



BRIEFS

Local National Guardsmen killed

Staff Reports

The bodies of three soldiers who were part of a unit based out of Winterville's National Guard were returned to the United States this week from Afghanistan.

Sgt. Jeremy F. Hardison from Maysville, Sgt. Donna R. Johnson from Raeford and Sgt. Thomas Butler from Wilmington were killed Monday in a suicide attack, WITN reported.

The bodies arrived at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware Tuesday night, where a ceremony was held.

The soldiers were a part of the 514th Military Police Company, which sent 130 soldiers to Afghanistan on Aug. 13 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

WITN reported that Hardison's Facebook profile said he attended N.C. State and White Oak High School in Jacksonville.

Sorority faces suit for wrongful death

Staff Reports

The mother of an ECU student who died in a car wreck two years ago filed a wrongful death suit Monday against a sorority at the university that she claimed was responsible for the incident.

Bernadette Carter claimed that weeks of hazing caused the driver, Kamil Shaunay Arrington, to fall asleep at the wheel while driving her daughter, Victoria T'nya-Ann Carter and their classmates to an early-morning sorority appointment, WRAL reports.

The wreck on Nov. 20, 2010 killed Victoria Carter and another student when the car they were riding in went off a road in Greenville and hit a tree.

The lawsuit filed in Nash County by Bernadette Carter alleged the Delta Sigma Theta sorority hazed the pledges in multiple ways, including depriving them of sleep.

The hazing violated the university's policies, but sorority officials dismissed any complaints university officials received, according to the suit.

The lawsuit by Carter also claims the sorority later tried to cover up the hazing by deleting emails, text message records and other documents and threatening pledges.

WRAL reports that the suit, which also names the national Delta Sigma Theta sorority and more than two-dozen members of the ECU chapter, is seeking unspecified compensatory and punitive damages.

Studies show danger of early tanning bed use

Staff Reports

Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco found the earlier people use tanning beds, the greater his or her risk becomes for developing skin cancer.

WNCT reported the studies date back to 1977 and found that people younger than 25 who used tanning salons had a significantly higher risk of developing non-melanoma skin cancer than someone who never tanned indoors.

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Jessica Richmond
STAFF WRITER

With the job market screeching to a halt for recent college graduates, the Career and Graduate Fair on October 11 at the Greenville Convention Center, may be more important than ever.

According to a Huffington Post article, about 1.5 million college graduates under 25 are without a job or underemployed, which amounts to 53.6 percent of college graduates under the age of 25.

"There are no jobs out there for psychology majors. My teachers will say in class that without a doctorate you're not going to get a job in this field. It's kind of scary out there right now," said Dawn Santacrose, a junior psychology major.

However, the career fair offers an opportunity for students to seek potential jobs despite job outlook, as a number of companies will be represented.

About 120 companies will be attending the fair from across the country including several graduate school programs. A complete list of employers attending can be found on CareerNet at myinterfase.com/ecu along with a list of what positions or internships each company is hiring.

"In what other setting are you going to be able to meet with this many companies?" said Karen Thompson, director of the Career Center. "This is an amazing opportunity for students whether they're a freshman who doesn't know what they want to major in yet to a senior who is about to graduate and doesn't know whether they want to go to grad school or go out into the professional world yet. It's all about the initiative of the student and what they want to take away from the experience."

The career fair will hold opportunities for all majors except education, which will have a separate fair in the spring. Each employer will have a booth with recruiters that will look at resumes and explain opportunities at their company including internships for both graduates and non-seniors.

"There are three things that students need to prepare for when finding a job: Number one, do an internship before you graduate. Fifty-five percent of students nationwide have had an internship by the time they've graduated. Number

> CAREER page A2

Homecoming prep underway



The university has planned over \$30,000 in events for this year's circus themed Homecoming starting after fall break.

Kristina Janay Brickey
STAFF WRITER

Starting Wednesday, campus will be taken over by the annual, and almost weeklong, festivities of Homecoming.

Within a year, the Homecoming Committee has come up with a theme, planned for the week-of

competitions, collaborated with Uptown Greenville, and used different marketing strategies in preparation for this year's events.

Since January, the Homecoming Committee has been preparing to bring spirit and unity to ECU students and faculty members with \$30,000 worth of homecoming events.

Once the Athletics department released the football schedule, the Homecoming Committee based their activities around the designated homecoming game.

From there, finding judges for the week's organizational competitions, setting up rules and regula-

> HOMECOMING page A2

Grace period nixed for student loans

Emily Gardiner
STAFF WRITER

The amount of financial aid given out to college students each year is going down, making students take out loans to help cover the cost of tuition. For most students, a college education is more of an investment than loans are. His or her degree could be more of a financial burden than an investment though. According to US News, during the 2011-2012 academic year, 34 percent of 18-24 year olds that were surveyed took out a federal loan. Also, The Huffington Post reported the average student graduates with around \$22,000 to \$27,000 in debt.

Earlier this year, there was a debate concerning the interest rates, deferment and the grace period for loans. On July 1, the changes agreed upon took affect.

As reported by the US News, the government was going to double the interest rate for subsidized Stafford loans from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. Any of the loans that were going to be taken out this school year would have this interest rate, but the government made a last minute decision to keep the interest rate the same.

While the 3.4 percent interest rate for subsidized Stafford loans

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INSIDE

OPINION

Have you ever looked in the mirror and wanted to change something? See J.L.'s opinion on what to do when you feel that way. **A3**

LIFESTYLES

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SPORTS

Turn to Sports to see the preview for tonight's football match up vs. UCF. **A6**

WEATHER

77°F / 57°F

Scattered Thunderstorms



GRAPHICS FROM ENTHROPIA.COM

ONLINE



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

HOMECOMING continued from A1



MICHAEL LANGSTON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Homecoming sunglasses were given out this summer as part of new student orientation sessions.

tions, and registering most of the 350-plus campus organizations are all duties the Homecoming Committee must take care of.

However, no one organization or committee is fully responsible for the preparation of Homecoming.

"There is a huge kind of check process in place," said Emily McLamb, advisor of the Homecoming Committee.

McLamb added that the Steering Committee confirms or denies the event ideas presented by the Homecoming Committee. Once the Student Government Association signs off on as well, the committee begins working on the entire breakdown of homecoming.

The committee began by providing three theme options for a campus-wide vote at the end of last semester, which ended in "The Greatest Place on Earth" being chosen. This year, Homecoming week will take place a little earlier than in previous years. Last year, Homecoming was held around Halloween, while the year before took place in November.

Two big events will highlight the week's festivities, beginning the Student Activities Board's Homecoming Concert, featuring Meek Mills and Wale, on Thursday at 7pm in Minges Coliseum. The National Panhellenic Council's Step Show will be held the following night at 8pm in Wright Auditorium.

Even if all 350 registered organizations do not participate in the Homecoming events, they typically participate in the parade, which is held Saturday morning, the day of Homecoming football game. The parade's floats will



MICHAEL LANGSTON | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This year's events are occurring nearly a month earlier than usual.

advance down Fifth Street beginning at 10 a.m.

The parade and the Cannonball Dance are the two biggest pieces of the week that take the most preparations. The formal ball will feature live music and the introductions of the homecoming court, voted on by the student body last week. The Cannonball Dance will take place tonight at the Greenville Convention Center at 7 p.m.

The last preparations made by the Homecoming Committee includes making sure the Cannon Ball Dance decorations are finalized, reminding the homecoming partakers of important information and reaching out to the judges to make sure that everything is in place. McLamb said they try to

inform more students each year about what is taking place during homecoming week.

"I think that we hear a lot of 'Well, I don't know what is happening this week,' so I know that's what this committee is really trying to do more of this year," she said.

McLamb added that the committee will base their achievements for this year's Homecoming by comparing numbers them to last year's student turn out.

"A lot of it is referencing back to how the previous years have gone and how this particular year has gone, and just seeing what things can be improved," she said.

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

CAREER FAIR continued from A1

two; be very well rounded with your extra-curricular activities especially in ones that display leadership. Lastly and maybe most importantly, be willing to move to the job," said Thompson. "So many students come in here expecting miracles to happen, you can't say 'I want to be a film director but I don't want to leave Pitt County,' it's not going to happen. Students need to realize that finding a job will probably include relocation."

Finding a job may also depend on what major a

student chooses while in college. According to Forbes magazine, a student's major is far more important than what school they graduated from. In a study with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Forbes magazine found that those who major in engineering make up over one third of the most valuable majors, while those who major in fine arts, literature and psychology lead the charts for unemployment out of college.

"I know what I want to do, I want to be in stage management. The economy worries

me somewhat, but it's always risky in theater, I knew what I was getting myself into. I'm not as worried about the job atmosphere as some people because it's always looked like that for me," said freshman theater major Nicole Adkins.

In addition to the general career fair, a health career fair will be held tomorrow at the Greenville Convention Center for those who want to look exclusively at health systems employers.

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

LOANS continued from A1

stayed the same, subsidized Stafford loans taken out this academic year and the next will not have a six-month interest rate free grace period like loans taken out before this academic year will have. This will temporarily remain in effect until July 1, 2014.

With many students in debt after taking out student loans, the government and companies grant an interest-free six-month grace period after graduation. But once that grace period is over, the student must pay back the debt unless they get a deferment -- a postponement of paying a loan.

However, some students are still in a substantial amount of debt that may set them back financially because they need to pay back their loans. In a New York Times article titled "Student Loans Weighing Down a Generation With Debt," it talks about the effects of student loans on college students. In order

to save or earn money to make loan payments, college students take up multiple jobs or take the first job offered to them, which may not even be a job related to what they majored in.

There are three types of federal student loans: Stafford, Perkins and Parent Plus. Stafford loans need-base loans with a 3.4 percent interest rate. They are issued to low-income students. Unsubsidized Stafford loans mean the student is responsible for paying the interest on the loan. Subsidized Stafford loans mean the government will pay the interest. Both are long-term loans.

Perkins loans are awarded to students who are in extreme financial need and have low interest. Interest does not accumulate until nine months after the student's graduation. Parent Plus loans are awarded to parents whose children attend college.

Many students at the university have taken out loans to help pay for their college education. To two students, loans do not seem to be a burden yet. They hope to be able to pay them off without too much stress.

Caroline Price, a freshman biology major, had a relatively optimistic outlook on loans. "They've helped in paying for college," she said. "By the time I graduate, hopefully I'll have a job to help pay them off."

Shawna O'Rorke, a junior public health major, had a very similar attitude toward loans.

"They've helped," said O'Rorke. "I was able to take out what I needed and deny a loan. I would like to avoid taking out another loan. I hope I'll be able to pay them back once I graduate."

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

BRIEFS CONT.

Teen drinking and driving trends down

Staff Reports

According to a Centers for Disease Control report, fewer ten are drinking and driving now than they were 20 years ago.

Just 10-percent of high school students over the age of 16 admit to drinking last year, reported WNCT.

In 1991, 22-percent of high school students stated

they had driven under the influence before.

Police charge state employee in scam

Staff Reports

A state employee from Greenville is accused of helping a foreign scam that asks victims to cash worthless money orders.

Mary Ellen Williams is being held on \$1 million bond on 18 counts of forgery, reported WITN.

Williams is a personal assistant at the Eastern Regional Office for the Department of Correction.

Williams got into the scam over the Internet and would mail fake money orders telling victims to cash them, keeping a portion for their trouble. She would then send the rest to a man in Africa.

Victims were forced to repay the entire amount of their money orders.

Officials say Williams was compensated during her involvement. Investigators say more charges are possible.

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NFL SUNDAY
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COLLEGE GAME DAY SATURDAY
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BUFFALO WILD WINGS

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TWENTY TWELVE

East Carolina University.

SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27
 Homecoming Court Voting via Onestop

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4
 Cannon Ball Dance • 7:00 PM,
 Greenville Convention Center

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10
 Banner Competition • Drop-Off 8-11:30 AM,
 Judging at Noon, MSC Brickyard
 Skit Night • 9:00 PM, Wright Auditorium

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11
 Canned Food Drive • 12:00 PM, Food Bank
 Lawn Competition • 2:00 PM
 SAB Homecoming Concert • 7:00 PM,
 Minges Coliseum

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12
 Freeboot Friday Homecoming Pep Rally •
 5:00 - 8:00 PM, Corner of 5th St and Evans
 NPHC Step Show • 6:30 PM,
 Wright Auditorium

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
ECU vs. Memphis Tigers
 4:30pm • Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium

 Homecoming Parade • 10:00 AM • 5th Street

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 theeastcarolinian.com to submit a Rant of your own.

Pirate rants are like free therapy.

To the guy I splashed driving through a puddle at the Province on Tuesday, I'm so sorry and I owe you a drink, and a maybe a new pair of shoes.

I don't know why everyone keeps saying they're trying to bring sexy back when I'm right here. I never even left.

THE LIMIT DOES NOT EXIST!

Wearing a dress with elephants on it will not make you look smaller.

I feel like if my Spanish professor can't speak English, she shouldn't expect me to be able to speak Spanish.

This semester has been boring. There should be a Freshman vs. Senior "Water Balloon Rumble" at the Cupola this Sunday @ 2:00 p.m. to decide who gets control of the nice Joyner student study rooms.

Am I the only one who is afraid the one day they miss a pirate rant there will be one about them?

Oh you're friends with almost every ECU anon account? That's cute. Now go get a life and make some real friends.

Wish professors would understand our attention span come with a 50-minute maximum.

Is anybody else kind of hoping for another period of so much rainfall that we miss school again?

I am a total fool for girls in sundresses. Can we designate an official day for that?

Shun the non-believer!

Yes, I attempted to do a speech on corn hole in my comm. class. I know I sounded like a hick, but at least I'm a true Pirate. Now get me a beer.

As Pirates, it is our duty to party the weekend before, night of and weekend after Halloween!

To all the leggings haters ... I think my butt looks FANTASTIC in them. I like to think I am showing off my hard work. Hate on that.

TEC should add a "Submit Pirate Rants" section to the ECU Mobile app.

Keep On and Pirate On.

Wings Over Greenville, I love you.

There should TOTALLY be a playground somewhere on campus where students can relieve stress in-between classes.

The only reason I read the paper is for Pirate Rants! Because it lets me know that I'm not the only crazy b***h on campus.

You've only dated him a month, and you're already ready to move across country to follow him ... you are setting yourself up for success.

Just the way you are



J.L. Summers
OPINION COLUMNIST

Let me first start by saying, if I hear one more perfectly healthy person complain about being fat, skinny, or complaining about some none existing deformity, I may lose my temper. ECU has to be the most self-loathing campus I have ever walked across. It is a place where men workout and primp more than women, and women do not think they are good enough for the biggest of losers. Sometimes it motivates others to get out and better themselves, but mostly it impedes the progression of being yourself. All of this stems from this underlying hate of their bodies. Personally, I think it is all about being healthy, not letting others dictate how you feel, and focusing on the good things about yourself.

Society has convinced the masses that beautiful people should have perfect skin, straight teeth, flat stomachs, and long hair. In a perfect world, all of this would be true, and everyone would essentially fall in love with himself or herself because there would be no variety. Yet, the world is not full of these so-called "perfect people." we all have different shapes and imperfections, but in my opinion, it is the imperfections that make us attractive.

Essentially, what do all of these "perfect" characteristics matter if we are not healthy? I do not know how many times I have heard a female friend complain that she has cellulite or big thighs and they work out every day. When the truth is, people store fat in different parts of their bodies. You can punish those certain parts of your body until you are exhausted and burnt-out, but those places may just be wear fat resides.

There are numerous people out there who are tiny but cannot do a pushup, run a mile and have high blood pressure. Yet, if you have some fat, work out regularly and eat right, that is all that truly matters.

Having body image problems usually comes from really caring what others think about you. Humans are naturally predisposed

to want to be accepted, and so we try to conform to what pop culture deems acceptable. The whole while, we are stifling our happier inner selves, and we trudge through life hating ourselves and others cause the real us is struggling.

Therefore, revel in your little imperfections and make them your strengths. For example, I will never have a flat stomach, but I guarantee you that you will not see me bailing on a tailgate early. I take that imperfection as a way to party a little bit harder, and motivation to say in the gym a little longer. If we continue to define ourselves by other people's standards, then we can never know who we really are.

Above all else, focus on the good things about yourself. The reason people point out those small miniscule imperfections sometimes is because they are jealous of something else. Whether it is your hair, height, teeth, or even the way you dress, they are pointing out those little things because they are envious.

I do not how many times I am called "Big Mike" or "Shaq." Even though it annoys me to no end, I take it with a grain of salt and just realize people wish they could be this tall and imposing. When people call you short, simply think of it as being fun sized, and you have more legroom when you fly. In this day and time, you have to be your biggest supporter, because those "haters" truly hate themselves, and to ease the pain they have to poke fun at others.

Just know that those strengths are your armor, and when you put



LISA TREADWAY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

work into them it is just that much easier to tune out those that doubt you and try to hold you back.

Andy Bloom once stated, "You are imperfect, permanently and inevitably flawed. And you are beautiful." That quote should sum up how humanity should view themselves. I could preach until I am blue in the face, but until you accept those imperfections and realize they are a part of you is only

when you will be happy. We are all different, and those differences are what make people take the time to get to know you. Therefore, look in the mirror and revel in that crazy hairstyle, weird grin, or that pooch you have near your waist and smile. For when you learn to love yourself, then others can love you as well.

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

Attendance: an option not a mandate



Micah Lockhart
OPINION EDITOR

What is the purpose of an attendance policy at the university level? After years of teachers incessantly cramming my mind with the idea that being present for each class is vital to my academic journey, I eventually assumed it was true. After examining the issue from a fiscal, intellectual and pragmatic standpoint, I now realize the inaccuracy of that statement.

First, when looking at the issue from a fiscal standpoint, the idea of consumerism must be taken into account. Consumerism is simply the rights and protection of the customer and, at the end of the day, knowledge and the classroom that presents that knowledge, is a product. We, as the students, are the

"consumers" of education and as the consumer; we should be afforded the same rights and responsibilities of anyone else in this country.

If a student at a local gym misses his/her Zumba class, then that individual is not penalized for not attending the class. The student would simply miss the instruction planned for that day and ultimately pay for a service of which he or she did not take advantage. This is contrary to the current university system of reducing a student's grade after a certain number of absences. If a teacher is properly doing his/ her job, then a student's grade will reflect their lack of attendance. Clearly the issue isn't a student's lack of appearance, but an instructor's fear of the administration becoming aware of their ineffectiveness as an educator.

Intellectually, the idea that attendance directly reflects final grades is a valid concept, but why are instructors enforcing attendance

as a mandate? Students at the university level are given the right to smoke, drive, vote and drink. If we can be trusted with voting for public officials that determine the direction of this nation, why is our competency brought to question when deciding whether or not it is beneficial to attend class?

Lastly, when viewing the issue pragmatically, there have been multiple studies on educational styles and the benefits of teaching to multiple students with various teaching techniques. It is ridiculous to assume that all students benefit from the face-to-face interaction that a classroom environment provides. For example, I am a kinesthetic learner. Therefore, the typical classroom involving quiet thumb twiddling and the regurgitation of slides that can clearly be read by the literate portion of the class, does not benefit me.

In the end, I do not want to bash

any professor or their technique of instruction. I understand their position and I want to be an educator in the future. That being said, this is an issue easily resolved. Do not diminish a student's grade for their absences. Instead, offer a reward policy for those who do attend class regularly. The core of education is to inspire students to pursue education beyond the classroom. Strict regulations and unnecessary mandates will not drive students to come to class. Instead, education will be viewed as a chore and not as the fountain of opportunity that it is.

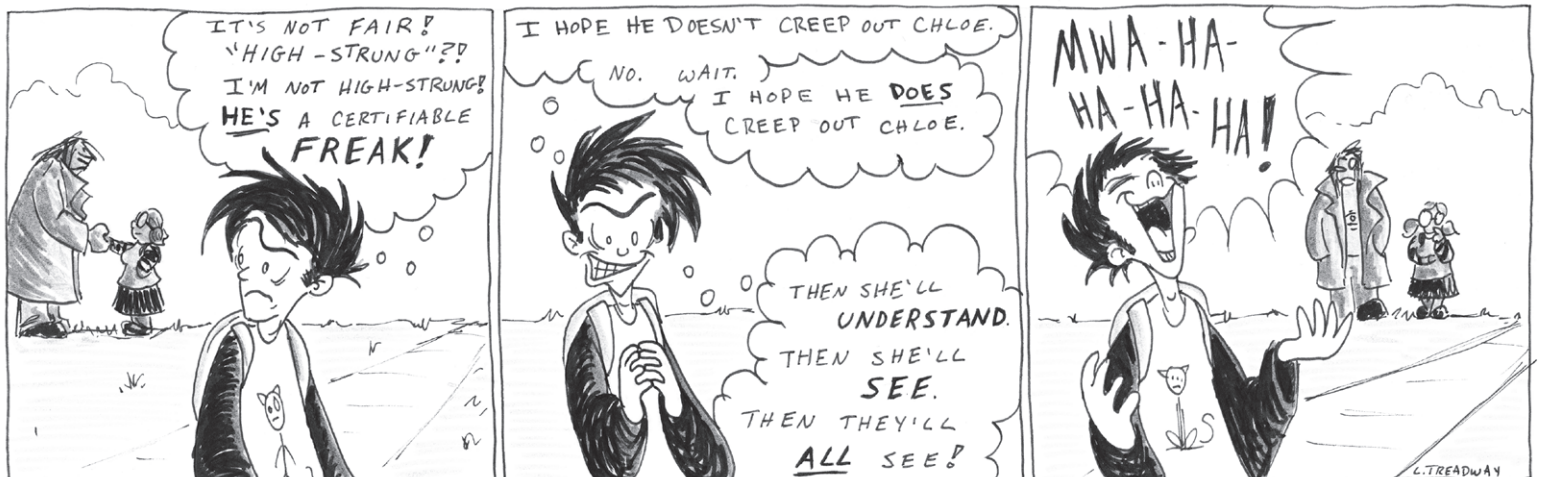
Ultimately, students who are competent and seeking a higher education should be given the responsibility to determine for themselves whether or not the classroom is the best environment for them to learn.

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

Comic

Roomhates

LISA TREADWAY



POLL QUESTION

Should ROTC students be allowed to express their political opinions?

Yes: 65%

No: 35%

Cast your vote at theeastcarolinian.com.

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FASHION

Lindy Maddox
FASHION COLUMNIST



Leaves are subtly transitioning from grass greens to golden yellows. The mornings are cooler and the nights are crisp. The atmosphere that was recently hyped up about summer weather and pool parties has transformed into a palpable excitement for the continuation of football season, the beginning of fall break and the anticipation of Halloween. When the weather changes from sweltering heat to inviting breeze, the styles that we come to know and eventually yearn to abandon finally fall to the wayside without regret.

Many ladies try to jump on the autumn ensemble bandwagon way too soon. It's as if a temperature of above 80 degrees doesn't phase the girls who are completely gun-ho about dressing in scarves, sweaters, boots and hats right when school begins.

I know that the eagerness of fall clothing is exciting, but the wardrobe transformation needs to be simple and subtle. You don't see Starbucks thrusting Pumpkin Spice Lattes in your face on the first day of school do you? No, so don't do that with your clothes! This famous coffee brand delicately advertises, increases excitement for the frothy goodness, and then breaks out the tasty treat at just the right moment ... and that's exactly how your autumn style should debut itself. Slow and steady wins the race, fashionistas.

Today I am going to share the styles that will convert your wardrobe from summer to fall and keep you on top of the trend game. Add in pattern on top of pattern, throw on a peplum skirt or top, step into some leather and bust out the brocade. The trends taking over autumn are cool, cozy and ideal for days on campus.

The first look that is running rampant for fall 2012 is leather. And no, it doesn't have to be the "real thing" for all you animal activist. Pleather will do just fine. Liquid leggings, fierce bomber jackets in colors like rust red and muddy brown, messenger bags, biker boots, sleeveless peplum tops ... you name the piece and you can find it in leather! The fun thing about leather and pleather is that it comes in neutral hues that let you be creative with your pairing. Combine leather leggings with a baggy sweater and flats and you're ready to head to class.

Secondly, another trend that is taking over for fall is brocade style. What is brocade, you ask? Well let me tell you! Brocade is a fabric made of glittering silvers and shining silks. It may sound average to some, but it's linked to gold threads, triumphant artistic designs and grandeur detail that makes this seasons style shine. Combine blacks and whites with shimmering satins composed of gold and metallic threads into ensembles that need to pump up the volume. You can wear brocade fashion with bright colored pants, sleek dresses or casual boyfriend denim. No matter what you pair it with, the leather look is in.

Lastly, my all-time favorite fad for fall is shape. Whether you are keeping the lines curvy and rounded in a luscious long sleeve peplum top or straight and direct in out-of-this-world outerwear, your shape can determine how accomplished your look truly is. Outerwear that flows away from the body is taking over the catwalk. This fall, silhouette let's you feel cozy and comfortable underneath without being self-conscious. If you're a Pirate who wants to flaunt your curves, try a peplum top or skirt. This adorable purchase will accentuate your tiny waist and show off your feminine

> FASHION page A5



RYAN HARPER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Eric Alva, Staff Sergeant for the U.S. Marine Corps, was on campus last night to speak about the aftermath of the end of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," policy.

Rex Rose
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Eric Alva was a Staff Sergeant for the U.S. Marine Corps and in 2003 he stepped on a land mine that injured him so badly he had to get his leg amputated. Three years and a Purple Heart later, Alva publicly announced that he was gay and began to speak around the country about repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." In September 2010, he saw his work pay off as he stood behind President Obama when he signed the legislation that repealed the act. Alva visited campus yesterday and in between presentations he sat down with TEC.

Q: After losing your leg in Iraq in 2003 you became the first injured marine of the war. What was that time like in your life when you returned home, and how did it feel to be recognized as a war hero?

A: It was overwhelming because people were always paying me all this homage. People were always thanking me for my service and people were even giving me money. There were always people doing things for me, and so it was overwhelming the attention I got for even coming home.

Q: What were some of the main things that you did to help repeal, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell?"

A: I travelled the country of course doing the public speaking, but then also I testified on I think it was July 24th in 2008 at the House Arms Services Committee. I testified in telling my experiences and my story. And then I also would have meetings with certain members of Congress and things like that and even senators and we would do these communication discussions on why we need to do this and what it would do to benefit the country.

Q: What year did you decide to publicly come out about your sexuality?

A: It was in 2006. October of 2006 when I contacted the Human Rights Campaign and told them I wanted to tell my story.

Q: What made you choose a career in the military and then specifically the marines?

A: My dad was in Vietnam. He got drafted out of high school and my grandfather was drafted as well. He served in World War II and then he stayed and made it a career, 27 years, and he served in Korea as well. My dad serving in the military had a factor too, even when I was growing up I always said I wanted to be in the military.

Q: How did your position as a war hero and recipient of a Purple Heart benefit your work when you decided to become a gay rights activist?

A: One word that comes to mind is respect. Going back in history when we had Vietnam nobody respected the men or even women. Nobody respected the men who came home from Vietnam. So I think when people find out I was gay, you know, with change in history and time, people accepted me. Because of my injury and what I have sacrificed and serving 13 years in the United States Marine Corps people were very, very respectful to that. And then, I think even the ones who have this hesitation of accepting me for being gay I think I have opened some hearts and minds.

This writer can be contacted at
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Riding to remember

Amanda Cooper
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, Oct. 6, bikers from all across North Carolina will come together, put on their pink and ride 100 miles to celebrate, honor and remember those who have been affected by breast cancer.

The 6th Annual Ride for the Cure will kickoff Breast Cancer Awareness Month by revving up Harleys and raising awareness at a local level about the importance of early detection screening.

Eastern Radiologists, Inc. is sponsoring the event and everything will be held at their location in Greenville at 2101 W. Arlington Blvd.

The ride will begin with a moment of silence before the bikers pull out at 10 a.m. Registration cost is \$25 (including a free t-shirt) and will start at 8:30 a.m. The ride has three stops in Washington, Ayden and Kinston. At these stops, bikers will be provided with refreshments from Bill's famous hot dogs as well as Buffalo Wild Wings.

At the stop in Kinston, Eastern Radiologists will be offering free mammograms to those who fall under a certain age range and don't have insurance.

For the first time, Ride for the Cure will also feature a car and bike show on Saturday from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and costs \$15. Awards for the show will be given at 2:30 p.m. when the bikers return.

Tanya Dixon and Jenny Myers, the two-man tag team from Eastern Radiologists, Inc., who are organizing the event, hope the car show will bring more faces from the community. "It's nice



CONTRIBUTED

Motorcycle riders from all around will participate in the 6th annual Ride for the Cure event in North Carolina Saturday.

to have the support from spectators that come out to see the bikers that are involved because I think it makes them feel good about participating," Myers said. "They are paying to be here."

Aside from the ride and car show, there will be vendors, food and raffles throughout the day.

The Shake Doctors, a local band from New Bern, will also be performing at the event from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m.

Super Shred will be on location as well, providing their document shredding, free of charge with an exception of 10 boxes.

Myers said one of the things they do in addition to everything else is to make sure they recognize the survivors that are there. "We try to give them a little special gift to let them know they're the reason we're doing this," Myers said.

Last year, 125 bikers, both men and women, rode in the event. Dixon said it can be a very emotional experience to watch all the bikes pulling out. "You see survivors lined up watching. You see survivors riding and seeing them all together for this one cause," Dixon said. "It's really touching."

All of the net proceeds from the ride are donated to organizations in Eastern North Carolina to raise awareness and help support women in need, whether that be buying a new wig or paying for mammograms.

Dixon said a woman from last year got a mammogram because of the event and found out she had breast cancer. "That's powerful," Dixon said. "If you have one person that realizes they've got to have a mammogram from it, then you've done your job."

In 2011, Ride for the Cure donated over \$12,000 to the cause. The team said their goal for this year was to do just a little better.

"That's success when you beat your goal from last year," Dixon said. "And we've done that already."

Myers said they received a lot of support from community businesses, both monetary and with their donations for door prizes, raffles and food. "As long as it continues to grow, Eastern Radiologists, Inc. will support it," Myers said.

Dixon and Myers welcome everyone to come out and celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month and honor the survivors and those who have lost the battle.

This writer can be contacted at
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Local fair proves worthy



MEREDITH BAKER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Throughout the week, Pitt County community members can meet at the local fairgrounds to eat, play and enjoy the annual fair's atmosphere. Admission for the county fair varies depending on the day.

Amanda Cooper
STAFF WRITER

Fall is here and that can mean a lot of different things to different people. Maybe it means pumpkin spice lattes, changing leaves, or leggings season. But to me it means time to hit the fair.

Going to the State Fair in Raleigh is a must, but in all the four years I've lived in Greenville, I have never been to the Pitt County Fair. Now graduation is approaching and the realization that it is my last October here told me I had to go.

After hitting up the ATM, (which you absolutely have to do because all they take is cash) my friends and I headed down Greenville Blvd to the Pitt County Fairgrounds. Already thinking about what I'm going to eat when I'm there, I see the lights and start grinning.

The ticket to get in was \$5. Not bad, but how they get you is with the ride tickets, which cost a dollar per ticket--the good rides are four or five tickets. They do have a wristband you can buy for \$20 a night. Getting the wristband is definitely the best deal because you can ride as many times as you want.

For the opening night (Monday), there weren't a lot of people there, which was nice because it meant no lines. And after checking out the rides, I decided to stick with the golden rule of rides first, food after.

The fairground is the perfect size for a fair such as Pitt County's. I was surprised by the

amount of good rides they had: The Zipper, Zero Gravity and the Ring of Fire. And for the queasy type, they have a nice, not-so-sketchy Ferris wheel. All of the rides, actually, weren't sketchy at all. I didn't hear any strange noises to make me go all "Final Destination" on everyone.

One of the rides, the G-Force, may be a different story. It is three tickets along with the wristband and it's definitely the tallest ride there. If you're looking for thrill, you've got to check it out. But I had to pass because my friends were getting nauseous and I had to save my money for my favorite part--the food.

Indecisive and hungry, I walk in circles trying to figure out what to get. Fried Twinkies, fried pickles, chicken on a stick, corn on a stick, funnel cakes; they even have those Krispy Kreme burgers with the donut as the bun. And then I saw it, "GIANT TURKEY LEGS!" I had to get it. They looked amazing and tasted just as awesome as it sounded. I got quite a few looks while I was devouring it, but it was definitely worth the \$7.

I also got a chocolate covered, frozen banana that was perfect because they dipped it to order. I also got a candy apple for later, both for \$3.

I did check out the Fair's Got Talent while I was there. It wasn't very entertaining, however, and my friends and I soon lost interest.

But they didn't have anything on the one-man band that was playing before I left. He played one of the best versions of "No Woman, No Cry" I have ever heard; and he did it by playing with a drum on his back.

And what's a fair without farm animals? It may just be me, but it's one of my favorite parts. Some animals were friendlier than others, and the goats didn't look too happy to be there. It didn't smell bad like those exhibits normally do, and they did have some very entertaining animals.

My experience overall was good. I was satisfied with the rides as well as the food. The prices could have been cheaper, but that's typical coming from a college student.

But one thing that did bother me were the employees working at the games, like the ring toss and the balloon busts. They were annoying because there weren't that many people there, so whenever you got anywhere close to them, they would heckle you tremendously about playing. It got old fast and I wasn't going to waste my precious food money to win any stuffed animals, that's for sure.

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

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FASHION continued from A4



TORRE GRILLS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As the season starts to change from summer to fall, leather and brocate styles are the in fashion.

curves. Trying new fall trends, or trends for any season, should always be a must. Why not branch out? Why not embrace your younger years when you look

your best? Staying up-to-date with styles can improve your self-image and your self-confidence, and all of these tips are fun, flirty and fashionable ways to boost

your fall wardrobe. So let's see you flaunt it Pirates, our campus is your runway.

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Pirates on the road again

Frida Gustafsson Spang wins Conference USA co-golfer of the week

Staff Reports

ECU women's golfer Frida Gustafsson Spang was named Conference USA co-golfer of the week. Spang won the 2012 UNC-Greensboro Starmount Forest Tournament last weekend.

Spang won the individual portion with a school record seven under par 206 and the No.20 ECU team finished third for the weekend. She is the ninth Pirate to receive the award and she did so in only her second event. She led the tournament wire-to-wire carding a first round score of a four-under 66. The Lady Pirates are back in action Monday, Oct. 8.

ECU's Thompson continues to win awards

Staff Reports

Chip Thompson was in the news this week as he was awarded with Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week. It was announced this week that he also received the Football Writers Association of America/Bronco Nagurski National Defensive Player of the Week.

Thompson, ECU's safety on the football team, will be added to the list of players nominated for the award. The five finalists will be announced on Nov. 15 and the award will be presented Dec. 3. Thompson had two crucial interceptions in the fourth quarter of Saturday's game against UTEP. He also contributed with eight tackles.

Pirate Basketball practice begins

Staff Reports

The women and men's basketball teams have begun practice for their 2012-13 season. The Lady Pirates have 11 returning players and six newcomers for this year. Coach Heather Macy and her staff began practice Monday afternoon in Minges Coliseum. The team has four returning seniors with Britny Edwards, Whitney Edwards, Shala Hodges and Celeste Stewart.

The men's team has begun practice as well. The men's team has five seniors on the roster with Miguel Paul, Maurice Kemp, Corvonn Gaines, Shamarr Bowden and Erin Straughn.



Vintavious Cooper (21) is coming off of his best performance yet as a Pirate. Cooper rushed for 151 yards and a TD on 23 carries in ECU's victory over UTEP.

Ronnie Moore

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Pirates finished off the UTEP Miners in Dowdy-Ficklen less than a week ago and now, they are already back in action. ECU is headed down to the sunshine state to face the University of Central Florida Knights.

UCF is going to be a challenge for the Pirates as they have proven, with a harsh non-conference schedule, that they are tough enough. Head Coach George O'Leary has made some changes in the Knights lineup since the Pirates faced them last season.

Jeff Godfrey is no longer the quarterback since he has been moved to wide receiver. The coaching staff has given the keys to the offense to red shirt sophomore Blake Bortles.

The Knights defense has been matched up against quarterbacks like Braxton Miller, from the No.14 Ohio State Buckeyes, and James Franklin, from the Missouri Tigers. The defense has given up an average of 205.5 passing yards per game, which ranks 39th in the country. Their rush defense has given up 141.5 yards per game, placing them 52nd in the nation.

The Pirates found another aspect of their offense Saturday night. Former junior college quarterback, Vintavious Cooper, has turned into an outstand-

ing running back for the Pirates.

Cooper arrived on campus shortly before the opening game against Appalachian State. Cooper has impacted the offense and is the leading rusher for the Pirates. He separated himself Saturday night, as he put up 203 total yards against UTEP in a rain-riddled game. Only five games into his collegiate career, not many teams have film on this new player in the Pirate offense.

"They may strategize this week, if you have a big game then its routine for them to look at who had a big contribution," said Cooper. "At the same time, we still have to play Pirate football and execute our offense."

Cooper is ranked 81st in college football in rushing yards, even while only running the ball three times in the opening week.

The sure handed Justin Hardy also flourished against UTEP and is expected to be the leading receiver week in and week out. His 11 catches last week were more than the entire Miners team, and he is a touchdown magnet. With four touchdowns in his last five games and 10 out of his 15 career games, it's no doubt that Hardy is working his way up NCAA ranks.

> ROAD page A7

ECU swimming and diving overcome rough waters

Josh Graham

STAFF WRITER

When you walk through the front doors of the Minges Natatorium, the first thing that may catch your eye is all of the championship banners that are lined up across the facility's back wall. Despite any success, it seems that with the exception of the Olympics every four years, many neglect swimming and diving simply because the media doesn't see it as one of its premier "sexy" sports. That can make it very easy to overlook what this program has done.

The program's 10 team conference championships and 145 individual conference championships speak for themselves. Something

else that could have been easily overlooked was that this year's team was unable to swim in their facility up until last Friday's Purple-Gold intrasquad meet.

A week before fall classes began Head Coach Rick Kobe and his Swimming and Diving Pirates noticed something was not right with their pool. "Anybody could have seen it," said Kobe. "It didn't take a genius to figure out we had an issue."

The problem was originally an old broken filter that women's senior captain Anna-Holland Lawrence said, "made the air quality in the pool very bad" and "was hard to breathe sometimes." The antique filter, which had been originally

taken from Christenbury Gym, was replaced earlier this year with a brand new high-quality filtration system.

When the pool was re-filled and the new filtration system started up, the rate of water was much faster than the previous filter, subsequently cracking the drainage pipes below the pool and leaving the Swimming and Diving Pirates without a place to train. This caused the swimmers to split up and train for their upcoming season at Brook Valley Country Club and the ECU Recreation Center while the divers went to N.C. State, which at times was tough on both squads.

> SWIMMING page A7

Purple-Gold World Series kicks off game one

Patrick Meine

SPORTS WRITER

The Purple-Gold World Series got off to an exciting start Tuesday night in Clark LeClair Stadium as the two teams combined for a total of 19 hits in a seven inning inter-squad game. The Purple team took a one run lead in the first inning that extended to five runs in the third and never looked back as they won the contest 6-2.

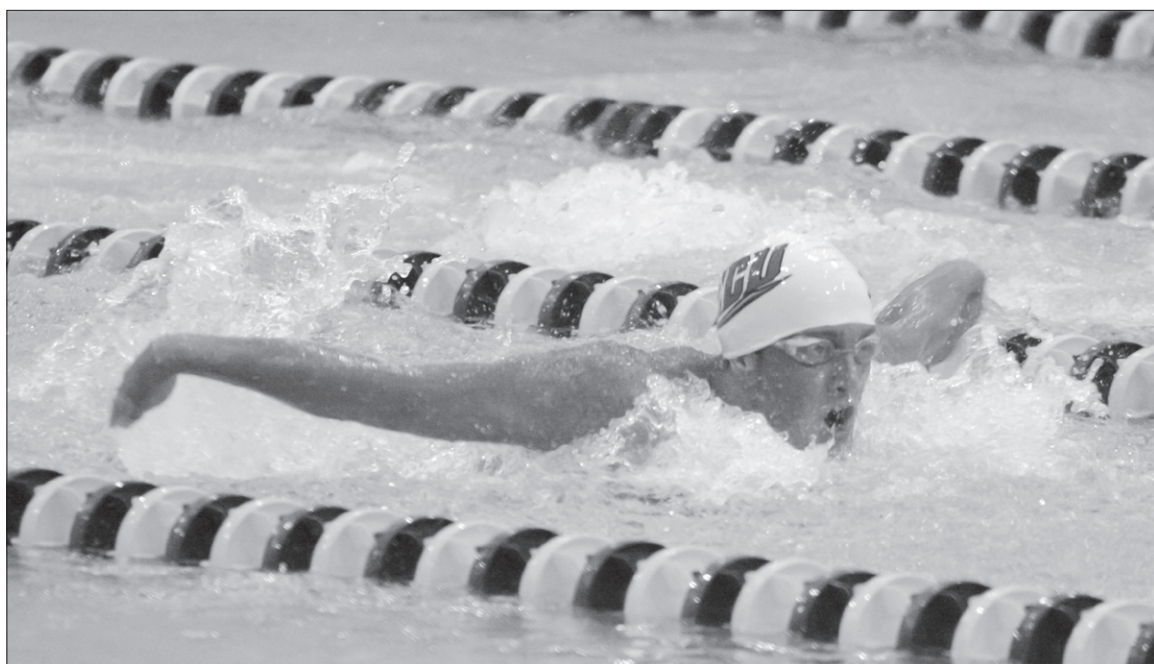
The Gold team's centerfielder Dylan Brown led the way going three for four, while the Purple team's third baseman Drew Reynolds went two for three with one RBI.

Joseph Hughes was the starting pitcher for the Gold team and gave up five runs off of five hits and two walks in three innings. Jake Harris also pitched for the Gold team, giving up one run on four hits and a walk in three innings.

Ryan Williams started for the Purple team and surrendered two runs off of six hits and no walks in four innings. Brett Maybry pitched two innings and gave up no runs off of two hits. Drew Reynolds pitched an inning and gave up two hits.

The Purple-Gold World Series is a series of inter-squad exhibition games played during fall practice. The point of the series is so the players and coaches can get a feeling of how the players are performing in the off-season and what they need

> BATS page A7



ECU swimming and diving has had to bounce around to multiple practice facilities to prepare for the upcoming season.

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"When I was out in Texas at Texas Tech we didn't see a lot of rain, so that is one advantage that I knew we would have against UTEP... To have our fans and supporters weather the storm like they did, made me very proud." -Ruffin McNeill

Thursday	Friday	Cont. Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
10/4/12	10/5/12		10/6/12	10/7/12	10/8/12	10/9/12	
Away-Football	Away- W. Volleyball	Away-Men's	Away-Men's Tennis	Away-Women's	Home- Women's	Home-Women's	
UCF 8 p.m.	Marshall 6 p.m.	Tennis	All-American	Soccer	Golf	Golf	
Away-Men's Tennis	Away-W. Soccer	All-American	Qualifying All Day	Rice 2 p.m.	Day 1 All Day	Day 2 All Day	
All-American	Houston 8 p.m.	Qualifying	Away- Swimming	Away-Men's Tennis			
Qualifying	Away- Swimming	All Day	and Diving	All-American			
All Day	and Diving		NC Collegiate	Qualifying All Day			
	NC Collegiate		Kickoff TBA				
	Kickoff TBA						

Ladies golf swings for victory

By **Melanie Leach**
SPORTS WRITER

A successful two-day tournament has left both the men and women's golf teams feeling confident about the season ahead. But it was the individual effort of ECU women's golfer Frida Gustafsson Spang that really stole the show.

Gustafsson Spang finished first overall with a school record of seven under par and a score of 206 at the UNC-Greensboro Starmount Forest Tournament on Tuesday. Spang's effort helped the Lady Pirates finish third in the team division.

But it wasn't just the women that excelled. The ECU men's golf team finished in second place on Tuesday in the Rees Jones Invitational at Daufuskie Island, S.C.

The Pirates went into the final day of the invitational in fourth place, but after scoring the lowest round of the day they surpassed South Carolina and Winthrop to finish second behind tournament winner Liberty.

ECU finished with a score of 30 over par 894, 24 shots behind Liberty who won the day with 6 over par, 870. The Pirates also had four players in the top 20, with senior Zach Edmondson and freshman Stephen Lavenets tied for seventh, junior Ryan Eibner at 13th place and junior Eric Brady finishing in 18th place.

ECU's second place finish was a great improvement from last week's seventh place result at the 2012 VCU Shootout.

Women's golf coach Kevin Williams said this is just the start of

what should be a great season for ECU golf. "I am really happy with today's result. We were down a player with Nicoline [Engstroem Skaud] at the World Amateur Team Championships and Faith [Hardison] having to pull out injured and we still managed to finish third. We beat some very good teams today," Coach Williams said.

Spang's first place finish, with a tournament-best 13 birdies, made her the ninth individual in school history to claim medalist honors. Her outstanding effort was backed up by fellow Lady Pirate, Emily Eng, who ended the tournament tied for ninth place.

Tournament winners East Tennessee State won by an impressive 24 strokes and also had four players finish within the top six, claiming the second, fourth, fifth and sixth

spots. ECU posted a two-day score of 881, which allowed them to scrape in front of Campbell by only seven strokes.

Coach Williams said the current women's team could possibly be the best team that ECU has ever had, but in order to reach their full potential, they need to work on their mental game. "I feel like we have a lot of depth in our team, with two strong freshmen coming through in Frida and Nicoline. I am sure we are going to have a great year," Williams said. "We are one of the most talented teams out there, but winning, in golf especially, isn't just about talent. We have been working hard at improving our mental approach to each shot, to each tee. If we keep the right attitude, staying positive, then we should do much better in the coming weeks."

He said that throughout this next week, the Lady Pirates are going to continue to work on the mental side of the game and that hopefully they will be able to improve in time for next week's invitational here in Greenville.

They will host the Lady Pirate Intercollegiate at the Greenville Country Club on Monday, Oct. 8.

The ECU men's golf team is also looking to improve both as a team and individually before their next tournament in two weeks. The Pirates will next play on the 13th and 14th of October at the Rod Myers Intercollegiate at the Duke Golf Club.

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

ROAD continued from A6



Safety Chip Thompson had a career game against UTEP, with two interceptions and eight tackles.

Quarterback Shane Carden is getting more comfortable week by week, and has more freedom to throw the ball down the field.

"I threw a couple picks and that can't happen," said Carden. "We were moving the ball well though." The rainy conditions did have an impact on the passing game, but at the same time the offense improved.

With Cooper carrying the ball and averaging six yards per carry, the passing game should return to the form that Pirate fans are used to seeing.

UCF has a talented running back as well. The former Miami Hurricane, Storm Jackson, has stepped into the Knights offense and provided a steady dose of yardage in the backfield. Rannell Hall leads the Knights in receiving touchdowns. UCF has multiple receivers over 200 yards

on the season but none jump off the charts. Blake Bortles seems to connect with whoever is open as 14 players have caught a pass this season.

The key for the Pirates defense is to contain the speed of the Knights. Five players from the UCF offense have logged long plays of over 40 yards. The Pirate secondary produced its best game all season against UTEP. The defensive backs only gave up 151 passing yards and they managed to intercept three passes. Chip Thomson made a huge impact as he had two interceptions to go along with his eight tackles. Thompson was named the Football Writers Association of America/Bronco Nagurski National Defensive Player of the Week.

Thompson was also added to the Bronco Nagurski watch-list for the 2012 season. The five finalists will

be named on November 15th and on December 3rd, the award will be given to the nations Defensive Player of the Year.

Last season the Pirates stole a game in Dowdy-Ficklen, and managed to hand UCF the 38-31 loss. The defenses should be better this season, but a similar outcome is hopefully in the works for the Pirates. The Pirates lead the East Division of the Conference USA standings.

A win tonight will give the Pirates a 3-0 record in conference play and they will have a strangle hold on the rest of their east foes.

My prediction: the Pirates will head into Orlando and will win the game tonight against the Knights, 35-24.

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

SWIMMING continued from A6

"It obviously wasn't ideal," said senior captain J.D. Flanagan. "We had to adapt and try to make the best out of it."

After training separated in multiple locations for the better part of a month, the team was able to get back into its home pool for the first time during last Friday's Purple-Gold intramural meet. Even though it wasn't the perfect situation, coach Kobe is feeling fortunate to be back in Minges.

"It could have been worse," said Kobe. "We could have been closed out the whole semester."

With the inconveniences, Kobe went on to say that the team was a little behind in their training, but said it was nothing that they couldn't catch up on and he is pleased where they are at.

"It was a struggle," said Lawrence, who went on to say that some of the challenges the team overcame would benefit them.

Another reason the team was ecstatic to return last Friday was the atmosphere that came along with it. Coach Kobe takes great pride in the superb following of swimming and diving at ECU.

"At our meets here there is not an empty seat," said Kobe. "And there never has been for decades." He added that on some occasions there was only standing room seating available.

Kobe has been the team's head coach since 1982 and has turned ECU swimming and diving into one of the most successful programs in the nation, amassing 470 dual meet wins, which is ranked third on the in NCAA Division I all-time list.

"Our program has always been good," said Kobe, who is coming off one of his most successful campaigns in 2011, which had both the men and women's teams combine for an 18-5 record. Kobe went

on to say that he expects this year's team to be the best team he's ever had.

"Our goal is to be a perennial Top-25 program, and we're getting very close," Kobe said.

This weekend, the Swimming and Diving Pirates will be participating in the North Carolina Collegiate Kick-Off in Greensboro then will return back home to host Davidson on October 21 for its first head-to-head meet at Minges Natatorium

since the facility's repairs. The Davidson meet will be ECU's lone home meet of the fall semester.

Coach Kobe offers one piece of advice for all of the Pirate Nation planning to come out for the meet, "You better get here early or you won't get a seat."

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

BATS continued from A6

to focus on improving before the regular season begins in the spring. Fall practice started on Sept. 11.

The series will play five games, all at Clark-LeClair stadium. The remaining games will be held on Thursday, Oct. 4 at 3:15 p.m., Friday, Oct. 12 at 3:15 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 13, 45 minutes after the end of the ECU versus Memphis football game and Sunday, Oct. 14 at 3:30 p.m. All games are free admission for students and the public.

The series will feature 21 returning letterman and 13 new members of Pirate baseball. Collegiate Baseball recently ranked the ECU 2012 recruiting class No. 33 nationally and this will be the first chance to see some of the new recruits in action.

This fall, the Pirates are looking to build on a successful 2012 season. ECU finished last season with a 36-24-1 record and made their 12th regional finals appearance in 14 seasons.

With an experienced pitching staff returning, one of the primary focuses for the off-season will be batting.

ECU added former Pirate Ben Sanderson to the coaching staff over the summer. Sanderson is serving as the team's hitting and outfield instructor and his addition to the team has already shown in a positive way. Sanderson was at Florida Atlantic University before returning to the Pirates where he worked with hitters and outfielders.

The 2013 season schedule was announced earlier this week by head coach Billy Godwin. The pirates will play 35 home games including the 10th annual Keith LeClair Classic. The 2013 season will begin with 13 straight home

games starting on Friday, Feb. 15 at 3 p.m. against the University of Virginia of the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The Keith LeClair Classic will be Thursday, Feb. 21 to Saturday, Feb. 23. The University of Illinois Fighting Illini, the New Mexico State Aggies and the Boston College Eagles will be the other teams featured in the classic.

Returning a strong pitching staff, some lively bats on display this fall and 35 home games; the Pirates should be very optimistic about the upcoming 2013 schedule.

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



Head coach Billy Godwin leads the Pirates through his five-game Purple-Gold World Series. The Purple team took game one, 6-2/

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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting youth basketball referees and scorekeepers for the Winter basketball program for ages 5-18. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of basketball rules and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: refereeing, scorekeeping, setting up for practices and games, and ensuring proper care of program/facility. Hours are from 5pm to 9pm, Monday - Friday, and Saturday mornings and afternoons.

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The Human Performance Lab is recruiting overweight men and women (on oral contraceptives) for a study involving treadmill walking 3 days/week for 8 weeks. Current non-smokers, non-exercisers needed. Compensation: \$200. If interested, please email lafavorj08@students.ecu.edu

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