



BRIEFS

Flood watch in effect for Eastern North Carolina

Staff Reports

Flood watches have been issued as the remnants of Tropical Storm Beryl begin to make their way across the eastern portion of the state.

A flood watch has been put in effect until Wednesday evening for Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Dare, Hyde, Martin, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, Tyrell and Washington Counties.

Edgecombe, Wayne and Wilson counties are under a flash flood watch.

Widespread rain can be expected over Eastern North Carolina.

According to WITN Weather, most areas can expect 2 to 4 inches of rain with some areas receiving 4 to 6 inches.

As of 11 a.m. yesterday, Tropical Depression Beryl was located 115 miles from Savannah, Ga.

Beryl's winds were sustained at 30 miles per hour and the storm was moving at 5 miles per hour.

Beryl could become a minimal tropical storm as it moves over North Carolina.

City staff suggests alternate routes in wake of Beryl

Staff Reports

City of Greenville staff are preparing for the heavy rains associated with what could once again become Tropical Storm Beryl.

Public Works crews are working to clean catch basins along major roadways and in areas prone to flooding.

Citizens are encouraged to check their own streets to make sure their curbs and storm drains are free from debris.

Roads that typically flood and alternate routes have been suggested and are as follows:

Charles Blvd. (possible closure north and south bound from 14th St. to Greenville Blvd.)

Alternate Route: Elm St. (via Fifth St. or Greenville Blvd.) or Memorial Dr. (via 14th St./Farmville Blvd. or Arlington Blvd.)

Fourteenth St. (possible closure east and west bound from Charles Blvd. to Elm St.)

Alternate Route: Greenville Blvd. (via Elm St. or Memorial Dr.) or 5th St. (via Elm St. or Memorial Dr.)

Evans Street (possible closure north and south bound from Arlington Blvd. to Howell St.)

Alternate Route: Memorial Dr. (via 14th St./Farmville Blvd. or Arlington Blvd.) or Elm St. (via Fifth St. or Greenville Blvd.)

Tenth Street (possible closure east and west bound from Charles Blvd. to Elm St.)

Alternate Route: Fifth St. (via Elm St. or Charles Blvd.) and/or Greenville Blvd. (via Memorial Dr. or Elm St.)

Fire Tower Road (possible closure east and west bound from Evans St. to Corey Rd.)

Alternate Route: Greenville Blvd. (via Arlington Blvd.) and/or Greenville Blvd. (via Evans St.)

University closes lower Minges parking lot

Staff Reports

Due to flooding potential from the upcoming rains expected from Beryl, the lower portion of the Minges Parking Lot will be closed today.

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ECU offers alternative communities



RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Scott Residence Hall is one of many Living Learning Communities on campus, with several other communities appearing sometime next year.

Maddie Laing

NEWS WRITER

This upcoming fall semester, there will be seven living learning communities offered by campus living, including the newly added business, biology, and pre-nursing communities.

According to campus living, LLC's are defined as groups of students who live together who take

a minimum of two classes during the academic year, including a class related to leadership development.

Directed toward incoming freshmen students, research shows that on average, students who live in these communities have a higher GPA than the average student body and a higher retention rate.

Majors directed toward these LLC's include, music, engineering,

pre-nursing, biology, health and wellness, Honors College, and business. A new program entitled, "The Jarvis Leadership Program," will also be added to the mix.

According to campus living, these programs are, "designed to assist in the academic transition into university instruction, to support the student-faculty interaction beyond the classroom, and to

encourage positive student connections within the university."

Students who choose to participate in these programs will be exposed to peers with similar interests, and opportunities to learn more about an intended major through guest speakers and special

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College study rates decrease



MEREDITH BAKER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Miesha Walker is just one of the many students who a recent study shows study an average of 15 hours per week.

Kamal Darji

STAFF WRITER

Most students have heard from older generations that school was a lot more difficult in their day and age; as it turns out, there may be some truth to that claim after all.

Citing the National Survey of Student Engagement, the Washington Post says the average hours of studying per week have gone down for students from 24 hours to 15 hours. Based on the National Survey of Student Engagement; it says this change has occurred over the last 50 years.

According to Newser, in 1961, a college education was equivalent to having a full time job. This was due to the fact that college students in 1961 spent 16 hours per week in class and 24 hours per week studying.

In contrast to the past, students these days spend just a total of 27 hours in class and out of class studying per week.

Despite the apparent decline in study time, students are still getting by and receiving decent grades overall. Moreover, this has garnered great debate amongst researchers.

The fact that students seem to be studying less but there is seemingly no adverse affect on their grades, has led to researchers questioning the very foundation of a college education. Researchers ponder whether college students are truly learning anything for their increasingly costly tuition; one researcher in particular

> STUDYING page A2

Nurses participate in Joining Forces

Melanie Jock

STAFF WRITER

The College of Nursing is participating in Joining Forces, a national initiative that focuses on supporting active and returning military members, veterans and their families.

Led by the White House and Michelle Obama, the initiative involves the community to provide opportunities, research and support for veterans and military families in order to strengthen the connection between the two.

"Many professional nursing organizations have committed to partner with Joining Forces, and ACCN has called upon all colleges and schools of nursing to participate in the campaign," said Patricia Fazzone, professor of nursing and coordinator for the college's Joining Forces team. "ECU College of Nursing responded to the call."

"We are so proud to be a part of this important initiative and consider it a privilege," she said.

Joining the already 500 participating schools, 21 being in North Carolina, the College of Nursing is making the infusion of content into graduate and undergraduate curricula a top priority.

"The content is regarding health and social needs of returning military and their families, including Traumatic Brain Injury, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, family support, military culture and rehabilitation," said Fazzone.

The College of Nursing's involve-

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INSIDE

OPINION

Check out Andrew's opinion on spiritual availability on a college campus. **A3**

LIFESTYLES

Turn to Lifestyles to read Hunter Ingram's review of the new "Men in Black" movie. **A4**

SPORTS

The Diamond Bucs will compete in the Chapel Hill Regional on Friday. Turn to Sports to find out who they will compete against. **A6**

WEATHER

73°F/ 62°F

Chance of heavy rain



GRAPHICS FROM ENTHROPIA.COM

ONLINE



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

University proposes pilot housing program



CONTRIBUTED

Umstead Hall would house 22 males and four females as part of "Structured For Success."

Maddie Laing
STAFF WRITER

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met last month to propose a new program, "Structured For Success." William McCartney, associate vice chancellor of Campus Living and Dining, presented the pilot program to board members, which was created to target marijuana use for students living on campus.

Campus living has a zero tolerance policy for illegal drugs, and last fall, 170 cases of marijuana possession were reported in the dorms. Since the fall, 108 out of the 170 students caught living on campus with marijuana have left ECU with only 62 remaining. The students out of this pool averaged a 1.72 GPA, as of Fall 2011.

"We want students to step back into a living situation a lot like their home in high school," said McCartney. "We have created this program to promote academic survival."

This optional program aims to invite 22 males and 4 female freshmen students who have been caught with the illicit drug to move into the first or second floor of Umstead Hall in a monitored and structured environment. These students' graduation and retention rates will be monitored through their next years at ECU.

"This program will help break a pattern of behav-

ior that they are starting to exhibit before it comes more serious or they can't recover," said McCartney.

As part of the program, students who participate will agree to policies and rules such as, mandatory study halls, not having a car on campus, a curfew, exclusion from Greek Life, monitoring of attendance, and random drug testing.

Based on failed drug tests, students will be tested more frequently with the possibility of being tested up to once a week. Parental involvement will include taking students home during breaks and weekend events, including Halloween.

"I think the whole point of freshmen coming to college is to experience freedom and this program would limit them a lot," said Mary Ellen Cain, a senior elementary education major.

The program is targeting marijuana, rather than alcohol or other illegal drugs, because it is easier to detect than common drugs, such as non-prescription Adderall or cocaine. McCartney stated that this program is more of an academic survival program, not rehabilitation.

"This program is aimed at the occasional user to stop it before it comes more serious," said McCartney.

According to government surveys, the primary time period students begin to smoke marijuana is sopho-

more year of high school, and studies say 42 percent of people in the U.S. have tried it.

"I know a few people that have gotten kicked out of the dorms for smoking (marijuana) and I doubt they would have wanted to participate in a program like this," said Jonathan Colbert, junior business major.

This program, set to begin in Fall 2012, is intended to cost around \$75,000 to \$80,000 to staff a team of about four people who will most likely be graduate students majoring in sociology or criminal justice. Students who choose to participate in this program will be paying around \$1,000, which will reduce the overall cost of the program by \$26,000. Dependent upon success, the program is expected to expand.

"I really like this initiative and believe it could be a catalyst for positive change on campus," said Josh Martinkovic, former SGA student body president.

"At the end of the day, I want to see every one of these 26 students in the program become successful and achieve what they want to achieve," said McCartney.

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

STUDENTS continued from A1

programs put on by the residence halls.

This upcoming fall, all honors students and music majors are required to live in a LLC.

"I really had no idea any of these programs existed when I was a freshmen, but I think being involved in any of these programs could help a freshmen get acquainted with their major a lot easier," said Kelly Douglass, junior merchandising major.

This year, Garrett hall will house the biology community, Honors College, and wellness community. The engineering community will be located in Umstead hall, as well as the pre-nursing program. Cotten hall will be the home to the business community and Scott hall will house the music community.

The Jarvis Leadership Program, located in Jarvis hall, is directed toward students who want to develop leadership skills and will provide interactive workshops and leadership seminars for its residents.

The wellness community is available to students of all majors, and is designed to help promote a healthy body with programs designed on how to maintain a healthy body and keep up with wellness regularly.

"I wish the business community would

have been around when I was an incoming freshmen, it would have been a cool way to meet people who shared my same interests," said Jonathan Colbert, senior business major.

Including the new living learning programs, campus living will continue to offer the First Year Experience Program located on West End at Fletcher hall and Jones hall on College Hill. The First Year Experience Program is designed to help freshmen make the transition from high school to college and promote academic success.

As of this year, incoming freshmen will be required to live on campus due to a university decision. Research has shown that students who live on campus their first year are more likely to make better grades and graduate in four years. This new rule is expected to benefit the enrollment of students participating in these years LLC's.

All of the LLC's are offered to incoming students through an application process. Applications and more information can be found online at www.ecu.edu/studentlife/campusliving.

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

STUDYING continued from A1

went as far as describing a college education as "four or five years of country club living."

It is important to note that even though the data depicts study time per week as decreasing, students have not necessarily become lazier. As it stands, there are still many students who are working, caring for relatives, and/or commuting to campus.

Furthermore, in most cases, small, often remote liberal-arts colleges report as having students who log in more study time than the average. This is because it is believed the aforementioned activities are not as prevalent in these remote areas.

Additionally, choice of major also plays an integral role in the overall study time student's average per week. For instance, architecture majors still average around 24 hours of study time a week whereas students of parks, recreation, and leisure studies average only 11 hours.

Many experts have questioned the claims of the national survey, believing that the study is based on an outdated or archaic view of what exactly comprises a college education. Experts argue that in the past, a college education consisted of sifting through card catalogs, perusing through book stacks, writing papers either by hand or typewriter, and various other tasks, which can be done in a much quicker and efficient manner these days.

Walk into any library on any college campus today and it is almost a given that certain students will be on Facebook or Twit-

ter. In this age of social media, the impact of YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, to name a few, has yet to be determined.

The popularity of social media has ascended to a level that could not have possibly been envisioned by people in past generations. Furthermore, social media is a relatively new phenomenon; therefore, only time will tell what the true impact of it is upon college culture and subsequently, study habits.

Senior math major, Zach Buchan, feels the decline in studying has to do with a shift in philosophy in this current generation. He feels, "students party a lot more and take things given to them by their parents for granted."

Junior nursing major, Caroline, concurs as she says, "students would rather party than study. Depends on the major as well, some student's majors are more demanding."

When looking over the research, the topic of student's study habits still leaves much to be desired. At the end of the day, the difference may just come down to the individual, as there are still many students who log extensive hours studying. Overall, there is still much to be determined on this topic.

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

NURSES continued from A1



JOINING FORCES

TAKING ACTION TO SERVE
AMERICA'S MILITARY FAMILIES

JOININGFORCES.GOV

CONTRIBUTED

Joining Forces focuses on improving community and veteran family connections.

ment helps returning military members to seek help where Veterans Affairs services may be scarce, or where health care providers may not understand the issues facing returning military members.

"While more than 8 million veterans received care through the VA system, only about 50 percent may be able to receive care at VA centers," said Fazzone. "It is up to the local communities to provide the needed care, education and support for the diverse needs of our returning military."

Fazzone believes involvement with the community is key to enhance understanding and develop specific, strategic responses to the needs of returning military members and their families.

"When local business, service and educational communities partner to address the needs of our military and their families, we can facilitate their transition home," she said.

Students in other fields of study are appreciating the involvement with the program.

"I'm all for it, because (military members) have already done so much

already," said junior psychology major Christy Olanipekun. "They voluntarily make the conscious choice to sacrifice and put themselves out there, so it's good to help them."

Senior computer science major Lee Hutchison sees the importance in the College of Nursing getting involved in supporting the military and said he has already seen other parts of the university researching PTSD.

"It's a great step, if we mixed together different areas, there would be much greater potential," he said.

Since the first meeting on April 12, the College of Nursing Joining Forces Campaign team has met, developed priorities and will be meeting for the second time during the month of June.

"We are so proud to be a part of this important initiative and consider it a privilege to respond to the call," said Fazzone.

The College of Nursing is also making it a priority to include faculty development about new content and clinical experiences, with an emphasis on inter-professional educational development.

Fazzone said the College of Nursing will also aim to, "Facilitate collaborative inter-professional research and practice with partners at the VA, with ECU colleagues and throughout the UNC system."

Plans also include developing strategies for recruiting military nurses to advance their education at the university, or to join the faculty of the College of Nursing, as well as establishing an annual VA-day event in collaboration with other university activities.

"We look forward to collaborating with our colleagues throughout ECU and our community partners to enhance the contribution that the nursing profession can make to meeting the needs of our returning military and their families."

The Brody School of Medicine is also committed to Joining Forces, placing special interest in traumatic brain injury.

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

BRIEFS continued from A1

Vehicles may park in the upper section of the Minges lot.

The lower section will reopen at 7 a.m. Thursday if conditions allow.

EPA awards Greenville grant

Staff Reports

Greenville has been awarded a \$200,000 Brownfield grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The grant program is to help redevelop or reuse properties that are abandoned or underutilized because of real or perceived environmental contamination.

Brownfield Assessment Program is a highly competitive national program, and the funds it offers will allow the city to advance its economic development and revitalization programs at a faster pace.

Property owners interested in learning more about the city's Brownfield program should contact the City's Office of Economic Development at 252-329-4502.

City postpones paving project for early June

Staff Reports

Plans to resurface Arlington Boulevard and Red Banks Road have been postponed for Monday, June 4.

East Arlington from Red Banks Road to Mulberry Lane will be worked on from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Red Banks Road from Arlington Boulevard to Charles Boulevard will also be worked on from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., reported WITN.

Daytime work on Red Banks from Charles Boulevard to East 14th Street is planned from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ECU future athlete found dead in Virginia

Staff Reports

The body of Trevor Times, an ECU golf signee, was found yesterday in James City County, Va.

The body of Times, of Williamsburg, was found 35 feet off shore in six feet of water, reported WITN.

On Memorial Day, the

18-year-old was attempting to swim to a sandbar 75 yards offshore when witnesses saw him struggle and go under the water.

According to police, College Creek, where Times' body was found, is a popular swimming spot, despite signs warning of a strong rip tide.

Local teen beaten by gang in front of crowd

Staff Reports

One teen is in jail after being charged with robbing another teen at gunpoint and beating him unconscious.

According to WITN, sixteen-year-old Keontae Cherry robbed another 16-year-old last Wednesday at the railroad tracks between Kearney Park and Hopkins Park public housing areas.

The victim told police that the people responsible for the beating were gang members and also told police people watched as he was beaten but did nothing to stop it.

Cherry is being held under a \$100,000 bond and is expected to appear in court on Friday.

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- 24-hour Maintenance
- Water & Sewer

HOROSCOPES

Aries (Mar 21 -Apr 19)

Don't skip any steps today. You should be able to take care of business without rushing ahead, and you may risk terrible slowdowns if you leave out anything important. One step at a time!



Taurus (Apr 20 -May 20)

You've got plenty of good energy coursing through you today — so much so that you may find new projects blossoming away with hardly any effort required on your part. It's a good day for growth!



Gemini (May 21 -June 20)

You've got a bit too much going on to really commit to any new projects — and that's okay! Your energy is better spent on crossing items off your to-do list and tackling



Cancer (June 21 -July 22)

One tiny detail after another pops into focus and starts you off on a new trail, possibly questioning what you had hoped to achieve with all this in the first place. Believe in yourself and it all sorts out.



Leo (July 23 -Aug 22)

You surprise someone today (yourself, too) when you step back from a social engagement that you had looked forward to. You just need some alone time, and there's nothing wrong with that.



Virgo (Aug 23 -Sep 22)

Take a break to recognize a recent milestone — heck, it might actually come to pass today! You need to celebrate achievements like these so you can tackle the next level of challenge with confidence.



Libra (Sep 23 -Oct 22)

You can see what's going down today, and you think that you like it. You may find that your energy is better spent on just quiet observation and note-taking, as direct action is unlikely to produce results.



Scorpio (Oct 23 -Nov 21)

Your people are all-important today, so drop everything if a friend rings up or emails you. See if your good mental energy can absorb whatever they're not telling you, then act on it as a surprise.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 -Dec 21)

You need to avoid the temptation to ask for a raise — or any other preferential treatment. Your energy is a little diffuse right now, and others just can't see your true value. Wait a few days.



Capricorn (Dec 22 -Jan 19)

Even if you're usually best on the home front, for now you are better off dealing with people who are more spread out. This could mean a lot of phone calls or email, but it's definitely worth it in the end.



Aquarius (Jan 20 -Feb 18)

Someone with a very different agenda is coming your way — for better or for worse. This could mean that you need to shift gears in a hurry, or that you just need to be wary of new ideas for once.



Pisces (Feb 19 -Mar 20)

You need to deal with a friend or colleague who's having a bad day. You may or may not be able to help, but even just listening may be enough to pull them up out of their vicious cycle.



These horoscopes are from www.astrology.com.

All images are from MCTcampus.com.

'MIB3': Return of the galaxy defenders



CONTRIBUTED

"Men in Black 3" opened to \$70 million over the Memorial Day weekend, finally unseating "The Avengers" from the number one spot after three weeks.

Hunter Ingram
COLUMNIST

Grade: B+

Since the Men in Black last put on their Ray-Bans and flashed away the memories of unsuspecting citizens with that pesky blue neutralizer, there have been seven "Harry Potters," three "Transformers," the introduction of six Marvel heroes over seven films, and four visits to a little, dreary town called Forks, Washington (hint: "Twilight"). Needless to say, the world (or at least Hollywood) has changed considerably since 2002. However, even with an altered film landscape, everyone's favorite sharply dressed alien fighters haven't changed a bit.

Ten years after the events of "Men in Black 2," Agents K and J are still roaming the streets of New York City, keeping Earth's creepiest, crawl-est intergalactic visitors on a tight leash. But after 14 years on the job together, the two reach an impasse over a secret regarding Agent K and a now-escaped alien criminal with the score to settle. In order to save Agent K (and the world from an impending invasion), Agent J must do the one reasonable and plausible thing: time travel back to 1969.

While this franchise is by no means known for its real-world scenarios, its wacky creatures, sarcastic humor and clever buddy cop banter once molded a unique style that still exists within the comfy confines of the MIB world.

But like any series that is looking down the barrel of a third installment, the ability to keep the

story fresh and interesting comes into question, especially after the clichéd-sequel mess that was "MIB2." Surprisingly, many elements of "MIB3" achieve a new sense of place in contemporary Hollywood, including the groovy 1969 setting, a time when man was taking "giant leaps" towards space and psychedelic colors painted an era of free love. Just bright tint of the world at that time adds a breath of fresh air into the series that spent most of its time in the seedy nightlife of NYC's underground.

But nothing works more for this film than the nostalgia of coming home. Even after so many years, it feels so simple to just walk into MIB headquarters and watch as our protagonists walk

> MIB3 page A5

Student advocates for Soles4Souls



RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU senior Mukund Patel hopes to start a Soles4Souls chapter on campus next year.

Sasha Preddie
STAFF WRITER

The 21st century has experienced quite a lot of world-changing situations, which have led to more people trying to make a difference. Rising senior Mukund Patel decided to be a part of the change through the non-profit organization Soles4Souls.

Soles4Souls is an organization that is driven by donations. Their mission is to collect new or gently worn shoes so they can provide for those who have been victims of natural disasters and can also help promote microenterprise in countries that could benefit from small businesses.

The founder of Soles4Souls, Wayne Elsey, was one of the many people who saw the disastrous remains of Southeast Asia after it was hit by a tsunami and the catastrophic effect

Hurricane Katrina had on New Orleans. His vision started with an image of a shoe washing up on shore, which sparked the idea that people could really benefit from having shoes.

Elsey made a few phone calls to shoe industries and received millions of shoe donations for both disasters that occurred in 2004. Once he realized how easy it was to help people through donations, he formally created Soles4Souls.

One of the unique things about Soles4Souls is that they not only donate shoes to people, but that "they're trying to fight poverty by developing small shoe shops," said Patel.

The organization thinks that helping people start up small shoe shops goes back to the old saying, "give a man a fish, he will eat for a day; give him a way to fish, and he will eat for a lifetime." They do this

by building shoe shops in undeveloped countries and using the donated shoes that are not appropriate for everyday use. They help people in different countries start and maintain the business as a way to help their economy.

To encourage people to donate and get involved, Soles4Souls have prizes for those who raise the largest amount of shoes. One prize is joining Soles4Souls on a trip so someone can see first hand how the organization benefits others. They also have events like "National Flip Flop Week," where people can help the organization by getting the word out about their work.

Soles4Souls, like many organizations, thrive off community support. When Patel's mom told him about this organization, he knew

> SOLES4SOULS page A5

Alumnus creates comedy group

Sasha Preddie
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes it's hard to find the humor in things when people are busy stressing over studying for finals, preparing for graduation or looking for summer jobs; but there is a silver lining. Laughter is proven to help relieve stress and Seriously Clowning is ECU students' local remedy.

Seriously Clowning is a comedy group on campus that tries their best to bring laughter to campus and to the community. The group performs both stand-up and sketch comedy. Their stand-up shows are like any other stand-up performance, where one comedian at a time stands in front of an audience and tells their jokes. Sketch comedy, on the other hand, is where multiple comedians, anywhere from two to 10, are on stage at a time performing a humorous skit. They use costumes, scripts and props to add to the skit as if they were putting on a show, similar to how skits are performed on Saturday Night Live.

Seriously Clowning started in February 2005 by two former ECU students, Matt "Whitey" White, the group mentor and local comedian, and Matt Dawes. Both men were theater students who bonded over similar comedian interest. As they continued to build their friendship they decided to merge their creative minds to form the first ever comedy group at ECU. Their goal was, and still is, to provide some sort of outlet different from listening to music, going to the gym, or going downtown to help relieve students from stress.

The first members primarily consisted of people

that White knew throughout the theatre department who he socially joked around with and thought had a funny personality.

The group based their name on the tragedy and comedy masks of theater and White's personality. "I was a very serious person, but I clowned around a lot, so no one took me really seriously," said White, who appropriately chose the name Seriously Clowning.

Seriously Clowning is open to both students and non-students. Currently they have nine members, but they always encourage people who are interested to give stand-up or sketch comedy a try. "If anybody is willing to try it, I'll let them try it," White said. "I can't promise that their stuff will be funny, but I can at least guarantee stage time so they can work it out."

Stand-up isn't made for everyone, but White enjoys teaching and helping anybody who wants to learn. The group meets once a week in the theatre building and they go over jokes and sketch ideas. For anyone who is interested in stand-up, they have to bring about five minutes worth of material and have to do the material in front of the group. After the person finishes, the group usually comments on their work in a way that positively helps the person look at the joke from another perspective, because that's what helps people get better at stand-up and get more out of a joke.

Will Aitkin, the Seriously Clowning president, was new to stand-up comedy when one of his close friends at ECU, who was already apart of Seriously Clowning, urged him to give it a

> ALUMNUS page A5

MIB3 continued from **A4**

through a crowd of elaborate aliens in the classic over-the-top getups that were so hilarious and original in the first "MIB." And the return (or at least mention) of fan-favorite characters will also illicit a few smiles from any-level MIB fan.

It's no secret that the heart and soul of this franchise is Will Smith, who's been notably absent from the big screen since 2008's "Seven Pounds." Here, he returns with the quips and sarcasm that have made Agent J such a charismatic character since day one. But in the past ten years, trends like the rise of the R-rated comedy have changed the face of the genre, making Smith's particular brand of humor an acquired taste that hasn't been relevant since the early-to-mid 2000s. But once that taste works its way back in, Smith is funny as ever, landing every joke with a certain goofy swagger that, to this day, has not been replicated.

Not surprisingly, Tommy Lee Jones and Smith retain every ounce of their chemistry, playing the silent/talkative dynamic like "MIB2" was made yesterday. The only difference for Jones' Agent K is the amount of wrinkles on forehead and the fact that he is hardly present in this film, a side effect of the story being set mostly in 1969.

But beyond the always enjoyable pairing of Smith and Jones, the film's strongest selling point may be the introduction of Josh Brolin as the young 1969-version of Jones' Agent K. Brolin more than carries his own weight in such an established franchise by nailing



The MIB face Boris, played by Jermaine Clement of HBO's "Flight of the Conchords," in their first adventure in 10 years.

his interpretation of Jones' characteristic stone exterior and quiet quirks, making this homage so spot-on, that it's nothing less than an absolute pleasure to watch. The fact that he and Smith have as much chemistry as Smith and Jones do is also a welcome plus.

The villain this go-round may be the MIBs most formidable adversary yet. Boris the Animal, played by "Flight of the Conchords" Jermaine Clement, is a gritty one-armed alien

with spider-like minions that live in his hands and lens where most humans have eyes. His performance is rather enjoyable and a nice improvement over Lara Flynn Boyle's Serleena from "MIB2."

Michael Stuhlbarg, playing Griffin, a lovable alien with the ability to see multiple variations of the future, creates one of the most humorous characters in the series' run. His quick dialogue, antsy demeanor and mysteri-

ous abilities give way to some of the more moving moments in the film, and create contrast to the evil that is Boris.

Luckily, the only element working against this threequel is the ending, which acts emotional one for fans of the series in its final moments, but is very confusing and illogical in its climatic action sequence. While one doesn't expect the time travel element of this film to have the intricacy of "Inception's" dream worlds, some of its uses, especially in this final scene, are so completely random, that they may lead some audiences to scratch their heads in confusion.

But back in 2012, the MIBs are a welcome sight, even if no one really asked for the view. It is a pleasure to see Smith and Jones reunited on the screen after so long, and even the outlandish creatures can cause a warm, fuzzy feeling over prospect of an all-new MIB adventure. And isn't that really what this series is about? Creating escapist summer fun that allows the Fresh Prince to wrestle some slimy aliens and Jones to stare blankly at the any alarming situation were just two things that made "Men in Black" so original in the first place. And even after ten years, the galaxy defenders haven't lost their touch.

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

The alumna who could



Susan Edwards obtained her Master of Arts in Teaching from ECU in 2005.

Rex Rose
STAFF WRITER

Some people decide to obtain degrees or go to college because their parents make them. Other people decide to attend a university because they want to make more money. Still, others seek a degree because they have

something to prove to themselves. They decide to enter the world of academia to challenge them on every level.

One of these people is Susan Edwards, who decided to obtain her Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) from ECU in 2005.

"I was working in an agri-business and I really liked the job. I liked where I was. I liked the environment," said Edwards. "But it was in accounting, which wasn't my area. That wasn't what I got my degree in, and I wasn't feeling challenged creatively and I like to be creative."

Edwards decided to remedy this problem by saving money in hopes to attend graduate school to obtain a degree that would allow her to share with others her passion for literature. She also wanted to fulfill her desire of doing something with a lasting impact.

"It is very important to me to do something that has internal value, something that makes a difference, not to bring any glory to myself, but to share with others the important life lessons that teachers and mentors shared with me, to prepare young people for the world in front of them," said Edwards.

Her job paid the bills, but it didn't resonate with her creative side. Her need for a meaningful job pushed her to make a huge life change. Edwards began looking into her options for graduate school and stumbled upon the MAT

program at ECU, which allowed her to gain her teaching license along with a master's degree.

Edwards said if it wasn't meant for her to go back to school, then it just wouldn't happen. But she promised herself, that if she got into the masters program, she would at least try. When she applied, she wasn't expecting to get in. "But then I got my letter on Good Friday that I had gotten in and that I was going to start in a month," Edwards said.

Edwards decided to take on this new opportunity. She quit her job and began her 13-month journey that would require lots of time and effort.

"I think it depends on what type of experience a person wants from graduate school. But, in a way, I wanted graduate school to challenge me," said Edwards. "I didn't want it to feel like a waste of my time. Every professor I worked with demanded my best and taught me valuable lessons, even the ones who weren't my favorite or had values that differed from mine."

Edwards also received lots of hands-on training from student teaching and special opportunities that allowed her to grow as a teacher.

"While I was there, a professor gave me the opportunity to present a research paper at a conference," said Edwards. "My former job didn't offer me opportunities like that, and I would've never considered doing anything like that on my own, so it was a special experience."

Her ambitious goals paid off when she received a job in her hometown of Goldsboro at a high school where she did her student teaching.

"It kind of felt like things were all falling into place for a reason. It was just like I was supposed to be there," said Edwards. "Because I didn't have to go through the job-search process and I didn't even have to go through the interview process because the principal at the time said ... if you want the job you can have it ... It was like having a door opened for me, and I walked right into it."

Edwards' hunger and perseverance to better herself by setting goals only continued as she began to teach. She is now a National Board Certified Teacher, and she also teaches the most advanced-level English class at her school. The class is at the college level and allows students who pass the final to gain credit for college-level English classes.

Within seven years of graduating, Edwards proved that she is a great teacher who truly seeks to positively impact her students' lives. Edwards used her fearless attitude to achieve a master's degree that proved to be the jumping-off point of her successful and passionate career as a teacher.

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

BUCCANEEER BULLETIN

Fri.,
June 1

The Jenkins Fine Art Building showcases The Spotlight on Student Fiber Trends. The doors will open 5 p.m.

Sat.,
June 2

The Tippy Teapot presents Bob Van Kirk
1 p.m.

Mon.,
June 4

"The Lorax" is showing in Mendenhall room 244
7 p.m.

Tues.,
June 5

The Tippy Teapot presents Paper Lantern with Rebekah Todd
8 p.m.

Know of some awesome events coming up? Let Lifestyles know! Email lifestyles@theeastcarolinian.com and put "Buccaneer Bulletin" in the subject bar

ALUMNUS continued from **A4**

try. "They provided a good environment for me to start," said Aitkin. He continued to say that Seriously Clowning not only taught him about stand-up, but it also taught him more about himself because that is where the humor comes from.

The group performs often throughout the school year. The stand-up part of the group performs twice every month, once on campus and once at The Tippy Teapot on Fifth Street.

The sketch comedy group, whose second name is Clown-N-Round, performs once every semester since it takes longer to come up with sketches. All shows on campus are free. The shows performed at The Tippy Teapot are \$3 for students and \$5 for non-students.

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

SOLES4SOULS continued from **A4**

that he wanted to help them make a difference by getting involved in his community.

Patel organized a shoe drive that ran from March 1-24 of this year. He set up boxes in different places on and off campus such as the ECU Rec Center, the Health Sciences Building and South Central High School. He raised over 200 pairs of shoes within one week of the drive.

According to Patel, a lot of the success came from the help of the students and staff from the Health Sciences building. Since ECU does not have its own Soles4Souls chapter, not many people

knew about the organization, but "pairing up with the administrators was great way to get the word out," said Patel.

One administrator helped by sending a mass email to all of the nursing students, while another helped by contributing 30 pairs of shoes. The response that Patel received from such a short time period helped motivate him to do more.

Patel is thinking about getting a chapter started on campus, but since he will be a senior in the fall, he will need someone to take over once he graduates. Once he

starts the chapter, he hopes to meet those who are interested to discuss shoe drives, events, and ideas to help benefit the organization.

All it takes to make a difference in the world today is an idea, motivation and action. As people become more familiar with ways to do so, positive change is bound to happen in the near future. If anyone is interested in helping Patel support Soles4Souls and their cause, email him at patelm09@students.ecu.edu.

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

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CHAPEL HILL REGIONAL

Jun. 1-4



North Carolina Tar Heels (6)
Chapel Hill, N.C.
Record: 44-14
Bid: At-large from ACC



East Carolina Pirates
Greenville, N.C.
Record: 35-22-1
Bid: At-large from C-USA



St. John's Red Storm
Queens, N.Y.
Record: 37-21
Bid: Automatic from Big East



Cornell Big Red
Ithaca, N.Y.
Record: 31-15-1
Bid: Automatic from Ivy League

Softball sophomore named Academic All-American

Staff Reports

ECU sophomore designated player Jill Jelnick completed her postseason academic honor haul Thursday by earning a place on the Capital One Academic All-America Second Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Jelnick owns a 4.00 cumulative GPA and earned the accolade for the first time in her career.

Jelnick was one of just 34 players chosen for this spring's three Division I softball squads, one of only three underclassmen and the lone Conference USA student-athlete. She becomes the Pirate softball program's eighth Academic All-America honoree and the second in the last three seasons as Charina Sumner was placed on the third team in 2010.

Jelnick is also the third ECU student-athlete to be chosen as a Capital One Second Team Academic All-America during the 2011-2012 school year as football's Matt Milner and soccer's Jessica Abshire earned the honors during the fall.

For her work in the classroom, Jelnick has received the C-USA Commissioner's Academic Medal (3.75+ GPA) and a place on the C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll (3.0+ GPA) twice. In every semester at ECU, she has earned the school's Chancellor's List (4.0 GPA) designation. Earlier this month, she was named to the league's all-academic team for the first time in her career. At the end of the 2010-2011 academic year, Jelnick was tabbed as a National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-America Scholar Athlete.

On the field for the Pirates, the Aliso Viejo, Calif., product finished the year leading the team with 51 hits, ranking second in batting average (.315), on-base percentage (.390) and walks (18) while standing third in runs scored (25) and fourth in total bases (55) and stolen bases (10).

The leadoff batter hit .328 with runners on base, the second-highest mark among ECU players, and led the way with a .362 average with runners in scoring position. She also reached base 41.7 percent of the time when leading off a frame.

Baseball earns spot in Chapel Hill regional

Will Farrar
STAFF WRITER

The Pirates went into the Conference USA tournament with the sixth seed and hopes to keep their season going into Regional play. The ECU team, which recently just named seven of their players to All C-USA honors, is looking to receive an at-large bid to the 2012 NCAA Regionals.

ECU lost their tournament opener to Tulane in a nail biter that ended 4-3. After dropping the first game, the Pirates looked ahead to the weekend to face second-seeded UCF on Friday and seven-seeded UAB on Saturday.

On Saturday, the Pirates won their C-USA finale 10-3 over UAB. The game was knotted up at three in the top of the eighth before Corey Thompson reached home on a wild pitch. Thompson reached base on a single to right field and then advanced to second base on a balk. He would eventually get to third on John Wooten's sacrifice bunt along the third-base line. From there, ECU ran away with the game, scoring six runs on six hits in the ninth inning, which was highlighted with five consecutive base hits.

The Pirates accumulated 15 hits in the game, while only allowing UAB to record eight. Corey Thomp-

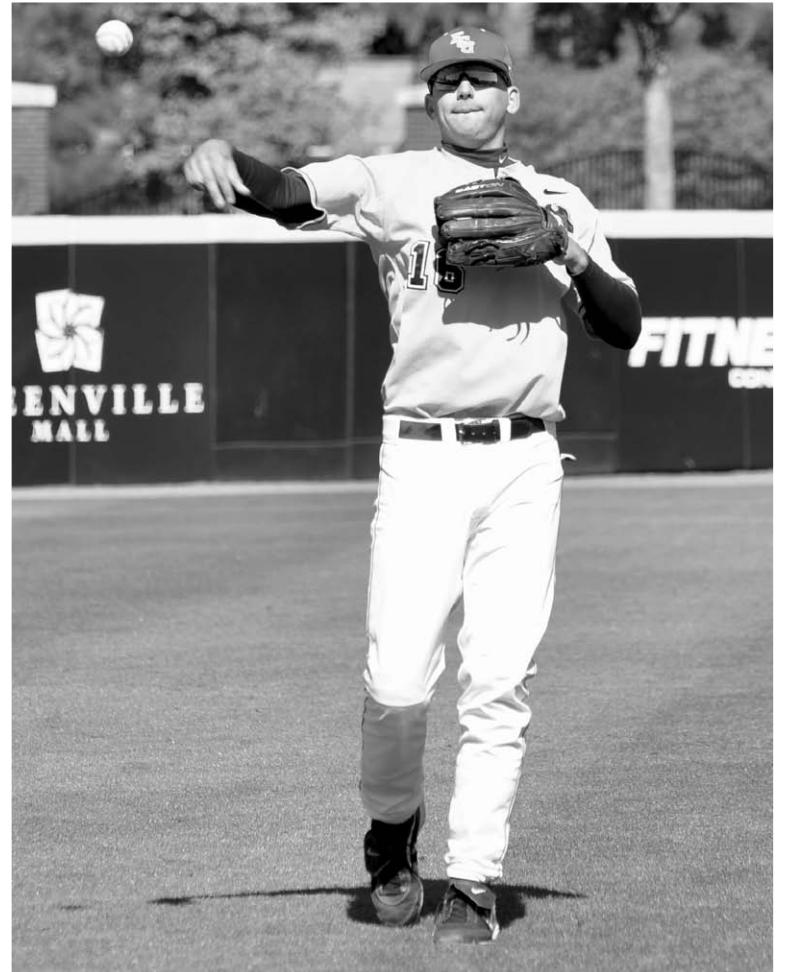
son, John Wooten and Zach Wright all recorded three hits in the game and combined for five RBIs. Wooten recorded his fourth homerun of the season in the second frame, which gave the Pirates a 3-1 lead and set the mood for the Pirates' line up to have a great day at the plate.

Freshman Jeff Hoffman (3-1) picked up his third win of the season after giving ECU seven strong innings. In his showing, Hoffman allowed three runs, all earned, on six hits, three walks and a pair of strikeouts. Andy Smithmyer relieved Hoffman and recorded his first career save for the Pirates. In two innings of work, Smithmyer allowed zero runs and recorded four strikeouts.

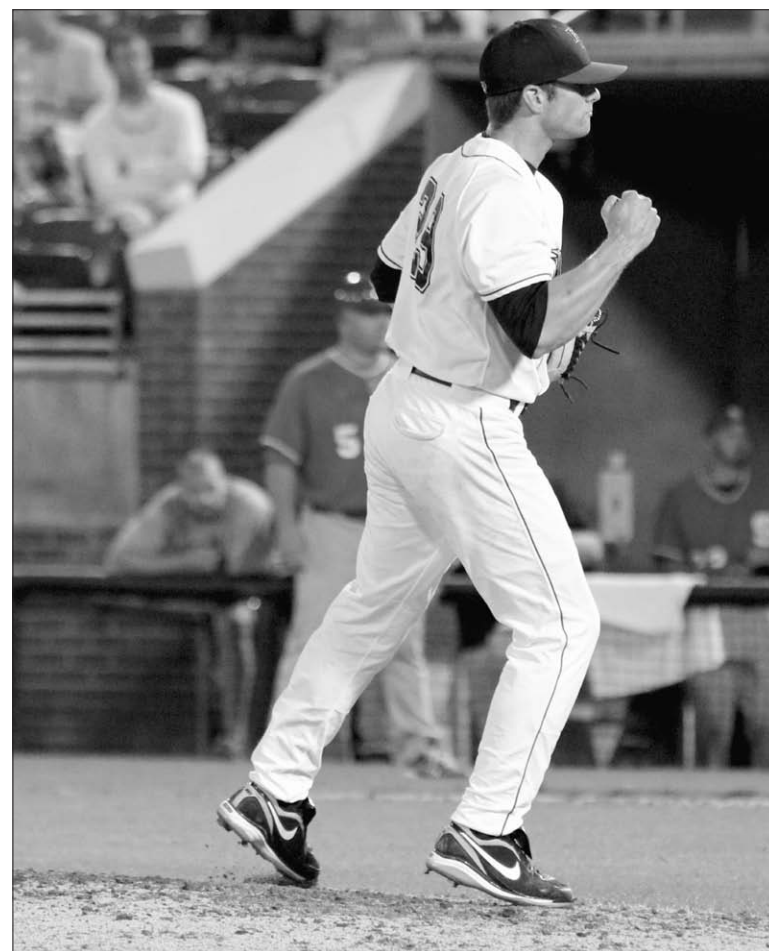
On Friday, ECU was unable to get any true offensive spark started as they fell to UCF 11-1. The Knights started off early, as they recorded a run in the first frame, three in the second and fourth innings and then another two in the third inning to stun the Pirates. ECU was able to halt the hot bats of UCF momentarily until the Knights added two more runs in the top of the eighth to end the game early due to the league's 10-run rule.

Jharel Cotton (8-2) started and received the loss for the Pirates in just

> REGIONAL page A7



John Wooten (16) throwing in the outfield at Lewis Field earlier this season.



Pitcher Andy Smithmyer (29) against N.C. State at Clark-LeClair Stadium.

Pirates make postseason



Chase Kroll
OPINION COLUMNIST

It's become common for prominent sports figures to speak almost entirely in

clichés. The season isn't a sprint, it's a marathon." "No game is going to be a cakewalk." "We just want to go out and get the 'W,' because a win is a win."

But when then season is over and the postseason is on the line, only one cliché prevails: It never matters how a team gets in, just as long as they get in."

Though overdone, common sports phrases can be fitting when looking back at the ups and downs of the ECU baseball program's 2012 campaign.

The Pirates (35-22-1, 13-10-1) ended their regular season as the sixth seed in the Conference USA

tournament, losing two of three games with their only win over the seventh-seed UAB Blazers. A few days later, UAB unexpectedly won the C-USA title.

ECU's less-than-stellar showing at the conference tournament marked the end of a nine-game stretch in which the Pirates lost six games, four by fewer than two runs and the other two by more than nine.

When pairing those losses with their victories, won by margins of 12, six and seven, ECU's performances at the end of the regular season were all but impossible to predict.

ECU appeared to lack a sense of consistency.

The reason for such speculation about the Pirates' recent inconsistency was mostly due to their solid performance through-

> POSTSEASON page A7

Track and field trio heads to nationals

Cameron Stephenson
STAFF WRITER

With a record-setting 21 athletes participating in this year's NCAA East Preliminary Round, ECU kicked off this weekend's action on Thursday at Hodges Stadium at the University of North Florida.

High hopes and expectations were held for our Pirates, as the meet would begin with the men's javelin at 11 a.m. Athletes with formidable finishes and times would qualify for the NCAA Outdoor Championship, scheduled for June 6-9 at Drake Stadium in Des Moines, Iowa.

Thursday, opening day of the meet, began with senior Sam Barnhardt taking 24th in the men's javelin, while junior and fellow field athlete Matthew McConaughy took 25th, both with respective marks of 61.72 and 61.54 meters. Needing to finish in at least 12th place in the women's javelin, senior Rebecca Cooper just missed qualifying for the NCAA Outdoor Championship with a 13th ranked finishing mark of 44.81 meters. Only two Pirate runners competed on Thursday.

Jacob Trzasalski was one of them, finishing 27th in the 800-

meter run, three spots behind the cut for quarterfinal qualification with a time of 1:51.02. The other was Quinton Harley, whose season would be continued after a season-best time of 51.16 seconds in the 400-meter hurdles, which qualified him for the quarterfinals which would be held the next day.

Friday proved to be bittersweet for ECU as junior Montrell Morrow missed qualification for the national finals in the hammer throw with a mark of 62.50 meters, which landed him in 14th place. Senior teammate Dennis Aloitta also fell short of

national finals qualification in the shot put with a 16th place finishing mark of 61.33 meters. On the track, junior Joseph Samuels made his NCAA postseason debut in the 110-meter hurdles, but also fell short of qualification with a time of 14.12 seconds. The 35th place finish proved to be a personal best for Samuels.

Success on Friday for ECU came from juniors Tynita Butts and Quinton Harley, as both athletes qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championship. A three time All-American

> NATIONALS page A7



High jumper Tynita Butts competing at the C-USA Championship. She will compete in the NCAA National Championship, starting Jun. 6.

REGIONAL continued from A6

one and two-thirds innings of work. Cotton surrendered six hits and gave up four runs in his short start. Tyler Joyner relieved Cotton and pitched three innings, giving

up five hits and five runs for the Pirates. Dylan Dickens pitched another three innings for the Pirates and gave up two runs on two hits. Although ECU was unable to

produce much offense in the game, designated hitter Drew Reynolds recorded three hits for the Pirates. ECU became accountable for eight hits in the game, while the Knights

produced 14. With the win over UAB in the C-USA tournament, the Pirates will advance to play in the Chapel Hill regional. This will be the 26th NCAA

regional appearance for ECU and the 12th appearance in the last 14 years. ECU earned the number two seed, and will face number three, St. John's, in the first round of the

regional this Friday at 1 p.m. North Carolina and Cornell will play at 6 p.m.

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

POSTSEASON continued from A6

out the majority of the season.

At first, ECU's preseason was surrounded by doubts concerning the loss of five members of the pitching staff to the MLB draft the previous year and the uncertainty of who would step up to fill that void.

ECU responded by racing out to a 15-4 start, never losing back-to-back games until losses to High Point and UCF a month and a half into the season.

The Pirates swept their first three series and a tournament hosted by the

Alabama Crimson Tide, beating then No. 6-ranked N.C. State in the process. They rose to as high as 20th in the nation in the NCAA polls and looked poised to contend for a conference title.

As conference play began, the program was firing on all cylinders.

The season settled in and ECU stumbled in its first conference series. After losing two out of three

against UCF and an extra-inning rematch with N.C. State, the Pirates regrouped

and won seven of their next eight (including a series sweep over UAB and a series victory over Houston).

Following a series victory over Memphis, ECU hit its roughest patch of the year thus far. The Pirates lost five of six, including two series losses (No. 7 Rice and Tulane) and a 1-0 defeat at the hands of No. 10 North Carolina.

A five-game win streak got ECU back on track just before the aforementioned skid leading into, and through, the conference tournament.

All in all, the Pirates performed well for the majority of the season, but they left some question marks with each shaky performance. When everything is going right, this team can dominate. When it is not, they have a tendency to leave some plays, and some possible victories, out on the field.

According to the latest NCAA rankings, ECU played 11 games against five teams in the top 25 (No. 6 UNC, No. 10 N.C. State, No. 11 Rice, No. 15 Purdue and No. 21 UCF). The Pirates

won three and lost six by two runs or fewer to finish the season ranked No. 26.

When they are in the zone, they are capable of beating any team that they face.

When news broke Monday that ECU had been selected as one of the 64 teams to play postseason baseball, it allowed the Pirates the luxury of putting the regular season behind them and the speculation that comes with it.

ECU will be playing in the Chapel Hill regional as

the No. 2 seed against UNC-Chapel Hill, St. Johns and Cornell. It is a four-team, double-elimination tournament with one team moving on.

As a team that is coming off of a recent cold streak, ECU needs to heat up now. Modern-day sports have proven that a team that gets hot can make a deep run into the postseason.

The Pirates can be that team. They made it to the postseason.

And in the postseason, anything can happen.

NATIONALS continued from A6



Quinton Harley will head to his first NCAA Outdoor National Championship.

and defending Conference USA champion, Butts, tied for the regional title in the high jump with Boston University's Allison Barwise, at a mark of 1.81 meters. This year's national finals will be her second; her first being a seventh place finish her freshman year. Reigning C-USA champion Quinton Harley posted another season-best with a time of 51.01 seconds, which earned him second in his heat. This will be Harley's first career appearance on the national stage.

Senior Dennis Aliotta finished fourth in the shot put

at Saturday's part of the preliminary round with a mark of 19.30 meters, qualifying him for the national finals in which he just fell short of last year. That would be the only qualifying performance of the day, as the women's 4x400 meter relay team, comprised of Aiesha Googins, Tiffany Harris, Tania Minkins and Tyshonda Hawkins finished in 15th place with a time of 3:37.86. The men's 4x100 meter relay team, which consists of, Austin Lewis, Desmond Lawrence, Quinton Harley and Antonial Marshall, fell only two slots short

of qualifying with a 14th place finish of 40.26 seconds.

Both Tynita Butts and Quinton Harley have done an outstanding job of representing the ECU track and field team, as well as Pirate athletics as a whole. ECU has full faith that it will continue to do so at the NCAA Outdoor National Championship, which begins on June 6th.

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

Heat and Thunder favored for finals



Ronnie Moore
OPINION COLUMNIST

With the Playoffs in full swing, a lot of surprises have already taken place. With the Eastern Conference facing many new problems and surprises, the western conference has been rather ho-hum and boring with the better teams winning every matchup.

The Eastern Conference number one seeded Chicago Bulls faced a terrible ACL tear to their leader Derrick Rose, which inevitably gave them an early exit in the first round to the Philadelphia 76ers. For the Miami Heat, this was a welcomed sight as the Bulls were supposed to be the only eastern team who was to challenge the Heat as the East champion.

Then the Heat faced an unexpected injury as Chris Bosh fell to an abdominal strain causing him to miss the rest of the teams second round matchup against the young and tough Indiana Pacers team and so far the first game of the conference finals against the Boston Celtics. This is a familiar sight as the Miami Heat faced the Boston Celtics in the conference finals just one year ago.

The stronger Western Conference has had somewhat of boring playoffs up to this point. The higher seeds have prevailed, except for the 4-5 matchup where the Los Angeles Clippers fought for the series win in seven games. Both Los Angeles teams struggled in the first round, as they were the only seven game series' in the entire playoffs. The Oklahoma City Thunder and the San Antonio Spurs both swept their first round

opponents respectively and they were dominant in their second round matchups as they bounced both Los Angeles teams from the playoffs. The Spurs have been dominant as they are still undefeated in the post-season winning all nine of their games up to this point.

Going into this shortened NBA season (only 66 games), I believed that at this point in the playoffs that both the Miami Heat and Oklahoma City Thunder would still be alive in the championship race. These teams were my championship foes that would face off for the coveted Larry Obrien Trophy at the end of the season. I had these teams facing the Chicago Bulls and the Los Angeles Lakers respectively in their conference finals. The way things worked out, the Bulls faced some overwhelming obstacles that they could not overcome and the Lakers

just underperformed, in my opinion, down certain stretches of the regular season.

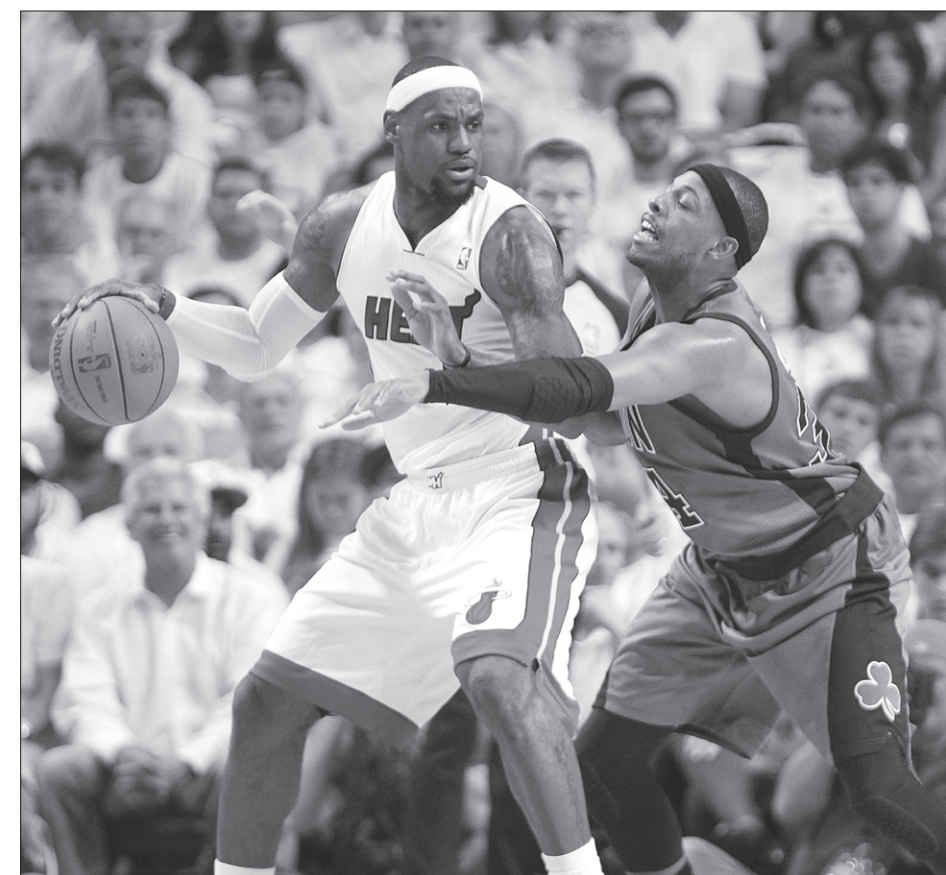
With the Bulls out of the way, I believe that the Heat will take care of the Celtics once again and head to the NBA finals. The Celtics are old and they are on their last leg and I believe that the league MVP (LeBron James) will find a way to ensure his teams victory. As soon as Chris Bosh returns from his injury, the Heat will have the low post scoring and defense that they have missed in their last handful of games since his departure. I think the Heat will take this series in five games, only giving the Celtics a glimmer of hope and then slamming the door.

With the San Antonio Spurs winning game one of the western conference finals against the Oklahoma City Thunder, they have now won 30 out of their last

32 games. This unbelievable streak seems hard to beat, but I believe that the Thunder will come back and steal game two from the Spurs and go on to win the series in only 6 games, allowing the Spurs to only win one more game. The young Thunder team has two offensive nightmares and a sixth man of the year in James Harden, they also have three of the best defensive players in the league in Serge Ibaka, Kendrick Perkins, and Thabo Sefolosha; so this team is primed for a championship run in my opinion.

The Heat and the Thunder will face off in the NBA championship and the Thunder will prevail over the Heat because they are a more balanced and deeper team overall. I see this series going to at least six games.

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



Lebron James (6) backs down Paul Pierce (34) during the Eastern Conference Finals on Monday.



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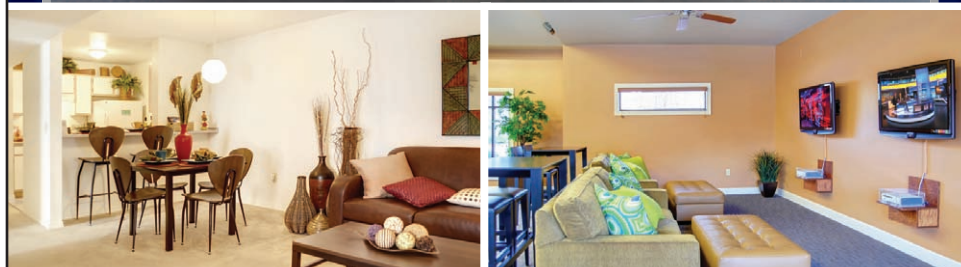
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