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The East Carolinian

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BRIEFS

Hospital catalog donates gifts to local children

Staff Reports

Greenville's University Health System Children's Hospital is taking part in the launch of the first ever crowd funded hospital gift catalog www.GiveMiracles.org.

Through the website, individuals that want to give back with their holiday gifts can purchase critically-needed medical equipment and medical care for children at the University Health Systems Children's Hospital.

Once donors choose their gift from the site, they will receive updates on exactly how their gift is being used to benefit local children with critical medical needs.

The catalog features gift options for all budgets, ranging from $30 to $12 million. It was created by Fundly, the world's largest, most widely adopted and easiest to use crowd funding-for-good platform and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

For more information visit www.GiveMiracles.org.

Police investigate death of Pitt County man

Staff Reports

Law enforcement is investigating the death of a man with special needs who was found dead in his home yesterday morning.

Authorities arrived at the home on Trails End in eastern Pitt County before noon to find the body of Michael Simmons inside, reported WITN.

The Sherriff's Office said that 36-year-old Simmons had Down syndrome and that his parents were in Charleston, South Carolina. They arrived back home shortly before 2:00 p.m.

Deputies said that the discovery occurred as they were canvassing the neighborhood because of a burglary at the nearby Prudoe Bay subdivision. Noticing something out of place, a deputy went to check Simmons' home and found him dead.

The cause of death has not yet been released.

County school system comments on scandal

Staff Reports

Yesterday, the Pitt County Schools Superintendent talked to media about the latest in the D.H. Conley football scandal.

According to WNCT, Beverly Emory said she is ready to put a close to the case.

Effective yesterday, Ron Butler, Pitt County Athletic Director, returned to his position and J.H. Rose football coach, Todd Lipe, returned to his teaching position, but is still suspended from his coaching duties pending further investigation.

Emory stated while the case has been unfortunate, it has exposed some policy changes that needed to be made.

"We had lots of reports and we take these seriously, and yes we are aggressively looking at them and if we have findings, we report them to the athletic association," said Emory.

Lacks family discusses Pirate Read

Emily Gardiner
STAFF WRITER

This year's Pirate Read was Rebecaa Skloot's "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks." In a follow-up to this book, Henrietta's son, Sonny "Sonny" Lacks, and Henrietta's great-granddaughter, Veronica Lacks, came to ECU to speak about how taking Henrietta's cells affected their family.

The book chronicles the story of the woman behind some of the world's most important cells, which were removed without her knowledge, and then used to usher important medical advances such as the polio vaccine, gene mapping and in-vitro fertilization.

In 1951, Henrietta Lacks' cells were taken from her without her consent. Today, the world mainly knows her as Hela, the name given to her cells after they were taken from her. Few people really know the story behind the Hela cells. They do not know Henrietta; they only know Hela.

Between research done on Skloot's behalf and Henrietta's daughter, Deborah Lacks, they have given an account of Henrietta's story and her cells.

Sonny spoke about how, although he never knew his mother, he was told many stories of her. He heard of how his mother often went dancing and painted her nails a deep, red color. She was a very giving person, always helping out her family whenever she could. Sometimes she would fix meals for family members back at a house in Virginia.

Sonny was asked how Henrietta would react to her cells being taken and what they have done to help the world. Because she was such a giving person, he said she would be glad to help people in the world. "She would be proud to be helping someone," he said.

MICHAEL LANGSTON I THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Sonny and Veronica Lacks visted campus this week and spoke to students about their mothers immortal legacy.

From Veronica's perspective, she thought her great-grandmother's reaction would be different. Veronica believes that Henrietta would be excited to help, but angry that they took her cells without asking.

"It's like if you set some change on the table, you expect to come back to your change and if you pick up my change without asking me, it's not the fact that you have it, it's the fact that you took it. I don't think she would have liked that they took it," she said.

Sonny believes that the family has been compensated monetarily. However, through the help Henrietta's cells have brought to the medical world, they have been compensated more than enough. Personally, he thinks being able to talk to audiences on how the sell of Henrietta's cells has affected them has compensated the family.

Though Veronica is thankful for those compensations, she believes that their family

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ECU helps in holiday season

Staff Reports

During the upcoming holiday season, university students are getting involved to help give back and make a difference in the community and serve those in need.

Students get involved each year, and junior nursing major Jenna Pasma, said she is proud the university is giving back.

"It says more about out university and students–it says that we are more than just students and that we care about the community that we live in," said Pasma.

CONTRIBUTED
The Campus Kitchen will give back this Thanksgiving by contributing food to Operation Sunshine.

National Pan-Hellenic Council and members of The Organization of African American Staff are working with the Little Willie Center to serve local families. Melisa Alston, volunteer coordinator for the center, said that on average, 400 meals are served. She said though two organizations work with them, they get a host of volunteers from the university to help serve food boxes the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

Campus Kitchen is partnering with Operation Sunshine, a local afterschool program for underprivileged girls, this year for Thanksgiving. The girls are provided a meal they take home to their families to share.

"They collect items for a Thanksgiving meal and then they fundraise to provide the turkey," said Campus Kitchen coordinator Elizabeth Corney.

From November to the beginning of December, the university's radio station WZMB is donating teddy bears over the past to abused children involved with the TEDI BEAR Children's Advocacy Center. As a result of an overstock on the teddy bear collection over the years, this year WZMB is switching it up. The station will provide children with crayons, coloring books, colored pencils and board games.

"We just want to help a group that doesn't get as much recognition as the cancer society or the food bank," said YaLonda Davis, student media office manager.

Fuse, Ignite Church's campus ministry, and Student Government Association are teaming up to collect and donate items to Operation Christmas Child, a nonprofit Christian organization that provides gifts to children all over the world. The annual box packing party happened last night in Mendenhall Student Center, in the Student Government Association office.

"We complain about our cell phones freezing, or our gas prices being well over $3 a gallon, while children all over the world are wondering where their next meal is coming from," said Josh Lilley, college pastor at Ignite Church. "This year Operation Christmas Child will pass the 100 million shoebox milestone."

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity are both involved in doing an angel tree. Angel tree is an organization that provides gifts for the families and children of inmates. They will also collect books to give to the Little Willie Center.

Public Relation Student Society of America has sent cards to the soldiers.

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

University gets award for community engagement

Staff Reports

The university recently won the prestigious C. Peter McGrath University/Community Engagement Award for its work with an intergenerational center in the underserved west Greenville community.

Along with the award, the university received a $20,000 stipend for its support of the Lucille W. Gorham Intergenerational Community Center, a partnership with west Greenville residents, the Little Willie Center, the city of Greenville and Pitt Community College, that offers comprehensive community-based system of service and care to residents.

"Service and engagement are in our DNA at East Carolina University," said Chancellor Steve Ballard, who is in Denver to accept the award. "The McGrath award is significant because it is national recognition for our mission and commitment to service."

The intergenerational Center is home to educational programs, community meetings, strategic planning and community-based research and is mainly funded through the College of Human Ecology.

Since 2009, the community center has served more than 16,000 clients and has planned and implemented 14 continuing programs.

University students and faculty from social work, nutrition, public health, criminal justice, business and medicine programs regularly lend a hand at the center.

"It is a site that brings together a lot of different disciplines at ECU to get them involved with the com-

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INSIDE

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WEATHER

51°F/ 36°F

Cloudy

GRAPHICS FROM ENTHROPIA.COM

ONLINE

Get connected with TEC online on facebook & at Twitter.com/TEC_newspaper.

LACKS continued from A1

should be compensated in another way besides money and talking to crowds. To her, the family deserves at least healthcare. Some members of her family do not have healthcare. "I don't think it's fair," she said. She feels that nobody in her family should have to wait until they are 65 to be able to qualify for Medicare.

Henrietta's cells have been used to find cures to some diseases and have been used to develop medicines for disorders and diseases. For freshman Emily Bosak, a stage management major, meeting Sonny and Veronica was special.

"It was really amazing because I just got diagnosed with an auto-immune disorder. The medicine was developed by Hela cells. It was really great to meet them and thank them for everything," she said.

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

AWARD continued from A1

munity," said Kerry Underwood, executive director of the center and assistant professor of social work at ECU.

The award specifically recognized the impacts the center has had on the community including: the Youth Apprentice Program, which prepares juvenile offenders to continue their secondary education, has seen all 33 participants either return to high school or earn a GED and 97 percent of participants in the YES! Twenty First Century project, a summer program designed to improve math and reading skills of third through fifth graders, improved their math skills in 2011, while 20 percent improved their reading skills.

There were several other finalists including: Colorado State University, Miami University and North Carolina State University/North Carolina A&T University.

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PIRATE RANTS

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

A clear sign of laziness: Wearing flip-flops when it's 50 degrees outside.

I'm awesome. Why don't I have a husband already?

To the person who put every single cars wipers up (between Greene hall and Old Caf buildings) WAY TO GO! you made my day! Hope you didn't get caught! p.s. you must have been really bored! :)

I'm a flamingo in a flock of pigeons.

It's getting to the point in the semester where the struggle is real and twerkin' for an Einstein Bros. bagel seems acceptable and thrifty.

Best thing about cold weather: all the different leaf colors.... worst thing about cold weather: everything else.

Guns don't kill people, dad's with attractive daughters kill people.

To the guy sitting next to me in the Library, could you please blow your nose.

To the girl that scared the hell out of me while walking out of Bate. I hope that made your day.

I got head-lice from ECU. Check yourself!

Greeks don't pay for friends. We pay for better friends.

I went to the hockey game at UNCW this weekend to show my school spirit and lets just say, after that loss, I am now a Seahawks fan.

Sombreros and Mardi Gras beads downtown in November... Only in Greenville.

I am not your butler, do not snap your fingers at me. I am not a stripper, do not wave a single dollar bill in my face and expected my undivided attention. I AM YOUR BARTENDER! Stop biting the hand that pours your beers, flash me a smile and start tipping. Do this and you'll no longer be the last person served.

Seriously why did y'all reelect Obama?

For all of you females looking for a "nice guy," the first step is knowing what a "nice guy" is...

I'm a white girl and I love black guys! There I'm out of the closet now!!!

If your ex spends the night all the time, he's not really your ex.

When you're in the next study room and you fart, I can hear it.

If I see one more rant quoting Mean Girls, I'll push someone in front of a bus.

You can't walk to the 2nd floor of Bate? Really?

To the slowest Landing bus driver ever, my mom loves you and I curse you!

POLL QUESTION

Do you think marijuana remain illegal in the U.S.?

Yes

or

No

Cast your vote at theeastcarolinian.com.

Weed is illegal for a reason

J.L. Summers
OPINION COLUMNIST

Your light's off, but you got that weed, though! You're borrowing gas money, but you got that weed, though. Your baby is starving, but little Jimmy stays with that contact high. All these thoughts come to my mind when I think about weed.

Now, I must admit that this outlook is really extreme and ignorant, but I have seen how it can affect people's lives. Studies show that weed is not addictive and whatnot, but I have yet to meet a person who can quit the habit all of a sudden.

Therefore, when people argue that weed should become legal, I look at them with skepticism and shake my head in disbelief. If weed were to become a legal substance, America would be taking a step back. There would be more deadbeats out there and the mental and physical health of our youth would decline.

America is a land where we believe in freedom of speech, religion and doing whatever you want. All of which is wonderful and downright awesome, but at some point, you have to ask yourself, "What the heck is the rest of America thinking when it comes to some beliefs?"

For instance, there is this idea that weed is a drug that opens your mind and allows you to be more creative and a better athlete. I have yet to meet an individual who has been a contributing member of academia or athletics while they have been blazed. If anything, they have been a hindrance, and all I could do is shake my head in disbelief and disgust.

For example, I went to a house party one night and my roommates decided they wanted to get high and leave. Then when I got home, the pizza I spent my hard-earned money on had been eaten because they had the munchies. I was perturbed, and if they were not my best friends, the hands would have been thrown and a fight would have been on deck. Yet, with them being under the influence, they saw my pizza as open game and inhaled it.

I feel that eating someone else's groceries is just the tip of the iceberg if weed were to become legal. The type of deadbeats that would be produced if it were made legal would increase exponentially. I say this because I have yet to meet a pothead who has not royally screwed up at least once when they are high.

Now given I know there are studies that say that someone who is high is more likely to make it home while driving than a drunk driver, but that's one small instance. How many times have you seen a pothead show up to work late? Always complain they are broke, but have a stash? Got a drug ticket?

None of these things describes a person as being a contributing member of society. These are all signs of someone getting ready to live off the government and living paycheck to paycheck off minimum wage. Some of you will refute that there are so many celebrities that do it and they are successful, but newsflash! If you're reading this, you're not famous yet and weed is probably not going to be the muse to get you there.

As a whole, weed is just a slippery slope that will lead to poor mental and physical health. We all know that weed is a downer or a mellower.

So who is to say that when people smoke a little too much that depression will not appear one day? This could lead to all types of other problems medically or even emotionally in life.

Thus, causing more money in doctor's bills and therapy that will be paid with taxpayer's money because you can't have health insurance with Burger King. Then along with depression, there is the eating your feelings part, along with the munchies, so obesity and diabetes are probably in the future as well.

With us being in a college environment, I'm going to have my haters about this article, but if you take time to think about this you must know deep down I make some valid points. I'm not saying those who smoke weed should be stoned in the streets, but if it were made legal then it would spell disaster for this nation eventually.

Maybe not in our generation, but too much of anything is bad, and I truly believe that weed will be the thing that will make America fall further down the pole of power amongst countries around the world. So the next time you spark up, take a second to think whether the decisions you will be making while high are helping you become a better person.

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

A modern day lynching

Eva Torres
OPINION COLUMNIST

The 2012 election has taken a toll on the relationships that we, as Americans, take pride in every single day. This election has brought out sides of people that I never thought imaginable in the changing country and world that we live in. The problems of our past have somehow found a way into this present day and will undoubtedly find its way in our future if we continue on the road that we, as Americans, have found ourselves on.

The 2008 election is one that many of us will never forget. It was the first time in the history of our country that an African American man took the challenge and ran as the Democratic nominee to be the President of the United States. That rich history is ours! That history shows that our country was progressive enough to outgrow the spotty history of our past, the history that seemed to glorify the white man and put the ethnic man down; for the first time in my life, I thought our country had moved forward.

It took me by surprise the second time around seeing all of the hatred that had broiled in the hearts of racists over the past four years. It was as if they slumbered and allowed that racism and hatred to act as an insidious disease and allowed it to truly encumber all that they are and all that they stood for. It makes me sick when I think of the remarks that I have heard during this 2012 election.

I have heard the phrases coined by those opposed to Barack Obama, "Let's put the white back in the White House," "Vote no to Socialism," "Vote no on Obummer" and the list goes on and on.

These phrases are tasteless and a poor reflection on the characters of racists who have somehow missed the freaking bus on progress in this country and have stayed in the backwards, ignorant and stagnant view of the racists that's existed in our past.

I will never forget standing in front of the Recreational Center here at ECU with Obama signs, fired up, while Paul Ryan came to visit our campus.

Regardless of Paul Ryan being on the opposing party to my man Barack, I viewed having Ryan here as an amazing opportunity for our campus. As Obama supporters stood with signs to show that the Democratic Party was well and alive to many Republicans waiting in line, there was an elderly Caucasian woman who insisted and took it upon herself to come up to our little group and yell at us excessively, saying many hateful things.

She called our views on abortion an abomination, called us murderers, said Obama was taking our money and wasting it, talked of the healthcare reform with disgust, and when she was finally finished, the Republicans in the line were cheering her ignorant bravery on. As she turned to walk away, I said the word, "Adios!" but in my mind I really was thinking, 'Thank God this stupid lady is finally shutting up!'

She turned back around so quickly and yelled, "This is America, speak English!" I could not believe that those words escaped her lips. At that very moment so many things ran through my mind about her comment and her racists views. But I had to stand quietly as my blood boiled. Believe me, standing there quietly as this woman and her "supporters" in the line mocked everything I am, and everything I believe in was not easy, but I knew that I represented so much more than to fight with this stupid lady with her stupid views.

Social media was a horrible tool during this 2012 election and I wish that I had not seen half of the things that people wrote about Obama. People even went as far as saying that America, since founded on Christianity, doesn't need a Muslim in the White House!

This comment and many more completely appalled me. I am sure that people will try and refute what I am saying and claim that what went on during this election and afterwards was not racist at all, but people just stating their opinions. I would like a term to describe their outrageous actions since so many of them claim it wasn't racism.

It is a disgrace that my friends walked out to their cars after the election with Obama/Biden stickers torn up and their tires slashed. This is what is going on in our country and very personally in our own neighborhoods because lets face it, hatred, racism and prejudices are still alive and well.

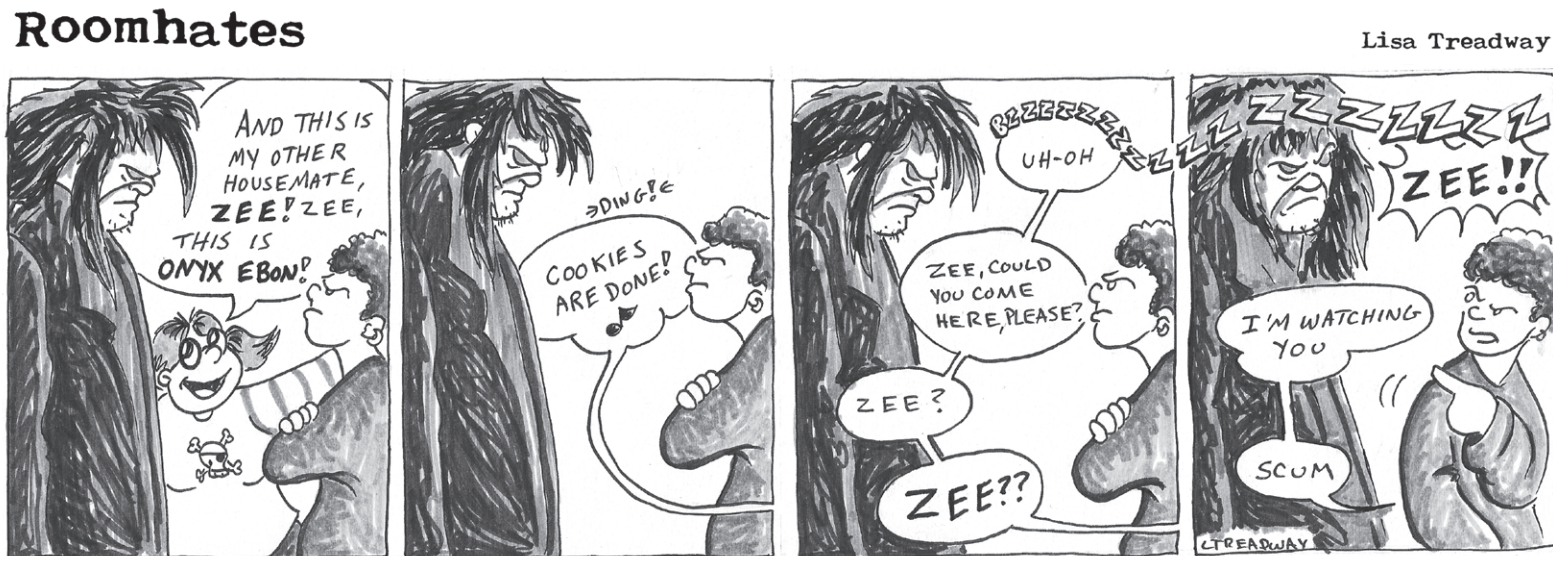
What could have brought this country together and what could have broken the bonds of racism in this country has driven our country back 50 plus years. This election was the perfect time for parties, for Americans, to come together and prove that racism and prejudices in our country simply do no exist. We are progressing to unity, and it has in so many Americans. But one cannot simply stand idle and see all the hatred that exists around us and not have a voice to show that these prejudices and these racist views do exist, and are strong in others.

We may not live in a world as rough as we once did, but we are not past ignorance and we are not past a modern day lynching, not quite yet.

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

Roomhates

Lisa Treadway



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RELATIONSHIP

Confessions of a relationship junkie

Mikayla Locklear
RELATIONSHIP COLUMNIST

Hello, my name is Mikayla and I am a relationship junkie. Some people may call it commitment issues, I call it binge dating. Admit it, the best part of any and all romantic relationships are the first three months. You're still getting to know one another. That weird thing that he does before he brushes his teeth is still cute, finding his socks around your room brightens your day, the conversation is still fresh and everything is just peachy.

After three months, the tone changes a little. Would he just brush his teeth already? Are his feet too small for his socks? What is the deal here? Yeah, okay, I've already heard the story about how you lost your gerbil in third grade four times already, was that some kind of defining moment of his sick little life or something?

This is what I like to call the questioning stage, and it's typically not pretty. The thing is, after a quarter of a year with a person, you're watching seasons change. It's getting pretty serious up in here. It's time to consider if you can go the distance without a homicide on your record. Admittedly, it is not always like that. If you actually really care about someone, his or her quirks will not drive you insane as time goes by. I guess that isn't the only part of my issue with long-term relationships.

The other issue is the romance. Remember when you used to open the car door for me? Remember when I actually saw you outside of clothing that you couldn't sleep in, go to the gym and then have the gall to actually take me to dinner in? Remember when the bathroom door was closed when you peed? Because I do.

Part of the biggest problem with relationships in the college setting is that everything advances so quickly. You go on a few dates, have a few sleepovers, leave a toothbrush at each other's places, then it's clothes, his friends are your friends, and the next thing you know, you're moved in together and the very sight of his toenail clippings on your comforter make you want to slit your wrists.

Word to the wise, for all the up-and-coming sophomores and juniors: when you move out of the dorms and into your own apartment, you may be thinking to yourselves, 'Finally, freedom. We can get a dog and cook dinner and lay in one another's arms all night.' Sure, you can, but a little freedom goes a long way. Don't overdose.

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

We are looking for columnists!

Contact:
lifestyles@
theeastcarolinian.com
with your ideas!

'Women in Islam' event

Rex Rose
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLES EDITOR

The media has become a powerful entity in America. Some even consider it the fourth branch of government. Radio stations and television news networks have the power of reaching millions of people, and more importantly affecting the topics and ideas that these people discuss. What happens when these powerful players makes a mistake? When they portray people, or groups of people, in the wrong light?

Tonight at 6 in Bate 1009, the ECU Muslim Student Association will be holding an event geared toward this topic. The "Women in Islam" event will present a talk by university graduate Noria Namaz, who is a member of the Muslim community here in Greenville. She converted from Catholicism to Islam in 1973, and ever since has been active in her faith and in furthering her knowledge of Islam. This event seeks to educate the public against some of the misconceptions about Islam that have been presented in the media.

One of the main misconceptions that many people hold is that Muslim women are oppressed and that it is sanctioned in the Qur'an. Afnan Innab, who is the social coordinator for the Muslim Student Association and an Islamic woman herself, feels the media has played a huge role in establishing this misconceived notion.

"The media portrays Muslim women as oppressed. I think the media is the main problem," said Innab. "In Afghanistan, if there have been gender issues, like maybe certain groups of people oppress women, it is not because Islam says that; it is because the people. It is the culture, not the religion."

This idea of differentiating between culture and religion is a huge step in justifying the mistakes that some media has made when it comes to presenting the Islamic faith to the world.

"If we follow Islam properly, Muslim women are not oppressed. Muslims that do oppress women are not practicing Islam right," said Innab. "For example, the hijab [the head scarf], a lot of people think that someone has forced me to wear it or that we do it because men say that we have to. The only reason we do it is because God tell us to. We listen to God, not men."

TORRE GRILLS I THE EAST CAROLINIAN

At 6 p.m. tonight, the Muslim Student Association will host the event 'Women in Islam,' on campus in Bate 1009.

The idea of Islam being backwards in their treatment of women is a belief that is inaccurate. In fact, Muslim women were given certain civil rights many decades before Western women. Women were given the right to the same education as men about 1,400 years ago.

"The education was not the only thing that women were given. As you know here in the Western world, women were given rights maybe 50 years ago," said Mohammed Ahmed, president of the Muslim Student Association. "But, 1,400 years ago women were actually given the right to inherit. So, whatever money they make they were allowed to keep, and the husband could not ask them for the money."

Along with the rights of education and inheritance, women were also given the right to ask for a divorce around this time. This idea of equality and respect ties in with the wearing of the hijab.

"A lot of people think [the hijab] is a form of enslaving the woman. But the Islamic belief, or the Islamic perspective, is that it protects the woman from eyes that she wouldn't want seeing her," said Ahmed. "Because her beauty is hers, you know, and she owns it and nobody else has the right to see it. It is a way of empowerment."

The idea that Islam condones abuse or brutality of women is, in fact, in direct opposition to the Qur'an and the exact message of the Islamic faith. Mary Nyangweso, who teaches in the Religious Studies Department here on campus, has done extensive research and publishing on the subject of women and how religion effects them.

"Islam, just like Christianity and Judaism, I think has an egalitarian message about respecting everyone," said Nyangweso. "When you look at Prophet Muhammad himself, his message was based on condemning oppression in society. When you look at how his message was presented to promote social justice, then essentially Islam is embedded in a message of social justice."

This idea of presenting Islam as a religion about social justice, instead of oppression, is one that the Muslim Student Association hopes to further with their event.

"We are trying to increase the knowledge of people on campus and the community, to eliminate misconceptions, and get people more in tune with Islam," said Ahmed. "The media can throw out whatever they want, but it is our job to make sure the truth gets out."

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

The story behind the military reunion

CONTRIBUTED BY MEGHAN HEINCHON

After five months deployed in Afganistan, Sgt. Josua Ricafrente surprised his kids during the last home football game.

Melissa Phillips
STAFF WRITER

Elijah and Noah Ricafrente never saw it coming when they came to ECU for the home game against Houston. After being invited to attend the game with their Pop Warner youth football team, the boys were excited to be chosen to participate in the Power-Aid toss during halftime.

Noah and his brother stood in awe at the proud Pirate fans, wishing their father could share that moment. Little did they know that the biggest surprise of all was soon to arrive.

"The oldest boy looked at one of my assistants and said, 'My dad would love this crowd. I wish he was here,'" said Scott Wetherbee, assistant athletics director for marketing and ticket operations.

Noah and Elijah's father, Sgt. Joshua Ricafrente, had been deployed in Afghanistan for the past five months. When Ricafrente found out he was coming home early, the plan to surprise his sons was set in motion.

"I was set to come home about a week or so earlier. I spoke to their Pop Warner football coach," said Ricafrente. "I thought that it would be cool if we could set something up and surprise them at the game."

When he arrived home, Joshua Ricafrente's family and friends were all in on how they were going to surprise his sons.

"I got home Friday afternoon and they didn't know I was here," said Ricafrente. "The boys had went to a sleep over and were just going to play football with their friends and meet their mother at the game."

When game day arrived, Ricafrente came to campus to prepare for the set-up.

"I met with Scott, and that's when we started planning everything and made the video. I got to hang out with him and he introduced me to a lot of people at ECU," said Ricafrente. "Just to stop the anticipation because I was excited. I hadn't seen them for a while and I just wanted to see them."

"We shot the video right here in my office and we used this older camera," said Wetherbee.

While waiting for halftime, Wetherbee showed Ricafrente the ins and outs of what happens behind the scenes of a Pirate football game.

"I didn't realize that much coordination went into a football game," said Ricafrente. "During the first quarter, Scott handed me the binoculars, and said, 'Why don't you see if you can find them?'" said Ricafrente. "I think he could tell I just wanted to see them and hug them already."

With eight minutes left in the quarter, Ricefrente and Wetherbee's crew went down to the tunnel where they waited for halftime.

"I was in the tunnel and then they called Noah, Elijah, Genie and my daughter down to the field so they could do the Power-Aid toss," said Ricafrente. "I was this much closer to seeing the rest of my family."

Ricafrente had seen his daughter and wife the day before while Noah and Elijah were at a sleepover.

"[During the video] I peaked out of the tunnel and I could already see my two boys crying so that melted my heart even more. I was thinking, 'Oh man, they think I'm gone.'"

After great anticipation, Ricafrente stepped out on the field and embraced his sons. "I finally get to make my family complete again," said Ricafrente.

"Words can't even explain how I felt when I could finally see them. And especially the reaction on their face was priceless," said Ricafrente. "I was just glad that I got to be there. Especially because I got to surprise Noah for his birthday...that was a big plus."

Overwhelmed with excitement and emotion, Ricafrente was unaware of their Pirate audience. "I heard the screaming, but at that point I was more focused on my family," he said.

Ricafrente's wife, Genie, said the set-up wasn't easy, but worth it.

"Trying to keep that a secret was the hardest thing I had to do," said Genie. "The anticipation when we were walking up [to the field], I started tearing and my youngest one was like, 'Why are you crying?' And I just said, 'Oh, I miss your dad.'"

When we went back up, people were shaking his hand, taking pictures with him. My boys were saying 'My dad's a superstar,'" said Genie.

Students who attended the football games say they were moved that they were able to share that moment.

"It was so precious. I cried," said junior Kaylee Bythell.

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

Art's best friend

Amanda Cooper
STAFF WRITER

If someone was wondering who the man in the bow tie and circle-framed glasses at every art event around town is, he's the same man who owns Frame Makers downtown on Dickinson.

Still don't know? Well he's the same man who wrote "The Art Owner's Handbook" and "The Art Emergency Guide."

His name is Barbour Strickland, and he's also the president of the Friends of the School of Art and Design at ECU, which is a support system that provides financial support for the school for scholarships.

Strickland has been on the board for five years. As president, he recently approved another funding source. "We will fund travel for students and faculty if they need to go to a conference," he said. "So, that's a good thing."

Currently, the board has an endowment of $90,000, but Strickland hopes to have at least $100,000 by the end of the year. "It all goes to benefit the school and the hardworking students," he said.

Strickland initially became involved with the art program after moving from his hometown of Winston-Salem in 1984. He was the director of the Greenville Museum of Art for 14 years until his retirement in 2006.

Every few years as director, he would have an exhibit of one of the faculty from the School of Art. Strickland said he tried to build a bridge between the museum and the school. "I know I improved the relationship between the museum and the School of Art while I was director," Strickland said. "I am continuing to do that not at the museum, but with what I'm doing now."

Since leaving the museum, Strickland, with the help of assistant Anna Cole, started the website, www.theArtsConnectionNC. com which is dedicated to keeping the people of Greenville and Pitt County connected with the art community.

The website features news and events such as workshops and classes, gallery receptions, a listing of popular venues around town that host exhibitions and student senior shows, videos of lectures that occur around town and artist interviews,

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ART continued from A4

MICHEAL SEAGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Barbour Strickland, a Pitt County resident, is the president of the Friends of the School of Art and Design organization.

such as Michael Drought, director of the School of Art.

Strickland said this is the first time students' senior shows have ever been assembled in one place.

"Students want to go see their friends and want to go admire other students' artwork," Cole said. "And there's really no way to know except the postcards around the art building."

As a part of the website, Strickland is offering senior art students a chance to film their show as a short, one-minute presentation in front of a green screen.

"In case somebody can't come to a reception, they can still hear from the artist about their artwork rather than just reading a little description," Cole said.

Strickland said he's always been a big advocate for the arts.

In 2010, he was reappointed by N.C. Governor Beverly Perdue to a second term on the North Carolina State Art Society Board of the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. He currently serves as president of the board.

He is also the incoming president of the Pitt County Arts Council.

"I think it's important for the community to see what a great impact the arts are already having on this community, and it's just going to get even greater," Strickland said. "It's about increasing awareness of the arts and all that's going on in the arts in Greenville and Pitt County."

Strickland said when he moved here there was only one art gallery, which he referred to as a "gift shop." And now there are eight or nine art galleries and 27 exhibition spaces, including Strickland Art Resources, Barbour's own art gallery aimed at showing private collections.

Today, Strickland is working with Michael Ehlbeck, faculty chair of the School of Art and Design, trying to identify other places in Greenville where specific artwork by ECU students can be displayed.

"That is probably something that is on the front burner now, getting some more of the students' artwork out there," Strickland said. "I want to show the community what the kids are producing over there. It's phenomenal."

Strickland said he doesn't just hope to promote the arts in Greenville, but also to promote the school.

"It's the best art school in the state," Strickland said.

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

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Bjork Olsen named C-USA All Academic

Staff Reports

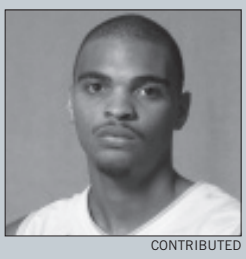
Conference USA announced their selections for the 2012 All-Conference Academic team. Olsen holds a 3.98 GPA and is a two-time C-USA Commissioners Honor Roll selection. Olsen is a junior at ECU and she is an important member to the Pirate cross country team. Olsen's efforts in last weekends NCAA Regional helped the Pirates finish in ninth place. Her 18th place finish individually was the best on the team and the second best for the ECU program.

ECU Swimmer wins award

Staff Reports

ECU swimmer Bailie Monahan has been name Conference USA Swimmer of the Week after the Pirates swept William and Mary. Monahan had two of the fastest times for the 100 and 200-yard butterfly. This is Monahan's second award of the season. She also won on Oct. 23 after winning two individual events and two relays in the match versus Davidson. Monahan and the rest of the Pirates will be back in action as they participate in the Nike Cup on the UNC Chapel-Hill campus.

A Pirate You Need To Know: Robert Sampson



CONTRIBUTED

Robert Sampson, a junior at ECU, is a starter for the ECU men's basketball team. The Atlanta, Ga. native grabbed 10 rebounds and scored 14 points in Tuesday's victory over Methodist University. Sampson also blocked four shots and dished out three assists. Sampson should be an important part of the Pirate basketball team. This is the first double-double of the season for any Pirate player and after two games, Sampson is averaging 8.5 points and 9 rebounds per game. ECU is 2-0 to start the season and their next game is on Friday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball signs new recruits

Staff Reports

Head coach Heather Macy made an announcement Wednesday that three quality recruits have signed their National Letter of Intent to play basketball at ECU beginning in the fall of 2013.

Jephany Brown is a 6-foot power forward and she is the 89th best high school player in the country. She is a player from Indiana and so far this season she has posted a 30 and 27-point performances.

J'Kyra Brown is from Rocky Mount High School and she is the 32nd best guard in the country. Brown averaged 23 points, six rebounds, three steals and three assists.

Akia Jones also committed to ECU and she is currently redshirting at Walters State Community College. As a sophomore she was named to the JUCO All-American Honorable mention team.

Ready and rested

DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Vintavious Cooper (21) needs just 109 yards in his final two games to break 1,000 yards rushing on the season. He mey be able to break that barrier against Tulane.

Ronnie Moore
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

With a much-needed week off, the Pirates now set their sights on the Tulane Green Wave. Resting up and getting healthy was important for Head Coach Ruffin McNeill and the ECU football team. So far the Pirates have no injuries that are any cause for concern.

Justin Hardy is coming off a week where he received a mild concussion. While running across the middle, Hardy was hit in the head by a Houston defender and he left the game and did not return.

Michael Dobson sat out of the Houston game after receiving a concussion in the Navy game the previous week. With Hardy and Dobson healthy, the Pirates are poised to defeat the Green Wave.

While ECU was on the bye, Tulane was playing their game against Memphis. Tulane lost to Memphis 37-23 to drop to a 2-8 record, meanwhile Memphis improved to 2-8.

Defense is not a strong point for the Green Wave as they are giving up 39 points per game. Opponents are averaging five yards per rush against the defense and Vintavious Cooper and the other running backs should exploit the weakness upfront on defense for Tulane.

Opponents gain an average of 2,28 yards per game and, with the recent balance that ECU has shown, the offensive attack should keep the Green Wave off balance. Freshman Darion Monroe and Junior Zach Davis lead the Green Wave defense in tackles with 76 and 64 respectively. Defensive end Austen Jacks leads the team in sacks as he has 4.5 on the season. Also, Jacks has over eight tackles for a loss so far this season.

Offensively, Tulane is an explosive team. They don't have much of a rushing game with only 423 yards this season, but they can pass the ball with great gain. In his seven games this season, Ryan Griffin is averaging just over 300 yards per game and he has been efficient with 16 touchdowns and only seven interceptions.

Ryan Grant is their best receiver with 947 yards this season and six touchdowns. Running back Rob Kelley has been productive in the passing game as well. Kelley has more receiving yards than rushing yards this season so it is apparent that Tulane likes to incorporate their running backs in the passing game.

Head Coach Curtis Johnson knows how to win as he has championships in college and in the NFL. Johnson was a part of the Miami staff that won the national championship in 2001 and he was also a part of the Saints organization when they won the Super bowl over the Colts a few years back.

The last game ECU played was a big game for the Pirate program. Beating Houston at home propelled the Pirates to bowl eligibility with a 6-4 record so far. McNeill and his team still have a chance to compete for a conference championship.

In the west division, Tulsa is in full control, as they haven't lost a conference game yet. The UCF Knights are still ahead of the Pirates in the east but with a matchup against Tulsa this weekend, the Knights may get their first loss in conference play. If everything goes according to plan, UCF will lose their next two games, while ECU wins against Tulane and Marshall.

The Knights avoided disaster twice this season when they beat Southern Miss in overtime and when they won by just a touchdown against UTEP this last weekend.

The Pirates have been strong on offense in the last half of this season. The Pirates have scored an average of just under 40 points in the last four games. In that span of games the Pirates are 3-1.

Shane Carden has been a great leader of the team lately and is improving with each game. Vintavious Cooper is a big reason why the offense has a consistent balance. Cooper has four 100-yard games this season and three of those have been in the second half of the season.

In the last four games, Cooper is averaging 132 yards per game and has four touchdowns. With Dobson returning from his injury and Reggie Bullock getting healthier each week, the Pirates now have three quality running backs that can share the load and provide versatility.

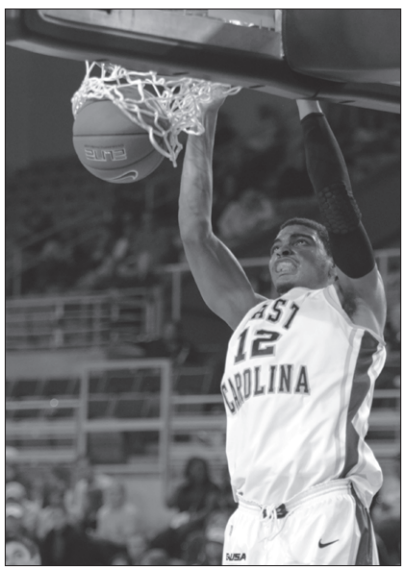
Receiver Danny Webster exploded for three touchdowns against Houston and he may be an important receiver for Carden in the future. Webster had three catches in five straight games. Seniors Derrick Harris and Andrew Bodenheimer will need to continue producing to take some pressure off of the legitimate star in Justin Hardy.

The defense shut down the explosive offense of Houston and the Pirates will need to attack Tulane the same way if they expect to shut down the air raid offense of the Green Wave.

I believe ECU will go into New Orleans and win an important game against Tulane in the Super Dome. This game should have plenty of points scored, but I think the Pirates win, 42-31.

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

Pirates Dethrone Monarchs at Minges



NICK FAULKNER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Robert Sampson (12) led the team with four blocks against Methodist on Wednesday.

Josh Graham
STAFF WRITER

The Pirates' men's basketball team dominated the Methodist Monarchs 60-24 in the paint Tuesday night, en route to an overall 87-51 win that keeps ECU's record unblemished at 2-0. Maurice Kemp led all scorers with 21 points.

Kemp was the focal point of the offense, leading the pack in last Saturday's season opening win against Washington and Lee as well.

In his post-game interview Tuesday, the senior forward emphasized that he is always satisfied to play a role in the team's success.

"It's always my goal to help the team out any way I can," said Kemp. "If it's scoring on one night or rebounding another night, that's what I'll do."

Junior forward, Robert Sampson, notched his third career double-double, scoring 14 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. In addition, Sampson had four blocks in the game, which highlighted the team's stout defensive performance.

The Pirates' defense held the Monarchs to about 31 percent shooting from the field and about 29 percent from beyond the arc.

Shamarr Bowden had a game-high nine assists, which is a career high for him and allowed everyone to get involved.

Eleven of the 13 players on the team's roster scored Tuesday night, including superb efforts off the bench from both Marshall Guilmette and Petar Torlak. They both checked in for nine points.

Down the stretch, the Pirates scored 11 consecutive points that extended their lead to 81-47 and closed the game on a 17-4 run.

The score alone does not tell the story of this game, though. As a team, the Pirates shot about 15 percent on three-pointers (4-26) and struggled to really generate anything from the perimeter.

"It was an ugly offensive performance shooting the basketball," said Head Coach Jeff Lebo. "It's hard to look good offensively when you shoot it as poorly as we did."

The Pirates entered Tuesday's game undermanned and without their Conference USA preseason first-team point guard Miguel Paul, who served the latter half of his two-game suspension due to violation of team rules. With Paul missing, Lebo thought the team looked out of sync.

"Not having the guy who runs the show for us out there makes us look a little discombobulated at times," said Lebo. "When we get [Paul] back we'll run it a little more smoothly."

Paul will return, and make his season debut, when the Pirates play host to UNC-Greensboro Friday night at 7 p.m.

The status of senior forward Erin Straughn, who missed the first two games with a lower right leg concern, and freshman forward Michael Zangari, who left last Saturday's game with an ankle sprain, are still unknown.

In the first half, ECU jumped all over Methodist, opening the game on a 12-2 run that was highlighted with dunks by both Kemp and Guilmette.

Methodist kept it competitive though, trailing only 36-24 at halftime. Coming out of the break, junior Monarch Bryan Hockaday hit a three-pointer that cut the ECU lead to single digits at 36-27.

Hockaday would finish the game with a team-high 15 points and 10 rebounds, serving as the Monarch's silver lining in the loss.

In the next minute of game-time, Corvonn Gaines responded in a huge way, driving to the ball for two gritty baskets. He finished with eight points and from that point on, the Pirates never looked back.

The Pirates have now begun their season 2-0 in two out of the three years of Lebo's tenure at ECU. The last time it happened was the 2010-11 season. The teams having its first winning season in 14 years.

Though Lebo said he was pleased with the result, and the team's 2-0 start, he knows that they must shoot the ball better if they want to be successful against more difficult competition.

"If we go 4-26 [shooting on three-pointers] in any other game, we lose by double-figures, maybe more," said Lebo.

The announced attendance at Williams Arena, Minges Coliseum for the game against Methodist was 3,830.

Both of the Pirates' wins were against Division III schools, which means Friday's tilt against UNC-Greensboro will be the Pirates' first game against a Division I opponent. ECU will close its four-game home stand to open the season Tuesday against Appalachian State.

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

Senior Profile: Jenkins and Paulk

Melanie Leach
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU cornerbacks and graduate students Jacobi Jenkins and Leonard Paulk are gearing up to play their last few games as Pirates.

Jenkins, 23, and Paulk, 21, have both been waiting patiently to become full-time leading cornerbacks. Up until this season, they served as reserves in the secondary and were both key members on the special teams unit. They have been working and training hard to be in the starting lineup and this year it has paid off.

But despite their hard work, they both only had one season as starting cornerbacks. This is their last year playing for the Pirates.

Both students graduated in May, after redshirting their first years at ECU. Despite graduating, neither of them left ECU. They both came back to play one more year as Pirates and now they are both working towards their second degrees.

College hasn't just been about football for these two players. Jenkins and Paulk have both studied hard and been a part of the ECU honor roll, having GPAs of 3.0 or higher.

Despite all of their academic efforts, it is playing football for ECU that they are going to miss most. For these two players, being a part of the Pirate Nation has been one of the best things about going to college.

Paulk described being a Pirate and a student at ECU for the last four years as an unforgettable experience.

"Everything is just great. ECU has been very good to me. It has given me a scholarship [and] let me be able to play football. [ECU has]

> **PROFILE** page **A7**

CALENDAR

"We have told the seniors that their reps are running out so they need to make sure that the reps they have left are their best ones yet. Ideally, they shouldn't have any regrets when they are done playing." *–Head Coach Ruffin McNeill*

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PROFILE continued from A6

taught me well, so I could get an education… everything has been good being a Pirate," Paulk said.

Jenkins, known as "Cobi" by his teammates, said that he too has loved being a Pirate over the last few years and that it wouldn't be the same without the support of the Pirate Nation.

"There's nothing like our crowd. Our crowd comes out here pumped up [and] energetic to every game. And I have a good team to play around so, you know, it feels pretty good to be a Pirate," Jenkins said.

Despite coming up to their last few games as Pirates, Jenkins and Paulk are not thinking about themselves. For them, it is all about the team and doing what they need to do to help their team succeed.

Paulk laughed at the thought of focusing on himself during these ending stages of his football career.

"I think I have performed very well, but it isn't about me. I'm trying to help my team win a conference championship. We have a good chance to have the best record I've had since being at ECU, [to] go 8-4. That's what I am going to try to do," Paulk said.

Coach Ruffin McNeill has also noted Jenkins as having a mature team-first mentality. McNeill said that it is Jenkins' mentality that allowed for him to make such a smooth transition from offense to defense during his second year on the active roster.

Despite their many similarities, defensive backs Paulk and Jenkins disagree on their best memory of being a Pirate. For Paulk, nothing beats participating in the second conference championship that the Pirates won back in 2009. But for Jenkins it is all about one simple, or maybe not so simple, play.

"I would probably have to say that my best memory would be two years ago when Justin Jones caught the long ball at the end of the game in the end zone. Nothing like it," Jenkins said with a smile on his face.

For Jenkins and Paulk, these last few years have flown by and the reality of the last game fast approaching has really taken Jenkins by surprise.

He said that it feels like he started here as a freshman, blinked once and then here he is preparing to play his last couple of games of college football. However, this isn't the end of his football career. Jenkins said that he isn't ready to give up football altogether.

"Everyone has their dream to come to college, play well and someday play in the NFL. I'm still pushing for that dream," Jenkins said.

Even though they have both worked hard and done all they could to help the Pirates succeed, Jenkins said that there is only one thing he wants to be remembered by.

"I would just like to remembered as that wild and crazy 'Cobi Jenkins."

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

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FOR RENT

WALK TO CLASS: 1 block from campus, near Joyner library and next to the ECU campus police station, a 2BR apartment with hardwood floors, central heat/air, washer/dryer, dishwasher, high-speed Internet, basic cable, and water/sewer. 6 month lease ok. Available January 1. Call 252-916-5680.

1BR apartment located on the waterfront with heat, water & sewer, free Internet, and hardwood floors. Great place to live! River Bank North. For more information, please call 252-364-1476.

3BR/2BA house near university (2602 Tryon Drive). Large rec room and good yard. Pets with fee. Available now for $870/month. Call 252-902-9686.

FREE RENT and waiving all fees. 3BR/3BA spacious 1500 sq. ft. townhome near ECU and PCC. Individual leases. Utilities included. Contact University Suites at 252-551-3800.

Houses for rent. 1018 S. Evans Street: 6BR/3BA for $1650/month. 1209 Forbes Street: 3BR/1BA for $900/month. 1210 Cotanche Street: 2BR/1BA for $600/month. Contact Wainright Property Management at 252-756-6209 or www.rentingreenville.com

ECU AREA (2 blocks from campus)! 2BR with central HVAC, ceiling fan, W/D hookup, storage room, and pets are OK. Vacancies for Dec or Spring semester. $530/month (short-lease option)! Go to www.tilleyproperties.webs.com or call 252-830-9502.

2BR/2BA condo located in Spring Forest. 947 square feet. $750/month. Nice, quiet community convenient to shopping, restaurants, movie theaters, ECU, PCC and only 5 minutes to Vidant Medical Center/Health Science Campus. All appliances including washer and dryer. Conveniently located to the pool and lake. Call 252-341-0223 or email pnblizzard@gmail.com for more information.

Blocks to ECU, Lewis Street. 3BR with AC/heat, stove, and refrigerator. Will rent as a 2BR or 3BR. Please call 252-321-4712 or view at www.collegeuniversityrentals.com

2 bedroom upstairs apartment available January 1st. Historic home with hardwood floors. Clean, quiet, great for student or professional. Located 1 block from ECU and 1 block from downtown. $695/month. Call 252-714-3294.

3BR/2BA located at 1208 Cotanche Street. Clean, great for student or professional. $795/month. Call 252-714-3294.

First month $1 at Eastgate Village and The Gables at Brownlea! Free Suddenlink Cable and Internet. Call Eastern Property Management for details at 252-321-3281.

Tired of apartment living? Rent your own home or duplex for as low as $293 per person at Dockside Duplexes and Riverwalk Homes. Act now to pay just $1 for your first months rent! Call EPM at 252-321-3281 (Ext 2).

Bellamy Student Apartments lease reassignment of furnished 1BR/1BA. Share kitchen and common area with 3 other rooms. $434/month includes all utilities and amenities. Call Diane at 828-693-9193.

3BR/1BA. One block from campus. Walk to class and downtown. Available now. 113 and 111 East 9th Street. $650/month. Very nice large 2BR/1BA at 104 N. Summit Street available on January 1, 2013. $650/month. If interested, please call 252-341-8331 or email Kiel Mcadam at Kiel@McadamRealty.com

FOR SUBLEASE

1BR/1BA apartment at North Campus Crossing. Available mid-December or January through July 31st. $845/month (all utilities included). If interested, please call 252-567-1914.

2BR/2BA apartment in North Campus Crossing. Fully furnished, utilities included, access to gym, pools, and ECU bus. Available in early December. Will pay December's rent! If interested, call 910-459-9224.

Apartment in 33 East (formerly Pirates Cove) available for sublease from January through late April. One bedroom available in a 4-bedroom unit. AMAZING roommates. Furnished with personal full bathroom. Close to the clubhouse with full access to all amenities. ECU bus to and from campus. Rent is $364/month (utilities included). Please email ochoab09@students.ecu.edu for more details.

FOR SALE

Items for sale at Greenville Flea Market / River Road Mini-Storage (3243 Old River Road). For more information, please go to www.greenvillefleamarket.com or call 252-757-3071.

HELP WANTED

Habilitation and Developmental Therapy Technicians needed in Greenville and surrounding areas to care for Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled individuals. Good pay and flexible hours available. Please apply online (www.pinnhomecare.com) or in person at Pinnacle Home Care (903 E. Arlington Blvd). Phone: 252-355-4703

Bartending: $250/day potential. No experience necessary. Training available. Call 1-800-965-6520 (EXT 202).

Part-time sales person wanted at Dallas Jewelers. Please apply in person at 302 SE Greenville Blvd. (Suite C). If you have any questions, please call 252-756-8366.

OTHER

Spring walk-on tryouts for ECU football are on 1/31. Go to 203 Ward before 1/5 to complete paperwork. 737-4570

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come have fun and win prizes at "Are You Smarter Than A College Student" today in Bate 1032 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This game show counts as a passport event and is based on ECU students' college lives! Please e-mail lyncha09@students.ecu.edu for more information.

Please help WZMB by donating gifts to abused or neglected children in TEDI BEAR Children's Advocacy Center's care. Please bring the items to WZMB (Mendenhall), Dowdy Student Stores, or the dining halls by December 7th.

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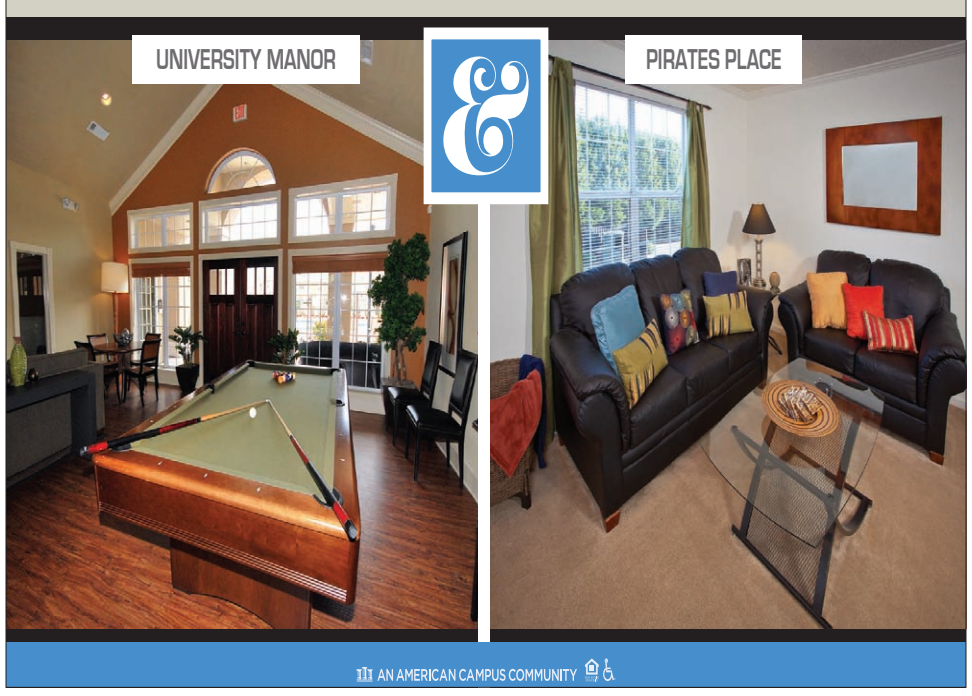

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