



BRIEFS

ECU to debut North Recreational Complex

Staff Reports

The North Recreational Complex will celebrate its grand opening today from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. with Spring Fest. The festival will include live music, food, activities, games and prizes for participants in the No Quarter Olympics.

During the No Quarter Olympics, students will participate in two-person team competitions in seven different events: horseshoes, using inflatable equipment, kayak race, obstacle course, bungee run, joust and corn-hole.

WZMB will be at the event broadcasting live coverage and the Student Activities Board will offer live band karaoke. NCAA games will also be shown in the boathouse for students to enjoy. The Odyssey Tower will also be open for anyone wanting to try out the zip line.

ECUSTA will provide buses from College Hill and Mendenhall Student Center from 2:30 p.m. until 6 p.m.

The Complex officially opened in Fall 2011, but was closed from November until March. The facilities are open to students, faculty and staff.

Employee steals \$30,000 from Minges Bottling

Staff Reports

An assistant regional manager was charged with embezzlement after he robbed Minges Bottling Group, a local business in Eastern North Carolina. Pitt County Sheriffs said 38-year-old Christopher Coggins was charged with five counts of embezzlement and one count of larceny by an employee.

Coggins was charged after he was filmed using keys to open machines containing money. The crimes have been going on since last September in the counties of Pitt, Craven, Lenoir and Greene. Coggins turned himself in and posted in \$10,000 bond.

Police arrest two men in tanning bed break-in

Staff Reports

David Green, 35, and Melvin Corey, 63, face charges of felony breaking and entering. Corey is also charged with larceny after breaking and entering. The two men broke into Tan-N-Bed on Evans St. early Tuesday morning around 4:30 a.m. The only thing the two men were able to steal was a 32-inch flat screen TV, and one of the suspects cut themselves on a broken window.

According to WITN, Greenville Police officer A.E. Santamaria had topped a vehicle leaving the parking lot of the crime. Corey did not have the TV nor was he bleeding, so the officer let him go. Corey was kept under surveillance and when he picked up a man off Clifton St. and Arlington Blvd., police pulled him over and noticed the cut to Green's arm.

Rules change in SGA constitution for election

Staff Reports

A rule change in the Student Government Association constitution will affect the upcoming SGA election. The Judicial Branch revised the eligibility rule for the position of student body president and vice president.

The change in the constitution allows any student who has completed two semesters or 24 credit hours, as a full-time

> BRIEFS page A2



ALLISON ZAUCHA | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



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On Tuesday night more than 900 students turned out to view the 30 minute video by Invisible Children about Joseph Kony. Kony, the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, has enslaved more than 30,000 children for over 20 years. Boys of this group are given guns and forced to kill others, including members of their own families, and girls are forced into sex slavery.

Invisible Children currently has a campaign entitled "KONY 2012," in which advocates reach out to celebrities and politicians, hoping to get them involved in keeping the current troops in Uganda. The U.S.

military advisors are helping the Uganda army to find Kony, who is currently being pursued for murder, rape, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

People can donate by logging on to invisiblechildren.com and clicking donate to buy a kit, which includes posters and bracelets. On April 20 at midnight, advocates around the world will put Kony posters up in public areas to increase awareness of the campaign and the need to have Kony captured.

--Staff Reports

> GAP page A4

Office hours

Professor unavailability causes student frustration

Melanie Jock
STAFF WRITER

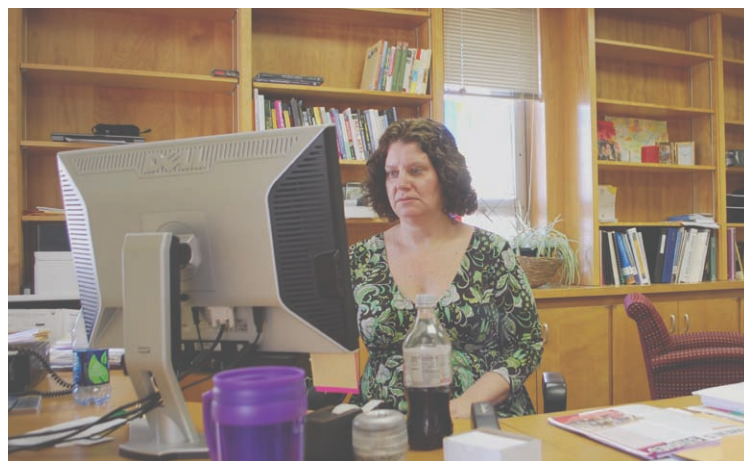
University instructors are required to have five office hours per week dedicated to advising students, however some instructors are falling short.

Part V, Section K of the University's Faculty Manual states that, "Each instructor must maintain office hours five hours during a work-week to be available to advisees and to campus and online students who wish to consult with him or her." This is a university policy that varies from different UNC System institutions, such as UNC-Chapel Hill, which does not maintain a policy.

Lucretia Smith, a senior elementary education major, said she has had problems in the past meeting with her professors. They would require her to email him or her to set up a time to meet during their scheduled office hours, which often found them unavailable the day she wanted to meet with the professor.

"I usually email them and it takes awhile to hear back," said Smith. "I'll get a response two days later."

Provost Marilyn Sheerer said she hears complaints from students about teachers not adhering to office hours. She said new faculty



MORGAN HOPLEY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Professor Van Willigen sits at her desk during her office hours in Brewster.

that comes in is required to accept the duties written in the faculty manual. This means adhering to office hours.

"Those are accepted duties when new faculty comes in and signs a contract. You accept that, that's your duty," said Sheerer. "You read the faculty manual and say 'I'm supposed to teach, I'm supposed to have five available hours of office time.' That's our expectation, that's your job as a faculty member."

Sheerer said that if a student is

having trouble locating an instructor during his or her designated office time, the student should let the department chair know. From there, it is the department chair's job to speak with the faculty member.

"If it continues after the instructor is spoken with, then one of the ways that we're permitted to take the next step is to write a letter or memo that says 'You have contin-

> HOURS page A2

SGA seeks artist to design monument

Abbey Way
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Association is reaching out to the student body to design a monument that will be built outside of the Boneyard section at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

"In an effort to commemorate the naming of the student section and to solidify our reputation as one of the most spirited stadiums in the nation, SGA is once again partnering with the Athletics Department to commission a monument for the Boneyard student section," said Joshua Martinkovic, SGA President.

SGA conducted the naming process for the student section two years ago and its members are mimicking that process for the monument. They are collecting submissions, then narrowing those down to several options for the student body to vote on.

> ARTIST page A2

Pre-law students show less interest in politics

Cameron Guppton
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

According to a recent survey conducted by Kaplan Test Prep, politics are not a major focus of pre-law students.

In the past, most politicians got their start as attorneys or by obtaining Juris Doctorate degrees from law schools, but the newest generation of law students seems less concerned with getting involved in politics.

The survey, which was conducted between December 2011 and February 2012, found that out of 758 pre-law students, only 38 percent would consider running for a political position. This

number marks a clear decrease from the 54 percent who reported they were considering political office as an option in 2009.

Of the respondents in the most recent survey, 51 percent of male pre-law students said they would consider running, while only 29 percent of female pre-law students would consider it.

Jeff Thomas, director of pre-law programs for Kaplan Test Prep, said the number of male and female pre-law students are split down the middle, but generally, there are less female pre-law students interested in politics.

> LAW page A3



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A recent study suggests that less political science majors are applying to law school.

INSIDE

OPINION

I work harder on my rants than I do my assignments. **A5**

LIFESTYLES

Thirteen students spend spring break volunteering in Costa Rica. Turn to Lifestyles to read about their trip! **A7**

SPORTS

Turn to Sports to read about the bass fishing team's fourth place finish. **A10**

WEATHER

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ONLINE



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HOURS continued from A1

ued to violate that part of the expectations of the faculty member. I'm putting this in your personnel file," said Sheerer.

The instructor has the chance to respond back to the memo, explaining his or her reasoning or disagreement to the situation.

If the problem continues with no resolution, it then goes to the dean.

"If it gets to the point where the faculty member is absolutely neglecting duty totally — there's evidence, there's documentation over time — then you could actually... move to dismiss someone if there was a total neglect of duty," said Sheerer.

Sheerer said that this is not always necessary, and simply drawing a staff member's attention to it usually clears up the problem.

"As is true of all things, if you don't monitor it, sometimes it doesn't happen," said Sheerer. "It's always important that if a student complains about something, my feeling is, and I say this to department chairs, it's your job to go back to that faculty member and try to ensure that he or she is delivering the services to students that he or she should be."

Further explanation in section K of the faculty manual said that instructors teaching only face-to-face courses, as well as instructors teaching a mixture of online and face-to-face or teaching-hybrid classes, must be available in a designated location for five hours during the work-week to be available to counsel students.

Online instructors must also establish five hours

during the work-week where he or she is available online to counsel students and answer email.

Teachers are required to submit their designated office hours to a unit administrator, as well as post them on their office door. In addition, many teachers post them to their online website.

On the contrary, students have also had positive experiences with teachers that have helped them beyond the classroom. Freshman sports studies major Jacob Cagley said his teachers have been very helpful.

"They've always been there and are flexible with me," he said. "They've made time to set up appointments with me."

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

ARTIST continued from A1

"Students are the heart and soul of the Boneyard and our university," Martinkovic said. "There are a lot of ideas and creativity that we can gain from utilizing the student body in this process."

Not only will the winning artist have his or her work showcased outside of the stadium, but they will also be recognized with his or her name on the monument itself.

"This will be an opportunity for one student to have their work showcased in a very meaningful way," Martinkovic said.

The monument will be used as a tool to rally students before games.

"Rubbing the monument will not only show your Pirate Pride, but also build momentum before games," Martinkovic said.

Some students, like Brittany Pearce, a senior architectural design and technology major, said they think it is a worthwhile plan.

"It is a pretty good idea that they are going to incorporate the whole student body when picking a statue," Pearce said. "I think it is

great it is open to the whole school, but we should definitely focus on the people who have talent."

Mindy Rabara, a junior psychology major, said she thinks it is a great opportunity for art students to show off their abilities.

"There is more to ECU than just football. It will represent not just the students on the field, but the ones in the stadium," Rabara said. "It represents more of the student body."

Jordan Page, a senior middle grades education major, is not planning on entering a submission but said she has an idea for someone else to draw.

"I think it should be arms making the cross bones that everyone does in the Boneyard," Page said. "It could be real big with a plaque on the bottom, then shaped like a trophy with the big arms in a cross bone on top."

Regardless of the final entries voted upon, the submissions must follow certain guidelines. It must be an appropriate representation of ECU with no vulgarity,

graphic images or material of a controversial nature. It must be comparable in total size to the dimensions of the Conference USA Monument located near gate five.

All logos, graphics, colors, fonts and words must comply with all university trademarking and image guidelines, which can be found at ecu.edu/licensing.

The entry can be hand-drawn or a designed graphic, and it must be attached to an application on a separate piece of paper.

The application can be picked up at the SGA office in Mendenhall Student Center and will also be sent out electronically in an e-mail from SGA this week.

Submissions are due Friday at 5 p.m. to the SGA office.

For additional questions, students can contact the Tacara Williams, SGA Director of Athletic Affairs, at wiliamsta10@students.ecu.edu.

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

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BRIEFS CONT.

student and while enrolled at the university, to run for these two positions. The requirements to run for student body treasurer and secretary will remain the same.

There will be 30-35 senate positions available for students who want to represent their respective college, class or organization.

SGA's goal for the upcoming election is "improving the transparency, competition and participation surrounding the [election] process," according to Josh Martinkovic, SGA president.

The election process has been modified to ensure that all students will have an opportunity to contribute to the 2012 election.

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LAW continued from A1

Last year, there were 46,000 male applicants and 41,500 female applicants with a much greater divide in political aspiration. "Traditionally speaking, the law degree was the gateway into politics," said Thomas.

According to Thomas, the law school track is not immune to the "softening" that is being seen across the board when it comes to politics.

"I feel that a law degree isn't necessary," said elementary education major Claire Vintinner. "If everybody going into politics has a law degree, they might all have the same opinions."

Thomas also said that law schools, and the undergraduate schools that feed law schools, are not exempt from any distaste some may feel with any presidency.

"We asked the questions purposefully after the

2008 election and before the 2012 election," said Thomas. "There was a lot of anticipation for change in 2008 and now that the furor has diminished its different."

Other changes have occurred within the government and have altered the need for a law degree in the political realm as well.

Thomas said that the objectivity that comes with a law degree may not be necessary anymore.

"If a student is interested in politics, law school is still an option for a potential career," said Thomas. "The number one profession for someone graduating with a law degree is practicing law."

Currently, only 37 percent of Senate members are lawyers. Bankers and members of the business community constitute about 20 percent.

In the House of Representatives, 24 percent of members are lawyers and

21 percent hold business degrees.

"I'm a business major and there is a lot of knowledge within the major," said junior business major Jeffrey Cannizzaro. "It's important for people to realize that people from different backgrounds are capable of running our country."

Of the students surveyed, many are not concerned with the decline, while 30 percent said there are too many lawyers involved in politics, 16 percent said there were too few and 54 percent said there were enough.

In the most recently recorded year, about 100 ECU undergraduate students applied to law school, amounting to one of the highest sources of law school applicants from any college in America.

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

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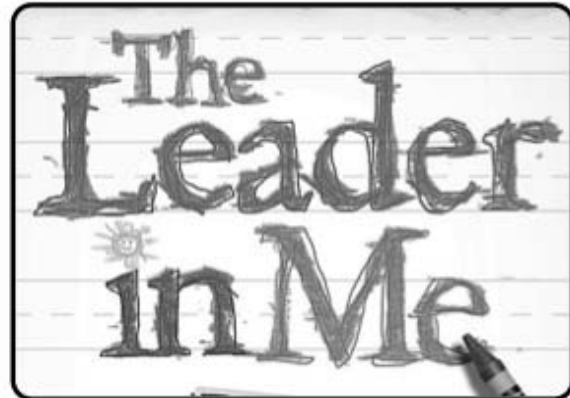
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CLARIFICATION

In the Feb. 2 issue of *The East Carolinian*, the article entitled “Changes coming to campus” improperly suggested that Campus Towers was a part of campus living when in fact it is not.

GAP continued from A1

Bissette added that some of the students that are classified under the reason of “personal,” and the 249 students that recorded “employment reason,” may actually fall into the financial category and simply do not wish to say so.

“I think it’s sad that students have to drop out of school for financial concerns,” said Tony Power, a sophomore English major.

The university requests completion of the non-return survey via letter to find out why a student has decided to take time off. If a student simply does not return for a

semester, most do not report a reason for temporarily leaving the university.

Bissette says that some people just don’t come back the following semester. “I guess sometimes students need to leave, but I am glad they’re coming back to complete their degree. In this economy, it’s important to have a higher education degree.”

In order for those students to return to the university, they must complete a re-admission application and pay the \$70 application fee. Poorman said that depending

on when a student withdraws, they may be required to pay back their financial aid.

“This office will never encourage a student to withdraw part way through a semester. We like to see students finish the courses that they start,” said Poorman.

Students with federal student loans, which includes subsidized and un-subsidized Stafford loans, that do choose to take some time off from school will be responsible for repayment, which starts after six consecutive months of time off.

“I feel that students should not leave school and deny themselves an education,” said Steven Branch, a sophomore business accounting major.

John Fletcher, associate provost in the Office of Enrollment Services, said that a main priority is to retain students and find out why they are stopping their education. The overall educational experience is also an important priority as well. In order to achieve each aspect, the university monitors and keeps a list of persistence, which includes all returning students. However, retention only refers to freshmen that return to the university for their second year.

Fletcher also added that the university is committed to trying to provide as many resources as they can to help the students succeed with programs like the Pirate Tutoring Center.

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

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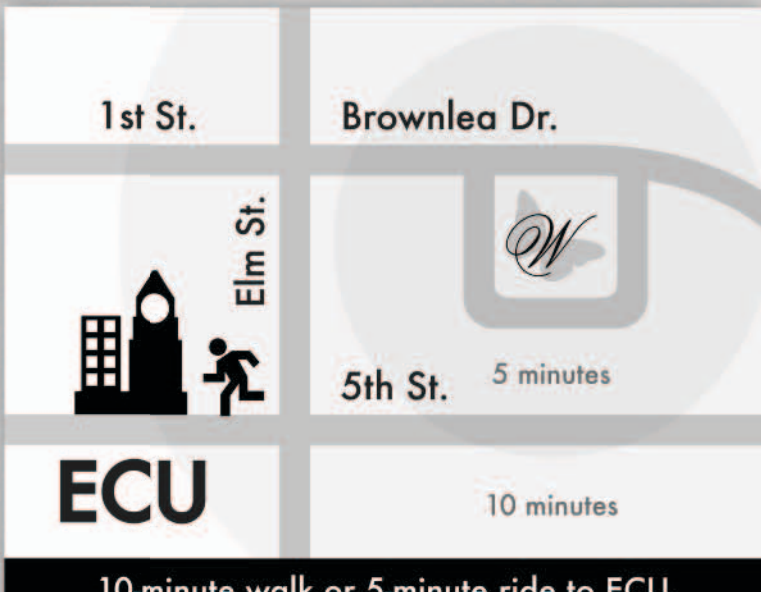
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PIRATE RANTS

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 opinion@theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

I don't ask questions, I just make judgments.

It's good-spirited b****ing...

Pirate Rants: keeping you busy during class since 2001.

Greenville PD, stop cracking down on all the ganja dealers. I'm losing all my connections.

I feel sorry for your liver. The way you spend most nights, it doesn't have a chance.

I don't want to know your name! I JUST WANT BANG BANG BANG!

I knew it would only take a two-degree weather shift to make the wild, orange hoes in short shorts come out.

I work harder on my rants than I do my assignments.

Thanks to the pregnant girl in my class for reminding me to take my birth control today.

Smokers... The ground men worked very hard to clean up the campus. PLEASE put your BUTTS in a receptacle! NOT wherever YOU choose!

You got mud on your face. You big disgrace, kickin' your can all over the place. Singing ... (everybody all together now!)

As a former Pirate and current soldier, I read the Pirate Rants for fun. Can a soldier get his humor back!?

I miss the good old days where I would look to the Pirate Rants for a good laugh ... The new political tone the Pirate Rants have taken on is seriously gay.

If we were in such a budget crisis, why don't we get rid of Joyner security? I never see them doing anything important besides stare at people.

When the f*** did we get ice cream?!

Having to find something to do in class because I didn't have Pirate Rants to read. #firstworld-problems

I'd be more excited about summer if I knew I had a job during it...

There is a special circle of hell reserved for those who walk in the running lane on the SRC track.

I'm going big, time for you to go home.

Day drinking starts earlier and earlier each semester. As a senior, it started last semester and has not stopped.

I walk into this club and this is what I see. Everybody stops and stares at me. I've got flab around my belly and I'm not afraid to show it. I'm a muffintop and I know it.

So, you remember the "ENGL 1100 fat girl" rant that got everyone all stirred up last semester? I saw that tub of lard yesterday. It was pretty gross.

To my best friend: Can we have sex?

ECU Students: What is with all the fictional Twitter accounts? Grow up!

You know it's gonna be a good Spring Break when your cruise ship is chanting Purple/Gold before leaving port!

The warmer weather should not be an excuse for you to dress like you work on a street corner.

You think Stanleys grow on trees? 'Cause they don't. There's no Stanley tree.

Education is the economy



Micah Lockhart
OPINION COLUMNIST
Freshman English Major
@Mlockhart93_TEC

Throughout years of sitting in a classroom and scribbling mindless dribble, I never actually tried to place a value on education. Thankfully, the state decided to do that as soon as I was accepted into ECU. Since that moment, I have looked at education through a microscope. I have picked through the piles and piles of educational history, and frankly, I am upset.

While undervalued in immeasurable extremes, being a student is a vital position in society. This is especially true of students in higher education. Becoming a student of a higher educational institute comes with the idea that the student is striving for more knowledge. Higher education offers a degree, which in turn boosts one's probability for employment.

In our current society, employment is a large issue. We are in a current economic crisis because of a lack of employment opportunity and insane government spending, and there are two main ideas on how to solve this issue.

There are some who believe that we should give tax breaks to the lower class. This will allow those individuals to have one less financial struggle to deal with. This, in turn, will allow them to focus more energy on finding employment. The second idea is that we can change our fiscal status by giving tax incentives to wealthy business owners. These individuals are called "job creators," and are expected to use all the money saved from tax incentives to be able to pay more employees, and thus, decrease the unemploy-

ment rate. While these ideas are logical in their essence, they offer more of a cure for the symptom rather than the problem. The poor are typically so engulfed in their financial difficulties that the idea of surviving comes long before the idea of moving up the food chain. The question to then ask is, what allowed this difference in social classes and how can the government attack the problem at its roots, rather than its leaves? The answer is education.

I have said this in the past and I find it to be evident now. Education is, put simply, the basis for everything progressive in life. Therefore, in order to move forward or to progress, we must now put our trust and resources into education. Education taught the business owner how to run his or her business and a lack of a degree forced that poor individual to work at a fast food place. Education should be an opportunity and an investment, but, because the government has not emphasized its importance, it has become a restriction.

They say "job creators" are given incentive to create jobs, so why not give students an incentive to become a "job creator?" Why is it that when a financial crisis hits, one of the first things on the chopping block is education? I have no answer for these questions other than a complete apathy or misdirection guided by our titanic government.

The truth is that the United States does offer certain financial supplements to help students get an education, thus addressing the second issue that comes with the lack of funding for education. In order to become a "job creator," an individual must not only have an education, but also he or she must have a quality education.

Sitting through classes, paying thousands of dollars a year, and leaving with a fancy framed

sheet of paper does not signify a quality education. In my opinion, many classrooms have become poor excuses for live audiobooks. Professors walk in and spew the exact information that is in the chapter they assigned for homework the past night. This is not educating, it is repeating.

The system is constructed so that students are able to receive a broad and deluded spectrum of knowledge. We are required as students on all levels of education to take general education courses. Why is that? Why are we being forced to receive a half-ass education that we pay for, and then, because of the poor instruction, not even taking anything away from it?

One possible solution to this heinous stupidity is an individualized education. Students should have more control over what path they would like to follow and be allowed to narrow that path as they become more mature. This would increase the desire to go to an institute of higher education because every student would have already gotten a general idea of what they would like to study. Students would have invested years of their life at molding their craft and developing their passion. Students would have put blood, sweat and tears into their future occupation, and therefore, wouldn't be so willing to drop everything and settle for minimum wage.

This cycle must come to an end. Education is the solution to our economic process, and this shows throughout time. As our quality of education descends, so does our economy. How much longer will this country wait until we realize that we much teach a man to fish, and teach him well, rather than catching the fish for him?

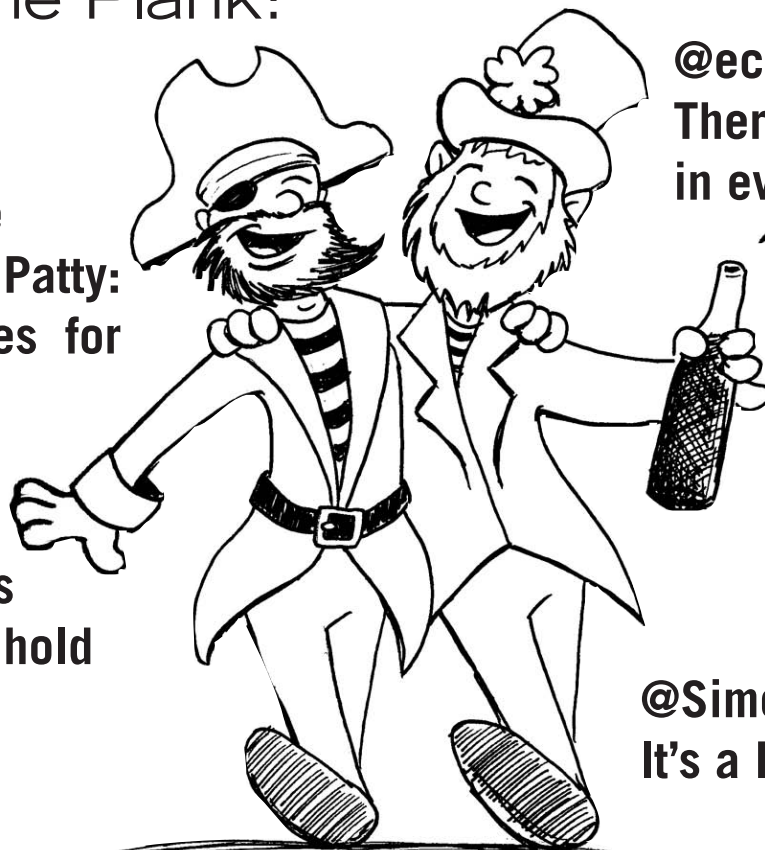
This writer can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



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Pirates and Patty:
Drinking Buddies for
life.

@JacksonPhipps
I'm a Pirate... hold
my drink b****.



LISA TREADWAY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

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in everyone.

@SuperGlewed
We're just holding
onto each other so
we dont fall.

@Simonsaysswag
It's a Pirish life for me!

The day the music died



Angus McKellar
OPINION COLUMNIST
Graduate Maritime
Studies Major

Bright Eyes holds a special place in my heart.

It was some years ago that Bright Eyes was the absolute must-hear musician of the minute. All my friends were talking about him. They loved him. And I was out of the loop, you see, because I had somehow missed him among the waves of musicians that pop in and out of public consciousness every year.

My friend was determined to put a stop to it. If you're not hip on music then you're square to the world, and he was not about to watch his buddy sit dumbly through yet another conversion about music. He burned me a CD of Bright Eyes, and right before handing it to me, he took a magic marker and along the bottom rim he scribbled the injunction to "listen to this music in the dark."

Now, this instruction was not too demanding, accustomed as I was to driving in the nighttime between my parents' house and college in Greensboro. But something in me failed when I tried to put the CD in the player.

Maybe it was the name "Bright Eyes." All I could think of were gaping, blue, innocent eyeballs, with light gleaming off big sopping tears. It reminded me of when I was 16 and hopelessly in love with a wayward girl, and of my helpless yelps of pain when she crushed my soft heart.

At any rate, the CD never made it into the player. I cast it aside and have never seen it since. All I remember was that I didn't have the energy to listen to one more damn musician. I was exhausted.

Music was once the driving passion of my life. If I met you, the first thing I would ask is: "what music are you into?" I felt like I was peering into your soul. I accumulated some thousands of CDs and so many MP3s I needed an extra hard-drive to store it all. I knew all the genres and I knew all the sub-genres. I made sweeping pronouncements, like when I predicted that disco was the future of electronica.

But at some point, I slipped. Maybe it was all the time it takes to get to know each musician, the playing and replaying of each CD until you learn every note and nuance. And there are so many! Every new class of freshmen brings with it a new set of bands and new set of sounds that must be learned and mastered. It is like a merry-go-round that spins and spins until you lose your grip and fly off.

One thing I miss about MTV — at least the MTV I grew up with, the one that played music videos — was the feeling that you knew what music was out there, and what was happening. Nowadays, in the Youtube and iTunes age, music is an endless bazaar of bands and producers with competing styles. And most of it sounds good, which is part of the problem. How do you determine which artist to invest your time in?

I used to try to bully my father into listening to new music. Every time we drove

somewhere, I would try to slip whatever frenetic drill-n-bass album I was "diggin'" at the time into the CD player while he rolled his eyes. When I discovered Radiohead, I forced him to suffer through OK Computer. "Oh I've heard all this before," he would say. "This is just the Beatles, son. Hear that? That's just Paul McCartney, right there."

I get the same sensation when I hear new music play, the feeling that I've heard it all before. Hell, I'm not even sure I want to hear anything new. I almost understand these old fogeys that pay hundreds of dollars to hear the Rolling Stones or the Eagles play exactly the same crap that they were listening to when they were 19.

Perhaps music loses its charm as you age. You can never quite recapture the shudder that goes down your spine when you first hear "Venus in Furs." You can admire the albums you once loved, but can never truly love them again. But the new stuff, the dynamic, the innovative, the living is dead on arrival.

Maybe in my toothless years, I will still be trying to tell my grandkids about Mouse on Mars. "Those were the days that music was pure. Not all this derivative drivel you kids listen to now!" And I know that anything they try to play me I'll have heard before. I'll know it with such certainty that I won't even have to listen.

Ah, Bright Eyes! I have never listened to a single one of your songs. Why start now?

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

WEB POLL

Will you utilize the new features that the North Campus Recreational Complex has to offer this spring?

Vote online at theeastcarolinian.com

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Serving ECU since 1925, *The East Carolinian* is an independent, student-run publication that prints 9,000 copies every Tuesday and Thursday during the regular academic year and 5,000 on Wednesdays during the summer. "Our View" is the opinion of the editorial board and is written by editorial board members. *The East Carolinian* welcomes letters to the editor which are limited to 250 words (which may be edited for decency or brevity). We reserve the right to edit or reject letters and all letters must be signed and include a telephone number. Letters may be sent via e-mail to editor@theeastcarolinian.com or to *The East Carolinian*, Self-Help Building, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353. Call 252-328-9238 for more information. One copy of *the East Carolinian* is free, each additional copy is \$1.

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Are you interested in being a part of the Student Government Association? Consider running for one of these positions....

Executive Branch

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President
- 3) Treasurer
- 4) Secretary

OR

Legislative Branch

Run for Senator to represent your college.

Dates to Remember:

- March 13 and 14: SGA Candidate Information Orientation
- March 14-20: Filing Period (Official announcement of candidacy in the SGA office)
- March 20: Compulsory Meeting at 7:00 pm
- March 21: Campaigning Begins
- April 2: Meet the Candidates Debate
- April 3-5: Elections
- April 5: Results Announced

For more information about elections please contact SGA Advisor, Patrick Edwards at edwardsp@ecu.edu

SGA Upcoming Events:

- * Pirate's Den Fundraiser on March 17th at 8:00
- * Want to design the new Boneyard Monument? Stop by the SGA office to get an application. Boneyard Monument Application is due on March 13th by 5:00pm.

Judicial Branch Updates:

SGA would like to welcome our newly appointed Chief Justice and Associate Justice along with the new Election Commission Officers.

Chief Justice:
Meredith Shaw

Chair of Election Committee:
Brennon Morton

Associate Justices:
Elizabeth Mitchell
Alexia Bwensa
Nick Lansing
Matthew Lovelace

Vice Chair:
Lindsey Killett

Members:
Stephen Salazar Mary Harrison
Emily Foertsch Mark Hatcher
DaJuan Lucas

SGA Organization Funding Updates:

- Emerging New Talent..... \$258.87
- African's Student Organization... \$427.41
- Athletic Training Student Club.... Denied Native American Organization.....\$1,697.68
- Chi Omega.....\$2,200.00
- Phi Alpha Theta.....\$205.14
- American Marketing Association.....\$1,686.52
- Zeta Phi Beta.....\$507.62
- Kinesiology Majors Club.....\$1,570.10
- Total Amount Allocated:
\$8,553.34

If you think your organization may need

FASHION COLUMN

Flash some spring fashion



Lindy Maddox
COLUMNIST

Spring has finally arrived in Greenville ... and so has spring fashion! The sun is shining, the mall is packed with students tossing footballs and zooming around on skateboards, and winter coats can finally be packed into closets for the months to come. However, not every winter item needs to be put away. Mixing blacks with florals, and boots with shorts is perfect for the awkward transition from cloudy skies to sunny days. Once you hear what is hot for this season, the process of mixing in spring looks will seem simple, subtle and fun to accomplish! From the sleek lines that covered the toned bodies of the Dolce and Gabbana models, to the outfits that painstakingly resemble the looks of fierce 1920's flappers, the fashion that has debuted for spring 2012 is out of this world.

While women's fashion changes in the blink of an eye, men's fashion takes a very leisurely walk toward modification. So don't fret, fellas, the button downs that were all the rage last year are still as stylish as before. Tiny tweaks and tugs have turned the stitching on the signature frat guy shirt to mirror that of the western styles spotted on sculpted Prada models. On top of that, the rampant plaid that was seen in the fall has been tossed out and transformed into funky patterns and vibrant-hued designs. Although there are some chic changes for men, overall the look for college males from last spring is just as trendy.

Out of all the looks that detrimentally stand out for women this spring (and don't worry, we'll get to all four), my favorite has to be the deco 1920's-inspired designs. Elegant patterns with sharp lines appearing in glamorous color palettes are on a roaring twenties rampage. Silky shirts made out of intricate lingerie fabrics are aching to be slipped on and paired with crocheted knit shorts or strappy sandals. This look is ideal for any woman who likes loose and billowy elegance that drapes, flows and helps emulate her inner Coco Chanel.

The second look that is perfect for spring is showing off your abs. That's right ladies, showing off your toned body is a craze that is huge in fashion this season. I'm sure most of you spent plenty of hours before spring break sprawled out on a mat at the gym working to perfect your tummy troubles, and now is the time to brag about how your work paid off.

Cropped tops were big last summer, but now the hemlines have become even higher. These tops almost resemble the infamous belly shirts from the 1990's. With the hemlines barely under your bust, now is the season to strut your stuff! Make sure that when you wear this look you pair it with a piece that looks modest juxtaposed against your crop top. No one wants to see your stomach showing AND your assets hanging out of booty shorts. Try wearing a shorter shirt with a long, summery pencil skirt or some bright-colored cropped pants. These items tend to look cooler than cool together, and will help you get some glances from on-campus admirers. What lady doesn't love that?

The third look that is sensational this season is puffs and peplums. Who knew these popular trends would be so different from each other? At one moment you want barely any skin covered with a teeny-tiny top, and the next you want excessive fabric to swoop and

Pirates build parsonage for paralyzed preacher

TJ Weaver
STAFF WRITER

Three-toed sloths, toucans, monkeys, farming ants and one gorgeous tropical rainforest — these are just some of the joys and natural luxuries 13 ECU students were able to experience during their Spring Break. The mission was not to party, but instead to spend countless hours building a house and a church for Umberto, a paralyzed preacher dedicated to helping the people of Costa Rica.

Through the Wesley Foundation of Greenville, a Methodist student organization located on Fifth St., these 13 students, mainly sophomores and juniors, joined seven Duke students for an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.

"We were working on a parsonage for a small church in the mountains of Changuena," said Katie Nunalee, a junior psychology major. "We mixed a lot of concrete, and painted and white-washed, but it's a way to reach out and do something good for a community that otherwise wouldn't have the chance of getting their church completed."

Help comes full circle. Luckily for these students, the community of Eastern North Carolina pulled together the funds to send the Wesley Foundation group out of the country. Through fundraisers and dinners, they reduced their traveling expenses from \$1,300 to \$250 per person.

"St. James United Methodist Church had a barbecue for us," said Nunalee. "We got to help out with that. They provided all of the food and cooked it and everything; we just had to be there to set it up and fix plates for people. We also had two chili dinners and a banquet dinner."

With traveling expenses reduced and a mission team ready to work and change lives, they were on their way to Costa Rica. From one Sunday to the next, they woke up at 5:40 a.m. with the roosters, worked on the construction of Umberto's house, stopped to eat twice, and then worked until 4:30 p.m.

"One of my roomies went to Disney World and the other went to Myrtle Beach," said Jake Strickland, a junior design major. "When I asked them to join, they thought I was only going to work and not get to party. We were working on the top of a mountain. We had toucans and monkeys all around us. No matter how much work we had to do, you can't beat the experience."

It was Umberto's story that had many students motivated to work. Paralyzed from the waste down due



Thirteen students spent their spring break in Costa Rica building a house and a church for a preacher in need.

to a falling tree, this remarkable man went to great lengths to visit his church members.

"As a preacher, one of Umberto's duties is to go out and see the people of his church that are too sick to attend, but being paralyzed and in a mountain made this difficult," said Nunalee. "He would crawl out of his house, climb a tree, call his horse to him and load himself onto the horse to go visit the people of his church."

But after a full week of sweat and hard work, there was still time for play. The mission's team had a chance to zip line through the rainforest and visit the beautiful, pristine, white-sand beaches of Costa Rica.

"Work is something we had to do there, but it was all for a good cause," said Strickland. "We were building a house and a church behind it for a preacher who was handicapped so that he wouldn't have to travel back and forth to the church that he was at before."

The highlight for Strickland was his encounter with a wild Capuchin monkey, and after jokingly telling people he'd take one home with him, he got to feed one.

"There was a tree on the beach



Jake Strickland reaches out to a Capuchin monkey over spring break in Costa Rica.

with about 30 monkeys," said Strickland. "There were coconut shells everywhere, so I put a slice of pineapple on one, and the monkey came down the tree and took it off the shell. I flipped out and learned how to say 'I fed a monkey' in Spanish."

While many other students were in Panama City, Myrtle Beach, Cancun and other Spring Break hot spots, this group of students were busy learning a new language, enjoying nature and making a difference.

"It's a great opportunity to see the world," said Nunalee. "It's a great opportunity to get out of the country and go see Costa Rica, and if you can help someone, why not?"

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

BOOK REVIEW

Grade: A



Rebecca Blanchette
LIFESTYLES
EDITOR

Welcome to Panem, a new country where North

America used to be before a series of natural disasters destroyed most of its land and people. There are no states, but rather 12 districts that divide up the country, each specializing in something industrial and each suffering under the tight grasp of the Capitol, a city filled with the country's government rulers. Just how brutal is the Capitol? Every year, its rulers randomly select two children between the ages of 12 and 18 (a boy and a girl) from each district to fight for their lives in a televised death match. Twenty-four children enter, but only one can survive. Hello, Hunger Games.

It's hard not to fall in love with the character of Katniss Everdeen, a strong and independent 16 year old who provides for her mother and

little sister. And by provides, I don't mean she works for a living. District 12 is much more difficult than that. Every day, she illegally goes into the woods to hunt "game" for her family, anything from squirrels to rabbits to deer. But her real heroic moment comes when she volunteers to take the place of her young sister in the Hunger Games.

Author Suzanne Collins transports readers into this strange new country, eerie in the fact that it lays where the United States used to be. What's even more frightening, however, is the Big Brother-esque government that controls everything, creating a civil war for its youth every year. The first part of the book starts off slow, as it sets the groundwork for this three-book series. However, when it gets to the actual fighting, it is beyond intense.

I literally could not put this book down. I carried it around with me for days, reading at any free second that arose. I was so into it that when someone interrupted me to ask me something I jumped. I even had dreams about it every night until I finished it. It may sound like I'm obsessed, but that's because I am.

Collins never stops surprising with these strange inventions

that pop up throughout the book, making it a pretty science fiction-y ride, but at the same time, it's all things that will probably be real someday. Another creep factor. For example, in the Capitol, plates of food appear with the press of a button. This is a major contrast for Everdeen, who has to hunt every day in District 12.

I couldn't help but feel that Collins was using the Capitol as a metaphor for our government, and the districts as metaphors for third-world countries. In the United States, we can get food pretty quickly just by going through a drive-thru. People in other parts of the world do not have this luxury. Collins definitely hides present-day issues throughout the book, making many metaphors.

But it's not even these comparisons or the science fiction aspect that make this book so addicting. It's partly the action, but more so, it's the relationships that form between the 24 tributes that have to fight. There is a lot of tension, alliances, and sides taken within the arena. Friendships are formed, but as we know all along, they will have to be broken by death. And every time a bond was formed, all I could think was "Will these two

friends have to kill each other in the end?" The relationship that causes the most tension is the one between Everdeen and Peeta, the boy tribute from District 12. Their relationship really adds a deeper element to the games, as they have a history outside of the arena, being from the same district.

It's impossible to just read "The Hunger Games" without immediately moving on to the next book. The cliffhanger at the end doesn't leave the reader with any other choice. Though the central theme of the book is the actual games, it quickly becomes about something much more complex.

I'm curious to see how the movie adaptation of this book will be, however, the previews have me believing that it will live up to all expectations. I saw Jennifer Lawrence in "Winter's Bone" and I'm more than confident that she will be able to nail the role of Katniss Everdeen. I believe that the movie has a talented cast that really matches the way the characters are portrayed in the book. After reading "The Hunger Games," there is no doubt that I will be at the midnight showing of the film come next week.

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

FASHION continued from A7

puff up your look. Well that's fashion for you! Extravagant peplums that hang around your waist or largely flared dresses and pants are stocked on the shelves for spring. The fun thing about this look is that they come in an extremely vast variety of colors and designs. From flirty flowered patterns to glitzy glitter or monochromatic tones, peplums are prominent in almost any hue you can imagine!

Lastly, one of the easiest looks to accomplish for this spring is pastel. Yep, the hues that already remind us of spring, Easter and new life are back again for another round. They're not just worn to church on Easter Sunday. Muted tones that are simply sewn and stitched into at least one piece can be found at ANY store and they're itching to be purchased and donned by fashionistas of every age. These ice cream color palettes are dripping with outrageous designs and understated silhouettes that look idyllic on every body type.

So, if you are dying to try all



MAGGIE PENDEGRASS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Funky patterns and bright colors are in for spring.

these exciting and alluring looks as much as I am, then don't be too timid to give it a shot! Spring styles can be faultless when you dive in headfirst, or if you go for an understated look by just dipping your feet in the fashionable waters. It isn't about wearing everything trendy at once; it's about mixing fun new concepts into your wardrobe whilst maintaining your unique personal look. From 1920's comebacks, to pastels and peplums, spring fashion has sprung and it's blossoming all over the fashion world!

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BUCCANEER BULLETIN

Thurs.,
Mar. 15

Pre-Patrick's Day
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Crawl 7 p.m.

Fri.,
Mar. 16

Folk Arts Society
of Greenville and
ECU Folk and
Country dancers
will sponsor
a salsa at the
Greenville
Masonic Temple
7:30 p.m.

Sat.,
Mar. 17

Winslow's Tavern
will host Matt
Martin to help
celebrate St.
Patrick's Day

Sun.,
Mar. 18

ECU Battle of
the Bands will be
hosted by SAB
at the Wright
Auditorium
8 p.m.

Mon.,
Mar. 19

Tipsy Teapot
will host Kimya
Dawson
8 p.m.

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TWENTY 12

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Getting creative: Crayonardo Da Meltinci Technique



MAGGIE PENDERGRASS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Crayons are taped onto a board and melted using a blow dryer to create a cheap and unique piece of art.

Leila Falls
COLUMNIST

Disclaimer: This crayon melting art project idea has colored its way to YouTube with a boxful of variations, so it is close to impossible to mess it up! If you end up being that dufus, just remember it was a fun process.

1) Answer these two questions: Can you afford the supplies right now? (You need about \$10). Do you have about 45 minutes to spare? (If you answered "Yes" or "Maybe," then move on to step 2).

2) Get the supplies:

- A blank canvas
- box of crayons
- hot-glue gun
- blow dryer
- 16x18 canvas

I bought the 16x18 canvas for \$5 and box of 64 crayons for \$5, and the rest was free since I borrowed the hot-glue gun

and blow dryer. (Remember to clean the blow dryer and glue gun before returning them ... there's no way to play off that the melted crayon spots were your way of bedazzling them.)

3) Glue each crayon into a horizontal line at the top of the canvas. If you want to avoid creating a gnarly color, then arrange similar colors together. For example, line them up from reds to pinks to purples to blues to greens to yellows to oranges. If it looks like a Care Bear would want to slide across the line then you have the right idea! Put the colors you want to be emphasized the most towards the middle because they will show up the best.

4) Make sure your work area is ready to become a splatter zone. If you have an ugly kitchen table here's the chance to give it a makeover. If not, a roll of the quilted-quicker-picker-upper might

be useful to have nearby. Caution: If it splatters on you, it will only burn for a split of a second. Then the crayon splatters will peel right off, which is not a problem if you were that kid that overused the glue just so you could peel it off of your hands.

5) Start blow-drying the crayon rainbow line. Begin with the blow dryer about three inches away from the crayons, tilted at an angle. Occasionally shake it around as if you were blow-drying hair. It takes a few minutes to start the melting process, but once it happens, get ready, because it's unpredictable. You never know which crayon will gush out! The best method is blow-drying side to side then moving down — just go with the flow.

6) Keep going until you get the urge to send a picture to your friend. Just because a section dried lumpy doesn't mean you can't melt it again

by going over that specific area. You can wave the dryer around so the colors splatter across or keep it consistent so it looks like it's raining colors!

7) Enjoy it! You'll find yourself thinking "ooh" and suddenly wanting some Skittles. Plus, it smells like kindergarten — that nostalgic scent of crayons when there was some serious coloring going on. Turn it upside down or sideways. Which way do you like better? Upside down looks like you spent hours on it and will guarantee the prompting of the question, "How did you do that?"

8) Keep on melting until you are fully satisfied with your artwork! After you hang it up, it's normal to find yourself thinking, "Move over Da Vinci, there's a new sheriff in town."

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

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Junior guard makes all-district team

Staff Reports

ECU junior guard Miguel Paul has been named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC)/ Division I All-District 11 second-team.

Paul, a 2011-12 All-Conference USA second-team selection, led the conference in assists per game (5.9), while leading the Pirates in scoring (15.2), steals (1.3 spg), free throws made (138), and 3-point field goals made (68). He ranked third in Conference USA in assist-to-turnover ratio (2.1), fourth in 3-point field goals made, fifth in scoring, seventh in 3-point field goal percentage (.362), and ninth in steals and free throw percentage (.767).

The Pirates finished the 2011-12 campaign with a 15-16 record and advanced to the quarterfinals of the C-USA Championship for the second consecutive season.

Tennis player garners weekly honors

Staff Reports

ECU sophomore Joran Vliegen has been named Conference USA Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week. Vliegen posted a 2-0 singles and doubles record at the No. 1 position, extending his unbeaten singles streak to nine matches.

He picked up straight-set victories over David Orces of The Citadel, 6-4, 6-2, and Charlotte's Jack Williams, 7-6, 6-1. In doubles play, he teamed with Niels Cleeren to defeat Orces and Peter Bleach of The Citadel, 8-4, and Charlotte's Alex Calott and Williams, 8-5. This is his first Athlete-of-the-Week honor this season and second of his career.

Vliegen and the Pirates will be back on the court on Friday, hosting Campbell in a 2:30 p.m. match at the ECU Tennis Complex.

Sophomore golfer earns Golfer-of-the-Week

Staff Reports

ECU sophomore Ryan Eibner has been named Conference USA Men's Golfer-of-the-Week after tying for second place and finishing ahead of 10 nationally ranked golfers at the General Hackler Championships in Georgetown, S.C.

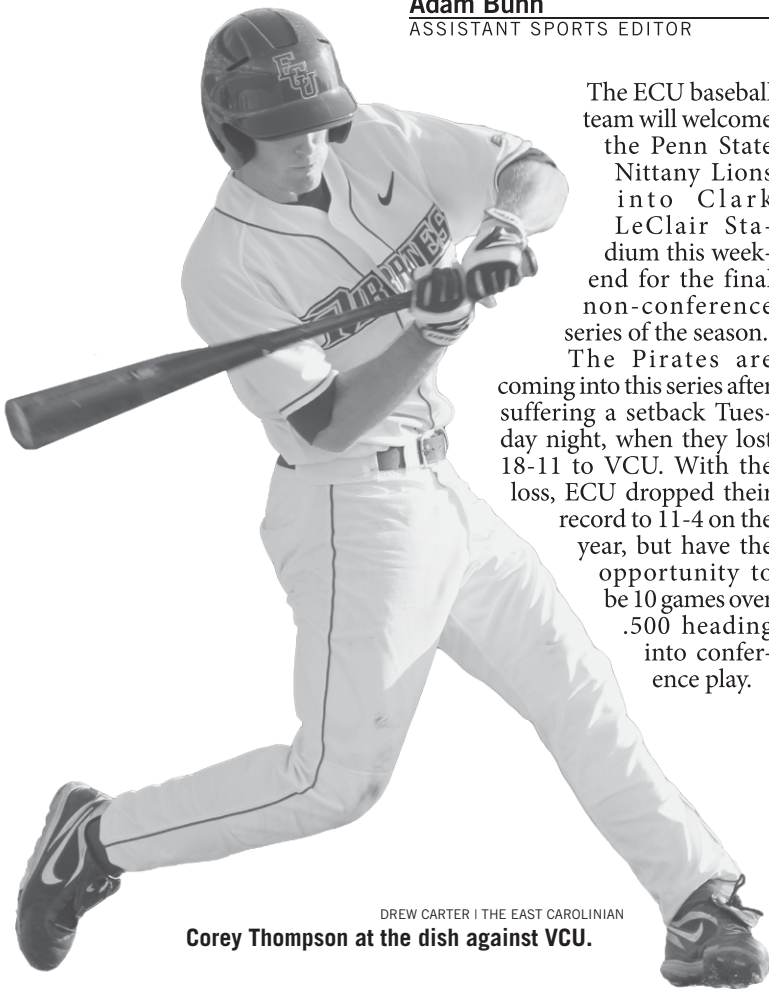
Eibner earned a three-way tie for second place at the 2012 General Hackler Championships as he carded a 2-over 215 (72-73-70), just three strokes behind the event medalist. He finished ahead of three players ranked in the top 35 and 10 nationally ranked golfers.

The finish was the best of his career as he helped the Pirates to runner-up honors as a team, two strokes behind No. 14 North Florida, and ahead of No. 9 Arkansas, No. 19 New Mexico, No. 24 Virginia and No. 40 Tennessee.

Eibner, who was honored with the award for the first time in his career, is the third ECU player to receive the weekly accolade this season. Seniors Adam Stephenson and Harold Varner were also recognized with the weekly award during the fall.

Baseball set to host Nittany Lions

Adam Bunn
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Corey Thompson at the dish against VCU.

The ECU baseball team will welcome the Penn State Nittany Lions into Clark LeClair Stadium this weekend for the final non-conference series of the season. The Pirates are coming into this series after suffering a setback Tuesday night, when they lost 18-11 to VCU. With the loss, ECU dropped their record to 11-4 on the year, but have the opportunity to be 10 games over .500 heading into conference play.

While ECU had only a minor setback, the Nittany Lions are having a rough year. Fourteen games into the year, PSU has yet to play a home game and that has shown in their record, as they come to Greenville boasting a 3-11 mark.

With the series just a day away, here are the match-ups to look out for on the weekend:

PSU Pitching vs. ECU Hitting:

The Pirates offense has been extremely erratic so far this season. ECU has had games like Tuesday where they dropped 11 runs, but they have also had games where they have shrieved up leaving the pitching staff hanging.

This weekend's series provides the ECU offense a perfect opportunity to get their engines running smoothly.

The Nittany Lions top three starters all have ERA's over 5.00 and neither has won more than one game. Steven Hill has tossed the most innings for PSU and is rocking a 5.61 ERA in 25 2/3 innings pitched. As a unit, Penn State has a 5.46 ERA and has given up 85 runs in their 14 games, or 6.1 runs per game.

Pirate hitters like Corey Thompson (.367, two HRs, 12 RBI), Tim Younger (.349, six RBI) and Philip Clark (.327, 6 RBI) should be foaming at the mouth when they get in

the batter's box on Friday afternoon.

The pitching woes by Penn State should also help ECU's struggling hitters to get things going. Guys like Chase McDonald and Zach Wright are capable of having plus-.270 averages, but have struggled early on. This series could be the turning point in their season, because despite what the numbers say about the PSU pitching staff, hits feel the same to a hitter, no matter the caliber of the staff they are going against.

The Pirates boast a .289 collective batting average, while scoring an average of 5.3 runs a game.

ECU Pitching vs. PSU Hitting:

On paper, this match-up looks very one sided. The ECU pitching staff has been nothing short of excellent during the early weeks of the 2012 season. Despite the hiccup on Tuesday against VCU, the Pirate pitching staff holds a team 2.89 ERA, having allowed just 54 runs.

The Penn State offense on the other hand has been horrid. The Nittany Lions have just one everyday player who is batting over .300 in Jordan Steranka (.356, two HRs, six RBI) and their leading RBI man is batting only .216 (Joey DeBernar).

On the season, PSU is hitting

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Rollercoaster season wraps up



Jordan Anders
OPINION COLUMNIST
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Does anyone remember "Cloverfield?"

The movie was so-so, but all I remember anyone talking about was the warning displayed by theaters showing the film in 2008. The notice informed moviegoers that because of the "found footage" style in which the film was shot, viewers "may experience side effects associated with motion sickness, similar to riding a roller coaster."

Someone should have put that same warning on the doors of Mingos Coliseum this season for ECU men's basketball games.

A week has passed since an overtime Conference USA quarterfinal loss to Southern Miss ended the Pirates' season at 15-16, and the roller-coaster ride that was that game, was a perfect microcosm of the roller-coaster ride that

was the entire 2011-12 basketball campaign.

The momentum shifts over the course of the season were drastic enough to have anyone with a weak stomach reaching for a bottle of Dramamine. After splitting their first two games, the Pirates won three straight, lost three straight, won five, lost six, won three, lost five, and won three, before the loss to Southern Miss to end the year.

I got nauseous just writing that.

The season had its share of down moments, from a 23-point embarrassment at Memphis, to having center Austin Steed declared academically ineligible halfway through the year, a situation that coach Jeff Lebo called one of the saddest of his coaching career.

But there were also great moments, like Darrius Morrow marking his senior night with a monster performance in an overtime thriller against Marshall, or the Pirates earning their third C-USA tournament victory under Lebo in a nail-biter against Rice.

The season will assuredly be looked at as a year of missed opportunities and what-ifs. What if ECU had gotten a lucky bounce

here, a key hoop or rebound there, or the benefit of a call every once in a while? After all, 10 of those 16 losses were by 10 points or fewer and seven were by five or fewer.

What if ECU had not lost centers Steed (6-foot-10) and Yasin Kolo (7-feet) to academic issues and a foot injury, respectively? No doubt that size was ECU's Achilles' heel all year, while Morrow, Robert Sampson, and Maurice Kemp - all 6-foot-8 - did admirable work inside. The lack of size and depth allowed the Pirates to get hammered inside and on the boards routinely. It's hard not to wonder what having those two "biggs" would have done.

There were plenty of positives throughout the year, though. Even though his final game as a Pirate was a stunningly unproductive, scoreless effort against USM, Morrow cemented his place as one of the best to ever play for ECU, becoming just the fourth Pirates to score 1,500 career points on his way to earning Third-Team All C-USA honors.

Miguel Paul proved to be everything he was advertised to be. While his shot selection was definitely suspect at times, when he was on, Paul was electric, lead-



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Guard Corvonn Gaines (11) against the Marshall Thundering Herd.

> COASTER page A12

Club bass team reels in fourth place

Ronnie Moore
STAFF WRITER

While the basketball programs were locked in the conference tournament over the weekend, the club bass fishing team finished out a great week and placed fourth in the Alabama Regionals.

The team of senior Brad Kimrey and junior Kyle Albers finished fourth at the College Fishing Regional Championships on Lake Guntersville, Ala. The two-day tournament included 117 teams from about 50 different schools to compete for the chance to make it to the national championship. Bethel University, located in Tennessee, won the regional with a two-day total of 10 fish for 48lbs. and 11oz. Bethel sent an astounding eight teams to the regionals in hopes that one would qualify. The top team from each college in the top 50 qualified for the national championship.

ECU sent two teams to regionals and both teams finished in the top half of the field. The team of Kimrey and Albers finished a mere 1-ounce behind the third place team, which was also from Bethel University. With their 46lbs and 2oz., Albers and Kimrey qualified to fish in the College Bass National Championships on July 25-27. Last year, ECU found itself leading this same regional after the first day and they managed a 12th place finish. With their top five finish in this year's regional, Albers and Kimrey were interviewed by ESPN.

"College fishing is growing, the competition is getting stronger and most of these fishermen will become professionals in the near future," Kimrey said. "Even though we are considered a club sport, we all are working to make a name for ourselves as professional fishermen."

UNC-Charlotte, a friendly rival, also finished in the top five and will be headed to nationals as well. The interviews and regional footage will air in the coming weeks on ESPN.

The bass team traveled 1,280 miles round-trip to compete.

"We travel so far, so it feels great to beat these local schools on their home turf, when they have home field advantage" said Kimrey.

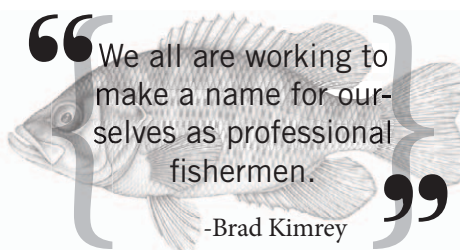
For Albers, this was his first regional tournament on a collegiate team.

"I had a blast! We were catching 20 pounds a day and we were keyed into our pattern," he said. "We didn't just have an amazing two days

during the tournament, we had an amazing week."

The club bass team is just four years old, and Kimrey was the original founder of the team.

"It is awesome to think of how we started and now we are a top contender in just a few short years" Kimrey said. "At first we competed to win for ourselves and now that people follow and support us, we want to win for them too."



CONTRIBUTED
Brad Kimrey and Kyle Albers placed fourth at the College Fish Regional Championships at Lake Guntersville, Ala.

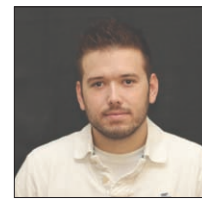
NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament



Jordan Anders
STAFF WRITER



Stephen McNulty
OPINION EDITOR



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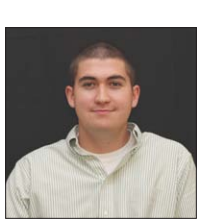
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TEC staff picks final four



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LIONS continued from A10

.218 as a team and has scored just 49 runs, which break down to 3.5 runs a game.

From the outside looking in, this appears to be a major advantage for the Pirates. Leading the way in the ECU starting rotation is Kevin Brandt (1.21 ERA, 3-1, 29.2 innings). Brandt has been the ace of the staff since the very first game and will get the ball on Friday. Saturday's projected starter is the surprise of the staff, Tyler Joyner (1.12 ERA, 3-0, 24 innings). Joyner took the starting job from Austin Chrisman and has moved in on Brandt for ace status.

Getting the ball on Sunday will be Jharel Cotton (2.53 ERA, 3-0, 21.1 innings). Cotton, the Virgin Island product has had an up and down season, has been typically throwing five or six innings a game before turning the ball over to the bullpen.

For the Pirates to exploit the Nittany Lions offensive woes, they must get ahead in the count, taking away PSU's

breathing room.

ECU Bullpen: Perhaps the most important aspect of the series for the Pirates is the performance of the bullpen. Early on, the success of the ECU relievers has boded well for the ultimate success of the team. When the bullpen has been on point, more often than not, ECU has walked away with the victory.

Case in point was Tuesday night. Starter Jake Harris lasted just one and one-third innings, but the Pirates trailed by just one when he left the mound. With Andy Smithmyer (.71 ERA, 1-0, 12.2

innings) coming in, ECU had a chance to steam the tide. Instead, Smithmyer wilted and the Pirates ended up using all but two relievers in the seven-run loss.

If the Pirates' bullpen can drop the hammer on Penn State, it should spell victory over the weekend no matter what the offense accomplishes.

ECU and Penn State will begin the three-game series on Friday at 6 p.m.

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

COASTER continued from A10

ing ECU in scoring and leading C-USA in assists to earn Second-Team All-Conference honors.

Paul's fellow transfers Kemp and Shamarr Bowden also flourished in their first seasons as Pirates, averaging a combined 18.8 points per game, while sophomore Sampson made great progression from his freshman season.

Bottom line: if you want to consider this year a step back for ECU, it was a minimal one, at best. Lebo

clearly has this thing steered in the right direction. His 33 wins in his first two seasons is just one shy of the win total from the three years before his arrival. Because of his immediate success last year though, it seemed like some forgot that. This year, almost half of ECU's biggest contributors were in their first seasons as Pirates, meaning the lion's share of the year went to those guys just learning their roles.

This season wasn't amazing, but come next

year, it will pay big dividends, as that core group — with the exception of the graduating Morrow — will be back with a year under their belts. Add the fact that Lebo has freshmen Marshall Guilmette (6-foot-10) and Michael Zangari (6-foot-9) on the way to shore up the inside, next year's club could be primed for a fantastic year.

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

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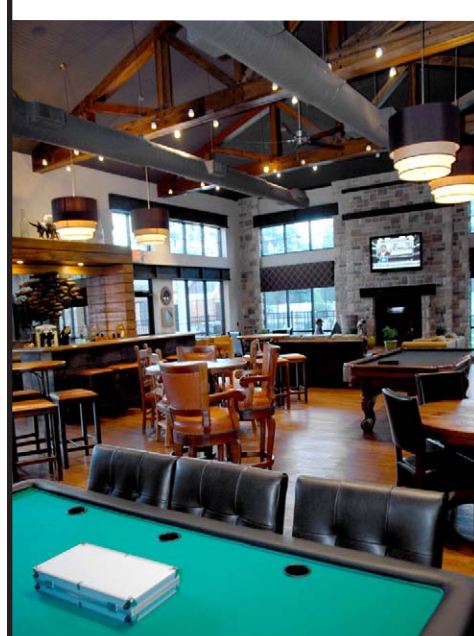



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