and one of those elements is the opening scene. In the original film, Drew Barrymore was famously killed off in the first 10 minutes, solidifying the notion that no one is safe from the killer's wrath, something that has reverberated throughout the franchise.

"I absolutely love the openings of the 'Scream' films," said Emma Summers, a sophomore psychology major and longtime "Scream" fan. "I saw the movies for the first time when I was younger and they really made me think twice about answering the phone, or being home alone for that matter."

Here, the opening scene is not only inventive and fresh, but also rather genius and a perfect reintroduction in to the "Scream" world for a new generation. Without giving anything away, let's just say that the cameos by Kristen Bell and Anna Paquin, among others, really take an unexpected and abrasive turn.

From there, the audience is introduced to the cast, which nicely

represents two very different time periods in the horror genre. This serves as an opportunity to comment on horror films as a whole, and "Scream 4" has always shined in this ability.

Sidney, Gale and Dewey represent the "original" film in the movie's constant discussion of Hollywood's recent reliance on remakes. The new "teenagers" represent the remake's attempt to recapture the original's thrills and appeal. This works perfectly because there is a constant tension between the two groups, especially Sidney and her cousin Jill (Emma Roberts), who are really trying to find their roles in this new game.

For any "Scream" buff, the reemergence of Sidney, Dewey and Gale is nothing but exciting and really reminds fans just how much these characters have gone through over the course of three films. Plus, Gale and Dewey still have some of the best one-liners in the film.

As for the newbies, Hayden Panettiere really succeeds in the role of Kirby, Jill's best friend and closet film geek. In one very impressive scene in which she is being quizzed by the raspy-voiced villain, Kirby recites what sounds like every horror remake made in last 10 years off the top of her head. And Emma Roberts is also very good as the new young ingénue who has to embody the role of the "targeted girl," a role that Sidney had to portray and overcome in the original films.

As for the ending, it is surprisingly well constructed for a fourth installment and actually breaks form in a very effective way. Danielle Poston, a media production major, is a big fan of the franchise and was very impressed by the film and its ending.

"I was blown away by the ending," said Poston. "Once the killer was revealed, I was very shocked because I never guessed it. That surprise made the movie even better."

Overall, "Scream 4" was a pleasant surprise. These films have always had fun creating a balance of suspense and witty one-liners, and there is no shortage of either here. By acknowledging the past 10 years of remakes and reboots, "Scream 4" knows never to take itself too seriously and, as a result, rises far above all of the films it takes jabs at.

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

SCREAM



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Graduate Carmin Black created Half United, a company that donates proceeds to feed children.

Fashion company feeds children

Half United, founded by alumna Carmin Black, feeds a child for a week with every purchase

Rebecca Blanchette
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

When alumna Carmin Black graduated in 2007, she already had a job lined up that pertained to her broadcast journalism major. However, a couple of years into the career, she learned that the field just wasn't for her. Now, just a few years later, she has taken her life in a new direction and, along with her brother, has started a humanitarian company called Half United.

"Half United is a clothing company. We also sell jewelry, but mostly clothes, and every time you purchase one of our products, we provide a week's worth of meals to a child," said Black. "We design all of the clothing. We don't sell pre-designed products. Everything that we make we have thought of and we have created."

Half United merchandise is sold in boutiques in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. By adding the cost of food to the wholesale prices of their products, each purchase pays for a week's worth of meals for a child. This, however, does not mean that the products are much more expensive than other designers; they're actually only a couple of dollars more.

"People don't realize that in the U.S., food is relatively expensive, but in these third world countries, food is not expensive; it's very, very cheap," said Black. "So that's the first thing people need to realize. It doesn't take a lot of money to provide an entire week's worth of food for a child."

Black gained some experience working in the humanitarian field when she worked for TOMS Shoes, just prior to opening Half United. After she quit her journalism job, Black explained, "I did not know what to do, but I knew news

wasn't for me, which was really sad because I spent all four years of college working for this," she said.

A few years prior, she had met the owner of TOMS Shoes and decided to look into the company. "I was wondering what the company was up to and if they had grown, and they had," she said. "They were hiring at the time, so I applied for a position and I got it, so I moved to L.A. and worked for TOMS Shoes for a while and traveled the country."

Because of Black's background knowledge in journalism, she was hired for a position that required her to travel the country in a 15-passenger van with other girls delivering speeches about TOMS. "It was when I was on the road that I discovered that I loved to give back," she said.

Upon returning to L.A., Black quit her job at TOMS. "It was really cool and a great experience, but it didn't make me rich," she said. She moved back to Wilmington and started

Half United with only \$200. "We bought four shirts and got them printed and sold them," she said. "I'd make jewelry upstairs in my grandmother's house and sell it."

"I don't necessarily recommend that somebody start a business with no money," said Black. "But because of our struggle, it's like we can really inspire hopefully young people who maybe feel like they're not smart enough, rich enough or talented enough."

Half United has been open for a year and a half and to date has provided 25,000 meals for the 2010 year alone. Every time a purchase is made, the money is immediately set aside to go toward the meals. "We don't give it away at the end of the year. We set that money aside and put it into a non-profit bank account so it is a legal

contribution," said Black. Half United has fed children in Wilmington, Haiti, Indonesia, Fiji and Liberia. "We are very seri-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Half United founder Carmin Black.

ous about the fact that we think that starvation and hunger is a complete outrage and it is ridiculous that it is even happening in our day and age," said

Black. "With the amount of money and resources we have in the world, there is no reason why any child or adult should have to go hungry."

"We care about the kids because it hits home for us," said Black, who said that at one point in time, she and her brother didn't know where their next meal was coming from due to financial problems.

"We've chosen fashion and fighting hunger as the focus of what we do, but the customers at the end of the day are the ones feeding the children," said Black. "Every purchase really counts, because the more purchases made, the more children that get fed."

To purchase Half United products, visit www.halfunited.com.

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

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SOLUTION

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East Carolina University



Riggs named C-USA Hitter-of-the-Week

ECU Media Relations

After helping ECU to a series win at league-leading UAB over the weekend, junior Suzanne Riggs was named the Conference USA Hitter-of-the-Week according to an announcement Monday by league officials. For the week, Riggs paced the team in nearly every offensive category, including hits (7), doubles (2), home runs (1), runs batted in (6), walks drawn (5), total bases (12), slugging percentage (.857) and on-base percentage (.600). The weekly honor is Riggs' second in her career and also second in April.

Riggs started the week collecting a hit in each game of Wednesday's doubleheader against rival N.C. State. In the second contest, she drove in the Pirates' first run with a sacrifice fly.

Saturday, in the series opener at UAB, Riggs scored the game-winning run in the top of the 11th inning. During the second contest, the Greenville native had two of East Carolina's three hits and tallied an outfield assist by gunning down Tiffany Smith at third as she tried to stretch a double into a triple.

In the Sunday finale, Riggs went 2-3 while picking up a career-high five RBI. She became the first Pirate to have five runs batted in during a game since Jessica Johnson against Georgetown March 10, 2009. Riggs drove in the game-winning run with a three-run home run in the first inning that gave ECU a lead it never relinquished. During the five games, Riggs went 3-4 with a runner in scoring position, reached base both times leading off an inning and was successful advancing runners 63.6 percent of the time.

Tennis earns spot in C-USA Championship

ECU Media Relations

The ECU men's tennis team earned the No. 8 seed for the 2011 Conference USA Men's Tennis Championships, which begin Thursday, April 21, at the Michael D. Case Tennis Center in Tulsa, Okla. The Pirates will face No. 9 seed Southern Miss Thursday at 3 p.m. EDT in the opening round match with the winner advancing to face top-seeded Tulsa in the quarterfinals on Friday at 12 p.m.

The Pirates edged the Golden Eagles, 4-3, in Hattiesburg, Miss., earlier this season with a sweep of the doubles matches and split of the singles matches. Freshman Joran Vliegen, sophomore John Schmitt and senior Henrik Skalmerud were each victorious in singles play. ECU will send Vliegen and senior Jaroslav Horvath in the first doubles flight with Skalmerud and fellow senior Stian Tvedt playing at No. 2 doubles. The third doubles team is yet to be determined.

Horvath and Vliegen have been a successful pairing during their first season playing together. The duo has produced a 15-9 ledger, including a 12-6 mark at the No. 1 flight. Skalmerud and Tvedt teamed up this spring for an 11-9 dual match record, which included an 8-4 win at Southern Miss over the Golden Eagles' tandem of Paulo Alvarado and Jovan Zeljkovic.

In singles play, Horvath will play at the No. 1 position while Vliegen will occupy the No. 2 flight. Sophomore Massimo Mannino, who won five matches at No. 1, will follow in the third flight with Schmitt, owner of a 16-9 singles record this season playing No. 4. Tvedt will compete in the fifth flight with freshman Mario Martinez putting his 10-3 individual record on the line at No. 6.

The Pirates produced a 12-10 dual match record this spring, including a 1-3 mark against C-USA foes.

SPORTS

PIRATES WIN RUBBER MATCH AGAINST THE KNIGHTS



John Wooten slides safely into home plate against UCF on Sunday. Zach Wright motions for the slide from the backstop.

Lorianna Whitford STAFF WRITER

After a weekend battle, the ECU baseball team secured a much-needed series win over conference opponent UCF. With consecutive series losses to recover from, the Pirates took the weekend opportunity to come back from their slump and triumph over the Knights.

Sunday's final game of the weekend fastened ECU's series win over the Knights, setting the conference record at an even 6-6 (24-12 overall.)

Greenville's own, freshman Chase McDonald, gave the Pirates their first lead of the game by driving in two of the three runs of the third inning. With bases loaded, McDonald's two-RBI single put the Pirates at ease by breaking a 2-2 tie with the Knights. Junior Tim Younger's ground out to second brought Trent Whitehead home to lead 5-3 in the end of the third. McDonald collected a career-best four hits during the series-winning game.

On the mound, junior Kevin Brandt picked up his fifth win of the season, setting

an impressive 2011 record for himself, 5-0. Brandt allowed a run in each of the first two frames. He then settled in, working eight innings on the hill, retiring 13 of the next 14 batters.

"I caught a little groove in some of the middle innings," Brandt said. "In the first two innings, I wasn't throwing too bad of pitches. UCF's just a good hitting club and they were putting the ball in play and I had to settle down, refocus and continue to throw strikes."

Senior closer Seth Simmons took over the ninth inning, recording his 25th career save. Holding the ninth scoreless, Simmons solidified the win, allowing one hit and firing three heated strikeouts. Brandt talked about how it feels to throw eight innings and know that you can trust the ninth to a dependable pitcher such as Simmons.

"It's so relaxing to have Simmons come in there and take care of the ninth inning," Brandt said. "We've got a good bullpen. It's not just Simmons, it's everybody. You don't have to worry about what's going to

happen when you retire to the dugout."

Saturday's game posed a problem as the Pirates fell to the Knights, creating a series tie. Junior Mike Wright was saddled with the loss from the mound, allowing three runs on four hits with three walks and a pair of strikeouts in his six innings throwing. Senior right-hander Brad Mincey threw two and a half scoreless innings, giving up three hits and striking out two.

The Pirates struggled to bring runners home, leaving 12 runners stranded on base. Corey Thompson and Whitehead led the team behind the bat with two hits each.

The opening game of the series excited fans with an impressive number of RBIs for the Pirates. ECU's batters were on fire as they dominated UCF 12-6 to kick off the weekend.

The bottom of the third inning ignited the Pirates as they matched their season high for runs in an inning when they brought five runs in on six hits to take an overwhelming lead over the Knights, 9-1. Freshman Jack Reinheimer collected

a career best, going 4-for-4 and driving in two to help ECU to the win over UCF.

Taking his Friday night start once again, senior Seth Maness worked six full innings, where he allowed one run on four hits with two walks and three strikeouts. This brought Maness his 33rd career victory, putting him in second place for ECU's all-time wins list and puts him in a tie for the Conference USA all-time charts. Tanner Merritt, Joseph Hughes and Mike Anderson each took an inning in relief to work together to achieve the win for the Pirates.

Fans can catch the Pirates back on the diamond Tuesday, April 19, hosting rival UNC-Wilmington at 6 p.m.

"It's always a good rivalry game," Godwin said. "They're going to be excited about coming here and playing us, but we're going to have to match their intensity and be ready to play on Tuesday after an emotional series win."

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

RIGGS LEADS SOFTBALL OVER UAB



Outfielder Suzanne Riggs loads up on a pitch against N.C. State last week. Riggs had a strong weekend at the dish against UAB.

Carlos Olivera STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team handed the UAB Blazers their first series loss this season behind a career game from junior Suzanne Riggs. The Blazers entered the series with just one conference loss on the season.

In the series finale on Sunday, the Pirates wasted no time jumping on the Blazers, tallying three runs before an out was recorded in the top of the first inning. After freshman Kristi Oshiro and Jill Jelnick both singled, Riggs stepped in and drove the 1-1 pitch over the left field wall for her fourth home run on the season. With the three

first inning runs on Sunday, the Pirates have outscored their opponents 36-11 in the first inning this season.

The three runs were more than enough offensive support needed for senior Toni Paisley, who picked up her 24th win on the season. Paisley (24-8) went all seven innings, giving up two runs on three hits while fanning 11 Blazers.

Paisley was also recently named one of the top 25 finalists of the Amateur Softball Association for the 2011 Softball Collegiate Player-of-the-Year award.

Thanks in part to three UAB errors, the Pirates would add another run in the top of the third. Jelnick reached first safely after an Alisha Smith error. Freshman Jordan

Lewis reached base safely on an error by the first baseman, putting runners on first and second with just one out.

Senior Sissy Jimenez then hit a grounder to short, who flipped to second to force out Lewis, and the throw to first got away, allowing Jelnick to score, giving the Pirates a 4-0 lead. ECU would go on to score two more runs for the 6-2 win.

In the series opener on Saturday, the Pirates would need 11 innings to down the Blazers. The game started out as a pitchers' duel, with Jimenez being the only base runner in the first three innings after

NEW QUESTIONS ARISE AFTER SPRING GAME

OPINION



Adam Bunn ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

On a day that saw severe Tornadoes spread all over the state, ECU welcomed a whole different kind of storm, as for one day, football returned to the eastern part of Heaven.

While the ECU spring game wasn't an actual game as the coaches designed an offense versus defense scrimmage, it did provide an insight into some potential problems, as well as highlighting the difference one year can make.

One year ago, the Pirates came into spring practice with a brand new coaching staff, no proven quarterback, massive losses on the defensive side of the ball, and after spring ended, fans were left with more questions than answers.

Flash forward one year and the Pirates begin spring practice again with numerous questions, and while ECU still exists spring ball with questions, they are better suited to answer them.

"It is nice having a year under our belts from an evaluation standpoint," Head Coach Ruffin McNeill said. "I think we were able to do a lot more this spring than last because of it. I think the biggest difference is we were able to hit the ground running. Once we return our injured players and throw in the guys we signed, I believe we can be a pretty good team."

With the purple and gold spring game not really being a game, instead of breaking down the game, let's answer some of the questions that many fans had heading into the annual Pigskin Pig-Out.

Will Dominique Davis be the same player he was last year?

No. He will be better. At times last season, Davis made bad decisions in the closing moments of games; for example, at Virginia Tech and at home against SMU. With Davis being the competitor that he is, he won't accept those same mistakes. Throughout the spring, Davis showed better decision making that leads one to believe that he will meet the yardage and touchdown passes numbers from last year while limiting his turnovers. Davis showed

QUESTIONS page A9

PEACH BASKET PREDICTIONS

Can the Bulls return Chicago to NBA glory?

OPINION



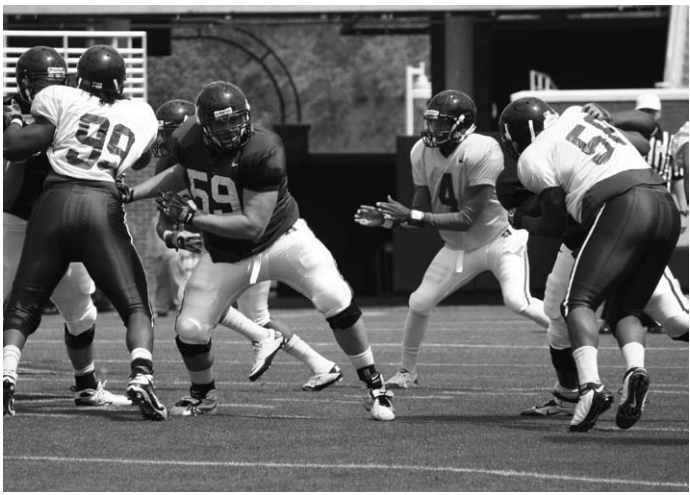
Chase Kroll STAFF WRITER

The NBA playoffs are upon us in full swing and here's a look at how the entire tournament will be played out series by series.

First Round:
San Antonio Spurs vs. Memphis Grizzlies

The non-flashy methodical play of the Spurs is just too much

QUESTIONS continued from A8



ERIN DUNCAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Quarterback Dominique Davis hands the ball off during the purple and gold spring game on Saturday.

some of that improvement in his one drive on Saturday, completing 4-of-4 passes for 29 yards and a touchdown.

"I thought Dominique came in and played well," offense coordinator Lincoln Riley said of Davis's performance in the spring game. "Just like we scripted go one drive, you score and get him out of there. That's what we wanted to do."

With the loss of Jon Williams and Giovanni Ruffin, who will get the carries?

It is yet to be seen. While everyone seems to be talking about the loss of Dwayne Harris and his impact on the offense, the most important offensive loss had to be the top two running backs. Sophomore Michael Dobson got the majority of the carries in the spring, but with highly touted recruits coming in the fall, the running back position is wide open, so that issue is yet to be resolved, and it has the looks of a major battle in the fall.

"I feel like all three of the backs here now took advantage of the spring," Dobson said of the benefit of being here for spring ball. "We made improvements. I feel like we will feed off that into summer camp."

Davis is the starter, so who will be the backup?

Uncertain. Last season, it took the ECU coaching staff all the way until game week to decide who was going to be the starting quarterback. This season, however, the battle is at the backup position. Brad Wornick, who was in the mix to be the starter last season, hasn't had a very good spring, so the battle has pretty much come down to Rio Johnson and newcomer Shane Cardan. Both,

however, did not impress in the spring, going a combined 22-of-39 for 180 yards with one score, while converting just 3-of-15 third-down opportunities.

"The quarterbacks didn't play well," Riley said. "They missed some throws, and I thought when a few bad things happened, their body language didn't hold up. They kind of held their heads low, the two young guys Rio and Shane."

Will the new 3-4 defense help improve last year's performance?

Uncertain. The defense performed well in the spring game on Saturday, but it was against the offense they see every single day in practice. Not only that, but the coaching staff still hasn't put in the entire defensive package, meaning the defense still has a lot to learn before playing South Carolina on Sept. 1.

"I told my guys to do four things," defensive coordinator Brian Mitchell said of his pre-game instructions. "Make sure we communicate on the football field. Make sure we are assignment sound. Make sure we don't give up any big plays, and make sure we don't miss any tackles. That's the only thing I gave those guys to do, and I think we did a pretty good job."

So now with spring practice all but wrapped up, the ECU football team will once again step off the field, not returning until July when they will begin their final preparations for the season-opening contest in Charlotte against South Carolina.

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

PEACH BASKET continued from A8

for an underrated Memphis team. San Antonio wins in six.

Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Denver Nuggets

Denver puts up a league-best 107.5 points per game; however, the Thunder's offense finds a way to overcome a difficult first-round matchup. Thunder wins in seven.

Dallas Mavericks vs. Portland Trailblazers

Dallas is a team with a lot of skill and experience, and the Trailblazers just don't score enough points to come out on top. Dallas wins in five.

Los Angeles Lakers vs. New Orleans Hornets

With strong play from Chris Paul and Emeka Okafor, the Hornets could sneak a few past the defending champs. But Los Angeles starts their title defense off right. Lakers win in six.

Chicago Bulls vs. Indiana Pacers

The Bulls have the best record in the NBA, and the Pacers are a below-.500 team. Chicago wins in four.

Orlando Magic vs. Atlanta Hawks

The Hawks enter the game on a six-game losing streak but have the playmakers to make this a series. However, they don't seem to have a guy to stop Dwight Howard. Orlando wins in six.

Boston Celtics vs. New York Knicks

One of the more intriguing matchups of the first round, the experience of the Celtics should really highlight the Knicks' lack of chemistry. Boston wins in five.

Miami Heat vs. Philadelphia 76ers

The highly scrutinized Heat should start the playoffs off with a bang against an average 76ers team. Miami wins in four.

Conference Semi-finals

San Antonio Spurs vs. Oklahoma City Thunder

A strong core of established veterans lead the Spurs. The fast-paced Thunder team is led by young offensive stars Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. In the battle of old versus young, I like the underdogs in this one. Oklahoma City wins in six.

Dallas Mavericks vs. Los Angeles Lakers

The Mavericks have always been a consistently good team but have never won an NBA championship. Dirk Nowitzki is motivated to change this streak, but the Lakers simply know how to win when it matters, even if they haven't been as dominant this year. Los Angeles wins in seven.

Chicago Bulls vs. Orlando Magic
Derrick Rose and company have all the tools needed to win this series.

Joakim Noah will be able to contain Howard for the most part, and players such as Carlos Boozer and Kyle Korver will be able to make the shots they need in order to win. Derrick Rose will shine. Chicago wins in five.

Boston Celtics vs. Miami Heat

The Heat has really struggled against the Celtics this year, going 1-3 in the regular season. Boston holds teams to the fewest points in the NBA, but they are 23rd in scoring, which could be exploited by Miami's big three. Miami finally plays well under pressure and wins in seven.

Western Conference Finals:

Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Los Angeles Lakers

Throughout the regular season, it hasn't been very apparent that the Lakers are competing for their third national title in a row. But they are a deep, talented team that is comfortable in big games. All of the baggage that comes with Los Angeles could weigh them down, and if they don't come out on their game, the Thunder has the players to capitalize. In the underdog roll once again, I think Kevin Durant plays phenomenal basketball and Oklahoma City steals the series in six.

Eastern Conference Finals:

Chicago Bulls vs. Miami Heat

Although the league MVP wont be announced for another week or so, it's fairly safe to say that the MVP will most likely be playing in this game. Whether it's Derrick Rose or LeBron James, each team's leading player has to play very well to secure a spot in the finals. When it comes down to it, the Heat just don't have the chemistry on the court that they need to win this series. Rose continues to impress as the Bulls win in six.

NBA Championship Finals:

Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Chicago Bulls

It is a bold prediction to say the Thunder will pull off a few upsets and be able to shoot their way to the NBA Finals, but if they do, it will take several long series and considerable weight put on their leaders' shoulders. Assuming they get to this point, they just don't have the depth needed to outlast Chicago. The Bulls end the postseason in as dominant a fashion as they did the regular season, with Rose, Noah and Boozer leading the city to its first title since the Michael Jordan era. Chicago wins in five.

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

RIGGS continued from A8

being hit by a pitch.

"We knew it was going to be a pitchers' duel all weekend. I don't think either team disappointed in that department," said Head Coach Tracey Kee.

The first run came in the top of the fourth off of a single from Lewis. Oshiro led off the inning with a single, and was sacrificed to second by Alex Fieldhouse. After a foul out, Lewis stepped in and ripped a single to left scoring Oshiro. Riggs then walked, but her and Lewis were left stranded on base.

ECU would take a 2-0 lead in the top of the fifth off a Jelnick single that plated Jasmine Robbins. Oshiro then walked, putting runners on first and second with only one out. UAB pitcher Leigh Streetman then struck out the next two Pirates, getting out of the inning without any further damage. UAB cut the lead to 2-1 in the bottom of the inning.

UAB threatened to put the game away after loading the bases with no outs in the bottom of the seventh. After two Paisley strikeouts, UAB's Catherine Douglass stole home, tying the game at two. Paisley would strike out the next batter to send the game to extra innings.

Both offenses were quiet until the bottom of the 10th when the Blazers had runners on first and second with one out. After a Paisley strikeout, Caley Walden singled to center, thinking the game was won. Robbins had other plans as she threw out pinch runner Donna Plath at home to extend the game.

"Jasmine had an unbelievable game both defensively and offensively. I think for us, that was key to have somebody at the bottom of the lineup step up," said Kee.

After the fine defensive play, Robbins stepped up in the top of the 11th and ripped a double scoring Riggs, who would be the eventual game winning run.

Pitching well for the Pirates was Paisley, who went all 11 innings, giving up just two runs on five hits with 15 strikeouts. The win was Paisley's 109th of her career, which broke the Conference USA All-Time wins record. She also became the C-USA leader in innings pitched and appearances.

The Pirates couldn't keep the momentum going in the second game, as they were shutout 2-0. The Pirates managed only three hits in the game, with Riggs recording two of them. UAB scored the games only runs in the bottom of the sixth on a two-run home run from Kristen McGrath.

Junior Faith Sutton (7-8) pitched extremely well in the loss. Sutton went all six innings, giving up two runs on five hits.

Up next for the Pirates is a three-game series with UTEP. The Pirates will travel to El Paso to take on UTEP with the first game scheduled for Friday, April 22, at 5 p.m.

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

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Ocean lifeguards wanted in North Myrtle Beach, SC. \$11.00 to \$12.00 per hour + bonus. For more information, go to www.nmblifeguards.com or call 843-281-3820.

SUMMER WORK IN GREENVILLE. MULTIPLE OPENINGS. Flexible with other commitments (summer school, another job, etc.) Great resume builder. All majors considered. Scholarships, Internships possible depending on major. Simple Customer Work. No experience necessary. Interview now, start after finals. Call 252-215-5633 or apply online at WorkInGreenville.com

!BARTENDING! \$250/day potential. No experience necessary. Training available. 1-800-965-6520 (EXT 202).

Cooks needed at Professor O'Cool's

(605 Greenville Blvd. SE). Day, night, and weekend hours available. Apply in person M-F before 11:30am or after 2:00pm. 252-355-2946

Swim instructors needed at Raynez Swim School. Looking for people with teaching experience, competitive background, life guarding, or WSI teaching infants to adults. Call 252-916-5494.

Tutor needed this summer for 5-year-old (9am-12pm) and 7-year-old (1pm-4pm) Monday through Thursday. Children need tutoring in reading, writing, and math. Tutor must be positive, patient, and enthusiastic. Experience with elementary-aged children a must. Elementary education majors preferred. Please contact Christi Williams at 252-343-5175.

Customer Sales/Service. FT/PT. Flexible hours. Customer service experience preferred. Organization/communication skills required. Must be a self-motivator and adaptable to performing multi-tasks efficiently and accurately. Store hours: Mon-

Fri 8-5:30, Sat 9-1. Parrott Canvas Company, 508 W 14th Street. Apply in person.

Greenville Recreation and Parks Department is recruiting for a gymnastics instructor. The position performs professional and supervisory responsibilities related to the development, coordination, and implementation of various gymnastic skills for the Greenville Recreation and Parks Department. The instructor will maintain complete attendance records, assumes on-site responsibilities for the operation of the program, and handles parental concerns and complaints. Primary purpose for the beginning gymnastics programs will be to provide safe and fun recreational activities for children ages 3&4 and 5&7. Must have experience working with children and have experience teaching/leading gymnastics. Rate of pay is between \$8.00 and \$8.50, depending on prior experience. Apply online at www.greenvillenc.gov by May 20th. For additional information, please call 252-329-4650.

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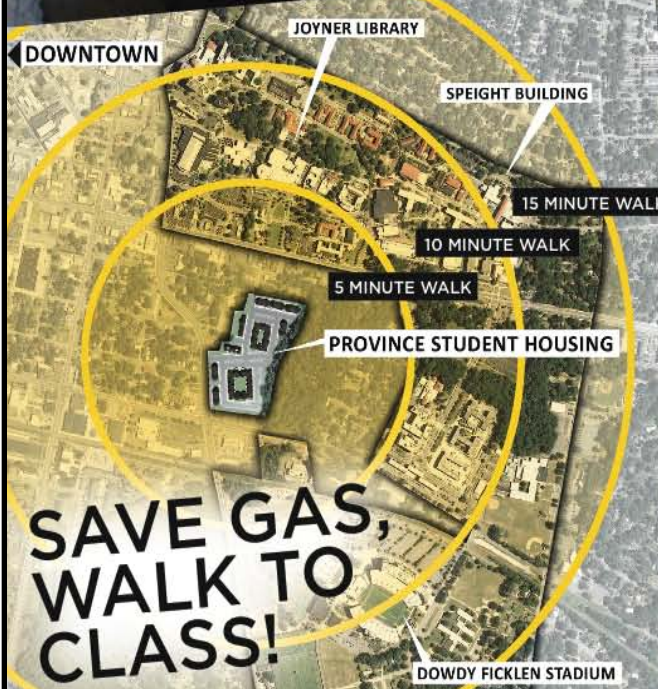
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