



# The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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MELISSA GLEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
Senior Stephanie Judith sits at a computer in Joyner Library.

## Summer session sets sail

Mary Katherine Karcher  
TEC STAFF

When students are young, summer school is seen as a hellish punishment. But at East Carolina University, students use the summer sessions to sharpen their skills. The first summer session of 2017 begins today.

Lynn Roeder, ECU associate vice chancellor from the Dean of Students office said there are several valuable lessons students can take away from their summer school experience.

"There's a number of values and reasons to attend summer school," said Roeder. "One, students can actually get ahead and two, you can improve your grade point average through grade replacement."

With each student at ECU moving at their own pace, summer school provides several options for each circumstance. Options include an 11-week course

> SUMMER page A3

# SMASHING INTO UPTOWN

Smash Waffles to open permanent location

Hope Benton  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

After spending months delivering waffles out of a private commercial kitchen in a local church, the masterminds behind Smash Waffles are preparing to open up their new location in Uptown Greenville.

While no official date has been announced, Smash Waffles, which started back in December, recently revealed they will be joining the Uptown community mid-summer.

Co-founders Justin Cox and Hunter Harrison said they felt blessed with the opportunity to run Smash Waffles out of a private location until they were ready to develop the store concept and design.

"We're feverishly working on getting everything ready. It's definitely a process that we're enjoying," Cox said. "We can't wait to open our doors."

According to Cox, the idea for the company came from wanting to disrupt the industry with something different and new.

"Waffles were different and disruptive as a product. Especially the size and shape we created them. They are genuinely one of a kind. They're sweeter than a bagel and healthier than a doughnut," Cox said.

According to Cox the response to the product has been "overwhelming... and humbling."

"We're having a blast making waffles every day," Cox said.

Smash Waffles will be located across from Dickinson Avenue Public House and also sandwiched in between two breweries, a full service farm-to-table restaurant and a Neapolitan pizza place, according to Cox. In the past year, Uptown has added to the Greenville community

and Harrison and Cox said they want to potentially be a big part of that culture.

Smash Waffles' current location is off of Firetower Road and enables them to be able to conveniently deliver to

> WAFFLE page A2



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

## ECU health sciences campus to launch clinic in student center

Emily Harvey  
TEC STAFF

Students at East Carolina University's health sciences campus will soon have easier access to Student Health Services with a recently announced plan to open a second location.

The second location is scheduled to open July 5 on the second floor of the new student center at the health sciences campus.

"I think it will give them very good access to a service that they obviously pay fees for just like other students," Associate Director for Clinical Operations at ECU Student Health Ellen Goldberg said. "They'll have a clinic that's kind of right in their backyard, versus having to make time to come over here and use our clinic on this side, so I think they'll be much happier having something so close to them."

Goldberg said students at the health sciences campus have had limited access to the student health building on main campus for a few reasons.

"One is parking, it's very daunting to come from that side of campus, from



MELISSA GLEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
The new student center at the ECU health sciences campus includes a slide for students.

health sciences, and have to come here because the parking is so limited. The second thing is time," Goldberg said. "They just don't have huge breaks in their schedule where they can leave their side of campus to come over here to have an appointment, find a parking spot, be

seen and then get back to classes."

Senior nursing major Mariah Laliberte, vice chair of Interprofessional Health Sciences Student Leadership Council (IHSSLC), said many health

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## Police Week to recognize fallen officers

Mary Katherine Karcher  
TEC STAFF

With the roar of motorcycle engines in the air, the Greenville Police Department prepared for National Police Week by honoring the officers who had fallen in the line of duty.

In a press release sent out from GPD, several events were included as part of National Police Week, which runs May 15-21. The week honors and commemorates the service of law enforcement officers who have fallen.

Officers from local departments will take part in the annual Law Enforcement United Ride for Hope during the week. The event is held nationwide, where law enforcement officers and survivors ride bicycles to Washington D.C. for the annual national memorial service each May.

Officers participating in the Law Enforcement United Ride met at the GPD headquarters at around 3:30 p.m. on May 6 to make a short stop and attend a memorial on the steps of the police department to honor those they are riding for. This stop was about 86 miles into what was to be a 108

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### ONLINE

» Umbrella Market returns for 2017 summer season

» AAC Outdoor Track Championships full recap

### SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

National prestigious program selects ECU junior

East Carolina University junior Erick Jenkins was selected out of a nationwide pool to participate in the Leadership and the American Presidency program this coming fall.

Jenkins received a partial scholarship from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute for being part of the program. Its main goal is to assist individuals who are dedicated to the next generation of civic leadership.

ECU Chancellor Cecil Stoton nominated Jenkins for the program because he reflected the university's values of public service, leadership and community engagement, according to an ECU News Services press release.

This fall through May 2018 Jenkins will study the leadership of past presidents along with business leaders.

UNC Board of Governors to meet in regular session

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors will meet at the UNC Chapel Hill on May 19 to get updates about the state's education system.

The board, which is meeting for the first time since April 26, is set to receive reports from multiple committees, president of the UNC system Margaret Spellings and board Chairman Louis Bissette. After hearing updates, the board will move into a closed session.

The BOG is next regularly scheduled to meet on July 14 at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



CONTRIBUTED BY SETH GULLEGE

House in Greenville affected by Hurricane Matthew flooding. Hurricane Matthew hit eastern NC in October of 2016 causing near historic flooding.

# Recent flooding raises concern over future Greenville zoning

Matthew Prensky  
TEC STAFF

After the latest round of significant flooding from the Tar River around Greenville, officials with East Carolina University and the Greenville Utilities Commission are taking past lessons and putting them to use in order to protect more individuals in the future.

Since 1998, the City of Greenville has experienced two flood events likely to occur only once every 500 years. These two events were Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and Floyd in 1999. In recent weeks, Greenville was also threatened by rising waters due to multiple days of rain. The rain swelled the Tar River into a flood stage, but there was little damage to surrounding areas.

Because of the area's susceptibility to flooding, the city and communities surrounding Greenville have had to change their lifestyles to accommodate the potential risk of rising waters.

The 1999 hurricane left many neighborhoods north of the Tar River in Greenville washed out and forced residents to look for new areas to live. In 2016, the near record flooding forced students near the river to evacuate and left some students struggling to return from fall break because of the numer-

ous flooded roadways.

"We were very fortunate that (Hurricane) Matthew occurred during Fall Break, but very unfortunate because students carpooled or left their vehicles so a lot of them were impacted," said Lauren Mink, ECU continuity and emergency planner in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

Mink explained that ECU's campus is designated as "Storm Ready" by the National Weather Service. This means the university does regular severe weather training with the NWS. At the most recent meeting with the NWS, Mink said that officials there were very interested in creating a greater outreach program for students living near the Tar River to get flood insurance.

"Possibly during the first weeks of classes (to) have a campaign about flood insurance," said Mink describing the conversation between ECU and the NWS about more students getting flood insurance. "We want to also work with off-campus housing within the 100 or 500 year floodplain so that they require or highly recommend residents to get flood insurance."

Another major impact to ECU during Hurricane Matthew and Floyd, along with the most recent flooding event, was damage

to the steam tunnels.

"We have underground steam tunnels and so there is a lot of moisture, so the pipes are corroding," she said. "They replace them every couple of years, but it's getting to be very expensive with all the flooding we are seeing so the whole system will eventually have to be replaced."

Like ECU after Hurricane Floyd, the Greenville Utility Commission learned many valuable lessons about the weaknesses in their system with major flooding events. When the commission started planning ahead of Hurricane Matthew, they used the lessons and improvements made because of Floyd in order to lessen their damage during the 2016 category one storm.

"We went through some disaster planning that helped us when (Hurricane) Matthew came along," said Steve Hawley, public information officer for Greenville Utilities.

Between Hurricane Floyd and Matthew, GUC installed a new power point of delivery to their customers in order to ensure constant service even during major flooding events. The commission also increased barriers around

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MELISSA GLEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
Owners Hunter Harrison (left) and Justin Cox stand in front of Smash Waffles' new location.

## WAFFLE continued from A1

most of the Greenville and Winterville areas. The co-founders say that being in Uptown though will allow them to be at the first exit off of 264, which will enable them to continue to make deliveries.

"It's an ideal spot to run back and forth to the university and the hospital, which both make up a big part of our current customer base," Cox said.

Cox and Harrison said they are hoping to drive traffic and exposure to the Uptown area so that it becomes the hottest spot in the city.

"We obviously can't do this alone, but with all the other businesses that are coming

"Delivering to students has definitely been some of the most fun we've had."

-Justin Cox

to Uptown I think we have a chance to make it pretty special," Cox said.

Their employees are also excited about the move to Uptown.

"I'm looking forward to the exposure and climate that moving to Uptown will bring. I feel that this move will greatly benefit the company," delivery boy Brant Coltraine said.

Upon the excitement of opening their official store in Uptown, some of their favorite parts and biggest motivations of having a business in

a college town have been the reactions on people's faces when they deliver fresh, warm waffles to their door.

"Delivering to students has definitely been some of the most fun we've had," Cox said. "Whether it's a late night pick-me-up to help them through a long study session or a Netflix and chill snack, it's always a fun moment when we show up and there's never a dull moment."

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



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# 72 PLUS

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

## TODAY

**Spazz Presents Ruckzuck (PA) w/ The Dick Richards**  
Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery  
8 p.m.

**Trivia Night**  
Mellow Mushroom  
8 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

**Umbrella Market**  
Town Common  
6 p.m.

## THURSDAY

**Exercise in the Park**  
Yoga  
Town Common  
6 p.m.

**Guided Meditation Class**  
Sage and Stone Restorative Health  
7:30 p.m.

## MONDAY

**Magic the Gathering Amonkhet League**  
Blue Ox Games  
6 p.m.

**Craven Democrats Riverside Picnic & Meeting**  
Glenburnie Park, New Bern  
5 p.m.

**1st Main Street Market of the Summer**  
West Main Street, Williamston  
6 p.m.

## TUESDAY

**Bone Appetit series at Panera Bread**  
Panera Bread  
4 p.m.

**Art is Good Medicine Silk Scarf**  
Emerge Gallery and Art Center  
6:30 p.m.

**Trivia**  
Carolina Ale House  
8 p.m.

**Trivia at Fire**  
Fire American Tavern  
8 p.m.



NICHOLAS LINDEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Local police officers ride to remember fallen comrades during National Police Week from May 15-21. The week culminates with a ride to Washington D.C.

# 'They gave the ultimate sacrifice'

## POLICE

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mile day for the riders. Riders from Team Greenville, Team Raleigh and Team Down East were in attendance.

Corporal Michael Staffebach serves GPD as an investigations officer and has a unique perspective on the importance of police week.

"It's just a time to reflect and remember all the officers that gave the ultimate sacrifice protecting the communities they worked in and doing what they enjoyed," said Staffebach. "I always say it's not really a job, it's more of a calling and a lot of officers were called to serve others and unfortunately, they've lost their life in that service."

On May 5, the Annual Pitt County Law Enforcement Memorial Service also took place on the steps of the Pitt County Courthouse. Many friends, family and supporters from across the area gathered to pay their respects and recognize the sacrifice of their local law enforcement officials

by adding roses to a memorial wreath.

Staffebach said he has experienced the loss of a close friend while serving the Greenville area. He added taking the time to remember fallen officers is also a way of respecting the loss many families feel after such tragedies.

Officer Jason Campbell, who worked with GPD for five years and served alongside Staffebach, died while responding to a call regarding suspicious activity in the area in 2007. Officer Campbell and his family were honored at the Memorial Service on Friday.

"It really hits home for me because I had a personal relationship with an officer that lost their life in the line of duty," said Staffebach. "I was fortunate enough to actually escort Officer Campbell's mother up to the wreath while she put the rose in the wreath to remember Jason by."

"I think it's awesome, they're taking time out of their work schedule they're taking away from the vacation [days] and holidays to get on a bicycle and ride, for some of

them thousands of miles in remembrance of an officer that has fallen," said Staffebach. "To say, 'Hey we haven't forgotten,' they gave the ultimate sacrifice but we're willing to ride in all kinds of conditions just so we can keep their name alive."

This is the third year GPD will participate with eight Greenville police officers representing the area. Three New Bern police officers have joined Team Greenville and will make the journey in memory of Alexander Thalmann, who was killed in the line of duty in 2014, according to the press release.

Those who rode also raised money and awareness for Concerns of Police Survivors and Officer Down Memorial Page, two organizations that aid law enforcement officers and their families through times of hardship and loss, according to the press release. Proceeds that go towards the Concerns of Police survivors directly support the COPS kids camp for children of fallen officers.

With 11 riders and four support

team members making up Team Greenville, collectively the group has raised more than \$20,000 for the cause during its journey to Washington D.C., according to the press release.

The riders arrived in Washington D.C. on May 12 for the national memorial to take place on May 15. According to the press release, the officers will join tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their communities.

"Here locally, it's a time for us all to get together and just remember the officers that unfortunately lost their lives serving the communities they loved," said Staffebach. "It's really that remembrance and that respect for the families, the friends of the officers that are still living and having to remember the loss of the loved ones."

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

## HEALTH

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disciplines require various vaccinations and screenings in order for students to be approved for the clinical setting.

"So having that student health office within walking distance to the nursing, the dental, the medical, the other health sciences programs, makes it more timely, more convenient, (and) obviously more affordable if people are on the East Carolina health insurance, to get our care," Laliberte said.

Goldberg said a few things

such as radiology and a pharmacy will not be offered at the new student health location, but for the most part, SHS will be able to offer the same services at the health sciences location as the main campus location with just a few exceptions.

"Certainly primary medical care, things like illnesses and injuries and then physicals, Pap smears, those types of things, all of those things you'll see over at the other side as well," Goldberg said. "We'll have lab services over there so we'll be able to do things like draw titers for the students that are in clinical rotations, (and) we'll give vaccines over there."



Ellen Goldberg

ECU has taken into consideration what students need, not only with the second SHS location, but with the new student center as well, according to Laliberte. She said there are different club meeting locations, allowing students in different medical majors to be more interprofessional.

"It's hard with all of the different buildings, nursing, dental medical, being separate, so it really brings us together by having it all in one location and the slide's

pretty cool," Laliberte said.

Goldberg said more information on the hours at the second SHS location, how to make appointments, the phone number and more details will be available at the beginning of June.

"I think it's wonderful that East Carolina's providing us with this," Laliberte said. "And I know that we're one of the few health sciences campuses that have a student center, not necessarily just for us but that was meant to be something for the health department"

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



MELISSA GLEN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Recent flooding caused by heavy rains led officials to block off an area of Town Common.

## FLOODING

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the water treatment plant to prevent flood waters from spilling over.

"We do pay close attention to the National Weather Service and their forecast, but part of the problem is weather forecasting is not an exact science," said Hawley, who served as a Greenville meteorologist during Hurricane Floyd. "You can make estimations about where storms will go, but beyond that it's just a crap-shoot."

Scott Curtis, professor in ECU's Department of Geography, Planning, and Environment went beyond Hawley and said that residents, developers and local governments have to be cautious when dealing within floodplains.

"We need to be careful as we are planning and building in floodplain areas because the chances of these sort of major events are going to go up most likely with climate change," he said. "You actually need 100 years of data to even come up with one 100 year flood. That's essentially how they are coming up with

that one percent probability."

In the long term, Curtis said it would be best for individuals to avoid areas susceptible to flooding. For example, some of the areas north of the Tar River in Greenville which were never rebuilt after Hurricane Floyd in 1999.

"It's better to be cautious and when we're thinking of planning to use all the scientific data that's out there," said Curtis. "We should err on the side of caution where we want to protect ourselves from that likely possibility of more floods."

Preventing future damage to communities is difficult for many local governments. In some cases, communities don't begin to mitigate the risks of hazardous impacts from storms until after a tragedy has occurred, according to Curtis.

"We've had a couple of really good examples lately with (Hurricane) Matthew, this latest flood event and then with (Hurricane) Floyd later back," said Curtis. "We kind of know what to expect and right now we need to start thinking about ways to change these policies that might help in the future."

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

## SUMMER

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load with a minimum of 12 credit hours or two separate five-week sessions that require at least six credit hours. Classes are offered on campus as well as online, which is becoming the more popular option for students according to Roeder.

Roeder said students who take summer classes can really benefit from the additional six to twelve credit hours they may pick up over summer break.

"It's very concentrated; it's every day, five weeks. Very intense and you can actually start chipping away at your requirements whether it's your general college requirements or your major," said Roeder.

Students choose their course load based on many things, from their academic standing or their desire to get ahead and graduate early.

"The new push now is to try and have students graduate in four years. A lot of times students

change majors or they decide that they only want to take twelve hours in the fall or spring and make it up during the summer," said Roeder.

Roeder discussed that summer school is very important for those ECU students who were in poor academic standing after the fall or spring semesters. Some of those students have the option to grade replace for 1000 or 2000 level classes. Each student comes in as a freshman with an allocated amount of grade replacement credits they can use over four years, including during their time at summer school.

"If they could change some of those previous grades, they might be able to improve their GPA so they can remain in school and continue on towards graduation."

The first summer session will last until June 20. Second summer session is set to begin June 22 and ends on July 28.

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

## HOUSES FOR RENT:

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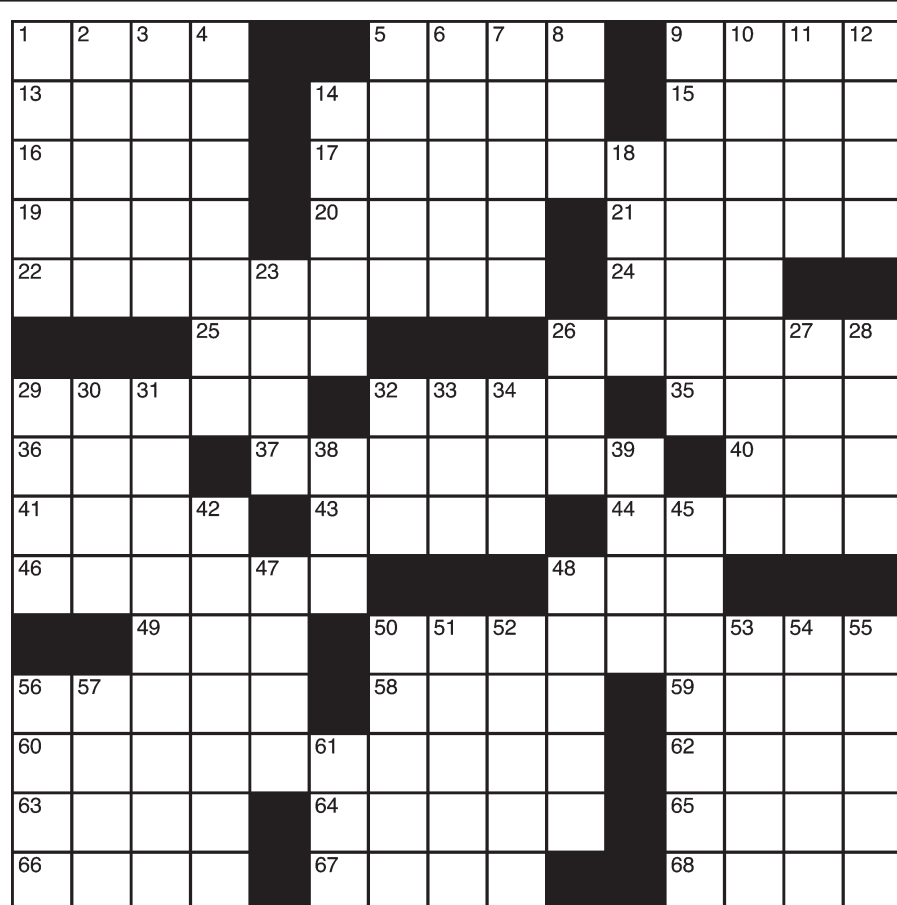
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## HELP WANTED:

Retired educator looking for an experienced Graduate student with skills in computer entry data and proficiency in Microsoft Word. Please contact Ealin Bartlett at [J.E.Bartlett@yahoo.com](mailto:J.E.Bartlett@yahoo.com)

## PUZZLES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beach sidler
  - 5 Heroic exploit
  - 9 Donald Duck, to his nephews
  - 13 Prefix for an intoxicating weed
  - 14 "Republic" philosopher
  - 15 Modernists, informally
  - 16 Part of NYSE: Abbr.
  - 17 \*Handyman's forte
  - 19 Rich person's suffix
  - 20 \_\_\_ about: circa
  - 21 Sty calls
  - 22 \*Sports industry mogul
  - 24 Kitchen invader
  - 25 Youthful bar patrons are usually asked for them
  - 26 Cows' milk glands
  - 29 Whence chocolate
  - 32 Has lunch, say
  - 35 Organ knob
  - 36 Gray hue
  - 37 \*Frolic unrestrained
  - 40 Mandela's land: Abbr.
  - 41 Old Italian coin
  - 43 Jazz singer James
  - 44 Arthritis detectors
  - 46 For the most part
  - 48 Soul automaker
  - 49 Phys. or entom.
  - 50 \*Where the biggest headlines are
  - 56 "\_\_\_ we meet again"
  - 58 Gambling city near Tahoe
  - 59 Trampled (on)
  - 60 Game one for season ticket holders ... or, literally, what each word in the answers to starred clues can have
  - 62 Responsibility
  - 63 Algerian seaport
  - 64 Bleak, in verse
  - 65 Take the bus
  - 66 "... why \_\_\_ thou forsaken me?": Matthew
- DOWN**
- 1 Soccer shoe's turf grabber
  - 2 51-Down's "Chicago" role
  - 3 Capital of Ghana
  - 4 Czech Republic region
  - 5 Mercury Seven astronaut John
  - 6 How "The Raven" poet signed some of his letters
  - 7 Drummer Ringo
  - 8 You, in French
  - 9 Kicks back
  - 10 Colorful aquarium fish
  - 11 Wine stopper
  - 12 Questions
  - 14 Ship fronts
  - 18 "\_\_\_ trip!": "Let's travel!"
  - 23 Smell
  - 26 Take advantage of
  - 27 Optimistic
  - 28 Restful resorts
  - 29 Not windy
  - 30 Tibet's continent



By Mark McClain

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## Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

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

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- 51 "Chicago" co-star Zellweger
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## SUDOKU

# SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

## Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

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

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

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## COMIC

### BREWSTER ROCKET



## HOROSCOPES

### Aries

(March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- You're going through a financially savvy phase, with Mercury in Taurus. You're a smart shopper. Lucrative ideas abound. Profits come through communication and networking.

### Taurus

April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You're even more practical and clever for the next few weeks, with Mercury in your sign. Make solid plans. Express yourself. Your creativity seems boundless.

### Gemini

(May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- You're especially practical, introspective and quiet over the

next few weeks, with Mercury in Taurus. Clear up old messes. Listen to your dreams.

### Cancer

(June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Communication and collaboration comes easily for the next few weeks, with Mercury in Taurus. You work especially effectively with groups. Hold meetings, parties and gatherings.

### Leo

(July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Make professional promises over three weeks, with Mercury in Taurus. Take on more responsibility. Communication skills advance your career. Talk about what you want to achieve..

### Virgo

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Fall in love with a fascinating subject over three weeks, with Mercury in Taurus. Travel to (or study) distant shores. Reach out to long-distance connections.

### Libra

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Practice being practical with money, with Mercury in Taurus. Pay off bills and send invoices. It's easier to plug financial leaks. Track spreadsheets and accounts.

### Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Listen to your partner, especially over three weeks with Mercury in Taurus. Share enthusiasm. Com-

promise and work together to get farther than either would solo.

### Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Business communication requires more of your attention, with Mercury in Taurus. Diplomatically respond to a breakdown. Collaborate with team members to provide excellent value and service.

### Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Passion surges, with Mercury in Taurus. Express your love. A good listener becomes invaluable. Write about your latest obsession. Share your enthusiasm with someone admired.

### Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 7 -- For the next several weeks, with Mercury in Taurus, fix up your place. Resolve a family issue. Work out a home vision that works for everyone.

### Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You're especially brilliant and creative, with Mercury in Taurus. Concentration and focus come easier. Write reports, posts and articles. Share the news. Network and coordinate.

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## OUR VIEW

### Study abroad needs better accessibility

With East Carolina University's summer sessions in full swing, students have repopulated campus. Some students however, will be enjoying an alternative summer experience overseas on one of several study abroad opportunities ECU and the University of North Carolina system offer.

ECU's faculty led study abroad programs range from specialized interests to more general, individualized programs in countries all around the world. These programs allow students to not only immerse themselves in a foreign culture, but to also learn about their field of study with a more diverse group of people.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, fully support study abroad programs but urge for a greater accessibility to these programs for both low-income students and students with rigorous degree plans.

Although students are able to apply ECU financial aid to many of the programs, almost none of these cover airfare or personal spending. This directly impacts lower-income students who may rely on financial aid and cannot afford increasingly expensive airline tickets.

Other students are unable to travel abroad due to restrictions within their majors. Many majors require highly specific credits and classes junior and senior year that can only be taken at ECU. This forces students to either waste money on classes that do not count towards their degree or study abroad their freshman or sophomore years—years that many students use to settle into their life on campus.

Study abroad programs are vital to a well rounded education. They open a world of possibilities and experiences that should be available for all students, and ECU should try their best to make this fundamental journey possible.



## TEC to increase multimedia efforts



**Annah Schwartz**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Welcome to all of our summer Pirates and thank you for sticking with us during these warmer months.

To all of our readers, I'd like to officially introduce myself as The East Carolinian's new Editor-in-Chief. Since I was a freshman, I've had the pleasure of working for an organization that encompasses so much talent and devotion within its walls. The likes of which have served as a major influence in finding and establishing my own talents.

Though our print publication only comes out once a week May through July, our goal is to still serve as your trusted news source throughout the week by utilizing our social media accounts and website to deliver content consistently.

As I begin my final year with TEC (as we like to call it), I hope to continue to see our organization rise. We've made excellent strides in progressing and establishing ourselves as a current and modern news medium with the addition of a new website and a more user-friendly mobile presence. Along with this, we also plan to continue expanding our use of video and photos online in order to make this web presence



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**Editor-in-Chief Annah Schwartz in her office. Schwartz will hold office until May 2018.**

appealing to our readers.

From the watchdog-truth of investigative pieces to heartwarming and uplifting features, TEC's ultimate goal will be to continue serving as a medium that our community can trust. By covering these topics, we also hope to foster an environment for discussion. As always, we welcome members of the community to submit letters to the editor and guest columns as a way to

allow your voice to be heard.

My staff and I are looking forward to a tremendous year as we work to deliver the truth and serve as a voice for the community, for faculty and students, much like we have since 1925.

Annah Schwartz is a senior majoring in communication and is the Editor-in-Chief. To contact this writer, email [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com).

## OUR STAFF

<b>Annah Schwartz</b>	Editor-in-Chief
<b>Javeria Salman</b>	Managing Editor
<b>Paris Gibson</b>	Production Manager
<b>Matthew Prensky</b>	News Editor
<b>Emily Harvey</b>	A&E Editor
<b>Sean Finnerty</b>	Sports Editor
<b>Paris Silver</b>	Photo Editor
<b>Andy Li</b>	Copy/Opinion Editor
<b>Melissa Glen</b>	Multimedia Director
<b>Philecia Biggs</b>	Business Manager

Serving ECU since 1925, The East Carolinian is an independent, student-run publication distributed Tuesdays and Thursdays during the academic year and Wednesdays during the summer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers, columnists and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration at East Carolina University or the Student Media Board. Columns and reviews are the opinions of the writers; "Our View" is the opinion of The East Carolinian Board of Opinions.

As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 250 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

One copy of The East Carolinian is free. Each additional copy is \$1. Unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under North Carolina law. Violators will be prosecuted.

### Contact Info

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

**Email:** [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com)

**Newsroom:** (252) 328-9238

**Ads:** (252) 328-9245

**Fax:** (252) 328-9143

## College education needs reform



**Matthew Prensky**  
TEC STAFF

The middle of May at East Carolina University brings humidity and change. The graduates of yesteryear have largely left for their next endeavour. Yet, those who remain will continue to tread water

in order to survive the rigorous stormy waters of college.

College batters students with hours of work, useless classes, crushing debt and the sacrifice of healthy habits. The hope most students maintain through the rough seas is that with a college degree life will become better. However, the college education system conditions students not to learn but to give into a cycle of academic vomit.

Universities force students, using grade point averages and core curriculum requirements, to consume massive amounts of information in short time spans. This gorging of knowledge is followed by a purge. That expulsion of information on tests or assignments becomes so repetitive that students become accustom to the cycle. Students sacrifice friends, family and even their own personal health in order to succeed.

In this modern adaptation of teaching, a college degree symbolizes a student's ability to survive just as much as their knowledge in a field of study.

College is a race by professors to teach students everything they possibly need before the next exam. Professors

are forced into impossible timelines to teach students too much information in an inadequate amount of time. This forces professors to under explain or rush through potentially vital information so everything can be covered. If a topic isn't covered by an instructor, then suddenly that burden of educating is passed to the students to teach themselves.

Moreover, exams, finals, projects and homework have all taken too much precedence. With the lack of time, students are forced into unfair situations where they perform poorly because of rushed or improperly taught information.

With tests spread out in multiple classes occurring almost every week, many students are overwhelmed. The mission on the part of the student becomes survival instead of being an expert on the topic. These critiques of education do not solely fall on the shoulders of professors though. University administrators continue to put stress on academic departments to achieve higher goals while working with less money. Suddenly, class sizes go from relatively manageable groups to incomprehensible masses. Moreover, universities are put under the metaphorical gun by state legislatures to raise their level of education while receiving less funding.

The question in all of this is: as a system, where is college education going? The direction it seems to be moving in creates a glass pyramid of universities, faculty and students assembled in a cheap, rushed manner just waiting to explode. It leaves universities with faculty that

are overwhelmed by their workload and forced to teach on unrealistic schedules. The wobbly pyramid creates a student body forced into the lifestyle of academic consuming and purging. Universities, both public and private, have to consider finances before student welfare because of reductions in appropriations.

Post-secondary education is an investment by states and individuals. It doesn't bring immediate returns and the good it creates may never be detectable. Still, it's one of the most important facets to society.

Students of today should matter more. They shouldn't be treated unfairly, faulted for poor grades, disciplined for not completing an assignment or penalized for being absent in class.

Like professors, university administrators, even state legislators, we students have lives too. The majority of students shouldn't be penalized for missing class because they are observing religious holidays, are physically incapable of attending or are displaced due to natural disasters. Students are humans like everyone else.

In the end, to professors, educators and educational experts, understand that most students do want to succeed. We want to lead the future better than the experts of the past, but the system as it doesn't set anyone up for success. All it does is push a bunch of people into a vile form of academic vomit.

Matthew Prensky is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact this writer, email, [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

# FROM INJURED TO CAPTAIN

## Watkins to leave ECU a complete player

**Aaron Jackson**  
TEC STAFF

Travis Watkins was joyful as he trotted off the baseball diamond after an 11-4 win against Memphis Friday night.

The fifth-year senior from Concord, North Carolina, has been through alot in his career at East Carolina University, which will come to a close at the end of this season. Over the years, he has become one of the go-to-guys on the team and has led by example.

As any freshman first coming to ECU, Watkins had to adjust to the new atmosphere and a new team.

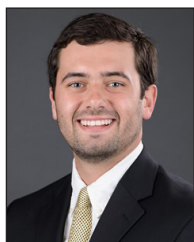
"I came in not really knowing what my role was. I was undersized, I couldn't really hit, being a defensive catcher in high school is what got me here," Watkins said.

While Watkins thought of himself as primarily a defensive player, ECU Head Coach Cliff Godwin envisioned him being more than that.

"One of the first conversations I had with him was did he think he would be a good hitter," Godwin said. "Travis had always considered himself to just be a defensive player and I said, 'Well you are going to be a good hitter,' and he has really transformed himself into a complete player."

During his time as a Pirate, Watkins has

evolved into a better player by improving his hitting and gaining confidence. When times got tough, an injury made him realize what the sport meant to him.



**Travis Watkins**

"I had an elbow surgery my sophomore year. Faced with adversity, it showed me how much the game meant to me," Watkins said. "Now in my fifth year, I try to spread knowledge to the younger guys and be the best example I can be and leave my legacy here at ECU."

Watkins showed dedication in how he practiced. Most teams use two catchers but he wanted to be out there everyday.

"He has been tremendous, for the past three years he has caught in 90 percent of our games and that is a big feat in college baseball," Godwin said.

Being a great team player, friend and leader earned him the team captaincy for the last two years.

"It's a great honor and it's something I will cherish for the rest of my life, knowing that my teammates voted me as their team captain," Watkins said. "It's special."

One of the things Watkins said he has appreciated during his time at ECU is the

passion of the baseball fans and the atmosphere they create.

"It's a baseball town," Watkins said. "You walk around the campus, people recognize who you are, you walk around the community, people recognize who you are, even to the little kids that come to the camps and talk to us. That makes this atmosphere great."

This year, ECU hosted three in-state rivals in NC State, Duke and North Carolina. The Pirates defeated the Blue Devils convincingly, winning the game 5-1. But the Wolfpack and the Tar Heels both beat ECU, taking the bragging rights for the year.

"It's always fun to beat those guys," Watkins said. "They have great programs, we have a great crowd turnout every time we play them. It's hard not get up for those games because they are in-state rivals, but we try to treat it like any other game and if we put our best foot forward we can win."

Watkins hopes ECU catches fire in the week leading up to the American Athletic Conference tournament in Florida, which starts on May 23. When the team plays its best baseball, good things happen, like last year, when ECU advanced to the Super Regionals in the NCAA tournament.

"You play the game to win, no matter who you are playing and what the circum-

stances are," Watkins said. "We are going to play to win tomorrow, we are going to go to Clearwater and play to win, and I think this team can do it."

With Watkins' collegiate career nearing its end, he is able to look back and reflect on his time as a Pirate, including why he decided on coming to ECU.

"I came from a small town in Concord and I had never been to Greenville, and then I came here and was like 'Wow, these people really care about baseball,'" Watkins said. "It was special to me and I wanted to be apart of it."

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



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### >>BASEBALL

# Walk-off victory gives ECU series win



Turner Brown celebrates his game-winning hit with teammates Sunday.

**Aaron Jackson**  
TEC STAFF

If a winner-take-all game was not enough for the East Carolina University baseball team's fans, a walk-off victory only added to the drama. Turner Brown notched an RBI base hit in extra innings to beat Memphis 3-2 Sunday, and win the weekend series.

ECU (27-25, 6-15 American Athletic Conference) sealed the victory over Memphis (27-25, 7-14 AAC) in the bottom of the 11th inning, but only after surrendering the lead in the ninth. Brown stepped to the plate in the 11th with the bases loaded and singled right up the middle to win the game.

"It was a tough at-bat, especially when you get two strikes, you don't want to chase anything or give yourself up," Brown said. "We stuck it out."

The big hit from Brown wouldn't have come if the defense didn't step up in ninth inning when the Tigers tied it up at 2-2. Brown, ECU's starting shortstop, turned a

double play to end the inning and stop the Tigers from taking the lead.

"Coach Plumlee had us positioned about as perfect as we could get, so I felt confident getting to the ball," Brown said. "We had that guy played well and Covington got a big double play ball, so it was good to get out of the inning with no runs."

In the second game of the series, the Pirates did not play as well as they did in the others. ECU lost game two 7-3, thanks in part to Memphis right fielder Chris Carriers' three-run home run.

Though ECU didn't score until late in the game, they battled in the batter's box, swinging hard.

"We had 25 quality at-bats, I don't know if we have had 25 quality at-bats in a loss this year," ECU Head Coach Cliff Godwin said. "Could we have done a little bit more offensively? Obviously, you can always do that, but I don't know if we could have hit many balls much harder than we did Saturday."

The Pirates tried to mount a comeback after scoring three runs in the eighth, but their efforts were thwarted by the Tigers' Blake Bennett. The right handed relief pitcher closed the game out in the ninth inning, striking out two ECU batters.

Friday night's game one showed how well the Pirates can hit the ball when they're on their game. ECU won the game 11-4, with the team exploding for a nine-run inning in the sixth, which are the most runs the Pirates have scored in a single inning all season.

Thanks to three home runs from Spencer Brickhouse (2) and Eric Tyler (1), ECU extended its total runs scored to eleven. The defining play of the game came when Tyler responded to the three runs Memphis scored in the sixth with a three-run home run of his own in the bottom of the sixth.

The Pirates will play in their final home game Tuesday, at 6:30 pm against Campbell for ECU's Senior night.

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

### >>TRACK AND FIELD

# ECU Pirates place well in Houston

**Robbie Milton III**  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina's track and field team competed in the outdoor American Athletic Conference Championships at the University of Houston, where the women's team earned a third place finish with a total of 104.50 points while the men's team earned fourth place with a total of 109 points.

Sophomore Stefano Migliorati was the highest placing Pirate, finishing first in the men's 800 meter race with a time of 1:49.49 minutes.

The weekend started with the distance discipline standing out for the Pirates. Senior long distance runner Jorge Montes placed third in the 10,000 meter run and earned all-conference honors running a time of 31:43.21 minutes.

Senior Aminah Ghaffar won second place in the heptathlon, racking up a total of 4,839 points. Cheyenne Hutchinson took third place in the long jump, jumping 6.22 meters, while also finishing second in the 100 yard hurdles with a time of 13.60 seconds. D'Ante Yarborough placed third in the men's 110 meter hurdles with a time of 14.47 seconds.

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

ONLINE | FULL RECAP

### >>SOFTBALL

# Seniors set new standard

**Sean Finnerty**  
TEC STAFF

All things must come to an end at some point. That's a fact the seniors on the East Carolina University's softball team are now facing.

Pitcher Lydia Ritchie, outfielders Kacie Oshiro and Ciara Ervin, and infielders Ali Ramirez and Megan Quick had their share of ups and downs during their four years as Pirates, but they stuck through it and grew as players.

Now, as their playing days at ECU have come to an end after falling 6-0 to Houston in the semifinals of the American Athletic Conference Softball Championship, the five seniors can look back at their accomplishments with pride, knowing they've helped lay the foundation for future Pirate softball players.

The quintet began their college athletic careers back in 2014, the last season ECU had a record above .500, finishing 28-20. All five saw playing time that year, but because of their inexperience, it was limited playing time, with none starting more than three games. But that doesn't stop Oshiro from listing her first year as the highlight of her time at ECU.

"My proudest moment must've been my freshman year when I got to play with my sister [Kristi]," Oshiro said. "That was her senior year, so I think that was one of the most memorable things [of my career]."

As the things became sophomores, their roles on the team grew. Oshiro, Ervin and Ramirez all started at least 40 games, while Quick started 18 games. Among the pitchers,

Ritchie had the third-most starts, with 11, and the lowest ERA (3.29). But while their individual fortunes improved in 2015, the team wasn't so lucky. The Pirates went 16-37, no doubt in part because the head coach, Beth Keylon-Randolph, went on a leave of absence before the season started and never came back. But that time with no head coach is something Ramirez credits for making them stronger.

"We had to go our sophomore year without a head coach, so we've grown and really unified," Ramirez said. "We've learned how to just build off one another."

Shortly after the 2015 season ended, ECU hired Courtney Oliver to be the new head coach. Oliver's effect was felt immediately, with the Pirates' record improving to 23-31 in 2016. Ritchie played a large role in that, winning 13 games. Ervin was also a key contributor, maintaining a .315 batting average while hitting seven home runs. Those seven home runs led the team, a feat the diminutive outfielder said is one of her proudest moments as a Pirate.

This past season saw the softball team improve its record again, finishing 26-30. Oshiro, Ervin and Ramirez started all 56 games, while Quick started 55. But what will be remembered most about the 2017 season are all the home runs the team hit. The Pirates hit the ball out of the park 64 times, which set a new school and AAC record. Ramirez played her part, hitting nine home runs, good for third most on the team. Oshiro, who smashed four home runs herself, believes the record is something Pirates to come can build from.

"I'm hoping that future players will want to aspire to break that record," Oshiro said. "I think that it sets the standard a lot higher for us to keep on improving and making our program a lot better."

But the home run record wasn't the only thing to write home about during the 2017 season. After finishing the season with 17 wins and a 2.71, Ritchie was named to the AAC Second Team. It was the first all-conference selection for a Pirate since ECU joined the AAC before the 2015 season. The milestones didn't stop there, as the same day Ritchie was named to the all-conference team, the Pirates won their first-ever AAC Softball Championship game since joining the conference, beating Central Florida 4-2 in the quarterfinals. Since ECU was hosting the tournament, the Pirates were able to get the win in front of their home crowd, which was something they enjoyed.

"It's really special, just because we love this field and we love our facilities," Ritchie said. "Getting to play possibly our last game just really means alot to us to stay at home."

With the obstacles they faced earlier in their careers at ECU, the five seniors said they are proud of what they're leaving behind for those that come after them.

"It's just awesome that we've set a legacy like that," Quick said. "We've kind of been the underdog for a little while and it's just nice to put our name up on the map and let it be known we're not playing around."

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