



BRIEFS

City Council discusses budget for Greenville

Staff Reports

The Greenville City Council has directed the Interim City Manager to create a budget based on a 52 cent tax rate per \$100 valuation.

The rate is the same as it is currently, but will result in approximately \$2.1 million less in revenue in the current fiscal year which will end June 30.

A rough plan was presented to the council on May 7, 2012 and suggested reduced spending and increased revenue to offset revenue loss.

After another budget meeting later this month, a public hearing will be held on June 11 before potentially passing the budget.

The council also voted to conduct an efficiency study to find ways to increase revenue at Bradford Creek Public Golf Course.

Local man faces credit card theft charges

Staff Reports

A man already facing multiple charges of vehicle break-ins and using stolen credit cards has been charged in dozens of more cases.

Keontae Ward, 21, was identified from surveillance photographs that showed a man using stolen credit cards at a local business.

According to WITN, police have charged him with 46 more cases. The total number of cases is now 62.

The charges include motor vehicle break-ins, financial card fraud and other thefts dating back to February 10.

Ward remains in jail on a \$100,000 secured bond.

Former football player held under bond

Staff Reports

Brandon Michael Jackson, 22, a former ECU football player is in custody after crashing his car into a cemetery and fleeing the scene.

Jackson is charged with destroying a dozen headstones at Greenwood Cemetery on East Fourth Street and Cemetery Road in Greenville.

The accident happened around 2:30 a.m. on May 3. Police tried to chase Jackson down but he was going too fast.

Jackson is being held under \$10,000 bond and faces charges of failure to report an accident, leaving the scene of an accident involving property damage and driving without a license, reported WCTL.

Police arrest former student in robbery

Staff Reports

Police have arrested four suspected armed robbers after a victim followed their getaway car and contacted police.

Greenville Police say Dominique Jackson, Brandon Miller and Malik Maye, of Raleigh and Rason Avery of Garner have been charged in the robbery.

The robbery took place at 12:30 a.m. outside of the Harris Teeter on South Charles Boulevard.

According to WITN, Jackson was an ECU student but is not currently enrolled.

Bond for Avery was set at \$70,000 while the other three have \$50,000 bonds.

103rd graduation held

Melanie Jock
STAFF WRITER

On May 4, the university celebrated its 103rd annual spring commencement in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

According to ECU News, 3,800 students graduated, including 73 from Brody School of Medicine. The main graduation was held at 9 a.m., and more than 1,500 students celebrated the accomplishment with friends and family.

"There was a lot of support and excitement from people," said Beverly Neffa, a nutrition science graduate. "Professors and family were there. There was so much support and pride from everyone. Everyone was proud of their children"

Dave McRae, CEO of Vidant Health, delivered the commencement speech. ECU News reports that McRae focused on the positive impact students can have on the region and world, but also made them aware of the difficulties they will face.

"He did a great job with his message to us," said Neffa. "It's good to hear advice from elders. It gives me hope when I hear that when they first started off, they had difficulties as well. It puts you at ease."

McRae encouraged students to stay connected to the world around them. He said it is impossible to connect to a crowd the way he wanted to, so he gave out his cell phone number during the speech. He said he wants to hear from students because that is how people communicate this day in age.

WNCT reports that McRae received around 150 text messages during his speech.

"He approached the crowd in a very modern way to reach out to young people," said Neffa. "He delivered a deep message to us that was easy for us to understand. It wasn't 'old school.'"

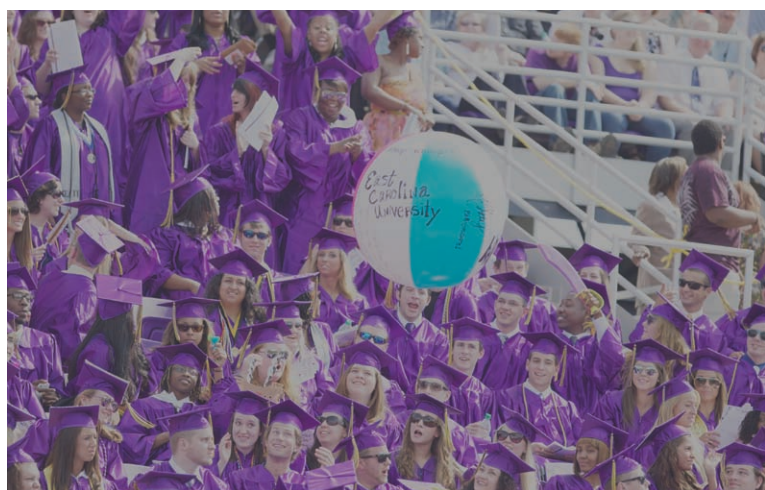
Different colleges, schools and departments had separate recognition ceremonies held on Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5.



CONTRIBUTED

On Friday, the College of Health and Human Performance, College of Technology and Computer Science and College of Education held ceremonies in Minges Coliseum. The ceremonies for the Department of Psychology, Brody School of Medicine and the School of Communication were held in Wright Auditorium, and the School of Art and Design, School of Music, and English were held in Hendrix Theatre.

Sociology, geography, history, School of Theatre and Dance, physics, philosophy and foreign languages and literature ceremonies were held Friday as well.



CONTRIBUTED

> GRAD page A2 Around 3,800 students graduated from the university on Saturday, May 4.

Amendment One passes in North Carolina primary

Kamal Darji
STAFF WRITER

North Carolina voters approved Amendment One on May 8, and the amendment will go into effect January 1, 2013.

More than 2.1 million votes were cast, and amendment supporters out-voted the amendment's opposition by a rough margin of 61 percent to 39 percent.

The amendment adds to North Carolina's constitution language that states, "Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State." In doing so, North Carolina became the 31st state to adopt an amendment that strictly defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

However, gay marriage has never been legally recognized in this state, and there has been a pre-existing state law, outlawing gay marriage in North Carolina since 1996. The amendment declares the act of gay marriage as unconstitutional and also voids other types of domestic unions.

Duke political science professor Mike Munger said the true impact of the bill may not be known for several months.

"The screaming, excruciating paradox of all this is that supporters wanted to take this out of the judges' hands. Clearly it will have the opposite effect,"



RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Over 61 percent of Pitt County voted for the amendment which will take effect next January.

said Munger, when asked for his opinion on the outcome of the referendum. Munger and other political and legal scholars assert that, ultimately, a judge may have to decide what exactly passage of the marriage amendment means for North Carolina.

Voter turnout during the election was the highest in North Carolina history for a primary, and much of the final turnout can be attributed to voter mobilization for and against the amendment.

According to North Carolina Board of Elections data, roughly 2.1 million amendment votes were cast in North Carolina with 61.06 percent of voters for the amendment and 38.94 percent against it. Roughly 1.3 million people voted for the amendment; in comparison, approximately 833,120 voted against it.

Pitt County followed the overall pattern of the state, as 61.22 percent of voters voted for the amendment and 38.78 percent voted against it. In

total, there were approximately 19,203 people who voted for the amendment and about 12,164 who voted against it.

According to voting results, the amendment drew an increasing amount of support from much of Eastern Carolina. However, the initiative did lose in eight counties, including: Wake, Durham, Chatham, Orange, Mecklenburg, Buncombe, Watauga, and Dare counties.

> AMENDMENT page A2

Student loan rates to double

Maddie Laing
STAFF WRITER

Federal Student Loan rates are set to double, starting July 1, from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. The U.S. senate voted last Tuesday on whether or not to extend the current 3.4 percent student loan rates for another year, but came short 8 votes of the 60 needed; 52-48 in favor of raising student loan interest rates.

If congress fails to act on this bill by July 1, over 7 million students taking out federal subsidized Stafford loans may be subjected to over \$1,000 in increased student loan debt.

"I've called from congress to prevent this from happening, now is not the time to make school more expensive," said President Obama on "Late Night With Jimmy Fallon."

Subsidized Stafford Loans are federal loans based on financial needs. Interest does not accumulate on the loan while the student is in school.

Unsubsidized loans are federal loans not based on financial needs. These loans accumulate interest even if the student is currently in school. With both subsidized and unsubsidized loans, there are maximum amounts of money that can be received each school year.

Both Democratic and Republican parties agreed that the 3.4 percent interest rate should be extended for another year, but their plans on how to offset the \$6 billion it would cost, differ.

According to CNN, house Republi-

> LOAN page A2

INSIDE

OPINION

Toll booths filling I-95? See how these will affect your budget in the coming years in NC. **A3**

LIFESTYLES

Turn to Lifestyles to read about Jared Water's internship with Disney. **A4**

SPORTS

Turn to Sports to read about the track team's second place finish at the C-USA Championship. **A6**

WEATHER

77°F/61°F

Scattered T-storms



GRAPHICS FROM ENTROPIA.COM

ONLINE



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

GRAD continued from A1

On Saturday, the College of Business, College of Allied Health Sciences and College of Human Ecology held ceremonies in Minges Coliseum. The ceremonies for biology and the College of Nursing were in Wright Auditorium. Political science, economics and chemistry held ceremonies in Hendrix Theatre.

Around 2,800 bachelor degrees and 1,000 graduate degrees and certificates were awarded.

Danielle Maddox, a recreation management graduate, chose to not attend commencement, but enjoyed the ceremony for her department.

"It was more of a personal feel," said Maddox. "I liked to walk across the stage and be recognized."

Maddox said the ceremony was more fast-paced, and she did not have time to feel emotional, until the closing words.

"At the end during the closing, Chancellor Ballard was saying we'd be Pirates forever, and Pirates in our hearts," said Maddox. "That really hit me."

Neffa said she had a similar emotional experience that hit her on graduation morning.

"Both ceremonies were good," Neffa said. "It didn't hit me that I was graduating until I was wearing the cap and gown and walking across

the stage."

Neffa said the feeling of pride and accomplishment is one she will never forget.

"It's kind of an oxymoron feeling just because it's so exciting but at the same time you see that you're closing a big chapter in your life that you've been so accustomed to the last few years," Neffa said.

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

AMENDMENT continued from A1

The amendment was defeated in some of the biggest areas in North Carolina such as Raleigh, Charlotte, Durham and Greensboro. The amendment fared strongly in most other areas.

There has been a great deal of controversy over the passing of the amendment. For instance, opponents of the bill feel that certain rights are being denied to gay couples and unmarried citizens, whereas supporters of the bill feel it is a question of morality.

The main focus, as expected, has been on the

issue of gay marriage, thus the name, "marriage amendment." Opponents of the amendment raise other concerns about the amendment's potential effects, such as the possibility of domestic-violence law invalidation and health benefits being stripped from unmarried families. Many also think the amendment may hurt the state's ability to recruit and retain the best workforce.

ECU student opinions on the amendment vary. Recent graduate Pawan Bhat, 22, majored in engineering and is shocked that the amendment

passed. "That is a round-about way of getting around church and state," he said.

The amendment is just the type of hot-button issue that draws strong views from both young and old demographics alike.

According to a 23-year-old junior hospitality management major who chose to remain anonymous, "Christianity is a religion with many virtues but it seems people nitpick and accept one virtue while turning their back on other virtues."

Recently, New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg

stated his opinion on the matter as he delivered the commencement speech at UNC-Chapel Hill's graduation.

"I have no doubt that in your lifetime, liberty's light will allow us to see more clearly the truth of our nation's founding principles, and allow us to see all people, and all couples, as full and equal members of the American family," said Bloomberg.

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

LOAN continued from A1

cans state that they would pay for the extension by cutting a health care fund that promotes preventive care.

Senate Democrats stated they want to offset the cost by getting rid of tax benefits for small businesses.

Subsidized Stafford loans were originally 6.8 percent, but in 2007 this rate was cut to 3.4 percent as part of the democratic campaign, until the 2012-2013 school year.

According to recent data from Equifax, more people are beginning to go back and stay in school due to the recent unemployment rate

being 24 percent for teens and 14 percent for ages 20-24. Student's payments of more than three months late have risen 14.6 percent since 2010.

Jason Delisle, a student financial loan expert of the New America Foundation, pointed out that even a 6.8 percent interest rate might be lower than what students would find on a private market.

"I think the increase is going to cause students to have a harder time, and if it keeps going up, it's going to be impossible to pay back," said Heather McKelvey, a junior

nursing major.

Both Obama and Romney, presidential candidates, are said to be using the issue to stump for more votes.

"I think this will definitely discourage people from going back to school or even going to college in general," said Jonathan Colbert, a senior business major.

"Higher education is the most important investment you can make in the future, in today's economy there is no greater predictor of economic success than a good education," said Obama at a recent visit to the University

of North Carolina.

Although the loan increase might pose as a financial burden to ECU students, the office of financial aid offers several alternatives to taking out loans for students, including information on financial aid, different types of loans, grants and federal work-study programs.

Students can visit ecu.edu/financial to view the alternatives and obtain more information.

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

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Ivan Feign, Mui Wo, Hong Kong, B.F.A. photography student

PIRATE RANTS

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

Hopefully one of my 16 rants will get published. Odds are forever in my favor.

I think it's safe to say that we've all had a Molly.

To the lame who tried to call me dumb last week: Let's just see who gets a better job.

All-nighters, endless dates with Joyner, sleep-fighter, make a hook with my pointer. #RantRapper

Hakuna Matata > YOLO. Timon & Pumba > Drake.

Parking tickets can really ruin someone's day. Yo parking meter busters, f*** off!!!!

I thought UGG boots, sweatshirts, and yoga pant season was over.

Dude ... just ... no.

I'm Scot/Irish. It's illegal for me not to drink at any age.

I learned an entire semester of math at one session at pirate tutoring than an entire semester in class.

I need to rethink my life. Someone hand me a beer.

I will haunt you until you kill yourself!

I will smash your face into a car windshield then take your mother, Dorothy Mantooth, out for a nice seafood dinner AND NEVER CALL HER AGAIN.

Dorothy Mantooth is a SAINT!

Yo North Campus Crossing Residents, CLEAN UP YOUR DOGS SH**!! Thanks.

I am a 24-year-old virgin and proud of it!

Our neighbors called the cops because my boyfriend and I were too loud making the beast with two backs.

There are only two good things that come from the North: Harley Davidson and I-95 South.

Just remember kids, C's get degrees!

To the girl who played with my emotions, just remember karma is a bigger b**** than I'll ever be!

Pirate Rants legit just saved me from work ... Still love my ECU!

Overheard downtown: "If I believed everything guys told me when I was out, I would've already slept with an astronaut, pilot and at least three people that killed Bin Laden."

Sorry bro, I may have grinded and made out with your hot TA all night, but she's still not bumping your grade up to an A.

I hate it when you're walking through the pillars by Joyner and someone walks the same time as you do you can't hear your sound.

I love scotch. Scotchy, scotch, scotch. Here it goes down, down into my belly...

Every time you laugh, it makes me want to drown a kitten. Every time.

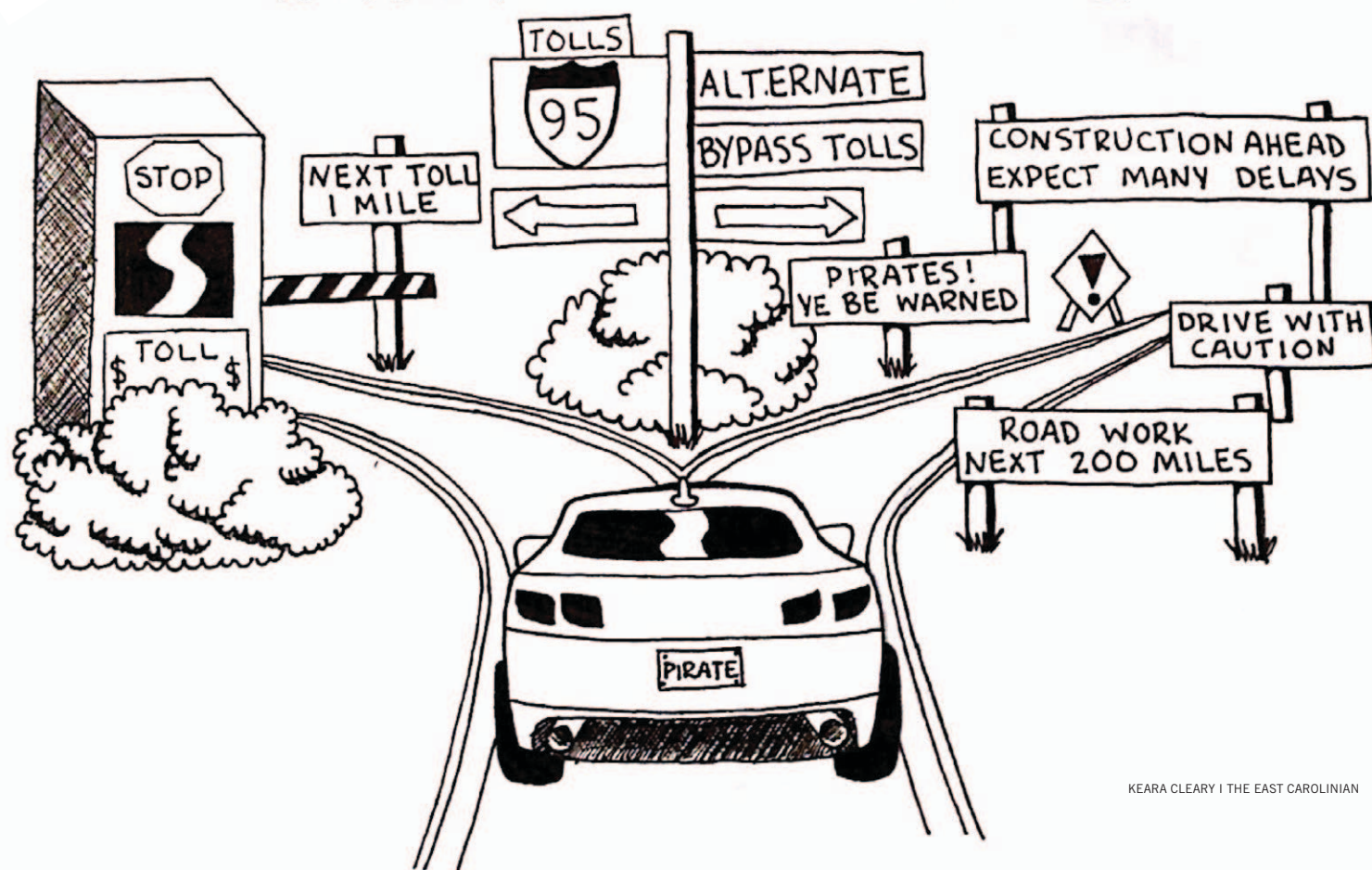
So, I'm going to spend a third summer in Greenville taking summer classes, and I still am not going to graduate on time. This has to be some kind of record.

I have never felt so good about our relationship ending until I saw you on campus wearing two polos with the collars popped, a blazer and jeans.

Submit Pirate Rants online at theeastcarolinian.com

"For whom the bells toll,"

Welcome to North Carolina



KEARA CLEARLY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Brian Holloman
OPINION COLUMNIST
Computer Science Major
@CaptSteelbeard

North Carolinians already pay one of the highest taxes on gasoline in the country at 38.9 cents per gallon. If the North Carolina Department of Transportation's current plan is enacted, toll roads on Interstate 95 could be an unwelcome addition to that increasing burden. The NCDOT is looking at adding tolls to I-95 in order to pay for a roughly \$4.4 million expansion of the road, and received approval from the federal government in February to begin preliminary analysis and further study. The tolls are expected to start in 2019.

What does this mean for future students at East Carolina University? According to the NCDOT's initial estimates, it will cost approximately \$20 to travel from the Virginia border to the South Carolina border, with tolls additionally being taken at each exit, to catch clever drivers that attempt to snake their way around the collection booths. This means that on top of high gas prices in the state and increasing tuition, students that travel on I-95 to catch Highway 264 to Greenville will have an additional cost placed upon them for simply traveling down the interstate. For our out-of-state students that wish to drive to and from their home state and students that live along the I-95 corridor, this cost could

add up rapidly over the four or more years they attend ECU.

Clever and observant students, as well as many other drivers, will catch the other highways that run parallel to I-95 in order to escape the tolls. This represents perhaps the largest flaw in the NCDOT's logic: the net effect of the tolls on I-95 will result in a shift of drivers to other roads, increasing the amount of money required to maintain those roads and generating less than expected revenue from the tolls.

Of course, the likely solutions the state government will recommend to confront these problems are more tolls, or perhaps yet another increase in the gas tax! Taxes are a negative motivator, which is the primary logic behind cigarette taxes being used to convince people to quit smoking. The toll roads, essentially another tax, will "disincentivize" the usage of the road and result in drivers finding alternate means of travel or just not traveling at all. This could cascade down into a huge problem for the tourism industry in North Carolina, which has already been hit by the economic malaise the past few years.

Another thing to consider is just how many businesses that rely on the I-95 corridor for shipping and materials will be unable to deal with the additional costs as a result of the toll roads. Would those same businesses reconsider their location in eastern North Carolina in order to avoid those costs? The NCDOT should be asking and studying those very questions right now. A toll on I-95 has the potential to force many busi-

nesses to relocate or cut jobs, further weakening the economy of the region. Any damage to the local and regional economy has a direct impact on East Carolina students, as a decreasing job market will prevent many students from obtaining work and being able to pay for associated costs with attending ECU. Reliance on financial aid will increase, decreasing the pool of available cash for other students.

Another issue comes with the conventional wisdom that "money is fungible." How can we as residents of this state expect all of the money collected from the tolls to actually be spent on the interstate and not some monument to political narcissism and fiscal irresponsibility? The short answer is, we cannot. Money can be rerouted to other interests as politicians see fit. There is no such thing as a "lock box" and politicians can even build teapot museums with that money if they wish. Take the North Carolina Education Lottery for example. Much of that revenue has been re-allocated the past couple of years to fill budgetary shortfalls and pet projects rather than its intended educational purpose.

I feel that the North Carolina Department of Transportation should reconsider their plan, unless they can adequately address the potential negative consequences and grievances associated with tolling I-95.

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Organize to overcome Amendment 1



Andrew Ray Gorman
OPINION COLUMNIST
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On May 8th, North Carolina held its primary elections, determining which politicians would go on to represent the political parties in the upcoming November elections. However, this was not all there was on the ballot.

There was also a referendum known as Amendment One. Its purpose is to change the North Carolina Constitution "to provide that marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized." It passed with the support of 61.06 percent of the votes, out of about 2 million voters. Over 4 million registered voters did not vote.

This incredible lack of turnout shows that the amendment could have still been defeated, had there been a greater turnout in opposition. It is almost strange to me that this amendment was passed. For the past

school year, LGBTQ activists were out doing a lot of work for various organizations such as Protect NC Families and the NAACP. I, myself, participated in a march this year in Raleigh known as the HKonJ, or the Historic Thousands on Jones Street. It was adequately named, as there were literally thousands of activists hitting the streets. This was a coalition of progressive organizations, and some of the most prominent out there were the LGBTQ rights organizations. It seems almost impossible that the amendment could have passed.

In the wake of the passing of this amendment, I feel as heartbroken as many others do. Gay marriage was illegal already in the state of North Carolina, and would still be whether the amendment passed or failed. This is not the end of the struggle, and as Frederick Douglass said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Rather than giving into defeat, we should learn from this loss and use it to do better next time.

There have been reports from activists of those who work the ballots advising voters to vote for the amendment. All incidents should

be reported to the Attorney General. There have also been churches, in blatant violation of their tax-exempt status, telling their member to vote for the amendment. All of these incidents should be reported to the IRS, and provide proof if possible.

Hatred exists in all levels of society, in all areas. It is not a strictly "southern" thing, nor a North Carolina thing. It manifests itself in different ways due to various preconditions. A common theme in the online world and media right now is the characterization of North Carolina as mostly full of hicks; but this is not true at all. There are millions of great people in this state. Instead of making generalizations that may alienate the masses, we must foster positive influence.

As for Christianity, if it is to be saved, must undergo a revolution. Many self-professed Christians are either themselves LGBTQ identified, or an ally. There have been a lot of problems in the past with self-professed Christians being on the wrong side of things, be it those in the Ku Klux Klan or those opposing the equal rights for women. But

with each of these movements, there were those who caused revolutions in Christianity, and you will find a great deal of difference between the Christianity of Martin Luther King and Klan members. One has a message of liberation and integration; the other has one of hatred and separation.

There is a way to come to an agreement between supporters and opponents. Have the state recognize only civil unions. Unions are typically granted by the state, and this is seen in other non-Christian cultures. Modern Christianity recognizes the union of a man and woman as an important part of life, and it calls this marriage. So call it a marriage, union, or anything else, everyone gets what he or she wants. If you oppose such a position, you are holding a position that is antithetical to liberty, and are violating the golden rule, which is to treat others like you would like them to treat you.

For those who are disheartened, as labor organizer Joe Hill said: "Don't Mourn, Organize!"

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (Mar 21 -Apr 19)

You are feeling the thrill of the new today! It may be anything from a new romance to a new job, but something big is going on and you are right in the middle of it. Keep the flame alive!



Taurus (Apr 20 -May 20)

Impulsive behavior is uncalled for on a day like today — though others seem to be having fun with it! Especially when you're thinking about spending money, though, you need a tighter rein.



Gemini (May 21 -June 20)

Try to really listen to your people today — they've got more to say than you might expect. At least one person is trying to offer some advice in a haphazard fashion, so pay closer attention.



Cancer (June 21 -July 22)

You need to pace yourself today — though events may make you feel rushed. Just try to take deep breaths and remind yourself why you're doing what you're doing. It's all okay in the end.



Leo (July 23 -Aug 22)

You need to open up your mind even more — and yes, that is possible! Your amazing, intense energy makes absorbing new information as fun as it is helpful, so get on it right away!



Virgo (Aug 23 -Sep 22)

Expect social issues to pop up involving work —and coworkers. If you're not on the clock or are in between jobs, it may be that you run into a former colleague who's not such a delight.



Libra (Sep 23 -Oct 22)

Your business acumen is sharper than ever today — so make the most of it! Even if you don't feel quite right about what you're doing, go forward and make things right another day.



Scorpio (Oct 23 -Nov 21)

Things could get pretty ugly late in the day — so do whatever you can to deescalate any conflicts. That could mean walking away or accepting (temporary) defeat, so keep all options on the table.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 -Dec 21)

You and your people are having fun and playing games today — it's just that kind of day! You may find it easier than usual to impress the right people with your social energy, which could lead to romance.



Capricorn (Dec 22 -Jan 19)

You are feeling responsible for today's new turn of events — good or bad — and you may need to step up to help out when things start to get weird. The good news is that your efforts do a lot of good!



Aquarius (Jan 20 -Feb 18)

You are uncovering new patterns underlying your social or even your romantic situation — though you may not want to take action quite yet! Let your new insights penetrate into deeper consciousness first.



Pisces (Feb 19 -Mar 20)

Get your head back in the clouds! Real life is too ridiculous to understand right now, so why not relax in the safety of your own delusions? Things are sure to be more interesting in there!



These horoscopes are from www.astrology.com.

All images are from MCTcampus.com.



CONTRIBUTED

Alumnus gains experience through Disney College Program

Sasha Preddie
STAFF WRITER

An internship is an opportunity for one to gain experience in his or her desired job field and have an advantage over someone who may want the same job as them. Jared Waters, a Fall 2011 graduate, decided to take advantage of the opportunity to intern for Disney through the Disney College Program.

The Disney College Program is a beneficial internship designed for college students and recent college graduates from any major. The program gives students the opportunity to network with leaders and get hands-on experience to build skills that are needed in any job field.

Before Waters graduated from ECU, he was busy performing stand-up comedy with Seriously Clowning, doing improv comedy with the SWASH Improv group, and being an intern teacher at a local school. He planned to go on tour around Canada to perform stand-up after he graduated, until his friend and fellow graduate, Christopher Timmons, informed him about the Disney College Program.

Always up for trying something new, Waters decided to apply for the internship.

"It's pretty much like riding a giraffe," said Waters. "You see people do it and you want to do it for yourself to see if you can hold on."

Like many internship programs, not everyone is accepted, but some of Waters' friends said they would have been surprised if he was not accepted.

"His attitude, work ethic and uniqueness were a good match for the company," said Timmons.

The internship consists of two sessions, one in the fall and one in the spring. Waters' performance during his spring semester allowed



CONTRIBUTED

Waters poses with Winnie the Pooh during his time working at Disney World.

for him to stay for the spring advantage program, which runs from January to August.

While interning at Disney, students also get paid to work in the parks and resorts. Waters was originally a boat driver who would take guests from the Magic Kingdom parking lot back to their resorts.

"I'm a sucker for a laugh," said Waters, which made working on the boat enjoyable because he was able to interact and joke with many people.

He quickly found that one of Disney's mottos, "Teamwork makes dream work," held true when he was transferred to food services. Waters

worked in one of the busiest restaurants in Disney World and truly learned the importance of working on a team.

When Waters wasn't working in the parks, he met with different leaders and learned a lot about loyalty, honor and respect.

Waters said the best way to explain what it's like to work in Disney World is to compare it to stand-up.

"Disney World is like being on stage and finding new jokes," said Waters. "Every time on stage is different because you have a different audience, but your main goal is to make them laugh and like you. The goal of working at Disney is to make the guests like you so they feel welcome and happy."

Even though Waters is originally from the south side of the Netherlands and has traveled the world, he said that his favorite thing about working for Disney was being able to meet people from different cultures and get their perspectives on life. He feels like learning how different people view the world helps him see things in a new light.

Though Waters enjoys working for Disney, his goal is to be a famous stand-up comedian. Timmons thinks working for Disney is a good opportunity for anyone who wants to make it in the world of performing.

"If I can make people from all over the world laugh, then I know I can be a comedian," said Waters.

Waters wants to make an impact on people's lives just as Disney does every day. He wants to make people happy through laughter and he feels like the experiences he has had at Disney will get him that much closer to reaching his dream.

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

Orientation aides lead the way

Rex Rose
STAFF WRITER

It is the same story every year. As soon as the graduates have left campus for the last time, fresh new faces, accompanied by their parents, take the tour of Pirate country. This year, the cycle of incoming and outgoing is no different, but one of the most important parts to this equation are the students who serve as the guides for the incoming freshman.

The Orientation Assistants are a group of 25 students that are selected by the Office of Student Transitions and First Year Programs each summer for the monumental job of introducing parents and students alike to campus.

The applicants have to go through two interviews, the first being a group interview. In the group interview, which consists of 30 to 40 people, the students get to interact with returning OAs as well as with the people in charge. In this interview, they look at your people skills and your ability to think on your feet. In the individual interview, the First Year Program staff focuses mostly on personal questions and attributes.

The students who are selected are high quality students, with great attitudes and are very

involved in campus activities. Two of this summer's 25 are Zack Hawkins and Ann Schafer..

Hawkins, 20, is a business finance major who was an OA last summer and will serve incoming students and parents again this year beginning in June.

There are many positions for an OA to perform, such as conducting walking tours, overseeing small groups and helping with check-in.

"The main duty is to answer questions that incoming freshman may have," said Hawkins.

OAs receive extensive training to prepare them for possible questions. This preparation not only gives information, but also provides the confidence needed to complete such a demanding job.

"We go through a week of training where we learn everything ECU," said Hawkins. "It gives you all the information you would need to answer questions by parents or students."

Hawkins has wanted to be an OA from his first days as a Pirate.

"I was interested as soon as I came here in my own orientation with being an orientation assistant," said Hawkins.

Since then, Hawkins has enjoyed making a difference around campus and being involved

with different organizations. He also serves as an ECU ambassador and a Student Leadership Assistant.

"It is really rewarding helping incoming students become familiar with campus and coming to college," said Hawkins. "When you come back in the fall, you can't walk through campus without two or three people coming up to you and saying, 'hey, you were my orientation assistant.'"

Ann Schafer, who is a 21-year-old theatre major, also enjoys helping students make the transition from high school to college.

"They are just really excited to come to school because of you, and you know, I love being a resource for people," said Schafer. "Being able to help them transition and what not, it is really rewarding and it is a lot of fun."

Schafer does not only introduce the students to the campus, but she also works as a resident advisor in Cotton, Fleming and Jarvis halls. Her experience as an OA has only helped to make her a better resident advisor.

"This past year was my first year being an RA, so I was an orientation assistant before I was an

ORIENTATION continued from A4

RA," said Schafer. "It was a lot of the same thing, you know, helping them transition and you still answer the same questions and help them get adjusted."

Schafer believes that while becoming an OA is more about the group dynamic, there are also certain personality traits that she possesses that benefitted her in being able to work as an OA for the last two years.

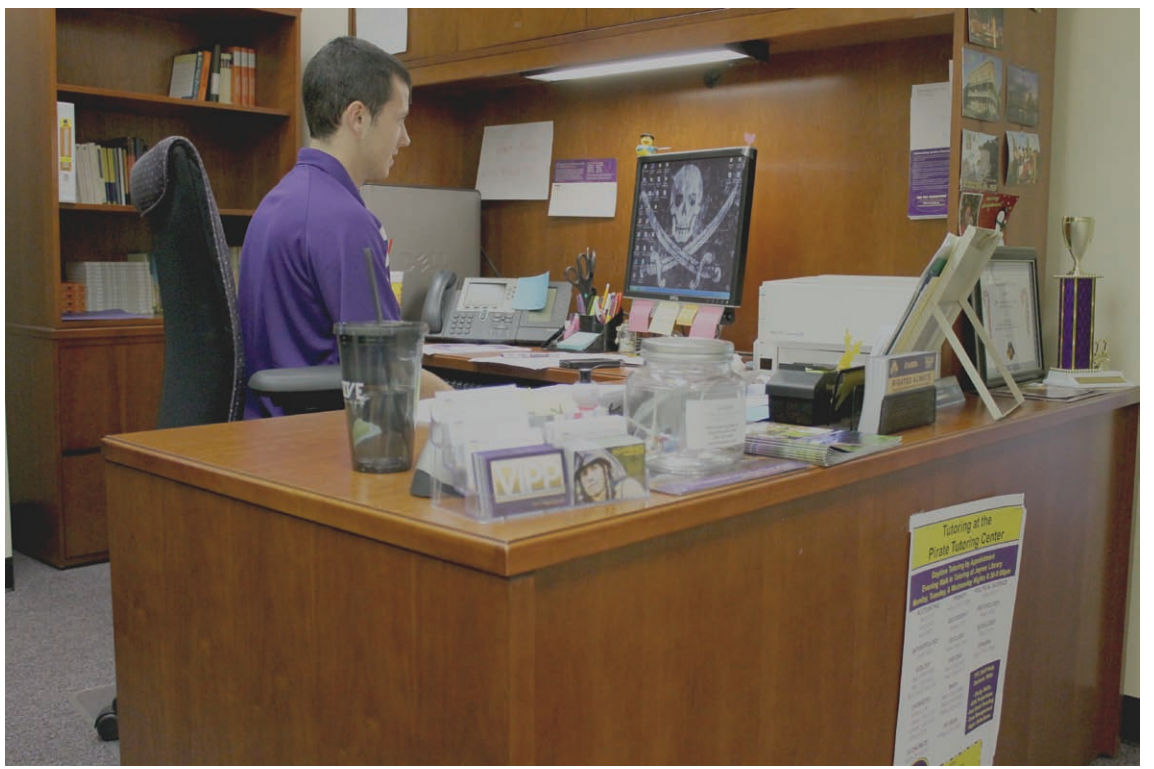
"I am pretty outgoing. I am the one to introduce myself to somebody and make friends," said Schafer. "I'm loud too and I like meeting new people, and that is something they see in people."

Her people friendly, bubbly personality, helped land her the type of job that all students hope for.

"It is honestly the best job I have ever had. It is so fun, and I love the people that I get to work with," said Schafer. "Even the students are just so fun to talk to they are really excited about being a Pirate and even if they aren't excited, we get them excited."

This group of 25 students is a special breed of people who truly enjoy serving new Pirates. They spend many long days throughout the summer, helping new students acclimate to becoming a college student. More important than giving directions and answering questions, this group of students is responsible for teaching the newbies how to be a Pirate in untraveled waters.

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



Zach Hawkins, business finance major, will spend this summer as an Orientation Assistant guiding freshmen.

BUCCANEER BULLETIN

Wed.,
May 16

Uptown Umbrella Market
5-8 p.m.

Thurs.,
May 17

Bow-Wow Bingo hosted by the Humane Society of Eastern Carolina begins 6 p.m.

Fri.,
May 18

Jurassic Heat, Bel Esprit and Listen 2 Three will perform at The Topsy Teapot 10 p.m.

Sat.,
May 19

Pitt Community College Bulldog Run at the Lewis Field House 9 p.m.

Mon.,
May 21

"Wanderlust" is showing in Hendrix Theatre 7 p.m.

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Softball adds one for 2013 season

Staff Reports

ECU added a second member of its 2013 signing class Tuesday as pitcher Morgan Eisenga signed a national letter-of-intent to attend ECU and play softball with the Pirates beginning in the Fall of 2012.

Eisenga, a native of Escalon, Calif., played one season for Escalon High School before concentrating on her summer softball programs. As a freshman for Escalon, Eisenga played mainly left field for head coach Dianne Teixeira and was named to the All-Trans-Valley League squad after hitting .478. She helped the Cougars to a 27-4 overall record, the TVL Championship, the Sacramento Section Division V title and a No. 2 ranking at the state's Division V level. In the circle that year, she compiled a 3-1 record with a trio of no hitters and a 0.12 earned run average. She posted 24 strikeouts in her 28 innings pitched.

Following her freshman campaign, she left the Escalon squad and turned her attention to the California Grapettes and Concord Sorcerers travel clubs. During the summer of 2009, she was selected the All-Tournament Pitcher at the Canada Cup Nationals.

Rounding out her Escalon athletic experience, Eisenga earned varsity letters as a freshman and sophomore for the volleyball (outside hitter) and track and field (100 and 200-meter races, 4X100-meter relay) programs.

For her work in the classroom, Eisenga has received the Escalon Student Athlete Academic Award for softball, volleyball and track and field. She has also participated in the annual Escalon Academic Decathlon. In addition, Eisenga has taken an active role in community projects as part of mission outreach programs through her church and serving as a leader for the Soroptimist Softball Camp.

Volleyball signs another for 2012

Staff Reports

Carleigh Green has signed a national letter-of-intent to attend East Carolina and play volleyball for the Pirates beginning in the Fall of 2012, according to an announcement Friday by head coach Pati Rolf.

A four-year scholar athlete and honor roll student, Green is finishing her senior year at Bishop Ready High School in London, Ohio where she has competed for the varsity squad since her freshman season. This past campaign, the Silver Knights captured the regional title and advanced to the final four of the state tournament. Green picked up a school single-season record 413 digs and was successful on 380 serve-receive attempts.

Green helped Bishop Ready to district championships her freshman and junior seasons while the Silver Knights were the runner up in her sophomore year. In her second prep year, she was named defensive player-of-the-year and earned a spot on the all-district team.

The following season, Green was selected to the Ohio Valley High Performance Team along with repeating as an all-district honoree. Her final campaign rewarded her with a number of accolades, including All-Central Catholic League laurels, All-Central District honors, All-Ohio designation and another selection to the Ohio Valley High Performance Team.

Green earned four varsity letters at Bishop Ready and served as a team captain. She plans to major in finance upon her arrival at ECU.

Track and field takes second



The ECU women's outdoor track and field team gathers around their second place trophy from the C-USA Championship at Tulane University on Sunday.

Cameron Stephenson STAFF WRITER

Thirteen captured event titles at the preceding UNC-Charlotte meet and a few weeks off, served as preparation for our Pirate runners and throwers as they participated in the Conference USA Championship meet this weekend.

Held at Tad Gormely Stadium at Tulane University, two All-American ranked Pirates came into this weekend's meet defending their event titles from last year's conference championship: Tynita Butts who won the high jump title and Aiesha Googins who won the 400-meter dash title. Both the women and men's teams looked to improve from their fifth and sixth place finishes at the C-USA Championship meet last year in Houston.

ECU got off to a very strong start this weekend in the field, winning titles in the hammer throw on both the men and women's sides. Junior Montrell Morrow posted a mark of 60.55 meters while his teammate, Kim Kanala, won her first C-USA event title with a mark of 53.55 meters. Ashley Clasen contributed a point to ECU's score on day one with an eighth place finishing mark of 45.82 meters in the hammer throw, as well as Tara Wilson, who contributed a point with an eighth place finish in the 10,000 meter run.

Coming into day two of the meet with the women in third place and the men in sixth, the Pirates remained strong in the field as Dennis Aliotta posted a program and meet-record mark of 19.39 meters in the shot put. The record-breaking mark served as his second career C-USA title. Junior Drew Kanz O'Shea placed third in the high jump with a mark of 2.08 meters, while teammates Bjork Olsen and



Aiesha Googins (middle) won the 400-meter dash at the C-USA Championship.



Dennis Aliotta secured his second shotput title at the conference championship.

Kelley Miko contributed eight points to ECU's score with times of 11:01.90 and 11:14.69 in the steeplechase; Olsen's being the second fastest in East Carolina history.

On the track, junior Austin Lewis captured sixth place in the long jump with a mark of 7.06 meters and later qualified for the finals in the 100 and 200-meter dashes. Day two concluded with a record setting performance in the 100-meter hurdles from Erin Tucker, who clocked in at 13.96 seconds.

The third and final day of the meet brought about four event titles for our Pirate runners. Junior Quinton Harley won the 400-meter dash with a time of 51.28 seconds and also played a role in winning the 4x100-meter relay alongside teammates Desmond Lawrence, Austin Lewis and Antonio Marshall, who combined to finish with a time of 40.41 seconds. Tynita Butts won her third career and consecutive outdoor championship in the high jump with a mark of 1.85 meters, while the women's 4x100-meter relay team, consisting of Aiesha Googins, Tiffany Harris, Tania Minkins and Tyshonda Hawkins, also prevailed victorious with a time of 3:36.92.

In the end, only the women's team saw the podium, finishing in second place overall with a score of 132.16, while the men finished in fourth, with 126 points. The NCAA East preliminary round is set for May 24-26 and will feature a single-season record 15 Pirates runners and throwers.

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

Golden Eagles sweep baseball

Diamond Bucs drop final regular season C-USA series to Southern Miss



Infielder Jack Reinheimer (8) at the plate in action earlier this season against William and Mary.

William Farrar STAFF WRITER

The Pirate baseball team traveled to Hattiesburg, Miss., last weekend to face off against Conference USA foe Southern Miss in a three-game

series. The Pirates lost all three games, despite each game being very close.

On Sunday, Southern Miss completed the sweep in an extra-inning battle, winning 5-4. Tanner Merritt received the loss for the Pirates, accumulating two losses on the day after also

losing the previous game. Merritt allowed one unearned run on two hits and a strikeout. Tyler Joyner started for the Pirates, going 6.2 innings. Joyner allowed four runs (three earned) on nine hits. Joyner also recorded seven strikeouts and allowed no walks in his seventh start of the season. Andy Smithmyer pitched just over two innings of relief for the Pirates. Smithmyer allowed no runs and recorded two strikeouts, two walks and two hits. Junior John Wooten hit his eighth home run of the year. Wooten leads the Pirates in runs and is currently ranked fifth in league play. The loss came after a Golden Eagle batter singled in the bottom of the 12th to complete the sweep for Southern Miss.

Game two of the series was suspended on Saturday due to rain. The game started at 11 a.m. after it was moved up from the scheduled start time of 3 p.m. The game went six innings before the rain settled in, with the score being tied 2-2 with the Pirates batting in the top of the seventh frame. The game was finally suspended after the two teams waited nearly two-and-a-half hours before the decision was made to finish the game on Sunday morning. When play resumed on Sunday, the Pirates suffered a 5-3 loss after the Golden Eagles sparked a comeback in the seventh inning.

Merritt received the loss in just one-third of an inning after allowing a pair of runs on one hit. Drew Reynolds relieved Merritt and pitched the last two innings, allowing one run and two

Have questions about the Sports section?

Contact the Sports Editor at

sports@theeastcarolinian.com

Softball misses post season

Ronnie Moore
STAFF WRITER

Going into the 2012 season, the Pirates and coach Tracey Kee knew that this season would be a change of pace. Losing pitcher Toni Paisley to graduation meant losing Conference USA's best pitcher and a sure-fire starter every time she picked up the ball.

Going from veteran leadership on the mound to placing her trust in two young pitching prospects, Tracy Kee knew there would be some bumps in the road.

For the first time in three seasons, the Pirates didn't finish their season with a C-USA championship title. The Marshall University Thundering Herd, by an 8-1 margin, bumped the Pirates from the first round of the championship tournament.

Marshall had explosive outbursts in the regular season against the Lady Pirates, as the first matchup ended in an 8-0 score and only took six innings to finish.

The Pirates did manage to win two out of three regular-season meetings against Marshall, which happened during ECU's last home stand. This was not only a good series for the Pirates, but it was also a good way to send out seniors Suzanne Riggs and Priscilla Velasquez. With only two senior leaders, the Pirates are a young and hopeful team with depth at every position, and with young guns on the mound, they may excel in the next three seasons they play.

From the current roster, next season should be hopeful in that the Pirates will have five sophomores, eight juniors and once again only two seniors. The Pirates have two active pitchers, Sarah Christian and Courtney Smith, both of whom will be sophomores, and recent signee out of Cali-



NICK FAULKNER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Courtney Smith (13) pitches inside the ECU Softball Stadium

fornia, Morgan Eisenga, will join them. This should create an immediate competition for the starting job, as all of them have been described as having an "incredible will to win."

Along with being a young team, the theme of this year's Pirate team was the struggle to create runs and to help out the young pitchers. The Pirates were just 2-15 when they managed to score fewer than three runs, and with an overall record of 25-28, the majority of the team losses came in dismal offensive outings. When you think of the fact that ECU left 167 women on base, that in its own right could be the difference in a 25-win season or a 40-win season. Riggs was the constant standout at the plate as she batted .325 with eight homeruns and 33 runs batted in. The four-year veteran also was sure-handed in the outfield, as she did not commit an error, and she ended her

final season with a perfect fielding percentage.

Finishing 11-12 in conference games wasn't a welcome sight, but it showed the true growing pains of a young team. This below-average offensive team is looking ahead to next season and hoping for a change in last season's offensive struggles. Maybe with warmer spring temperatures, the bats of the Pirates will also warm up and make a dent in the scoreboard to help out their young and promising trio of pitchers. Looking ahead to the 2013 season, ECU will have many of the same faces once again. Hopefully with the help of the coaching staff, these same Lady Pirates can return to the form of the back-to-back conference championship teams that are still in the minds of the athletics supporters.

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

PIRATES

continued from A6

hits. Freshman Jeff Hoffman started his seventh game of the season and his first in C-USA play. Hoffman allowed two earned runs on three hits in six innings. The freshman recorded five strikeouts and four walks before being relieved by the bullpen. Southern Miss started the game with an early 2-0 lead in the bottom of the third inning, but ECU tied the game in the top of the fourth.

In the first game of the series, the Pirates lost in a very close defensive battle, 1-0. Despite pitching his third complete game of the season, senior Kevin Brandt received the loss for ECU. Brandt allowed just three hits, while striking out six batters and walking just one. The one run of the game came unearned in Brandt's 12th start of the season. Despite losing, Brandt retired 18 of the first 19 batters he faced through the first six innings. ECU recorded three hits in the game. Southern Miss recorded the one run of the game in the seventh inning on a single that plated a base runner from second.

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

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Tab 3	5 Cols x 5.5 inches	\$192.50
Tab 4	3 Cols x 2.75 inches	\$115.50
Tab 5	5 Cols x 2.75 inches	\$96.25
Tab 6	2 Cols x 5.5 inches	\$77.00
Tab 7	3 Cols x 2.75 inches	\$57.75

5 Column is 8.416 in wide 3 Column is 5.000 in wide 2 Column is 3.291 in wide.
To add color will be an additional charge.

*Back To School Edition - Ad Manager's Discount Rate is \$5.55 per column inch when the same ad size or larger is placed in the Pirate Preview. Deadline to reserve ad space in the Back To School edition at the Ad Manager's Discount Rate is Thursday, June 28, otherwise all ad space is at the \$7.00 rate (excluding ECU student organizations and departments).

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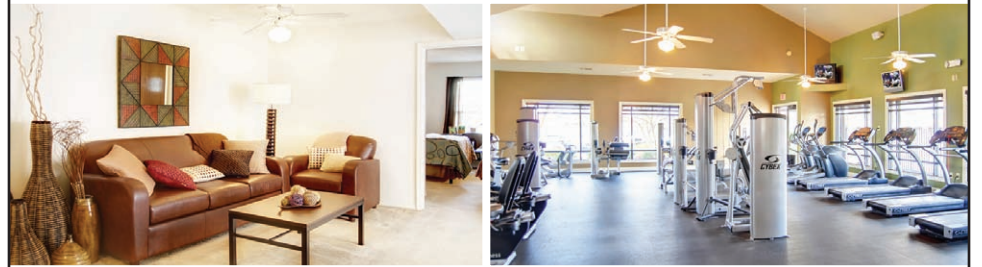
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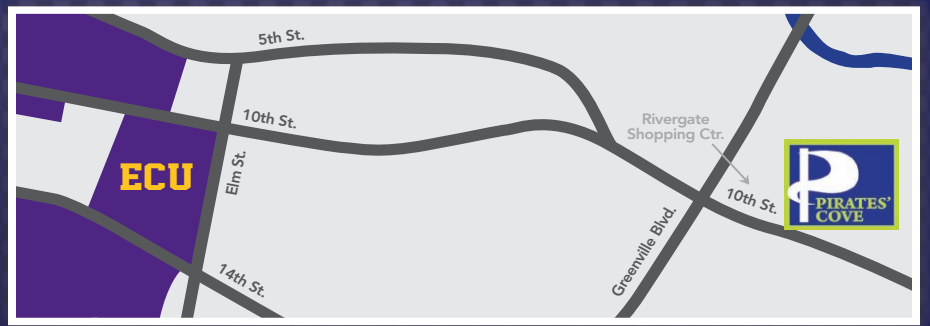
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