

Learn more about local band, Myself and I. A4.

## BRIEFS

## Staff Reports

## State budget approved

North Carolina legislators announced Sunday that they have reached an agreement on the state budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

The \$20.6 billion budget will end teacher tenure and allow taxpayer money to be spent for private school tuition. The budget increases overall state spending by 2.5 percent while instituting tax cuts for corporations and individuals.

Lawmakers are expected to vote on the compromise budget in the coming week.

## Mendenhall Student Center hours changed

After the end of summer session II, Mendenhall Student Center will be changing operating hours. The center will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from July 29-Aug. 15 with weekend operation ceasing at the beginning of Aug.

Normal hours will resume on Friday Aug. 16.

## Joyner appointed to ECU Board of Trustees

Max Ray Joyner Jr. was sworn in as a new member of the Board of Trustees on July 18. Gov. Pat McCrory appointed him to the role that will begin this fall.

He is a past president of the Pitt County Life Underwriter's Association and has taught life insurance classes at Pitt Community College, earning a Life Underwriters Training Council Fellowship. He has served as president of the Rose High Athletic Boosters, board member of the ECU Pirate Club and advisor to the ECU KA fraternity.

Joyner, an ECU alumnus, follows his father, Max Ray Joyner Sr., as a member of the Board of Trustees.

## ECU Anglers to compete in national championship

Four anglers from the university bass fishing club will be competing in the college national championship of bass fishing Aug. 1-3, 2013 in Young Harris, Ga.

The anglers will compete as two man teams: Zachary Blalock and Kyle Albers, and Ronnie Moore and TJ Chafatelli.

The teams are two of 68 teams competing at the Chatuge Reservoir in Georgia.

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# The East Carolinian

Volume 87, Issue 183

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Wednesday, 7.24.13



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Founder's Way will be closed permanently to traffic in the fall in order to promote a safer and more pedestrian-friendly campus for students on main campus.

## Founder's Way closed

## Staff Reports

Campus seems to become a permanent construction zone as sections of the Master Plan come alive. Construction in the Bate building, Joyner Library, College Hill and sections of Founder's Way has interrupted the last few weeks of summer classes, but the university is working towards some massive improvements.

The university hopes to improve pedestrian safety by eliminating road traffic through main campus. The result is the new traffic pattern through Founder's Way, which will no longer connect 5th and 10th street.

Starbucks will be opening a new location on campus inside Joyner Library while Mendenhall will be introducing Panda Express to Destination 360. The diversification of campus dining options comes at a time when Campus Dining is expanding their food plan options.

Housing is also working on accommodating the large amount of incoming freshmen by renovating the Belk dormitory.

As summer classes come to an end, dispersing students leave behind one campus with a promise that when they return in the Fall, the orange cones will be replaced by an improved East Carolina.



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Construction on the majority of campus hopes to be done by Fall.

## Vote on student loans

Tyler Stocks  
STAFF WRITER

The Senate is scheduled to vote this week and approve a deal that would lower interest rates and put a cap on them. On July 1, Federal Stafford Loans' interest rates doubled from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. In a press conference Tuesday morning, N.C. Senator Kay Hagan spoke about the vote that is taking place.

"With college costs on the rise in many places, I've heard from many students and families in North Carolina who just cannot bear the burden," Hagan said. "I'm not willing to accept the idea that college is simply out of reach for middle class families."

Democrats and Republicans have come together on a bipartisan solution last week. "At a time when interest rates are so low, we are overcharging students instead of giving them the opportunity to take advantage of lower rates," said Hagan.

Hagan helped introduce the Keep Student Loans Affordable Act in June. This bill would've kept interest rates for North Carolina students at 3.4 percent, but the bill did not pass.

The bill being voted on later this week would make the interest rate the same as that of a 10 year treasury note plus 20 percent. Interest rates will be capped at 8.25 percent

with undergraduate students paying an additional 2.05 percent. Graduate students would pay an additional 3.6 percent with the interest being capped at 9.5 percent.

However, the bill provides a measure allowing students to lock in their interest rate for the life of their loan. So, the rates will not go up. The Congressional Research Office estimates that the new Senate bill will save college students \$2,000 in interest.

"Though this bill isn't perfect, our students cannot afford for congress to sit idly by while interest rates on their student loans double, Hagan said. "Our still struggling economy cannot afford it either. Too many young people are unable to purchase homes and cars, start their families when they deal with these staggering amounts of college debt."

"The 21st century jobs that are out there right now and many of the jobs we hope to create in North Carolina, from the tech sector to e-manufacturing, require some education beyond a high school diploma. I'm committed to working towards greater college affordability."

Reforming student loans is not just a priority for senators like Hagan. The issue

**"The President remains committed to ensuring that student loan interest rates remain low so that college is affordable and within each of every qualified student who wants to attend." - White House Representative**

of interest rates on student loans and the nearly 7 million students affected is one the president also takes seriously. In an exclusive statement provided by The White House, the Obama Administration's commitment to keeping college affordable was emphasized.

"The President remains committed to ensuring that student loan interest rates remain low so that college is affordable and within each of every qualified student who wants to attend. We welcome the Senate's bipartisan deal that will reduce interest rates for students and parents immediately and offer relief to nearly 11 million borrowers. The President also believes there is more we need to do to keep college costs from spiraling out of control. That's why his administration has doubled our investment in Pell Grants, created the College Scorecard and Shopping Sheet to provide parents and students clear information about costs, and proposed linking federal student aid to affordability," a White House spokesman said.

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

## Loan increases bring trouble

Brittany Sanderson  
STAFF WRITER

The Financial Aid Office is awaiting the decision but officials believe that the loan increase will not be detrimental to the price of education.

Students, however, believe that the amount of money they're spending on their education is already not paying off in the current job market.

The university's financial aid director Julie Poorman said she doesn't agree with the doubled rate, but students need to realize that college is a good investment.

"A 3.4 percent interest rate is too low, students can't get a car loan or a credit card with that kind of rate," Poorman said. "Maybe with higher interest rates students will buckle down and get their degrees in four years."

The new deal would make the interest rates for these loans 3.86 percent through the 2015 school year. Poorman said Congress put the issue on the back burner

> JUMP page A2

**INDUSTRY** continued from A1

after they delayed dealing with it last year.

"They extended the 3.4 percent rate last year and I am so disappointed that they had another year to deal with this," said Poorman. "At this point, every school in the country is twiddling their thumbs."

Poorman said all of the loans for the fall 2013 semester have been processed but they haven't been sent in to the Department of Education. The financial aid department is hoping a decision is reached soon.

"We are waiting as long as possible before we originate these loans," said Poorman "But if they change the law after disbursement, it's going to be chaotic."

Poorman said if a compromise isn't reached, the financial aid office will complete the loans under the 6.8 percent rate.

"Right now, that's the law," Poorman said. "I'm thinking if they are going to change it, they will decide before students return for the fall semester."

Business major Ferris Lindsey said he is thankful the new change won't apply to him this year.

"All of my money is coming from grants, but I have friends who take out loans and it isn't fair for them," said Lindsey. "It will just lead to more debt after graduation...I'm sure they can find something to raise taxes on, they don't have to make education more

expensive," he said.

Lindsey said he thinks that the proposed deal will be approved and that the interest rates won't affect university students for long.

"Nobody wants interest rates to be that high, not even the government," he said.

Physical Education major James Varner said it would be more beneficial to students if the interest rates were lowered again.

"Tuition is high, books are high, the likelihood of getting a job right after graduation is low," said Varner. "Now we have doubled interest rates to worry about."

Varner said if the proposed deal isn't approved, the new rates might scare people from going to college.

"The high rates could push people away, especially if the only financial help they are getting come from the loans," he said.

Varner said he doesn't think this should affect people who had previously accepted their loans.

"They accept their loans and then over the summer the interest rates sky rocket, that's not right," he said. "It should only change for those people who are accepting loans after the deadline."

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

# Pirate Read prepares transitioning students

**Chelsea Cox**  
STAFF WRITER

For the past five years, ECU has offered a common read program, "Pirate Read," to allow incoming students to get adjusted to academic life at the university, as well as connect with classmates, faculty and staff. A committee of faculty members and student affairs staff choose a book each year that will appeal to freshmen.

This year's book is "It Happened on the Way to War," by Rye Barcott, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill. The book tells an inspiring story of an ambitious young college student who co-founds a non-profit organization and serves as a U.S. Marine, all the while balancing the two with his own personal life.

The Associate Director of ECU's Office of Student Transitions, Karen Smith, is the co-chair of the committee, along with the Director of Composition and Writing Foundations, Tracy Morse.

Smith says the committee chose Rye Barcott's book for several reasons.

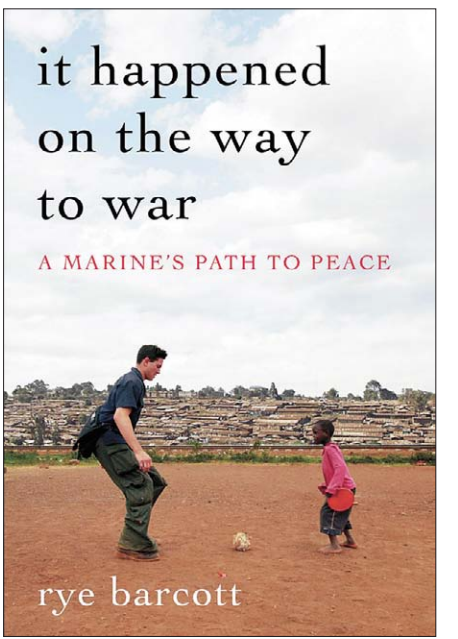
"There are just a lot of different aspects that will integrate with ECU," said Smith. "He talks about how he networks in college and how he works the system and makes connections through faculty members...There's also global citizenship—he starts his own non-profit organization."

Another reason the book will appeal to freshmen, according to Smith, is that it shows how to manage time and handle the responsibilities that come with being an adult.

"[The book] also talks about finding balance in his life...how to balance working with the military and having this non-profit, and how it conflicts and how it doesn't," said Smith.

One of the criterias the book must meet in order to be selected by the committee is that the author is still alive, according to Smith. This is because every year they invite the author to come to the university and speak. "They can meet the author, get their book signed, and hear from them," said Smith.

Rye Barcott will speak at Wright Auditorium on Oct. 22. Smith said the committee is planning other events and projects to accompany the book as well, and that not



WEB PHOTO

only freshmen, but all students and faculty are welcome to attend.

Some English 1100 classes along with the freshmen Coad course will incorporate the book into class discussion. Samuel Kulvete is one of these graduate students who will be teaching English 1100 this fall. According to Kulvete, all of the graduate student teachers are planning to assign the book in their classes.

"Students are supposed to read it over the summer and come ready to discuss it," said Kulvete. "It's a story of a guy who is really good at making connections and finding the right person, establishing his network...that might be something that's beneficial to read about."

Smith hopes the program will be helpful to incoming students as they navigate their first semester of college. "[The book] does help give every student something in common with another person...and to connect that to their disciplines and to other faculty and staff on campus," said Smith.

A copy of the book is available for check out at Joyner library or can be purchased at Dowdy Student Stores.

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

**•The 2013•**  
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Michael Jackson Tribute Band  
• **Firework** •  
Katy Perry Tribute Band  
**FREE CONCERT**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2013**  
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Family Fun Night — Games/Activities for kids  
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Journey Tribute Band  
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## PIRATE RANTS

The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding rants can be directed to Jessica Powell at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com). Log onto [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) to submit a Rant of your own.

Take a hint. You've called me everyday for a month. You helped me scratch an itch and you weren't even that good at it. Let it go bro.

All these freshmen are looking cute as hell for orientation. I give it two months before they adopt the running shorts, t-shirt, messy bun uniform the rest of us have succumbed to.

God grant me the strength not to punch slow walking people in the back of the head.

These next three weeks without classes are going to be so marvelous I might actually cry just thinking about it.

Can we hold off construction until I'm not taking a test?! Seriously summer school is bad enough without migraine-inducing jack hammers.

Comic con always makes me wonder about how much kinky nerd sex is being had in San Diego.

To the girl that wishes she were a lesbian, I'm pretty sure I can help you out.

I can't tell if the tattoo on your right inside ankle is a sperm or a tampon.

I'm pretty sure I've had more fun this summer in Greenville than I've ever had my past two years of college here.

Anonymous twitter accounts are like being at costume parties. Everyone pretty much knows who everyone is, but they idiotically keep throwing insults at each other.

If you can do your masters online, it's not a real degree. -Love, science grad students.

You watched Star Wars (aka the most popular movie franchise of all time?) You're so nerdy... #sarcasm.

Ladies: The guys who read, have jobs and cars, AND DRINK more than everyone else are the scientists.

Is there some sort of unspoken rule about not flushing toilets on this campus? Are people doing this with some kind of malicious glee?

As a professor teaching SSII, I can't wait for it to be over already. This group of students are making me dislike summer.

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and tweet  
us your rants!

Arrgh you  
interested in  
writing for  
Opinion?



Contact Jessica Powell  
at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com)  
for details.

## EDITORIAL

# Our view

# "Crystal" coast

## The road to destruction

With the recent methamphetamine seizure in Greenville valuing \$500,000, eyes are re-opened to the reality that drugs are flooding our streets. Large amounts of narcotics such as this often go undetected, but need to be found.

We as a staff believe that drug amounts at this level need to be closely monitored and taken off the street as quickly as possible in order to prevent drug exchanges that are ruining the lives of many in Eastern North Carolina, as well as around the world.

The process to make drugs such as methamphetamine is thorough and can be caught at early stages before being sold if investigations are done correctly. Meth labs are

sprinkled around our beautiful state, many times going unnoticed.

After the capture of four Mexican natives – Jamie Lopez Contreras, Abril Granados, Julio Cesar



WEB PHOTO

Medina and Luis Esteban Marcias Pena – it was found that this incredible amount of methamphetamines was manufactured in Mexico, next being taken to California, and later was brought to North Carolina en route to Virginia.

With the hard work of the Pitt-Greenville Drug Task Force as well as many other law enforcement personnel, drugs that are harmful to their users need to be completely wiped out, and their makers and sellers need to be punished accordingly.

The editorial staff can be contacted at [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com)

# Bombarded by beliefs



Jessica Powell  
OPINION EDITOR

INSIDE THE  
MIND OF  
JOURNALIST  
JESS

This past Sunday, a group of friends and I decided to have a relaxing evening at "Sunday in the Park" hosted at the Town Common. Now, I must mention, we stuck out like a sore thumb due to our physical diversity compared to the calm, happily married middle-aged

couples surrounding us.

Our group was composed of a girl with a half-shaved head dyed with hues of blue and purple, a motorcycle rider decked out in Harley Davidson gear, a man covered head-to-toe in tattoos and piercings, clearly exposing his artistic side, and a few other scantily clad eye-catchers, just lying in the grass.

As we are enjoying the music, a well-dressed, soft-spoken man approaches us as we are puffing away at our cigarettes, and enjoying the entertainment on the stage. The man then hands us all a copy of a flyer for a local church. Although an atheist, I politely reached for the paper, and set it by my side. I wasn't the only atheist in the group; we were all atheists.

The man began to preach the word of Jesus Christ, and as an open-minded human, I tuned into his conversation out of blatant curiosity. He began to claim we are all going to Hell for our sins, and that all sins are punishable, no matter how big or how small.

Not to cause a stir in public or inform the man of my lack of belief, I kept my mouth shut.

After about seven minutes of the man's rant, a female in the group piped up and said, "I really appreciate everything, but we are trying to enjoy the music if you wouldn't mind." We thought he was going to depart, but it didn't end there.

Another six or so minutes of harsh criticism, and retorts from our group, added fuel to the flame of this man's soul. Remaining calm, the man recited bible verses and never raised his voice once. I could tell he probably has dealt

with a lot of hostility due to his nervous giggles in between statements.

Assuredly, most of us have witnessed a rant like this from a Brother Ross-type on campus. These projections are a large reason for my atheism. Despite simply not believing in God, I can't envision myself choosing to believe in something that these men say can cause so much harm to us as humans. Even further, should I be publicly reprimanded for my lack of religious beliefs during a time of innocent fun? I think not.

Clearly this does not apply to all religions, religious people or everything stated in the Bible. This is simply an observation that I make often, highlighted by the growing number of street preachers in our area. How dare a person approach and condemn me, when I am keeping to myself, not harming others and refraining from judgment. This person was surely doing the opposite.

I have never been, and never will be anti-religion. People are religious for many reasons, just like people are not religious for many reasons. As a well-aware adult, it seems I have chosen a road not accepted very easily, yet I should have every right to do so.

If the man had approached me with the notion that God loved me, would forgive me and that I was a great person that this supposedly great Creator created, my heart would have smiled for his seemingly genuine care for another

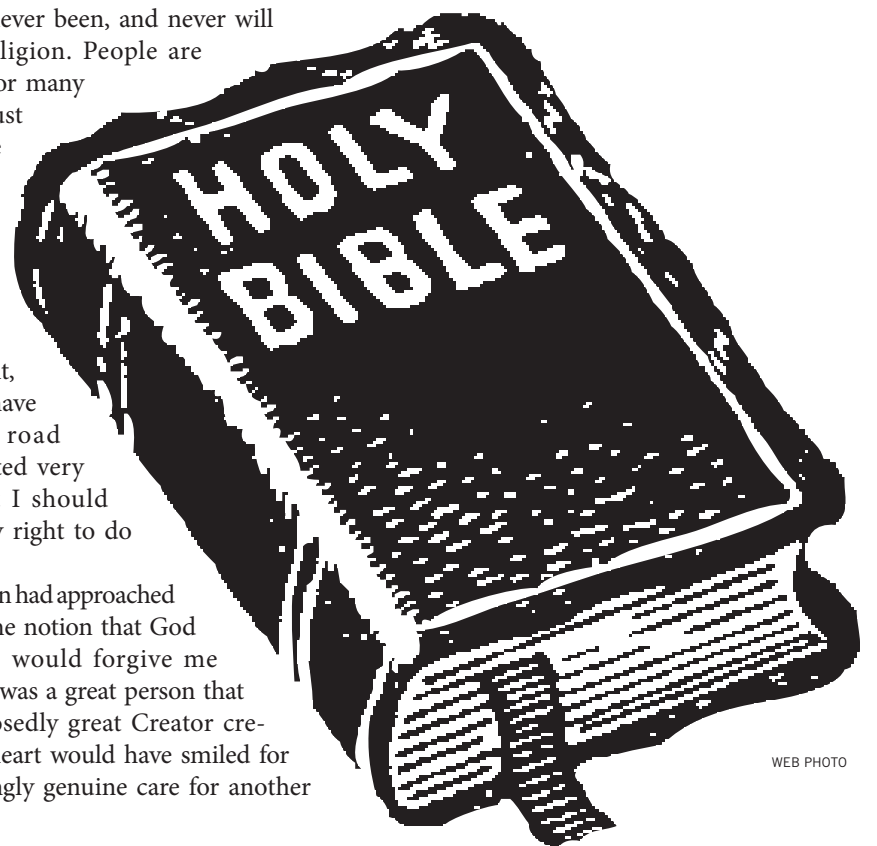
human. Instead, we were all demeaned and called sinners.

I do not need to be told how to be a good person. I do not steal, kill or harm others, cheat, lie, or a lot of things that are considered "sins." I do like cutting my hair and eating shellfish though, so I will claim those demoralizing sins indefinitely.

I am fully aware of the pros, and the cons, of religion. But, I do not feel as though I should be approached by a person trying to convert me to one religion or another. I will never be one of your recruited followers, sir.

If God is the loving, caring, accepting creator that He is claimed to be, I am certain that his believers will ultimately follow that example as well.

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# Band returns to local roots

David Cucchiara  
STAFF WRITER

For many alternative rock groups, to play at Van's Warped Tour means having reached the genre's summit of musical performance.

Local band The Fear of Falling, who took the stage at Warped Tour in 2010, was once considered one of the area's most renowned punk rock groups. From California to North Carolina, the band spent their early years touring from coast to coast, building a fan base and earning the respect of thousands.

After years of touring and over promoting, The Fear of Falling found themselves fearful of falling into financial disarray.

"Touring and being in a band is a great way of life, but unless you have that constant money flow it starts to get hectic and stressful," said lead singer and guitarist Jesse Parks. "People aren't lying when they say money makes the world go round."

The collection of New Bern natives decided it was time to end their run and return to performing for the love of music. The group relocated to Greenville and reformulated their sound under a new name, Myself and I.

Their taxing tours have given way to thrilling local shows and their financial stress has transformed into rewarding performances.

"We were busting our butts every day to try to make what we were doing count for something," said guitarist and harmonic vocalist Phillip Wilson. "We wanted to make a living off of it. [Myself and I] was formed off the premise of having fun."

Spending years playing for a living, Myself and I has given each of the band members a chance to return to their roots and play music for themselves. The band has matured and adjusted to the modern day music scene, playing a softer, more piano based rock, rather than the pop punk rock of old.

"I didn't really like playing pop rock a



Indie piano pop group, Myself and I, comprised of Jesse Parks, Mike Minally, Phillip Wilson, Zach Rowe, Tripp Rowe, performed July 12 at Tippy Teapot.

WEB PHOTO

whole lot. It felt like it was something you outgrow," said Parks. "It doesn't feel too mature when you're singing songs about teenage problems. I really love this band a lot and I really love softer sounding music."

Myself and I released their first EP, titled "Revisions," last spring with the intention of producing a full-length album in the near future. The band now spends its time performing locally, crafting its new sound.

"This band was formed off the premise of having fun," said Wilson. "No one song sounds like the other. If we like it, we keep it."

One of the band's most notable performances came at this year's Battle of the Bands, where they competed against Inertia,

Days Like May and the Copper Tones for a spot in this past year's Barefoot on the Mall.

"I don't know if it was called Battle of the Bands. I thought it was battle of the cover bands," said Parks. "We thought all the bands were going to have original songs. Everyone else was playing these Sublime covers, and let's be honest...college students love Sublime."

A disappointing finish to Battle of the Bands did not deter the group from playing in Greenville. Myself and I continued to book gigs in the area, including shows at the Library Street Mansion and the Tippy Teapot.

"If we get offered shows quite frequently, we're probably going to take it," said Wilson. "But if it becomes a daily struggle, we're

going to cut back. We're not playing shows to promote ourselves; we're playing shows strictly for the fun of it."

The crew of experienced musicians credits Greenville with a diverse and unique music scene. Parks says he would like to see more musically inclined people at ECU and around Greenville become more unified into the music scene.

"I'm excited to see what the future holds for Greenville as a city, as far as music goes," said Wilson.

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

## Comic-Con 2013: Fashion week cosplay edition



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### Staff Reports

Celebrities and comic book enthusiasts gather for one of the most anticipated events of the year. Comic-Con International in San Diego, California where superhero and evil villain impersonators celebrate the historic pop cultural art form. Tickets for this year's event were available in February and sold out within two hours of the release,

according to the San Diego Union-Tribune.

Besides having the opportunity to meet and get autographs of the geniuses behind the masked escapades, the most awaited feature of this supernatural convention is the magnitude of middle-aged adults donning the traditional garb of their favored Sci-Fi characters.

From the beloved Superman to beautiful Princess Leia, Comic-Con has prided itself on providing a venue for like-

minded individuals who appreciate the comic book culture, awarding the prestigious members, and premiering the films to come.

Over the years, star guests have used Comic-Con as an excuse to push the edge of bold in their choice of red carpet attire. What better opportunity to set the trends than an event where the future is the present, and the atmosphere is always a step ahead from reality?

### EVENT CALENDAR

#### Tippy Teapot

**Today**  
7 p.m.  
ODM

**Thursday**  
7 p.m.  
Comedy Open Mic

**Friday**  
8 p.m.  
Of the Dirt  
Kara Carlson  
Tyler "Slim" Weaver  
Brooke Parnell  
Ben Griffith (US)

**Saturday**  
9 p.m.  
KONG!

#### Peasant's Pub

**Thursday**  
7 p.m.  
Danielle Howle  
Firework Show

**Friday**  
8 p.m.  
The Mantras

**Saturday**  
10 p.m.  
Galaxy Dynamite

You have to be at least 21 to attend any shows after 10 p.m.

#### Uptown Events

**Today**  
5-8 p.m.  
Umbrella Market

**Sunday**  
7 p.m.  
Sunday in the Park  
Greenville Grass

Know of some awesome events coming up? Let Arts & Entertainment know! Email arts@theeastcarolinian.com and put "Event Calendar" in the subject bar.

# TV season premiere superlatives

Jessica Richmond  
NEW EDITOR

With the end of summer classes comes the beginning of Fall, which to some pessimists brings blustery weather and heaps of homework but to the optimists, Fall means television. The long-awaited premiere season is complete with new favorites that will explode into obsession, cliffhangers of last spring that will be resolved in anticlimactic fervor and the dreaded pilots that will plunge into the abyss of cancellation land.

Most Awaited Dramatic Return:  
**American Horror Story: Coven**

With seventeen Emmy nominations the serial has more than captured the attention of audiences in its past two seasons and the upcoming season promises even more thrills. The new season entitled 'Coven' will be focusing on witches in New Orleans. Series favorites like Jessica Lange, Sarah Paulson, Lily Rabe, and Evan Peters are confirmed to be returning. Big names like Patti Lupone and Kathy Bates have also joined the star-studded cast. Ryan Murphy, the series creator, promises more "evil glamour" and true horror in this new location making it one of the most anticipated show of the fall.

Most Promising New Show:  
**The Tomorrow People**

The new CW show centered around young people who possess powers as the result of human evolution. The network seems to be trying to cash in on the success of superhero films like "X-Men" that have massive followings in the youth demographic that the CW so desperately cling too. The show is based on a British show of the same name that proved to be massively popular across the pond and if "Downton Abbey" has taught us anything it's that Americans are all secret anglophiles.

Most Likely to Get Cancelled:  
**Dads**

While Seth Green proves to possess a golden touch when it comes to television shows his new show with Giovanni Ribisi looks like a clunker that wont make it past Thanksgiving break. The show follows Green and Ribisi's characters, best friends who work as successful video game developers. Their bachelor lifestyle is interrupted when their two fathers move in with them. The show is backed by producer Seth MacFarlane so there has to be something good about it. Far dumpier shows have made it far but Fox is known for cancelling comedies early on and this show screams cancellation.

Most Awaited Comedic Show:  
**Modern Family**

Though the show hit some bumps last season it came back into stride in the season finale making viewers salivate for just a little bit more of the Pritchett-Dunphy family. The dynamic show became a permanent staple of the TV comedy line-up in the past four seasons but new changes should revamp the show to its former glory. If Manny, the show's resident white knight, can get hit by a bus in the premiere the show's ratings would be back where they should be.

Most Likely to Be the Best Spin-Off  
**The Originals**

The best thing to come out of "Vampire Diaries" is Joseph Morgan's character Klaus. The evil yet charming vampire-werewolf hybrid clawed his way into viewer's hearts in season 2 of the hit CW show with his character gaining more and more ground as his fanbase grew larger. The CW produced a backdoor pilot for the character in which the seedy vampiric underbelly of New Orleans is revealed as well as a few secrets in Klaus' past. Deny it all you want but the CW does supernatural with just enough cheese and the right amount of intrigue to keep the viewers chomping at the bit.

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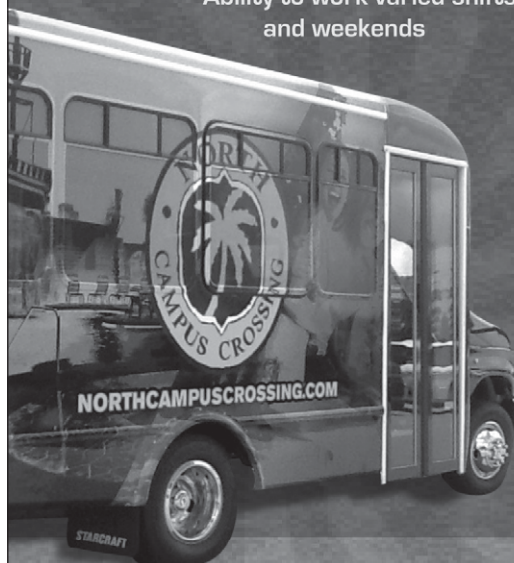
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## Brown shines in East-West game

J'Kyra Brown is a heralded women's basketball player out of Rocky Mount high school where she set the record for points scored (1,665).

The East-West all-star game gathers the best players across the state and pairs them together in a battle of the bests.

Last night Brown scored 12 points, six steals, five rebounds, two assists and one block as she led her team to the 67-60 victory over the West squad.

## Swimming and Diving garner Scholar All-American honors

The ECU women's swimming and diving boasted a 3.62 cumulative GPA for the spring semester, the highest out of all Division 1 programs during that semester. The College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) honored the Pirates for their efforts in the classroom late last week.

The men's team also made it on the list after posting a respectable 3.11 GPA.

Coach Rick Kobe and his team can now pair this honor with one they received earlier in 2013.

Earlier this year, the NCAA gave a special public recognition award to the women's swimming team as it each achieved an APR rate in the top 10 percent of all squads nationwide, which was a first for the program.

## Broadcast partners receives extension

ECU athletics, Beasley Broadcast Eastern North Carolina and IMG College—the athletics department's multimedia rights partner—have agreed to a five-year extension of its current radio affiliation agreement with WNCT-FM/107.9 and WNCT-AM/1070 according to an announcement Monday.

Football and basketball will continue to air on 107.9 FM while ECU baseball will stay with the 1070 AM station that has been their home for many seasons.

Included in the five year extension is that the coaches' call-in shows will remain on the WNCT-FM affiliate and will still be Beasley's radio flagship in Greenville.

The AM affiliate will broadcast all 56 regular season baseball games while still holding a tight grip on the Pirates postseason games as well.

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Tynita Butts (above) has brought prominence to ECU track and field with the impressive finishes in her career. She hopes her senior year is no different.

# Track team inks '13 class

**Dan Hunt**  
SPORTS WRITER

The ECU track and field team wrapped up its signing-day period for the 2013-14 school year. Twenty-three new student athletes (20 freshmen and three transfers) will call the university their home and Curt Kraft their coach starting this fall.

"We work hard at this," said Kraft. "None of these recruits were a surprise [with their commitment]. It's a credit to the school, and it's a credit to the city of Greenville."

Recruiting-wise, Craft and his coaching staff make sure they lock down the state of North Carolina, first and foremost.

"I take a lot of satisfaction in the fact that we have 108 athletes, and over half of those are from the state of North Carolina. We take a lot of pride in that. You have to take care

of you and your own before you focus on other states."

Kraft, who enters his ninth year at the university, is excited about his new personnel.

"It was a great recruiting class all across the board: sprinters, hurdlers, throwers, jumpers, distance-runners, pole-vaulters," said Kraft. "We didn't really have any blaring weaknesses. We just put some more bricks on top of the wall."

Kraft also made it clear that a handful of these new faces will make an immediate impact for the Pirates this upcoming season.

The men that he envisions competing immediately include: freshmen John Crossley from Newport, N.C., and Jalen Peterkin from Durham, N.C., Coastal Carolina transfer Joe Wilson and VMI transfer Avion Jones.

He is particularly excited about the signing of, perhaps the prize of

the class, middle distance runner, John Crossley from West Carteret High School in Newport.

"We signed one of the top 800-meter runners in the U.S. in John Crossley. When he signed with us, he wasn't running as fast as he is now. He really improved as [his senior season] went on," said Kraft.

The incomers that Kraft sees making an early impact for the reigning conference-champion women include Jasmine Dawson from Clayton, N.C. and Leah Lott from Virginia Beach, Va.

"Jasmine Dawson was the women's state champ [for the 100-meter], and Leah [Lott] was one of the top hurdlers in the country. These are two of the bright stars for our women," said Kraft.

Kraft believes, now that recruiting is over, the team can focus on what he thinks could be a historic season for his program.

"We're really proud of how far we've come. We were conference champs on the women's side a year ago. The goal for our program is always to win conference championships," said Kraft. "Now we're trying to do that on the men's side as well. I think that next year, if things work out, we could probably have the best team that we've ever had in the history of this university."

Despite the optimism, Coach Kraft emphasized, "there are a lot of things that have to fall into place."

"We have to go to class. We have to stay injury free and do all the things the right way to become conference champions," said Kraft. "It doesn't just happen by waving a magic wand."

ECU's third season in the new Terry Holland Olympic sports complex will begin this winter.

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

## Behind the mic with the voice of Pirate Radio

Pirate Radio host, Clip Brock, makes broadcasting look easy

**Ronnie Moore**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Long time ECU faithful and radio host Clip Brock knows exactly what it has taken to create an interactive and entertaining show that Pirate listeners can come to appreciate.

Being a part of the media isn't always an easy task. Writers, broadcasters and radio personnel have the inside track to most of the breaking news, but with that comes the responsibility and accountability that the public demands.

The dedication of media representatives is in high gear almost year-round, but during the summer months, many sports are in their off-seasons and stories may be hard to come by.

Planning ahead is critical for production day. Conducting a sports talk show for an hour each day can be a hard task. Co-hosts, guests and quirky game ideas are what it takes to make it through the unbearable stretches of the summer months.

Brock has featured games like "Sports Bar Survivor" and "Clip's Sports Quiz," which encourages listeners to test their knowledge of ECU and sports in general.

The Winterville, N.C. native has been in the vicinity of ECU for

his entire life and has experienced the highs and lows of Pirate athletics. The "5th Quarter" is a call in show after ECU football games. It is evident that some fans come and go with the tide, but their passion remains constant and even is on the verge of "crazy."

"If ECU wins, the fans are on top of the world and there is no way we can be beat," said Brock. "If ECU loses, they want to fire the coach and find new players."

Being unbiased is a crucial part to being a respected media member in a particular area or for a specific university. ECU is a perfect example where telling it like it is can be respected because

the masses may agree.

Some schools and areas are apathetic and their fan bases "go with the flow" in regards to athletics. Their carefree atmosphere can stifle important issues and, in some cases, big news becomes lackluster after the fan base could care less.

"Even if I am critical, the fans here get it," said Brock. "Apathy is a lot worse than fans being on the 'lunatic fringe.'"

Pirate Nation obviously loves their athletics, but many outsiders credit ECU with having a strong fan base and a passion that is second to none.

Brock started off with a weekly sports show every Thursday and

as a result he was able to choose from a wide range of stories to talk about. Since moving to a daily schedule in March, it has been a challenge to keep the topics fresh and interactive.

When Brock first gave it a shot in late March there was ECU basketball, baseball and spring football all going on at the same time, an incredible feat for Pirate athletics. Since his transition, the university has been out for the summer, sports have come and gone and the vacant period is in full effect.

"It has been difficult to find topics in the summer with the lack of sports going on," said Brock. "Guests and co-hosts are important; lining them up is important."

Availability is the biggest problem when dealing with coaches and former players who have moved on in their careers. Brock has never once had a person shoot down the idea of appearing on his show, and most are willing to make it happen. Call-in guests may be the only option sometimes.

Brock hosts his own show, "The Sports Bar," everyday from 4-5 p.m. on Pirate Radio 1250 & 930 and can be streamed online.

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



WEB PHOTO

## CALENDAR

"It was a great recruiting class all across the board: sprinters, hurdlers, throwers, jumpers, distance-runners, pole-vaulters, we didn't really have any blaring weaknesses. We just put some more bricks on top of the wall."— Coach Curt Kraft on his 2013 recruiting class

23 days



Until Women's Soccer begins

30 days



Until Women's Volleyball begins

38 days



Until Pirate Football begins

# Pirates expect more than a conference title

**Josh Graham**  
SENIOR WRITER

Last week, ECU was named the preseason favorite to win Conference USA's East division, receiving 11 of the 14 first-place votes from the league's coaches.

One year removed from finishing 7-1 in C-USA-play and sharing the regular season crown with UCF, ECU returns 18 starters, which have undoubtedly raised its expectations far beyond winning a division crown.

During his first three seasons with the Pirates, head coach Ruffin McNeill has enjoyed an impressive 16-8 league record, but struggled in games out of conference. McNeill's Pirates are just 3-12 in non-conference games and still without a bowl win.

Sure, one of those wins was an overtime classic against Russell Wilson and N.C. State, which silenced some of McNeill's critics for a little while, but how long will the Pirate Nation be satisfied with that?

After taking a peek at the 2013 schedule, I don't anticipate too much longer.

The Pirates will face three Atlantic Coast Conference schools in 2013 — consisting of a home game versus Virginia Tech, and road games at North Carolina and N.C. State.

Unlike their most recent marquee non-conference matchup, a 48-10 loss to No.

9 South Carolina in 2012, there is reason to believe the Pirates could win each of the three games.

After ECU opens the season with back-to-back home games against lower-echelon opponents (Old Dominion, Florida Atlantic), Frank Beamer and his Virginia Tech Hokies will visit Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Sept. 14.

Logan Thomas, the 6-foot-6-inch, 257-pound Hokie quarterback, will enter his senior year poised for an ACC Coastal Division crown. The most significant concern holding the Hokies back lies within their supporting cast around Thomas on offense. They will be without a go-to receiver and reliable running back that we've become accustomed to seeing in Blacksburg over recent years.

Though, for what it lacks offensively, Virginia Tech makes up for defensively, with 9 returning starters — including ball-hawking linebacker Jack Tyler. The looming question remains whether or not the Hokies can outscore the Pirates' explosive offense.

Following that game is the first of the Pirates' two bye weeks during the regular season. A week later, the Pirates play their first road game on Sep. 28 at North Carolina.

Despite the Pirates having only one win in Chapel Hill,

UNC has lost various key players along its offensive line and on defense, which may leave them susceptible to be exploited. ECU returns its prolific offensive trio of Shane Carden, Justin Hardy and Vintavious Cooper, in addition to practically its entire front-7 on defense.

Arguably, the Pirates' most anticipated game of the year is at N.C. State on Nov. 23. Not only is it a late-season game against one of their most bitter rivals, it's also the game the Pirates have the best chance to win of the three ACC contests.

Former Northern Illinois head coach Dave Doeren — formerly under ECU's director of athletics Jeff Compher — enters his first season as N.C. State's coach after he led NIU to the Discover Orange Bowl.

If that wasn't enough change, the Wolfpack only bring back 10 starters from 2012 and will be working in a new starting quarterback after the Tampa Bay Buccaneers drafted Mike Glennon in late April.

In the end, the Pirates' priority will be to continue its success in C-USA. But in order to gain respect on a national scale or by the computers, the Pirates must end their losing ways against high-end, non-conference opponents and finally win a bowl game.

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



DREW CARTER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Pirates face-off against three ACC teams this season. Fans are hoping they take advantage.

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