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SGA ELECTION HEATS UP

Part 2 of a 2 part series on the candidates for the upcoming 2017 SGA elections



Juniors Ryan Smith and La'Quon Rogers are running on Ticket 3 in SGA's Presidential Elections. COURTESY OF TICKET 3



Sophomores Aiden Kautz and Joseph Ward are running for SGA president and VP on Ticket 4. COURTESY OF TICKET 4

Rogers, Smith look to 'empower' through unifying ECU campus

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

LaQuon Rogers and Ryan Smith are striving to "Empower ECU Forward," as the two are candidates for student body president and student body vice president on Ticket 3 in East Carolina University's Student Government Association's elections for the 2017-18 academic year.

"We want to make a difference. So we feel that we can serve this university and represent this university in capacity that will amplify the student voice," said Rogers. "We have experience in student government and we understand the purpose and the role of such a position."

Rogers, a senior at ECU is running for student body president. Double majoring in political science with focus on international relations and business administration with a concentration in management, Rogers currently serves as the at-large representative for SGA and sits on the College of Business student leadership board. As a transfer student from Pitt County Community College, Rogers served as the North Carolina Comprehensive Community College student body president.

Smith is Rogers' running mate for student body vice president. A junior, he plans to major in business with a concentration in finance. Smith, who has been involved with SGA for

three years, currently serves as the liaison for ECU at the UNC Association of Student Government. Additionally, Smith serves as the vice president and a founding member of Sigma Pi Fraternity.

An active member of the ECU Pre-Law Society, Smith works as a case manager and intern at the Gunther Law Group. He also serves the Greenville community as a Scout leader and is an Eagle Scout himself.

Rogers said that if elected, the first thing Ticket 3 would like to see get done is enhancing the university's sense of community. The team's platform includes unifying the campus through SGA involvement with student organizations and increased support for the development of student groups.

> **TICKET 3** page A2



La'Quon Rogers



Ryan Smith

Ticket 4 hopes new perspective can increase SGA transparency

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

Joseph Ward and Aiden Kautz are focusing on the needs of students at East Carolina University as they run for student body president and student body vice president on Ticket 4.

Currently a sophomore in the ECU Honors College majoring in biology, Ward is running for student body president. He currently serves at the vice president of Kappa Alpha and is a member of the American Medical Student Association and ECU Global Health Committee.

As Ward's running mate, Kautz is a candidate for student body vice president. Kautz is also a sophomore in the ECU Honors college majoring in mechanical engineering. An Access Scholar, Kautz volunteers within the engineering department when needed.

Though the team is new to student government, Ward said they have goals to impact the student body. Ward said a fresh perspective may be what ECU needs for SGA and his current leadership positions have left him even more driven to succeed.

"I was looking for a bigger leadership role on campus," said Ward. "Where I'd have more responsibilities and I just wanted to help take charge of the movement to help (ECU) expand."

Ticket 4 wants to strengthen the relationship between the student body and SGA. A main issue on their platform is increasing the transparency of

SGA and increasing general knowledge of current events on campus. If elected, Ward and Kautz would like to produce weekly alerts that would provide students insight on what SGA is doing.

"So the biggest thing we want to do is make SGA more accessible to the general student body," said Ward. "It only makes sense that the students know how we're representing them and what we're doing to represent them."

The team would also like to give the students more of a say with what their elected officials do.

Ward and Kautz hope to increase SGA's online presence and set up polling options, as well as a new way for SGA representatives to connect to those they serve.

"We want to represent everyone and have everyone know what's going on," said Ward. "It makes sense that we get input from everyone on

> **TICKET 4** page A2



Joseph Ward



Aiden Kautz

ECU 3-peats at American championship

Kayla Morton
TEC STAFF

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF



As the final whistle blew for the last event in the American Athletic Conference swimming and diving championships, the East Carolina swimmers slowly stood gripping onto one another, watching head coach Rick Kobe's sly smile come across his face as the men's team was about to win their third conference title in a row.

John Myhre stood behind his 400-yard freestyle relay teammates Victor Martins Dos Santos, Maxime Cadiat and Fran Krznaric, and knew as soon as he touched the wall the team would bring Kobe into retirement with his tenth conference title, and third victory in as many years. Myhre out-touched Southern Methodist's freshman Ralph Koo by .28 seconds to win the event and give the Mustangs their third second-



The ECU swimming team celebrates its 3-peat as American Athletic Conference champions Sunday. COURTESY ECU PIRATES

place finish in a row to the Pirates. ECU won by 236.5 points in a 901-764.5 rout of SMU, with Cincinnati taking the bronze and Connecticut bringing up the rear.

"We are a close team," Myhre said. "We were able to feed off of each other's energy. We had a lot of fun while doing it."

Myhre added three individual golds in the 50, 100 and 200-yard freestyles. Cadiat picked up his first individual conference medal when he took third in the 100-yard freestyle, followed by Dos Santos in fourth. Krznaric also earned a bronze medal in the 200-yard backstroke. Bolek De Pawlikowski blocked Mustangs' Brandon

Norman from capturing any points as he took fourth by .83 seconds.

"John is a very talented individual," Kobe said. "He works hard, went to the meet with a great focus and came out on top. We were very happy to see that he ended up winning those events which was great."

Krznaric earned a second bronze in the 100-yard backstroke, and took gold in the 200-yard individual medley the night prior. Hicks claimed an individual gold in the 100-yard breaststroke while Erle Craven took bronze.

Blaz Demsar picked up an individual bronze behind Myher in the 200-yard freestyle and defeating three other Mustangs in the event to bring in points. ECU had five Pirates place in the top eight in the 100-yard butterfly event. De Pawlikowski and Esteban Araya took second and third in the 400 IM as Araya out-touched Connecticut's Matt Dagenais by .04 seconds. Diver Zach Duvall also took second in the one-

> **SWIM** page A7

ONLINE

» Board of Trustees meets on campus over weekend to discuss future

» ECU Police warns students of possible fraud threat

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU exhibiting desegregation in North Carolina healthcare

East Carolina University is currently exhibiting the work of Dr. Andrew Best and Dr. Milton Quigless in their efforts to dissolve racial barriers in eastern North Carolina's healthcare system. The exhibit went on display starting Monday and will be available through Thursday, March 2. The display is located on the 4th floor of Laupus Library at ECU's health science campus.

ECU hosts career development seminar

The East Carolina University Career Center and Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences will be co-sponsoring a career development event. The seminar will allow participants to take part in career development training sessions, alumni panel discussions and networking opportunities with faculty, staff and alumni. The event is free to students and will be located at Mendenhall Student Center. The seminar will begin at 4 p.m. and run until 9 p.m.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Seth Gullege at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

SGA candidates debate issues

President and vice president hopefuls discuss campus, SGA needs

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

Student Government Association's candidates for executive offices debated on campus issues, their platforms and how they plan to represent the student body at East Carolina University yesterday evening in SciTech C209.

After being read the rules of the debate process, each presidential candidate presented the audience their openings remarks. Each ticket addressed questions generated by the SGA Elections committee and then questions from audience members.

Topics discussed included parking problems, diversity, student organization, research and development of ECU and SGA's relationship to the student body as well as the Board of Trustees.

Ticket 1 consisted of presidential candidate Cooper Kinsey and vice presidential candidate Michelle Kellett. Ticket 1's opening statement focused on the Student Government's motto.

"The basis of our platform is we want to act out SGA's motto: Service, Governance and Advocacy and truly put all the needs first," said Kellett. "We want to work to create a stronger relationship between SGA and the counseling center, get healthier Pirate Meal options on campus as well as more recycling bins for bottles and paper in classrooms."

Ticket 1 would also like to enhance the relationship between SGA and student organizations by assigning SGA members to be liaisons for clubs and creating an online portal to facilitate open conversation between students and their representatives.

Giovanni Triana is the presidential candidate for Ticket 2 with Jasmine Hardy acting as his vice presidential running mate. Ticket 2's opening statement encompassed the big goals it has in mind if elected and included a pitch for its "Uber Cares" initiative.

Ticket 2 said its goal is listening to students' needs



ALONZA MITCHELL | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Presidential and vice presidential candidates in front of a room in SciTech. Elections run until this Friday.

and continue ECU's mission of serving students through times of diversity.

"In order to serve you, and live out ECU's motto 'servire' we must listen first," said Triana. "And in order to do that we have to listen with the intent to understand, not reply. The power of listening has been forgotten."

Ticket 3 was represented by presidential candidate LaQuon Rogers and vice presidential candidate Ryan Smith. Ticket 3's opening statement reiterated that its drive sets them apart from the other tickets. The team said it views the roles of president and vice president as that of service.

"It's not about the nail, the hole in the wall, it's about having the tools it takes to get the job done," said Rogers. "Ticket 3 is ready to go to work with the right tools and skills."

Ticket 4 was made up of presidential candidate

Joseph Ward and vice presidential candidate Aiden Kautz. Ticket 4's opening statement focused on making ECU's campus a enhancing the sense of community and bringing a new perspective to student government at ECU.

"We want to improve the overall experience of students at ECU," said Ward. "As president and vice president we plan to continue the growth of our beloved university and continue to do so in a way that is representative of the whole student body."

The debate was moderated by Mary Beth Corbin who acts as the executive director of the Office of Student Transitions.

For more information on each ticket, visit their websites or theeastcarolinian.com to read features on the candidates and their platforms.

To contact this writer, email news@theeastcarolinian.com.

TICKET 3 continued from A1

"We want to be everybody's president. So the first thing we want to do is intensify efforts to unify this campus," said Rogers.

Ticket 3 stresses the importance of open conversation as a means of tolerating and embracing diversity on campus. Smith cites the already-existing Cupola Conversation as a channel they'd like to work with if elected.

"The only way we're going to further promote diversity, is encourage these talks to

happen," said Smith. "Because what happens is if you don't encourage these talks, then these different groups of people, there's tension. We don't want that, we want to continue to promote the diversity and the unity that was set before."

Ticket 3 would also like to improve the relationship between SGA and the student body it serves. If elected, they would like to make SGA a more integral organization on the ECU campus and further the group's involvement in on-campus events hosted by both student organizations and university departments.

"We have a strategy in the works right now that is going to make SGA a more

personable and household name to the student organizations," said Smith. "So in turn by us taking an active interest in what these clubs are doing, we hope that that gives them an interest in what we are doing."

Smith said the best way to actually get things done on campus would be for SGA and ECU administration to maintain an open dialogue on issues concerning students. Smith shares issues like parking problems and student safety are more likely to get resolved if the relationship between the two entities is positive and productive.

"We're going to actually sit down with them

and have an open discussion about, 'What can we do?'" said Smith. "These people have these goals and ideas but a lot of the time they can't implement them because they are too busy dealing with students just shouting at them."

Ticket 3's idea is to act as liaisons between the student body and the school's administration as well as Greenville Police Department and East Carolina Police Department to ensure goals are met.

Additional Information about Ticket 3 and their platform can be found at rogerssmith.org.

To contact this writer, email news@theeastcarolinian.com.

TICKET 4 continued from A1

how to address things."

If elected, the two candidates are considering reorganizing the appropriations budget for student organizations. According to Kautz this includes allocating more money for undergraduate student associations and increasing support for new and growing groups on campus.

"Yeah, we have a lot of great big clubs that help a lot of people," said Kautz. "But there's also a bunch of small clubs that could help bring in more and more people and get people more involved in campus and make ECU better as a whole."

Additionally, this platform calls for the appropriations to be disbursed to student organizations based on the total membership of the group with the hope that each student organization will be treated equally.

"We want to redistribute the funds for the clubs and give each club an equal amount of money per member of their club," said Ward. "We'd just like to make it equal."

In response to the parking problem at ECU, Ticket 4 remains practical in its approach. It claims the best solution is to set and accomplish short term goals until the parking deck is finished. The team plans to create more parking spots on or near campus during the daytime and allow parking throughout campus at night after 5:30 to allow students who do not live on campus access the library and other resources.

"We want to try to come up with some sort of short-term solution between now and the next year and a half," said Ward. "Maybe the university can purchase those lots and create more parking on campus and then sell those lots to land developers once we don't need them anymore."

Ward and Kautz also call for the revamping of the football schedule as they hope to work with administration to prevent noon games in the future.

"We've worked on stuff together through the Honors College," said Ward. "So we've (been) together in accomplishing stuff before."

For more information on Ticket 4 and their platform visit its website, w-k17.com.

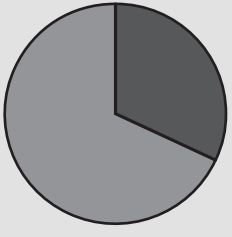
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Advertisement for 'Terms and Conditions May Apply' event. Includes logos for SPARK and sab (Student Activities Board), a 'I Agree' button, and text: 'Think You Have Nothing to Hide? February 22, 2017 5:00pm-6:30pm Hendrix Theatre'. It also mentions 'Premier Wellness Passport event' and 'Intellectual'.

Advertisement for 'the BIG VAPE THEORY'. Text includes 'E-CIGS, VAPES, E-JUICES AND HARDWARE', 'HANG ON, SPRING BREAK IS ALMOST HERE', 'CLIMB ABOARD AND CHECK OUT OUR GREAT VAPE SELECTION!', 'LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED', '2800 EAST 10TH STREET (SHOPPING CENTER AT 10TH AND 5TH)'. It lists authorized retailers: BAD DRIP, CUTTWOOD, LA VAPOR LIQUIDS, ASPIRE, VAPERGATE, SIGELEI, SHIJIN, KANGERTECH, LOTUS, PUFF, VAPERZ Cloud, WISMEL.

ANSWER

Did you get the flu shot?



YES 32%
NO 68%

QUESTION

Did you go to the Waka Flocka Flame concert?

Vote online at
www.TheEastCarolinian.com

Our view

Police enhance safety by wearing cameras

We as a staff believe that the implementation of body cameras by the East Carolina University Police Department is a move in the right direction and will benefit both officers and civilians.

In the past year, law enforcement has been called into question numerous times and tools such as a body camera could have cleared up parts of that confusion on many of those occasions.

The body cameras will ensure that all officers are accountable for their actions and that citizens will also be held in the same regard. It is nice to know the ECU Police

and other law enforcement in the area is prepared with the right equipment.

North Carolina's strict privacy laws will also be beneficial throughout the implementation of these body cameras. Anyone who is filmed through these body cameras will have the privacy protected to a full extent, making it easier for the police department to do their job.

It also allows the police department to reuse these videos for instructional and training purposes which we believe is a great way to have officers gain field knowledge in new and innovative ways.

The Quest For Cosmic Justice



It's all Greek to me

I recently have been interested in reading all the political and philosophical literature I can get my hands on and recently finished one I had been looking forward to for a long time.

"The Quest For Cosmic Justice" by Thomas Sowell, I believe, is such a great read that it transcends the political boundary. What I mean is, the book is entertaining to those who enjoy politics and those who do not, and it offers great insight into the political arena of today.

The general gist of the book is how in our modern political world, many people, particularly those of the left, pursue something called "Cosmic Justice." I, and most people, think that justice means that all are equal under the law, no more, no less. No person is entitled to more than any

other. Those who concern their lives with Cosmic Justice are not so burdened. They seek what is "fair." Justice says everyone should be treated the same. Cosmic Justice says everyone should be the same.

We often hear the stupidity of those that lament "Income Inequality." This term's implication, at least as it is espoused, is that there is an inherent injustice because there are some who have so much, and those who have so little. I say so what? If both parties have committed no crime or trampled the rights of others, then what business do you have deciding that there are ill gotten gains? Today, 64 percent of the people born to the poorest fifth of society rise out of that quintile. IRS statistics has that as high as 80 percent. In fact, 11 percent rise all the way into the top quintile. This does not paint the Marxist caricature of the evil wealthy laughing while the poor struggle to survive, yet true believers like Bernie Sanders and his supporters cannot seem to stomach the idea that there are and will forever be those

who rise to the top of society and those who refuse to leave the bottom.

A similar belief system is put on display when criminal justice reform is demanded because too many minorities are in prison. The Crusaders for Cosmic Justice do not concern themselves with the possibility that minorities are overrepresented in prison due to a concentration of poverty in many minority communities and a broken family structure. Oh no, their concerns lie with laws with disparate impact.

There is no shortage of examples to choose from where Cosmic Justice is substituted for the conventional kind. According to 2011 and 2012 the vast majority of gun crime in New York was committed by blacks and Hispanics and Stop and Frisk policies reflected that in their stops. Despite the most basic level of common sense seeming to square this away, the believers in Cosmic Justice could not believe such an outrage could occur. Policing neighborhoods in a way that reflected the crime rate?

Unthinkable! Similar criticisms are leveled at a whole assortment of laws. To the Cosmic Justice Warrior, it is entirely irrelevant whether a law applies equally to all. To them, a disproportionate impact is all that is needed to show an unjust law.

The Quest for Cosmic Justice is one that will never end. People will always behave in unexpected ways, there will always be winners and losers, and different groups of people will rise to the top or sink to the bottom. Those who seek Cosmic Justice will quickly find themselves steamrolling over anyone and anything in their way to seek ultimate equality. If wealthy people must have their wealth confiscated in the name of equality, so be it. If the legal system must slowly be stripped away because some groups engage it more than others, so be it. The Quest for Cosmic Justice, if it is ever fully realized, will eventually reach its goal, to make everyone equally miserable and destitute.

Dimitri Dragones is a senior majoring in business administration. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Alumnus saves life of former roommate



Mackenzie Tewksbury
GUEST COLUMNIST

The first time I met Tyler Dandrea, he brought a case of Miller Lite to my apartment after he learned it was my favorite beer.

The next day, he came over dressed head to toe in purple and his lucky "Beat State" T-shirt. We spent the day scorching in the September sun in the stands of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, high-fiving every stranger after each Pirate touchdown against the Wolfpack.

I went to go get us water bottles in the first quarter, and when I got locked out of the boneyard, Tyler offered to leave the game — the main reason he left Charlotte for the weekend.

Fast forward a couple months, Tyler was planning another weekend trip to his alma mater. I received a text on a Thursday night that read: "I can't come to Greenville. I think I'm donating my kidney."

That text marked the moment where I realized something I found out the second I met Tyler — he wasn't just the kind of friend who would buy you your favorite beer or leave a football game for you — but

the kind of friend who would uproot his entire life to save yours.

Last week, Tyler donated his kidney to his college roommate, fraternity brother and coworker, Austen Butler. The surgery was a success and Austen's body accepted Tyler's kidney.

Each time I talked to Tyler leading up to the surgery, he shrugged off the whole story as if it wasn't a big deal. To Tyler, he wasn't doing anything spectacular, but just what any friend would've done. He was just being Tyler.

I remember thinking his entire life is about to change in order to save somebody else's. That's a huge deal.

As time went on and more of our mutual friends found out about the story, each of them harbored the same reaction. But not one of them acted surprised.

It's simply not surprising. I knew Tyler for a few hours and people thought we had been friends for years. It's just the kind of person he is.

I am so grateful to have met a person like Tyler and even more grateful to be able to call him a friend.

In a world that can be overwhelmed with hatred, it's refreshing to hear a simple reminder of the true power of friendship. A friendship that started as two young



CONTRIBUTED BY TYLER DANDREA

Tyler Dandrea donated his kidney to his ECU college roommate, fraternity brother and coworker.

freshmen at East Carolina University almost eight years ago, is now two alumni who share a bond that will never be broken.

Someday, I hope to high-five both Tyler and Austen while scorching in the

sun in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, watching the Pirates score touchdowns.

Mackenzie Tewksbury is a senior majoring in communication. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



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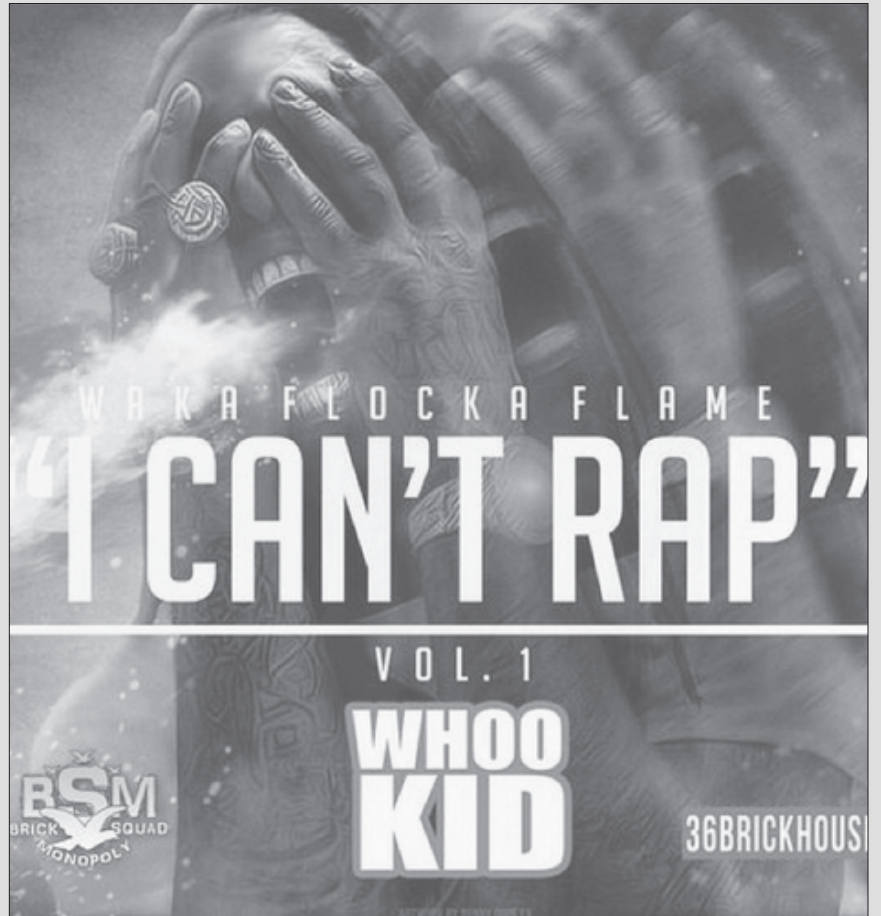
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WAKA FLOCKA



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Clockwise from left: Waka Flocka looks up through his dreads. Waka Flocka meets student Jordan Alston. Songs from Waka Flocka's new album were performed last Thursday night.

Waka Flocka Flame brings Fire to Wright

Jose Hernandez
TEC STAFF

Waka Flocka Flame took the stage at Wright Auditorium Thursday night, showing his prowess to both screaming fans and Snapchat followers alike as he took the main floor and their phones during his performance.

Both Greenville residents and East Carolina University students were in attendance for a quickly sold-out show.

Currently on a tour ranging from Cabo San Lucas, Mexico to London, England. Waka Flocka Flame has been making himself busy ever since his split from Atlantic Records back in November.

Now a part of 1017 Brick Squad, under Gucci Mane's direction, Flocka found himself on the stage of Wright Auditorium, greeted by the screams of adoring fans.

Slated for 7 p.m., the line to get in was already well formed by 6 p.m. and consisted of a mass of excited students, some of whom had been there since 5 p.m.

"We're excited for Waka Flocka," said Kiera Huiel, a junior communication major. "This is my first time seeing him in concert so I'm pretty excited."

First timers and long-time fans alike both had high expectations for Flocka's performance, and as the start of concert grew nearer, the energy in the eagerly-waiting crowd grew.

"I'm a big Flocka fan, I want him to play the throwbacks, all the good stuff that brings the hype," said Sidney King, a freshman accounting major.

As the time drew nearer, students flooded the auditorium. For Chase Keller, a junior construction management major, the anticipation was hard to contain.

"The energy here is heart-pounding," said Keller. "My blood is pulsing and it's just this euphoric feeling I get."

Ritvik Verma, a junior health business informatics major, also had high hopes for Flocka's performance.

"Flocka is really creative, even when he's just being Flocka," said Verma. "I'm looking for a good time and I'm glad that someone like Flocka came. That's big for ECU."

That energy soon turned to restlessness, however, as it was 40 minutes past 7 p.m. and Flocka had yet to arrive. What was once cheers was slowly turning into taunts and boos as the clock kept ticking yet Flocka was nowhere to be found.

Finally, about an hour into the show at around 8 p.m. Flocka took the stage. That once restless energy quickly turned into a perfect storm of deafening cheers and bass.

Opening with a quick anecdote about fake friends, possibly a jab at old friend Gucci Mane, Flocka quickly used the crowd's energy to his advantage.

Using seats as a stand, Flocka expertly interacted with screaming fans, taking Snapchats and videos from multiple phones.

Using a mix of freestyles and previous hits, Flocka had no problem when it came to getting fans up and out of their seats.

With songs like "Workin'" and "Clap," Flocka electrified the crowd with hit after hit including "No Hands" — turning the crowd into a frenzy of lyrics and screams.

Nearing the end, Flocka had one more important message to the audience, made even more relevant considering recent events in race relations.

"I don't believe in any color," said Flocka. "There's only one race: the human race."

In the wake of the concert, the buzz was palpable as students began making their way to their Thursday night outings.

"It took him a little long to come out, but the hype was there and the wait was definitely worth it," said William Quick, a freshman nursing major.

Cameron Russell, a sophomore biology major, also left the concert satisfied and in high spirits.

"It was lit, especially in the last minutes, everyone was going crazy," said Russell.

To contact this writer, email arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

ECU actor brings founding father to life

Andy Li
TEC STAFF

Donald Sutton's face can be broken down into two parts, which are really only one part: his eyes and mouth. Maybe it's a byproduct of being such a trained actor, but any emotion conveyed in one is immediately reflected in the other. If his mouth curls down into a frown, his eyes will grow dark and petulant. But when he smiles, as he often does, his eyes crinkle up with bright joy. No emotion is static with him, everything is an extreme.

Sutton, a junior musical theatre major, accidentally got involved in acting, which is hard to believe for someone whose body seems perfectly attuned to conveying emotion.

"I was in choir in elementary school, my mom signed me up for voice lessons back in eighth grade," Sutton said. "And the local children's theatre did the voice lessons and they were doing 'Miracle On 34th Street' and the lady there convinced my mom to sign me up for auditions and

then I got in the show, and from there on out, I've been in every show I could be since then."



Donald Sutton

By the time he was in high school, Sutton knew he wanted to be an actor. But the search for a college was much harder. At the time, Sutton was dating an ECU student.

"She went to ECU a year ahead of me and I was convinced I was not going to go here or even think about applying here," Sutton said. "Because there was that guy who went to college to be with his girlfriend."

But after auditioning and exploring the campus, Sutton decided to study at ECU and has been loving it ever since.

"I came here and (during) my first week I was still skeptical, but as soon as I had my first voice lesson with Mollye Otis and I got to really meet my musical theatre class... I

fell in love with everything," Sutton said. "I think I made the best choice I could've made."

Sutton is starring in ECU's production of "1776," a musical that tells the story of America's birth. Sutton plays John Adams, a hot-headed idealist. Even before Sutton began working on the show, he was entranced by the founding father — especially his relationship with Abigail Adams, played by Samantha Dempsey.

"You see him and he's this force, but then you see how he talks to Abigail and it's such a humanizing thing," Sutton said. "When I was doing my research, you see him call her 'my dearest friend...' but he would also call her 'Ms. Adorable,' which is the cutest thing to call anyone ever."

Sutton added, "Historians define them like the power couple because they had such a respect for each other."

The production is coming at a time charged with political and social commentary within the artistic community.

"It's coming right after Hamilton so people are looking at politics," Sutton said. "It's coming right after the election so people are looking at politics. It fits."

The musical, originally produced in 1969, dates itself in its themes of sexism, though Sutton feels that the overall message of the show still holds true.

"We're in the time period, we're dealing with issues like that, slavery comes up a lot too," Sutton said. "It's just a different period. I don't know that themes of misogyny or of the such specifically speak through the piece. More so, they're just underlying tones that just kinda speak of the time period."

"1776" premieres Thursday and Sutton is excited for audiences to experience a slice of American history.

"It's going to be awesome," Sutton said. "This has been a show I've wanted to do, or that I've liked for years now."

To contact this writer, email arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

Play features costumes from '1776'

Madison Lawson
TEC STAFF

In a quiet hallway on the first floor of McGinnis Theatre sits a room abuzz with sewing machines, half dressed mannequins and racks of unique garments. There are walls smothered with spools of thread; tables filled with drawings, pins and used fabric take up all the room in the East Carolina Costume Shop.

In less than a month, the theater will be packed with people for the opening performance of "1776," a musical about the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In the meantime, the costume shop remains busy and challenged as it tries to finish up the remaining garments before showtime.

"It has taken us longer than usual to get the costumes finished," said Assistant Professor of Costume Design Delta Childers-Smith. "We spend about 30 hours a week working, sometimes weekends and evenings too."

With only six weeks to construct all the costumes, Childers-Smith said the reason it takes so long is because the costumes have to be tailored to the actors due to the time period and scenes in the play.

Although the shop may be on a time constraint now, it has been prepared for the play since last year.

"They choose the plays about a year in advance, so we know what to expect each semester as far as costumes," said Childers-Smith. "We use this time to buy fabric and gather research about the characters and when the play takes place."

When first given the script, Childers-Smith said she reads it over about three times before beginning to sketch ideas. After discussing her ideas with the



Costume design professor Delta Childers-Smith fixes a costume to be worn in the musical "1776" this week.

director and coming up with a mutual vision on what the actors will wear, Childers-Smith starts to turn her 2D ideas into real, wearable garments.

"We really have to study the history of it all," said Childers-Smith. "In a time period as specific as 1776, we had to think like them. Who are the characters? Why do they dress the way they do and what secrets are they hiding that could be incorporated into the costume?"

Helping her are about nine other people including some volunteers and some students from the classes she teaches. The costume shop also receives help from the community as many stop by with fabric donations and reusable costume pieces.

"People in Greenville are so wonderful for thinking about us," said Childers-Smith. "Since two of our biggest fabric stores

have left town it has been kind of stressful, but the donations have really helped."

On top of researching the time period, Childers-Smith said costume designers must also research the character they are designing for and find fabric to exemplify their personalities. A costume can tell the audience a lot about a character, whether it be their socioeconomic status, personalities or their hidden motives.

"We have grown up reading about these characters in our history textbooks," said Childers-Smith. "I really tried to envision them and capture their personalities. John Adams is really subtle so I tried to show that in the slate blue coat the actor is wearing."

Although street-wear designs and costumes are constructed the same, in the world of high fashion costumes

are a big faux-pas.

"What is so interesting is that high fashion designers create looks for the future, they think to themselves 'What silhouette will people be loving next?'" said Childers-Smith. "Costume designers do the same thing except we are given a period of time and we recreate those trends."

Childers-Smith added, "In plays with no distinct time period like Medea, the director decides which direction he sees the costumes going. He took inspiration from Game of Thrones and we ended up designing really intricate pieces."

Childers-Smith's revolutionary designs will be front and center when "1776" opens Thursday at 8 p.m. in McGinnis Theater.

To contact this writer, email arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

Instagram 'blackout'

Danielle Schmid
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students across the country follow and submit to Blackout Republic, a college life social media account that started at East Carolina University.

The Blackout Republic Instagram account was originally started for fun in late 2016, but was branded after gaining popularity. The account now travels to different college campuses to put on events.

Followed by many students at ECU, Blackout Republic was started Nov. 1, 2016. It has gained more than 6,000 followers since the first post last Halloween. The account accepts and posts submissions from colleges all over the country, featuring students and recreational college activities.

The Blackout Republic Instagram idea originally featured just ECU students because the owner of the account, Drew Thompson, graduated from ECU a couple years ago.

"I started the account with just East Carolina students because I knew a lot of people from there," said Thompson.

To be featured on the account, people send pictures and videos they want to be posted through Twitter, Instagram and email.

"We get about 10 submissions a day," said Thompson. "I started the account just for fun."

Now the account averages 600 likes per post. He began to realize something could come out of the account when DJs began messaging him about hosting events.

Thompson hosted a glow party Feb. 4 featuring DJ Arcade. The event was at 5th Street Distillery and Annex Bar located in downtown Greenville.

"We expected about 300 people but over 500 ended up showing up," said Thompson. "We even had to close the doors 20 minutes early because we met maximum capacity."

As Blackout Republic continues to grow, Thompson said he also wants to branch out further south.

"We want to expand to Southern Florida, Alabama, James Madison University and the University of South Carolina," said Thompson.

To contact this writer, email arts@theeastcarolinian.com.



Partners learn how to salsa dance at Crave Restaurant and Bar's salsa event last Friday night.

Salsa dancing event heating up at Crave

Angel De Jesus
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Crave and the Folk Arts Society have come together to give locals the opportunity for new experiences and bring Hispanic culture to Greenville. "Salsa Dancing" is a night designed to introduce people to salsa, bachata, merengue and other dances popular in hispanic culture.

The event began in 2002 when the Folk Arts Society wanted to bring something to Greenville that represented Hispanic culture, deciding that dance would be a great way to do that. To bring an authentic experience to locals, brothers Ramon and Procopio Serrano run the event with humor, step-by-step skills and a passion to teach others.

The "Salsa Dancing" event at Crave Restaurant and Bar is held every

third Friday of the months September through April and has a \$5 entry fee for all participants.

While Ramon has been doing this event since the beginning, and has always been passionate about dance, Procopio found his interest later on.

"I found an interest in salsa in college, while at NC State in the late '90s," said Procopio. "My friends and I would go to Puerto Rico for spring break. They all danced and were really good and I told myself that I wanted to do that too."

Procopio has been instructing this event since 2004. His brother, DJ Ramon, handles the music, while Procopio leads the participants in learning salsa. Procopio splits up the dancers, male and female, across from each other. He then gives easy to follow instructions on the basics they need to know.

They then come together and dance with a partner. Gradually, participants learn new moves and dance to more complex rhythms.

"It is very easy to follow but it is challenging as well," said Ashley Thomas, a participant. "It is a really fun time out with my gal pals though."

Procopio said his goal each night is "to introduce salsa to people who have not experienced something like this before and make it fun for the people."

The participants were a very diverse group that included couples, mothers, sons, friends and other locals.

"It's a really great time to spend with my son," said Shirley Davis, a mother of a middle schooler. "We love to dance and learning salsa was a blast."

To contact this writer, email arts@theeastcarolinian.com.



Black History Month Celebration

featuring **Bree Newsome**

February 23, 2017
7:00pm
Wright Auditorium

A Premier Wellness Passort Event

A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Bree is an award-winning filmmaker, writer, composer, singer, community organizer and activist who removed the Confederate battle flag from the South Carolina State House.

Presented by:
Student Activities Board
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center
C.U.L.T.U.R.E. Programming Board
Campus Living Social Justice Education Team
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Black Student Union

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

East Carolina University

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greenvillenc.gov.

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OTHER:

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LEGAL NOTICE :NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY.

The East Carolina University Police Department gives notice that certain items of unclaimed property have been in possession of the police department for over 180 days. These items were found, confiscated or seized during lawful investigations and included various types of property such as but not limited to scooters, skateboards, documents, duffel bags/book bags, suitcases, keys, wallets/purses, electronics, car stereo equipment, clothing, power/hand tools, home décor, home improvement items, U.S. currency and bicycles. Some matters concern property in which the case has been disposed of in the judicial system and the property is no longer considered evidence in this matter. Persons who may be entitled thereof are required by law to make such a claim within (30) days of this notice. Owners may contact the ECU Police Department at (252) 737-2626 or (252) 328-6787 or in person at 609 East 10th Street, Greenville, NC. A description of the property along with the serial number or reasonable proof of ownership will need to be provided in order to claim property. After (30) days, the property will be administratively forfeited and disposed of according to law. Property items of value that remain unclaimed will be turned over for auction to Property.room.com, all bicycles not claimed will be donated to non-profit charities and all remaining items will be destroyed.

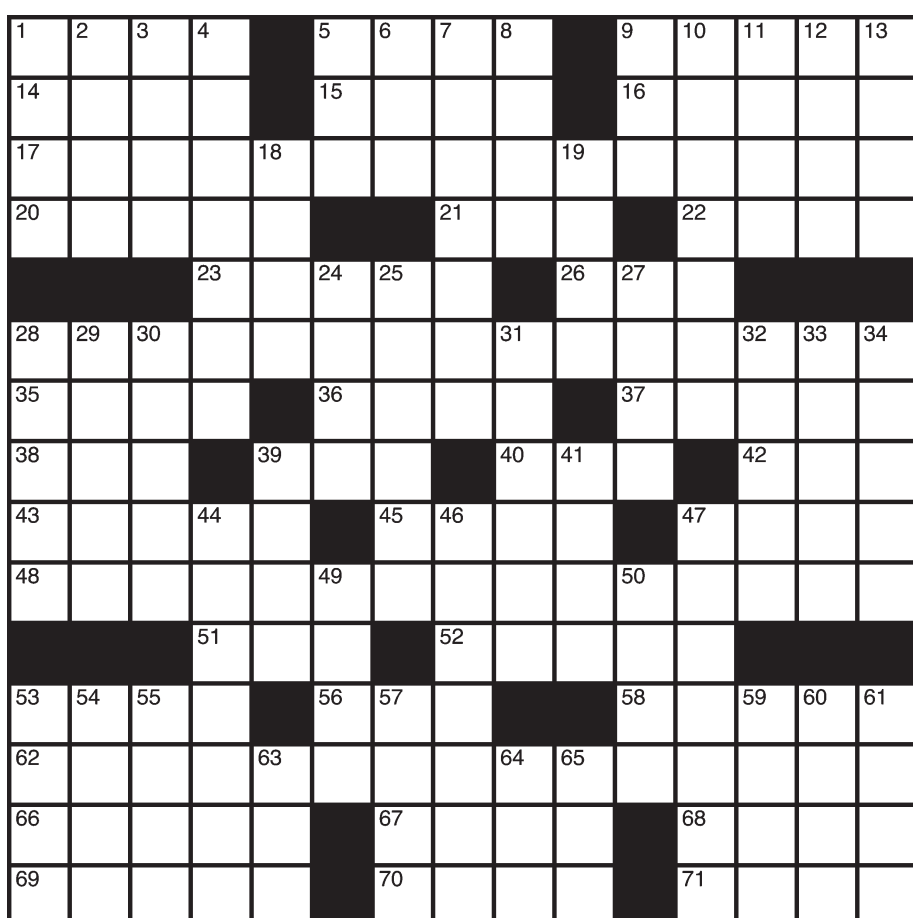
References: N.C.G.S. 15-11.1, N.C.G.S. 15-12 through 15-16

First Date of Notice: February 21, 2017

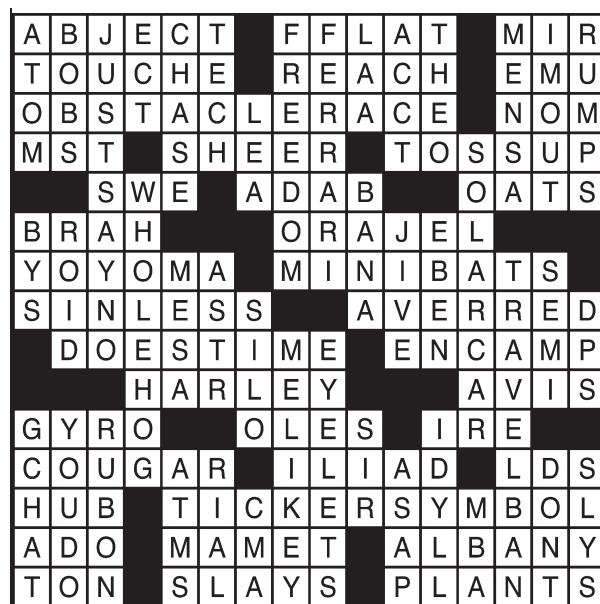
Last Date of Claim: March 21, 2017

PUZZLES

- ACROSS**
- One in a bad mood
 - Diplomat's asset
 - Vatican-related
 - Memorization method
 - Patron saint of Norway
 - Nimble
 - High-tech bookmark
 - African language group
 - Winter bug
 - Cupid's counterpart
 - Safari beast
 - Mystery writer whose Baltimore home is preserved as a museum
 - Office gossip
 - Moved quickly, old-style
 - Meat inspector's org.
 - "Awesome!"
 - Office coffee holder, perhaps
 - Hard-rock link
 - "O Sole ___"
 - 1965 march state: Abbr.
 - Gold or silver
 - Rainbow flag initialism
 - Gillette's ___ II razor
 - Right granted in the First Amendment
 - Bubby prefix
 - Clapton classic
 - Gem from Australia
 - Private eye
 - Go around in circles?
 - "Et tu, Brute?," e.g.
 - Pat down
 - Inbox clogger
 - Pamplona parlor
 - Sight or hearing
 - Wine city near Turin
 - River of central Germany
- DOWN**
- Bed with sliding sides
 - Author Jaffe
 - Mail-routing abbr.
 - Obviously embarrassed
 - Weigh station unit
 - Pub offering
 - Science Diet product
 - Nonstick kitchen brand
 - Sketching tablet
 - Shake hands on
 - Harbor strolling spot
 - "One more thing ..."
 - Not as much
 - Industrial area of western Germany
 - Play for a sucker briefly
 - Margarita option
 - Ricelike pasta
 - Sound of a tree falling, say
 - Broadcaster
 - ___-one: long odds
 - Kappa follower
 - Informed (of)
 - Pale purple
 - Stacy who played Mike Hammer



Thursday's Puzzle Solved



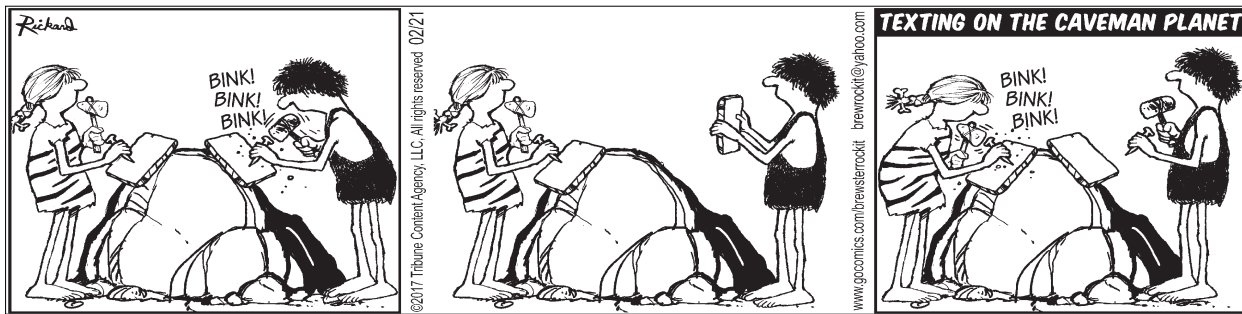
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2/21/17

- Out of the wind
- "The ___-bitsy spider ..."
- Completely flummoxed
- Easy-to-swallow meds
- Flowering hybrid with thorns
- Phased-out PC screens
- Farm machine
- Does in, mob-style
- Whittle (down)
- Idi of Uganda
- Big cat of film
- Actor Pitt
- Vegging out
- Many an Ivan, in old Russia
- Lute kin
- Gained a lap?
- "No more deets!"

COMIC

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Pirates start season 0-3

Sean Finnerty
TEC STAFF

No. 10 East Carolina was swept in its opening series of the 2017 baseball season, after blowing a four-run lead in an 8-6 loss on the road to No. 24 Ole Miss Sunday afternoon.

The Pirates (0-3), like every other game in the series, struck first. After going 0-for-8 combined in the first two games, Travis Watkins finally got going in the first inning. His single down to left brought in Dwanya Williams-Sutton and T.J. Riles to score for an early 2-0 lead.

The Rebels (3-0) didn't take much time to respond and put up two runs in the second inning. Thomas Dillard ripped a single up the middle and was followed by Cole Zabwoski, who blasted a home run over the centerfield wall. After two more men got on base, ECU head coach Cliff Godwin pulled pitcher Trey Benton, who was making his collegiate debut, in favor of closer Joe Ingle. Ingle got ECU out of trouble by striking out Tate Blackman to end the inning.

The scoring resumed in a wild sixth inning that saw both teams go through all nine hitters. Eric Tyler and Spencer Brickhouse led off the inning with singles, before Watkins drove in Tyler. Charlie Yorgen then brought home Brickhouse and Watkins after hitting a single through the right side of the infield. Finally, Nick Barber laid down a bunt to score Luke Bolka for a 6-2 lead for the Pirates.

The Pirates' four-run lead was short lived as Ole Miss came roaring back, scoring five runs in the bottom of the sixth. Will Golsan started the rally with an RBI single, followed by Zabwoski who backed up his earlier homer with a two-RBI single. Ryan Olenek capped the comeback with a two-RBI double to give the Rebels the 7-6 lead.

"I'm proud of the way they competed, we just got to do



ECU senior Luke Bolka runs to first in the Pirates' first series of the season at Ole Miss over the weekend.

a little bit better," ECU head coach Cliff Godwin said in an interview with ECU Athletics. "You're talking about five pitches that could've went either way. If those pitches go our way, then we're probably 3-0, not 0-3."

In Game 2 of the series, a seventh-inning sac fly was the difference as the Rebels defeated the Pirates, 3-2 Saturday night.

Once again, it was the Pirates who struck first. In the second inning, Bolka smashed a two-out home run to give ECU a 1-0 lead. The Pirates didn't have much more success at the plate until the fifth inning when Bolka led with a walk and reached home after a Yorgen single and two ECU batters being hit by pitches.

Ole Miss finally got on the scoreboard, thanks to a Colby Bortles' solo home run in the sixth inning. The Rebels followed that up with a two-run seventh inning, with Golsan hitting an RBI double. Golsan then scored the eventual game-winning run after Bortles hit a sac fly into

center field.

ECU dropped the first game of the season to Ole Miss, 5-4, Friday night, after once again building an early lead.

The Pirates got off to a fast start after Williams-Sutton hit a leadoff homer to start the game. It was the first leadoff home run to start the season for the Pirates since Jack Reinheimer's homer against Milwaukee on Feb. 17, 2012.

"I've been coaching, I don't know 12, 13 years, and I've never seen an at-bat like that," Godwin said. "You talk about silencing the place for a little bit. That was pretty cool."

Ole Miss struck right back in the bottom of the first, as Olenek stole third base and then scored after a throwing error by Watkins. The Rebels then took the lead in the second, thanks to a Golsan home run.

The Pirates regained the lead in the fourth, thanks to three-straight two-out doubles from Brickhouse, Bolka and Riles. The

inning was cut short after Riles was thrown out trying to stretch it to a triple, but not before ECU retook the lead, 3-2.

Ole Miss immediately responded by scoring two runs in the bottom of the fourth. Chase Cockrell led off with a single but reached third due to a throwing error by Andrew Henrickson. Cockrell then scored after a passed ball. Dillard completed the scoring with an RBI double to give Ole Miss a 4-3 lead.

The Rebels tacked on an insurance run in the eighth inning, thanks to an RBI single from Cockrell. It would prove to be important, as Brickhouse hit a two-out home run in the ninth to bring the Pirates within one run. Bolka was up next, but he hit a pop fly to second to end the game.

The Pirates will make their home debut in a weekend series against La Salle, which begins Friday after a midweek trip to Campbell University.

To contact this writer, email sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

Hoops falls to Knights in Florida

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina women's basketball team traveled to the home of the hottest team in the American Athletic Conference not named Connecticut and lost to Central Florida, 79-51 Saturday.

UCF (17-9, 6-6 AAC) entered the game fresh off an upset win over in-state rival South Florida, which was ranked No. 22 in the nation at the time. Junior guard Aliyah Gregory scored a career-high 34 points for the Knights and earned them their first ever win at USF and the first win in the rivalry in 37 years.

Gregory continued her impressive play against the Pirates (10-17, 1-13 AAC), leading all scorers with 27 points to give ECU its 11th straight loss.

"I am real disappointed in the fact that we have allowed our inability to score the basket to affect how we defend it," ECU head coach Heather Macy said. "That's the nature of basketball and I've always prided myself that our teams didn't allow that to happen from a mental toughness standpoint."

The Pirates dynamic-duo of Kristen Gaffney and Bre McDonald both had extremely quiet nights, only combining for 12 points, two assists and four rebounds. Khadija Toure picked up the slack and led the team in scoring with 20 points, making five of her eight 3-point attempts.

"We have talked about how we have less than a handful of games left to play and you get to see who's going to be disappointed the last time they take that jersey off," Macy said. "All of us that have played know when you get to the final time of your career it hurts, so I appreciate what she is doing as her career comes to an end."

Justice Gee led the Pirates with six boards. She earned her first start of her collegiate career and led all Pirates in minutes played.

"[Justice] played her tail off and responded to when we put her in the starting lineup tonight and gave her an opportunity," Macy said.

UCF got off to a hot start and never looked back. Gregory was unstoppable to start the game, scoring 17 points and only missing five shots in the first half. ECU scored the ball at its usual pace but couldn't stop the Knights, and found itself down 19 points at the half.

The second half was the same as the first for the Pirates, scoring one point less than they did in the first half. With the bench in for most of the fourth quarter UCF didn't expand on its 32 point lead, but coasted to its fourth straight win.

The Pirates will play their final home game on Wednesday against Cincinnati. A win would not only break the losing streak, but could push the Pirates over .500 at home for the season. Senior Night tips-off at 7 p.m.

To contact this writer, email sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

SWIM continued from A1

meter diving as he posted a score of 310.25, 29.15 points higher than his seeded score of 281.10.

"Of the 19 athletes we took, all of them finished in at least one event," Kobe said. "That shows incredible depth, when you have every athlete final in at least one of their three individual events."

ECU won its first title in 2015, after out-touching SMU by .01 seconds in the final relay to leap-frog them in points. In 2016, the Pirates returned looking for back-to-back championship wins. This time, like the most recent championship meet, the Pirates took control in the beginning and did not look back, scoring 907 points, to bring the title back home to Greenville.

Kobe has been coaching for 37 years, and has won over 70 percent of ECU's dual meets, while currently ranked fifth all-time on the NCAA Division I list for men's and women's combined victories.

"It was real special to win conference for a third straight year," Myhre said. "We wanted to send Coach Kobe off in the right way."

To contact this writer, email sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

ECU drops close one to UCF

Kayla Morton
TEC STAFF

Chase Carroll
TEC STAFF



The East Carolina men's basketball team lost to Central Florida Saturday in a game that went down to the wire, with a late Knights comeback, that resulted in 61-58 loss for the Pirates.

The Pirates have been led by sophomore Kentrell Barkley for much of the season, as he carried the load once B.J. Tyson went down to injury. But in the past two games Barkley has been benched for disciplinary issues. He did not start for the second game in a row, and made his first appearance in the fifth minute of the second half.

Leading the way for UCF (17-10, 8-7 AAC) was senior forward Nick Banyard with 18 points to go along with 11 rebounds. The Pirates (12-15, 4-10 AAC) had trouble stopping him all night, as he made seven of his nine attempts, including all three of his 3-point attempts.

The Pirates seemed to put a majority of their defensive energy on the tallest player in all of college basketball, the 7-foot-6 Tacko Fall, who is also among the top-40 tallest people in the world. Fall came into the game second in the NCAA in field goal percentage at 77 percent, but the Pirates did all they could to limit him in this game, as he finished just 1-of-7 from the field, and only 50 percent from



ECU graduate transfer Andre Washington attempts a dunk against Temple.

the charity stripe. Leading the defensive effort against Fall was none other than 7-foot-1 center Andre Washington.

The Pirates were led in scoring by an unlikely source, senior forward Michel Nzege with 11 points off the bench.

Nzege, who is more known for his work on the boards and on defense, has had two productive offensive performances in a row, scoring 11 in each game. Nzege was one of four Pirates to score in double figures.

"I felt like we did what we were supposed to," Washington said on his matchup with Fall. "To be honest they don't really throw him the ball as much as they should. He's 7-foot-6, they should throw it to him every time,

but they don't do that so it wasn't as hard as people suspect it to be, but it is what it is."

ECU held a 56-50 lead with 3:01 left in the game, but a scoring drought from the Pirates and a flagrant foul from Nzege gave the Knights the victory. There were a few plays down the stretch where the teams had to be separated from each other, as tempers started to flair after Fall seemed to throw Washington to the ground on an inbound play for the Knights. The scuffle followed a perceived missed call for the Pirates.

"I think his teammates were just mad that he threw me on the ground, because they knew it was a foul," Washington said. "The refs obviously didn't think

it was a foul. His teammates were like, 'Tacko, what the (expletive) are you doing,' and the refs don't think it's a foul so I think it's funny. When Nzege got the flagrant, the reason I was down was because I got elbowed in the (groin), I think intentionally.

"I'm not even one to blame the refs, but they are not the reason we lost, we should have finished. But I mean at the same time the ref looks at me after the guy elbows me in the nuts and says 'I feel for you, but you can't go review that.'"

The Pirates were close to earning their second conference win in a row but frustration down the stretch ultimately cost them.

"It's not being able to finish man," Nzege said. "Turnovers, flagrant one, I'm not really sure about that call, but it is what it is, can't go back. It was all bad the last three minutes. We just couldn't finish the game."

Interim head coach Michael Perry liked what he saw effort wise from his team but knows his team needs to be able to close out the game.

"We played hard enough, we executed hard enough, we did all the things you want to be able to do to win a basketball game, except for the most important thing which is finish," Perry said. "The finish isn't what it needed to be and that makes it very difficult to swallow. We will be alright. We will pull ourselves together."

To contact this writer, email sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

TAKEAWAYS

SOFTBALL

The Pirates (5-5) won four-out-of-five games in the Pirate Clash over the weekend, while outscoring their opponents 23-10. Senior Lydia Ritchie was named American Athletic Conference Pitcher-of-the-Week.

BASEBALL

ECU (0-3) was swept in its first series since the 2015 season at Ole Miss (3-0) over the weekend, after leading in every matchup. ECU will stay on the road for a midweek game against Campbell before returning home for a three-game set with La Salle this weekend.

SWIMMING & DIVING

In its last season under head coach Rick Kobe, the men's team won its third straight American Athletic Conference championship title with 901 points over SMU's 764.5, Cincinnati's 760 and Connecticut's 634.5. Vendela Norrman also qualified for the NCAA Women's Championship on March 7 in Indianapolis.

ONLINE



Follow us on Twitter at @TEC_Sports for ECU sports coverage.



Senior right handed pitcher Lydia Ritchie winds for a pitch. She led the Pirates by only allowing 14 hits during East Carolina's first home series. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

ECU takes Pirates Clash

Carson Cherry
TEC STAFF

East Carolina softball had a good showing in front of its own crowd as it hosted the Pirates Clash, winning four of the five games played over the weekend.

In the last game of the Clash, the Pirates (5-5) topped Cleveland State (1-7) to finish off with a 7-0 win.

In the top of the second inning ECU head coach Courtney Oliver replaced sophomore right handed pitcher Mary Williams with senior right hand pitcher Lydia Ritchie, after Williams started allowing the Vikings to get on base.

"Mary was just off," said Oliver. "She's working through something right now. I didn't want to put the team in a hole and Lydia was ready to go."

Junior transfer Meredith Burroughs led ECU's offense, hitting two home runs. The first home run was in the bottom of the third inning, which brought in three runs. The second home run was in the bottom of the fifth to bring in two more runs. Burroughs had been out of form lately having a batting average of .182, the second lowest average on the team.

"I was going through a slump this weekend and I had to build my confidence back up," said Burroughs. "I just had to swing my way out of the slump and I did that."

ECU started the Clash against the Bryant Bulldogs (1-4) where the Pirates started in a strong fashion, grabbing a 9-4 win.

The next game was the Pirates' only loss of the tourna-

ment against Saint Francis (8-2). The Red Flash beat the Pirates 1-0. SFU's redshirt senior right hand pitcher Katarah DeVries threw a no hitter to hold the Pirates scoreless.

The Pirates won both the games they played Saturday. The first game of the day was against Bryant for the second time. ECU won 4-2, closer than the previous go around with the Bulldogs.

The second Saturday game was against Fordham (7-3). The Pirates topped the Rams by a narrow 3-2 margin.

Ritchie pitched three of the five games for ECU and has proven that after 10 games she is the go-to player. In the final game of the Clash she closed out the game to hold Cleveland State scoreless.

"We've been playing good

defense," said Ritchie. "My team helps me out a lot. Knowing they have my back really helps me out a lot and I give back to them as well."

Winning four games this weekend is a great change of pace from last weekend. ECU played in the Red and Black Showcase winning one of five game played. Now sitting at .500, the Pirates have more confidence as young season continues.

"I think we played very well," said Oliver. "We had outstanding pitching. Our hitters did great getting into scoring positions. Overall I think we did a really good job playing defense, overall everyone played pretty well"

To contact this writer, email sports@theeastcarolinian.com.



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East Carolina University

Vote for your SGA representatives on Pirate Port!

- Wednesday, February 2, 8:00am - Voting begins
- Wednesday, February 22, 11am-2pm - Polling Stations: Todd and West End Dining Halls
- Wednesday, February 22, 7:00pm - Voter Engagement event at Women's Basketball Game vs. Cincinnati
- Friday, February 24, 5:00pm - Voting ends