



# The East Carolinian



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Thursday, 4.2.15



Sara Dover, ECU student and creator of Textchange, shows the home page of the application. MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Students able to 'Textchange' books with new college app

Kaitlyn Lee FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Textchange is a textbook company founded by Sara Dover, an East Carolina University graduate student that launched Wednesday.

Textchange is an online marketplace for college students to buy, sell and trade their textbooks among their peers. Dover said the goal is to help save money through student-to-student negotiation.

"I thought of the idea when I was in college and trying to sell my books," said Dover. "I knew if I could buy and/or sell directly with other students, pricing would be more fair. I was just missing the connection. The Textchange provides that connection, hopefully making life easier for students."

The Textchange has a marketing team of 10 ECU students, in addition to an internship program. They have spent the duration of the semester doing market research, creating marketing campaigns, and building relationships within the community.

"The internship program has been awesome," said Dover. "The students have been so crucial to everything The Textchange has done and plans to do in the future."

Dover said the internship roles vary from social media marketing, community outreach, and behind the scenes managing finances and business aspects.

The company registered the LLC back in August of 2013. Web design

and development, along with marketing research have been going on for a year now. Dover said she thinks the app will benefit students in many ways.

"The direct buy/sell from student-to-student will cut out the middle-man, saving students big money," said Dover. "The Textchange has potential to create an increased interconnectedness among students."

Creating an account is free and it costs \$1 to list one book. Each listing is active for 30 days and The Textchange practices "roll-over credits." If you only have four books to post, but buy a bundle of five, you will have one credit on your account until you need to post another book.

> APP page A2

## Thefts lead to student arrests

Altavia Lowery TEC STAFF

East Carolina University police have arrested two students for the January robbery in Clement Residence Hall, and a third suspect has turned himself into police.

Matthew Parisi, 19, Austin Varipapa, 19, and Hunter Tolliver, 18, are charged with common law robbery, felonious breaking and entering, safecracking, and conspiracy to commit felony larceny and felony possession of stolen goods.

All of them are currently enrolled as ECU students with an on-campus address, but do not live in Clement Residence Hall.

Tolliver, Parisi and Varipapa were taken to the Pitt County Detention Center and placed under a \$25,000 bond, according to Deputy Chief of Police Jason Sugg.

"ECU police [are] not aware of anyone else involved with this robbery," Sugg said. "The case remains open. However, we do not have any other persons of interest at this time."

On Jan. 20, ECU police responded to a report of a robbery with one person being physically assaulted during the incident in Clement Residence Hall.

At about 6:18 p.m., that evening, students received the first of two ECU Alerts, stating that a "strong arm robbery" had occurred in the residence hall and that residents should seek shelter in a safe place until further notice. The alert provided a description of the suspects, stating their physical appearance.

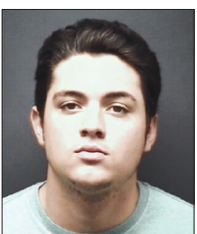
The second alert went out at 7:40 p.m., notifying students that the dangerous situation in Clement Hall had ended and the



Austin Varipapa



Matthew Parisi



Hunter Tolliver

suspect's location was unknown. The alert continued to say that the robbery did not involve any weapons and there was no ongoing campus threat.

Officers determined at the beginning of the investigation that the robbery was a targeted incident, according to Sugg. After interviews and the gathering of evidence by the ECU Police Department-Investigation Unit, the suspects were identified.

"You go where the information takes you, we had some information early on that sent us to a certain direction. Through the process of checking video surveillance, it led to three people getting charged," said Deputy Chief Jason Sugg.

According to a ECUPD news release, the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) will meet with the students to address the alleged misconduct. The ECU conduct process functions separately and independently from the criminal justice process.

"We want students to be very diligent about their surroundings. If there is something that seems suspicious let us know about it. Report suspicious people, behavior, and be aware of your surroundings," said Sugg.

"Lock your doors, don't let people in dorms that don't belong there. Something's are very simple. If you think a crime had been committed or is about to happen let us know. If it turns out false that's great but if it turns out to be true, we can know and get to the bottom of it."

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

## RAYS AWARENESS

Many off-campus housing locations at ECU offer indoor tanning options for residents. Some students are unaware of the deadly dangers such as premature aging and multiple types of skin cancers. KLAFSUN.COM

## Tanning season under way; doctor addresses health risks

Kaitlyn Lee and Alina Olson FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Now that the winter season is officially over, students are beginning to frequent tanning salons in hopes of getting some color for the start of summer.

However, many students neglect to consider the risks they face when they enter a tanning bed.

Dr. Charles Phillips, division chief of Dermatology at the Brody School of Medicine said ultraviolet (UV) radiation is more present in tanning beds and any excess of gratuitous UV exposure unnecessarily contributes to skin cancer.

"The most common type of skin cancer in people under the age of 25 is Basal Cell Carcinoma. Using tanning beds puts you at the highest risk for contracting the disease," said Phillips.

Basal cell carcinoma is a common skin cancer that is often associated with overexposure to sunlight. They are abnormal, uncontrolled growths that arise in the skins basal cells, which line the deepest layer of the skin.

Kelsey MacWilliams, sophomore hospitality management major, said she knows tanning beds may be dangerous to her skin, but it is the price people pay to have a tan.

"A lot of these tanning places have a free week coupon that I like to take advantage of. It's risky, but it's nice having a healthy glow even though it's actually ruining your skin," said MacWilliams.

It's tempting to visit tanning salons when they offer great deals and coupons to students. Several local Greenville tanning salons offer free weeks of tanning as well as percentage off coupons to get individuals to come in and hopefully buy a tanning membership.

Jessi Sutherland, sophomore intended nursing major, said she does not plan to use tanning beds because she wants to have "wrinkle-free" skin when she is older. She added that her choice not to use the bed because her mom had skin cancer.

"My mother got melanoma and never even used a tanning bed in her life. She was lucky enough to have caught it before it got in her bloodstream and potentially killed her," said Sutherland. "I think that life is too precious to waste to get a skin disease that is easily preventable if you take the right precautions. In our society, tan skin is something that we all would love to have, but it is not worth the risk of losing your own life."

According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, it is estimated that 2.3 million teenagers visit a tanning salon at least once a year. Among caucasians, North Carolina has the third high-

est death rate from melanoma nationwide.

Melanoma is a tumor of melanin-forming cells, typically a malignant tumor associated with skin cancer.

Taylor Bandi, junior public relations major, said she knows the risks of tanning even though she has used them before.

"I have really sensitive skin so I noticed I was getting burnt and just stopped. I think it's okay to do in moderation because it makes people feel more confident, but if you over do it or don't apply the right lotions before and after then that's when skin and health issues occur."

Although tanning can make someone feel better about themselves, there are many risks that everyone should be aware of.

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

BRIEFS

Vidant names new CEO

Vidant health system announced Wednesday morning that Dr. Michael Waldrum has been hired as their next chief executive officer.

The position for CEO became open last autumn when Dr. David Herman resigned to take another position in Minnesota.

ONLINE



Honors College students hike Appalachian Trail

ECU talks partnership with Pocosin River Lodge for graduate studies

Corrections/Clarifications

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.

NC cuts teaching program

Kelsey Padgett TEC STAFF

For East Carolina Director of Teaching Fellows and Maynard Scholars Dionna Manning, the graduation of the final cohort of Teaching Fellows this May means the end of an era that her children will never experience.

"It is disappointing," said Manning. "I do believe that these students are some of the best and brightest in the field. They are leaders in and out of the classrooms.

Originally created to address the state's need for teachers, the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program was abolished by the General Assembly in March 2011 with little explanation after recruiting its final cohort, the Class of 2015.

Created in 1986, the Teaching Fellows Program offered top high school graduates a four-year scholarship of \$26,000 in



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Trayshawn Steponey, senior math major, participating in the fellowship. exchange for their service to the teaching profession in North Carolina for four years following their graduation.

The program not only offered its recipients money towards their desired degree, but also experiences during the school year and summer that normal education majors would not have had the opportunity to participate in.

At the end of their freshmen year, fellows were taken on a weeklong bus trip across the state to look at different school models. Enrichment and leadership activities were also offered during their four years, and many schools encouraged fellows to

would like to attend should they receive the scholarship. ECU is one of 17 universities across N.C. that Teaching Fellows were able to call home.

The James and Connie Maynard Scholarship was established at ECU in 2006, before Teaching Fellows funding was cut. Though a private donor funds the scholarship, it was modeled directly after the Teaching Fellows Program.

There are close to 500 fellows statewide set to graduate this May and 51 at ECU.

Manning said while she is sad to see the program go, she is happy with the quality of future teachers she has had the chance to work alongside.

"This class is phenomenal," said Manning. "We have a very diverse group this year. If we have to end it at least we're going out with a strong class."

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

APP continued from A1

have four books to post, but buy a bundle of five, you will have one credit on your account.

The Textchange is for ECU and Pitt Community College students, but they plan on expanding in the future. Prices are set by the seller but they can be negotiated.

The Textchange goals are to provide students quality textbooks at a low cost, and aid

education by providing flexibility in textbook hunting.

"People often ask me if the textbook industry is a dying one, and I do not know the answer to that. But I do know that the system is not fair, and something should be done about it."

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

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MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND



## Events

Uptown Greenville  
First Friday Artwalk  
April 3 at 5:00 p.m.

The Topsy Teapot at Limelight  
Greyhaven  
April 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Jenkins Fine Arts Center  
Labrynth: An Installation By  
Katie West  
April 3 at 11 a.m.- 3p.m.

River Park North  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt  
April 5 at 2 p.m.

## Movie Times:

Regal Greenville  
Grande Stadium 14

Friday, April 3  
Saturday, April 4

### Furious 7

5:10 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.,  
7:40 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 8:45 p.m.,  
9:15 p.m., 9:50 p.m.,  
10:25 p.m., 10:40 p.m.

### Get Hard

1:20 p.m., 1:50 p.m., 4:10 p.m.,  
4:40 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 7:50 p.m.,  
9:55 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

### Home 3D

12:10 p.m., 2:55 p.m., 5:20 p.m.,  
8:00 p.m.

### Home

1:00 p.m., 3:50 p.m., 7:10 p.m.,  
9:40 p.m.

### Do You Believe

12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:55 p.m.,  
9:45 p.m.

### The Divergent Series: Insurgent

4:20 p.m.

### The Divergent Series: Insurgent

1:30 p.m., 7:05 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

### The Gunman

5:30 p.m.

### Cinderella

12:50 p.m., 3:55 p.m., 6:40 p.m.,  
9:30 p.m.

### Run All Night

3:40 p.m.

# Professors share new work

**Brianna Horton**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Last night, the Faulkner Gallery of Joyner Library was full of students, professors and eager artists awaiting Professors Liza Wieland and John Hoppenthaler's words from their works of literature to fill the room.

Wieland and Hoppenthaler were hired at East Carolina University at the same time in 2007 and last night was their first time reading from their own individual works together. Wieland was very excited to be reading with her colleague for the first time.

"We've never published books around the same time and I'm very excited to read alongside my colleague. We've read together as part of the creative writing group but never together in this way," said Wieland. "The pages I decided to read were inspired by a conversation I had with the chair of my department, Jeffrey Johnson, about Tibetan monks and I thought he would get a kick out of it."

Wieland, who has just published her eighth novel this past March, read from her work titled "Land of Enchantment." Wieland's novel is a story of three women artists in the year 2001 and how their lives fall apart and come back together again. "Someone told me that



MYLES TRAVITZ | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

John Hoppenthaler read his personal poetry at last night's joint reading in the Faulkner Gallery with Liza Wieland.

reading about painters is like watching paint dry so I took that as a challenge with this novel," said Wieland.

Hoppenthaler's book, titled "Domestic Garden," is a published book of poems that was published on Feb. 3. Hoppenthaler read a few poems from the book last night, many of them being his own. One poem that Hoppenthaler read to the crowd was written by Tomas Tranströmer, a poet that he has

admired for a long time and who just passed away three days ago. Hoppenthaler also read the longest poem he's ever published which is titled "Side Porch of the Elizabeth Bishop House."

"This is my favorite poem because it pulls together what the book is about, my transitioning over the past 10 years from New York to West Virginia and now North Carolina and the different cultural places, and I recently got married and I

now have a stepchild and a lot of negotiations come with that and this poem really ties it all in," said Hoppenthaler.

Hoppenthaler also worked for Toni Morrison, a famous female african american novelist, professor and editor, for nine years where he realized that he was better at writing books of poems rather than novels. "If it was ever going to happen it was

> POETRY page A4

## TV REVIEW

# Glee ends on a high note



**Nichole Currie**  
TEC STAFF

Viewers will no longer get to follow the lives of the most controversial characters in song.

There will be no more endless battles between the Cheerios and the Glee Club.

McKinley High has now become a memory for viewers as we recall the greatest covers of all time. Glee aired its last episode last week as the show curtain closed for good. Glee has come to an end but the show left viewers with a satisfying conclusion: it's not often the original dreams of characters become reality.

The producers and writers left the comedy series on a good note, literally. The series ended with an unusual type of two-hour finale. Instead of compacting the present Glee Club into two hours, they brought viewers back to the very beginning. Showing the beginning of this series really implements how far each character has come.

The very first episode introduced each character and their different-but-extreme personalities. Berry, played by Lea Michelle, was the try-hard of the bunch. She was not competent of other cultures or disabilities. Mercedes Jones, played by Amber Riley, believed she was invisible and was on a mission to show the world otherwise. Last but not least, Kurt Hummel, played by Chris Colfer, was the most controversial character because he tried to do more than display his talent. He also wanted to be open about his sexuality.

Glee really challenged viewers' minds with these distinctive characters. After meeting them, audiences could not remove their eyes from the shows dialogue, voices and performances. Glee hooked viewers on a journey of several high school students who were not average. We watched these students alter their beliefs and also teach their peers as well.

The first hour of the series finale was the first ever episode of Glee. After watching the first episode, the audience was then forced to correlate the past to the present. It gave this idea that dreams eventually come true. The second part of the finale



FOX

The characters on Glee went on to follow their dreams as the sixth season came to an end.

showed every character in the future. Is it common for every person in the Glee Club to accomplish his or her dreams? No, but the series finale proved that it is possible. Some can argue that it was unrealistic but this is a comedy series. The show began with a comical value and ended with a comical value.

It would have been absurd to end Glee with unfulfilled dreams and heartache. As a viewer we were very comfortable with this ending. The remaining characters accomplish the goals they set on the very first episode. Berry became the award-winning star she hoped to be and Jones began her career opening for the pop star, Beyonce.

This show really presents the uncommon ideology of dreams. Most people of this generation take the nine to five working job just to pay bills. These characters had crazy dreams that many didn't listen to, such as Hummel's father or the McKinley High football team. The first episode of Glee ended with the cover of the popular Journey song, "Don't Stop Believing."

The main purpose of this show was to show young viewers that belief is the first step is accomplishing goals. Throughout the series we do see some people fall to their insecurities. Many did not get into schools or tried to follow their loved ones. Thankfully the writers of the show got the characters back on track.

This series also left each controversial

issue with a good standing. In the first season Hummel is trying to "come out of the closet."

As the show continued Hummel met his love interest, Blaine Anderson, played by Darren Criss. It was still unfitting for them to be together, but they did not cease their true identity.

In the series finale they advance everyone's career five years later. Not only is the power couple generally happy but also the viewer can see a larger acceptance of their sexuality.

Other conclusions include Sue Sylvester, played by Jane Lynch, becoming Vice-President of the United States, Sam Evans, Chord Overstreet, took over the Glee Club at McKinley High and the Auditorium is named after the deceased Finn Hudson, played by the late Cory Monteith, and Coach Shannon Beiste who was played by Dot Jones.

Glee touched many hearts of the youth in America over the years. It challenged controversial topics that other shows did not dare to talk about. They successfully proposed these ideas and executed them to the last episode. Glee paved the way for other shows to confront the differences amongst teenagers and the ideology of dreams coming true.

# The Beggar's Opera wows with infidelity and murder

Carlyn Legg  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Beggar's Opera filled the recital hall of A.J. Fletcher Music Center with laughter and applause in its debut earlier this week. The cast, made up of almost all students, put on a professional show that was popular amongst friends and family of the school of music.

"Everyone did an amazing job, there was so much talent," said Alicia Ung, freshman music education major and opera attendee. "It truly blew me away."

The opera went from Sunday until Tuesday, filling every seat in the 260-seat theater. The opera performers and the live orchestra shared the stage and there was a literal wall built in between them, giving the cast half as much space to work with.

"We are hindered here at ECU in that we don't have an actual theatre, we perform in the recital hall," said Kramar, opera director and 17-year ECU opera veteran. "So it's very challenging from a design standpoint."

The plot of the opera is based in London and revolves around the love and lust. Peachum is a lawyer who represents thieves and justifies it because they are the source of his income. His daughter, Polly, is the young and naive girl who is in love with Macheath. Macheath is the deceptive and cunning ladies man who is now married to Polly and someone else along with staying friendly with the other women around the town.

When Mr. and Mrs. Peachum learn of Polly's marriage, they warn her that it will be her demise. Should she learn the details of Macheath's family, she will be subjected to hold onto those secrets and her father may be liable for her in court.

One of Macheath's most significant side ladies is Lucy Luckit, the daughter of the jailer. Lucy is the most desperate character in the show because she is pregnant with Macheath's child. As much as she wants to be with him, he



The cast rehearses a number during practice before the debut of The Beggar's Opera.

is too conceited to settle down with her.

Much to Lucy's demise, Macheath gets arrested by the corrupt jailer for no reason that the audience is told. Macheath is set to be hanged and even contemplates the last moments of his life before he convinces Lucy to help him escape.

The end of the show is a celebration of the entire cast that no one was executed and everything worked out and they may continue to carry on with their deceptive ways.

The two-hour ordeal consisted of love triangles, infidelity, deception, moral wrongdoings and even an attempted murder. There were two ten-minute intermissions during which hardly anyone in the audience even budged as they anticipated the remainder of the show.

"Everyone's hard work really paid off," said Gina Marie Falk, freshman vocal performance major and soprano performer in the opera.

The cast of almost 30 student performers included Daniel Shirley, in only his second semester here at ECU, as a vocal instructor for tenor students.

"It was really great to perform with Dan Shirley, he was very professional and it's nice to see how professionals work and to take advice from someone who's been in bigger professional productions," said Falk.

The smiles on the faces of the performers when the third and final show came to a close Tuesday evening were filled with satisfaction and relief as they greeted their friends and family. Still in full costume from her role as a mistress in the show, Samantha Kunz, sophomore vocal performance major, said she felt sick with delight at the end of the show.

"The opera provides the greatest satisfaction and the greatest vehicle of expression to reach people," said Kramar.

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

## POETRY continued from A3

going to happen with that everyday influence, there are very few really good novelists/poets out there and it just wasn't for me," stated Hoppenthaler.

Wieland and Hoppenthaler are both big on literature and creative writing courses here at ECU. Wieland teaches intro to fiction writing and advanced fiction writing while Hoppenthaler is teaching intro to creative writing in the up and coming semesters.

According to Hoppenthaler, people can do whatever they want to do in life but that doesn't mean you can't also be a writer. "Everybody can participate in art,

it helps you get through" he said.

Wieland and Hoppenthaler both agree that if you want to be a good writer you have to be a good reader.

"Students at ECU have this urge to go to medical school and doctors are all about narrative, they want your story so they can diagnose you and help you get to the right drugs and treatments," said Wieland.

"It's really crucial for ECU students or any student headed to medical school to have some background in putting thoughts into words."

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

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and sign a lease now. The homes that are not listed as available have until January 15<sup>th</sup> to renew their lease but if they do not renew we will start signing new leases on January 16<sup>th</sup> 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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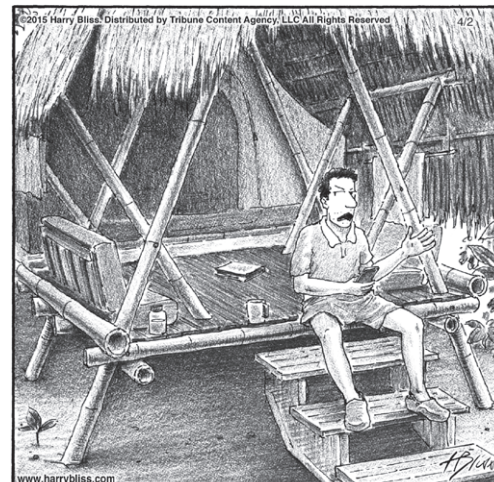
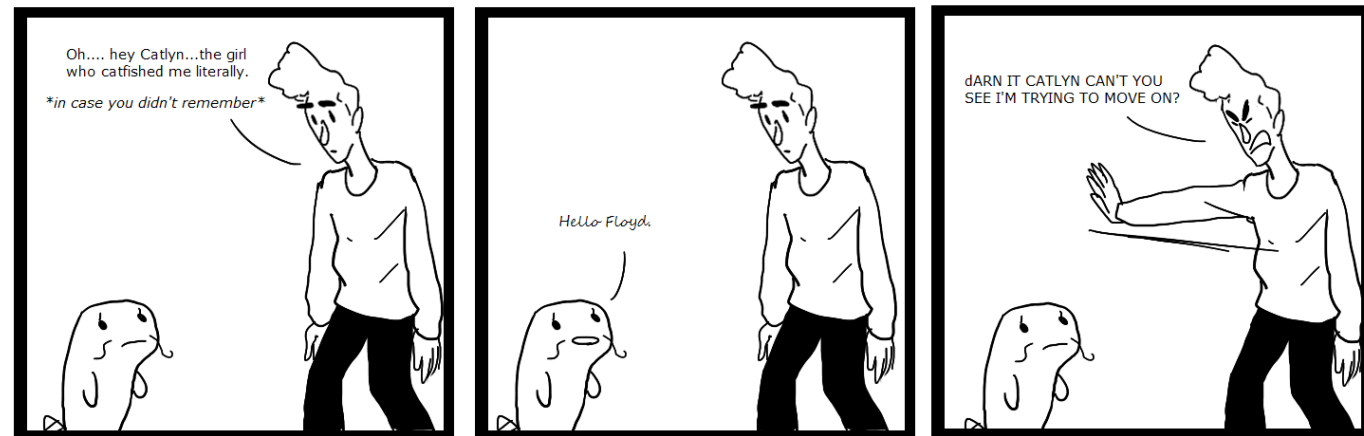
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## COMICS

# Majoring in Awesome

Brent Koehler  
TEC CARTOONIST



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Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 4/1/15

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

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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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FOR RELEASE APRIL 2, 2015

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

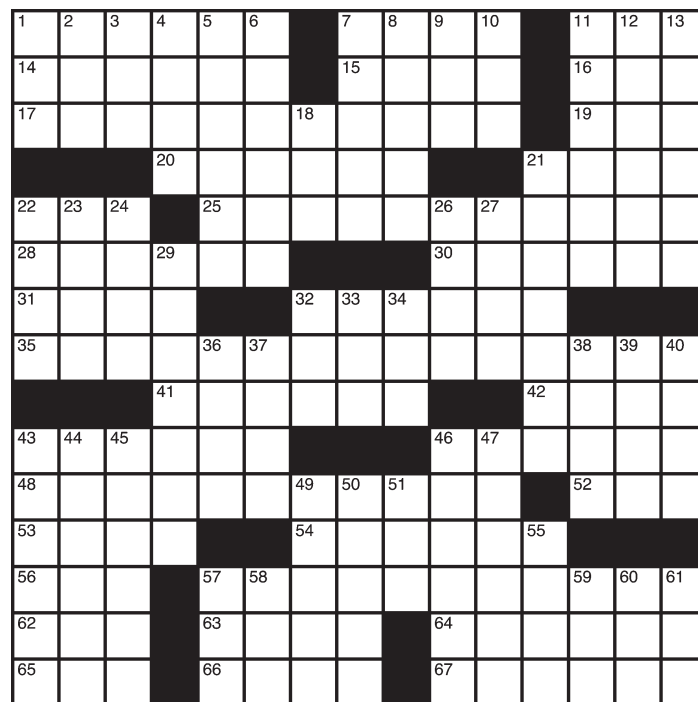
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Sweet Spanish wine
- 7 Work unit: Abbr.
- 11 Mendel's sci.
- 14 Place to surf
- 15 Washbowl partner
- 16 Protein-building molecule
- 17 Holy woman sculpted by Bernini
- 19 Battleship letters
- 20 Self-conscious question
- 21 Preceder of old age?
- 22 Peoria-to-Decatur dir.
- 25 It may call for lateral thinking
- 28 Iconic figure with an anchor tattoo
- 30 Tenochtitlán natives
- 31 Zenith
- 32 Chanted phrase
- 35 Van Gogh painting depicting peasants
- 41 Hostile advance
- 42 Toe loop kin
- 43 Not around much
- 46 Campaign ad urging
- 48 Many a sofa
- 52 Common animal in "The Far Side" comics
- 53 Participated in a poetry slam
- 54 Holey reef dweller
- 56 Give \_\_\_; pay attention
- 57 Words spoken often this time of year, one of which is anagrammed four times in this puzzle
- 62 Whirlpool site
- 63 \_\_\_ nitrate
- 64 Allow
- 65 Lush
- 66 In the wrong business?
- 67 Scone fruit

### DOWN

- 1 High pts.
- 2 "So that's the answer!"



By Gareth Bain

4/2/15

### TUESDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED



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4/2/15

- |                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 36 Formerly               | 49 Best Angler and Best Jockey, e.g. |
| 37 Half of seis           | 50 Ask (for), as a job               |
| 38 Board member, usually  | 51 First car, for many               |
| 39 Slots spot             | 55 Actor Morales                     |
| 40 Impede                 | 57 Harrison role                     |
| 43 Overachiever's concern | 58 Ovid's "I love"                   |
| 44 Chintzy                | 59 CNN launcher                      |
| 45 Turkish peak           | 60 Wearer of a "Y" sweatshirt        |
| 46 Thin layer             | 61 Stimp'y's chum                    |
| 47 "Star Wars" surname    |                                      |

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## Benkert eyes starting QB job

Adam Decker  
TEC STAFF

Now that Shane Carden has graduated and is preparing for the next level, it is looking like redshirt sophomore Kurt Benkert will be the next man up calling the shots behind center.

Despite being tasked with filling the shoes of East Carolina's all-time leading passer, Benkert explained that he doesn't feel any pressure having to follow up a successful Carden.

"It's motivation. There's always pressure and you always get nervous and the butterflies," Benkert said. "It's a lot of motivation to see what he's done in three years and hopefully I can do the same if not more in three years."

Benkert will have the most experience at the position on the Pirate roster, making it his job to lose. He played in three games last season, completing eight of 10 passes for 58 yards with one interception.

He had two rushing touchdowns, including one against in-state rival North Carolina. Benkert also made an appearance in the Birmingham Bowl, fumbling



Kurt Benkert throws a pass in his first collegiate appearance against N.C. Central. He is a rising redshirt sophomore.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

on the goal line after a big hit from a Florida defender.

Carden and Benkert have different strengths, as Benkert is seen as more of a rushing threat than Carden. Benkert is also a good

deep ball thrower, something that Carden seemed to lack.

This upcoming season will mark Benkert's third year in the program and being that the offense has practically stayed the same, it

looks like he is feeling comfortable at the helm.

"I see a guy that's been around the program and understands what that position needs to be successful," ECU Head Coach Ruffin McNeill

said. "That position will get more credit when needed and get more blame when needed. He understands that and he's ready for that."

The Cape Coral, Fla. native started the first intrasquad scrimmage last weekend, completing 13 of 17 passes for a game-high 127 yards. One of Benkert's incompletions however was a 60-yard pick six by sophomore safety Travon Simmons.

Benkert is far from your average quarterback, as the most surprising part of his game is his strength. He has eye-popping strength, something that is fairly uncommon at the quarterback position.

"Yeah he's a beast. I think Kurt threw up 370 on bench press and 340 on power clean. He's breaking all the records," ECU's most proven returning wide receiver Isaiah Jones said. "He doesn't use any excuses. He doesn't use the 'Oh I'm I quarterback excuse'. He's lifting with O-lineman and linebackers. You're really in awe when you watch him."

The Pirates will be under a lot of offensive change this season as they will not only be moving on

> **BENKERT** page A8

## Two-way Bucs

### Position players impress on hill

Tyler Kelbaugh  
TEC STAFF

It takes a lot of skill and dedication to play baseball on the collegiate level. Developing the skills necessary to get on base consistently as a hitter requires years upon years of practice. For pitchers, building up the arm strength, endurance and mental toughness required to grit through the seasons is just as massive of an undertaking.

That time requirement is the reason most players don't usually both pitch and play the field, but East Carolina's own Kirk Morgan and Reid Love didn't get the memo.

"It's tough to get all your work in," said Morgan, a right-handed reliever and infielder. "I can't do all the work for both positions. I do the work with the infielders and that sacrifices my time for pitching."



Kirk Morgan

Morgan came to ECU as an infielder first, so that's the position he dedicates most of his practice to. Still, Morgan's arm is no joke. While his off-speed pitches aren't over powering, Head Coach Cliff Godwin says he looks to the sophomore when he needs outs.

"I like getting the ball in big situations. I embrace it. I love being out there with the game is on the line," said Morgan. "It's exhilarating and it's fun."

While the sophomore spent time on the mound in high school, he didn't focus on pitching again until last year's summer ball season. Playing for the Lake Norman Copperheads, Morgan pitched in eight games. He posted a 2-0 record, and just a 1.22 ERA. Command was never a problem as Morgan struck out 10 batters and walked just two in seven and one-third innings pitched.

"[Pitching] Coach [Dan] Roszel has helped me a lot," said the sophomore. "We've fine tuned some things that were a little rusty and just getting back in the swing of things."

Morgan has been more than just another arm in the ECU bullpen. He currently boasts a 4-0 record, along with an ERA just under two.

He has walked one batter and struck out 12.

While Morgan's journey to the bullpen has been the result of offseason work, his senior teammate Reid Love found himself thrown into the role for entirely different reasons.



Reid Love

Projected to be the ace of this year's rotation, Love suffered an injury to his left hand, his throwing hand, and missed the first few weeks of the season. Upon his return, Godwin decided to add Love to a bullpen that lacked volume. While the transition has been tough, the team's captain has put the good of the team before his own expectations.

"It's different [coming out of the pen]," said Love. "The preparation is different. What ever role [Godwin] puts me in I'm going to do it and I'm going to enjoy it."

Having been the team's number two starting pitcher last year, the senior has found that coming into games with runners already on base is tougher than it seems.

"You've got to be really locked in. One mistake and you're letting in runs," said Love. "You've got to lock in on one pitch and then take it one pitch at a time."

Love says when he knows he's going from the field onto the mound that he'll warm up in the bullpen while his teammates bat. The mental transition is almost non-existent for the veteran leader, as he embraces his job as the team's "do-it all" player.

Asked what position he'd embrace more, hitting with the bases juiced and two outs in the ninth, or pitching in the same situation, Love was quick to answer.

"I'd rather be on the mound. I definitely enjoy pitching a little bit more," said the senior.

Morgan thought about the same question for a bit before answering creatively.

"Either way you've got a chance to help your team win the game," said Morgan. "It doesn't matter to me which situation."

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



Bryce Harman watches a pitch come in earlier this season. He is batting .330 this year.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Tulane on deck

### Diamond Bucs set for Green Wave

Adam Decker  
TEC STAFF

After dropping two of three to Memphis in their American Athletic Conference debut, the East Carolina baseball team will look to bounce back against the Tulane Green Wave today and into the weekend.

After being swept by the No. 2 ranked Virginia Cavaliers, ECU (17-12, 1-2 AAC) won 15 of their next 18 contests backed by an explosive offense and solid starting pitching.

The Pirates have since dropped six of their last eight games and need to win the series against Tulane (18-10, 1-2 AAC) to avoid being under .500 in conference play for the second consecutive week.

Some good news for ECU is that the Pirates have had the school week off, which has given them time to rest their thin roster before battling Tulane today.

"Guys are feeling the fatigue of being halfway through the season," ECU Head Coach Cliff Godwin said. "We don't have a midweek game, so its really good for the guys to get their feet back underneath them and be ready to go."

Even with the offense in a bit of a slump, the Pirates still rank second in

the conference in batting, sporting a .293 average at the plate. ECU is ranked in the top half of the conference in hits (284), slugging percentage (.402), RBI (145) and runs scored (170).

"Started to swing the bat a little bit better today," Godwin said optimistically about his team's hitting after the Memphis loss. "Hitting is a long season. There are going to be ups and downs to it and it's a game of failure so they just have to come out of it."

The Pirates will definitely have to get out of their slump this weekend as Tulane leads the American in pitching. The Green Wave is tied with Connecticut for the best ERA, allowing 2.33 runs per nine innings.

Duester Patrick and Corey Merrill lead the Green Wave starting pitching. Patrick is fifth in the AAC with a 1.52 ERA and Merrill is ninth in the conference with a 1.93 ERA. Patrick has allowed just five earned runs in 29 and two-thirds innings pitched.

On top of its impressive starting pitching, Tulane has four relievers that have yet to allow an earned run. Only one Green

> **BASEBALL** page A8

### TAKEAWAYS

#### BASEBALL

ECU (17-12, 1-2 AAC) takes on conference-foe Tulane at home for a three-game series starting tonight at 6:30 p.m.

#### WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Lady Pirates (11-19, 1-3 AAC) head to Richmond, Va. this weekend for the Kitty Harrison Invitational.

#### SOFTBALL

The Pirates (10-26, 2-4 AAC) prepare for a three-game series against Houston, including a doubleheader on Friday.

#### TRACK & FIELD

ECU is preparing for the Vertklasse Meeting this weekend in High Point, N.C.

#### CHARLOTTE HORNETS

The Hornets defeated the Detroit Pistons, 102-78 Wednesday night behind Marvin Williams's 18 points. The Hornets are 32-42 on the season.

#### CAROLINA HURRICANES

The Hurricanes (28-37-11) travel to Florida to play the Panthers tonight at 7:30 p.m.

### ONLINE



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**BASEBALL** continued from A7

Wave player has an ERA above 5.00. Look for the Pirates to be patient and smart at the plate, not giving the Tulane pitching any free strikes, something ECU has recently struggled with.

"We just have to have some quality at bats," senior captain Reid Love stated after last weekend's loss. "We are swinging at some bad pitches. We just need to swing at strikes and have quality at bats."

Tulane seems to stand behind its pitching to win games, as the Green Wave offense appears to be slacking.

It is seventh out of eight conference teams in batting average, runs scored and slugging percentage.

The Green Wave only have one player hitting over .300, as nearly every other starter bats in the low to mid 200's.

ECU's starting pitching has been dominant of late and will

look to continue that trend against the struggling Tulane offense. The weekend trio of Evan Kruczynski, David Lucroy and Jacob Wolfe has a combined ERA of 1.83.

Kruczynski leads the conference starting pitchers with a 1.27 ERA and Lucroy is sixth with a 1.62 ERA.

The recent ECU losses have come at the hands of the Pirate bullpen.

Kruczynski, Lucroy and Wolfe each have one loss apiece, meaning that the bullpen and the mid-week starters are responsible for nine of the 12 ECU losses, something the Pirates will try to improve on in this weekends series.

The first game of the weekend installment is scheduled for today at 6:30 p.m. inside Clark-LeClair stadium.

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

**BENKERT** continued from A7

from Carden and Justin Hardy, they will also be transitioning to new offensive coordinator Dave Nichol.

Not much will change with the offensive play calling, according to Nichol.

The Pirates will still look to use the air raid offense, always calling for the quarterback to play out of the shotgun.

Nichol is praised Benkert's work ethic and expressed confidence in his ability to successfully run the offense.

"He's smarter, I knew he was smart but he's probably smarter than I give him credit for," Nichol said. "Sometimes I think I'm going to stump him and he gives me an answer that actually makes sense, which is good."

At this point in his career he is known as an exciting up-tempo guy that is always looking for the big play.

He has a high-risk, high-reward style that was shown through his

**" I see a guy that's been around the program and he understands what that position needs to be successful. That position will get more credit when needed and more blame when needed. He understands that and he's ready for that. "**

**- Ruffin McNeill**

40-yard touchdown pass to Jones and his costly interception in the scrimmage.


"He really wants to learn, he wants to be good. That's been the best part," Nichol said. "Sometimes you just have to calm him down. He wants to score 20 points on every play sometimes and that can

get you into some bad situations." Being that he has minimal game experience, this perception could be premature.

It can change very quickly once he is put in charge of the offense on Saturdays.

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

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(Makeup date)

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**Tuesday**  
Wing Tuesday

**Wednesday**  
Team Trivia at 8 pm

**Thursday**  
Boneless Thursday

**Friday**  
Friday Office Party

**Saturday**  
College Game Day

**Sunday**  
Sunday Funday



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