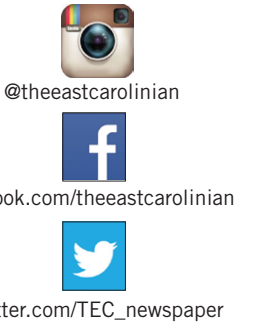




The East Carolinian



Volume 89, Issue 69

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Thursday, 1.15.15

Fliers spark an issue with SGA

Collyn Sheaffer
TEC STAFF

With Michael King, student body president, facing impeachment last semester, the Student Government Association at East Carolina University dealt with constant criticism and endless questions last semester about their decision making skills.

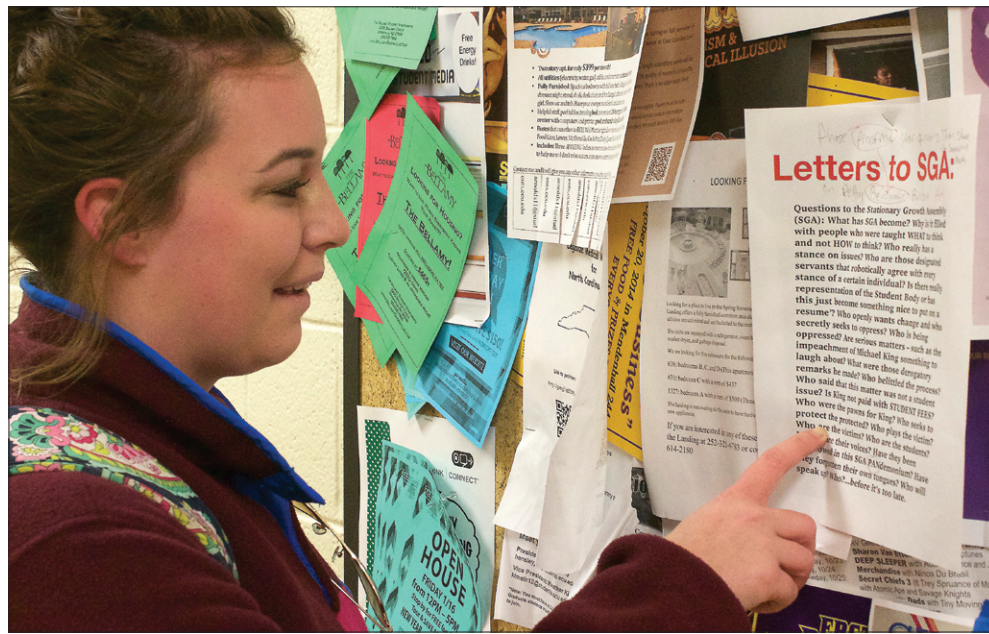
More recently, there were posters anonymously put up around campus, questioning the motives behind SGA.

These posters ask questions to the "Stationary Growth Assembly," which is who the signs are addressed to, about the actual voice of students at this school as well as King's impeachment. The signs were put up in Bate towards the end of last semester and have apparently been put back up this week and are even starting to collect comments written by students.

The signs suggest that the Student Government Association did not take the situation regarding King's impeachment as serious as they should have, calling members of the organization "designated servants that robotically agree with every stance of a certain individual." Besides questioning the obvious issue of King's impeachment, these letters express the thought that SGA is seeking to oppress instead of progress.

The signs are thought to have been put up by students that are upset with some of the decisions made by the SGA Senate, specifically regarding the Aycock Residence Hall name change as well as the impeachment proceedings against Michael King.

The Student Government Association at East Carolina encourages the student body to give them feedback and to voice their opinions, whether on their website or via email. Adam Caldwell, senior political science and history major and SGA General College Senator, encourages all students to continue holding their peers



Kaylee Thomas, a freshman elementary education major reads the issues addressed in the letter.

accountable in SGA. "SGA can only improve and rise to its potential when all students are heard and their viewpoints debated to ensure responsible, representative action is undertaken," said Caldwell.

The mission of the Student Government Association at East Carolina is "to be the foremost advocate for all students that make up our university," said Michael King.

With several ways to reach out to Student Government and multiple outlets for students to voice their opinions, the job of the SGA Senate is to be on the student body's side and create an environment where every student's voice is heard. Students are welcomed to email any of the SGA Senate or go to the discussion boards that SGA holds every Thursday from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. and talk about things going on in SGA and on campus.

"There is also a public comments section at senate where anyone can come speak about

legislation," said Katie Swanner, student body secretary.

The current executive branch of SGA ran a major portion of their campaign on student representation and student awareness. King said that each branch of SGA has worked together to reach those goals and will continue to do so during the end of their term. In response to the not so positive posters put up around campus questioning SGA's decision making, King encourages these students to make sure their voices are heard through SGA House of Representatives that they are in the process of creating, or even running for SGA elections which are being held next month.

"Every decision we make, is with the best interest of the student body and we will continue to act in such fashion," said King.

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

Basketball earns first AAC win

Andi Caruso
TEC STAFF

Head Coach Jeff Lebo had a face of relief when the ECU men's basketball team earned its first American Athletic Conference win, 66-61 over Houston.

Contributions by leading scorer B.J. Tyson and Terry Whisnant helped the team hang on to win a low scoring battle over the Cougars, now the only winless team in the AAC.

The shooting guard Tyson went 7-for-14, led the team with 16 points and had a total of seven rebounds while Whisnant went 5-for-12, and shot 3-for-8 behind the arc.

Whisnant was an important defensive element as he helped stymie the Cougars offense.

"In order to get our wins, it starts on the defensive end," said Whisnant. "We executed the demonstration and came out with a win."

The Pirates held Houston's offense to only 33.9 percent as well as limiting one of the Cougars' leading scorers from hitting the trey. Jherrod Stiggers went 0-for-5 behind the arc, an unusual sight as he is used to averaging four threes a game.

> HOOPS page A10

Coordinator hire not confirmed

Brian Wudkwyh
TEC STAFF

In the wake of Wed. night reports that surfaced claiming otherwise, ECU spokesman Tom McClellan could not confirm that ECU outside receiver coach Dave Nichol had been hired as the offensive coordinator.

Nichol, 35, was already being tabbed as the front-runner for the job after former offensive coordinator Lincoln Riley was hired by Oklahoma University on Monday. He has been a part of the ECU staff for 3 years after coming to Greenville following a stint with Arizona that spanned 5 seasons.

When Nichol first joined the program in 2012, Head Coach Ruffin McNeill alluded to him having a great under-



Dave Nichol

standing of the ECU offense.

"Dave brings high-level competition experience from his involvement in the Pac-12," McNeill said in 2012 via Nichol's bio on the ECU athletics website. "Dave has also established himself as a great recruiter and a great developer of players, and his understanding of our offense reaches from A to Z. We are absolutely thrilled to have Dave join the Pirate family."

It is expected that Nichol would continue to implement the spread offense that has been a cornerstone of the Pirates dating back to 2000 when Steve Logan was still at the helm.

>> INSIDE
A10 Remembering Riley

>> ONLINE
Keep updated with this story online at theeastcarolinian.com

The departure of Riley to Oklahoma left a void for McNeill to fill. Riley's offenses accounted for the top five ECU single season passing records and finished the 2014 season ranked third in the nation for passing offense.

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

City Council approves Greenway expansion



Jessica Maillo, an ECU alumna enjoys a jog on Green Mill Run, set to gain another 1.4 miles.

Kelsey Padgett
TEC STAFF

Construction is set to break ground this spring on Phase II of the Green Mill Run Greenway, adding 1.4 miles to the Greenville Greenway.

In 2011, Greenville City Council and the North Carolina Department of Transportation agreed to construct the recreational trail along Green Mill Run. The agreement on funding was \$1.4 million in federal funding with a city match of \$343,000.

After state funding fell through, the City Council met to approve an increase in the city funding for the project from 10 percent to 20 percent. The council unanimously approved another nearly \$310,000 for the city match, along with close to \$62,000 of Powell Bill funds for the project back in November 2014.

The current greenway is a combination of three segments that make up a network of nearly five miles of recreational trails through the city. It was originally built as a way to connect the parks throughout the city. They now serve the community as a multi-use track "for residents to hop on and off of throughout the city."

The South Tar River Greenway is the largest segment of the three at 3.2 miles. It connects between the town commons park downtown and the Green Springs

Park on 5th Street. It runs adjacent to the Tar River and the residential streets known as "The Grid."

The current Green Mill Run Greenway segment is the oldest part of the greenway and it runs along the Green Mill Run stream. It travels along the bottom of College Hill and ends at Elm Street, where it connects to the Stadium Greenway.

The Stadium Greenway is the shortest of the three segments at only about 0.57 miles. It travels along Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

The new portion of the greenway, Phase II of the Green Mill Run Greenway, will be picking up where the Stadium Greenway leaves off on Charles Boulevard. It will run along the Green Mill Run stream and end on Arlington Boulevard near J.H. Rose High School.

Another greenway addition is in the works for the latter part of this year. This addition would start at the Town Commons and run along the Tar River over to West Greenville by Vidant Medical Center. The West Greenville Greenway project is still in the planning phases until later this year.

The Phase II of the Green Mill Run Greenway is set to be completed by July 2016.

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

BRIEFS

Carmike Cinemas rumored to close for renovations

Carmike Cinemas is reportedly closing temporarily for renovations. The theatre is currently open and will remain open for the next few weeks. The Carmike Cinemas in Greenville and the corporate office would not provide an exact date for when renovations would begin. The rumored renovations would be expected to take up to six months.

Ted Sauls replaces Aden as interim Chief of Police

Greenville Police Department's Deputy Chief Ted Sauls has become interim Police Chief of the department after Chief Hassan Aden announced his retirement plans last month. Sauls has been Interim Chief before in 2012 in the month prior to Aden's arrival. The City of Greenville anticipates the search for a new police chief will take four to six months.

Online Graduate Programs rank top in the nation

East Carolina University's online graduate programs in nursing and business were ranked among the best in the country by U.S. News & World Report. The College of Nursing ranked 18th while the online Master of Business Administration program in the College of Business was ranked 69th. In addition, the online criminal justice graduate program was ranked for the first time by U.S. News and placed 25th.

Corrections/ Clarifications

The photo associated with the article "Quartet brings music to medicine" was courtesy of the Stranded Silver Flute Quartet Facebook page.

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper please contact Jessica Richmond, editor@theeastcarolinian.com

ECO-pirates and The East Carolinian would like to remind you to recycle this paper.

Alumnus to screen new short film on homelessness tonight at Topsy Teapot

Arvanna Smart
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University alumnus Evan Kidd will be premiering a short film that he wrote and directed titled "Displacement Welcomed" at the Topsy Teapot this evening at 8 p.m.

Kidd was a film major during his time at ECU. He wrote "Displacement Welcomed" during his senior year as his senior thesis film in the filmmaking department.

Growing up, Kidd had a fascination with everything that goes into making movies and the behind-the-scenes aspects of the movies he would watch.

"After watching a movie I would always think how did

they get that shot or how did they do that performance," said Kidd. "I was always interested in the behind the scenes stuff. So when it came time to go to college it only made sense that I did filmmaking."

Kidd also made a 35-minute documentary titled "Spazz Out" in 2013. This film is a documentary about the music festival here in Greenville called the Spazz fest.

He followed Jeff Blinder and was inspired by what Blinder goes through over the course of the festival coming together, such as dealing with all of the different bands and people involved, and used this to create "Spazz Out."

This film will also be showing tonight right after "Displacement Welcomed."

"Displacement Welcomed" was filmed around the beginning of 2014 and also stars fellow ECU student Avery Hobbs. It talks about homelessness and caring for others in a different manner.

"The essential theme of the film is homelessness. Homelessness is something that is all around us and I think people do not know what to do about homelessness, but awareness is the first step," said Kidd.

The main character of the film has had her own problems growing up that started once her mother passed away in an accident. Her father leaves her

once her mother passes away and she goes to find him.

During the course of the day she meets a homeless woman who takes her on a journey within her own journey.

She learns that the homeless woman is a regular person who has her own story.

"All homeless people are individual people and they have their own stories and I think a lot of times it's easy to look at someone and say that's a homeless individual, I don't know what to do," said Kidd. "But at the end of the day you have to realize that each person you see is an actual person."

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

FBI warns about scam

Jessica Gribbon
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University police sent out two public service announcements via Twitter sent from the Federal Bureau of Investigation on Tuesday. The messages warned students and faculty of scams being conducted over email.

The first scam noted that students are receiving emails about working from home as a way of earning money. In the first PSA released by the FBI, students could see the details of what that email looked like. It read:

"The 'position' simply requires the student to provide his/her bank account number to receive a deposit and then transfer a portion of the funds to another bank account. Unbeknownst to the student, the other account is involved in the scam that the student has now helped perpetrate."

According to the PSA, participation in this scam could result in serious consequences. The announcement cited that law enforcement will identify the student's bank account as being involved in the fraud and

they could potentially face federal charges, regardless of intentions.

"Keep good records and stay aware of your bank statements," said Lt. Chris Sutton, ECU Police Department public information officer. "Discard any mail or personal information by shredding it, don't just throw it away."

A second warning was issued to university staff after some employees received emails about changing their human resource status. The FBI released a second PSA to help prevent staff from being victims.

According to this announcement, the scammers are sending out emails that are similar to the legitimate site in an effort to steal the employee's credentials. Once an employee enters their information, the scammer is able to then use that information to login to their legitimate account.

Once the scammers have this information, they are able to access the employee's account and change their direct deposit setting. As a result, the employee's paycheck will be deposited into the bank account of another individual involved in the scam.

"If someone asks for your personal information over the phone, do not provide it," said Lt. Sutton. "Banks don't usually contact customers for that information, it is usually the other way around."

In order to be protected from this scam, the FBI encourages staff to look over their emails prior to entering any information. Check for poor use of English language in your emails, such as grammar and punctuation. This could indicate that the sender is not a native English speaker, a commonality amongst scammers according to the document.

"Students are encouraged to contact us if they feel they are victims," said Lt. Sutton. "Students living on campus should contact the ECU Police Department and students living in off-campus apartments should contact the Greenville Police Department."

If an email appears to be concerning or suspicious, staff is encouraged to contact their personnel department.

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



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BWW01152015RM

Honors College hosts speaker on campus

Lindsay Rayner
TEC STAFF

Gwendolyn Oxenham, author of "Finding the Game," will be speaking today as part of the Leadership Lecture Series hosted by the Honors College.

Oxenham earned her undergraduate degree at Duke University while playing on the soccer team. According to Meghan Woodlies, East Carolina University's undergraduate director of student programs, "She was the youngest D1 athlete at Duke."

Unfortunately, when Oxenham graduated from Duke at age 20, the women's professional soccer league had folded, preventing her from continuing onto a career in soccer.

In "Finding the Game," Oxenham along with her boyfriend and two friends travel around the world and initiate soccer games with the locals in an effort to stay in the game.

Rather than playing on manicured fields, Oxenham and her friends start soccer games in unexpected places such as alleyways and concrete courts. They seek out unexpected opponents by visiting prisons



Gwendolyn Oxenham authored "Finding the Game" and speaks about her book and experiences to students in the U.S.

and wandering down random streets while holding a soccer ball.

In addition to the book, the documentary "Pelada" shows Oxenham's journey while traveling. The movie is described as "the story of the people who play."

In 2005, Oxenham played pro-

fessionally for Santos FC in Brazil. Woodlies said Oxenham will discuss her traveling during the lecture so "students can learn through her experiences."

According to Woodlies, the focus of the lecture will be about Oxenham's leadership experiences, and "how she

got to her point of writing her book."

Oxenham received her master of fine arts while studying creative writing at the University of Notre Dame.

While at Notre Dame, Oxenham received The Nicholas Sparks post-graduate fellowship, which provides second year creative writ-

ing students one year of support.

Woodlies said the Honors College typically hosts around three speakers per semester.

"It [speaker selection] can be recommendations from students, from faculty, or people who come to us saying they're interested," said Woodlies.

In Oxenham's case, Woodlies said, "She was originally chosen by one of our faculty members, and then they worked with the Athletic Department to get it sponsored."

Through her lecture, Oxenham will show students that "no matter your age, you can make a difference, and you can learn something," said Woodlies.

Oxenham currently teaches English and continues to play pickup games of soccer in Southern California.

The lecture will be held in Hendrix Theatre at 7 p.m. Admission is free and the lecture is open to all ECU students as well as the community.

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

Lecture series sheds light on global topics

Emily Schultz
TEC STAFF

The Foreign Policy Association at East Carolina University is hosting their eight-week long Great Decisions Program beginning Saturday at 10 a.m. in Rivers.

For eight consecutive Saturdays, experts from different departments in the school will speak about different topics that relate to foreign affairs.

The Great Decisions program is designed to bring in experts on topics of global significance like "Russia and the Near Abroad," "Privacy and the Digital Age" and "Human Trafficking in the 21st Century." Each session will have a different speaker whose expertise deal with the topic being presented.

According to the Foreign Policy Associa-

tion, each session will last approximately two hours long and will include a question and answer session at the end. In addition, people in the audience will have the opportunity to "voice their opinion on the topic by voting for or against certain foreign policy positions for the U.S. government."

Andrew Cartee at the Office of Continuing Studies works with the Great Decisions Program and he said that the program offers everyday citizens to feel involved in the foreign policy development of the United States.

"Through opinion ballots, program participants have the opportunity to have their voice heard," said Cartee. "At the conclusion of the eight week program, the opinion ballots are presented to the White House, Congress and the Departments of State and Defense."

Cartee said that the goals of the program are for people to have a broader understanding of the challenges the United States faces in the world today from the "threat of global terrorism to environmental issues, globalization, and development."

Caleb Prevatte, freshman political science major, said he thinks it is a good idea for departments at the school to provide opportunities for students to hear about current world issues.

"It amazes me how many people our age don't keep up with global issues, so at least giving the opportunity to students to be able to better educate themselves is definitely important," said Prevatte.

Prevatte said that because we live in such a globalized society, it is crucial for people in

our generation to know about and understand domestic and foreign affairs.

"Isolationism in our current state is next to impossible, and we need to understand what is going on globally more than ever as the future generation of world leaders," said Prevatte.

The session is open to everyone, ECU students, faculty and members of the public. The cost for the entire series is \$40 and the cost to attend each individual session is \$8.

The program is offered in the nearby towns of Washington, Williamston and Tarboro in addition to the one being held on campus at ECU and they will feature the same topics.

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

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Elmore created several art pieces throughout his career and developed a passion for collecting toys, such as the clown puppet shown above.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Learning the ABC's of painting

Amanda Adkins
TEC STAFF

The Greenville Museum of Art will hold a beginners painting course for people looking to experience a new pastime.

The course called "The ABC's of Painting Begins" will be cut into three sessions with session one being held every Thursday at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. from today until Feb. 5. The second session will be at the same time from Feb. 12 to Mar. 5 and the third session will be held at the same time from Mar. 12 to April 2.

According to Megan Maxwell, operations and programs director at the Greenville Museum of Art, the class has been taking place for two years.

During the sessions, participants will be introduced to color blending, different types of brushes, personality of medium and how to work with it. The class is designed for beginners and students with some experience.

"We really want to be able to offer classes in the community to support our mission. The Greenville Museum of Art's mission is to provide and promote the visual arts through the collection, exhibitions and education," said Maxwell. "With over 14,000 visitors a year and numerous lectures, programs and tours throughout the year, the Museum is passionate about culturally enriching the lives of all who walk through its doors."

Gail Ritzer, who received her bachelor of science in Art Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia and an master of fine arts in Ceramics and Painting from East Carolina University, will teach the course.

Ritzer has exhibited her work at locales in New York, The University of Missouri-St. Louis, Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Nebraska. Her work has also appeared in Fiber Arts Design Book and Art/Quilt Magazine.

As Outreach Coordinator for the Greenville Museum of Art and instructor for the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge, Ritzer has been teaching surface design techniques, mixed media methods, painting and ceramics at workshops over the years.

"Gail has been fortunate to receive a number of grants from the North Carolina Arts Council to pursue a variety of personal and community arts projects," said Maxwell.

Students will not need to bring supplies to the first class. The instructor will provide suggestions on what supplies to purchase, but students are allowed to use art supplies that they may already have.

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

>> PLAN TO GO

WHAT: The ABC's of Painting Begins

WHEN: Every Thursday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. until February 5

WHERE: The Greenville Museum of Art Center for Art Education

Toying with art

ECU celebrates retired professor's artwork

Nichole Currie
TEC STAFF

The Greenville Museum of Art is now holding the Retrospective Exhibition of East Carolina University's Professor Emeritus Ray Elmore.

Ray Elmore is a retired professor from ECU's School of Art and Design who worked in the painting and drawing department. Elmore has been chosen by the Greenville Museum of Art to present Retrospective, which is a review of his career, as an honorable achievement.

"He's been such a strong force in the ECU art department. He's not one of those people who hung it up when he became a teacher," said Charlotte Fitz Daniels, executive director of the Greenville Museum of Art. "He's always been a working artist."

Former students of Elmore were in attendance of his exhibition.

"There are some amazing examples of figure drawing," said Erica Carpenter, junior animation major. "Those are the ones I'm mostly attracted to and also the Native American pieces."

Elmore found his inspirations from a couple of themes. Native Americans, vintage toys and his teaching years all impacted his work over his life.

"With the Native Americans, it's always been my opinion that this country did not do justice to that culture. I've always felt the need to reference to them," said Elmore. "In reference to the Native American, the dignity in their face and their image caused

me to start collecting things. He's very sympathetic towards the struggles they went through," said Daniels. "[Such as] the idea of manifest destiny and how their family and homes were taken from them."

Some people in the exhibit could identify with Elmore's Native American pieces. Carpenter, who is of Native American descent, said those pieces touched her especially.

Elmore also started his passion with collecting vintage toys with his wife.

"I've always loved the wear and tear of the toys," said Elmore. "The colors and textures found in the toys were great."

Teaching at ECU gave Elmore inspiration. His students and colleagues reflected in his art work.

"When you give students an assignment and they put all of their work up to critique, that is when I'm in my glory," said Elmore. "I love to tell them where their strengths and weaknesses are."

Along with his students, Elmore and his colleagues had a group titled "The Ruckus Gang."

"At that time people were wearing fancy hats and buckles. I told my friends that we were not going out like that," said Elmore. "[I said we're gonna grow our beards out [and] we're gonna go like we've been on the run. We did that for a number of years. That's why they called us the Ruckus Gang."

The people in attendance all agreed this work of Ray Elmore was truly his life in one exhibit.



Ray Elmore, a retired ECU professor, shows his artwork at the Greenville Museum of Art.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

"You can definitely see a progression of everything," said Carpenter. "I even recognize some stuff from the college. Its definitely a good representation of someone's life."

Ray Elmore's Exhibition will be open at the Greenville Museum of Art until Jan. 25.

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

Faux fur becomes staple of winter fashion



Emmie Adams (above) wears the fur trend while shopping around downtown.

Kiera Huiel
TEC STAFF

From the runways and the streets, the fur trend has been seen in most countries around the world and even on East Carolina University's campus.

"I really like the fur trend," said Christine Dudkiewicz, freshman nursing major. "The trend is very popular and I feel as though you can do so much with fur, especially during the winter seasons."

Dudkiewicz stated that she likes to pair her faux fur vest with a long sleeve shirt, dark skinnies, a long necklace and a pair of boots.

"It is definitely an essential you just want to have in your closet, especially when you are going out," said Dudkiewicz. "I always get complimented on it."

According to Shape Magazine, fur coats, scarfs, hats and booties will definitely be one of the most fashionable trends this winter.

The fur trend first came to North America around the 17th century and

has been around ever since. It soon became one of the main economic ventures of North America.

Fake fur, which is now called faux fur, was introduced in the 1920's. Faux fur has increased its popularity from the animal rights and animal welfare organizations.

Even though it is a trend now, some opinions differ about the fur trend.

"I personally do not care for the trend right now, but in the future, who knows," said Mason Sanders, freshman elementary education major. "I just do not see myself pulling it off right now."

Sanders stated that the fur is not for everyone and she thinks certain people can pull it off.

"It is one of those pieces where you can wear it or you just can't," said Sanders. "I can see fur becoming a huge statement piece, like monograms. No one saw monograms as a huge fashion statement, but now look how big they are."

" I can see fur becoming a huge statement piece, like monograms. "

-Mason Sanders

Fur is very popular for many big brand names such as Alexander McQueen, Fendi, Robert Cavalli, Chloe, Pucci and Versace.

These brand names have stated that wild influences, patchwork effect and flashes of vibrant red updated the rules of the classic and eternal fur coat.

"The fur is definitely going to stick around and I do not ever want to go to," said Dudkiewicz. "I think that fur is going to stick and this is just the beginning of the fur trend."

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

TV REVIEW My Big Fat Fabulous Life

'Confidence is key' in sassy new TLC reality series



Jessica McGettigan
TEC STAFF

"My Big Fat Fabulous Life," a docu-series starring overweight dance enthusiast Whitney Thore, premiered Tuesday night on TLC.

Thore, a resident of Greensboro, NC, suffers from polycystic ovary syndrome which is a common hormonal endocrine disorder, specifically in women.

This disease caused Thore to rapidly gain almost 100 pounds during her college years and then another 100 pounds after graduating.

"I hate that people think I am lazy," said Thore on the Tuesday night premiere. "You see people treat you like you're nothing."

As a young girl, Thore loved to dance and began taking dance classes when she was four. Eventually she went on to Performing Arts School at Appalachian State University.

During her freshman year, Thore began to notice her body beginning to change. When she began to rapidly gain weight, she decided to quit dancing. Ten years passed before she decided she was ready to get back on the dance floor.

In January 2014, Thore and her dance partner Todd Beasley posted a YouTube video, titled, "A Fat Girl Dancing." The video featured the duo dancing to "Talk Dirty To Me," by Jason Derulo. It did not take long before the video went viral.

The popularity of the video inspired Thore to get back into dancing again. "Dance is a way for me to reclaim my identity and I'm happy to have it back," she said. "I may be fat but I can dance better than most skinny people."

"My Big Fat Fabulous Life," details the difficulties Thore faces on a daily basis because of her weight. The very first scene of the series show a person leaning out of their car yelling "someone call SeaWorld, Shamu got loose," at Thore as she walks through a parking lot.

Later in the episode, the audience watches Thore get ready to go on one of the first dates she has been on in years. She described the man she met online as a "perfect ten" but when they finally met one another, it became clear very quickly that he was only interested in her body.

However, instead of letting hatred destroy her body image, she ignores it and embraces it. Being 380 pounds and yet still being able to be comfortable in your own skin is a feat that not many people can achieve. Although it took Thore many years to come to terms with her body and her disease, she proudly states that she is finally comfortable in her own skin.

"I don't hate this body, I love it," said Thore. "I may not have lost any weight this week but I didn't lose any confidence."

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

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Our view | Pirates should take pride in Carter Cruise

Carter Cruise is a polarizing figure in the eyes of many people around the nation. However, some argue that Cruise's profession and erotic nature is damaging to ECU's reputation and should therefore be considered humiliating to the university. We, as an editorial staff, believe that those same critics are the people who are responsible for the ongoing societal problem of stereotyping.

Cruise, who is currently a professional adult film actress, has expanded her person into a brand. With the connections she makes by performing in porn, she is pursuing a music career and hopes to author a book and begin a clothing line in the future. She doesn't view porn as a career or long-term profession, but merely a strategic

stepping-stone along the way to achieving her lifelong dreams.

Stereotyping is unfortunately prevalent in nearly all of human society and constantly brings about only hate, distaste, and discouragement towards people about things that make them who they are, like race, gender, career aspirations or otherwise.

Someone who is willing to be a trailblazer in a criticized field, an advocate for having an open mind and free spirit, and be comfortable with who she is and what she's doing are all things that should be applauded instead of humiliated. Cruise, pornstar or otherwise, is an intellectual mind who isn't afraid of stereotypical scrutiny, and because of that, we are proud to call her a true Pirate.

PIRATE RANTS

East Carolina University, creating Adult Film Stars since 1907. And people wonder why we are laughed at.

Skip class to do the Polar Plunge to see girls in bikinis? ABSOLUTELY!

I so enjoy listening to people who have only lived here a few years give the winter weather forecast to someone like me that's lived here my whole life.

My first day of class I get called out for leaving to go pee. This is going to be an interesting last semester. #seniorproblems

I think it's time I stop following what is going on in politics. Politicians are lying hypocrites! If anyone tries to tell you otherwise, they are lying!

RIP to the squirrel that died a few weeks ago due to the weather #homie4lfiye

Basic B**** is a derogatory term used to describe an ideologically desirable girl.

Shout out to the girls who still make the effort to show off some cleavage even in this weather. Much appreciated.

I still haven't gotten over the loss to UCF. How in the world did ECU lose that game?

Dear 552 Bus Driver in the Blue Raincoat, I'll ride on your bus any day. That is all.

Uh why are there so few Pirate Rants?

The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants. Questions regarding rants can be directed to Zach Elsam at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

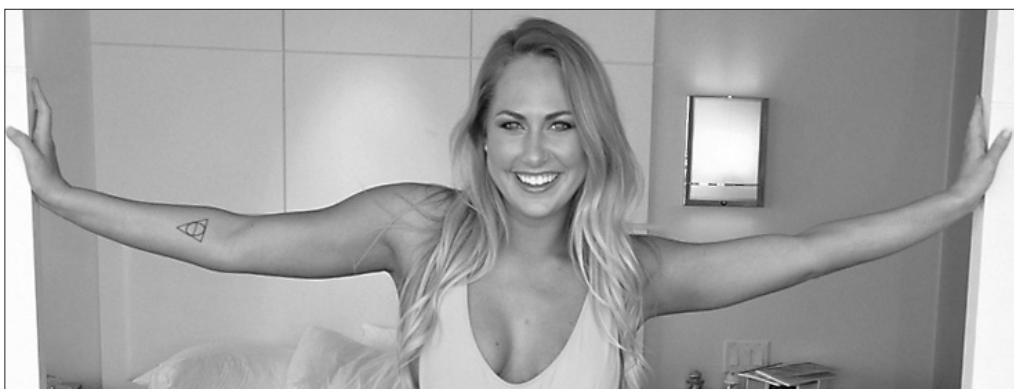
Don't hate on Cruise



Michelle Pumphrey
TEC COLUMNIST

Carter Cruise made the best decision she could have made. She is doing something that she's interested in and something that she can turn into a career. She sat down, thought of careers relating to women's studies and specifically the area of women's sexuality, and made a decision. She didn't want to sit in class and be taught by a professor, so instead she wanted something that was a more of a hands-on learning experience. Pornography is what everything came down to.

Many college graduates don't find jobs right away and end up doing something they hate, leading to a miserable life. I think that Carter made a good move going into the porn industry. She has a successful job and she's making a brand for herself and for future business endeavors, exemplified by her authoring a book. If she went to graduate school, none of these connections or business opportunities would be available to her this early in her working career. She is also using her successful career in the porn industry to increase awareness and knowledge about sex. Being in this industry, the risk for disease is definitely high risk. I think it's pretty cool that she works in this field



WEB PHOTO

Carter Cruise made strides in the porn industry while still attending East Carolina as a psychology major.

and wants to share her experience and knowledge with people to increase awareness and information about sex.

Like Carter said, it's both objectifying and liberating. Porn is a taboo subject and career path, but you really just have to have an open mind. The older generations of American citizens are shy when it comes to being open about sex and sexuality and that apprehension sometimes reflects onto the younger generations. Therefore, it's not shocking to hear that some of her friends disappeared from her life when she made the choice to do porn. Cruise's porn career was not changing her as a person because your career doesn't define who you are.

Some may disagree with what she's doing and some may not. I think she has found her calling and is doing great things with the cards she's been dealt. I find it rather empowering that she has dove into this field that is considered to be so strange and is still fighting strong amongst people's negative opinions. Not many people our age can make it to 'the big leagues' in our chosen majors right off the bat, but Carter has. She's interested in women's studies and especially the area of women's sexuality so, in her eyes, porn is the best place for her to be successful. Simple as that.

Michelle Pumphrey is a senior majoring communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Pornography: A Destructive Drug



Tyler Kelbaugh
TEC STAFF

In a recent interview with The East Carolinian, Carter Cruise described porn as both liberating and objectifying, depending on the eyes of the beholder.

While it may be liberating for her, I believe valuing the liberation she and others feel from watching or acting in adult films does not come close to outweighing the psychological damage porn has on women and society as a whole. Research has shown that porn does nothing more than objectify women and desensitize men.

Porn is selfish. It takes the human sexual experience, which is made for two people, and turns it into a solo activity where all the focus is on the viewer's pleasure. This creates a connection in the viewer's mind between sexual stimulation and pornographic images, inhibiting them from creating a meaningful connection from legitimate sex in the future. The neuroscience behind this brain chemistry phenomenon is complex, but it's accurate.

Countless scientific studies have backed my assertions. One of which was conducted by William Struthers, PhD in bio-psychology, asserts that frequent porn viewers replace legitimate images of women with those fictional, highly inaccurate versions found in adult film.

"They have unknowingly created a neurological circuit that

imprisons their ability to see women rightly as created in God's image," said Struthers' report

Porn affects our perception of reality. According to a study performed by Texas A&M researchers, the subconscious applies connections made about a woman's role in porn to real life. Therefore, viewers begin to see women as objects for their pleasure. It subconsciously devalues women, turning them from person to thing. While women clearly suffer much more from porn culture than men, there are still severely negative effects for male viewers.

Porn is a drug. Once you get hooked breaking free can be difficult. Eventually, those who excessively view porn over a long period of time grow bored with what they're specifically watching. Just like a longtime drug user would need more of the drug to get the same feeling, longtime porn users eventually need to watch more intense porn to get the same euphoric hormonal release. This in turn, makes a normal sexual relationship seem boring, and naturally leads to a less fulfilling love life.

Science and research don't lie. Porn is damaging to women because it affects the way they are perceived, but it's also damaging the moral compass and real sexual experiences of those who watch it.

Tyler Kelbaugh is a junior majoring communication and a TEC reporter. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Poll question

Do you think porn is condemnable?

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Contact Info

The East Carolinian
Self Help Building,
Greenville, NC, 28889-4353

Email: editor@theeastcarolinian.com
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are not listed as available have until January 15th to renew their lease but if they do not renew we will start signing new leases on January 16th for leases that start in June, July & August. Last year all of our houses were rented by March so don't miss out. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** today.

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WALK TO CLASS! 1 block from campus. 2 bedroom apartment with hardwood floors and central heat/air. Washer, dryer, dishwasher, high-speed internet, basic cable, water & sewer all included. Available August 1. Call 252-916-5680, please leave e-mail address.

WALK TO CLASS: 4 BED-

ROOM HOUSE at 208 EAST ELEVENTH ST., across from Sheetz, close to Starbucks, 4 people can live comfortably (and legally- it's a duplex) in this house just 1 block from campus. Spacious, fenced-in backyard, some dogs ok. Central heat/air, washer, dryer provided. Basic cable, high-speed internet, monitored alarm system, and lawn care all included in rent. Available in August. Call 252-916-5680, please leave e-mail address.

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Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting youth soccer referees for the spring soccer program for ages 3-16. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer

rules and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Duties include but are not limited to: officiating games, ensuring safety of field/play, ensuring proper care of program/facility, conflict resolution, arriving to work on time and wearing referee uniform. Hours are from 8:00am to 3:30pm on Saturdays and 5:00pm - 9:00pm for some weekday games. Hours are flexible to class schedules. This program will run from March 21 - early May; trainings will begin in February. Officials will be required to attend one mandatory new staff meeting and two mandatory training sessions prior to the start of the season. Referees will be paid \$12.00/\$14.00 a game. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 252-329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10am until 7pm. To apply, please visit www.greenvillenc.gov. Applications accepted until positions are filled.

COMICS

Best In Show

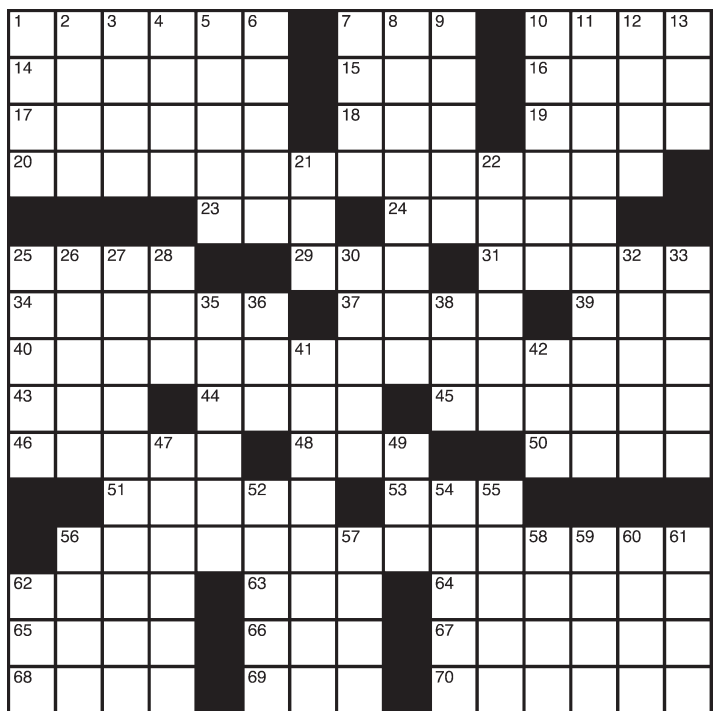


BRAIN TEASERS

FOR RELEASE JANUARY 14, 2015

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis



- ACROSS**
- 1 Monday Night Football regular until 1983
 - 7 Gobbled, as a turkey
 - 10 Site with a "Buy It Now" option
 - 14 Mecca's peninsula
 - 15 In the bath
 - 16 "___ Rock"
 - 17 Hires a new crew for
 - 18 Styled after
 - 19 Shot up
 - 20 Confounded British illumination?
 - 23 Jamaican genre
 - 24 Walkway material
 - 25 Meter or liter
 - 29 Med. plan option
 - 31 "Twin Peaks" co-creator David
 - 34 White House maiden name between Pierce and Welch
 - 37 Dr. J hairstyle
 - 39 Lone Ranger and Tonto, e.g.
 - 40 Confounded British posies?
 - 43 First ___
 - 44 Horner's find
 - 45 Have a strong desire (for)
 - 46 Things to fulfill
 - 48 It's on the streets
 - 50 Flanders river
 - 51 Vinegar vessel
 - 53 Dangerous snake
 - 56 Confounded British residences?
 - 62 Actor Bean of "Game of Thrones"
 - 63 Aegean ___
 - 64 Give one's word
 - 65 Stock options, e.g.
 - 66 WWII intel agcy.
 - 67 Look through partially open curtains, say
 - 68 Round components
 - 69 Vague degree
 - 70 Flowed in circles
- DOWN**
- 1 Prep for a marathon, with "up"
 - 21 "I'll pass"
 - 22 Clumsy sort
 - 25 Citified
 - 26 "Cross my heart"
 - 27 "Bless my soul!"
 - 28 Howe'er
 - 30 Molten rock
 - 32 Bend
 - 33 Car wash employee, at times
 - 35 Excites
 - 36 Wire thickness unit

By Harald Hornung

1/14/15

MONDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED

O	H	N	O	O	I	L	Y	H	A	I	K	U
B	O	I	L	A	L	O	E	O	A	S	I	S
A	M	C	S	F	O	R	M	U	L	A	O	N
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I	N	L	O	W	S	T	E	M	S	P	A	T

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1/14/15

- 38 "Kidnapped" author's monogram
- 41 Most eccentric
- 42 Manner
- 47 Round components
- 49 Cloth remnant
- 52 HP competitor
- 54 Configure
- 55 Prepared for a shot
- 56 Texture
- 57 "I don't mind eels / Except as meals / And the way they feels" poet
- 58 Previously driven, say
- 59 TomKat's daughter
- 60 Lake at one end of the Niagara River
- 61 Final email step
- 62 Place for a pedi

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

	8		7	3	4			
	5						7	
	2				1			4
						9		1
		3		8		7		
8		4						
7								6
	4				5			
			6	9	8			5

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE 1/14/15

2	5	9	3	1	8	7	4	6
1	3	7	4	6	2	5	8	9
6	4	8	9	5	7	2	3	1
3	2	4	7	9	1	8	6	5
5	7	1	8	2	6	3	9	4
9	8	6	5	4	3	1	7	2
8	1	5	6	7	9	4	2	3
4	6	3	2	8	5	9	1	7
7	9	2	1	3	4	6	5	8

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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JUST DON'T HEAR THEM, BE THEM.

Riley's impact not easy to overlook



Josh Graham
TEC STAFF

Aside from the head coach and back up quarterback at most schools, there is nobody who magnetizes as much attention — and criticism — as the offensive coordinator. Lincoln Riley was no exception, especially with the high-octane, “Air Raid” offense he brought with him from Texas Tech.

At 26 years old, Riley was handed the keys to the Pirates’ offense, which immediately prompted his critics to call him “too young” and his offense “unsustainable” for a non-“Power Five” conference school. After all, he was the youngest coordinator in big-boy college football at the time and it was a concern if he could recruit the same kind of athletes at ECU that he did in the Big 12.

It didn’t take long for those concerns to be addressed.

Five years later — and after the five of the most prolific offensive seasons in school history — Riley accepted an offer Monday to return to the Big 12 at the University of Oklahoma, where he will coach in the same capacity.

Sure, Riley got his fair share of criticism.

The most noteworthy spots of this were his play-calling in the red-zone and clock management in a 54-46 loss at Cincinnati despite scoring 46 points on the road, and the decision to kneel down on the Pirates’ final possession in a Hail Mary defeat to UCF despite his offense rallying from 17 points down in the fourth quarter to take the lead just moments before the game’s memorable finish.

You could probably think of more, but I prefer avoiding exceptions and outliers dilute the overall product. Doing so with the Riley’s iteration of the Air Raid offense would be like trying to pick out the slight blemishes of a Brazilian supermodel.

Just think about it in the most simple terms: by the numbers, Riley ran one of the most feared offenses in the country at East Carolina University and helped recruit a walk-on quarterback who became the FBS’s all-time career leader in receptions. There are 65 “Power Five” schools, yet Riley was here and he stayed here for five years long after the rest of the country took notice of his greatness.

Shortly after ECU captured its

> **RILEY** page A10

Lady Pirates seeking ECU set for conference rematch after OT loss

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

After its thrilling overtime loss on Jan. 4, the Lady Pirate basketball team will look to even the score when it faces the Memphis Tigers Sunday at 2 p.m. in Minges.

The previous contest was an emotional hard fought game in Memphis that went down to the wire. Both teams battled and made spectacular offensive plays in the game’s final seconds to force overtime before the Pirates lost, 60-57.

“It was a heartbreaking way to lose on the road,” ECU Head Coach Heather Macy said. “I’m sure it’s not out of everyone’s minds.”

The Pirates were in a bit of a slump at the time and didn’t perform well, especially on the offensive end. They seemed to put their recent struggles to rest last week at Houston with an 87-46 victory, which should make for an exciting rematch.

Their clash with Memphis is a big game for the Pirates, not only because of how the last matchup turned out but because they struggled at the start of conference play and need to win games to be back at the top of the conference and open up discussion for postseason tournament play.

“We are every single day attacking the process of getting better as a team so we can play our best basketball in



RONNIE MOORE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Tiana Taylor preps for a free throw.

March,” said Macy on the importance of getting her team back on track.

The key to the game for the Pirates is to shut down junior Ariel Hearn. She scored 26 of Memphis’s 60 points in the last matchup and was a big problem for the Pirates.

Hearn doesn’t just play well against the Pirates, however. She currently ranks fifth in the American Athletic Conference in scoring, fourth in three pointers made and eighth in assists. Slowing her down is key for the Pirates to win.

Offensively, the Pirates will need to work on attacking the basket and finishing at the rim. In the last contest, ECU struggled getting in the paint against Memphis’s 1-2-2 zone defense. “We need to play better in gen-

eral,” Macy said. “I think that’s going to be really important. I think that as our team progresses; we are going to execute and perform at a high rate.”

Juniors Jada Payne and Tiana Taylor both played well in the last meeting with the Tigers; expect that to continue in the rematch. Payne had 18 points to go along with five rebounds. Taylor is nearly averaging a double-double for the season and had 11 points and 15 rebounds.

ECU currently ranks seventh in the nation in steals per game and the Pirates only forced eight steals on 24 turnovers in the last matchup. While 24 turnovers forced is solid, the eight steals is sub par for the Pirates this season. Rebounding is significantly in the Pirates’ favor, which poses as a good sign. Memphis ranks last in the AAC in defensive rebounds while the Pirates rank first for offensive rebounds. Taylor, the Pirates leading rebounder, could have a huge game. The Pirates will also have shot blocking center Ondrea Shaw back in the lineup for this game. Shaw didn’t play at Houston and was ruled ineligible for the remainder of the season. The ruling has since been rescinded and it looks like she will be back in the starting lineup.

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

Macy subject of WZMB show

Rev Blanquicet
TEC STAFF

The ECU women’s basketball team Head Coach Heather Macy began her weekly radio show this past Monday on WZMB 93.1 FM in Greenville.

The show, hosted by Josh Graham, will run 11 weeks through the end of the Lady Pirates’ regular season. The fifth-year coach and her players will serve as guests and answer questions about the team’s progress throughout the year.

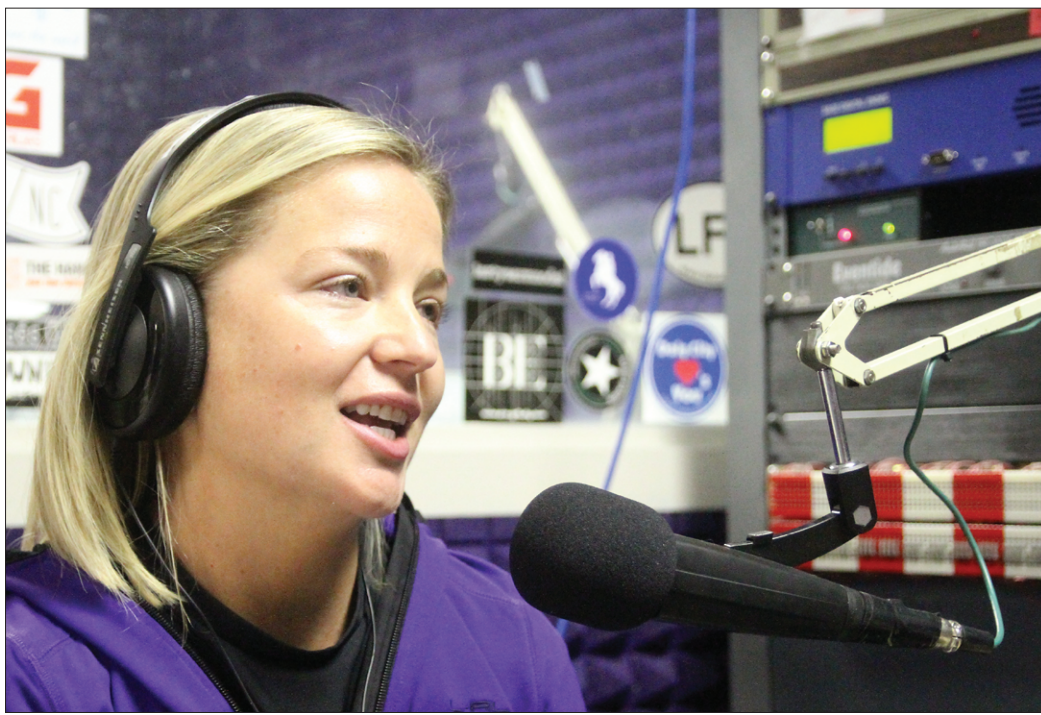
“Macy’s show adds consistency across the athletic departments,” said Graham.

Other ECU head coaches, including Pirate football’s Ruffin McNeil and men’s basketball coach Jeff Lebo, already have weekly shows or public events where they inform the community of their respective team’s progress and answer questions.

“Josh was the main one who did the preparation and planning to get the show setup,” said WZMB station manager, Lauren Phillips. “He called me and asked if I was okay with the idea and I told him that I thought it would be a great opportunity for the station.”

In her debut show, Macy talked about a variety of topics including her relationships with different players and her early beginnings of coaching after graduating from UNC-Greensboro. Macy even shared her story of how her and Graham first became acquainted, snacking on Chick-fil-A during pre-season practice years ago.

“I think the Heather Macy Live show brings insight for the listeners and community,”



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
ECU women’s basketball coach Heather Macy speaks during the first edition of her weekly show on WZMB.

said Phillips. “They can hear her views on how she works with the team and express her opinions. The show is great for listeners and the community to get on a personal level.”

A big focus for the talk show is to showcase the talent that this year’s Lady Pirates possess and how well they have been able to overcome adverse conditions facing new opponents in the American Athletic Conference.

“This team has a lot of new players and transfers from all over,” said Graham. “It’s interesting to see how coach Macy has been able to bridge the talent gap of the American Conference by bringing in players from the some of the power-five conferences, as well as junior colleges.”

Despite the early struggles

the Lady Pirates have faced playing fellow AAC conference foes, it’s evident to see that the team is falling back into the groove they were in earlier this season during non-conference play, according to Graham.

“They got off to a rough start in their conference play, having to compete against the top three out of four teams in the AAC, with ECU being No. 3,” said Graham. “I think the way they played against Houston was the first time we’ve seen them play East Carolina basketball, and they’re only going to get better from there.”

Junior forward, Tiana Taylor was the first guest on Heather Macy Live. Taylor is a junior college transfer from Weatherford College, who recently had a career game against Tulane record-

ing an absurd 23 points and 19 rebounds.

During Taylor’s segment she talked about the excitement of returning to her hometown in a few weeks to play SMU. She also divulged some of her favorite things to do such as riding horses and being the team’s food expert. Part of her title includes knowing which state, Texas or North Carolina, is home to the best barbecue — she picked her home state of Texas, of course.

To catch the rest of the Heather Macy Live radio shows, where you can find out more about the Lady Pirates basketball team tune in to WZMB 93.1 FM or online at www.ecu.edu/wzmb every Monday from 12-1 p.m.

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

Whisnant finding his stroke

Tyler Kelbaugh
TEC STAFF

A new conference has proven to be quite the uphill battle for the ECU men’s basketball team as it remains winless in conference play. However, the recent performance of junior guard Terry Whisnant has kept his team competitive in games it otherwise may have been routed.



Terry Whisnant

Whisnant has shown that he’s not afraid of competing against tougher opponents. He’s been shooting away and finding success where many of his teammates have not. The junior has scored in double figures in seven of his last eight games.

“I’m just doing whatever the team needs from me in order to win,” said the soft-spoken guard. “I’m just coming out and being aggressive.”

The junior is tied for second on the team in made field goals, along with sophomore guard Caleb White. He is also the second leading scorer, averaging 12.8 points per game.

“I think he’s getting comfortable on the floor,” said ECU Head Coach Jeff Lebo. “He’s got to score for us. He’s a guy that can get us 15 to 16 points per game. He can do other things too. He’s a pretty good defender, an athletic player.”

According to Lebo, Whisnant has served as a great example to the rest of the team through the recent losses. The guard has been leading by example, preferring to let his play do the talking, but Whisnant says he needs to be more boisterous behind the scenes.

“I need to be more vocal,” said the guard. “It starts with practice, picking up the intensity and going hard every possession. I believe that if I start that it’ll trickle down to every other player

> **WHISNANT** page A9

TAKEAWAYS

MEN’S BASKETBALL

The Pirates picked up their first American Athletic Conference victory with a 66-61 win over Houston.

FOOTBALL

Former ECU offensive coordinator officially takes over offensive coordinator at Oklahoma University.

FOOTBALL

Seniors Shane Carden and Justin Hardy will participate in the Senior Bowl on Jan. 24 in Mobile, Ala.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The Lady Pirates topped Tulsa, 77-68, for their second straight conference win. They moved to 11-6 on the season and 2-4 in conference.

CHARLOTTE HORNETS

The Hornets saw their five game win streak snap at the hands of the Spurs 98-93 on Wednesday.

CAROLINA HURRICANES

The Avalance fell to the Hurricanes, 3-2, in a shootout on Tuesday. They are 14-24-5 on the season and sit at eighth in the Metropolitan Division.

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Swim and Dive team closed its first half with a plethora of new team and meet records.

Swim & Dive set for second half

Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

Records were Broken while ECU swam to victory.

After a decent fall for ECU's swimming and diving teams, the clubs will hope to return to the water even better than before.

At the All-North Carolina Invitational, which was held at the Greensboro Aquatic Center, the Pirates finished in second place for both men's and women's teams. The women's team finished 167 points behind first-place NC State, while the men's squad finished 430 points back off the Wolfpack.

ECU finished the competition with three gold and six silver medals. The accomplishment set the tone for the teams.

Both the men and the women won back-to-back matches against Davidson and the College of Charleston. The men won 184-105 against Davidson and 174-115 against the College of Charleston. The women's team also took two decisive victories with 188-104 at Davidson and 186-103 against Charleston.

The ECU swim teams went on to split the tri-meet between the College of Charleston and the University of South Carolina. It was hosted at the Carolina Natatorium in Colombia.

The men's team defeated the Cougars 158-129 while falling to the host Gamecocks 169-104. The women's team followed suit as it defeated College of Charleston 153-138, but fell to South Carolina by a score of 157-116.

Bailie Monahan of the women's team performed greatly at the event. She finished with first place finishes in the 100 and 200 butterfly as well as the 200 IM.

Monahan also swam in the third leg of the 400-medley relay and helped the team to a first place finish with a time of 3:48.82.

In the diving competition, a trio of ECU divers qualified for the NCAA Regional Zone Championships on the 3-meter springboard. Alicia Roueche, Matt Mullen and Alex Clark each posted a season-best score. Mullen placed third in the men's 3-meter competition with a qualifying score of 333.30 while Clark finished fourth with a final tally of 323.50. Roueche claimed fifth-placed in the women's event with a score of 285.30.

ECU's last major event it succeeded in was the Nike Cup, which was held at Koury Natatorium at the University of North Carolina. East Carolina senior Rokas Cepulis set the Nike Cup record in the men's 200-yard breaststroke. Cepulis' time of 1:55.88 in the event is fastest to date among all NCAA Division I swimmers this season.

Freshman, Bolek De Pawlikowski established a new ECU freshman record with a time of 1:47.88. Also setting a new record was freshman Vendela Norrman. She set both the ECU freshman and varsity record during the preliminaries of women's 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:13.87. Senior Lauren Chew also established a new varsity record with 4:50.79 in the 500 free.

The schedule for ECU in January consists of a home meet against Old Dominion on Saturday and two away matches at UMBC and William and Mary.

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

WHISNANT continued from A8 on the team.

Lebo says he has seen Whisnant develop more passion for practice and improving his craft.

"He's coming to work everyday," said Lebo. "That's something I think he really needed to work on. I'm very pleased with that."

While consistent shooting is Whisnant's most important role, he's also proven to be an effective passer and free throw shooter. Lebo said he sees the guard doing more than just scoring moving forward.

"I see him as a do both guy," said Lebo. "I want him to be able to get to the foul line and mid-range. I want him to be able to get steals and rebounds. We want him to be an all-around player."

Whisnant seems to be on the same page with his coaching staff, and his success has been largely thanks to his ability to learn from his coaches.

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

RILEY continued from A8

first bowl victory since 2007 in the 2013 Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl, Riley reportedly held offers from North Carolina, Notre Dame and likely several others. But he turned them all down and stayed with Ruffin McNeill and the Pirates. Kentucky interviewed Riley last month for its offensive coordinator vacancy before deciding to hire Shannon Dawson instead.

But when Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops dismissed his co-offensive coordinators, an opportunity was presented to Riley that he couldn't turn down. It was no secret that Riley's end goal was to eventually to be a Division I head coach and becoming the Sooners' coordinator positions him a step closer to realizing that dream.

So don't rebuke the man for capitalizing on an opportunity. Thank him and take a moment to appreciate what he played an essential role in doing — elevating the Pirates' brand into national significance and relevance.

Quite simply, there's no two ways about it. Lincoln Riley will be missed.

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



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Freshman guard Lance Tejada drives by Houston's L.J. Rose. Tejada had seven points in the win.



Sophomore Caleb White slides past Mikhail McLean. White logged 14 points and four rebounds.



Sophomore Michel Nzege lets go of his lone shot of the game. He scored the points and had six rebounds.

HOOPS continued from A1

"Terry Whisnant did a great job defensively on Stiggers the whole night," said Lebo. "A big reason why we had a chance to win this game."

Tyson added, "Our mentality was if we don't score the ball, we have to play defense to stay in the game, and that's what we did."

The Pirates had a steady start in the first half.

The Cougars shoot 8-for-28 in the first half with zero bench points compared to the Pirates who went 12-for-27 in the first half with 17 bench points.

Danard Knowles was the only player for the Cougars to hit double figures during the first half of play. He gave Houston 10 points as he hit two shots from behind the arc, and shot 50 percent from the field.

However, the Pirates' performance during the first half disappeared in the second when the Pirates gave the

Cougars

ECU started the second half with a 12 point lead but it didn't last long. Houston scored nine points in less than two minutes with help by L.J. Rose. The guard went 5-for-11 for the night, and contributed 15 points.

"You got to give them credit, they played a hard game," said Tyson.

Contributions by forward Marshall Guilmette and guard Antonio Robinson helped the team secure a victory.

Guilmette hit a late three pointer, Robinson was perfect from the field and Tyson threw down a momentous dunk with one minute left that got Minges rocking.

The Pirates take on SMU Sat. at 4 p.m., looking to pick up their first ever conference win streak.

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

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