



The East Carolinian



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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Thursday, 3.19.15

Lady Pirates win in NIT first round

Rev Blanquicet
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina women's basketball team defeated the Radford Highlanders, 74-52, in the first round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament, in Greenville.

You could see the fire in the eyes of every single one of the Lady Pirates, as they took the floor Wednesday night. ECU (22-10, 11-7 AAC), now a three-time veteran of the WNIT, wasted no time getting out to a quick lead against Radford (17-14, 14-6 Big Sky).

ECU found the bottom of the basket early, opening the game on an 11-4 run in the first six minutes of the game. Radford would fight to bring the game within three after a media timeout, but that was as close as they could get to the Pirate lead for the remainder of the game.

Despite the AAC Newcomer-of-the-Year, Tiana Taylor, getting into foul trouble in during their opening scoring run, ECU was able to find an answer for everything Radford was doing.



Jada Payne

along with 10 rebounds.

"I love the way we valued the ball tonight," said Macy. "I thought we defended

Head Coach Heather Macy's red-shirt players, junior Jada Payne and Senior Abria Trice, led the way for the Lady Pirates in the first half. Together they recorded 22 of ECU's first half points,

tough, but the difference for me was that we took selective three's and did the important thing in post-season basketball which is make our open shots."

The Lady Pirates had great success from the floor in the first half shooting 14-for-35 (40 percent) from the field, 4-for-7 (57 percent) from behind the three-point line, and a perfect 6-for-6 from the free throw line.

> WOMEN'S HOOPS page A12

Local town recognized nationally

Washington ranked fifth on Budget Travel's coolest town list

Kelsey Padgett
TEC STAFF

A small town 20 miles east of Greenville had a recent claim to fame when it earned the No. 5 spot on Budget Travel's America's Coolest Small Town list released this month.

To be considered for the contest, towns had to have a population less than 10,000 and "a certain something that no place has," according to the Budget Travel website.

"Little" Washington, as it is affectionately called by its 9,744 residents, is best known for its downtown area that gives tourists the opportunity to visit local merchants and the waterfront that offers access to the Pamlico River.

Washington is also well known for its annual festivals on the waterfront like the Summer Festival and Smoke on the Water that attract tourists from all over eastern North Carolina. Music in the Streets is another monthly festival put on downtown by locals in the warm weather months

Rachel Moore, Washington native and ECU alumna, moved to Greenville after starting college, but said Washington will always be home.

"Washington was the perfect place to grow up. It has the small town vibe and benefits of a close community, but is still close enough to

" There are so many things that make Washington unique... "

- Lacie Anglin

commute to larger cities," said Moore.

Lacie Anglin, sophomore elementary education major, also shares memories of growing up in the waterfront community.

"There are so many things that make Washington unique," said Anglin. "I loved going to Music in the Streets and being able to see our community come together and display our many talents. There are so many things about Washington that make it awesome to grow up in, really."

Founded in 1776, it became the first town in America to be named after General George Washington.

Washington was the largest town to make the top 10 list. The smallest town chosen was the winner Grand Marais, Minn., with 1,351 residents.

> WASHINGTON page A2



The Washington waterfront is a highlight of the town named after President George Washington.

Amtrak accident

University professor shares his story

Savannah Carter
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina's School of Art professor Michael Tierno was in an Amtrak train accident last week on his way to New York City for Spring Break.

"It was a very definitive feeling, there was no other feeling like it," said Tierno describing the moment he felt the train begin to crash.

The story made headlines on March 9, noting that over 50 passengers were injured. According to NBC News, it was the third serious commuter train crash in less than two months. The outcomes left seven dead and 30 injured.

Tierno had just gotten back to his seat with coffee and had opened up his laptop when the train suddenly started to shake and rattle.

"I saw my computer move and started feeling that we were hitting something," said Tierno.

The passenger train was running along the Carolinian line when it crashed into a tractor-trailer stuck on the tracks in Halifax, N.C.

"My instincts were just to brace myself," said Tierno.

The tractor-trailer was driven by John Devin Black, who jumped out of his vehicle once the railroad crossing lights started blinking.

"There was about 10 seconds where I was bracing for anything," said Tierno. "It could have been the last seconds of my life. I sensed that it was going to be okay, but there was also the sense that this was going to be it, so I was sort of bracing for that too."

Tierno recalls looking out the window right after



The train derailed after colliding with a tractor trailer.

the crash and realizing, "oh my god we hit something." Tierno's train car was derailed half on and half off of the tracks. His car was located two cars away from the front car, which flipped off the tracks.

"Luckily no one got really hurt," said Tierno.

After the crash, Tierno was escorted to an agricultural center in Halifax where he received food and water. He then took a bus to Washington, D.C., and took an Acela train to New York City, not getting to his final destination until 2 a.m.

"We kind of got lucky," said Tierno. "It could have been a lot worse."

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

PCSO arrests officer for alleged sexual offense

Altavia Lowery
TEC STAFF

A Pitt County Sheriff's Office deputy was arrested on Monday for multiple sex-related charges that involved a student at the school that he worked at as the resource officer.

Justin Calvin Dickinson, 37, was charged with felony sexual offense with a student, felony statutory rape of a person and indecent liberties with a child, according to the sheriff's office. He was jailed on a \$1 million secured bond.

According to Pitt County Schools, Dickinson was a full-time school resource officer at Farmville Central High School, about 15 miles west of Greenville.

According to an State Bureau of Investigation release, warrants said he engaged in sexual acts with a female student from March 1-21, 2011, while he was a resource



Justin Calvin Dickinson

officer at the high school. The girl was 15 years old at the time.

The warrant was filed by the State Bureau of Investigation in Pitt County District Court, indicating that it occurred in Pitt County. Sheriff Neil Elks said Dickinson was suspended on Monday and he was terminated on Tuesday.

Dickinson was a Pitt County Sheriff's Office deputy for 16 years. He worked as Farmville Central High School's resource officer for the last five years.

Dickinson is being held in Green County Jail.

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BRIEFS

NC House leader wants college IDs accepted for voting

The Democratic leader in the NC House, Larry Hall hopes to pass two bills after his news conference Tuesday. The first bill would make college student ID cards eligible in voting and the second would be to extend the early voting time to make sure that all eligible citizens can vote.

The early voting period was shortened last year due to a law passed in 2013. On Tuesday, Hall held a news conference to discuss his ideas to change the law. According to Hall, the bills can win approval if the public speaks out.

Drug program needs county funds

There is a court-based drug treatment program that the Pitt County Board of Commissioners may need to save due to lack of funding. The program, which has saved people's lives in the past, depends on state funds and grant dollars since the program was launched in 2005.

Chief District Court Judge David Leech said state dollars are no longer available and it is unclear if the county will qualify for more funding through the Governor's Crime Commission.

Local police hold open house

The Greenville Police Department is hosting an open house today from 2 until 4 p.m. to present a new subordinate station to Greenville members. The station will be located at 3195 East 10th Street, Suite A and it will serve as a work-space for East Zone officers and the East Zone Commander.

Police officers assigned to this zone have 24-hour access as a place to conduct paperwork or other administrative tasks. They also said the location was chosen for the proximity to areas that are most common for traffic issues and crime.

Policy protects students

Alina Olson FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Hillary Lyles from the Center for Counseling and Student Development gave a presentation Wednesday about bystander intervention and its importance.

Stand Up and Speak Out: Bystander Intervention aims to educate students on the positive impacts they can make by intervening in situations that could potentially harm the health and safety of others.

College campuses all over the country are plagued by dangerous situations like sexual assaults and hazing. It is difficult for these incidents to completely disappear altogether, but there is one thing we can all do to help: intervene.

"We're trying to get the message out to all of our campus because of its importance," said Lyles. "These presentations advertise our (Center for Counseling and Student Development) ser-



HAILEY PORTER / THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Hillary Lyles of the CCSD speaks on the importance of intervening during an unsafe situation.

VICES and definitely give students better awareness of our resources."

Bystander intervention is observing a potentially unsafe situation, stepping in doing something about it. The number one reason students don't act in dangerous alcohol situations is because of ambiguity, which means difficulty identifying problems and emergencies.

Under East Carolina University's Policies, Reg-

ulations, and Rules, the Good Samaritan Regulation removes potential barriers and facilitates access to emergency medical care in cases of alcohol related medical emergencies.

"Intervening is sometimes just calling other resources to help," said Lyles. "It takes that barrier away of from the 'should I or should I not call?'"

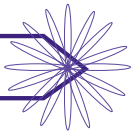
This regulation protects yourself as the caller, and your

friend from any judicial sanction which makes intervening in a potentially dangerous situation more common, because students don't have that fear of getting in trouble.

Attendee Jordan Capone benefitted from the presentation. Capone said it helped clarify bystander intervention and "knowing when to step in and when not to."

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ONLINE



SGA Ticket 1 prepares to be sworn into office

Study abroad program offered for criminal justice students

Check out our online photo gallery for more campus, sports and event photos.

Corrections/ Clarifications

In the opinion column, "Math CAVE doesn't add up" the DWF rates in fall 2014 were 30% and in the spring of 2014 were 43.5% after being redesigned.

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

Campus hosts scholars for DISSH

Seth Gulleddge FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students and faculty of East Carolina University welcomed various scholars of the humanities, social sciences and programming as part of the first annual Digital Innovation and Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities, or DISSH, symposium.

The symposium, hosted in Joyner Library, brought together experts in different fields to share their experiences, expertise and vision for digital projects. Speakers stressed the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, that such cooperation brings. Other speakers discussed the benefits and difficulties behind these new innovations.

By concentrating on digitizing research and projects, scholars can work more efficiently not only in an interdisciplinary perspective, but also

a cross-institutional degree as well. This advantage leads to projects being exposed to a broader spectrum of different fields of study, a solution to a problem which some modern scholars see as an increasing problem within academia.

Keynote speaker David Lee Miller of the University of South Carolina says that the importance of digital humanities is growing concern, and a unique method for reaching students and scholars alike.

"We live in a world where everyone is tied to their handheld device or computer," said Miller, "This is the future of our cultural heritage."

Miller said that the need for digital innovation is a problem that has to be addressed, one that can lead to vast improvements to academia. Miller said the need for interdisciplinary collaboration is higher than ever.

"We have to embrace the brute force of change," said Miller.

ECU is becoming more increasingly involved in digital projects, hosting a large amount of projects that were presented at the symposium. Dr. Tom Herron, English professor at ECU, shared his work with "Centering Spenser" a digital resource focusing on the work of Edmund Spenser, a 16th century British poet.

The site host a variety of different resources intended to "center" Spenser in the historic setting that was his home, Kilmolman Castle.

Dr. Herron said that he believed that ECU was well on its way to expanding its digital humanities presence, but still has much work that could be done.

"It will take time and many resources to catch up to our peer universities," said Herron.

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WASHINGTON continued from A1

Washington was announced as a finalist in January, and the social media

campaign began.

The hashtags #LittleWashingtonNC and #ACT2015 were used by Washingtonians to promote the contest throughout the voting period.

Voting for the contest ended on March 4. Over 103,000 votes were counted

off the magazine's website.

During the contest, only one vote was allowed per IP address during a 24 hour period.

The top 10 towns are now featured on the Budget Travel and CNN websites.

Hillsborough, N.C., also made the list. It placed third in the rankings.

Hillsborough was recognized for its Riverwalk greenway system that runs along the Eno River.

This is the tenth year the contest has run. Berlin, Md., won the contest in 2014 and Litzitz, Pa., won in 2013.

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

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ITCS updates campus Wi-Fi network

Kaitlyn Lee
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University offers three wireless network accesses that have proven to be challenging to access in recent years.

ECU's Information Technology and Computing Services (ITCS) provides resources that are available through a wired, wireless, mobile or virtual connection for students, staff, faculty and guests. With all of these resources, however, the reliability of the wireless network has been questioned.

"We [ITCS] believe the wireless network is reliable; however, over the past year we have experienced some issues due to the continued explosive growth that has stretched the capacities of the infrastructure," said Jennifer Raby, IT communications coordinator. "ECU's wireless network sees around 10-12,000 devices online at any given time with peak use exceeding 19,000 devices."

With the student population increasing and airwaves becoming more crowded, something needed to be done to improve coverage.

"ITCS has vastly expanded Wi-Fi coverage by adding many access points over the past two years, but there are some challenges associated with wireless coverage's in some areas of the building. Anywhere there are metal book stacks, you will have an issue with the signal interference," said Christopher Hodges, head of IT operations for Joyner library.

Students, staff and faculty use Buccaneer and Pirates Wi-Fi connection in order to surf

the web, check email, blackboard, etc. Students living in residence halls use Campus-Living Wi-Fi, both wired and wireless access.

"I'm able to access free Wi-Fi across the majority of the campus and I experience the greatest signal strength when I'm not inside a campus building. However, I have the weakest signal strength in the Rivers building and in the gymnasium," said Blanton.

Joyner library's wired network was recently upgraded to gigabit over Winter Break, costing just under \$70,000. The upgrade now makes internet connectivity more accessible to users, especially those in residence halls.

"ITCS placed several larger antennas and access points in those areas to provide coverage, but there will almost always be nooks and corners that don't get enough signal. Joyner's wired network was also recently upgraded to gigabit over the winter break, adding 10 times the bandwidth available, which also increases the available speed for Wi-Fi users," said Hodges.

ITCS serves our student body, staff and faculty to have innovated technology that is the right technology for the right reasons. With over 20,000 students using the ECU's Wi-Fi daily, the Internet is bound to be slow.

Currently, there are 1,800 wireless access points throughout the Main and Health Sciences Campus, including residence halls, classrooms, and offices. These access points can accommodate 15,000 wireless users concurrently, according to Raby.

"Wi-Fi on campus varies depending on



CYNDEY SMITH | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Kelsey Cossio, sophomore nutrition science major, uses Wi-Fi in her dorm to complete homework.

location,' said Thomas Howen, sophomore business marketing major. "For example, whenever I am in Bate the Wi-Fi is perfect. When I walk over to Joyner to study, Wi-Fi will fail on me and create errors half the time I use the Internet connection."

Howen said he would improve the "ECU-Libraries" connection since the library is the location where most of the Wi-Fi is constantly being used throughout the day. The ITCS is helping ECU's students, staff and faculty by utilizing technology-based solutions to

improve efficiency and productivity.

"ITCS has implemented a new back-end system for authenticating to both Pirates and Buccaneer," said Hodges. "There have been some initial growing pains getting everyone educated on how to connect, and having enough horsepower on the backend to get them authenticated. Those issues however, have vastly improved over the last month."

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

Sorority aims to empower and inspire women

Sara Ataalla
TEC STAFF

This week the Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority Inc. celebrated their 5 year anniversary at East Carolina University.

On Tuesday the Lambda ladies were invited to North Pitt High School to empower girls and encourage them to go to college.

"We got an invitation from the school counselor at North Pitt and she reached Lambda Theta

Alpha because they have a strong population of Latinos," said Jennifer Soto, senior Vice President and Public Relations Chair of the Multicultural Greek Council. "The cultural population of students doesn't really aspire to be anything after high school so the counselor wanted us to give the student's advice and tips of why they should go to college."

The Lambda Ladies plan on doing more work with North Pitt

High School next semester, and plan on helping students with applying to college, whether it be ECU or any other school.

Soto also said that because most of the attendees were female they decided to make it a women's empowerment program.

"The girls who attended the program said that our advice really helped and motivated them to want to graduate high school to further their education," said Soto.

Yesterday, as part of their five year celebration the Lambda Ladies had a Women's Empowerment Night. The meeting was held in Bate Building 1012.

"In the meeting we talk about stories about what led us to college, things that help us survive college, and why we are here," said Soto.

Lambda Theta Alpha also highlighted women's empowerment and talked about how there are girls in high school who don't

have motivation and don't feel there is a reason for them to further their education.

Soto added that they [Lambda Theta Alpha] hope to be examples for younger generations. They want to inspire women to achieve their college goals and pursue their dreams after college.

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

Be informed. Be aware. Be safe.

TITLE IX DEFINED

All **discrimination** based on **sex** is **prohibited**, including **sexual assault**. It's not a suggestion; **it's the LAW.**

DEPUTY TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Dr. Lathan Turner

Assists the Title IX Coordinator with overseeing ECU's response to Title IX reports and complaints as well as addresses any patterns or systematic problems revealed by such reports. He may be reached in the Dean of Students Office at (252) 328-9297.

All ECU students, employees and/or visitors are encouraged to report sexual harassment; including sexual assault, sexual violence or sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator and/or Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

ECU CARES

ecu.edu/titleIX **252-737-5555**

72 hours

MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND



Events

Wright Auditorium
Koresh Dance Company (Come Together)
Friday, Mar. 20 at 8:00 p.m.

Drew Streele Center
Contra Dance
Saturday, Mar. 21 at 7:00 p.m.

The Buccaneer
Brian Grilli
Saturday, Mar. 21 at 10:00 p.m.

Movie Times

Regal Greenville Grande Stadium 14

Friday, Mar. 20, Saturday, Mar. 21

Cinderella
12:40 p.m., 1:20 p.m., 3:50 p.m.,
4:20 p.m., 6:50 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:40
p.m., 10:15 p.m.,

Do You Believe?
1:10 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 7:10 p.m.,
10:05 p.m.

Insurgent 3D
12:30 p.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00
p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 8:15 p.m.,
10:00 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Insurgent
1:30 p.m., 3:40 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30
p.m., 9:30 p.m.

The Gunman
1:40 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 9:35
p.m.

Run All Night
1:50 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 7:25 p.m.,
10:25 p.m.

The Second Best
Marigold Exotic Hotel
12:20 p.m., 3:20 p.m., 6:40 p.m.,
10:10 p.m.

Focus
2:20 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 7:50 p.m.,
10:20 p.m.

The Lazarus Effect
4:45 p.m., 10:10 p.m.,

Fifty Shades of Grey
3:30 p.m., 9:50 p.m.

The Spongebob Movie:
Sponge Out Of Water
12:15 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:10 p.m.,
7:35 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Selma
2:10 p.m., 7:05 p.m.



Two performers from the Koresh Dance Company put on a performance consisting of unique styles such as folk dance, ballet and urban moves.

Koresh Dance returns

Students participate in cultural performance

Lindsay Rayner

TEC STAFF

Ashley Federici

FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This week the Koresh Dance Company will be returning to East Carolina University for their second performance at Wright Auditorium.

The Koresh Dance Company is named after the director Ronen Koresh. Born and raised in Israel, Koresh moved to New York City in 1983 and established his own company in 1991.

"He's come up with a movement of vocabularies that is very unlike anything I've seen anywhere else," said Michael Crane, ECU's producing artistic director of the Alexander Series.

The Koresh Dance Company is known for its unique blend of dancing styles.

"It's got a ballet piece in it but you won't see toe shoes or you know, Sleeping Beauty," said Crane. "It's got an urban feel to it... and it also has a folk dance feel to it as well."

The Koresh performances require high energy from the dancers. "When it's the full company, it's just kind of in-your-face athleticism. I really don't know how these dancers do it," said Crane. "I've presented a lot of companies and this is by far the most athletic. If you thought of it as cardio, how they're not dead by the end of the performance, I really don't know."

The performance on Friday will include a variety of styles. "You get a pretty condensed little story and if it isn't to your liking, just wait like three minutes, and the next one will be totally different," said Crane. "They're all kind of interconnected."

The performances include a diverse collection of music genres to accompany the dances.

"I'm not going to say the music is what they'll enjoy the most, but the music is one thing I think is kind of cool," said Crane. "It connects all the little vignettes together."

According to Crane there are classical pieces, and some are completely new. There will be dance style techno and there a little bit of like middle eastern folk sounds.

ECU alumni, Micah Geyer and Shannon Bramham, joined the Koresh Dance Company after graduation and will be returning for this performance.

"There were two students then in the school of theatre and dance that took the master class when the company was here. They went that following summer after they graduated they went up to Philadelphia," said Crane. "They took an intensive and they actually got hired by the company."

Over fall break the ECU School of Theatre and Dance held auditions for the 12 students to dance in the opening performance.

"There were 75 students who auditioned and from that I think 12 were accepted to learn this piece," said Crane. "They spent all of fall break rehearsing."

According to Crane, the variety of the performance is pleasing to a large audience.

"I think some people try to read dance movement as sign language; to them that works to interpret it," said Crane. "Some just enjoy seeing the light techniques, how people are paired."

Crane has been following the company

>> PLAN TO GO

WHAT: Koresh Dance Company

WHEN: March 20 @ 8 p.m.

WHERE: Wright Auditorium

since they performed at ECU in 2007 and has seen them perform in New York and in Philadelphia.

After almost a decade since the Koresh Company's last performance at ECU, Crane felt like it was time to bring them back and that this is the right program to do so.

The performance by the Koresh Dance Company is part of The S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series.

"I think to me the most important thing about the Alexander Series is a lot of the stuff is not targeted for students necessarily, but I think it's really important that they take the opportunity to experience things you haven't seen before or heard before," said Crane.

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

ECU to host Pirate Night

Brianna Horton

FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University will host its sixth Pirate Night tomorrow, but with a March Madness theme this year.

Pirate Night is an event that happens every semester here at ECU and many students are excited to indulge in the free prizes, foods and fun time with fellow Pirates.

The event will take place in Mendenhall Student Center tomorrow beginning at 9 p.m. and end at midnight.

"I'm so excited to take my residents to Pirate Night this semester," stated Katelyn Waldrop, junior education major and also a resident advisor for Fletcher Hall. "I had so much fun when I went my freshman year and I'm stoked to share this experience and excitement with them."

There will be activities such

as creating custom street signs, free food, prizes, games like skee ball, basketball and more. Students must have their OneCard to participate in the activities.

Pirate Night started in 2012 and has been around for three years with this spring will be the sixth one. Stefanie Lister, a graduate assistant for the University for Student Activities, stated that Pirate Night is a late night alternative for students to come out and have fun.

"We plan on playing the basketball tournament in Hendrix while having free food, games, prizes and music by Dueling Pianos" said Lister. "The purpose of Pirate Night is to allow students to have fun in a safe alcohol-free environment."

Pirate Night is hosted by a number of departments such as Student Activities Board, Student Affairs, Student Involvement and Leadership and other

>> PLAN TO GO

WHAT: Pirate Night

WHEN: Tonight @ 9 p.m.

WHERE: Mendenhall Student Center

Student Organizations.

The Pirate Night held on Sept. 27, 2013, was filled with activities including a Think Fast Game Show, leather bracelet making, customized bumper stickers, additional novelties, free bowling and billiards, late night breakfast and karaoke. This particular Pirate Night lasted from 8 p.m. to midnight.

"I think it's a good idea that they have Pirate Night on a Friday night this semester too," said Waldrop. "A lot of people need some-

thing else to do for the weekend if they don't want to go out and party so this is a good idea."

Waldrop said that the ECU atmosphere may make freshmen think that they need to party, "but it's campus events like this that let people know that it's ok to be different and not fall into peer pressure, Pirate Night is a great event and it's making a lot of people feel welcomed and at home at ECU."

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

ENT 'N' A Hour celebrates talent

Arvanna Smart
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Emerging New Talent will host their first ENT 'N' A Hour event tomorrow night at Jenkins Auditorium.

ENT 'N' A Hour is a different from most events because unlike open mics, which usually can range from an hour to three hours, this will only be an hour-long event.

The showcase will have nine acts giving each act a set amount of time to showcase their best works and to showcase what Emerging New Talents brings during the open mics. The event will consist of musical acts from ECU students Trey Scarborough, Real Thought, Xbrodie, JT Ackerman, Eastern Comfort and more including the headliner Rob Flohnson who is coming from Charlotte, N.C.

"We had auditions to see who we wanted in the show and see what they will be performing," said Vishal Bhaskar, senior international business major and president of Emerging New Talents. "It's going to be a great show, we have some great acts set-up."

The members of Emerging New Talents will not be performing but they will be hosting the show and moving it along in between acts.

Emerging New Talents, which was started in 2009, is a club on campus that hosts open mics and other events for people to show-

>> PLAN TO GO

WHAT: ENT 'N' A Hour Talent Showcase

WHEN: March 20 @ 8 p.m.

WHERE: Jenkins Auditorium

case their talents and establish a fan base.

"When I got here my freshman year, Emerging New Talents events were popular. All day outside there would be crowds of people listening to the acts," said Bhaskar. "We are trying to get back to that."

Jazzmine Bryant, freshman biology major, is a member of Emerging New Talents. "It's a club for the outcast," said Bryant.

"We really want to find those hidden talents here at ECU. It's for people who are kind of too shy to come out," said Liyah Rosser, sophomore economics major and member of Emerging New Talents. "[ENT 'N' A Hour] gives them a chance to have their five minutes of fame and see if people actually enjoy what they do."

Emerging New Talents does not solely focus on musical talents but is open to anyone who has any type of talent including acting, dancing, comedy, etc.

"We were created as a platform for students to just have a voice," said Bhaskar. "At the time there was no open mic scene for student entertainers to broadcast or showcase their material so we make that possible."

Along with ENT 'N' A Hour, Emerging New Talents will host a Freestyle Friday event on March 27th and will partner with SAB.

"This will also be an interesting event," said Daylin Leftwich, junior psychology major and vice president of Emerging New Talents. "We want to network with other organizations more and get the people that are involved with the open mics networking with each other to come up with collaborations and things."

ENT 'N' A Hour will be tomorrow night at 8 p.m. in Jenkins Auditorium room 1220.

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



Hmong women gather in traditional clothing. Hendrix will host an event to honor their culture. TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES

Hmong culture spreads awareness

Nichole Currie
TEC STAFF

The Hmong Student Association, an organization that is in place to share knowledge of the Hmong Culture, will hold a Hmong Awareness Day on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at Hendrix Theatre.

The club is presented as a "home" for Hmong students to practice their culture. As well as informing the public of their background, their mission is also to promote diversity on campus.

"Our motto is 'Ib Tsev Neeg Hmoob' meaning 'one big family,'" said Michelle Lor, junior exercise and physiology major. "[The association] is like a family for the Hmong kids on campus. A lot of us are so far away from home so with HSA, we can come together as one big a family."

Bai Xiong, junior nutrition and dietitian major, and Lor are both president and vice president of HSA.

This event will be similar to their mission statement, to bring awareness of their culture. Xiong and Lor both have experienced cases where people had no idea what the Hmong society was or had any knowledge in their background. They ensure that the event will answer many questions and also touch on "The Secret War," which is another name for the Vietnam War.

"Not a lot of people know that we helped the United States fight in the Vietnam War. For example, every time people ask what I am or my nationality, I say Hmong. They then have

no clue what it is," said Xiong. "It's not taught in education. It's like we are forgotten from the American History."

Lor said that Hmong people are just as much a part of this nation and people should know more about the Hmong culture. "Just in general, because we are supposed to be a melting pot," said Lor. "I think we should always expand our views and learn more about other people."

In relation to the Vietnam War, there will also be a veteran there to speak. Wa Cha Xiong worked directly with the Hmong people and will be speaking on the war and life with the Hmong society.


"For me personally, since our ancestors helped the United States I just want to give thanks to the veterans who fought in the war. I want other people and other veterans to recognize us too," said Xiong. "I don't want them to completely forget who we are and what we did. That's important to me and to our grandparents who lost their lives in this war."

There will also be a visual part to the event. There will be a fashion show and assorted performances. The HSA of ECU and the Hmong Society of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte will perform traditional dance pieces. In addition, another dance team will perform from Xiong and Lor's hometown, Newton, NC. Lastly there will be an informational on Hmong instruments and how they are used.

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

East Carolina University
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Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series
presents
Dr. Ilona Bell



"Sex and Seduction in John Donne's Poetry"
The Thomas Harriot Lecture

Cosponsored by the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Department of English

Bell is the Samuel Fessenden Clarke Professor of English at Williams College.

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Bate Building, Room 1032

The Thomas Harriot Lecture is free to all attendees. No tickets are required. For more information, contact Harriot College at 252-328-6249, or visit www.ecu.edu/voyages.

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Uptown anticipates SpazzFest

Carlyn Legg
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Greenville is set to host Spazzfest for the sixth year this weekend with events scheduled to begin downtown on tonight at 5 p.m.

"I'm excited to have our sixth year, it may be our best yet," said Jeff Blinder, creator of Spazzfest.

Spazzfest is Greenville's own version of a music festival. Spazzfest invites touring and local musicians to visit Greenville for one weekend every year to share their talent with the Greenville audience.

"I know for sure that there will be people from out of town attending, there's quite a few people that come from up north, like Pennsylvania and New Jersey," said Alyssa Karpa, Spazzfest volunteer coordinator. "A lot of people that used to live in Greenville and moved away that come back for Spazzfest." "It's great to see people from Raleigh and Winston Salem and all those really well-known established cultural cities coming to us for that," said Blinder. "It shows that we can stand our own with them."

Greenville is the only city to ever host Spazzfest. "It's not just a town where you just are partying all the time, but there's actually culture, and art, and music, and diversity and excitement," said Blinder.

As Spazzfest has developed over the past few years, Blinder and the Spazzfest team have developed a relationship with Uptown Greenville.

Uptown Greenville has taken initiative with incorporating more events into Spazzfest. "We've been able to get art and music involved and then with the help of Uptown Greenville, they were like 'well this is a great thing, we should try to include some businesses and entrepreneurship and technology stuff' all of



Lobo Marino members, Jamison Price (right) Laney Sullivan (left) warm up before performing.

it's connected too, to this culture," said Blinder.

There's more to Spazzfest than the music. Spazzfest now offers a business perspective and community involvement activities. "We want to keep adding to make something so powerful and awesome that it's really inspiring and it makes waves and people outside of Greenville will hear about it and all over the country hopefully," said Blinder.

Biance Shoneman, Uptown Greenville director, said that Spazzfest celebrates the rich, creative history that people in the community have in common through music and arts as well as celebrating the life, technology, engineering and small business spirit that is emerging.

Uptown Greenville started working with Spazzfest last year. This year's Spazzfest will

feature several events sponsored by Uptown Greenville, like a Hack-A-Thon, which invites tech savvy individuals to compete for 12 straight hours, a Trep Talk with the owner of Duck Rabbit Craft Brewery to discuss his startup and business experience, and a Shark Tank event where any member of the community can pitch their two-minute business idea for a chance to win up to \$4,000 in prizes.

According to Blinder, musicians and bands performing in bigger music festivals around this time of year pass right by Greenville on I-95.

"Location is one thing, also I think there's so much that Greenville offers...it causes a lot of different places to have events and to keep things churning along to make a really good art and music community," said Blinder.

Although Uptown Greenville was reluctant to comment on future locations for Spazzfest, the founder of the festival has no plans to change what has been done thus far with the event. Spazzfest is growing and becoming its own music festival, but there are no plans to relocate it.

"I think Greenville is just the right size, just the right necessity and I think it needs Spazzfest," said Blinder. "I would definitely branch off to do maybe Spazzfest presents events around like Raleigh and Chapel Hill, but I definitely want to keep Spazzfest in Greenville."

Spazzfest kicks off its sixth year tonight at Tippy Teapot at Limelight and at Crossbones Tavern, which was previously Peasant's Pub. These shows are set to feature both local and touring musicians.

Tickets to the individual events can be purchased at the door, or "golden" tickets can be purchased online. The "golden ticket" covers the entire four-day event that Spazzfest is this year and even includes after parties and some meals.

"It's literally the golden ticket. There's a Guitar-B-Cue on the first day where you get in for free, with your golden ticket, and there's a chili cook-off and a recovery brunch at the end of it all," said Karpa. "You're also invited to any after parties the whole weekend. And that's aside from being able to see every show and float and to different venues the whole time."

Spazzfest will begin this evening at 5 p.m. at Crossbones Tavern and at 9:30 p.m. at Tippy Teapot at Limelight. The party will end on Sunday.

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

>> PLAN TO GO

SPAZZ FEST! PREVIEW



**Thursday
Events**

Guitar-B-CUE @ 12 p.m.
The Kick-Off @ 5:30 p.m.
Spazz Shark tank @ 6 p.m.

**Friday
Events**

Spazz Lit II @ 2 p.m.
Chili Cook-Off @ 5 p.m.
Spazz Fest VI: Night 2.5 @ 11 p.m.

**Saturday
Events**

Nostalgia Comic Con @ 10 a.m.
The Spazz Within @ 3 p.m.
Punk Night @ 7 p.m.

**Sunday
Events**

Vinyl Record Fair @ 10 a.m.
Spazzfest Brunch @ 11 a.m.
Spazzfest Finale @ 7 p.m.

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PIRATE RANTS

To the girl complaining about her degree. I guess underwater basket weaving didn't pay off?

The Flash is an awesome show. Must watch.

Gateway better be nice.

Oklahoma fraternity rant happened off campus; thus, Oklahoma Student Code does not necessarily apply as Rule of Law; especially to the student members on OTHER buses.

Hope you had fun celebrating the white man's holiday.

Professor's who give exams on the week back from spring break are either complete morons or evil. No in between.

Jeeps are cool, Chevy's drool.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE OUT OF MEAT-BALLS??

Girls from spring break looking like a bottle of Fanta.

Cheers to the fellow Seniors on the home stretch!

People are always complaining about how the people who ride bikes don't stay in the bike lane. Well my response to that is look at the bike lane, IT IS FULL OF PEOPLE WALKING!

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

Arrgh you interested in being a Columnist for The East Carolinian?



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Our view

Bartenders need legal support

Greenville restaurants and bars have been extra cautious about whom they serve alcohol to following the events at Fitzgerald's on March 6. Two employees were charged with serving alcohol to a 15-year-old boy after he was hospitalized for over-consumption.

According to ALE reports, the boy arrived at the restaurant alone in the early afternoon and did not have his identification checked properly before being served two mixed drinks. The two bartenders have been charged with crimes which could result in a hefty fine, community service and possibly a revocation or suspension of their ABC permit for two years.

It is the opinion of the editorial staff that the blame should not be entirely levied on the servers, but also on the lopsided enforcement of a strict law on a weak identification system.

Bartending is a stressful position to be in, especially in a city such as Greenville where a large amount of patrons have the potential to be underage. If a law is

to be enforced with such strict consequences on the both the patron and server, the enforcing government should equip the server with the means to effectively do their job.

In a country where forged identification cards are becoming more commonplace and genuine, servers are still being tasked with flagging fake I.D.s by simple visual review. As time goes on, this method is simply unreliable and crude.

In other countries around the world, and even on places such as cruise ships, the only way a customer can receive an alcoholic beverage is by having their personal I.D. card scanned, similar to a credit card. The system is regulated by the governing body, leaving no room for forgeries.

Until a better system is in place however, servers still need to be accountable for utilizing practices such as common sense and a watchful eye in all transactions. A two-year ban simply isn't worth the risk.

Unmasking the NCAA



Brian Wudkwyh
TEC STAFF

March Madness has begun and as players put their bodies on the line for the sake of winning a championship, television producers and NCAA bigwigs will be lining their pockets with expenditures on the backs of the unpaid athletes.

In other words, the most prevalent example of cheating workers out of payment will be front and center in college basketball's most popular event.

The NCAA describes itself as "non-profit" organization and as such it forbids any type of money to go the "amateur" athletes that play the sports outside of school-provided scholarships.

So why then is it that this "non-profit" organization made almost a billion dollars in 2014 with somewhere from 80 to 90 percent of the earnings coming for the college basketball tournament.

Sure, the NCAA states that it redistributes the revenue to various institutions around the country but what it chooses to ignore is that it is cheating its laborers out of any type of compen-

sation while coaches and athletic directors make substantial livings.

Perhaps even more interesting is the fact that Emmert is on record to have made \$1.7 million in compensation during 2011 calendar year. The caste system in college sports is very real and the top dogs are hoarding more than their share while cheating the players out of the payment they deserve.

While Emmert and the rest of the NCAA ride their way to riches on the backs off 18-22-year old athletes, some players find themselves struggling to get by. This humiliating act of oppression will become no more prevalent than when the tournament tips off and the players begin to risk long-term health for a shot at glory.

The NCAA defends itself by pointing out that college athletes often times benefit from scholarships that help them pay for school expenses. For out-of-state student-athletes, the scholarship is very helpful and can set players up for a life beyond sports but it ultimately pales in comparison to the overall money that is made via television deals, ticket sales and advertisements.

Not all schools make money from their

athletic programs. The University of Alabama-Birmingham had to infamously cut its Division 1 football program at the conclusion of last season. The decision was made by the university and the state more than likely had a say in the process but where was the NCAA and why wasn't it able to spare a portion of its revenue to help the dwindling program. It might not even be unrealistic to say that Emmert's \$1.7 million salary could perhaps have put a dent in the program's financial deficit.

If the league were truly non-profit, then I wouldn't have a problem with players remaining unpaid. But while the laborers make the product, the CEOs and corporate leaders pull in the dough and leave the players on the outside looking in.

It can't last forever, either. Northwestern's football program has already taken steps to help bring awareness to the cause, however, until outside pressure pushes for major reform, student athletes will continue to suffer in a billion-dollar business.

Brian Wudkwyh is a sophomore majoring in communication and is the assistant sports editor. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Dreaming of March Madness



Tyler Kelbaugh
TEC STAFF

There's just so much to love about the month of March. With it comes the end of winter, lovely spring days, and, of course, the NCAA Basketball Tournament, the greatest tournament in professional sports.

The basic principles of March Madness speak to just about everyone. It's about the underdogs, the one in one million odds that remind us that anything is possible. We never forget the moments, the joy on the faces of those players who never got a chance to show what they were capable of before one magical opportunity in March.

Of course, we never forget the agony either. Seeing our favorite teams fall, our beloved brackets with them, leaves fans and players alike wishing for a redo. Just ask any true Duke fan about Lehigh, the Pennsylvania university of 7,000 students that beat the two seeded Blue Devils in the first round of the 2012 tournament, and you're sure to get a frustrated glare. No one expected the upset, making it all the more painful for Blue Devils fans.

The tournament is also a time to relish in chaos. The predictability of day-to-day life weighs on society, with many people yearning for some major excitement that ultimately changes the way their future looks. Nothing in sports embodies this lust for chaos more than March Madness, where a team like Lehigh can shock our expectations and change the landscape of the tournament.

It doesn't hurt that the quality of basketball during the tournament is abnormally high. Some of the most iconic games in the history of the sport have come in March. We saw the start of one of the great NBA rivalries in 1979, when Magic Johnson's Michigan State faced off against Larry Bird's Indiana State. There's "The Shot", when Duke's Christian Laettner caught future NBA star Grant Hill's Hail Mary inbound pass and destroyed Ken-

tucky's dreams with a buzzer beater that sent Duke to the Final Four. Even those who aren't passionate about sports have seen the image of NC State's coach Jim Valvano running up and down the court looking for someone to hug after his 26-10 Wolfpack shocked the world and won the tournament.

We remember these moments because they symbolize something greater, something that speaks to all people. Dreams can be made, and yes, ruined, in a matter of moments. Every play, every decision, every moment, it all counts. With a strong enough will, and perhaps a little luck, David can conquer Goliath. Legacies can be defined through just a few moments of brilliance. It's thrilling, intriguing, inspiring, and even a bit random. A combination that can only be found in March.

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

Poll results

Are you participating in an NCAA bracket pool?

Yes - 60.9%
No - 39.1%

Poll question

Should it be required to scan licenses for alcohol sales?

Visit theeastcarolinian.com to vote.

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COMICS

Majoring in Awesome

Brent Koehler
TEC CARTOONIST



"Hold on. I need you to sign our release form."

BRAIN TEASERS

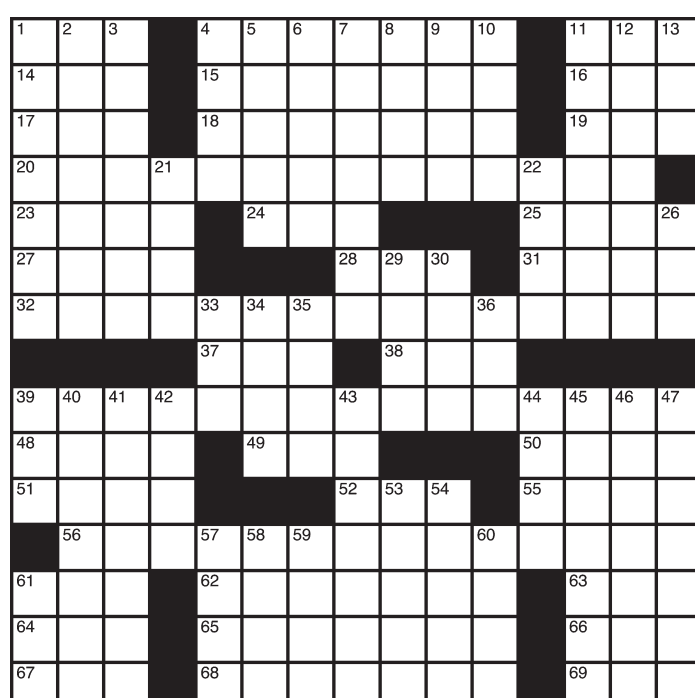
FOR RELEASE MARCH 19, 2015

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Dancing shoe item
- 4 Initially
- 11 Doo-wop syllable
- 14 Modern address
- 15 Seedless raisin
- 16 Oakley forte
- 17 Cape Town's nation: Abbr.
- 18 Farm hauler
- 19 Jurist in 1995 news
- 20 Area
- 23 "Come ___!"
- 24 Govt. stipend provider
- 25 ___ Addict: fragrance brand
- 27 Spot relative
- 28 Hound
- 31 Fictional Melbourne Dame
- 32 SONIC's Quarter Pound Conneys, e.g.
- 37 "Sweet as apple cider" girl of song
- 38 Extinct emu relative
- 39 1985 sci-fi classic
- 48 "Argo" setting
- 49 Flying Cloud, for one
- 50 "... ___ is given": Isaiah
- 51 Sub builder
- 52 It may be pitched
- 55 High-level predator
- 56 Hamlet's satisfied comment about the starts of 20-, 32- and 39-Across?
- 61 Dadaism founder
- 62 Virgin America's frequent-flyer program
- 63 Pipe turn
- 64 Commuter's choice
- 65 Backs out
- 66 "The Murders in the ___ Morgue"
- 67 Star quality
- 68 Ballpark officials
- 69 Old atlas abbr.



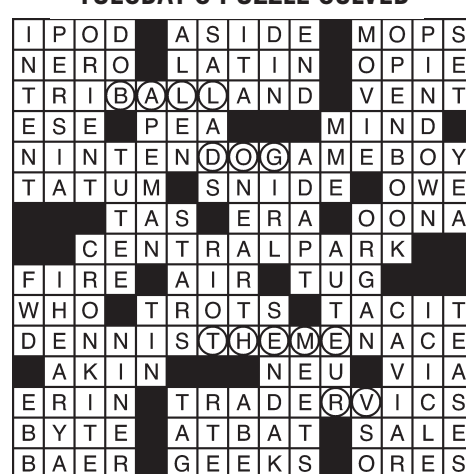
By Ed Sessa

3/19/15

DOWN

- 1 Alienate
- 2 Hall of fame
- 3 Tenor Domingo
- 4 Concerning
- 5 Gang lands
- 6 Reasons for breakdowns
- 7 Result of many a bite
- 8 Deserve
- 9 Storm output
- 10 Hawaiian root
- 11 Took marriage vows
- 12 Top-ten tune
- 13 Latin trio word
- 21 Unit of speed
- 22 Had too much
- 26 Dorm figs.
- 29 Words of woe
- 30 Idle, with "off"
- 33 Fired
- 34 Potpourri quality
- 35 "The Great" boy detective
- 36 Greek consonant
- 39 Bridge column datum
- 40 Decorator's recommendation
- 41 Nymph in Homer's "Odyssey"

TUESDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED



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3/19/15

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

3/19/15

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

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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Answer our prayers... **Rant it up.**

Log onto theeastcarolinian.com to submit your own Rants.

JUST DON'T HEAR THEM, BE THEM.

ECU takes two from Tigers

Pirates sweep mid-week at home against

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

The Pirates kept their momentum going this week as they completed a two-game sweep of the Princeton Tigers, defeating them 8-3 Wednesday afternoon and 11-2 Tuesday night.

The midweek sweep marks the third consecutive series sweep for the Pirates (15-6) as they swept both Elon and Monmouth the past two weekends.

The Pirates were carried by their offense once again, something that is becoming accustomed with first-year Head Coach Cliff Godwin's team.

East Carolina jumped out to an early lead in the second inning yesterday as they strung together five hits to score three runs.

ECU then went on to score two runs in the third and fourth inning as they used smart base running to advance runners. Charlie Yorgen was credited with a squeeze play RBI in both innings, helping the Pirates run away with the lead.

ECU collected 16 hits on the day, good enough for their seventh consecutive game with 10 or more hits.

Luke Lowery and Parker Lamm combined for seven hits to lead the way for the Pirates, as eight of the nine starters registered a base knock.

"I had been struggling a little bit so I talked to coach and he helped me," Lamm said. "My teammates, they really encouraged me to stay confident to go out and play hard."

Nick Durazo earned his first win on the season as he allowed one unearned run, four hits and four strikeouts in only five innings of work.

The Pirate bullpen then took over in the sixth inning and allowed two runs on six hits.

Captain Reid Love came in for relief and got the Pirates out of a big bases loaded no outs jam in the top of the eighth inning. Love pitched a three-up three-down ninth to earn his third save on the season.

The Pirates played an all around solid game on Tuesday night, as they seemed to be in rhythm on both sides of the ball.

ECU collected 13 hits on the day with every Pirate starter recording a base hit.

Starting pitcher Jimmy Boyd turned in his best starting performance of the season as he went seven innings, allowing two runs on six hits and two walks with three strikeouts.

Boyd started out extremely well as he allowed two hits with no runs through five innings. He then surrendered the two Princeton runs in the seventh inning, his last inning of work.

The Pirates capitalized on the pitching performance by torching Tiger pitching for 11 runs.

ECU has now scored eight or more runs in seven consecutive games, losing only to Campbell in that span.



ECU catcher Travis Watkins takes a swing in a game earlier this season. The redshirt sophomore was 2-for-4 in the win over Princeton.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

"Everybody's having a really good approach when swinging the bats," Boyd said. "It's a relief when you can go out there and have a cushion like we've been having."

The Pirates jumped ahead to an early 2-0 lead after using some crafty base running. They at first scored on a double steal in the second inning as Lowery stole home on the catcher's throw to second. Eric Tyler then scored on a squeeze play bunt by Kirk Morgan.

"When you can see that the ball is not going out of the yard then we got to change our game," Godwin said. "That's

the unique thing about this team, we can bunt, we can hit and run, we can steal bases and we can hit the three run homer."

The Pirates ran away with the game in the fifth inning, as they batted through their entire line up, scoring five runs on five hits and a walk.

With Lowery adding an RBI single in both games, he extended his streak to 13 straight games driving in a run. He is now batting .509 and has a team leading 27 RBIs.

The recent onslaught of offense couldn't have come at a better time, as the Pirates have now won 14 of their last

16 after starting 2-4.

"We're hot right now, hitting's contagious," Godwin said. "The guys believe in one another and it doesn't matter who's getting in there. We can beat you in a lot of different ways."

The Pirates will look for their fourth consecutive series sweep this weekend as they battle Virginia Commonwealth University, starting Friday at 6:30 p.m. inside Clark-LeClair Stadium.

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

Track and Field preps for Classic

ECU set for Charlotte trip to compete in Forty-Niner tourney

Carson Cherry
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina track and field team will travel to Charlotte this weekend to take part in the Forty-Niner Classic.

ECU will face athletes from several different schools with the likes of the University of North Carolina, N.C. State, UNC Wilmington, Winthrop and UNC Charlotte.

The meet is made up of 21 different events. Both the men's and women's track teams will be competing in the meet.

Head Coach Kurt Kraft is looking forward to facing in the Charlotte 49ers.

"I say this lightly, they are our natural rivals," Kraft said of the 49ers.

The 49ers used to share a conference with the Pirates when both teams were members in Conference USA. ECU and Charlotte



Curt Kraft

are familiar foes from C-USA, due to the old conference ties and the in-state ties, there is a bit of a natural rivalry between the two teams.

The key players to look out for on the men's side are junior Avion Jones, freshmen Xavier Brown, senior Dylan Spadaccini and junior Allen Bordley. Bordley is a triple jumper and can win points for the Pirates in those events.

Spadaccini is a great multi-event athlete, competing in 10 different events.

Spadaccini holds the school record in the heptathlon and holds the school record for the decathlon.

Jones was able to finish seventh at the

NCAA indoor track tournament earlier in the season. The top-10 rank is a national rank and Jones' specialty event is the high jump.

"Obviously Avion is the base of the program with his high jumping abilities, making him one of the best in the country," Kraft said.

Brown is one player to watch for now and the future. His main events he competes in are sprints and hurdles.

Despite being a freshmen Brown shows a lot of potential at a young age.

"Watch out for Brown," Kraft said. "He's a freshmen, and he's going to have a really good year. He's a very talented young man."

The key players to look out for on the women's side of the competition are senior Tyshonda Hawkins and junior Cheyenne Hutchinson.

Hawkins competes in the sprinting competitions. She holds the school record

for fastest 200-meter dash after recording a time of 23.62.

Hutchinson competes in the hurdle events. Hutchinson was the American Athletic Conference champion in hurdles.

Kraft had only positive things to say when talking about Hutchinson.

"Hutchinson is a great hurdler," Kraft said. "She won an American Athletic Conference championship in hurdling."

While individual performances are a huge part of success, Kraft maintains that a pack mentality is necessary.

"We have 21 different events, everybody needs to play their part," he said. "Individual success will bring team success."

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

TAKEAWAYS

BASEBALL

ECU (14-6) beat Princeton, 11-4 yesterday behind Luke Lowery's three-hit performance.

SOFTBALL

The Pirates (8-19) dropped a 10-4 road contest against Elon yesterday. ECU has now lost eight of its last nine games.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Lady Pirates (22-10) defeated Bradford, 74-52 yesterday in the first round of the WNIT. ECU will play either East Tennessee or N.C. State in the next round of the tournament.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

ECU (11-6) fell to the Elon Phoenix, 4-3, yesterday despite winning the singles portion of the match.

CHARLOTTE HORNETS

The Hornets (29-37) were defeated, 99-92 by the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday dropping them to fourth in the Southeast Division.

CAROLINA HURRICANES

Carolina (26-34-9) fell to eighth in the Metropolitan Division following a 2-1 loss to the Ottawa Senators on Tuesday.

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Pirate softball loses at Elon

Andi Caruso
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina softball team dropped a 10-4 contest at Elon that brought the Pirates record to 8-19 while the Phoenix added another win to its impressive 17-6 record.

With the loss, the Pirates have now lost eight of their nine last contests.

The Pirates were able to get on the board quickly in the first inning when Kacie Oshiro hit a double down the right side. Catcher Abby Wynne followed with an RBI single that scored Oshiro, 1-0.

But the Phoenix took the lead in the second inning where left fielder Kara Shutt hit a triple to right field that scored shortstop Hannah Olsen. Elon catcher Emily Roper scored Shutt with an RBI double to right field as Elon took the lead, 2-1.

ECU outfielder Mary Sloan-Bradford tied the score in the third inning with a leadoff home run to right center field. After a walk by Oshiro, the momentum continued when Wynne hit a single to left field. With runners on first and second, sophomore Casey Alcorn singled to the shortstop that advanced the runners. Nicole Cheek then reached first base on an error that also brought in a run giving the Pirates a 3-2 lead.

However, in the bottom of the third inning, starting pitcher Sarah Christian gave up a home run that tied up the game once again, 3-3.

Christian finished the game having pitched four innings, as she gave up five hits, three earned runs and struck out four batters.

That score remained until the bottom of the fifth inning. With freshman Ashely Cruise on the mound, the Phoenix were able to score another run because of a throwing error by third basemen Karlie Smith.

It was a one run game until the bottom of the sixth inning when the Phoenix

scored six runs. Carey Millon started off the bottom half of the inning with a home run over the left center field wall. With one out, Olsen hit a RBI double down the left field line. Following her was Aliana Hall who hit an RBI single. With two runners on, Roper hit a three-run home run that made the score 10-4.

The home run was Roper's third of the season and made it an insurmountable deficit for the Pirates.

Cruise left the game in the bottom of the frame. The freshman finished the game with four runs off of three hits and a strikeout as senior Caroline Umphlett came up to the mound to relieve her. In her one inning pitched, Umphlett finished the game having given up three runs off of four hits and notched two strikeouts.

She is now 2-10 on the season. Cruise struggled with her control as she hit two batsmen in her one inning of work. She was in tough situations with runners on board during most of her outing. The freshman has a 5.31 ERA this season, which is good enough for second on the team's struggling pitching staff.

In the seventh inning, the Pirates weren't able to capitalize the Phoenix. Oshiro started off the inning with a single to right field, followed by Smith with another single to right field. With two people on, Elon pitcher Kayla Caruso finished the game with three consecutive strikeouts.

The Pirates head back home after playing 15 games on the road against Central Florida in what will be ECU's first time playing in the American Athletic Conference. First pitch is on Saturday at 1 p.m.



Kacie Oshiro trots toward home in an ECU game early this year. The sophomore leads the team in hitting.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

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

Softball stares down AAC play

Jaecks, Lady Pirates look to shake off tough non-conference

Andi Caruso
TEC STAFF

After competing in five tournaments to start off the season, the East Carolina softball team (8-19) is ready to make its debut in the American Athletic Conference.

ECU competed in several tournaments throughout a two month span where the Pirates won only eight games, five of which were earned in one weekend.

"I wish our record was better," said Interim Head Coach Steve Jaecks. "We're in a position right now where we're almost to the halfway point, but we still have half the season left, and we're getting ready to go into conference play."

Despite their rough start, the Pirates are ready to start conference play this weekend against Central Florida, the top AAC team so far this season with a 22-4 record.

UCF is also ranked No. 20 nationally in the USA Softball Top 25 polls because of incredible efforts by its pitching staff, which holds the lowest ERA in Division 1 with a 1.00 ERA in the span of 31 games.

UCF Senior Mackenzie Audas boasts a 0.88 ERA and is ranked eighth in the top 15 players in terms of ERA. She is

the school leader in strikeouts, games started, and appearances during her UCF career. Audas tossed her fourth career no-hitter earlier in the season and was named the AAC Pitcher-of-the-Week four times so far in her senior campaign.

The Knights just earned their 500th victory in program history this past weekend in a double-header against Butler and UIC. Not only did the Knights earn a milestone victory this season, UCF has also earned the most stolen bases record by Kahley Novak, who has over 100 career stolen bases, and the most strikeouts record that was broken by Allison Krime, who is one of three Division 1 active players with over 800 strikeouts.

"It's going to be tough," said Jaecks. "All the coaches voted [UCF] number one. Based on where the coaches see us, we've got nothing to lose."



WEB PHOTO

Jaecks added, "There's a little bit of comfort being able to play with that type of mentality because there are no expectations on the part of anybody that were going to take any of those games yet."

Along with the Knights, ECU will have to compete against the No. 2 AAC ranked South Florida Bulls (28-8). The Bulls currently hold a 2.17 ERA compared to the Pirates 5.33 ERA. USF holds the highest team batting average in the AAC with .322. The Bulls have picked up 269 hits, 18 home runs and 156 RBI.

The Pirates will also face conference foes Houston, Tulsa, Memphis, and UConn during its inaugural season in the AAC.

Senior pitcher Sarah Christian is a key player on the mound for the Pirates. The right-handed pitcher holds a 3.19 ERA. This season, Christian has 29 earned runs, 10 walks, with 37 strikeouts, and has battled hard for the team.

"The girls' spirit is tremendous, there is no give up, there's all fight. I'm very encouraged with what we're going with the second half of the season," said Jaecks.

Christian, along with efforts from the rest of the team, are in hopes to start the conference off right with a victory against UCF at home. The first pitch is on Saturday at 1 p.m.

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

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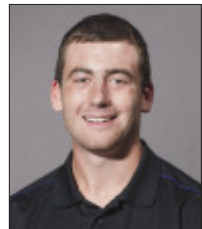
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Tennis loses road test at UNCG

Billy Kline
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina men's tennis team lost to UNC Greensboro 4-3 Wednesday afternoon, dropping its overall record to 9-9.



Colin Roller

The Pirates got off to a slow start, losing the doubles portion of the match.

The dynamic duo of juniors Colin Roller and Tendai Tapfuma dropped their match 6-1.

Senior Ross Nigro and his teammate sophomore Fredric Lehfeldt also lost their match in a hard fought game, 7-6 (7-4). The match was a tough pill for the Pirates to swallow since the loss meant they lost the doubles point.



Nicolas Soriano

Seniors Patriek Wolterbeek and Nicolas Soriano were able to win their doubles match in dominating fashion, 6-2, but it wasn't enough for the Pirates to win the point.

The Pirates were able to climb back into the match during the singles portion however, winning three of the six games.

Soriano continued his success dominating his opponent in his singles match, 6-4, 6-2.

Tapfuma wasn't able to overcome his early struggles, as he lost his singles match as well, 6-3 and 6-1.

Freshman Kasey Countee won his singles match, defeating his opponent in a thrilling three set match, 6-2, 3-6 and 7-5.

Lehfeldt put up a good fight in his singles match but ultimately fell to his opponent with a score of 4-6, 7-5 and 6-0.

Senior Damien Brenard fought hard in a three set match but also lost his match, 1-6, 6-2 and 6-4.

Roller was able to win his singles match going toe-to-toe with his opponent and



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Colin Roller launches a serve during a match.

eventually winning 6-4, 7-6 and 7-4. Roller has been one of the Pirates most consistent players this season.

The final score of the match was 4-3 in favor of UNCG.

The Spartans are now 6-6 on their season.

The Pirates will look to erase their recent three game losing streak March 27th against the UNC Charlotte 49ers in Charlotte.

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

Elon tops ECU



CONTRIBUTED BY ECU MEDIA RELATIONS

Katie Hoch lines up a backhand shot in a match this season. The junior is in her first ECU season.

Lady Pirates drop close match

Staff Report

The East Carolina women's tennis team dropped a 4-3 decision to Elon Wednesday afternoon on the road.

The Lady Pirates (11-6) came out to an early lead as they won the doubles portion of the match, but Elon was able to capitalize on its singles play to earn the victory.

ECU won its doubles matches behind Michelle Castro and Nicole LaDuca in the No. 1 doubles. Castro and LaDuca are now 6-5 on the season.

In the No. 3 doubles, the combination of Dana Gray and Katie Hoch triumphed for ECU. The pair won 6-3 over Elon's Erica Braschi and Taylor Casey for their 10th win of the season, a team-high.

The Phoenix were carried by their freshman as Kirsten Ward, Erica Braschi and Olivia Lucas each won their singles matches that eventually gave Elon the victory.

Lucas earned a three set win over Nicole LaDuca. After dropping a 6-4 decision in the first set, the freshman came back with

set wins of 6-2 and 6-0.

Braschi won both sets against Sarah Sarjoo in the No. 4 singles. Sarjoo was topped 6-2 and 7-6 in the two sets.

Ward won the deciding match in singles play over Castro to move Elon to 8-5 on the season. Ward won the first set, 6-4 before Castro earned a set win by the same score. However, Ward outlasted Castro with a 6-3 set win.

Katie Hoch won the lone single match for ECU over Maria Camara Ruiz with a 6-1 and 6-2 straight set victory.

The Lady Pirates will have their first American Athletic Conference since March 9 as ECU travels to Houston and SMU this weekend. They are currently 1-1 in conference with a win over Temple and a loss to UCF.

Houston has kicked off the season with a 12-4 record and 3-0 in conference. SMU is another strong AAC contender with a 9-3 record to open the season and a 2-0 record in conference.

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

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Postseason in Minges

Lady Pirates top Radford in WNIT



Tiana Taylor (24) attempts a shot from the floor. She had 11 points and four boards.



Jada Payne, 22 points, attempts a lay up.



Players celebrate from ECU's bench in the win.



Jasmine Phillips (22) dribbles the ball up the floor. The junior transfer had five points, four assists and three rebounds in ECU's win over Radford in first round of the WNIT, 74-52.

WOMEN'S HOOPS continued from A1

Heading into the break ECU led Radford 38-26.

Coming out of the locker room the Lady Pirates showed no sign of letting up. Radford was never able to find a way to stop ECU on either end of the floor and it produced nothing but smiles along the Pirate bench from both the coaches and players.

"I think we're all pulling in the same direction now," Macy said. "The kids are all on the bench pulling for each other, which makes an incredible difference and when you create that kind of energy over the course of 40 minutes,

you become an incredibly hard basketball team to beat."

Payne led all scorers with 22 points on 8-for-15 shooting, 3-for-5 from behind the arc. Trice finished with 12 points and a team-high seven rebounds. Taylor also finished in double figures scoring with 11 points and four rebounds.

Overall the Pirates shot 26-for-60 (43 percent) on the night, 5-for-10 (50 percent) from downtown and 17-for-23 (74 percent) from the charity stripe.

Janayla White led the way offensively for the Highlanders, finishing with nine points, as teammate Jordynn

Gaymon chipped in six points and 11 boards.

Next up the Lady Pirates will face the winner of the NC State and Eastern Tennessee game this Thursday, on Saturday. Since all of the WNIT games are hosted by participating schools ECU has already entered a bid hoping to host this weekend's contest.

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

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