



## BRIEFS

### Student skateboarder struck by vehicle

#### Staff Reports

A car struck an ECU student Tuesday while he skateboarded across the 10th and Charles Streets intersection.

The student was transported to Vidant Medical Center, where he was treated for a broken leg from the accident, WITN reported.

Police said the driver will not be charged in the accident.

### City votes against three-unrelated roommate rule

#### Staff Reports

The Greenville Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing Tuesday night to review the request from city council to allow certain homes north of 5th Street to allow four-unrelated people to live together.

WITN reports that the commission voted six to two against the amendment.

This recommendation will now go before the city council for a final decision at their meeting in October.

### Two charged in apartment burglary

#### Staff Reports

Two people were arrested Tuesday night in connection with the Wyndham Circle neighborhood break-ins, Greenville police reported.

According to The Daily Reflector, Jaquane Antonio Saunders, 18, and Jasmine Uniqua Lasha Spruill, 21, were arrested after Saunders was identified as the person seen leaving an unlocked apartment at 214A Wyndham Circle with stolen items at about 6:50 p.m.

Saunders was charged with felony breaking and entering and was jailed on a \$30,000 secured bond.

Since Spruill appeared to be pregnant, detectives deferred serving her a warrant.

Wyndham circle residents have reported three arson fires this month, where residences were first burglarized.

Investigations are ongoing.

### 'Gallows of Effigy' rolls through Greenville

#### Staff Reports

A Duplin County man drove through the streets of Greenville yesterday with his display of mannequins wearing business suits hanging from nooses, which he calls the "Gallows of Effigy."

According to a Star News report in 2009, Phipps uses these displays to express his opinions in a non-harmful way, and to show he is upset with how the state handled his son's murder in 1995, which ended in an insanity plea.

The display has gained attention in many counties, most recently in Charlotte during the Democratic National Convention.

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# First lady rallies for voter turnout

**Cameron Guppton**  
NEWS EDITOR

Yesterday afternoon, First Lady Michelle Obama made an appearance on campus to speak to students on behalf of her husband's campaign in the Williams Arena of Minges Coliseum.

Doors to the rally opened for guests at 3 p.m., ahead of the first lady's speech, scheduled for 5:45 p.m.

Thirty minutes before the event started, the 6,000-person capacity had been reached in the coliseum. Those still waiting in line at that time were turned away.

The event itself launched with an official welcome from the university from Matt Paske, Student Government Association vice president.

"We need you in North Carolina to stand up and make sure the other voters out there have not forgotten what our voice sounds like," he said. "You have to stand up and show the world that young people like us can care about the future of the nation."

Paske stressed to students that one person does make a difference in the election and that change can occur when citizens band together.

"Let's all stand together, hold hands, rise up and shout, 'Four more years,'" he said.

After Paske closed out his opening remarks, Levi Clemons, a 16-year US Army Veteran, delivered the Pledge of Allegiance, and Brantley Barnhill II, a sophomore music major, sang the National Anthem.

As the event progressed, Vonner G. Horton, the senior pastor of Oxley Hill Baptist Church in Merry Hill, resided over the invocation.

Once initial statements concluded, Amy Littleton, a field organizer and ECU campus coordinator with the Organizing for America office, enlivened the crowd.

"It is my responsibility today to make sure this crowd is fired up and ready to go," she said. "Are you fired up?"

Littleton emphasized North Carolina's importance as a battleground state and encouraged the crowd to work with the Obama campaign in any way they can.

"If you are on your phone all the time like I am, go ahead and take it out," she said. "You can receive campaign updates and donate 10 dollars to the Obama campaign (by using your phone)."

Then, much earlier than expected, Michaela Penix, a graduate student pursuing a master's in public health, introduced the first lady.

By 5:15 p.m., the first lady began her much-anticipated speech with a greeting for Pirate Nation. "I was told that if I said something I would get a good response. Purple!"

After the crowd's energetic response of "Gold," the first lady began her speech.

"I want to thank all of you, especially all of the students here from East Carolina University," she said. "You all sound pretty fired up to me, which is good because after our convention, I'm pretty fired up too."

The first lady devoted the major-



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

First Lady Michelle Obama spoke to a crowd of 6,000 on the importance of voter registration and turnout.



ABEGAYLE NERI | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Supporters in the crowd showed their loyalty to the Obama campaign with handmade signs and chants of admiration.

ity of the opening portion of her speech to discuss her relationship with her husband, the love they share and the struggles they have gone through together.

The first lady then moved her focus to the issues her husband faced after assuming the presidency and how he dealt with them over the last four years, including the economic crisis the country faced when he took office.

"Instead of pointing fingers, instead of placing blame, Barack got

to work," she said. "Yes, we still have a long way to go to fix our economy, but we have had 30 months of job-sector growth."

The first lady also made a point to praise her husband's healthcare efforts that allow students to stay on their parent's health insurance until they are 26.

"There is now no discrimination against those with preexisting conditions such as diabetes," she said. "No longer can (healthcare providers) say you have hit your

lifetime limit."

The first lady was also sure to relate the speech even more closely to students by discussing the president's stance on financial aid.

"Barack knows, like me and so many of you, that he could have never attended college without the help of financial aid," she said. "That's why he has worked so hard

> **FIRST LADY** page A2

# Italy study abroad program expands to all students

**Eihab Bahhur**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Last spring, the Italy Intensives study abroad program expanded its curriculum, which allowed every student the opportunity to study abroad in Italy.

The program expanded its curriculum to include students studying in the field of art, theater, dance, hospitality, journalism, public relations, communication, political science, nursing, business, economics, allied health sciences, education, psychology and architecture, according to the ECU Web site.

"This year we have added more classes from the core foundations curriculum so we can reach more students," said Linda Kay Darty, program director of Italy Intensives.

"I am hoping more students can take advantage of this incredible opportunity."

Recently, the program has added foundation level courses from humanities, social sciences and fine arts, said Darty. "Anyone can join from all levels of all majors," she said.

Darty has raised awareness of the program's expansion on ECU's campus. She has spoken to students about the program in classrooms of different departments and residence halls at ECU. Raising awareness of the program has paid off. "I spoke to one class and shortly after I was finished, two or three students had registered to study abroad in Italy," said Darty.

The expansion of the program's courses has made studying abroad

in Italy a viable option for ECU students. "We had a pretty big variety of people in Italy. We had someone who was pre-med with us," said Megan Edge, journalism major.

Another benefit of studying abroad in Italy is the program's availability. "This is the only international year-round program that allows students to take our own ECU classes from our own catalog, where they can earn up to 18 credits in Italy," said Darty.

The program offers a combination of experience and education that they can take back home with them.

ECU classrooms are located on the main street in the village, surrounded by towers, gates, fountains, prisons, the Vicar's palace and the great writer Boccaccio's home,

according to ECU's Web site.

Besides gaining from classes, students have a variety of networking opportunities at their disposal. "I got to meet with people who worked in the town's newspaper, Florentine. It was an English newspaper, which was really cool," said Edge.

Italy also offers numerous things to do and places to see. The program is held in Tuscany, the birthplace of the Renaissance movement, according to ECU's website. "Where else can you wake up and go see Michelangelo's David and realize a 27-year-old did this?" said Darty. "The experience is totally different from being in a classroom."

Students attending the program live in beautiful apartments and

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## INSIDE

### OPINION

Paul Ryan or Michelle Obama? You decide. Check out the opinion page for more details. **A3**

### LIFESTYLES

Look to lifestyles to read Sasha Preddie's article about Bill Cosby. **A4**

### SPORTS

Turn to Sports to see Melanie Leach's profile on ECU soccer player, Lexi Miller. **A6**

## WEATHER

77°F/ 54°F

Partly Cloudy



GRAPHICS FROM ENTROPIA.COM

## ONLINE



Check out our fan page on facebook and twitter.com/TEC\_newspaper.

# FIRST LADY

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to double Pell Grants.” She even revealed that her and the president’s combined student debt after college was higher than the mortgage on their house.

Finally, the first lady reiterated for the crowd the importance of North Carolina as a battleground state.

In 2008, President Obama won the state by about 14,000 votes, which equates to about five votes per precinct.

Closing out a speech met with much applause and excitement from the crowd.

The first lady said, “From now until Nov. 6, we need to keep pushing and working. Are you ready for this? Are you fired up? Are you ready to go? Thank you, God bless you.”

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

# Crowd reacts to visit from First Lady ITALY

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## Staff Reports

Anticipation built outside of Minges Coliseum yesterday afternoon as a diverse crowd of students, adults and children waited in line to hear First Lady Michelle Obama speak.

Doors opened at 3 p.m., but there was already a substantial line before noon, which continued to build throughout the afternoon.

A.B. Robinson, a sophomore business major, stood outside of the coliseum in excitement.

“Michelle Obama is my hero,” said Robinson. “I think she’s awesome. I’d vote for her if she ran for president.”

Sophomore nursing major Andy Riggs shared her excitement, as he anticipated his first time voting.

“I skipped class for this,” said Riggs. “I’m so happy to be here.”

It is also sophomore biology major Anna Lawrence’s

first time voting as well.

“This is the opportunity of a lifetime,” she said. “I’m so happy.”

The amount of attendees grew so large that the doors closed at 4:30 p.m. after the fire marshal said the coliseum had reached its maximum amount of 6,000 people.

Inside, guests were ushered to their respective areas to hear the first lady speak. Senior communication major Brooke Maples was chosen by the Organization for America in North Carolina to sit in the section behind the first lady.

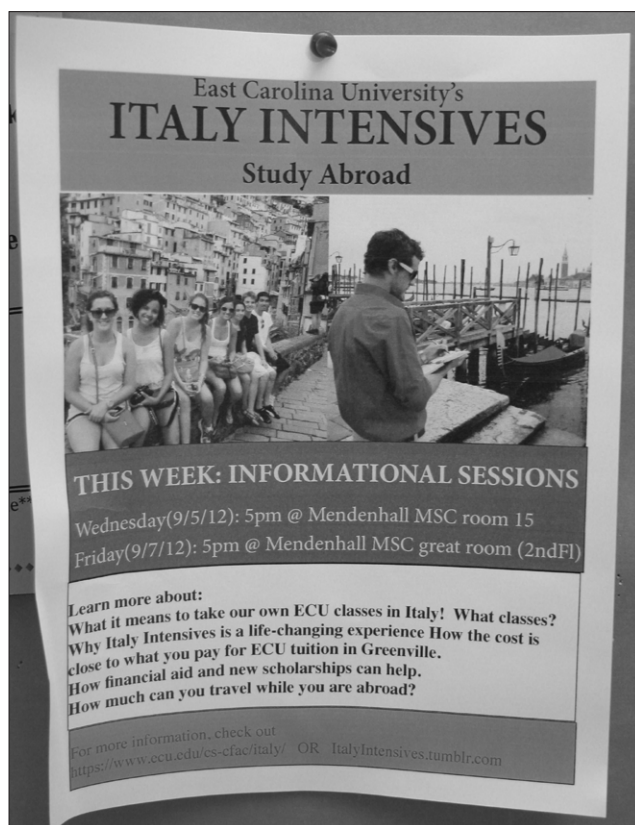
“We had terrible seats at first, and then a random volunteer came up and asked if we were students, and told us, ‘You guys are going to have the best seats here,’” said Maples.

She said the volunteer led her and her three friends to the group of 30 or 40 students to an area which she said was “basically on stage.”

“It was awesome to be so close to her and that they chose students to sit there,” said Maples. “It was an incredible experience to be surrounded by students that all felt the same way about Michelle Obama.”

The students sitting behind the first lady were given “Forward” signs to hold while she spoke. Maples and the other students were also given the chance to greet the first lady, and Maples was able to shake her hand.

“We hold 15 electorate votes and the way it’s looking now, NC could determine who is the president,” said sophomore history education major, Ryan Giggey, a registered Republican who was not able to attend the first lady’s speech. “I think both candidates did the right thing by visiting colleges, including ECU because the college-aged citizen is an important group in elections, especially this year.”



CHELSEA CURRY  
The university now offers all majors a chance to study in Italy.

travel throughout Italy.

“When we are not in class, students go to great restaurants, travel to Sicily and take field trips during the weekend,” said Darty.

Darty urges students to take advantage of the program. She understands that leaving your home and going to a brand new country for the first time can be very intimidating, but it is very rewarding.

“The program sounds interesting, but to leave home for a semester is difficult,” said Mohhamed Abdo, engineering major.


Studying abroad takes a lot of courage. “This is my effort to get students to go out and try something new,” said Darty. Students shouldn’t feel discouraged by their fears of leaving home.

“We travel in groups. We are like a community,” Darty said.

There are currently a few slots remaining for the spring semester. The spring application deadline is Oct. 1. Once the program is filled, a waiting list will be started, according to ECU’s website. Students that want to study abroad in Italy can earn 12 to 15 credits each semester or six credits during the two summer sessions.

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

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2012



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## 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.

I thought the age limit on wearing bows in your hair was five.

This one goes out to the girl that asked if she could sleep in my study room while I sat there and did my work.

Pumpkin spice lattes are in, and thus, leg shaving is out.

From the girl with the broken leg at Still Life, you best believe I'll be back again this Friday, peg leg and all.

As an alumn, I admit I still patrol the Pirate Rant section and constantly fight the urge to submit my own. But I worry people would just be thinking, "She doesn't even go here!"

I got a whiff of Michelle Obama's Armpit. It smelled like freedom.

Dear ECU police: you are civil servants. I am a civil citizen, no you may not creep slowly around campus forcing me to involuntarily act subordinate just to stay off your radar.

Just because you went to early college doesn't make you better than me. I actually have morals.

If Beyonce and Jackie Kennedy had a child, it would be Michelle Obama, so why is my 5:00 p.m. class not canceled for her speech!?

I walk in my apartment and strip down to my undies, grab a beer and sit with the fan blowing on me watching FX. I'm such a dude...or I'm the best girlfriend you've never met. :)

She didn't smoke, drink, or give BJs. Why would I stay with her.

This is college people; you are not entitled to a certain seat each and every class period when the classroom seats 200. Put your butt in a chair, pay attention and stop worrying about sitting with your friends.

That awkward moment when you find your roommate's "toy" collection.

All these whores straightening and curling their hair for class and I'm just standing here with my sloppy who-ville muffin bun.

If the class average on the first test is a 54, chances are, you are not teaching properly.

Why did the cross-eyed teacher lose his job? He couldn't control his pupils.

ALE can suck my 4th amendment!

To all the girls walking to their 9 a.m. classes looking cute...I hate you! Sincerely, all the girls looking rough coming back from their 8 a.m. classes!

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## POLL RESULTS

**Do you think Occupy Greenville is a productive movement?**

**Yes: 10%**  
**No: 90%**

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# Battle of the speeches

**Brian Holloman**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

I am very proud that ECU has played such a large role in the past two presidential election cycles. From then presidential candidate John F. Kennedy's visit to Greenville in 1960, to Paul Ryan and Michelle Obama's visits, the Pirate Nation has played host to many political campaigns, presidential candidates and their families over the years.

It is no wonder that the Romney-Ryan campaign chose for Paul Ryan to speak with the people of this region in a location that represents all of eastern North Carolina. It has been said that east of Interstate 95 is Pirate country, and the heart of that country is located in Greenville.

It represents a larger strategy for Mitt Romney's campaign and the Republican Party to turn North Carolina back to its red state roots. Barack Obama's victory in North Carolina was by the slimmest of margins. To demonstrate just how small of a margin it was, let me give you an interesting example. If half of the student population of East Carolina University had voted for John McCain instead of Barack Obama, North Carolina would have gone to McCain. Keeping North Carolina in the red column is of great importance to the Romney campaign. The way the current battleground landscape is shaping up, it is difficult to foresee a Romney victory without North Carolina and our 15 electoral votes.

It is also important for the Romney-Ryan campaign to engage college aged voters to counter the messages being spread by President Obama's campaign, particularly on important topics such as student loans and Pell Grants, as well as the problems recent graduates have had entering into the workforce.

I performed some research on the allegation that Congressman Ryan's budget would cut the Pell Grant program and found that the allegations

“ Keeping North Carolina in the red column is of great importance. ”

are misleading, if not all together false. While researching I discovered an article from Salon.com, hardly considered to be a non-partisan website, that makes the case that Ryan's budget does not explicitly cut Pell Grants.

Ezra Klein notes that under the current \$30.4 billion allotment for Pell Grants in 2014, that \$24.5 million is allocated specifically from "discretionary spending" and that the remaining \$6 billion comes from money cataloged as "mandatory spending." Paul Ryan's budget would produce

a 19 percent cut on discretionary spending, which would include the additional revenue for Pell Grants introduced by the president's Affordable Healthcare Act, known to most as "ObamaCare." This temporary increase in Pell Grants expires regardless in 2014, leaving the Pell Grant program in an "\$8 billion hole" as Klein notes.

It is also important for Romney and Ryan to speak with students in order to push reform to the student loan program. The loan program is currently on an unsustainable path, much like the subprime mortgage situation in 2008. The subprime mortgage bubble eventually burst, resulting in a complete collapse of the housing market, leading to the much maligned bank bailouts and a deep, deep recession. If modifications are not made to the student loan program now, it is my belief that it too will collapse, resulting in much of the same damage to our economy as was experienced in 2008.

We live in one of the poorest regions in this state, often ignored and derided through history by our friends to the west, as exemplified by our battle to become a university and our push for a medical school. By bringing to the people of this region a message of fiscal sanity, trying to fix what is wrong with our economy and getting people working again, Ryan spoke to the heart of the people of this region.

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



CHASE KROLL | EAST CAROLINIAN

**Uriah Ward**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Since the beginning of the semester I've been saying that ECU is the most important school in North Carolina for this election. We're the third-largest school in the state behind UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State. UNC is going hard for Obama and NCSU is going the other way. ECU is a swing school with a reputation of apathy. What that means is that either side could take us and there is a lot to gain by doing so. And that's why we're getting so much attention.

I had the privilege to meet (and hug) Michelle Obama last night before she went out to address ECU and the Greenville community. Minges was packed to the ceiling and the enthusiasm that greeted her put even our football games to shame. The crowd cheered as the first lady recalled her and her husband's life story and highlighted their life experiences as the foundation for their platform in this election.

For most of President Obama's term, he has received very little credit for his accomplishments. But since the Democratic National Convention, his surrogates have been talking up his record, and his wife was no exception. She spent most of her speech listing all of the things that the president has done. She listed everything from healthcare reform, to ending the War in Iraq to killing Osama Bin Laden. Every achievement was an applause line and Obama's record of education got the loudest acclamation.

Without even mentioning Mitt Romney's name, she drew contrasts between his and her husband's position on education. She spoke at length about how both her and the president needed government assistance to get through college, and how when they were first living together,

their combined monthly student loan payment was bigger than their mortgage. She cited this as her husband's justification for halving the interest rate for student loans and doubling funding for pell grants. The Romney/Ryan plan calls for an end to both of these policies.

She also took time to answer a question Republicans continue to ask, by saying yes, we are better off than we were four years ago. Romney's surrogates constantly ask this question despite the fact that it is quite obvious we are doing

“ Her visit brought a new energy to campus... ”

much better off than we were when Obama took office. We've seen constant job growth, lower unemployment and a thriving stock market. The auto industry was falling apart when Obama took office, and thanks to him, it's back on track. Unlike four years ago, we are now able to serve the country we love no matter whom we love and our standing on the world stage has improved dramatically.

In 2008, this state voted for Obama by a margin smaller than the number of students enrolled here. Polling continues to indicate that the state could go either way this November, so it's no surprise that we continue to see the campaigns fighting for our support. As we try to compare the Paul Ryan event and the Michelle Obama event, we can ask ourselves two questions: which event

was better, and how will each event affect the student vote at ECU.

Both of these questions are easy to answer. Paul Ryan came to ECU last minute on Labor Day and he spoke to a crowd of approximately 2,000 in the Student Recreation Center. Michelle Obama filled and rocked Minges Coliseum. The Michelle Obama event was definitely more energetic and generally impressive, but there was one key difference between the two events. When the first lady spoke, a significant portion of the crowd was actually students. When Ryan came, they were hard to find, and many of them were College Democrats. I think it's pretty safe to say that Michelle Obama did more to attract the student vote than Paul Ryan. Her husband's policies actually help students, and students actually showed up to listen to her.

Her visit brought a new energy to campus and its one that organizers will try to ride to the election. You'll see aggressive voter registration efforts and a strong "Get Out The Vote" campaign. But people like us decide the success of any candidacy. For your side to win, you need to take the initiative to volunteer. Contact the local campaign of your preferred candidate. Join College Democrats, Republicans or Libertarians. Make sure you do everything you can to help whoever you think deserves it. You can make your voice heard, but only if you show up. And when enough students speak their opinion, politicians take our opinions more seriously. And if that happens, maybe we'll see this kind of attention again next time around. See you at the polls.

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## RELATIONSHIPS

**Mikayla Locklear**  
RELATIONSHIP COLUMNIST

Perhaps you have noticed that as the temperature begins to drop, the dissolution of more than a few Facebook "official" relationships have spiked. As fall rushes in faster and more ferociously than a bus load of eager wannabe sorority girls, the average college student can lose anywhere between 100-200 (maybe even up to 300) pounds. It's time to trim the summer fat, in the form of that other person you've been attached to at the hip all summer, or more affectionately referred to as your summer fling.

Admittedly, most summer flings are just that, flings. As in flinging yourself at whoever is available in the heat of the moment. Whether you stayed in Greenville for the dog days or drag yourself back to your hometown to reignite an old flame, by now you've probably lost that loving feeling. Not to say there aren't a few special cases where the Fourth of July fireworks never ended and you're still as hot for one another as a soaking wet speedo clad Ryan Lochte. The fact of the matter is, though, if you're thinking that you want out, now is the last big, acceptable timeframe to do so until we get to the post-Valentine's day blues and pre-Spring break breakups.

The pre-holiday season separation, spanning anywhere from mid-September to early October, is a great way to ensure that you come out of your fling unscathed while also allotting yourself enough time to find a new boo for the snuggly months. If you really like someone, by all means, hold on to them; let's not break hearts just for the sake of heart-breaking. But this upcoming time of the year, namely the holidays, can get serious, and if you're with the wrong person, even the most pleasant occasion can seem like a death sentence.

The first of which, and in my opinion the most detestable, ECU's National Holiday, is Halloween. Not to say that Halloween itself is horrible, but there's just something particularly particularly stomach churning about couple's costumes. Do you really want to be the Peeta to her Katniss, can you suffer a long embarrassing night of being dressed as the buns to his suggestive hotdog costume? If you answered "absolutely not," then it may be time to start looking for an exit sign.

"Sure babe, I'd love to drive all the way to West Virginia to have tofurkery and play touch football with your family this Thanksgiving. It's just been too long since I slept on a fold out couch," said no one ever. The next holiday, Thanksgiving, is crucial family time. And around our age, most people are gung-ho to bring their significant other home to carve the big bird and put those lingering sexual orientation wonders to rest. Plus side, if you so choose to go through with this, you get to see how that little figure of hers is going to hold up after three kids, or if male pattern baldness really does skip a generation.

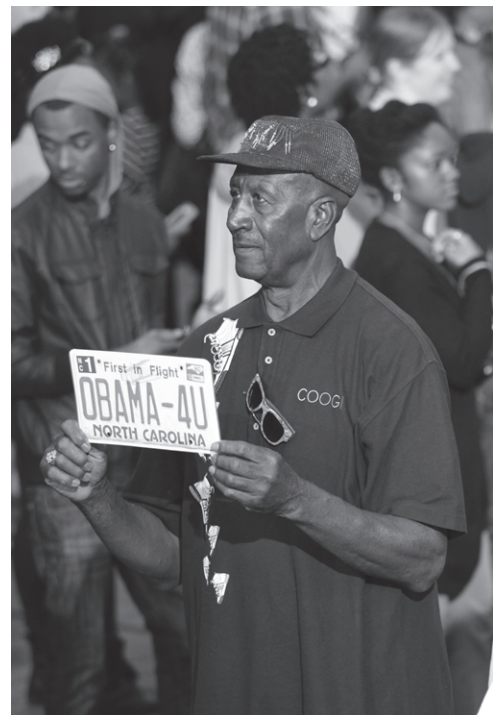
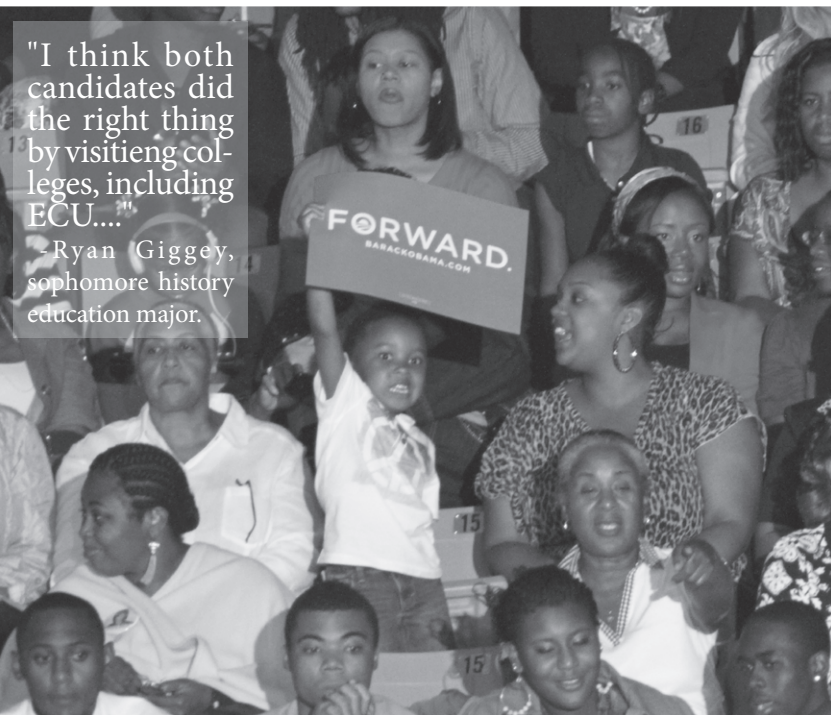
Last, but certainly not least, there's the most stressful time of the year. A time I like to refer to as Buy-me-Giftsma. Since we're not in the fifth grade anymore, and you probably can't get away with a simple Bath and Body Works combo, this holiday can certainly be the most pressing on the already hard pressed purse strings around here. If she's got Yurman taste and you're on a JC Penny jewelers budget, it might be a good time to think about how attached you are to your blood plasma. Obviously these are all worst-case scenarios. Not everyone has a crazy family and ridiculous gift expectations, but leading someone on when you know you're on a one-way trip to Nowhereville is not a good look. Ending a bad summer fling is on par with changing from flip-flops to riding boots. Those with good taste just know.

This writer can be contacted at [lifestyles@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:lifestyles@theeastcarolinian.com).

"It made me feel like I can make a difference in the United States, in my community and in college."

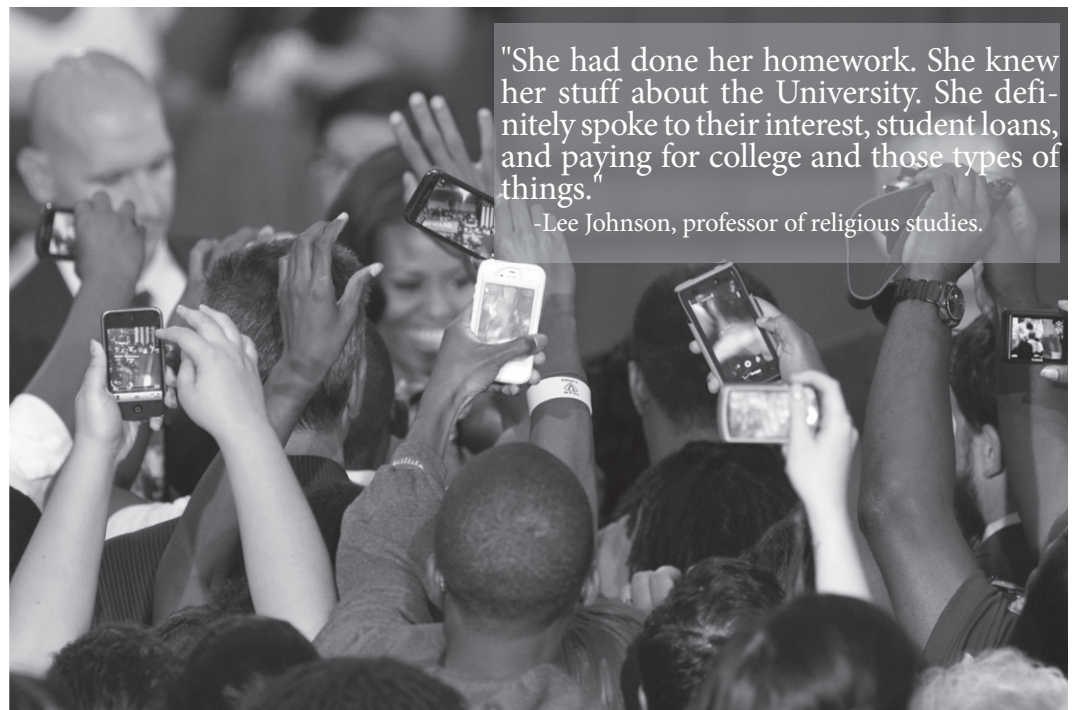
-Demonte James, sophomore accounting major.

"I think both candidates did the right thing by visitng colleges, including ECU..."  
-Ryan Giggey, sophomore history education major.



**Rex Rose**  
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

With the stage set, the crowd teeming and the media in place, Michelle Obama's appearance on campus generated an electric atmosphere. These are some of the thoughts, reactions and comments from some of those at the high-profile campaign event.



"She had done her homework. She knew her stuff about the University. She definitely spoke to their interest, student loans, and paying for college and those types of things."  
-Lee Johnson, professor of religious studies.



"To me I was excited because Barack Obama's dad is from Kenya. When Obama was elected president first, we got a four-day public holiday. So we are that crazy about Barack Obama and Michelle Obama as well."  
-Sameer Pal, junior pre-med foreign exchange student from Kenya.

"This is the first election that a lot of us are old enough to vote. And so it actually means something this time. We are old enough to form our own opinions."  
-Bailey Cranwell, sophomore nursing major.



"The shifting of the student loans to a federal government program rather than one that profits from the students, and also being able to stay on their parent's health insurance until they were 26--I thought those were important things for students."  
-Trisha Wilson-Oka-mura, professor of Latin, Greek and Japanese.

# The buzz about Obama

# Cosby comes to campus

Sasha Preddie  
STAFF WRITER

From class clown to legendary comedian, Bill Cosby has come full circle with his humorous talent, while also engaging in many different areas of entertainment. Tonight, Cosby will be showcasing his comedic talent to students, faculty and the local community at 8 p.m. in Wright Auditorium for those who have previously purchased tickets.

Cosby, whose birth name is William, was born and raised in Philadelphia where he became involved in sports while in school and grew fond of making people laugh through jokes and storytelling. Since Cosby spent most of his time on athletics and entertaining others rather than focusing on his school work, he eventually dropped out of high school and joined the Navy.

During his service, Cosby served as a medical aid, joined the Navy track team and received a degree similar to a high school diploma. Later he was awarded a scholarship from Temple University for track.

While in college, Cosby started working at a coffee shop where he was able to tell jokes and fill in for the main comedian every once in a while. He decided to drop out of college to pursue a career in comedy as a stand-up comedian, where he made a name for himself by focusing on themes that did not involve race and that anyone could relate to.

At that point on, Cosby was continuously on the move with comedy shows, TV sitcoms and talk shows. He got his first lead in the dramatic series, "I Spy," where he broke the racial barrier by being the first African American to have a lead role in a dramatic series. He received three Emmy Awards for his role on the show.

Cosby is also known for shows such as, "Fat Albert and The Cosby Kids," "The Cosby Show," "Kids Say the Darndest Things" and "Little Bill," to name a few. Along with his long list of comedy venues and filmography, Cosby also released a few musical singles and books.

Today, Cosby is alive and well, opposed to the rumor that was spread throughout social media that claimed that he had died. He spends the majority of his time doing concerts all over the country, one of which will be at ECU thanks to the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series.

According to Michael Crane, the associate dean of research marketing and outreach for the College of Fine Arts and Communication, the series has been around since 1962 due to a vision that Rudolph Alexander, associate vice chancellor of the

student union at the time, had to spread fine arts throughout the community and the region.

The series acts as a way to expose students to different forms of art. With the series consisting of 10 shows throughout the year, there is no reason why students can't explore many different forms.

"It's one of those things where you're here and this is a really cheap way to figure out what you like musically and artistically," said Crane. "If you don't experiment and try new things, it's a lot harder to do it while you're out in the real world because you're talking about real money and real logistics. And really, what if you don't like it?"

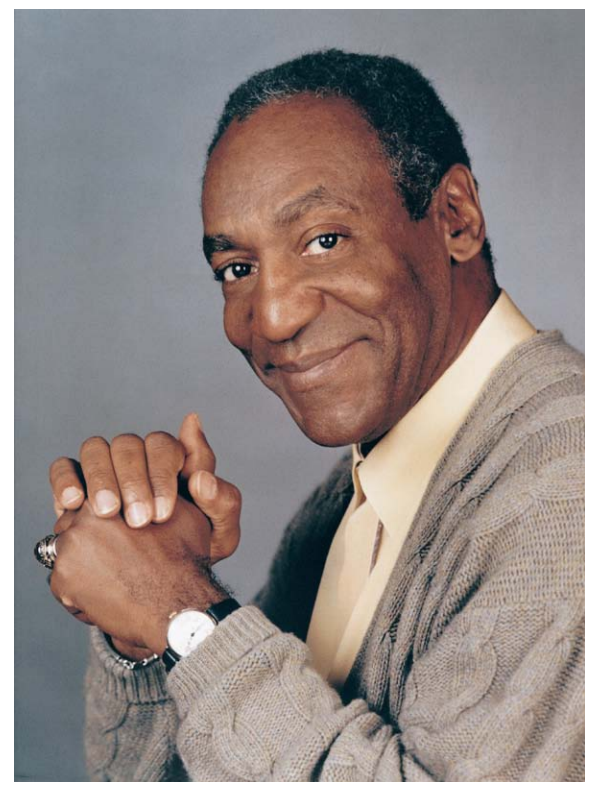
Getting students to experiment more does not seem like too much of an issue, seeing how the tickets to Cosby's show have been sold out since the first

week of school, the fastest sell out of the series according to Crane. But he was not surprised at all that the show had sold out so quickly.

The quick sell out unfortunately made it impossible for many students to witness the comedic legend in person.

"I had no idea that Bill Cosby was coming to campus, and when I found out, the tickets were already sold out," said sophomore Miguel Oliveras. "I was really disappointed because I think it would have been cool to see him perform."

Even though Cosby has been around longer than most students' parents, his reputation and legendary comedic status still brings full crowds to see his shows.



CONTRIBUTED

This writer can be contacted at [lifestyle@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:lifestyle@theeastcarolinian.com).

Bill Cosby will bring his comedic talents in front of a sold out audience tonight in the Wright Auditorium at 8 p.m.

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## The state of ECU athletics

**Craig Barnes Jr.**  
SPORTS WRITER

Take a moment to think about the success of ECU athletics...

Didn't take long did it? That's because ECU has not been very successful in recent years. ECU athletics can be described in three words: not so good. Start with the football team, which has not won a conference title nor posted back-to-back winning seasons since the departure of Skip Holtz.

With Coach Ruffin McNeil entering his third year at the helm, it is imperative that the Pirates post a winning record and a bowl victory this year to even compare to the likes of UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State (who have both posted at least seven wins in each of their past three seasons). The football program here at ECU has played well at times, but never seems to sustain the success.

Teams like UNC-Chapel Hill, which has dominated ECU in the past, continue to perform year in and year out. Because the Pirates and the Tar Heels both recruit from similar geographical locations, ECU loses potential recruits to UNC because they have not been able to defeat them in recent years. The Tar Heels lead the series nine to two, with a blowout win last year, 31-17, adding to that record.

Prior to defeating N.C. State in October 2010, ECU had not been able to gain any grounds on the other in-state school either. ECU has traditionally played the Wolfpack with more success, only trailing in the series 16-10. Since 2007, ECU and N.C. State have a tradition of awarding the winning team with the "Victory Barrel," which denotes the year, final score and winner of each contest. ECU has only won once.

The football team is looking to rewrite recent history, however, with a 2-1 record heading into this weekend when they face off against UNC-Chapel Hill.

Another program that has been somewhat embarrassing in recent years is the volleyball team. Since 2009, the team has compiled an abysmal record of 14 wins with 83 defeats. The team has finished dead last in conference play since 2008. Even with her 426 career victories and success with other Division-I programs, Coach Pati Rolf has not been able to create a winning tradition for ECU.

The jury is out on the ECU volleyball team, and teams like UNC-Chapel Hill aren't helping the cause. The Tar Heels have made 12 NCAA appearances and have won 11 ACC crowns, compared to the Pirates program that only have two appearances in the tournament and haven't gotten a taste of the tournament since 2007. This year, the Lady Pirates are currently on a 10-game losing streak and are 1-11 on the season with their lone win against Bethune-Cookman.

There are two bright spots, however, for fall athletics. The women's soccer team and the women's golf team have had pretty successful seasons for the past several years. The women's soccer team was established in 1994 and they have an all-time record of 159-155. Last year the soccer team finished the season with an 11-8 record before losing in the second round of the Conference USA tournament. The soccer team this year has played in several big games and is currently 4-4 on the season.

The women's golf team has been consistent over the years and last year they showed their grit on the course compiling a team record of 102-48. The women on the golf team perform on the course as well as in the classroom with three All-American scholars on their roster.

ECU athletic programs have a lot of work to do if they ever think they will be competitive nationally like other programs in the state. The work begins on the gridiron this Saturday at Chapel Hill.

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

# Pirates to invade Kenan Stadium

**Ronnie Moore**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Heading into this in-state game between ECU and UNC-Chapel Hill, the tides are different than seasons past. The Pirates are gaining momentum with a 2-1 record and just took down the defending conference champions last weekend. For the Tar Heels, this season is already filled with controversy and possible trouble.

The Pirates recent win over Southern Miss. proved the defense has what it takes to make a big difference in the outcome of any game on the schedule this season. The only true question is, can the offense score enough to take some pressure off of the defense?

Both the Tar Heels and the Pirates started off slow in their recent games. ECU only managed to score a long field goal with no time remaining in the first half. The defense managed to jumpstart the Pirates and gave the offense ample opportunities to score in the second half. The 21-second half points were a relief as ECU carried a nice lead into the fourth quarter.

UNC struggled to score in the first half of their matchup against the No. 19 Louisville Cardinals. Finding the end zone only once, the Tar Heels saw the halftime score tilted against them as they trailed 36-7. As the saying goes, "Big leads are good for big comebacks," and that is exactly what the Tar Heels did as they put up 27 second-half points and narrowly lost to the Cardinals 39-34.

Bryn Renner, junior quarterback, is a possible candidate for multiple national awards this season. Finishing his sophomore year ranked 10th nationally in passing efficiency, Renner has his eyes on the Davey O'Brien and the Manning

awards for top quarterback performances.

The Tar Heels may be without their top running back, Giovanni Bernard, but it seems that his backups are providing the explosive possibilities that Coach Larry Fedora needs from his offense. Red-shirt freshman Romar Morris is lightning in a bottle, and he is coming off of his best collegiate game as he had five receptions for 149 yards and two touchdowns. Morris had the only score of the first half as he scored on a 44-yard pass from Renner. Morris pulled the Tar Heels within five points of Louisville after he had a catch and run of 50 yards late in the fourth quarter.

Renner was able to tally 363 passing yards against the stout Louisville team and he also threw five touchdowns and only turned the ball over one time. Renner is currently tied for fourth in the country this season with nine touchdown passes.

Shane Carden looks to build on his first career win as he leads the Pirate offense into Kenan Stadium. Carden has shown that he can buy time and make the necessary throws when needed. The big "if" for ECU is whether the running game will show up and help the offense put points on the board faster.

The pass defense will certainly be tested against Renner as last year's experienced Pirate secondary gave up 230 yards passing and four touchdowns. This year is a different story, the Pirates have a veteran secondary but many of them are first year starters. To add onto that, the pass defense is beat up, as Jacobi Jenkins and Leonard Paulk have shifted in and out of the lineup with nagging injuries. The Pirates will need red-shirt freshmen, Rocco Scarfone and Josh Hawkins, to step up once again as they

gave major contributions last weekend against Southern Miss.

The special team squad helps influence UNC's scoring and field position. The Tar Heels place kicker, Casey Barth, is one of the best kickers in the NCAA. Barth has recently surpassed his older brother, Connor, for the most field goals made in school history (55). Bernard is also a dangerous return man along with being a quality running back. Bernard is questionable this week against the Pirates, but he should at least see some action and return from his knee injury suffered in their win against Elon.

ECU needs to quickly find out who will take the reins on the starting job at running back. Michael Dobson has started as the running back and remains to be the front-runner, but Vintavious Cooper has proven over the last two games that he has a knack for getting extra yards. The senior transfer has led the team in rushing in two of the three games so far and when no one managed to get 10 yards, Cooper came in and put up 51.

The Pirates will need another clean game with zero turnovers to leave Chapel Hill with a victory. The linebackers for the Purple and Gold are some of the best in the conference and they will need to contain the speedsters for the Tar Heels. Overall this should be a good, hard fought game and the rivalry will grow another chapter.

Last year UNC left Dowdy-Ficklen with a 3-1 record and they left the Pirates licking their wounds at a 1-3 record. This season, the Pirates are looking to do the exact opposite.

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



Damon Magazu (11) and the Pirates head to Chapel Hill to take on in-state rival North Carolina. The Tar Heels (1-2) haven't won since their last home game.

## Lexi Miller: a player to watch



ECU's Redshirt freshman Lexi Miller (22) has scored two goals this season.

**Melanie Leach**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU Soccer player Lexi Miller has really hit her stride after a rough start to her career at ECU. Miller was forced to red shirt her freshman year due to an injury acquired the day before the first preseason training session.

Miller was playing a normal training game when she went into a routine tackle, the same thing she had done millions of times before, but that time something went wrong. Miller tore her Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) and was forced to sit out for over six months.

"As soon as it happened I knew what it was. I had done the same thing to my other knee in my freshman year of high school," Miller said. "Everyone else thought that I was fine, but I just knew."

She said that it was especially hard for her as she had been working up to playing college soccer for a large part of her life, and missing out on her freshman year just wasn't what she had planned. Miller was unable to train for many months until she had her knee brace and her knee had healed properly.

She said that this time was hard for her, not just physically but also mentally.

"It put a lot of things into perspective, it really was hard," said Miller. "You just have to keep going, if you want to play you're going to have to run, you're going to have to work. It was hard that I couldn't do anything until I healed. I wanted to push myself and I just couldn't. I had to wait for my brace and that wait was hard."

Now that her knees are back in working order, Lexi's confidence has returned and it is showing in her game. Miller has played in all eight games this season and has already scored two goals.

Coach Rob Donnenwirth said that it is clear that Miller has overcome her injury, and that she has developed into a fine athlete and has a bright future as a Pirate.

"Lexi is a tremendous athlete. She is a dominant force wherever she plays. She is tremendous in the air and a hard tackler," said Donnenwirth. "When you watch her, you just notice what a great athlete she is."

Throughout the season, Miller has been playing in different positions, some of which are very new to her.

"She was a back when she was in high school, but we have been trying her out in the mid[fiel]d and as a forward," Coach Donnenwirth said. "Her great ball winning skills and hard tackling is intimidating for the other team."

Miller has said that it is hard for her to adjust to these new positions because there are more tactics involved. However, just by watching her play it is clear that Miller is adjusting well to the positional changes. She has had a great start to the season with two goals and great

defense and attack in the mid field.

Despite her recent success, Miller is unsure of what her future as a Pirate will entail. As she red shirted her freshman year, Miller is considered a sophomore on the field despite being a junior in class. If Miller decided to do grad school, she would be able to continue playing ECU soccer for an extra year.

But as much as she loves playing for ECU, Miller is not sure that she will continue playing after graduation.

"I think I will just have to listen to my body because, you know, I still have all my life after college and I don't want to injure myself and not be able to live my life properly later on," said Miller.

Miller is currently studying biology and is planning to go to medical school once she finishes her biology degree. However, at the moment she is just trying to enjoy her time playing for ECU and not think too far into the future.

She loves being at ECU, and loves being a Pirate, but Miller sometimes wishes that Pirate fans would be more understanding and less critical.

"It is very hard to be a college athlete and people don't see the dedication. Like our football team is here, they have workouts in the morning, class all day, they have film, they have meetings and then they have training. I don't think people realize how mentally draining it is," said Miller. "It would be nice if people just tried to understand what it is like."

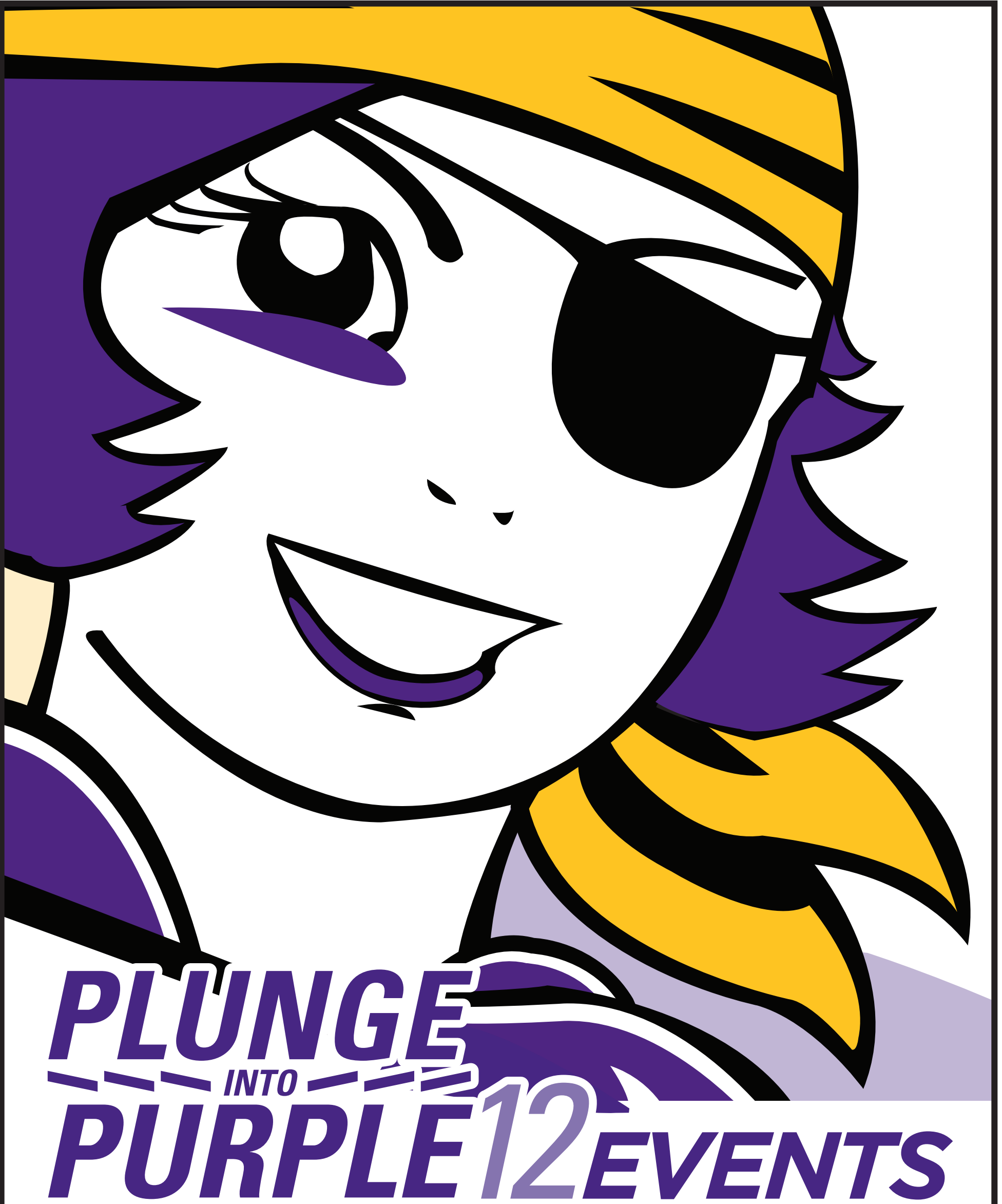
This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

## CALENDAR

"We have a lot of talent on this team and I got a glimpse of what we can do on the course."

-Coach Kevin Williams said about the fourth place finish for the women's golf team.

Thursday	Friday	Cont. Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Cont. Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	9/21/12	9/23/12	9/22/12	9/23/12		9/24/12	9/25/12
	Home	Away-Men's	Away- Football	Home Women's	Away	Away	Away
	Women's Soccer	Tennis	UNC-Chapel Hill	Soccer	Men's Tennis	Men's Golf	Men's Golf
	UTEP 7 p.m.	Elon Invitational	3:30 p.m.	Colorado College	Elon Invitational	VCU Shootout	VCU Shootout
	Away-Women's	All Day	Away	Noon	All Day	All Day	All Day
	Volleyball	Home-Cross	Men's Tennis	Away Women's			
	SMU	Country	Elon Invitational	Volleyball			
	8 p.m.	ECU Pirate	All Day	Tulsa			
		Invitational		2 p.m.			
		All Day					



- 09/20 12:00 - 1:00PM Food For Thought Brody 2W-50  
 09/20 3:00 - 5:00PM Connect at the Cupola The Mall  
 09/24 5:00 - 7:00PM Variety Showcase Destination 360  
 09/24 6:00PM Homecoming Student Organization Meeting #2  
 Great Rooms, Mendenhall Student Center (MSC)  
 09/24 6:00PM SAB DiversiFYI - Henna Tattoos MSC Social Room  
 09/25 - 27 Homecoming Court Voting Onestop  
 09/25 TBA Leadership Reading Circle Kickoff TBA  
 09/25 12:30 - 1:30PM Allied Health & Education Faculty Lunch  
 Croatan Green Room  
 09/25 8:00PM SAB Magician Michael Kent Hendrix Theatre, MSC  
 09/26 6:00PM Festival of Japanese Lanterns North Rec Complex  
 09/26 7:00PM SAB DiversiFYI: Dream Catchers/ Native American Speaker TBA  
 09/28 - 30 ECU Family Weekend  
 09/28 8:00PM Drive-in Movie Bottom of College Hill Parking Lot  
 10/01 5:00 - 7:00PM Jazz at Night Todd Dining Hall  
 10/02 8:00PM Big Booty Bingo Hendrix Theatre, MSC  
 10/03 12:00 - 12:50PM Tech & Computer Science, Arts & Sciences Faculty Lunch  
 Croatan Green Room  
 10/04 7:00 - 9:00PM Homecoming Cannon Ball Dance Greenville Conv. Center  
 10/05 - 09 Leadership Alternative Trip All Weekend TBD

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