



The East Carolinian

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City sets goal on safety with new focus on cyclists



Cayla Rodney
TEC STAFF

The City of Greenville hosted two public information sessions this week to discuss the Active Transportation Master Plan, which aims to make the city more walkable and bike-friendly.

"The Greater Greenville Area will offer residents and visitors many options for walking and bicycling through well-designed and beautifully maintained greenway trails and through walkable, bicycle-friendly streets" according to the Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee's vision statement. "People of all ages, abilities and incomes will be able to safely and conveniently get to where they want to go."

The Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the City of Greenville said they came up with the plan with the goal to enhance connectivity, create a positive economic impact, protect the environment, promote equity, enhance health, enhance safety and increase liveability.

"I think biking and pedestrian traffic on major corridors isn't the best at this time," said Brock Letchworth, the public information officer for the City of Greenville. "By that I mean there aren't a lot of bike lanes or sidewalks on major corridors, which creates significant safety risks."

As highlighted in the Active Transportation Master Plan, safety has become a liability for the Pitt County area after being named the most dangerous county in the North Carolina for driving for the past six years. This became apparent in 2013 when AAA Carolinas reported 4,572 collisions in Pitt County, which translates to 318 crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.

The plan stated that "many of these crashes also involve bicyclist and pedestrians, who are much

more vulnerable to serious injury or death."

Letchworth said the Greenville City Council has been actively implementing complete streets, which means roads will include sidewalks and bike lanes, in recent construction projects. "Our goal is to identify areas throughout Greenville that are most of need in improvement with bike and pedestrian safety," he said.

By implementing this plan, the City of Greenville hopes to keep its citizens safe as they begin to see a major shift in the way citizens are preferring to travel according to Letchworth.

Greenville's Horizon 2026 Plan, which was conducted in 2016, reported that today the people of Greenville only do about eight percent of their travel by walking and six percent by biking. In the same study, the people of Greenville said that their ideal travel percentages would be 39 percent walking and 25 percent biking. If the ideal percentages were how Greenville citizens traveled, the levels of biking and walking could outweigh driving.

Across the country, the trend of people wanting to walk or bike as a primary mode of transportation has become apparent.

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) provides support throughout the country to make walking and biking more comfortable and safe.

"Some benefits are health, environment and economic," said Laura Sandt, the associate director for PBIC. "Every community experiences these factors differently."

Sandt added that a new factor has been coming up recently from creating a more walk and bike friendly community.

"We have been hearing about social justice more," said Sandt. "Walking and biking can get people to jobs, schools and healthcare centers. It gives more equitable

> BIKER page A2

St. Patrick's double assault case continues

Matt Prensley
TEC STAFF

More than a year after a double assault case that raised concerns over hate crimes, police misconduct and public distrust, the events that unfolded on St. Patrick's Day last year continue into this season.

On March 17, 2016 a double assault that started in the downtown area of Greenville and concluded on the campus of East Carolina University grabbed the attention of the surrounding community. More than a year later this case continues to unfold in court and through recently released documents.

At 2:21 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day, the Greenville Police Department received a 9-1-1 call of an assault occurring in downtown. The witness described a "street fight" occurring by Jimmy John's and Chico's in downtown Greenville. The witness told dispatchers that six individuals were kicking the head of the victim, according to 9-1-1 recordings.

At 2:23 a.m., while GPD officers were responding to the assault of Patrick Myrick, 26, of Greenville, 9-1-1 operators received another call reporting an assault on Amber Best, 23, of Greenville. "I'd like to report an assault on a female. It happened outside of (Club) 519, but we got this suspect out in front of the dining hall at West End on ECU's main campus," according to 9-1-1 recordings.

With conflicting witness accounts and police officers responding to different incidents, 9-1-1 operators struggled to keep track of the cases. This led to confusion for responding officers and dispatchers, according to transmission obtained by The East Carolinian.

One of the first officers to respond to the on campus portion of the assault was former ECU Police Department officer Ralph Whitehurst. Documents released to The East Carolinian through a public record request show Whitehurst violated several policies while responding to the Myrick assault.

As a result of Whitehurst's violations, former ECU PD Chief Gerald Lewis placed him on "Investigatory Placement with Pay" on March 21, 2016. Once an internal investigation was performed by the ECU PD the decision was made to dismiss Whitehurst.

In the university's final decision on Whitehurst's employment, ECU Chancellor Cecil Staton affirmed ECU's decision to dismiss the former ECU PD officer for multiple violations. In the letter addressed to the 12-year veteran, Staton said "The (Internal Affairs) investigation sustained violations of three written work rules regarding your response to the assault."

The letter went on to explain in detail the violations uncovered by the internal affairs investigation.

"You failed to take action to assure the arrest of

> ASSAULT page A2

Andrew Carroll | The East Carolinian
An East Carolina University student rides his bike in Greenville.

Sup Dogs' annual Doggie Jam to host celebrity DJ

Lauren Sura
TEC STAFF

This past Tuesday, local favorite restaurant, Sup Dogs, announced its annual Doggie Jams party music set will feature DJ Brody Jenner and Just The Tip Rock Show.

Sup Dogs was founded in 2008 by owner Bret Oliverio while his sister attended East Carolina University. This year's Doggie Jams will take place April 22 from 3-7 p.m. Tickets are available now in store or online at supdogstickets.com and are \$20.

"My little brother came up with the Sup Dogs concept," Oliverio said. "Specialty hot dogs, burgers, cheesy tots and booze in a high energy and fun atmosphere."

Doggie Jams was created in 2009 as a low-key gathering where locals got together to eat, drink and listen to jam bands.

Over the years, Doggie Jams has grown into an enormous outdoor concert-festival hosting a variety of music acts from locals to celebrities.

The venue's parking lot will be the main stage of the event while also featuring a variety of



Brody Jenner DJs at an earlier show. The 33-year-old will be performing at this year's Doggie Jams.

COURTESY OF VEGASSEVEN.COM

games such as cornhole, basketpong and more with a popular aspect being a 500 gallon dunk tank.

Just The Tip, a high-energy rock band

featuring lead singer Bryen O'Boyle, will be the opening act for Jenner.

"Brody DJs at the biggest nightclubs and day-parties in Las Vegas and I thought it would

be cool if he performed at ECU," Oliverio said. "His personality and energy fits perfectly with Sup Dogs. I know he's super excited to visit ECU."

California born and raised, Jenner is the son of celebrities Caitlyn Jenner and Linda Thompson and step-family to the Kardashian clan.

Jenner has been a DJ since 2014 and has been on a variety of television shows such as "The Hills," "The Princes of Malibu" and, of course, "Keeping Up with the Kardashians." He has also hosted and executive produced his own show and has modeled for Guess, Cosmogirl and more.

Last year's Doggie Jams featured DJ Pauly D from "Jersey Shore."

"We always try to combine an amazing live music performance with a great DJ," Oliverio said. "People get a little of everything. An amazing live band show followed by a DJ performance to close the show."

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

ONLINE

» Grant prevents STEAM center at Town Common

» ECU softball set for weekend trip to Lubbock to face Texas Tech

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU to host third annual DISSH

Today is the third-annual Digital Innovation and Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities Symposium held at ECU. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 5:15pm on the second floor of Joyner Library in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery.

The symposium will explore the topics of digital projects for interdisciplinary and collaborative research and hallmarks of the 21st century university. David Germano, the director of SHANTI, will be in attendance as the keynote speaker.

National Residency Match Day to take place Friday

ECU will host a local Annual National Residency Match Day on Friday at 12 p.m. at the auditorium of the Brody Medical Sciences Building. Graduating ECU medical students, along with medical students across the country will learn of their future residency destinations.

Interfaith Leadership Summit 2017

ECU will be hosting the Interfaith Leadership Summit on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Mendenhall room 221. Sessions and keynote speaker Chris Stedmen will explore the topics of religion, the relation of religion and politics and religious identity.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. This is a premier passport event.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

>> OPINION

SGA elections process raises concern



Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

these student officials are elected is important and deserves ample time and consideration.

“The purpose of the SGA elections is to ensure a fair, organized way for students to elect their SGA executives and student assembly to represent their voice and to promote the importance of student voice and voter turnout in choosing the SGA elected officers,” according to the SGA Elections website.

As elected representatives of the student body of ECU, SGA officials have the ability to greatly impact the student experience. Through several committees, these student officials can plan charity, passport and diversity events on campus. These representatives also have direct contact with the university’s administration, which gives them a significant amount of power, a voice and opportunity to the students they represent.

Lillian Faulconer acts as the chair of the SGA Elections commission. Faulconer said the election process is meticulously spelled out in the student government’s rules.

“In the bylaws it’s supposed to

With Student Government Association acting as the representatives of students at East Carolina University, the process by which

be that way,” said Faulconer. “Very, very strict guidelines about how long elections last, when voting will occur and all that stuff. Everything about the elections process is outlined in the bylaws.”

According to the SGA bylaws, the SGA elections process is currently limited to a few weeks in the beginning of the Spring semester. After a seven-day filing period, candidates announce their intent to run for their desired positions. Next, in order to be eligible for an elected position, each candidate and their campaign partners must attend compulsory meetings hosted by the Elections Commission. No later than 48 hours after these meetings, a list of candidates is then released on the SGA Elections website.

The bylaw reads: “Campaigning shall begin at 8:00 a.m. on a Wednesday, no later than the second Wednesday in February. Voting shall open at 8:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of February and shall close at 5:00 p.m. on Friday of that same week.”

With such a short time to organize a campaign and promote a ticket, these candidates and the students they wish to serve, are being sold short on issues that can arise which may have a lasting impact on the election results and the students body.

Faulconer said the election bylaws are amendable to allow for the possibility of changes to the election process.

“They can be changed. Changes to the bylaws have to be proposed to

the assembly and they have to pass that change,” said Faulconer. “If it’s something in the constitution the student body has to pass that change, which requires voting.”

Candidates themselves do not have enough time to organize all the logistics of running a campaign. Promoting a ticket can be expensive, and these students need time to raise money for their efforts, either through fundraising or donor support. Another component of a successful campaign are the volunteers that opt to stand with a campaign and promote its cause. It takes time to meet and reach out to people that align with a ticket platform.

Perhaps the most important issue that can arise out of a short election period is the fact that candidates on a ticket may not have ample time to put enough work and research into a thorough platform. This is a vital piece of student government elections; if the students who plan to represent the student body are not well versed in the issues important to ECU students and campus, they will not perform well as candidates or elected officials. They also need to be knowledgeable and connected to present practical solutions to voters, not just empty promises.

“No matter how long the elections process is, you need to make sure the things you are promising students, you need to make sure you those are things you understand and can act upon,” said Faulconer. “No matter if you have a week, or a day or two months you need to understand before then what

you’re getting yourself into.”

Ultimately, this idea of reforming the elections process is meant to enhance the SGA for the student body. If the election process was extended to a longer period of time, candidates would have more of an opportunity to reach more students.

“We have dining hall events where they’re allowed to go and campaign in the dining halls and engage with students, we have the debate, so what we really try to figure out, and are still working on, is how do we make them more visible?” said Faulconer.

In this most recent SGA election, the only events that brought all the tickets together and face-to-face with students and faculty were the two debates. With debates as the only event to bring all of these people together, there’s issues such as little involvement from the student body, as well as little communication between tickets.

As ECU develops, its student government should follow suit. This includes enhancing the relationship between the student officials and the student body directly by increasing the amount of time allotted for the SGA elections process.

“I think that is really a conversation for the Student Body to have. They can send in suggestions at any time to both elections and student government,” said Faulconer. “So as people continue to have ideas and work through them, we’d love to hear it. Because it’s one of our concerns as well, how do we make sure students see these people?”

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

BIKER
continued from A1

travel choices for those who need it.”

In addition to public benefits, the City of Greenville also stated in its plan that by increasing bike and walk mode shares, “the city could experience a total of \$7,043,000 in health, environment and transportation-related

benefits per year.” With all of these factors in mind, the City of Greenville and the MPO planning process will continue until spring 2017, which will include public outreach, drafting plans and analyzing existing conditions. After this is completed, the plan will begin implementation during the summer of 2017.

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

ASSAULT
continued from A1

suspects of the on campus assault and you failed to obtain information from the complainant, witnesses and suspects upon your arrival to the scene of the on campus assault,” according to the dismissal letter.

In two appeals to the university’s decision, Whitehurst claimed he was innocent and asked to be reinstated to the police department. “I deny committing any acts of unacceptable personal conduct or any act that justified my dismissal,” he said. “I request retroactive reinstatement to the same or similar position, back pay, and other relief available to me under law.”

Through multiple attempts, Whitehurst was unavailable for a comment regarding his dismissal from the university.

As a result of the assault, Myrick received serious injuries to his head including a broken nose, trauma causing both eyes to swell shut and cut lips all from “repeated kicks and punches to the head,” according to police documents.

Theresa Marie Lee, 23, Mack Humbles, 26, Mark Privette, 33, Jesse Clay Wilbourn, 22, Chase Montanye, 19, and Christopher James Hill, 21, all of Greenville were charged with one felony count of assault inflicting serious bodily injury in relation to the attack on Myrick.

In the Best assault, Myrick was charged with one misdemeanor count of assault on a female.

Mario Perez, the attorney representing Chase Montanye, declined to comment to The East Carolinian since the trial of his client is still ongoing.

A major part of the case and source for public concern was the racial aspect to the crime. All six suspects and Best were caucasian while Myrick was African-American. In hopes of alleviating the public concern, former ECU chancellor Steve Ballard released a statement to the university’s community.

“The victim in this incident is African-American; the suspects are all white. We understand the investigation thus far provides no confirmation that race played a role. We hope that to be the case, and we urge our campus and community to let the process work,” Ballard said.

Even with the plea on behalf of the university, the public still asked that the video footage captured from multiple ECU campus surveillance cameras be released to the public.

During the investigation, ECU turned over

the footage to the Greenville Police Department as evidence which then released the videos to Pitt County District Attorney Kimberly Robb.

Both East Carolina University and the City of Greenville declined to release the camera footage to The East Carolinian.

“The video footage is a record of a criminal investigation and/or a record of criminal intelligence information,” said Meagan Kiser, associate university attorney at ECU. “The criminal prosecutions related to the investigation are being handled under the direction of District Attorney Kimberly Robb and she has not authorized disclosure of the video.”

The university received blowback on Ballard’s response to the double assault.

Theresa Marie Lee, another suspected charged in the case, was enrolled as a student at ECU. She entered the university in January of 2014 and was a university studies major, according to the university.

In emails released to The East Carolinian, the ECU community was upset at former chancellor Ballard’s reaction to the double assault case.

“Let me get this straight Chancellor Ballard, a black man punched a white woman in the face. Her friends, (your students), chased the bully thug in defense of their friend, onto your campus, (where the woman beating bully is not a student), and then beat up the woman beater,” according to one email sent to Ballard on Apr. 25. “I would think instead of looking to be politically correct, that you would stand up for your students for the bravery they showed in chasing down this woman beater.”

Along with the university, Club 519 also was involved personally in the incident.

Additionally, because Mark Privette, one of the suspects charged in the Myrick assault, was a bartender at Club 519, Greenville Police asked the Pitt County Alcoholic Beverage Control to investigate his involvement.

“We did a disorderly conduct violation on (Club 519) and it appears that the ABC commission, since it happened off the premises, gave them a written warning,” said Randy Andrews, law enforcement chief for the Pitt County ABC Board.

All six suspects involved in the Myrick assault are set to appear in district court next month to continue their trials. District Attorney Robb was unavailable for comment in regards to her plans involving the surveillance footage after the trials are finished.

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UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

ANSWER

Did you make a bracket for March Madness?

YES 57.1%
NO 42.9%

QUESTION

Will you be participating in the St. Patrick's Day events?

Vote online at www.TheEastCarolinian.com

Our view

Camera footage should be released

Tonight marks the one year anniversary of the double assault case on Saint Patrick's Day of last year. Today marks the 364th day that has passed in which the District Attorney's Office, East Carolina University or the involved police departments could have chosen to be open and to set the record straight.

The unfortunate thing is that the record is not straight. A year later, it is still murky, mysterious and largely unknown. Since the event East Carolina University Police Department dismissed an officer for misconduct and District Attorney Kimberly Robb has been silent with an answer as to when the public may get answers through surveillance footage.

This all stemmed back to a case where a black individual was assaulted by six white suspects after that victim assaulted a female. That black male, Patrick Myrick, received serious injuries to his head and over the next few weeks the six suspects were arrested by Greenville Police.

Those six individuals are still on trial for each of their felonies, but the one fact that still hasn't been answered is what actually happened. All the police reports and witness testimonies paint a picture, but the real truth is still hidden with the surveillance footage.

After the trials finish, the suspects receive their sentences and the news coverage moves on, the public still has no promise from the District Attorney that the very piece of evidence showing every detail that occurred will be released. Without that, the community will never truly understand what happened.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian believe the public has the right to the raw, unaltered record of what transpired that night. We believe, and have believed for nearly a year, that the surveillance footage should be released to the public.

True spirit of March Madness



Connor Wilkins
GUEST COLUMNIST

Springtime means the coming of many things: flowers, pollen and warmer weather. However, one thing trumps all of those, and that thing is March Madness.

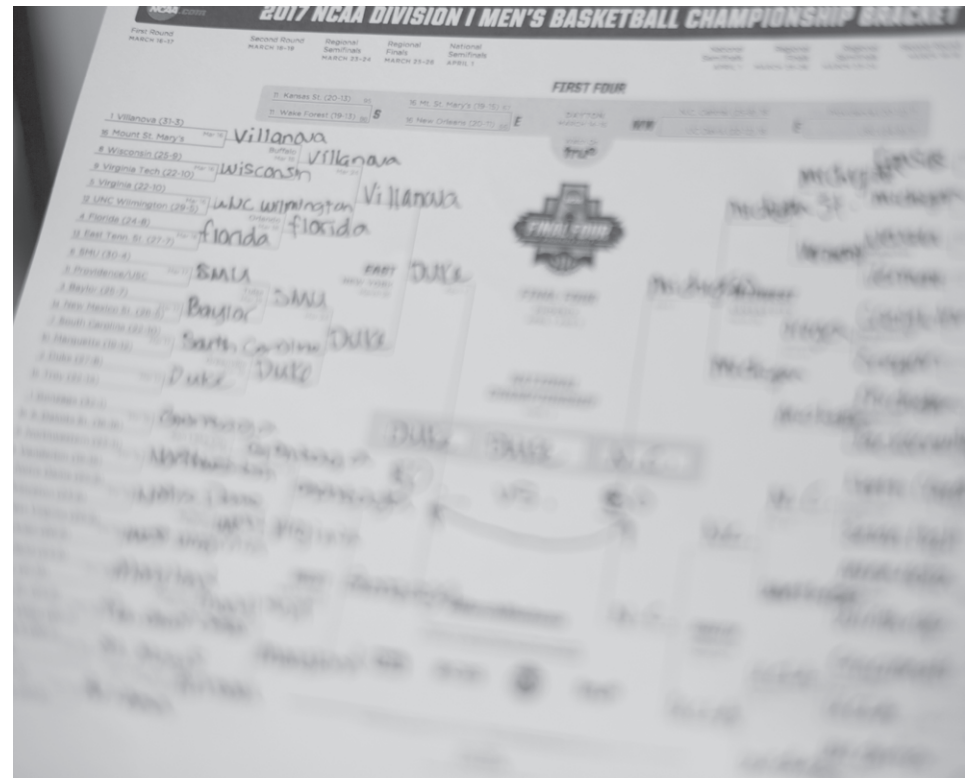
It brings about a craziness that cannot be matched. If you are one of the millions of people who have already created a bracket, you are probably questioning your picks at this very moment. What if my national champion selection loses in the first round? What if a 12 seed makes it all the way to the Final Four? These are all legitimate questions that run through the heads of many people once they complete their bracket.

My bracket is done and complete, and since I have finished it I have had some time to think about how and why March Madness has become a time of competition. Americans thrive on competition, and filling out a bracket provides yet another form of competition for Americans to participate in. Bracket pools pop up in workplaces, schools and even in the White House. When Barack Obama was in office, ESPN hosted a bracketology segment with him. March Madness has

become a way for everyday Americans to compete with people all the way across the country. I mean, who wouldn't want to say that their bracket scored more points than the bracket Obama created?

Money remains a big aspect of the spirit of March Madness. The NCAA Tournament has become the Super Bowl of sports wagering. Americans spend close to \$10 billion betting on this tournament every year. That figure does not even cover the multitude of office pools that tend to require a \$5 or \$10 entry fee. This tournament has created the biggest gambling event in American sports history. Even though the NCAA speaks out against sports gambling, it allowed the tournament to become such a big monetary event with great marketing, tremendous use of the bracket and the infiltration into the American mainstream culture. Money drives people, and when people see that they can win money just by filling out a bracket, they jump on the chance.

I always look forward to March Madness. It is a good way to fill some of your time during the fantasy football offseason. No matter who you are or where you come from, the NCAA tournament will always allow for a fun couple of weeks. Even if filling out a bracket isn't your thing, watching the games is always fun, especially when



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March Madness consists of 68 college basketball teams. The championship game is on April 3rd.

the smaller schools and lower seeds pull off major upsets. March Madness gives many sports fans something to look forward to in the spring. I know I do, because quite frankly, spring would be kind of boring without it. So in conclusion, I would like to

wish everyone good luck on their bracket, and I hope that you didn't pick a 16th seed to win it all.

Connor Wilkins is a junior majoring in history education/history. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Trump's tax returns surface to the public



Dimitri Dragones
TEC COLUMNIST

It's all Greek to me

Rachel Maddow, Democrats, and much of the media's recent humiliation with the grand reveal of Donald Trump's tax returns reached epic proportions. The

entire campaign cycle we heard talk that Trump must be hiding something from the American people, that he wasn't as wealthy as he claimed, that he hadn't paid a dime in federal income taxes. You'd think his income was given to him directly out of Putin's personal checking account. But as all things with the Left as of late, it evaporated once the light of truth appeared.

For anyone who missed the latest episode of reality, MSNBC commentator Rachel Maddow received, somehow, a

copy of Trump's 2005 tax returns. After rambling on for some time she eventually looked at the information that was being reported on and discovered (drum roll please) that Trump made \$150 million in that year. He paid \$38 million in taxes that same year.

This doesn't technically answer the question of if Trump paid taxes recently, but Democrats are left with no reason to suggest he didn't. The narrative was Trump took a \$916 million loss in 1995, so he didn't pay any taxes until he ran for president. This was parroted by major Democrats including Hillary Clinton. These tax returns show that to not be the case.

Now perhaps one would think this could be another sobering moment for the Left, that perhaps they could look at themselves in a figurative mirror and realize that maybe not every situation is of apocalyptic proportions. But like the political alcoholics they are, there is no sobering up,

just time between drunkenness.

Joe Scarborough, anchor of MSNBC's *Morning Joe*, invented a conspiracy theory that it was Trump himself leaking these tax returns to the media to humiliate them. There is zero evidence to suggest that Trump leaked this tax report, but to defend against the blowback a new accusation must be drawn out of the ether.

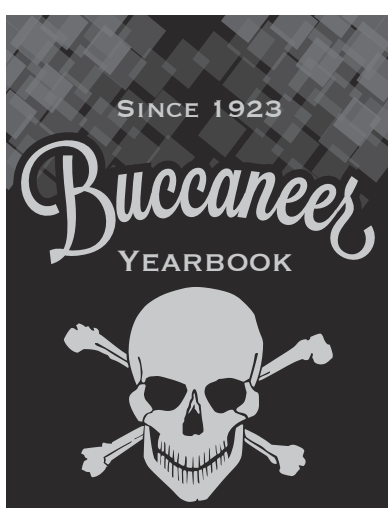
This isn't the first time Democrats have showed no hesitation about outright lying. In 2012, Harry Reid accused Mitt Romney from the floor of the Senate, claiming that he had not paid taxes for 10 years, and hid behind the rock of an "unnamed source." In an interview in 2015, after it had been learned that this claim was flat out untrue, Reid showed no remorse and said "Romney didn't win, did he?"

There are two lessons to learn here. The first is that many in the media and on the Left honestly do not care about truth and accuracy. Their morality is based

entirely on the results they produce. If it contributes to Romney's loss, then it is perfectly fine to use your position of authority to lie to the American people. If it makes Trump look bad, then it's fine to paint him as a tax cheat. The Left is upset that the 2005 tax returns did not make Trump look bad, not that they were wrong.

The second lesson is that there is no mechanism for the Left to reform itself. They have had their own bombs go off in their face multiple times yet their solution is to keep trying to build more with the same terrible skills and terrible materials. This is simply the reality we will have to live with for the next 4 or more years, that many in the media will actively attempt to mislead you in order to serve they and their friend's own political interests.

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



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72 hours MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND

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Cape Fear Tattoo & Body Piercing
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World's Coolest Comics
6-8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Run Club Kickoff
Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery
6-8 p.m.

"Random Drive By Pippings" St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl
AJ McMurphy's
7 p.m.

St. Paddy's Day at the Pub
Christy's Euro Pub
7 p.m.

Cuz'n Kirk's Blues Band's St. Paddy's Day Bash
Winslow's Deli
8 p.m.-12 a.m.

St. Paddy's PJ Party
Simply Sinful Lingerie Parties
8 p.m.



Nike unveils new hijab line

Madison Lawson
TEC STAFF

Muslim athletes can rejoice, as Nike has struck the market again with its release of another innovative product used to make working out effortless and enjoyable — and this time it's not a pair of sneakers.

The multinational company recently announced it will be making hijabs for Muslim women to use when participating in physical activity in hopes of enhancing their performance. According to Quartz Media, Nike will add its newest product to stores in spring 2018 at an expected price of \$35.

"I get frustrated because I can never decide which hijab I want to get sweaty before working out," East Carolina University junior Samreen Khadri said. "The ones I wear everyday are not made for exercise."

Woven together with light, breathable, spandex-like fabrics, the Pro Hijab was made to sweat in unlike most others. Everyday hijabs are made with cotton, a fabric that is known to retain water rather than resist it. Nike spent over 13 months perfecting its design and asked professional athletes to test its product to ensure its fit.

"When I work out, I like to do (so) in private because I am always afraid my hijab will fall off in public," said Khadri.

With this fear in mind, the Pro Hijab was specifically made to prevent these type of scenarios from happening. The head covering is equipped with an elastic binding on the inside, granting the athlete wearing it the ability to adjust the tightness to their liking. Quartz Media also explained that the back of it is long enough to stay tucked in during excessive movement.

Inspired by female Muslim athletes such as Olympic weightlifter Amna Al Haddad and professional figure skater Zahra Lari, Nike saw a need for the product and decided to work with both women to create a hijab that not only works properly but meets all cultural requirements. The company also noted that many young Muslim females in countries like England participate much less in sports due to their lack of appropriate sports attire.

"I was thrilled and a bit emotional to see Nike prototyping a hijab," said Lari in a statement reported by The Christian Science Monitor. "I've tried so

> **HIJAB** page A5



COURTESY OF THECOMBACK.COM

A Muslim woman wears a Nike hijab while running. Nike's hijabs are set for release in 2018.

Riff Raff to perform at Stilllife

Danielle Schmid
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

With St. Patrick's Day just days away, club Stilllife has announced that rap artist Riff Raff will be hosting a St. Paddy's Weekend Darty this Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. at their venue located in downtown Greenville. Riff Raff will perform along with DJ Afterthought.

Riff Raff, who is known for his unique style and spontaneous actions, started rapping in 2005. He began by making homemade CDs and passing them out at various malls in his hometown of Houston, Texas.

In 2009, Riff Raff was a contestant on season two of "From G's to Gents" on MTV. Since then, Riff Raff has released two studio albums

and multiple singles. He has also worked with many DJs and has been featured in songs with artists such as Migos, Gucci Mane and Far East Movement.

Owner of Stilllife Travis Hixon said, "Out of our 11 years open, we have never brought in a character like Riff Raff."

Riff Raff originally contacted Stilllife to have the party in Raleigh but because of the college environment at East Carolina University, Hixon suggested having it at the Greenville location.

Limited pre-sale tickets, which were \$15, sold out within hours after the announcement. General admission tickets are \$20 and are still available however, Hixon said they plan on selling out quickly.

Riff Raff recently began his 2017 world tour in January with his supporting act DJ Afterthought. DJ Afterthought is a popular DJ from Pittsburgh and has over 29 thousand followers on Instagram.

Riff Raff's latest single, "Back From the Dead" was produced by DJ Afterthought and has over one million views on Youtube after only three months of being released.

Since the announcement Wednesday afternoon, Hixon has received many phone calls and messages about the event.

"We hope this brings more celebrities here," Hixon said. "This isn't the only secret we've been keeping, this is just the beginning."

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

ALBUM REVIEW

'FUTURE' brings a reach to the past



Jose Hernandez
TEC STAFF

No stranger to frequent releases, Future is back at again with his fifth studio album — the self-titled, "FUTURE."

Staying faithful to previous trademark release tactics, "FUTURE" was announced on Feb. 14, only to be released three days later.

Quickly climbing the rungs of the Billboard 200 ladder, "FUTURE" secured the Atlanta native another No.1 spot, making it his fourth album to reach the pedestal.

A hefty 62 minutes, the album's 17-track listing boasts a lineup of top-tier producers such as DJ Khaled and Jake One.

Part one of a two-part epic, "FUTURE" is an exercise in consistency, not necessarily a rut, but a far cry from his old



COURTESY OF HOTNEWHIPHOP.COM

"FUTURE" by Future reached No. 1 on the Billboard 200 charts quickly.

changeups.

This is not to say that the songs bleed into each other as if there is no variety, quite opposite actually. One characteristic that Future has not forsaken is his ability to produce a varied playlist in a genre that does not lend itself so

easily to doing so.

Songs like the album opener "Rent Money" showcase his ability to create trap hits. Yet on the other side of the spectrum is "I'm So Groovy," which is a more fluid look into Future's recognition of his own success.

Because of the sheer amount of styles present in the album, "FUTURE" reveals the uncanny trait that propelled it to its No. 1 spot. It allows listeners to pick and choose their favorites, yet at the same time has something for everyone to enjoy.

If in the mood for a more somber and serious Future, then "Feds Did a Sweep" will deliver as it recounts the effects of drug trafficking, police raids and what one will do simply to survive.

What other tracks lack in go-with-the-flow stylings, "Might as Well" delivers in spades. A simple piano chord serves as the main melody for the song that makes for a feeling of just drifting off with whatever comes up.

"Outta Time" serves as a middle-ground of sorts. The spacey warble of high-pitched notes take listeners out of the feel-good groove of the subtler tracks, yet doesn't create the same energy as the more hard-hitting songs.

"FUTURE" is both an ironic yet incredibly descriptive title, as

it cherry picks from the past; a little underground influence from his mixtape days, some downcast glum from "DS2" and a dash of vulnerability courtesy of "What a Time to Be Alive."

The title describes the album perfectly for what it is. It is Future, everything he was and is, wrapped in a neat assortment that caters to most hip-hop tastes.

For all its diversity, "FUTURE" is not a stand-alone project. Unsurprisingly, the album beckons the attention on one-off listeners and loyal fans alike, gearing them up for "HNDXXX," a follow-up smorgasbord released only a week later.

"FUTURE" is available in stores now and ready for download via most streaming services.

RATING:



4 out of 5

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

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Cont...
MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND

New event space to 'pop-up'

Amanda Shea
TEC STAFF

As pop-up boutiques, farmer's markets and concerts become increasingly popular, it was only a matter of time before one made its way to Greenville in the form of Moxie Pop.

Kelly Boutilier, one of the owners of Starlight Cafe, helped bring the Starlight pop-up retail and dining lounge to life.

"We were looking for an outlet to accommodate those smaller groups, for me to have a place for my private clients," said Boutilier. "And we thought, 'In the meantime, when we're not using it, we might as well use it as an outlet for other artists, farmers, jewelry designers (and) fashion designers to have a space that they can kind of highlight what they do without being charged an arm and a leg for it."

Since the pop-up space at 106 E. Fourth St. is just a little over 300 square feet, Boutilier said they are leaning more toward smaller performances and events instead of bands.

"The space is not very large, so I don't think it could handle a band, per se, but we definitely want to incorporate book releases, poetry, acoustic acts," she said. "Lot's of ECU students have already gotten word about it, so I'm hoping to have different pop-up art receptions during graduation week for senior shows... and people through Pitt community as well."

Those interested in taking part in the performances, or even just attending, can expect the space to be open within the next couple months, and can even begin preparing their own talents.

"We are targeting (to be open) the last weekend of April, first weekend of May, so we can really give the students a chance to use the space for their senior shows," she said. "(Those wanting to perform) can contact me through moxiepopnc@gmail.com... currently, we don't have access to the space until April 1. They're completing some renovations before we move in."

Boutilier used to own a boutique in Uptown Greenville, called Moxie Clothing, which is where she pulled the inspiration for the current pop-up.

"That's where the name comes in, Moxie Pop, because I think there are a lot of people still in Greenville that remember the boutique," Boutilier said. "It's fun because I've been able to get back into contact with some of my old designers and tell them about this opportunity, so they're really excited to do trunk shows."



The Star Light Cafe sign lights up its front window. Boutilier, the owner, plans to start a pop-up boutique.

Boutilier said she's already gotten in contact with a few Instagram-famous interior designers and stage stylists to help with the turnover between each pop-up.

"It'd be a really good entryway, I think, for them to learn about promotion, running their own events, just getting their name out to the community," she said. "It's just a really great way for the community to kind of come together and highlight the talent of Greenville."

Boutilier said performances and artistic events won't be the only activities taking place throughout the year.

"I think you can expect anything there," she said. "We have a farm for the restaurant so we want to, during those seasonal times, have a farmer's market pop-up there and sell our honey and our produce and our eggs."

Though she already has a few ideas for the pop-up, she said she is keeping an open mind.

"People are like, 'What are you going to do

and I say, 'Pretty much anything,' you know, I would love to work with anybody that has a talent or a craft or anything that they want to give the community a chance to enjoy," Boutilier said.

She teased a possible pop-up promotion at PirateFest.

"We are finalizing our website and will hopefully have it up and running by PirateFest so we will be able to direct people to the website if they have further questions about pricing, availability and anything like that," said Boutilier.

The pop-up is targeted to be opened by the last weekend of April, with accessibility for East Carolina University students and Greenville residents alike.

"It will be a place for local artists, teachers and the like, to highlight their passions in a unique space at an affordable price," Boutilier said.

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

FRIDAY

St. Patrick's \$500 Balloon Bash

5th Street Distillery
9 p.m.-2 a.m.

Urban Soil St. Patty's Party

Crossbones Tavern
10 p.m.

SATURDAY

Free Waffle Day #2

World's Coolest Comics and Toys
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Signal Fire

Crossbones Tavern
10 p.m.

Riff Raff St. Patty's Weekend Darty

StillLife
3-7 p.m.

SUNDAY

March Drag Brunch

The Scullery
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.



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HIJAB continued from A4

many different hijabs for performance, and so few of them actually work for me. But once I put it on and took it for a spin on the ice, I was blown away by the fit and the light weight."

As reported by CNN, the first announcement of the Pro Hijab made by Nike was through a controversial advertisement shown across the Middle East. Five successful female athletes from the Arab world were shown pursuing their dreams while a voice in the background asks, "What will they say about you?" The rhetorical question shows what many young Arab women face when they step out of traditional norms. This ad caused an outburst on social media; some people commented and thought the ad was motivational while others thought it was outrageous.

ECU senior and criminal justice major Sabrin Wshah said, "Hijabs do not oppress women. I think people tend to forget that in most cases wearing a hijab is the woman's choice, she wears it for modesty."

Quartz Media said that ever since

President Donald Trump was elected, Nike has put its inclusive values at the top of its to-do list.

Echoing Quartz Media's statement, Wshah said, "I want to thank Nike for understanding us, for honoring us and for thinking about Muslims and their needs. This product shows that female Muslims who want to work-out are just like everyone else. We are humans too!"

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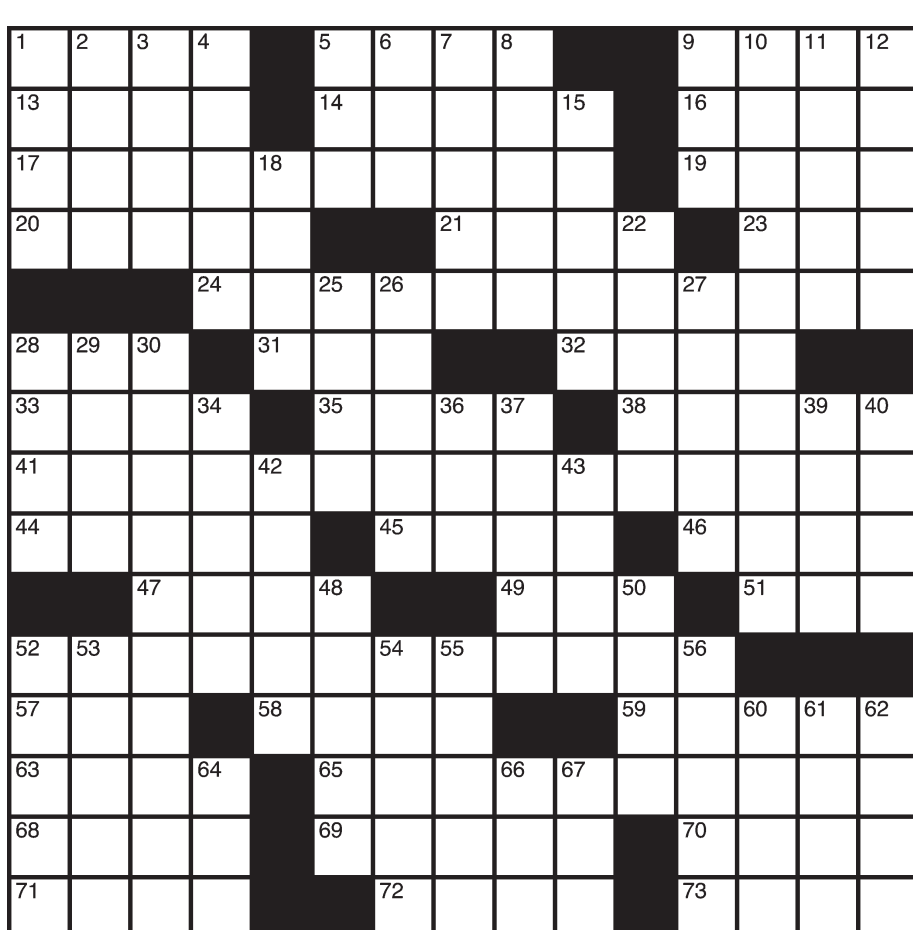
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PUZZLES

- ACROSS**
1 The Miners of the Lone Star St.
5 Eurasia's _____ Mountains
9 Fundraising gps.
13 Caesar's France
14 Marner of fiction
16 Hindustani language
17 What Dobermans do for dinner?
19 Innocent
20 Retro wall unit
21 Titanic undoing
23 Not very bright
24 Super-cold concoction at Baskin-Robbins?
28 Yale alum
31 Longtime Yankees announcer _____ Allen
32 First to play James
33 Tall and lean
35 "Sadly ..."
38 Box
41 World's stealthiest detective?
44 Got out of bed
45 "So _____ say"
46 Crowd-sourced review site
47 Asian takeout option
49 Little trickster
51 See 56-Down
52 Cutest Baby contest champion?
57 Security briefing org.
58 Clothing part that might split
59 Epic tales
63 Singer James
65 Massage epiphany?
68 Agenda detail
69 Gets mud on
70 Phi _____ Kappa
71 Banks of 2000s TV talk
72 Doing business
73 "The Osbournes" patriarch
- DOWN**
1 Brand of sheepskin boots
2 Biting
3 Italian capital
4 Fallback option
5 _____ Today
6 Tease
7 "I was out of town," e.g.
8 Approach midnight
9 Place to hoist a pint
10 DBA followers
11 Madison Ave. field
12 In-your-face challenge
15 Feudal laborers
18 Protective barrier
22 El _____
25 Authentic
26 Dole out
27 Like birds with worms, so it's said
28 Designer Schiaparelli
29 Cowardly Lion portrayer
30 Facing serious trouble
34 Singer who formerly stylized her name with a dollar sign



Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



- 36 "____ du lieber!"
37 Yarn purchase
39 Squeal
40 Catch sight of
42 Raises
43 Many a gospel song
48 Brainstorms
50 Uruguayan money
52 Nail a test
53 Like Oscar Wilde
54 Mackerel relative
55 Beatnik's "With ya"
56 Repeating movie role for 51-Across
60 "Sheesh!"
61 Animated bug film
62 Time at a hotel
64 Org. for docs
66 Pint to drink
67 AOL alternative

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: 1 | 2 | 3 | 4

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

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

3/16/17

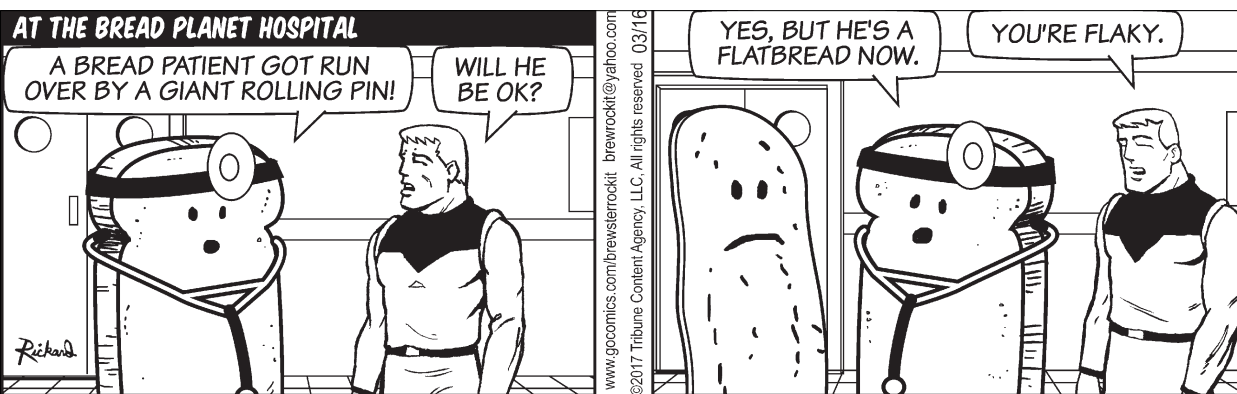
| | | | | | | | | |
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| 9 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| 8 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 1 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 3 |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

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

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COMIC

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ECU takes down Duke

Sean Finnerty
TEC STAFF

If the East Carolina baseball team felt any pressure after being down three runs and having only two hits through four innings, it didn't show it.

The Pirates used a big fifth inning to take the lead, which they never gave back, in their 9-4 road win over Duke Tuesday afternoon.

In a season where ECU (13-4) has repeatedly shown its depth, it was the players batting in the seven, eight and nine spots in the lineup that got the rally started in the fifth after the Pirates found themselves in a 3-0 hole.

Bryant Packard and T.J. Riles started off the inning with back-to-back singles before a Dusty Baker bunt brought Packard home. Riles and Baker then each stole a base, putting them at third and second, respectively. Charlie Yorgen then grounded out to first, allowing Riles to score and pull the Pirates within one run of Duke (10-9).

At this point, the wheels fell off a bit for Duke and its pitchers. The Blue Devils decided to pull starter Graeme Stinson for Karl Blum after Riles scored, but things didn't improve for the hosts.

Blum immediately threw a wild pitch, allowing Baker to score and tie the game. Blum's outing didn't improve, as he walked Turner Brown, threw another wild pitch to allow Brown to move to second and then walked Travis Watkins. And just like that, Blum was pulled without recording an out.

In came James Ziemba for Duke and his first pitch reached the backstop. Ziemba finally recorded an out when Luke Bolka grounded out, but Brown reached home on the play.

Not to be out done by Blum, Ziemba threw another wild pitch, allowing Watkins to score and give ECU the lead at 5-3. The Blue Devils finally got out of the top of the fifth after Eric Tyler flew out to center, but not before going through three pitchers and throwing five wild pitches in just one inning.

Each player in the starting lineup recorded a base knock in the contest with Yorgen, Brown and Tyler picking up two hits each. They amounted to half of the hits ECU had as a whole as they hit safely twelve times. Yorgen, Bolka and Baker picked up the five RBI, in a game where wild pitches



DANIEL GAIDA | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Senior third baseman Eric Tyler holds up a finger after the first out of an inning last weekend.

resulted in the other four runs.

ECU once again held its opposition to single-digit hits as the five pitchers only gave up seven combined.

The team has continued that trend from last season in racking up double-digit hits while limiting opponents to single-digit hits in order to pick up wins.

The Pirates found themselves down 3-0 after two innings because their starting pitcher, Hunter Hood, didn't have a solid outing.

Hood gave up five hits and three earned runs in the first two innings, so ECU head coach Cliff Godwin decided to go with Chris

Holba in the third.

Holba showed Godwin's faith in him as he quickly retired the side in the third inning. The right-hander went four innings without giving up a hit, before Michael Smiciklas hit a single in the seventh. By the time he was finally pulled, Holba gave up two hits and struck out five in five innings of work, while also picking up the win.

ECU will next play Mercer on Friday at 6:30 p.m. inside Clark-LeClair Stadium for the opener of its weekend series against the Bears.

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

Student hosts hoops tourney for good cause

Kayla Morton
TEC STAFF

East Carolina junior Cam Walker will hold a basketball tournament on ECU's campus Saturday in order to work towards gaining numbers for the national registry list of bone marrow donors for patients in need of transplants.

This year roughly 44,000 people will be diagnosed with leukemia and will need a match with a blood relative or compatible stranger through the national registry for a bone marrow transplant to have the best chance at survival.



Cam Walker

Walker is the student president of the ECU ambassador organization for The Gift of Life that is in its third year. There are approximately 100 students across the United States involved in this organization, whose main job is to inform communities across the US about the importance of bone marrow registry and how to get involved.

Their goal is to swab and register 500 people per year in order to give people diagnosed with cancer a better chance at finding a donor. According to the Institute for Justice, 70 percent of all patients are in need of a random donor and only two percent of all people in the US are currently signed up for the registry.

"Being president of an organization like this means a lot to me because I have the opportunity to lead my peers while helping grow an important cause," Walker said.

The Gift of Life was started by blood cancer survivor Jay Feinberg. While trying to find a donor for bone marrow, he and his parents started holding fundraisers to register people for the national registry. When it looked as though all hope was lost, the Feinberg family found a donor on the last person who registered in their final fundraiser. The donor was originally not involved in the drive at all, as they filled in for a friend who was sick and was coaxed out of their fear of needles to give samples in order to become registered.

Walker has been organizing this tournament, to be hosted at the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, with Campus Recreation and Wellness since November, which will have a 12-team single-elimination bracket with random seedings in the front two courts of the Student Recreation Center from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

About halfway through the day, Walker, along with other representatives from the organization, will hold a halftime event in order to talk about the tournament's cause and the importance of bone marrow registry. Along with that, a word from the tournament sponsors, Stilllife, JoyRun!, Stretch Zone, Title Boxing and more, as well as a knockout tournament will take place with raffles, prizes and food on the side.

"Our message for the halftime presentation is not to take your health for granted," Walker said. "Your health can change and before you speculate and assume you should be able to know the right causes. This cause shouldn't be taken lightly because every life is important."

Walker's organization will hand out t-shirts to participants as well as give medals, stadium sports and various other gift cards, water bottles, wristbands, Chipotle coupons and more to the first and second place finishers.

The chance to register for the national registry will be going on during the tournament and will place in the gym. It's as simple as having four Q-tips swab each wisdom tooth, or space where a wisdom tooth was, which will then be sent to the nonprofit organization to test for matches of waiting patients on the list. Walker's goal is to register 100 new members.

"This is really important to me to reach this goal because I'm trying to expand registry so more lives will be saved," Walker said.

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

Pirates sweep after road swing

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Ronny Georgi, Kasey Countee, Freddie McGeehan, James Ling, Fredric Lehfeltd and Vlad Anghel won their doubles matches in dramatic fashion Tuesday to help the East Carolina's men's tennis team blank Mount Olive in its return home after six straight road matches.

Georgi and Countee got the Pirates route to a shutout started by winning in doubles play as they dominated every aspect of the doubles match and won, 6-1.

The serving of Freddie McGeehan and Ling proved to be the difference maker in their match as their opponents struggled returning balls, allowing them to pick up a 6-2 victory.

The toughest doubles match on the day came for Lehfeltd and Anghel, who won their match by only two sets, 6-4.

Both sides volleyed back and forth to pick up set wins, but neither side could get a run going early. They traded sets until Lehfeltd and Anghel pulled away with the sixth-set win to take the overall match.

"I thought we played really good doubles today which is something we have been spending a little more time working on lately," head coach Shawn Heinchon said.

All the Pirates that played in singles won their matches in two sets once again to help finish off the shutout on Mount Olive.

Anghel stepped up again in the singles matches as he got



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

ECU's Ronny Georgi sets up a backhand in one of his matches Tuesday.

things started for the Pirates with another dominant victory.

Anghel has been streaky as of late with his success for ECU in singles play. He brought in points for the team in over half of singles play this year.

Anghel won in dominant fashion again, 6-1, in the first set, and replicated that score again in the second and final set to pick up the win.

"Preparing over the weekend helped get me ready for

today's match," Anghel said. "I'm enjoying every match and I'm just trying to do my best out there."

Georgi contributed to the win column again in the second quickest singles victory on the day with a shutout win. He won with a 6-1 first set and 6-2 second set.

Austin Allen played in his second career match Monday after winning in superior fashion on Thursday. Allen won

again with a convincing 6-4, 6-1 victory to improve to 2-0 in his singles play.

"We have had a good season of practice," Allen said. "Working hard in practice has helped all of us be ready for whenever we are called upon to play this season."

Lehfeltd and his experience helped him win his second match of the day in two sets as well.

He served well and played well to win the first, 6-1, and picked up the second in closer fashion, 6-4, despite falling behind early.

Ling and Will Bissett both had tough first sets where they both were forced to play in a tiebreaker, but each of them prevailed in the end.

Bissett won his tiebreaker, 7-5, while Ling won 7-6. In the second set, both players found their second wind and finished off their opponents to give ECU the 7-0 victory.

"It was good to play at home again today," Heinchon said. "It seems like we've been on the road for a while."

With just eight matches remaining, and half on the road, before the American Athletic Conference Championships in Orlando, Florida at the end of April, the Pirates will begin to find their final pairs to end the season.

The Pirates will travel to take on UNC Greensboro Friday at 2 p.m., as they look to improve their road record to 5-2.

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