



# PURPLE HAZE

## McNeill faces new challenges



**Tyler Kelbaugh**  
TEC STAFF

Head coach Ruffin McNeill seems as relaxed and poised as ever, even as the dawn of one of the more mysterious seasons in his tenure with East Carolina looms closer.

An aura of confidence surrounds the coach, his staff and his players, but this year is like no other in McNeill's tenure. It will provide a test not only for the culture he has developed, but also for the man himself. He has the opportunity to prove that he is the irreplaceable key behind East Carolina's success.

This is a head coach who has proven himself capable to Pirate Nation already. He has led ECU to one of the most successful and sustained eras in its history, culminating in a 10-3 season along with a bowl



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## Pirates set for Towson showdown

**Adam Decker**  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina football team is set to kick off the 2015 season Saturday against the Towson Tigers, a team two years removed from competing in the 2013 FCS national championship.

The Tigers lost their star player, Terrance West, to the NFL draft later that year, causing them to slip to a 4-8 record in 2014. The school plays in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) in the FCS, formerly known as Division 1-AA.

ECU is currently riding a 23-game winning streak against teams in the FCS and is 4-1 in season openers under head coach Ruffin McNeill. Saturday's matchup at 6 p.m. will mark the first meeting between the two programs.

Just like they did in 2013, the Tigers rely heavily on its starting running back.

Darius Victor was West's backup in 2013 and still managed to be named the CAA offensive rookie of the year. Victor scored 12

> **RUFFIN** page A8

Junior Pirate receiver Isaiah Jones gestures to the crowd last season in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

> **TOWSON** page A8

## Get A Clue aims to entice students

**Seth Gulledge**  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University will be holding its annual Get A Clue event today on the Mall from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

On-campus organizations, along with other groups from around Greenville, will gather on the Mall to provide information and promote student involvement

Get A Clue is hosted by the Office of Student Activities and Organizations, designed to increase student awareness about different learning and recreational opportunities that ECU and Greenville has to offer.

Student organizations such as the Student Government Association (SGA), ECU Ambassadors, club sports and various other student-run groups will have representatives in attendance to answer any questions interested student may have about their groups.

Emily McLamb, director for Student Activities and Organizations, said the event is crucial for students, as it exposes them to the variety of student life and Greenville culture.

"The importance of Get A Clue is to provide students an opportunity to find ways to get involved," said McLamb.

McLamb said though some students won't find a club or organization that they're interested in, Get A Clue often inspires students to found organizations for students with like interests.

Mark Matulewicz, SGA president, said the event encourages students to get more involved in their university and student life.

"The important part is not only to allow students the opportunity to explore options both on and off campus, but to help students truly find their passion on campus as well," said Matulewicz.

The organizations will be setting



COURTESY OF ECU MEDIA RELATIONS  
Students play cornhole to win prizes at last year's Get A Clue. The event will be held today.

### >> PLAN TO GO

**WHAT:** Get A Clue

**WHEN:** Today, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Mall

up booths and tables on the mall, where they will promote their group in various ways, such as handing out free merchandise.

McLamb said other organizations around Greenville, such as businesses, volunteer groups and various ECU departments will also be in attendance.

For questions or comments, contact [news@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:news@theeastcarolinian.com).



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The ECU Club Dance Team performs for a packed crowd at last season's Freeboot Friday events.

## Reggae band headlines Freeboot Friday rally

**Carlyn Legg**  
TEC STAFF

Freeboot Friday pep rallies begin for the 16th consecutive year this Friday, Sept. 4.

With an expected crowd of around four to five thousand people, Pirate football fans who attend the Freeboot Friday festivities will have the chance to connect with local businesses, some of which will attend the celebration, and hear the live reggae band.

Freeboot Friday, which Tiffany Gay, event and branding director at Uptown Greenville, described as the official pep rally for home football games, promotes Pirate football and is a friendly environment for Greenville residents to celebrate the football season and local businesses.

The lineup for this season's Freeboot Friday performers includes bands and musicians from all over the east coast, including a reggae band, a tribute band, a group from

Washington D.C., and a pop-rock band from the eastern NC region.

This weekend's first Freeboot Friday will feature the reggae band Chalwa. Out of Asheville, North Carolina, Chalwa has toured the east coast since 2005 and has also performed in Jamaica.

"Everybody can enjoy a good reggae band," said Gay. "The live band we chose for this weekend's [Freeboot Friday] was selected after we heard their music online and we think they'll make a great start to the season. We know a couple of the members personally and we thought they'd be a great fit for the event."

The energetic reggae group, inspired by Bob Marley, The Grateful Dead, and Steel pulse, provides listeners with a new twist to old-school style reggae. The group has produced two albums since 2005 and has

> **FREEBOOT** page A5

**BRIEFS**

**Information session about master in social work to be held Sept. 17**

The East Carolina University School of Social Work is hosting an informational session for students interested in pursuing a master of social work. The session will be held at 6 p.m. on September 17 in Rivers 208.

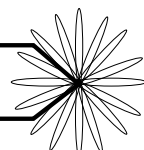
The session will explain the extended-time cohort program. The program is a 60 credit hour focused program, with non-traditional instruction methods, such as Saturday classes and online instruction.

**Faculty Forward to host meeting**

Faculty Forward Eastern North Carolina's Story Corp will be gathering in the University Writing Program's Digital Studio, Joyner Library Room 1014, on September 8 and 9, to hear stories from students and faculty that have been affected by higher education budget cuts. FFENC invites all students and faculty to come listen and share their own stories.

FFENC is a group of local students and teachers that protest for higher wages for teaching staff in higher education.

**ONLINE**



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

*Corrections/ Clarifications*

The photo on the front page of the student using the printers was taken by Kyle Berry.

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

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

# Trio earn highest honors

## Three from Class of 2019 receive Brody Scholarship

**Collyn Sheaffer**  
TEC STAFF

Three medical students at East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine have been awarded one of the most prestigious scholarships that the university offers.

The students will receive four years of tuition at Brody School of Medicine, living expenses and the opportunity to create their own summer enrichment program, which can include travelling abroad. The scholarship also gives the students a chance to participate in community service projects while in medical school.

Each year, future students have the opportunity to be chosen for interviews for the Brody Scholarship after they are accepted into the medical school. This award provides full tuition and fees so scholars are able to choose a medical specialty without the worry of debt after graduation, according to the Brody Scholar website.

Anthony Botros, John Hurley and Catherine Thriveni have been chosen for the Class of 2019 Brody Scholar award, which values at approximately \$112,000.

Botros said after he was accepted into Brody School of Medicine he was chosen by the committee to interview again in hopes of becoming a Brody Scholar. After this interview in February, he heard back three days later that he was chosen for this prestigious scholarship.

Botros said he knew years ago that he wanted to study in the field of medicine after he watched his grandmother fight a battle with cancer.

"Seeing how the doctors responded to her really convinced me to become a doctor," said Botros. "There is just something about the way that they are able to touch patients that is unique to any experience I ever had."

Since part of the scholarship is intended to go towards a community service project, Botros said that he plans on going back to his home country, Egypt, and working at an orphanage. He wants to treat children and teach them healthy habits.



Anthony Botros, John Hurley and Catherine Thriveni (left to right) pose with lab coats.

"The reason I really want to get an idea about how nonprofits work is because eventually I'd like to start my own," said Botros. "An orphanage in my home country would be a great place to start because of their low budget and Egypt's steady stream of orphans."

Hurley served in the Army as a medic for 16 years before attending Campbell University and graduating in 2014 with a degree in applied science. After starting at Brody School of Medicine, Hurley is leaning towards a career in internal medicine.

Thriveni graduated from North Carolina State University on a Park Scholarship, the university's four-year merit scholarship program. She completed her degree in biological sciences with a concentration in human biology and aspires to a career in primary care with a special focus on disease prevention.

Thriveni said having the support of the Brody family has made her more courageous as she begins this chapter in her medical education.

Long before applying to Brody

School of Medicine, Botros participated in the school's Summer Program for Future Doctors which is a program that he said is not offered by most universities in the country.

Botros described the program as a chance for pre-med students to take a semester's worth of medical school curriculum over the summer, so that the students can see how well they fit into the Brody School of Medicine.

"After that program, I knew it was the right place. Brody is great because it's small classroom sizes allow the students to bond with each other and the faculty," said Botros.

This year, the Brody Scholars program honors J.S. "Sammy" Brody. He and his brother, Leo, were among the earliest supporters of medical education in the eastern region of North Carolina. Since the beginning of this program in 1983, there have been 131 students that received scholarships.

For questions or comments, contact news@theeastcarolinian.com.

# Cultural center names Villacorta associate director

**Alina Olson**  
TEC STAFF

Everyday from his office in the Bloxton House, Mark Villacorta is working to strengthen intercultural affairs at East Carolina University.



**Mark Villacorta**

A month ago, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center welcomed Villacorta as the new associate director. Villacorta previously worked as the Associate Director of Intercultural Engagement at UNC Greensboro. He is credited with helping build *Kaleidoscope*, a peer education program at the university that provides students with the opportunity to engage in open dialogue that promotes intergroup exchange and understanding.

Villacorta has been doing this type of work for nine years and has stepped up into

the interim director role for a new area called intercultural affairs, which is the collaboration of the LWCC and the LGBT office. These two areas collaborated shortly before Villacorta came to ECU.

"I'm excited for this new opportunity and to really build intentional programming and a sense of inclusive multicultural community here at ECU," Villacorta said.

One of the pillars of Villacorta's work is education for social justice, which is helping people define the type of world they want to live in.

"All of my work comes from a rich tradition in both higher education and community organizing," Villacorta said. "One goal we're working towards is to develop opportunities to enhance intercultural communication skills because culture is a very real thing and shapes our experiences in very real ways."

Though he's only been working at ECU for a short time, Villacorta already has many ideas to emphasize the importance of social

justice and the presence of diversity and equality on campus.

"I want to give students the opportunity to engage in important conversations about diversity, equity and social justice," Villacorta said. "To give people an outlook to learn about different communities cultures, identities, and experiences."

One thing that Villacorta admires and is impressed by the most about ECU is the pride held by the university.

"People are proud to be here and that's what stuck out to me the most," Villacorta said. "You can really see how excited students are and the enthusiasm about being a part of this community."

The student community working together is necessary to reach the goals Villacorta wants to achieve within intercultural affairs.

"One thing that attracted me to this work was the tradition of engagement, participation and education empowerment. You can draw strength upon those movements and use them

to transform the campus community."

Intercultural affairs provides experiences so all students can become confident, culturally aware, global citizens.

"It's important to know that students from all backgrounds can participate in the things we do in intercultural affairs," Villacorta said. "We can't solve any of these world problems without working together. This country has a tradition of people standing up for themselves and demanding change in society and we want to keep that up."

Villacorta is passionate about his work and is looking forward to start implementing his ideas on campus.

"There have been great successes and major struggles on this campus. There is a foundation on which to build from. By partnering with students and staff, we can start to make the major strides that I know we would like to see."

For questions or comments, contact news@theeastcarolinian.com.

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# Wanna hook up?

Get hooked on September 8th.

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**THE Hook**  
ECU's Student Interest Magazine

East Carolina University  
STUDENT MEDIA

PC09032015MN

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## PIRATE RANTS

Still trying to figure out why my tuition is going up even though we have more students than ever, one can only hope it balances out at some point.

If you are that appalled by the charges for printing then I suggest you do something about it. Contact your local politicians and lobby them to increase state funding for higher education. Whining about it in the student rag isn't going to help.

I just wanna thank ECU Dining for all of the work they do to try to make everyone on campus happy. Good work, y'all!

Welcome back students. Now if you guys can adapt to driving in Greenville, that would be great!

One of the best things about going to ECU is the girls.

Where do I get a paper from?

What's that? You have tenure so you don't care much anymore? Well guess what? I paid good money to learn something useful in your class. Either you do your part, and brag about your stupid tenure when you aren't wasting my tuition, or give me my money back.

Thank you TEC for the "our view" on the VMA's! I agree completely and you guys did a great job of summing up what's wrong with these sorts of things. Keep up the good perspective!

To the Health Science bus timekeeper. I do apologize for your inability to read and/or research the times for ECU's transit system. The correct times for the Allied Health stop are :08 & :38. The times for the Brody stop are :12 & :42. That is all.

Being fraternity president taught me so much. Who knew that every rule has a loophole that can be exploited.

I'm sure you are wearing shorts underneath that big shirt, but it's more fun to pretend you aren't.

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

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

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# Our view

## Pirate print system was an inevitability

Starting this semester, East Carolina's Information Technology and Computing Services announced that students will now be allotted a flexible \$25 credit for printing each full academic school year.

Students reacted harshly to the new policy and spoke out on many social platforms their dissatisfaction with ECU's seemingly greedy new proposition. Many referenced it as unfair, considering many professors require printing large amounts of paper as a mandatory requirement for class.

However, it is the opinion of the editorial staff that not only was this change warranted, it was inherently necessary to regulate an out-of-control printing system.

Since its inception, the printing policy of ITCS has been that students have unlimited printing, as a flat rate for printing that was covered in student fees for technology services. Now, that rate is made visible to the student with the only referendum being that going over the limit of 500

pages per semester is no longer free of charge.

Financially, this move makes sense considering there are accounts of students printing long scripts, manuals and even entire novels at student printing areas. Some professors are at fault as well, sometimes requiring students to print 50 or more pages for individual classes. Common sense dictates that when you abuse a privilege, it will almost inevitably be taken away.

East Carolina is also one of the last universities in the UNC school system that hasn't charged students for printing yet. Chapel Hill, NC State and Duke have had policies for printing already for years, and all institutions have higher rates.

While being charged more for necessary scholastic items is disappointing, East Carolina has instituted a policy that is easy to use and more than generous for which the university should be commended.

## Iran deal buys the world time



**Tyler Kelbaugh**  
TEC STAFF

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md, announced on Wednesday that she would support President Obama's nuclear deal with Iran, securing enough votes from Congress to ensure the treaty passes.

This deal, one criticized by members of both parties, marks a major turning point in America's foreign policy. President Obama believes that the only alternative to this deal is war.

While that may or may not be true, the fact is this: the Iran nuclear deal is a necessary, but imperfect, step towards obtaining peace in the Middle East.

Concerns about Iran upholding their end of the bargain seem a bit redundant. According to Olli Heinonen, a Harvard professor and former employee of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Iran was just four months away from being able to obtain a nuclear weapon before the deal was struck.

This deal buys the world some time. For 15 years, Iran will not be capable of enriching uranium to levels necessary for creating bombs. If they renege on the deal, as many fear, the world will find itself in the same place as it is now. Our position would be no worse than it is already.

Under the deal, Iran will have economic sanctions lifted. That might be disconcerting to some, but the sanctions will only lift once Iran begins to reduce its current stockpile of enriched uranium. Until Iran starts to uphold their promise, the sanctions that have limited them thus far will remain in place.

There are plenty of checks that should prevent Iran from covertly developing the weapon written in the deal as well. Inspectors will be able to monitor the production of necessary components in creating a nuclear weapon. US intelligence agencies are among the best in the world. It seems like a safe bet to place trust that they will notice Iran violating the agreement.

Obviously, the deal is not perfect. Rarely do both sides walk away from a negotiating table feeling completely satisfied with what they

got. This case is no different. There are real concerns about what happens after the fifteen year deal expires.

Iran's economy will improve with the sanctions lifted, and their facilities will be more advanced. According to Robert J. Einhorn, a former member of the American negotiating team, in fifteen years Iran would be able to produce reactor grade fuel on a massive scale due to more advanced centrifuges.

But the fact remains that Iran sits just four months away from being able to obtain a weapon right now. At the very least, Obama's trust in the deal holding through gives America and Israel a chance to delay imminent danger for fifteen years.

Problems will undoubtedly spring up throughout the duration of the deal, but President Obama and his staff have bought plenty of time for future law-makers to diagnose and avoid the threat whenever it re-emerges.

Tyler Kelbaugh is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## Domestic violence still prevalent



**Kai Jones**  
TEC STAFF

One of the most discussed stories of the past year and half has been Ray Rice and his domestic violence issue.

Ray Rice brutally attacked his wife after a drunken argument. The moment was caught on video and it's one of the most alarming videos ever seen. Rice mercilessly uppercuts his at the time fiancée Janay Rice in the face with no regard for her life or health.

However, Rice is human and deserves a second chance. I did not say he deserves the chance to put this behind him, but a second chance. Rice, like anyone, makes mistakes—but just like anyone else he should never be able to put this behind him.

Rice should always be reminded by the media and fans about his egregious act, but he deserves a chance to put on those pads and try to be the great player he once was.

The thing that bewildered me when I saw the Rice video was that this had never seemed to be his character. There was never a sign that he was a woman-beater by coaches or other players. His act seemed to be a one-time step out of his character.

In 2013, the last year Rice played, he was not the usual consistent back that he had been for Baltimore for so many years. He was injured and had many career lows in many categories.

So for a team to sign him, they would have to put aside the fact he is known as an abuser and that he's a risk on the field. In the NFL, it's a lot easier for teams to sign troubled players who they know have background issues.

Athletes like Randy Moss, Terrell Owens and Shane Ray have checkered pasts but were still signable to teams because of their talent. Rice is a big question mark on talent and he may never get a chance to play the game he loves.

Rice also represents how important it is not to get caught doing wrong on camera. The visual of seeing a big strong football player sucker punch his wife is hard for people to get over.

In addition, Rice is dealing with the stigma of "it's not right for a man to hit a woman." I'm not advocating for violence, but at times the flight or fight reaction kicks in when a man has been assaulted or physically harmed. There were claims that Rice's wife slapped him, and a hit to the face can cause a reaction.

Rice is also dealing with the double standard of domestic violence in America. Rice gets tossed out of his league while, reported repeat abuser and U.S. Women's National Soccer team goalie, Hope Solo, gets to go overseas and represent her country.

Is it fair that Hope Solo, who's had repeated incidents can go and represent her team, while Rice is left at home reminded almost everyday about one incident?

The simple fact is that domestic violence is prevalent in sports because of what athletes do. Football players, boxers and MMA fighters are taught to hit other people to win. It could possibly transfer over to off the field. Non-contact sport athletes also are very competitive, so what happens when their significant other or family challenge? It could lead to them using what they do best—their physicality.

Kai Jones is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

### Poll results

Would/did you watch the VMA's?

Yes - 7.1%  
No - 92.9%

### Poll question

Do you print more than 500 pages per semester?

Visit [theeastcarolinian.com](http://theeastcarolinian.com) to vote.

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### Contact Info

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

**Email:** [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com)  
**Newsroom:** (252) 328-9238  
**Fax:** (252) 328-9143  
**Ads:** (252) 328-9245  
**Classified:** (252) 328-9245

# 72 hours

MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND



## Events

**Opening Reception: School of Art and Design Alumni Exhibition**  
Greenville Museum of Art  
Thursday from 5-8 p.m.

**Weekly Wine Tasting**  
Jefferson's  
Thursday from 5-7 p.m.

**First Friday Art Walk**  
Uptown Greenville  
Friday from 5-9 p.m.

**Closin' Tyme**  
Buccaneer Music Hall  
Friday at 10 p.m.

**The Bourbons**  
Crossbones Tavern  
Saturday at 10:30 p.m.

**Brian Grilli**  
Buccaneer Music Hall  
Saturday at 10 p.m.

**Scenes of Eastern North Carolina**  
Greenville Museum of Art  
On view until Sept. 20

## Movie Times

**Regal Greenville Grande Stadium 14**

**The Transporter: Refueled**

**Thursday:** 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday:** 2:30 p.m. 5:10 p.m. 7:50 p.m. 10:25 p.m.

**No Escape**

**Thursday:** 1:20 p.m. 3:50 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 10:00 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday:** 1:20 p.m. 3:50 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.

**Straight Outta Compton**

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday:** 1:40 p.m. 4:50 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

**The Man from U.N.C.L.E.**

**Thursday:** 1:35 p.m. 4:20 p.m. 7:20 p.m. 10:05 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday:** 1:35 p.m. 7:20 p.m.

**We Are Your Friends**

**Thursday:** 1:50 p.m. 4:40 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 10:10 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday:** 4:40 p.m. 10:20 p.m.

# Fetty Wap replaced



Red Cup Nation front men Matt Weichel (left) and Perry Nelson (right) are set to host a party at the Greenville Convention Center this weekend.

## Red Cup Nation to perform at Convention Center

**Arvanna Smart**  
TEC STAFF

This Sunday, Red Cup Nation will be performing at the Greenville Convention Center in replacement of rapper Fetty Wap.

Red Cup Nation went from being the opening act to being the main act due to the rapper backing out of the show last minute to perform at a show in Las Vegas instead.

Fetty Wap, an up-and-coming rapper who took over the summer with his hits "Trap Queen" and "My Way," has recently left a trail of cancelled shows. He has even simply not showed up to some of his performances. According to All Hip Hop online, Fetty Wap has mainly been missing appearances in smaller towns including Columbia, South Carolina and Greenville, North Carolina.

"The sad thing is that we can't get the money back that was used to book him. In order to that, the contract says we have to go to court in New York City," said AJ Kent, former ECU student and CEO of Life Line Leaders. "What small time lawyer will win a case against some lawyer in New York?"

Although Fetty Wap has backed out, Kent wants to continue to put on the show and build his company's reputation. In order to do so, he decided to hire Red Cup Nation.

Red Cup Nation consists of two DJs,

Matt Weichel and Perry Nelson. The two met during their college years where they would host parties and then they decided to pursue something they both love, DJ-ing.

"We started out doing college shows but now that we are out in LA, we do shows everywhere," said Nelson.

Nelson and Weichel chose to end their day jobs in order to start the company. They loved the culture of college life and wanted to keep it going.

"We didn't want to work for anybody and we wanted to make music. So it worked out," said Nelson. "We started throwing parties and the parties got big; we even made Forbes magazine for top ten start up companies in the country. Music is our main passion."

Kent explained how Sunday's concert is a benefit showcase to start raising money in order for Life Line Leaders to help students pay for the start-up costs for their business ideas. Getting the students on the stage with some big artists like Fetty Wap and Red Cup Nation was a way to get them some credibility and experience in front of a big crowd.

Life Line Leaders focuses on getting the teens involved and finding things for them to do while generating more money into the Greenville area.

"Life Line is created by the youth, managed by the youth, for the youth," said Kent.

## >> PLAN TO GO

**WHAT:** Red Cup Nation Performance

**WHEN:** Sunday, September 6 @ 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Greenville Convention Center

"It will be able to open up businesses created by youth in a job market where you always need something more."

With Fetty Wap no longer appearing at the showcase, Red Cup Nation and Life Line Leaders will still put on the show as promised with a few changes to the performance orders.

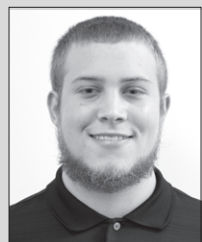
"I'm not going to lie but I am disappointed that Fetty Wap won't be at the show. I really only bought the ticket to see him," said Kira Lewis, junior fashion merchandising major. "I did feel like I got scammed but after hearing the real story, I am just glad that I can still go and have a good time with Red Cup Nation."

Red Cup Nation will be performing at Greenville Convention Center on Sept. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

For questions or comments contact arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

# MUSIC REVIEW

## The Weeknd enters the spotlight



**Jesse Deal**  
TEC STAFF

The Weeknd is no longer a mystery.

The Canadian singer-songwriter, born Abel Tesfaye, has steadily emerged from the shadows of Internet reclusiveness, rising to the public eye of American culture with his innovative approach to modern R&B.

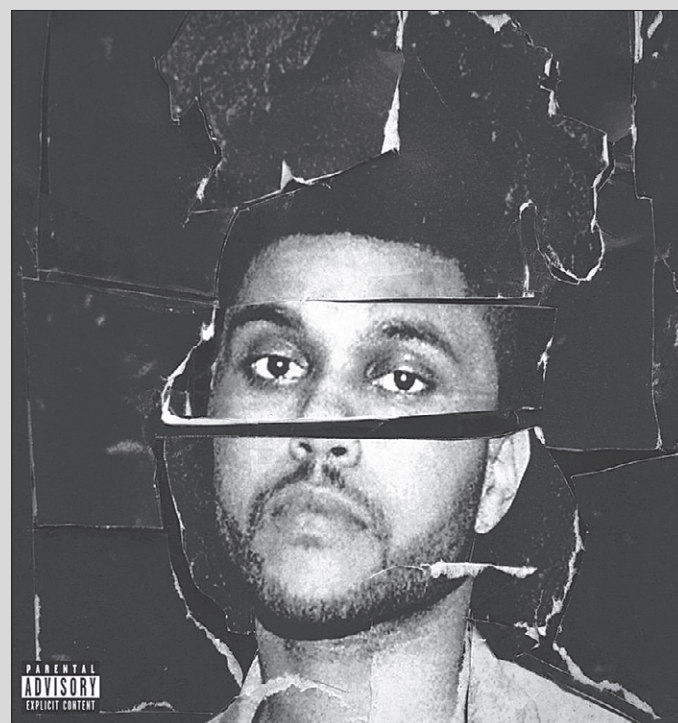
After releasing a trio of superb mixtapes in 2011 and a solid debut record, "Kiss Land," in 2013, The Weeknd returns with "Beauty Behind the Madness" – a project that is sure to be his most successful project to date, but is also his least cohesive.

Any time an artist or band changes up their sound, some fans are always upset. When Daft Punk decided to forego their traditional French house music for the funky disco of "Random Access Memories," some long-time fans were left scratching their heads. And when Kanye West traded the grandiose hip-hop of "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" for the minimalist, industrial brashness of "Yeezus," some listeners – myself included – were initially disappointed.

But it seems that The Weeknd's transition from dark, indie R&B to radio-ready pop – and rise in mainstream popularity – is on a different playing field altogether. The same artist who did his first-ever interview with a media outlet only two years ago now has a number-one single on the Billboard Hot 100 (the bouncy, bass-centric "Can't Feel My Face") and two others on the chart ("The Hills" and "Earned It").

While Daft Punk and West took creative risks by reinventing their sound, Tesfaye attempts to walk a tightrope on "Beauty Behind the Madness," with one foot in the murky aura that boosted him into fame, and one foot at the well-crafted pop shrine of Michael Jackson and Prince. However, some of the album's songs are the best that Tesfaye has released.

"Last year I did all the politicin/ This year I'm all focused on the vision," Tesfaye croons on the Kanye-produced "Tell Your Friends," a sure-fire fan-favorite with a piano-led beat and lyrics address Tesfaye's



The R&B artist released his album "Beauty Behind the Madness" last Friday.

most common lyrical themes: sex and narcotics.

"Acquainted" showcases the skill of his longtime producer Illangelo, with flickering trap-rap hi-hats, 808 drums and Tesfaye's vocal range bursting with his trademark falsetto. Indie pop phenom Lana Del Rey makes an appearance on "Prisoner," which contains one of the most captivating hooks The Weeknd has done. "I'm a prisoner to my addiction / I'm addicted to a life that's so empty and so cold /

# L.E.D. to host Landing party

**Brianna Horton**  
TEC STAFF

Lotus on Demand Promotions is hosting the Project Next Level Labor Day Pool Party at The Landing on Sunday to help off-campus students better connect with the Pirate community.

“The goal is to get everyone outside of their dorms or apartments and get them interacting with the other students on campus” said L.E.D.’s personal event and wardrobe executive officer Tewayne Johnson.

Johnson, senior university studies major, said the pool party is free to attend for ECU students and L.E.D. will be keeping everyone entertained with a DJ and food such as burgers, hot dogs and drinks. The L.E.D. team will also be raffling off different prizes throughout the event including L.E.D.’s signature tee shirts.

The Landing has implemented a strict dress code for individuals who plan to attend their pool parties. People are no longer allowed to wear basketball shorts or workout clothes inside of the pool.

“Men must wear cargo shorts, khakis, or swimming trunks or the Landing security will be there escorting people out of the function if they fail to comply with these rules.” said Johnson.

L.E.D. is offering a promotion called the L.E.D. card, which can be purchased for \$100. The card grants students access to every party that L.E.D. throws for this school year. Other incentives that come with the L.E.D. card are the ability to skip the line at parties,

an official L.E.D. tee shirt, and bonuses/gifts which will be provided only at certain parties.

“L.E.D. is really building a community or better yet a family between the upperclassmen and the lowerclassmen,” said Johnson. “Because I have no idea who ECU 17-19 are and it wasn’t like that my freshman year.”

Johnson said L.E.D. events give ECU students a social scene to interact among the different classes.

“The seniors now don’t really know [the freshman] because we had no nightlife or social scene to get to see and know each other,” said Johnson. “It really hurt us socially when Campus Living had freshmen staying off campus their first year because you’re more likely to make friends on campus your freshman year than in an apartment.”

Johnson said the benefit of attending L.E.D. events is the opportunity to meet people from all over campus.

“L.E.D. is here now so even if you don’t live on campus anymore then you can go to a party or an event or even a pool party and get the chance to meet people that you wouldn’t necessarily meet if you didn’t have a party to go to,” said Johnson.

The pool party is from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday at The Landing apartment complex.

For questions or comments contact  
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

## WEEKND continued from A4

a prisoner to my decisions,” Tesfaye laments a capella over a multi-tracked reverb-filled chorus.

On the Phil Collins-esque “As You Are,” Tesfaye sings about heartbreak before the punchy beat slows down and the 25-year-old unleashes the atmospheric vocal chops that caught the attention of music listeners four years ago.

The missteps of “Beauty” lie in the album’s lack of sonic consistency and some questionable inclusions like “Earned It,” a track that grew to fame from “Fifty Shades of Grey,” that lacks replay value and feels like pop pandering. “Dark Times,” collaboration with Ed Sheeran, is underwhelming, failing to take off despite the star power of the two artists.

Tesfaye’s previous projects like “House of Balloons” and “Thursday” were able to synchronize cryptic ambience with excellent track sequencing, but “Beauty” suggests that he tried to cater his sound to too many audiences – for every track that harkens back to his once-in-a-generation talent, there’s a track that falls into the pitfalls of radio mediocrity.

### RATING:



**3 out of 5**

For questions or comments contact  
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

## >> PLAN TO GO

**WHAT:** Freeboot Friday

**WHEN:** Friday, September 4 @ 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Uptown Greenville

## FREEBOOT continued from A1

time in their studio working on a third. Some of their new music may be heard at Freeboot Friday.

Teaming up with resources from the university’s campus, Freeboot Friday reaches out to the ECU student and alumni audience specifically by inviting on campus spirit groups to join the celebration.

“We’ve partnered with the [Student] Pirate Club,” said Gay. “The ECU cheerleaders and band will come out with us for bigger games like the homecoming and military appreciation Freeboot Fridays.”

Freeboot Friday festivities typically begin around 5 p.m. and conclude after dark around 8 p.m. The family friendly event features contests, games, food, and live music. The live music portion of the event is set to begin at 6 p.m.

For questions or comments contact  
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

The ECU Student Media Board welcomes applications for

## Day Student Representative

The board is seeking a full-time student interested in serving as the day student representative on the Media Board, the 13-person board that governs Student Media; WZMB, Rebel, The East Carolinian, expressions, Buccaneer, The Hook and the Advertising and Marketing Agency.

**ECU Student Media Board Office**  
205A Self Help Center  
301 S. Evans Street  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252-328-9236

**To Qualify:**  
you must be a student living off campus who is not a member of a sorority or fraternity. You will be expected to attend a late afternoon meeting monthly.

**Applications due September 11, at 5pm.**

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TEAM**

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SEPT. 10TH & 14TH / 5PM / MSC 244

For more info, contact SAO @ 252.737.1808 or visit [ecu.edu/sab](http://ecu.edu/sab). Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at least 48 hours prior to the event at 252.737.1016 (Voice/TTY). This event sponsored by student fee dollars.

# Classifieds & Puzzles

theeastcarolinian.com

Thursday, 9.3.15

## HELP WANTED

Habilitation, Developmental Therapy Technicians and Certified Nursing Assistants needed in Greenville and surrounding areas to care for Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled individuals. Good pay and flexible hours available. Please apply online or in person at 903 E. Arlington Blvd Greenville, NC 27858 www.pinnhomecare.com

College Student needed for part-time, busy, professional dental office for filing, running errands and other clerical duties Monday-Friday. Bring resume to 2330 Hemby Lane, Greenville NC. Must provide own transportation.

## FOR RENT

ECU AREA ONE BED-ROOM! Three blocks from campus W/D hookup, water&sewer included, fenced backyard pets OK, off street parking. \$450.00 monthly. tilley-properties.webs.com or melissa.tilley@yahoo.com

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2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser Convertible \$4500. Lovingly cared for by ASE Certified Mechanic - sole owner. Turbocharged 2.4 engine with AT, 143K miles. All power, leather interior, blue exterior. Alternator, brakes, tires, turbocharger all recently installed. This car is a gem! 252-565-8879.

## PUZZLES

### SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE 9/3/15

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

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 SEPTEMBER 3, 2015

### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21				22				
23			24					25				
26	27			28	29	30					31	32
33				34					35			
36			37		38				39	40		
41				42	43				44		45	
46			47						48			
49								50				
51	52			53	54	55		56		57	58	59
60				61				62				
63				64							65	
66				67								68

**ACROSS**

- 1 iTunes Store category
- 5 Reach for the stars
- 10 Ones dealing with deductions, briefly
- 14 Fit
- 15 Surpass
- 16 Jessica of "Machete Kills"
- 17 Hood sites
- 19 George H.W. Bush, once
- 20 Type of infection
- 21 One eavesdropping, perhaps
- 22 Royal decrees
- 23 "Cool!"
- 25 Lesage hero
- 26 Hood site
- 33 Bourbon bigwigs
- 34 "Trust me!"
- 35 Shad delicacy
- 36 Fidgety
- 38 Raggedy character
- 39 Theatrical device
- 41 "Friday" actress
- 42 Enter carefully
- 45 Pet-adoption ads, briefly
- 46 Hood sites
- 49 Mafia bosses
- 50 Busy mo. for FedEx
- 51 On hold, with "in"
- 53 Fuel efficiency stat
- 56 Enters, in a way
- 60 One of a classically opposed pair
- 61 Hood site
- 63 Peony holder
- 64 North Dakota home of the Roger Maris Museum
- 65 '60s sitcom boy
- 66 Technical sch.
- 67 "Dude!"
- 68 Overflow

**DOWN**

- 1 Lord & Taylor competitor
- 2 Departure notice?
- 3 Bone involved in Tommy John surgery
- 4 Weight training exercise
- 5 Pontiac muscle car
- 6 Spheres
- 7 Dining faux pas
- 8 Reply offering hope
- 9 Rental car feature, briefly
- 10 Fancy spread
- 11 Standing order?
- 12 Harbor after a heist, say
- 13 Gullible sorts
- 18 Scorch
- 22 Native plants
- 24 Post-Breathalyzer-test charge: Abbr.
- 25 Dancer's deg.
- 26 Colleague of Elena and Ruth
- 27 Not reliable
- 28 "August: \_\_\_\_\_ County": 2008 Pulitzer-winning play
- 29 Pro sports VIP
- 30 GUESS material
- 31 Party supplies
- 32 Pro shop pickups
- 33 Buzzed
- 37 Kind of question
- 40 Like Kung Pao chicken
- 43 Drying-out hurdle
- 44 Subtle acknowledgment
- 47 Wine holder
- 48 Docs using cones
- 51 Son of Leah
- 52 "Terrible" ruler
- 53 [Air kiss]
- 54 Wave maker
- 55 Lady \_\_\_\_\_
- 57 Water conduit
- 58 Home port for the USS Niagara
- 59 Peony part
- 61 W. Coast airport
- 62 Huge number

**Monday's Puzzle Solved**

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

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## COMICS

### BEST IN SHOW

**Best In Show**

WOW, PEEJ...YOUR MOM'S BELLY IS GETTING REALLY BIG! SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GONNA POP!

TELL ME ABOUT IT...

DAD SAYS TO HAVE MY 'GO BAG' READY FOR WHEN IT'S TIME FOR THEM TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL. LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE STAYING WITH AUNT JUDY WHILE THEY'RE GONE.

WELL, THAT COULD BE FUN.

SPENCE, I DON'T REMEMBER HAVING AN 'AUNT JUDY.'

OH, PEEJ...IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE BEING SENT TO 'THE FARM'...

by Phil Juliano

### BREWSTER ROCKET

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN! EMERGENCY! CRISES TEAM, REPORT TO THE BRIDGE, STAT!

WHAT IS IT? AN ALIEN INVASION?

A HULL BREACH?

WORSE!

SOMEONE STOLE MY PUDDING CUP FROM THE BREAKROOM FRIDGE!

Richard

## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 5 -- Harmony requires effort. Don't show a loved one unfinished work yet, or risk an upset. Go for peaceful productivity rather than group gatherings. Beware tricks and deception. Advance slowly, and control passionate outbursts (unless desired).

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Preview your act. You're strong, and yet face a challenge. A female calms a controversy. Don't say everything you're thinking! Wait for what develops. Stifle irritation and rude remarks. Avoid splurging impulsively on stuff you don't need.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Frustrations and annoying situations could confront you. If so, breathe deeply

and avoid comments and actions that you'd regret later. Work could interfere with fun. Don't gamble with the rent. Romance could sneak up on you.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Heed recommendations and warnings. Avoid impulsive actions and reactions. Don't get seduced by empty flattery. Do what you promised, even though costs may be higher than anticipated. Defer gratification. Pack a sack lunch rather than eating out.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Postpone travel and fun until your homework's done. Keep things practical, especially around finances. Changes disrupt the status quo. Make plans without getting stuck on them. Stay flexible. Avoid stupid argu-

ments and things could get lovely.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Passions are high. Look before leaping. Avoid setting off someone with a short fuse. Nobody in the group is as frugal as you. Plug financial leaks, and persuade others to keep it simple. Restore missing balance.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Get in sync with your partner. Stay close to home, and avoid traffic and expense. Watch for misunderstandings or accidents. Balance feelings with facts. Get into household projects. Clean, sort and organize. Simplify and add colorful touches.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Get out with your partner. Don't discuss money

yet. A disagreement about priorities lies beneath the surface. Wait for the final figures. Stick to your principles. Stay objective in a tense situation. Take passion behind closed doors.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- The action is backstage. Your partner offers emotional support. Take a walk. Allow time to assimilate new information. Don't throw money at a problem. Guard against overindulging. Keep complaints to yourself and avoid an upset. Keep confidences.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Keep cool and calm to save time and money. Misunderstandings could get expensive. Consider options carefully, and have a backup plan. Get into a writ-

ing or recording project, and forget the world outside. Move gently.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 7 -- Bring a creative vision into reality together. In a clash between love and money, hold your temper. Keep your cool or lose profits. Don't get stopped by past failures. Walk the walk, one step at a time.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- You can improve your home without spending a fortune. Realize a dream. Have a work party, and feed everyone who shows up. Dig in the garden. Make use of the attending expertise. Share your appreciation passionately.

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## Men's Basketball Schedule 2015

Date	Day	Opponent
Nov. 13*	Fri.	Grambling
Nov. 16*	Mon.	Charlotte
Nov. 20	Fri.	at California
Nov. 23	Mon.	at San Diego State
Nov. 26	Thurs.	Arkansas- Little Rock
Nov. 27	Fri.	Bethune cookman/Stetson
Dec. 1*	Tues.	Florida Atlantic
Dec. 4*	Fri.	USC Upstate
Dec. 7	Mon.	at College of Charleston
Dec. 13*	Sun.	N.C. A&T
Dec. 16*	Wed.	UNC Wilmington
Dec. 20	Sun.	at James Madison
Dec. 22*	Tues.	South Carolina State
Jan. 2*	Sat.	UCF
Jan. 5	Tues.	at Tulsa
Jan. 9	Sat.	at Temple
Jan. 13*	Wed.	SMU
Jan. 16	Sat.	at UCF
Jan. 19*	Tues.	Tulsa
Jan. 24	Sun.	at Memphis
Jan. 27*	Wed.	Temple
Jan. 30*	Sat.	Houston
Feb. 7	Sun.	at UConn
Feb. 10*	Wed.	Tulane
Feb. 13	Sat.	at Cincinnati
Feb. 16*	Tues.	USF
Feb. 21	Sun.	at SMU
Feb. 24	Wed.	at Tulane
Feb. 27*	Sat.	Cincinnati
March 2	Wed.	at USF
March 6*	Sun.	Memphis



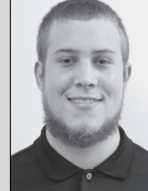




MICHAEL SEEGANS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

\* indicates home game

INFOGRAPHIC BY LIZZIE FIELDS

## TEC'sports The East Carolinian Sports' experts predict this weekend's football game

 <p><b>Tyler Kelbaugh</b> @Tyler Kelbaugh94</p> <p>Who Wins? ECU, 38-7 Why? ECU's defense will prove to be too strong against Towson's run-heavy offense.</p>	 <p><b>Adam Decker</b> @decker2217</p> <p>Who Wins? ECU, 41-7 Why? Simply put, Towson will be overmatched physically in this one.</p>	 <p><b>Jesse Deal</b> @jesseddeal</p> <p>Who Wins? ECU, 34-7 Why? The Pirates will overpower the Tigers on both sides of the ball.</p>	 <p><b>Brian Wudkwyck</b> @brianwudkwyck</p> <p>Who Wins? ECU, 24-10 Why? The Pirates may have trouble moving the ball, but the defense should do its job.</p>	 <p><b>Corey Keenan</b> @corekeen</p> <p>Who Wins? ECU, 31-17 Why? Plain and simple, ECU is the better football team. This will be an opportunity for the ECU offense to prove itself.</p>
--	--	---	---	---

### TAKEAWAYS

**FOOTBALL**  
Former ECU quarterback Shane Carden was cut by the Chicago Bears on Tuesday.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
The Pirates released their 2015-2016 schedule, featuring a season-opener against Grambling.

**FOOTBALL**  
The Pirates take on Towson in their season-opener on Saturday in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

**BASEBALL**  
ECU welcomed 17 newcomers to the baseball team following National Signing Day.

**SOCCER**  
ECU (1-2-1) ends its road stretch this weekend with games against UNC-Greensboro and James Madison.

**VOLLEYBALL**  
ECU (2-0) beat North Carolina Central in three straight sets on the road Tuesday.

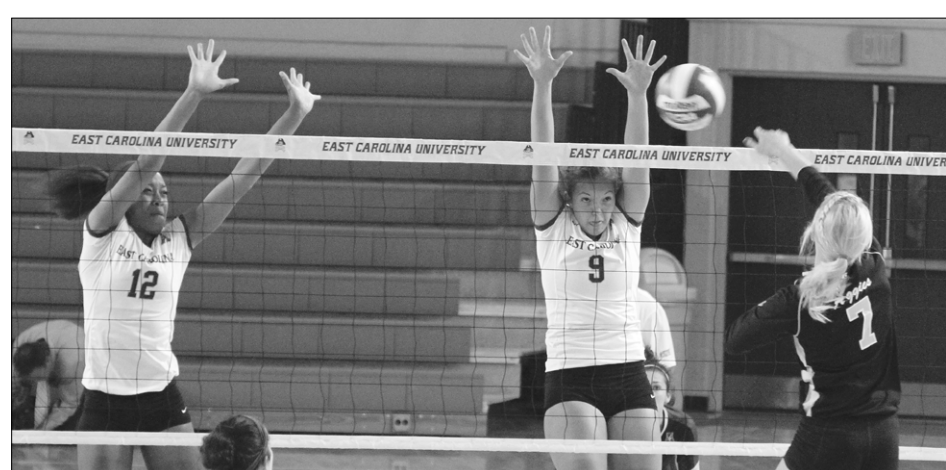
### ONLINE



Follow us on Twitter, @TEC\_Sports for ECU sports coverage.



www.theeastcarolinian.com



ECU's Ashton Mares (9) and Ashley McRae (12) team up to attempt a shot block last season. MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

# Pirates defeat in-state opponent for road win

Carson Cherry  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina volleyball team was tested Tuesday when it went up against the North Carolina Central Eagles and took a tough victory.

East Carolina's first two sets of the match were the closest of the season so far. The first set saw the Pirates win by only four points, finishing with the set score of 25-21. The set went through 10 different ties.

The second set proved to be even more difficult with the Pirates winning by the narrow margin of 25-22. The Pirates were down by as much as 13-7 at one point of the set where a crucial time out was taken to take the momentum out of the Eagles. The Pirates didn't take the lead until they held the score of 19-18.

The third and final set was more relaxed for the Pirates who pulled away to win the set 25-13.

"The first two sets were pretty close," said head volleyball coach Julie Torbett. "Our final set was a lot better, though."

Torbett credited sophomore middle blocker Natalie Montini and senior defensive specialist Erika Figueroa with stand out performances on the night.

"Both players put up match highs," said coach Torbett. "Natalie was our only player in double figures for kills."

Montini tied her match high for kills, hitting eleven. Junior setter Sabrina Gonzalez helped set up the offense and some

of the kills for Montini by contributing 21 assists for the Pirates.

Figueroa's defensive game helped saved the Pirates by getting a match-high 21 digs in the backcourt. Sophomore libero Alex Jessett helped the cause with her serving, having served for the final four points and leading the way to the first-set victory.

The Eagles posed a challenge for the Pirates. Junior Kelsey Murphy of was able to put up 15 kills against the Pirates and played a part in keeping the scores close.

"A much better team," credited coach Torbett. "They had really good setters, number [Murphy] had 15 kills against us."

The Pirates hope to keep their momentum going after scooping up their second win of the season. Coach Torbett said she wants to focus on staying consistent.

"Our team needs to continue focusing on passing. We have a multitude of offensive players who can put the ball away; if we pass well the game will work. As we continue to play, we'll get better," Torbett said.

The Pirates head off to Davidson this weekend to play in the Davidson Tournament. They will take on Hampton University, Davidson, Western Carolina and William & Mary before having their first home match of the season.

For questions or comments, contact sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

## RUFFIN continued from A1

victory in 2013. The 2015 season, however, will answer questions as to just how sustainable McNeill's vision is.

"I'm confident in the process we began six years ago," said McNeill. "I'm very confident in the vision, in our theme and belief of team."

McNeill lost a lot of talent to graduation this offseason. The well-documented duo of Shane Carden and Justin Hardy are gone, and their absence could fundamentally change the way ECU's offense works.

Carden's ascension into an ECU star began in 2012, the Pirates' first season with a winning record under McNeill. Before Carden, ECU finished 2010 with a 6-7 record, and 2011 was more of the same with a 5-7 season.

While those records certainly imply that McNeill was elevated by the talent that was in Carden, the coach himself deserves credit for surrounding himself with a great staff. It was, after all, the team's former offensive coordinator Lincoln Riley who masterminded the offense.

Riley, who coached alongside McNeill at Texas Tech, proved himself to be one of the best young offensive coaches in the nation, developing Carden into an elite quarterback at the collegiate level. His star rapidly ascending, Riley left for Oklahoma in the winter. Dave Nichol, the Pirates outside receiving coach last season, has now stepped into the role of

offensive coordinator.

With all the changes in player personnel and coaches, McNeill stands out as the one consistent component of the Pirates' success. While his experience lies primarily in coaching defense, the level of success that ECU's offense obtains this season will speak to the ability of McNeill himself.

If quarterback Blake Kemp, who was intended to be a back-up this season, steps into Nichol's offense and puts up big numbers, it's McNeill who deserves praise. Such success would prove that his plan for ECU football is bigger and longer lasting than the college career of one special quarterback and an excellent offensive coordinator.

Limping through the year with a struggling Kemp and finishing with a record worse than 6-6, however, could be the first step in discrediting McNeill's vision. Expecting the same greatness fans have enjoyed for three years consecutively would be foolish, but a significant step back would show that the vision is not sustainable in the constantly changing landscape of college football.

Confidence only means so much. Results on the field will determine whether McNeill's philosophies alone are enough to guide ECU football forward.

For questions or comments, contact sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

## TOWSON continued from A1

touchdowns while rushing 108.8 yards per game last season and was named first team all CAA.

"Darius Victor is a running back we saw last year on film who runs mad and averages five-plus [yards] per carry," McNeill said. "He has good quickness after contact and catches the ball well up the field."

Fortunate enough for the purple and gold faithful, ECU ranked 11th in the nation last season against the run. The Pirates will be returning top tackler Zeek Bigger and outside linebacker Montese Overton, potentially making for equal defensive success.

The Towson passing attack is another story, as it returns quarterback Connor Frazier, who averaged 131.8 yards passing per game last season. The team's offense is centered around its ability to rush, earning 30 more yards per game than its passing offense.

Some of the rushing success is because of Frazier's ability to run. He finished behind Victor for second on the team with 475 rushing yards, but threw for 1,499 yards last season with nine touchdowns and eight interceptions.

Towson could run a similar run-heavy offense, as it is returning a majority of last season's starters. The Tigers are also returning a lot of players on defense, but will be switching from a 4-3 defense to a 3-4 formation.

The Pirates will be running almost the exact same spread offense as they did

last season, even with the addition of new offensive coordinator Dave Nichol. ECU is expected to heavily rely on the pass again, as it finished third in the nation last season in passing offense. The team will be starting Blake Kemp at quarterback in light of the Kurt Benkert injury, making the ECU air raid a little unproven.

"I just try to be the best teammate and leader I can be," Kemp explained. "If we can protect the ball and have no penalties we will be alright. You get a little bit of butterflies, little bit of excitement and just go out there and go through your reads."

The Tigers are anchored by linebacker James Smith, who led the team with 99 tackles last season as a freshman. He also tallied seven tackles for a loss and an interception.

"They played a lot of football two years ago and went really deep so I mean they got [good players]," Nichol said. "They're kind of a zone team, which is always scary first game."

The biggest advantage the Pirates have, however, is playing in Dowdy Ficken Stadium, where ECU has posted a 15-3 record since 2012.

"I'm excited to see Pirate Nation," said McNeill. "I've asked Pirate Nation to unleash the excitement that we have here."

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# Seniors look back on ECU careers

**Kai Jones**  
TEC STAFF

As senior women's tennis player Katie Hoch sat with her fellow senior teammate Nicole LaDuca, the topic of her final season as a Pirate arose and her mood seemed to become somber.

"It's my last year; sad...it's really sad," she said. It's hard for seniors going into the last year. For some, it's the last time they will ever play the game that they have devoted much of their life to. It can be a difficult feeling to get over. But LaDuca has a much different tone about going into her senior season with the East Carolina women's tennis program.

"We want to be ranked," said LaDuca. "We want to be top 75 [in the ITA rankings]. As far as team goals, it's top 75 and a winning record."

Hoch and LaDuca said another one of their main priorities is to win at least one game in their conference tournament.

"We haven't won a round in the conference tournament since four years ago," said LaDuca. "So the year before my freshman year is the last time we won a first round at conference [championship tournament]."

LaDuca and Hoch are the most experienced players for Morris. If the program is going to be a persistent power, it's going to start with the seniors mentoring the younger players. LaDuca said for the team to achieve its goals, the young players are important going forward.

"We're playing an individual sport," said LaDuca. "You're playing for yourself, but you've got to play for the team."

LaDuca said leadership is going to be important for the team this year since the team is made up of 10 girls. She also said the two freshmen already get the team concept after a week.

LaDuca and Hoch are ready to play this season out. Before the spring season, the team will play fall ball to tune up for the spring season.

"Fall is about getting your game to the level it needs to be for spring," said Hoch. "Working out those kinks that you don't



Senior ECU tennis player Nicole LaDuca tosses the ball during a match. The senior LaDuca is in her final season as a Pirate.

want to happen when the season comes around."

The Lady Pirates started last season off at 9-2, but finished the season 12-12, and the team is working on making sure it is prepared for the full season.

"We have a new weight coach," said LaDuca. "We're going to learn from last year. We started off fast and we couldn't keep it going. It's not that teams were so much better than us. We would just get tired during the matches. There is just more of a focus on conditioning, fitness, and being prepared more for the matches."

Hoch said she has loved her two-year stint with the Pirates,

but she wishes she had more time here. LaDuca has been in the program since she was a freshman, and says looking back it will be sad. However, Hoch and LaDuca said they are excited for this season.

"We've got a good team, it's probably the best team that we've had," she said.

Hoch and LaDuca begin their senior season October 2 in Greenville.

For questions or comments, contact [sports@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:sports@theeastcarolinian.com).

# ECU soccer set for weekend road games

**Allison Jobe**  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina women's soccer team will play the last two of four-straight road matches as they prepare to take on James Madison and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro this weekend.

The Pirates are coming off of a tough weekend after their first loss of the season, 3-0 at William & Mary on Friday. ECU continued the losing streak at George Washington Sunday afternoon, also falling 3-0.

"It was a rough weekend for us, we played against two good teams. I thought we were going to do better than we did, but we have a lot to work on," head coach Rob Donnenwirth said. "William and Mary beat a top No. 25 team, so we knew they would be good."

The Pirates' defense started off weak as William & Mary kept the possession for most of Friday night. ECU was able to get a few quick shots, but all were stopped by the Tribe's Goalkeeper.

ECU was challenged from the opening kickoff against George Washington. The Pirates took a handful of shots and had the ball deep in George Washington's territory, but was unable to put up on the scoreboard.

"We dug ourselves a big hole," Donnenwirth said. "We needed to get a goal to get our momentum back. Possession was good but we weren't able to come back. The second game was a hard copy. George Washington was well rested and I think that showed in the first half, and we didn't have enough juice to deal with that."

He said that the team plans to make

some adjustments within the next two days.

"I didn't like the way we were defending in the shape that we were in," Donnenwirth said.

JMU (2-2) is coming off of a 2-0 victory against Virginia Commonwealth (1-3) after a scoreless first half. Senior goalkeeper Ellen Forrest had five saves in the win for JMU, making it the second in four games.

"I believe [our] team is a good team, and they need to get some confidence back and we'll see what they're made of. JMU is a very good team, so it will be real tough. So we'll see how the team rebalances, we need the seniors to step up and to lead this team and take it from there," Donnenwirth said.

The last time the Pirates faced UNCG (1-3-0) was last September, where they earned their fifth-straight shutout. The Pirates finished the game with a 10-6 advantage in shots despite a 4-0 deficit in corner kicks. Redshirt senior Sandra Baron led the team during the game with four saves.

UNCG had their first win of the 2015 season Sunday after defeating Eastern Kentucky (0-4) to a 2-0 victory. Redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Chloe Buehler posted her first shutout of the season with two saves for UNCG.

"I just want to see their mentality change going into the game. Sometimes it comes down to a toughness factor and we need to be tougher," Donnenwirth said.

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# Women's golf team eyes NCAA tourney

Craig Moyer  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina women's golf team looks to begin a new streak of NCAA regional appearances after having their previous streak come to an end last season.

A year ago the Pirates' of seven straight NCAA regional appearances ended and the coaching staff believes the team is poised to start a new streak.

Head coach Kevin Williams said the team took a lot of pride in their regional appearances and they were disappointed when it came to an end, but also motivated.

"It puts a bad taste in your mouth, I think everybody is focused and is a little bit higher this year because of it and wants to fix it," Williams said.

The Pirates have three seniors on the team this season who have plenty of experience and desire to make it back to the NCAA regionals.

Williams said the three seniors, Nicoline Engstroem Skaug, Lane Gakeler and Frida Gustafsson Spang, have played in most or all of the tournaments during their time with team.

"I think hopefully their leadership and their desire to make up for what we did last year is a big focus and I can see it in their

attitude," Williams said.

The coaching staff is also looking to the team's two freshmen to push the upperclassmen to do well as well as succeed themselves in order to start a new streak.

Williams said the two freshmen, Kate Law and Catherine Ashworth, are already making a difference by providing increased competition in practice.

"Our returning players take notice that these freshmen are pretty good and 'they're beating us in practice' and 'I've got to step my game up,'" Williams said.

Williams also said the team lacked depth last season, one reason he feels they felt short of regionals, and feels the two freshmen will provide them that depth.

"We needed some depth last year and did not have any; we needed more help in the five and six spot last year," Williams said.

Williams said being in a tough conference, the AAC, where many of the teams make it to regional play, prepares the team well for the postseason.

Being in such a tough conference with many successful teams can also have its drawbacks. Over the past four seasons, the team has only recorded one top-five finish in the



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Pirate senior Frida Gustafsson Spang follows through on a drive during an event last season.

conference tournament.

With many of the teams in the conference expected to be in the top-40 nationally, the coaching staff is expecting a very competitive season, but expects the team to compete for the top spot in the conference.

"I think it's going to be fun to watch and I think it's going to be great competition for us," Williams said.

Williams said the team goes into the conference tournament each year with the goal of winning, but knows that any finish in the top three of such a difficult conference would be a success.

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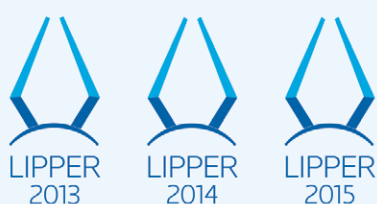
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