



BRIEFS

German department to host informative session

Staff Reports

All declared and prospective German majors and minors are asked to attend an informative session to be held Jan. 27.

At the session, attendees will be presented with job and internship search strategies by a University Career Services representative.

There will be a period for questions and answers as well.

The session is scheduled for 2 to 3 p.m. in Bate 3009. Contact Professor David Smith for more information.

Joe Paterno dies after battle with lung cancer

Staff Reports

Pennsylvania State University Football Coach Joe Paterno died Sunday at the age of 85.

His death came only two months after his son announced that Paterno was battling a treatable form of lung cancer. The cancer had been found after Paterno had a follow-up visit for a bronchial illness, reported WITN.

Paterno had been hospitalized on Jan. 13 for observation after "minor" complications from his cancer treatments.

Shortly before being diagnosed with cancer, Paterno had been caught up in a child sex-abuse scandal in which his assistant, Jerry Sandusky, was accused of molesting 10 boys over a 15-year span.

Paterno lost his job for failure to report Sandusky after a graduate assistant told Paterno he had witnessed Sandusky with a young boy in the shower.

TLC star to speak on challenges and obstacles

Staff Reports

Dr. Jennifer Arnold will speak on campus tomorrow.

Arnold is the star of the TLC Network show "The Little Couple," the director of Texas Children's Hospital's state of the art pediatric simulation center and assistant professor of pediatric at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital division of neonatology.

Dr. Arnold's visit is sponsored by the university's Campus Living Diversity Education Team, the Residence Hall Association and Student Involvement and Leadership.

She will talk about facing obstacles and challenges head-on.

The discussion will take place in Hendrix Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$1.00 to all students, faculty and staff with a valid OneCard.

Greenville man eludes police in car chase

Staff Reports

On Saturday, a Greenville man who has evaded the cops more than seven times before, sent them on yet another chase for 17 miles.

According to WNCT, 51-year-old James Moore Jr. failed to stop when a Highway Patrol Trooper attempted to stop him after noticing his license plate was not fastened correctly and that he had no insurance.

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RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Communication major Michael Crenshaw DJ's a segment on the university's radio station WZMB. The radio station is one of five entities run by student media.

Student media moves forward

Caitlin Hunnicutt

STAFF WRITER

After the recent firing of Paul Isom, the former director of student media, university officials are looking for a new director who is an appropriate fit for the university.

The director of student media serves as an advisory role directly to The East Carolinian, The

Rebel and Expressions. The position advises to the media board and the media heads for each publication. The media heads are hired by the media board and have the opportunity to hire the staff.

"At this stage of the game, we're not necessarily thinking that anything on the media board will change. We're looking to bring in someone specifically for The East Carolinian as a temporary

advisor," said Dr. Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor of student affairs. "This individual is someone we hope has an expertise in newspaper and is a veteran there, and we hope they will be a temporary liaison for The East Carolinian. This individual will be available and provide guidance and over-

> MEDIA page A2

University loses old party school image



NICK FAULKNER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students enjoy a night out over the weekend at a local bar/nightclub in downtown Greenville.

Abbey Way

STAFF WRITER

If ECU is the party school that Playboy Magazine says it is, then it's come a long way since the "Big Yellow" house affair that may have started it all.

Fifty-three years ago, nearly 50 ECU students were suspended and four expelled after a party at the "Big Yellow" house off campus caught the attention of campus and town police.

Now, ECU is nationally recognized as a party school.

In 2010, Playboy Magazine ranked the university the No. 5 party school in the nation. According to Playboy representative Steve Mazeika, to make the list, students must live by a "work hard, play hard" attitude.

But many students live up

to the reputation by another popular motto: "You can't spell parties without Pirates."

On the other side, campus officials say the party school reputation is merely history.

A Daily Gazette investigation has found that whether ECU is a "party school" is a mixed bag. By some measures, it could be. But by others, it is not.

The newspaper looked at the university's male-female ratio, access to clubs, how they party and opinions of students and administrators.

Mazeika said, "A 50-to-50 majority female student body earns bonus points towards our Party Schools rankings."

ECU was home to 27,783 students last fall, 40 percent male and 60 percent female. For every male student, there were 1.5 female students on campus.

Other nearby universities had similar gender distributions.

Although the University of North Carolina-Wilmington had a smaller student body at 13,071, students enrolled had the same ratio of 1.5 women for every man on campus.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill had very similar statistics to ECU last year with 29,390 students enrolled. Its student body was 41 percent male and 59 percent female, making for 1.4 females on campus for every male. At all three universities, it is apparent that if the students want to party, they know where to find it, while some can get there easier than others.

Conveniently for ECU students, the downtown area is

> PARTY page A2

SOPA, PIPA bills gain attention

Melanie Jock

STAFF WRITER

The Stop Online Piracy Act and the PROTECT IP Act, which target online piracy in attempts to stop illegal sharing of copyrighted material have recently been introduced to Congress.

CNN reports the intent of SOPA is to stop copyright infringement on sites that host pirated content. The bill aims to stop overseas websites that contain media that users can download illegally.

The other act, PIPA, has the same intentions. The passing of the bills has not come easy because of the vast amount of opposition faced.

Beth Winstead, the university's copyright officer, believes these bills interfere with some of the basic rights of American citizens.

"In our country, you're innocent until proven guilty," she said. "With this law, you're automatically guilty and then you have to prove your innocence."

Although the bills have drawn support from the music and film industry, social media websites like Facebook and websites such as Google, Yahoo!, eBay and Wikipedia are against the bills. They believe the bills take away from free speech and would censor the Internet.

These websites and thousands of others joined in protesting these bills by blacking out their websites on Jan. 18.

Millions of Internet users that tried to access sites such as Wikipedia last Wednesday found that the website was shut down. Instead of having the usual content, the site aimed to educate users about the SOPA and PIPA bills. Wikipedia reported that the blackout page had nearly 162 million views.

The other major site that drew attention for protesting was Google, which blacked out their name and linked to a petition for users to sign.

The purpose of their blackout was to gain attention, and according to Winstead, it was effective.

"It's a good example of how, in the media age, opposition can arise very quickly to something and get something done and change things," said

> SOPA page A2

INSIDE

OPINION

Tired of getting spam in your inbox? Check out columnist Ben Cochran's thoughts inside. **A3**

LIFESTYLES

Turn to Lifestyles to read one columnist's review of 'Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close!' **A4**

SPORTS

Turn to Sports to read about an upcoming fencing tournament. **A6**

WEATHER

68°F/ 39°F

Mostly Sunny!



GRAPHICS FROM ENTROPIA.COM

ONLINE



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

BRIEFS CONT.

Police chased Moore up Highway 43 with the chase reaching 75 mph before Moore turned around and came back to Greenville. Moore was eventually

blocked in on Evans Street, where he exited the car and tried to flee but was caught.

He has been charged with felony speed to elude arrest, reckless driving and

insurance and tag violations.

Moore was taken to the Pitt County Detention Center under a \$17,000 bond.

MEDIA continued from A1

sight for the newspaper."

Isom was fired two months after a nude photograph ran in The East Carolinian. Several different first amendment organizations and Isom have questioned the reasoning behind his firing.

"I would say, given the timing, I don't think the university administrators can blame anybody for saying that the two would be most likely related, and given the comment that there would be consequences that would be given for publishing the streaker photos. There's all kind of first amendment organizations that believe this strongly," said Dr. Cindy Elmore, a communication professor. "Granted, it is possible that we don't know everything. Given that this is a personnel matter, I will acknowledge that. But I don't think anyone can be blamed that the two events are related."

Going forward, the position will become open at a date that has not been declared. University administrators are going to bring someone in who will do a review of student media and look at things that can be tweaked and will provide recommendations for changes in student media, according to Hardy.

"Periodically, we bring in expert reviewers, and we use the feedback to help us improve on whatever that program is. We're hoping to do that with student media, and all of those people we bring in will be external," said Hardy. "We will search for the permanent director. We may use some of that information from the program review in our recruitment efforts."

The university plans to look for a new candidate for the position in the same way by advertising the position in places that they normally would.

"I think there are a lot of things that are enticing to people to come to ECU and the student media positions. The students have done have a great job of making this a position for someone wanting to pursue," said Chris Stansbury, interim executive director for marketing and communications and student affairs.

Elmore fears that candidates of the position will be rightly or wrongly intimidated to apply for the job or be intimidated by the university's actions. "Truthfully, this is a horrible job no matter where you go because university administrators are accustomed to being able to control student orga-

nizations. And the Supreme Court has said students who work for student media have full first amendment rights," said Elmore. "That includes the opportunity for students to make a mistake or for the students to publish something that university doesn't find in good tastes. Am I encouraging that, no, but I respect the Supreme Court."

First Amendment rights have been the center of discussion in regards to Isom's firing and the publication of the photo. According to Hardy, administrators want to continue to support a learning environment and still uphold all that they expect from the First Amendment.

"I would like to see student media First Amendment rights protected at this university, and I think it needs to be removed from marketing's oversight. I think those two (student media and marketing) are at odds," said Elmore. "Not that student media needs to do anything that ECU makes look bad. But student media needs to feel free to scrutinize and investigate university actions as an institution. I can't imagine anyone wouldn't want that of the media, provided that it's done responsibly."

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

PARTY continued from A1

filled with bars and dance clubs and is a half-mile from campus. Students who live in the dormitories can walk to and from the downtown party scene. But most others who live off campus rely on what students call "the drunk bus" to get to and from.

According to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Virginia Hardy, "the drunk bus" has a proper name and it is "The Pirate Express."

"The Pirate Express, which runs late in the evening, to me is a double-edged sword," said Hardy. "On one hand, it helps to reduce the amount of people we have that drink and drive and it ensures safety. On the flip side of it, it also gives the impression that we condone it."

According to Hardy, the university does not condone students partying. However, "we know that they are going to have some fun," she added, "so we are trying to provide a safe way for students to get home."

The UNC main campus is about one mile from the club life in Chapel Hill. Many students walk, but some use a bus system similar to Pirate Express called "Point-to-Point."

"Our downtown literally runs parallel to campus," said 2011 UNC graduate Jeremy Spearman. "Most students that live off campus live right near Franklin Street and kids from south campus, who are usually freshmen, take the P2P."

UNC-Wilmington students have to travel about five miles to the downtown area from campus. "You have to take a cab or drive to get there," said UNC-W graduate Chris Courson.

Regardless of how the students get there, they are going to party.

Most weeks, drunken Pirates pour in and out of the bars downtown Thursday through Saturday, while the weekdays are not as hip as they once were.

"You can tell downtown is not as crowded every night as it was two years ago," said Josh Miller, a bouncer at a local nightclub. But when students come to party, they fill the clubs, even if it is over the limit. "Technically, 360 people is our capacity, but they tell bouncers to stop clicking around 300."

The ECU party scene is so big that it takes a special city police operation to control it

on the weekends.

"We have a downtown deployment plan with about 15 to 20 officers with the use of roadblocks and rerouting traffic," said Greenville police Sgt. Carlton Williams. "Also, it consist of things that are not directly police-related, like bouncer training."

Chapel Hill, home to UNC, does not have a regularly deployed, special downtown-only police unit, like Greenville does. It has special enforcement plans only for major occasions like Halloween or after a championship win in the athletic program.

According to Mazeika, a winning record for sports teams also earns more points toward a party school ranking.

Some ECU students don't mind if the football team wins or loses, many consider the games as just another reason to get drunk.

Spearman, who now lives in Greenville and has been to an ECU football game, said that UNC does not tailgate like the Pirates.

"Most people just go to the games," Spearman said. "I would die if I tailgated like ECU does every week."

UNC-Wilmington does not have a football team, but according to Courson, some people do tailgate for basketball games. However, most prefer other locations to party, like downtown, houses and the nearby beach.

"Downtown is always filled, especially during the tourist seasons, and a lot of students have houses on the beach and party day and night," Courson said. "We just have a more laid-back party atmosphere. Guys don't walk around in the Sperry's and shirts tucked into their khaki shorts like they do at UNC."

ECU's party school image may be self-fulfilling prophecy, according to sociology professor David Knox. "If ECU has the national cultural visibility of being a party school, it will draw students who are more likely to prefer that style for their academic institution. And if their peers party, they are more likely to."

Current ECU student Daniel Eaves was drawn by the image. "The reason why I came to ECU is because of its party school reputation," he said.

This works the same both ways. Even if a school is known primarily for academics, it doesn't necessarily

mean the students don't party.

"I wouldn't consider UNC a party school, but I definitely wouldn't say we didn't party; we partied hard," Spearman said. "We probably do party more than many other schools, but I think the difference is that most UNC students draw a line."

UNC has never made the Playboy exclusive list.

But according to Miller, drawing the line isn't so common in Greenville. "Students drink to the point of blacking out every night. I've seen plenty of girls falling over that can't even hold themselves up," said Miller.

Spencer Barrick, a 2011 ECU graduate, said his father told him that it was an even bigger party school in the '70s when he was a student.

"It just seems like wherever the Pirates go, they have a lot of fun," said Barrick. "I just feel like a lot of students take pride in being Pirates, and they take the meaning literally and act like a bunch of belligerent pirates."

Although many students say they do try to live up to the Pirate image, Knox said he does not think the mascot has any influence on students drinking habits. "They are probably to be buzzed to even notice," Knox said.

But not everyone comes to ECU for the parties. "It is a very serious academic university and I see evidence of that in the brand-new honors college that began last year that has doubled in size this year," said ECU graduate Mary Schulken, who is now the director of public affairs for the university.

SAT requirements for entering freshman have constantly increased over 10 years, Shulken added. And the university has special programs unique to ECU, such as the Global Classroom, which connects students with others around the world.

In the end, whether ECU is or isn't a party school is more a matter of opinion than anything else. There's enough evidence to make the case either way.

"It's what you make it," said ECU junior, Stephen Hodapp. "The people here just like to party a lot and all colleges are 'party colleges' to a certain extent if you know the right people or those people know you."

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

SOPA continued from A1

Charles Twardy, a university instructor.

The bills have gained so much attention that Congress decided to delay the vote on the bills until a consensus can be reached. Some feel this is an eye-opening experience for Congress.

"It seems to me an example of Congress not doing enough research to begin with to figure out what they need to do and how to frame a bill," said Twardy. "I think they're discovering now they should have thought this out more."

Essentially, the passing of SOPA would cut off resources that allow websites that illegally share files to exist. However, similar illegal sharing that occurs on media sites, like YouTube, would change drastically.

Currently, illegal sharing that takes place on YouTube is reported and videos are taken down if they break copyright laws. The bills would change this by holding YouTube responsible for illegal content a user posts.

"If somebody put a YouTube video up that uses music, which happens all the time, then potentially YouTube and Google could be shut down," said Winstead.

The punishment for pirating media would result in harsher punishment as well.

"Now, if you put something up that breaks copyright, it can be a felony," said Winstead.

"This is a law that is real and it can touch almost all of our lives."

Some students feel it can

affect classwork if search engines or free encyclopedias are shut down.

"I think it would make simple things for school harder," said junior communication science and disorders major Emily Cozart. "I'm not for it."

Cozart uses sites like Google and Wikipedia to research topics for clarifications, rather than just using the textbook.

Teachers that use these resources for educating students would face the similar obstacle.

"Anything that makes it more difficult for me to teach, I'm against," said Twardy.

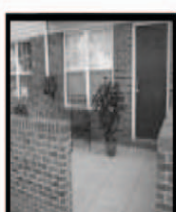
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PIRATE RANTS

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

Oh, what's up 86th Issue of the 86th Volume. Keep it up East Carolinian.

The beginning of the semester always makes me feel like a pimp daddy with all my Pirate Bucks.

Everyone makes fun of the campus cops on bikes, but honestly I'd love to see a drunk person trying to outrun the bike and end up being thrown over the handlebars with a ticket shoved into your back pocket.

NCC, can we please get two buses on these routes? We're packed like sardines! If I'm late to class one more time...

Theatre Rule of 3: Something is only funny 3 times. That being said, STOP WITH THE MEAN GIRLS QUOTES!!

To ECU students trying to start fights with random strangers: Life is difficult enough for all of us already. Please don't throw away your future (and possibly someone else's) by trying to start trouble for no reason.

I really don't like eating a banana on my way to class as I walk across campus because, heaven forbid, I make eye contact with someone. Weird?

Oh, and by the way, I'm the one stealing the batteries. I think it's more important that my vibrator works.

Greenville is a freaking swamp.

If God didn't want us to have sex, then why did he make it feel so good and give us so many choices?

We get it. You've been invited to an academic banquet. Now shut up about it.

In the 2012 election, I will be voting for whichever candidate seems most likely to legalize marijuana.

To the girl in my NUTR class: You make an Oompa Loompa look pale.

I don't know what SOPA is. I can't even look it up on Wikipedia!

To all the obnoxious girls I live with: I have enough keeping me up at night. I DON'T need your help!

Can someone PLEASE get rid of the trash near SciTech!?! It smells like rotten fish.

I throw up when I drink because that's when I know that I'm done.

There's no better way to get your day started than with someone blowing smoke in your face. What's the point of having a no smoking policy if no one listens or enforces it?

I love how sometimes your rant is so good that you know that it will be published.

Standing ovation to my nutrition professor that said, "Oh my God, guys. This is so boring."

To my professor: STOP TALKING ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN.

My inbox is **not** for your cramming pleasure



Ben Cochran
OPINION COLUMNIST

Senior Nursing Major
@Ben_Cochran

I'll lead with a bit of advice: don't go swimming in the fountain outside of Wright. I decided I would pull this stunt with some friends, some of whom were ECU students and some of whom were not. The cops turned in those of us that were students to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, while letting the non-students off with a scathing diatribe.

What's the moral of the story? Don't get caught if you're a student. At the time of my hearing, I inquired about this disparity. The answer I received was that "ECU students are held to a higher standard." While I don't necessarily disagree with this distinction, it can lead to situations, which are glaringly unjust — the fountain episode notwithstanding.

A more recent example of this growing disparity can be found in each of your student email inboxes. According to the Information Technology and Computing Services website, "spamming is a violation of ECU Computer Use and Network Use Policies" and could result in "revocation or suspension of access privileges in addition to any other sanction permitted under the student conduct code."

Because this policy is only applicable to students, faculty and staff, the door is wide open for businesses to flood our inboxes with the most asinine and irrelevant of advertisements. Within the last week alone, I have received multiple emails from companies like College Budget, Campus Buddy, CLC Tours, iBookstore, Book Tornado, CB Textbooks, The Booty Swap and about half a dozen apartment complexes.

While I'm superlatively miffed that I'm receiving all this spam, I can't necessarily fault the companies for targeting college students. Let's face it: if we're not drunk enough, then we're definitely impulsive enough to whip out a credit card and make an online purchase in a flash.

It's not like you can pretend to hide from this fact. The marketers at these companies already know this. In fact, The Booty Swap was bold enough to openly state, "you're receiving this because you are an ECU student," as if the condition of being an ECU student legitimizes this unwanted onslaught of inbox-clogging mire.

Fuming, I resolved to give The Booty Swap a piece of my mind. I looked up the listed address, found the registered owner of the property, and discovered that it was a rental property. When I asked if I could have the phone number of the leaseholder, the property manager told me that he didn't want to violate



MADALYN MCCLEOD JOHNSON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Something you will probably never hear anyone say.

the privacy of his tenant.

The disgusting thing about this is that a property manager in Raleigh values his tenant's privacy more than ECU does mine. My full and complete name, as well as email address, is readily accessible from the ECU homepage.

This situation is unacceptable. My information should not be a matter of public record. The university should protect my information. The directory feature is a wonderful tool, but it should only be accessible to those affiliated with the university.

Bob Newton, the director of CLC Tours, told me it was too easy to send out mass emails to college students. A vague search of a single letter in the last name field will give you hundreds of names and email addresses. From there, it's a simple matter of copy and pasting into a spreadsheet. That information in that kind of format can be a very powerful tool.

At least ECU isn't like NC State or UNC. Those universities give out even more information, such as the student's major, minor, and even the number of the on-campus mailbox. It's only a matter of time before Scottie McCreeper very effectively stalks his next victim. With so much information at his fingertips, he will know precisely who he's looking for at the exact location he could expect to find her and even be able to strike up a conversation about her major, to boot.

ECU, you seriously need to rein this in. The situation is out of control. Protect me, protect my information and protect yourself from a very litigious world. But don't worry too much; information about a good lawyer is probably being spammed to your inbox as we speak.

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

What do you mean a B-?



Abby Brockmeyer
OPINION COLUMNIST

Senior Communication Major
@AbbyBrockmeyer

The school alerts us to many things. A suspicious "gunman" prowling campus with loaded umbrella? Don't worry, we will get ten thousand e-mails. A smell of cold precipitation in the air, so there might be a one percent chance of a flurry on our roads? Yes, we will get at least five point-less e-mails alerting us to the danger and another final one cancelling classes. But it strikes me rather odd that not one email has been sent out alerting the student body that next year our current grading system will become a thing of the past.

The new grading system has been implemented to start in fall 2012 and will base students' final grades around a plus/minus policy. This means A-, B+, C-, and so on will now show up on the final transcripts of every semester for the students.

Maybe they haven't told us yet because they are afraid of mutiny. Maybe they aren't quite ready for the harassing emails and phone calls that are sure to come. Or maybe they, quite honestly, have just forgotten to send out a notification of the grading system change next semester. But I highly doubt that.

This new system will bring loads of grumbles and harsh words coming from the student body. No longer will a 79.9 be considered the same B as someone achieving an 89.4 in the class. No longer will a student be able to work hard the entire semester, stacking up a high average in a class, so they can basically give the final exam 0 percent of their time. This realization is sure to have negative attitudes directed at the faculty and administration for at least the first semester of this new policy.

Some teachers, however, see this grading change as a positive move at the university. John Givens, professor of classical studies, said, "I think the new system will have students reacting negatively at first, but then they will change their minds when they understand that this policy is more fair. I also think it will be a chance for the students to aim for higher goals." Givens also thinks the new

system will cause teachers to be a little more reluctant when bumping up grades when students are on the edge of letter grade, because a B- will no longer hold the same weight B.

In fact, this policy did not come out of the blue. Apparently, four years ago, it was scheduled to change, but university officials wanted to wait for the freshman just beginning college to go through all four years with the same grading scale.

Many will say it is about time we use this system. Roughly 80 percent of the top 100 schools in the United States use this grading with their students. And I know the nursing students will most likely scoff and roll their eyes at this article because they have had

this lovely grading scale since starting nursing school.

So, alas, all good things come to an end. Our laziness and skirting the system with our 79.9 percents won't get us very far very soon and working hard the entire semester for our grades is an absolute necessity in the future. I personally think this new system is going to be more fair and just, but honestly, it is just a little annoying to me. I don't think I would respond well to at the end of a rigorous semester reading down a list of A-'s and B-'s that look like I could have done better, when I know I worked hard the whole semester for those minuses. I think many will agree with me on that.

This writer can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

POLL RESULTS

Do you pirate music, movies, etc. off the Internet?

Yes 50%

No 50%

WEB POLL

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21 -April 19)

Your goals are lofty — but that doesn't mean they're out of reach! If anything, you may find yourself quite a bit closer to them by the end of the day, if your mental energy has any say!



Taurus (April 20 -May 20)

You and a friend or colleague are struggling over some new rule or plan that doesn't seem to make much sense to either of you. It's good in the long run, as things should be much clearer as a result.



Gemini (May 21 -June 20)

Your big brain is bursting with ideas and plans today, and while not all of them will pan out, you should at least see if you can work out a few of them. Get some help to see them through.



Cancer (June 21 -July 22)

Money is a bigger deal than you may realize today — so make sure that you are paying close attention to its comings and goings. If your mate is also watching, the two of you can make a real difference.



Leo (July 23 -Aug 22)

Your pride is a good thing on most days — but today, it could go either way. It may make you more susceptible to emotional injury, or it could help you find an answer to a thorny problem.



Virgo (Aug 23 -Sept 22)

You may find that your old tools aren't quite up to the job today, so it's time to stop, take a step back and think things through. The good news is that your clever mind can dream up something new and wonderful soon.



Libra (Sept 23 -Oct 22)

You should find that you're having much more fun than usual today — so ramp it up and include others in the shenanigans! Your amazing social energy is great at coming up with new tricks.



Scorpio (Oct 23 -Nov 21)

You need to deal with that problem at home — even if it's a total drag! Your energy is just right for fixing things, dealing with kids and neighbors or even finding a new pace to live, so hop to it!



Sagittarius (Nov 22 -Dec 21)

Chat up everyone you know today — post on Facebook until your fingers are numb, get on the phone until your battery dies or just sit down with your besties and gab until the sun is long down.



Capricorn (Dec 22 -Jan 19)

Cash interests you inasmuch as it can be used to do things you want to do or acquire things you need in your life — and today, it's on your mind quite a bit. Puzzle it out and make a difference!



Aquarius (Jan 20 -Feb 18)

You could power cities with your mental energy today! On the off chance that you're not hooked into the power grid, try instead to do some good for the world at large. You've got all night!



Pisces (Feb 19 -March 20)

You need to feel useful in the grand scheme of things, and on a day like today, you can make a real difference in real people's lives. Volunteer or speak up bravely to the right people.



These horoscopes are from www.astrology.com.

All images are from MCTcampus.com

Movie Review



TJ Weaver
COLUMNIST

Grade: B

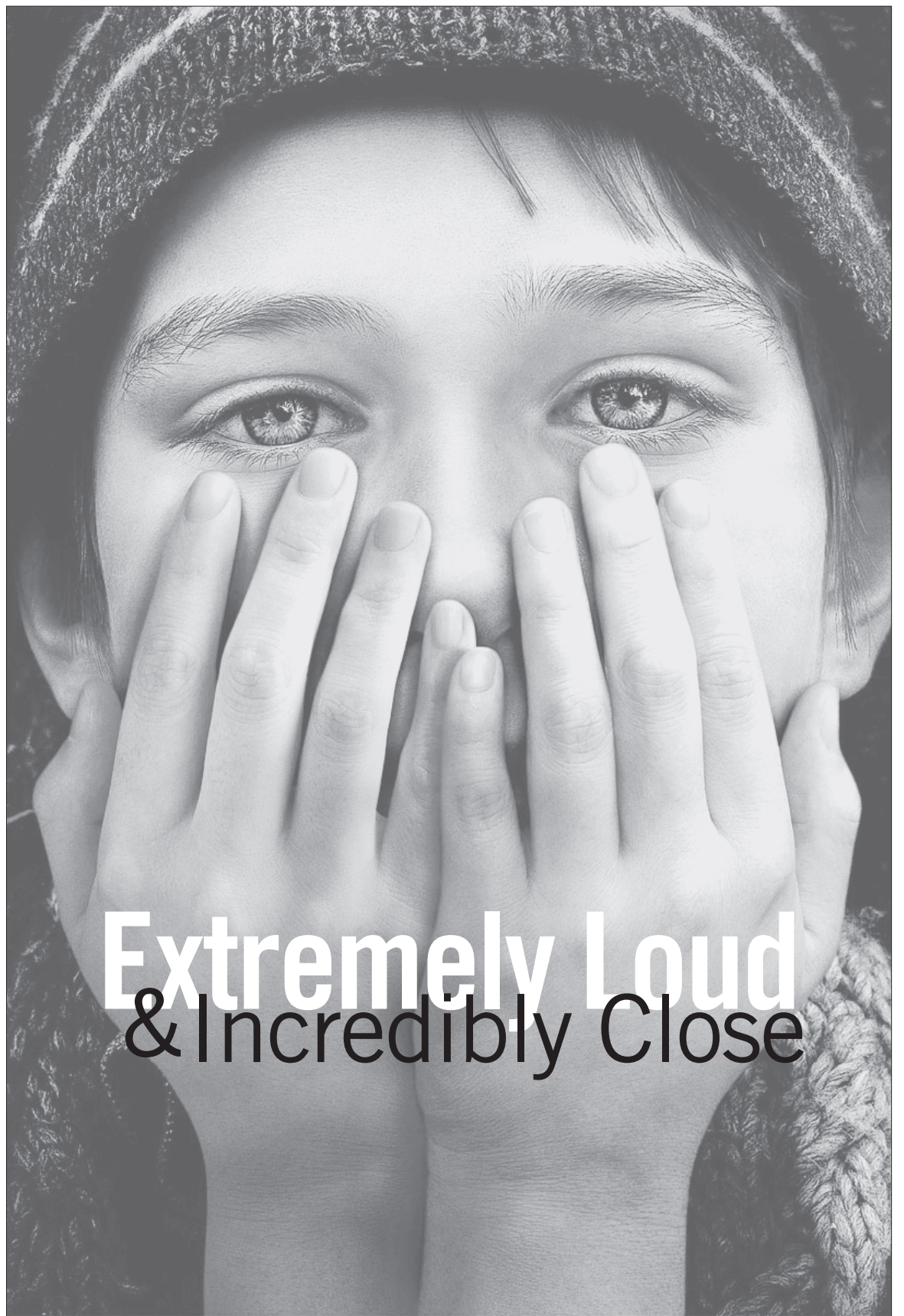
On 9/11, 9-year-old Oskar Schell lost both his best friend and father to the tragic events on the day that he refers to as "the worst day." Reaching far into a child's perspective of death, "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" morphs into a wrenching drama that pulses through life's ups and downs, like a high-speed freight train, without any sense of direction or stopping points.

Director Stephen Daldry helms the film adaptation of Jonathan Safran Foer's popular 9/11 novel of the same title. Like most book-to-film adaptations, important details are sacrificed for the sake of time. Consequently, the film misses several key themes as it breezes past Foer's ruminations on the psychological effects of war.

Daldry's unique eye for discovering art in nature shows through his cinematography. The entire film, told from Schell's perspective, delves deep into the mind of a child; however, Schell isn't your average child. He has a vocabulary that can challenge many graduate-level students and he has a knack for adventure and learning.

Upon the discovery of a key left by his father in an envelope labeled "Black," Schell goes on a daunting adventure, which takes him throughout the five burrows of New York City. Oskar visits every person whose last name is Black in NYC to find the lock his key will open, but what he discovers along the way is more than he could've asked for.

With great courage and skill, newcomer and Jeopardy winner

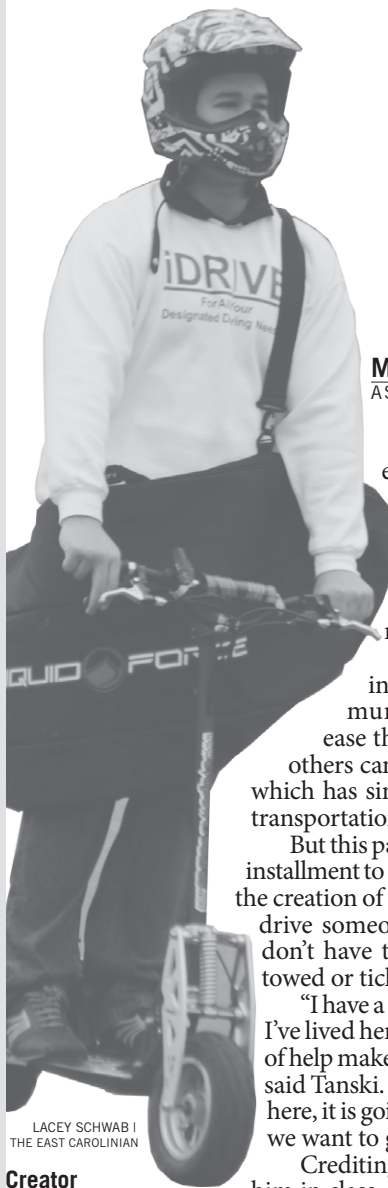


CONTRIBUTED

'Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close' opened in theaters this past Friday. It stars Tom Hanks and Sandra Bullock.

> MOVIE page A5

Peddlin' Pirates creator presents iDrive



LACEY SCHWAB | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Mike Davis
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

"I had my fair share of downtown experiences when I was a little younger and I know how fun it is to go out," said Martin Tanski, iDrive creator. "But I also know how much of a bummer it can be at the end of the night when you're walking home and you might get robbed or assaulted."

To help avoid having a night ending in tragedy, Tanski has created two community transportation services to help ease those worries. In 2010, Tanski and three others came up with the idea of Peddlin' Pirates, which has since brought many students convenient transportation needs.

But this past November, Tanski created the newest installment to his Greenville-based transportation with the creation of iDrive, a service that will have someone drive someone else's car home with them so they don't have to leave it downtown and risk getting towed or ticketed.

"I have a love for Greenville, I went to school here. I've lived here for the past six years, so I want to kind of help make the downtown better, as much as I can," said Tanski. "In 20 or 30 years, when you come back here, it is going to look a lot different, a lot better and we want to get in on the beginning of that."

Creator **Martin Tanski.** Crediting what his professors at ECU had taught him in class, Tanski used his knowledge and understanding of how to create a successful business and put it from paper to action.

"A lot of times, I would mirror what they were telling me and I was building it into my company," said Tanski. "If I didn't learn what I learned in business school, we would have been out of business a year ago and iDrive might have never started."

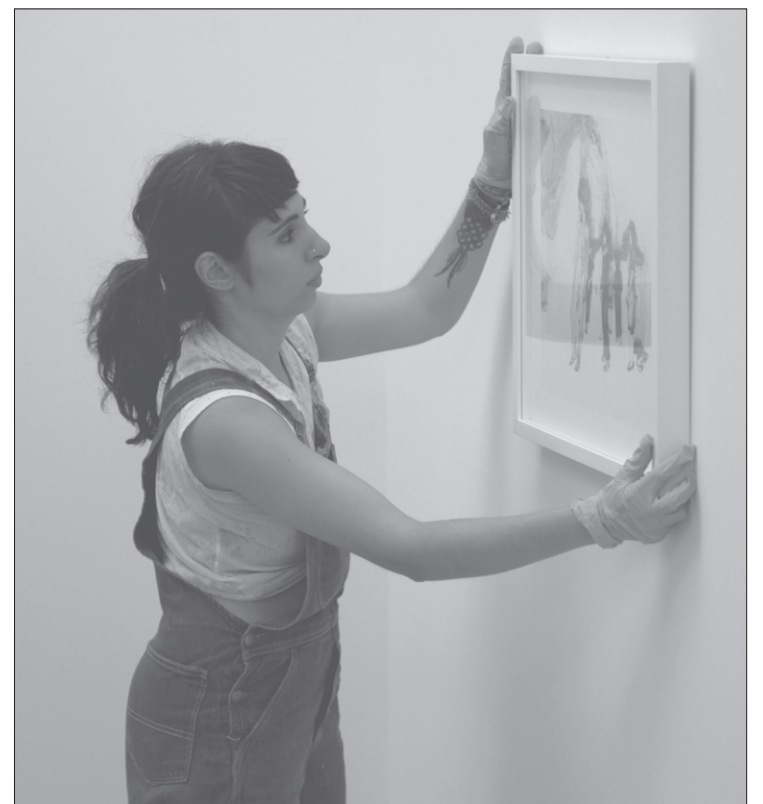
Even with the fluctuations with the economy in the past few years, Tanski said that when it bounces back, Peddlin' Pirates and iDrive will be riding it's way to the top, as he has kept a positive attitude throughout the entire process.

"You have big plans when you create a business. You have all these revenue projections, all these estimates about how much you are going to make, you tend to not factor in how bad the economy is doing," said Tanski. "There have been a lot of businesses that have shut their doors (in) the past three or four years, and we are still going. We are still keeping the lights on."

Despite the Peddlin' Pirates shooting earlier this year, students and community members have fully supported Tanski and his team's services. "Every time I get in the car with someone, they are so thankful, so happy, we can take them home and they don't have to worry about driving drunk," said Tanski.

Although the glamour of creating two companies that have become so

> IDRIVE page A5



CONTRIBUTED

Nawabi, winner of 'Work of Art: The Next Great Artist' hangs a painting.

Alumna wins Bravo TV competition

Mike Davis
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

On Dec. 21, the world got to see a life changed forever. It wasn't Oprah giving away free family vacations for all her audience members, the final chapter of the Jerry Sandusky case or Tiger Woods finally winning a tournament. Instead, ECU graduate Kymia Nawabi became the second winner of Bravo's hit TV series, "Work of Art: The Next Great Artist," and the recipient of \$100,000.

Born in San Diego but raised in Durham, Nawabi took her artistic creativity and style to Pirate Nation on her quest to show the world her own work of art. After graduating in 2003 with a bachelor of fine arts degree, Nawabi took her talents to Gainesville and received her master of fine arts degree in 2006 from the University of Florida.

But during her time here in Greenville, Nawabi was recognized as a star from the get-go. Despite being part of a very talented group of students to come through the art department during her four years,

Scott Eagle, assistant director of the school of art and design and the director of graduate studies, said that Nawabi not only stood out to him immediately, but also to the other students and faculty in the department.

"She was good at most anything she did and she took classes in metal design, ceramics, sculpture and she worked both 2-D and 3-D," said Eagle. "Even though she graduated with painting and drawing as her concentration, she was just very good at everything she did."

Along with winning the \$100,000 prize, Bravo, in partnership with Magical Elves Production Company, agreed to give the winner an exhibition at the Brooklyn Museum. Nawabi's exhibition, titled "Not for Long, My Forlorn," opened on Dec. 22 and will be on display until Feb. 5.

"She is an incredibly talented artist," said Sharon Matt Atkins, managing curator of exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum. "I know

> WINNER page A5

MOVIE continued from A4

Thomas Horn carries the weight of the film on his tiny shoulders. He takes the role of Schell and runs with it, never looking back. The kid is a natural on film.

Sharing the weight of the story is Sandra Bullock's character, Linda Schell, who must find a way to mend her wilting relationship with her son in the midst of mourning for her late husband, Thomas, played by Tom Hanks.

Hank's character, who's revealed to us in flashbacks, is more than just a father; he's Schell's mentor and confidant. He challenges Schell's fears of crossing bridges, meeting strangers and riding public transportation, pushing him to be a stronger human being.

Daldry's film is less concerned with the tragic events of 9/11 and turns its focus on the healing process needed to move on. He hones in on the story's message of unity, love and support in time of need, despite one's race, gender, age and personal beliefs.

On his search, hoping that it'll bring him closer to his father, Schell comes in contact with a mute, who helps him cope with his father's death. He also meets

a set of Blacks, played by Viola Davis and Jeffrey Wright, who remind the audience that grief comes in many forms.

With a talented cast, beautiful cinematography and strong direction, "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" could have been one of the best films of the year; however, suffers from its obvious stretch at trying to be an Oscar-award winning film, missing the mark completely.

The film bulldozes through scenes oversaturated in drama, screaming and tears, never once letting up until the very end. By then, the audience has used their last Kleenex and is too busy focusing on the heavy drama, instead of the film's message of hope and prosperity.

Capturing one of America's most vulnerable times in recent history in a beautiful and inspiring film, "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" reminds audiences worldwide that it's not what happens in the past, but how one recovers from those events that will shape his or her future.

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

IDRIVE

continued from A4

popular within the students and community might sound appealing, Tanski has become practically foreign to having any free time.

"I have no life right now. I've been building two businesses from the ground up. I have no social life, no friends; I sit in my house all day and all night and just plan stuff out," said Tanski. "If I was busy all week and all I could do is lay down, I'm down with that."

His partner for iDrive, Needham Cheely, said that even though the process of creating a community business can be tough, "working with Martin has been really great." Cheely also mentioned that since Tanski is "an entrepreneur like myself, we both look forward to keep on moving forward" and lending a helping hand to those in need.

But from an early age, Tanski never minded putting in the hard work to make his visions come to life. He looked up to his parents and contributes their guidance and support as a few of the reasons he has been so successful.

"I've always wanted to own my own business, and I remember my parents telling me I need to play golf because a lot of great business deals happen on the golf course," said Tanski. "They've always been grooming me."

Unlike many of his friends, who have graduated and joined the forces of the 9-to-5 club, Tanski said he's "not big on listening to people and I've always done my own thing and that is really what has gotten me going so young."

Even though iDrive only has two scooters as of right now, Tanski predicted, "By next year, it will be like Hells Angels rolling around down here."

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

WINNER

continued from A4

it was certainly exciting for her to have this opportunity to have her work seen."

Since the opening of the exhibition, Atkins said that avid fans of the TV series and art enthusiasts have come to the museum to check out Nawabi's work. The exhibition is of the work Nawabi presented to the judges as her final project to beat fellow competitor Young Sun Han on the show.

"Everything that I have heard has been overwhelmingly good," said Matt Atkins about the public's response to the exhibition.

The idea of Nawabi going on to do great things after graduation was something that Eagle always knew would eventually happen. "I was a bit shocked and surprised," said Eagle about Nawabi being on Bravo, "but it didn't surprise me to see her go all the way just because I knew how good she was."

Eagle was always confident in Nawabi. "She did great. And I thought all along that Kymia had a really good chance at winning it just because the way she paints and draws," said Eagle. "She works so fast; it is amazing."

Even though Nawabi has long been graduated, Eagle is fortunate enough to be able to see a piece of her all the time. "It's really nice being able to look over every day and I see Kymia's drawing here, but also at home," said Eagle. "She was over there priming the walls of my studio."

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

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Wolfpack tops men's tennis in season opener

Staff reports

The ECU men's tennis team opened its season Sunday, falling to N.C. State, 6-1, at the Isehour Tennis Center.

The Pirates were down early, after failing to gain the doubles point, losing all three matches. Joran Vliegen and Nicolas Soriano teamed up at the No. 1 position, losing to Julian Sullivan and Sean Weber, 8-4, before John Schmitt and Mario Martinez were defeated by Beck Bond and Will Rollinson at the No. 3 spot, 8-3. Niels Cleeren and David Masciorini were handed an 8-4 setback by Jaime Pulgar and Robbie Mudge at the No. 2 position.

In singles play, Schmitt evened up the score at 1-1, as he recorded the Pirates lone victory by defeating Weber at the No. 3 position in straight sets (6-4, 7-5). Then, Sullivan put the Wolfpack ahead to stay with a 6-3, 7-4 win over Soriano before Vliegen lost to Pulgar at the No. 1 position, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2, increasing N.C. State's lead to 3-1. Cleeren took on Ivan Sanchez Gomez at the No. 4 spot losing, 6-2, 6-7 (6), 6-2, while Masciorini was beaten by Matt Thomson at the No. 6 position, 6-2, 6-1. The match concluded with Damien Brenard falling to Bond, 6-3, 6-2.

ECU will host Norfolk State on Friday, Jan. 27 at 3 p.m.

Losing streak extends to nine straight games

Staff Reports

ECU fell to SMU by a score of 68-44 Sunday at Moody Coliseum in a Conference USA contest. The Lady Pirates drop to 6-12 overall and 0-5 in league play, while the Mustangs are 10-8 and 3-2.

Junior Britny Edwards paced ECU with 12 points and six rebounds, and Bryelle Smith added eight. SMU shot 46 percent from the floor for the afternoon, limiting the Pirates to 31 percent and enjoying a 39-33 advantage on the glass. The Mustangs also scored 22 points off 20 East Carolina turnovers and poured in 38 points in the paint.

The Mustangs came out of the gates quickly to start the day, building an 11-4 lead on a three-point play by Alisha Filmore. ECU would respond however, as an Edwards layup capped a 12-7 run which made the score 18-16 at the 10:05 mark.

A mini-scoring drought by the Pirates allowed SMU to stretch the advantage back to nine over the next four minutes, as a Krystal Johnson free throw gave her team a 25-16 cushion with just over six minutes left in the half. The lead grew to as much as 31-20, but Bryelle Smith nailed a triple in the deep left corner at the buzzer to put the score at 31-23 heading into the break.

Edwards led the way offensively for East Carolina in the first 20 minutes, scoring six points, while Chareya Smith and Tatiana Chapple pulled down three rebounds a piece. The Mustangs hit five of their first seven shots from the field, but converted just seven field goals in 23 attempts the rest of the time to end up with a 40-percent showing. Meanwhile, ECU knocked down nine of its 24 tries, firing at a 38-percent clip. SMU also built a 21-14 rebounding edge.

Smith hit another three-pointer out of the locker room to slice the deficit to five, 31-26. But eight-straight points by the Mustangs afforded them their largest lead of the contest (39-26) at the first official timeout. The run would continue for a while and the SMU advantage grew to 20, when Filmore knocked down a free throw with 8:17 remaining in the game. The Pirates could not recover as the Mustangs kept their decisive edge for the remainder of the afternoon.

ECU completes its quick two-game road swing on Thursday, with a contest at Rice. Tipoff is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Tudor Fieldhouse.

Pirates need big win against Golden Eagles

Men's hoops still looking for first conference win

Ronnie Moore
STAFF WRITER

With the recent struggle in Conference USA, the Pirates are searching for answers and, more importantly, wins. Both of which may be hard to come by against the Southern Miss Golden Eagles.

Since the last meeting between the two teams, Southern Miss has been on the upswing and the Pirates, on the other hand, are tail spinning.

ECU is on the biggest losing streak in the entire C-USA field, as the Pirates have yet to win a game in 2012.

The close games have been there, but still, the men's basketball team has come up short, time in and time out. The most complete game the ECU squad has put together during this losing streak was against the Southern Miss squad in Hattiesburg, Miss.

The final score of that previous matchup was a 78-76 win for the Eagles. The Purple and Gold were led by point guard Miguel Paul, with 19 points and 10 assists, while the big man, Darius Morrow, chipped in 23 points. Paul shot 50 percent for the game and knocked down three of eight three-pointers. Through 18 games this season, this was Paul's only double-digit assist game and his first double-double as a Pirate.

In the last 15 seconds of their last meeting, the Pirates were only down by two. They had a chance to tie the game or take the lead. They squandered that chance by not securing rebounds off the Eagles missed free throws.

When Southern Miss finally made both free throws, it became a four-point game and the Pirates had all but lost the game. Paul drove through the lane and made a layup, plus the foul. With a successful free throw, the deficit was down to a mere one point. The Pirates fouled the Eagles, hoping for a missed free throw that didn't happen. After giving up the free throws, Paul made his first free throw and intentionally

missed his second in hopes that a tip-in could send the tight game into overtime.

Southern Miss has impressed many with its tough play this season, sporting a 17-3 overall record and 4-1 mark in conference play. Their lone loss in conference came to the Memphis Tigers in a close 60-58 nail-biter in FedEx Forum in Memphis, Tenn. The Golden Eagles have not beaten the Tigers since 2004, so their struggle against Memphis extends back almost a decade. USM's other losses were against the University of Denver and the still-undefeated Murray State Racers, which escaped the Eagles in a double overtime thriller.

The Golden Eagles average five players in double-figure points, but the definite leader of this team is junior LaShay Page. He averages around 36 minutes a game and 13.4 points per game. Page will get his points in almost every game, but the key to the Eagles' offense is "big man" Maurice Bolden. He is a towering 6-foot-10, but his game can be played like a guard. Bolden is averaging 11 points and six rebounds per game and he is shooting better than 43 percent from three-point range. The Golden Eagles big man has range and he can still be a force down low, under the basket.

The Pirates are sitting at 9-9 and their season is on the line when the Golden Eagles enter Mingos Coliseum. The Pirates will need to steal a win from the Eagles to keep hope alive for a winning record. ECU will need to rebound, limit turnovers and be efficient behind the arc to defend its home turf and steal a win from the Eagles.

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



Darius Morrow (1) slams home a two-handed dunk against UCF. The Pirates will need a dominant performance from Morrow against USM on Wednesday.

Club fencing to host tourney



Two members of the fencing club bout during practice on Thursday at the Student Recreation Center.

Michael Perry
SPORTS EDITOR
@mfloyd3

Almost every sport likens the thrills of competition to battle, but few sports can actually trace their roots from real combat like fencing.

Fencing is a family of events in which two opponents wield bladed weapons at one another to score touches in a variety of ways.

For those interested in channeling their inner sword-strapped hero, ECU supports its own fencing program.

Most people outside the sport would describe fencing simply as sword fighting, but for those who actually learn and enjoy the craft, it is much more.

"It's a type of martial art, so it's not just simple sword fighting," club treasurer Andrew Marino explained. "The captain goes through with new people and explains when and how the weapon was formed and what it was used for."

The sport includes three distinct disciplines of different weapons,

including foil, epee and sabre. Stabbing motions are required in foil and epee bouts, but sabre requires opponents to attempt slashing or cutting maneuvers on one another.

After learning each weapon, individuals specialize their craft in the foil, epee or sabre to better themselves for competition.

"Most people end up gravitating to one weapon," Marino said "I can fence all the weapons, but I personally prefer sabre."

The club is open to all interested students, but a minimum of two hours of training is required before they let you pick up a blade. While the sword is vital to any bout, the true foundation is in the footwork.

"We always start with footwork," Marino said. "Blade work comes secondary to footwork."

Since organizing in the fall of 2006, the fencing club has since become a serious competitor in the state, as well as throughout the Southeast U.S.

Expectations for the club were not very high early on, but over time,

ECU has become a respected name in college fencing.

"Last year, our women's epee took third nationally," fencing club president, Jacob Wansley said. "We've really showed that we can be competitive here and that we have a good program going."

ECU's club team numbers 20-25 strong in full-time members and will take as many as 18 individuals to compete in various competitions. The club fields both men and women teams to compete in groups of three.

"What a lot of people don't know about East Carolina's fencing club is that we are the most put-together club, as far as fencing is concerned, in North Carolina," Wansley said. "As far as the number of events we go to and the level we rank in events, we're one of the top in North Carolina."

ECU's club just returned from an event at Clemson, where the sabre team placed second out of

> FENCING page A7

Basketball programs struggle in C-USA



Adam Bunn
OPINION
COLUMNIST
@adamkbunn

As the calendar turned to 2012 a few weeks ago, so did the fortunes

of both the men's and women's basketball teams.

Once conference play began, any hope of positive momentum flew out the window as the two teams have combined for a 0-10 Conference USA record, with each sitting at 0-5.

However, how the two teams got to their respective troubles is very different. For one team, off-the-court issues have turned what could have been a special season into a debacle, while the other is filled with young players who have yet to learn how to win.

With only eight scholarship players remaining on the active roster, the Lady Pirates have suffered through a season in which it seems like every week another player is getting thrown off.

Just a few weeks ago, ECU was sporting a 6-3 overall record and staring down the barrel of a matchup with in-state powerhouse North Carolina. A win against a good, but not great, UNC team could have placed ECU right in the middle of conference title talks. Instead, the Lady Pirates fell 65-61, the first loss in their current nine-game losing streak that was capped off by a 68-44 loss at the hands of SMU Sunday afternoon.

If losing wasn't bad enough, on Jan. 3, the Lady Pirates leading scorer Shala Hodges was arrested at 2:10 a.m. on Highway 264, charged with driving while intoxicated and underage possession of alcohol.

> STRUGGLING page A7

STRUGGLING continued from A6



RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Forward Britny Edwards (42) receives a low pass under the basket against the UAB Blazers at Minges Coliseum.

For her actions, head coach Heather Macy has suspended Hodges indefinitely.

So with only eight players on the roster, ECU has struggled, and it's understandable to a point, but Macy has to work with what she has, and so far, she is failing at that duty.

Her team plays far too conservative on the offensive side of the ball resulting in rushed shots at the end of the shot clock, while far too aggressive on the defensive end of the floor, which does cause turnovers, but will more often than not cause easy chances for the opposing team and fouls. The great teams are able to

combine the offensive and defensive side to form a cohesive unit on both ends. Until the Lady Pirates can get on the same page on both sides of the ball, they will be doomed to be the laughing stock of C-USA.

While the men sport a similar 0-5 conference record, they have a few things going for them that the women don't. For one, they have a full roster of players. Second, they show heart in each game they play. And third, the youth on this team is close to being very good.

The Pirates have faced some huge deficits this season, but have showed

heart in coming back from those self-inflicted holes. With the young team that the Pirates have coming back and mounting a fight, there are good signs for the future. The next step for this team is to learn how to win. The knowledge of how to win games can only come through experience and that's something that these young players gain every time they step on the court.

The Pirates have the inside threat in Darrius Morrow and they have numerous players who can hit from long range, but this team will only go as far as Missouri transfer Miguel Paul takes them. In the Pirates' wins this year, Paul doesn't always lead with points, but with play-making ability. He spreads the ball out and becomes a true point guard who looks to make his teammates better instead of looking for his own shot. However, in the losses, he reverts to a high school point guard mentality, in which he is the most important player on the floor and must take every shot no matter the quality.

For the Pirates to succeed on a consistent basis, Paul has to share the ball and not drink his own Kool-Aid.

With the majority of conference play remaining, both squads still have a chance to change the course of their season. But with the sample we have right now, it looks like it will be another season of no March basketball in Greenville.

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Former Pirate heads to Super Bowl with Giants



Justin Ackley
OPINION COLUMNIST
@justin_ackley

AFC Championship
New England 23 vs. Baltimore 20
Player: Vonta Leach, Fullback, Baltimore

Vonta Leach and the Ravens had their playoff run end as they were defeated by the New England Patriots, 23-20. The Raven offense moved the ball strategically and at will during some points of the contest. Leach helped lead a rushing attack that went for 116 yards, while the offense tallied a total of 398 yards. Leach also hauled in two passes for nine yards and recorded a solo tackle. With less than 20 seconds to go, it looked as if Joe Flacco had finally done it. Flacco dropped back and threw a perfect pass, hitting Lee Evans in the numbers in the corner of the end zone. Ravens fans everywhere were jumping and celebrating, "The Ravens just won the AFC Championship game and are going to the Super Bowl." Then, the play that will define Evans' career ended with the ball being jarred loose by a New England defensive back. Billy Cundiff lined up for the game-tying field goal, the laces were out, the kick was up and it was wide left. The Patriots moved on to the Super Bowl, where they will now face the surprise contenders from the NFC, the New York Giants.

NFC Championship
New York 20 vs. San Francisco 17
Player: Linval Joseph, defensive tackle, New York

The New York Giants pulled off another road victory to move on to Indianapolis and Super Bowl XLVI by defeating San Francisco, 20-17. Linval Joseph tallied three total tackles, two of which were solo tackles, and one for loss and a pass deflection. The front four for New York played with a lot

of energy and although they gave up 150 rushing yards, they were able to get into the backfield and disrupt Alex Smith in the passing game. The Giant defense ended the day with five sacks and six hits on the quarterback. San Francisco's offense did move the ball well in the running game, but were held on the sidelines for much of the game as New York won the time of possession game by over 11 minutes. New York will now be the underdog once again as they face the Patriots in the Super Bowl. Joseph will look to make it a second consecutive year that a former Pirate wins the Lombardi Trophy, as C.J. Wilson and Jay Ross were members of last year's Green Bay Packers championship team.

Super Bowl XLVI

Looking ahead to the Super Bowl, there are a few things that stand out as immediate must-see match ups. First is the front four of the Giants going against the superb passing attack of the Patriots and All-World quarterback Tom Brady. If the Giants can get consistent pressure on Brady, then they may be able to slow the Patriot offense enough to set up good field position for Eli Manning and the offense.

The second key match up puts Eli Manning and the Giants' wide receiving core up against a New England secondary that has looked suspect at times this year. The edge here definitely goes to the Giants. The game will be played inside and on turf that just aids receivers like Hakeem Nicks, Mario Manningham and Victor Cruz. In the end, as tough as this is to say, I expect the Giants to pull away with this one by the score of 34-27. The Patriots will come out blazing, but the Giants are playing at a different level right now, and I think it will show in this game.

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

FENCING continued from A6

all schools competing, and the men's and women's epee teams finished in the top spot at the Southern Duel.

Future plans for the Pirate fencing club include the South Atlantic Conference tournament in Atlanta, Ga., as well as a national event being hosted by the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

For the first time ever, ECU will also be hosting the first open fencing event in North Carolina on Mar.

17 at the Student Recreation Center.

"Basically, we are inviting any school in North Carolina to come and compete," Wansley said. "We're going to make it a big deal. We want to show off ECU a little bit and show off our club and try to boost the fencing, not only for ECU, but in North Carolina as well."

While many in the club thrive on competing, Wansley expressed that the main goal of the club is to further

the growth of fencing.

"We are a very competitive club, but we don't want people to feel like they have to compete. We want people to come and exercise and train with us, even if they are not up for competition," said Wansley.

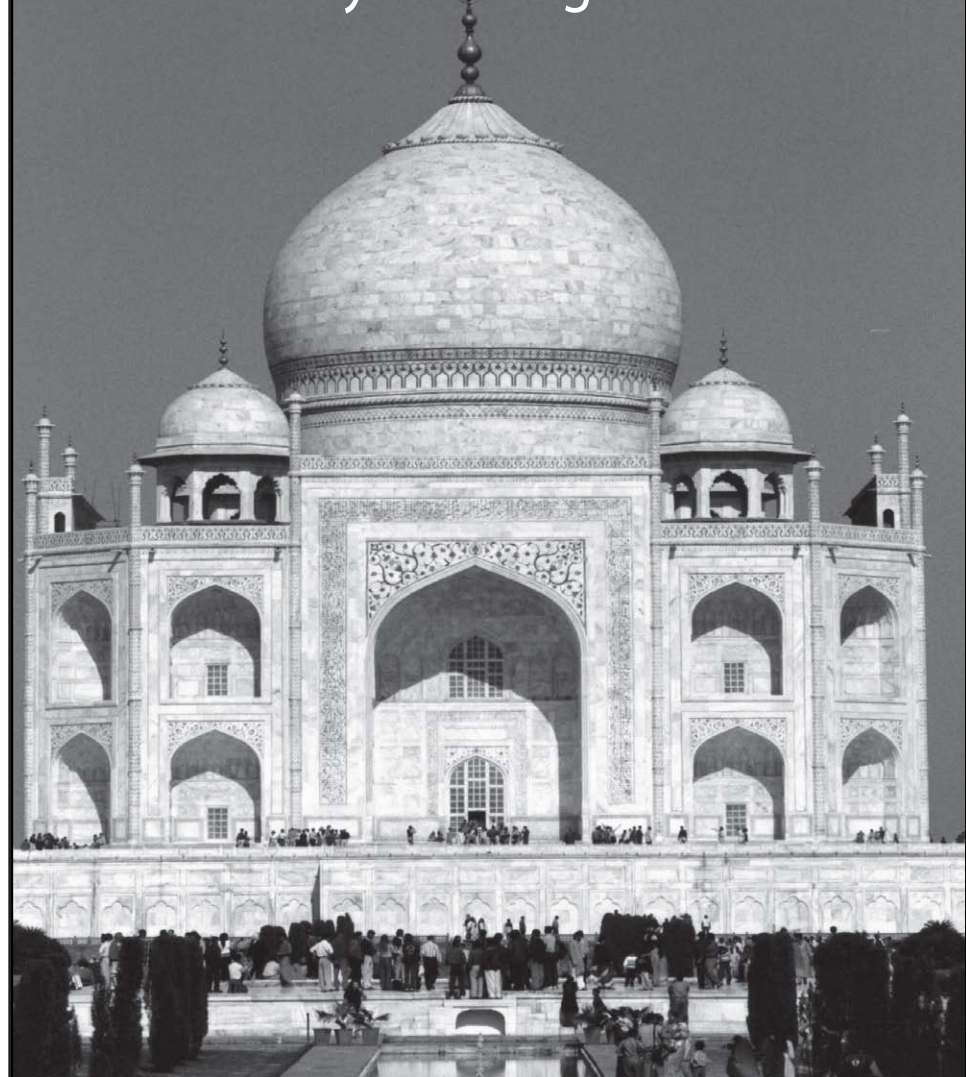
For more information about the fencing club, contact wansleyj08@students.ecu.edu.

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

Have questions about the Sports section?

Contact the sports editor at sports@theeastcarolinian.com

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Dr. Steve Duncan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance and Military Programs

Theory to Practice / Framework for Good Decision-Making

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Dr. Ted Morris, Associate Vice Chancellor of Engagement, Innovation and Economic Development

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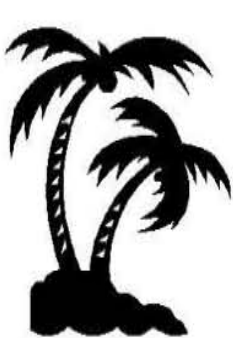
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