



The East Carolinian



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ECU mourns loss of professor to ALS

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University community and those who knew him are mourning the loss of professor Nelson Lee Cooper. Cooper passed away on May 18 at the age of 50 after battling Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

ALS is a degenerative nervous system



Nelson Cooper

time instructor in the Recreation and Park

disease which affects the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. The disease is common in adults between the ages of 40-70, according to the ALS Association.

Cooper was a full-

Management degree program. According to students, he was not only very passionate about the program and but also what it did for the community.

"He always used to say, 'we are in the people serving field,' and that we need to invest time into getting to know the people we serve," recent Parks and Recreation Management graduate Kayla Maness said. "Dr. Cooper did that and made sure that

every Recreation and Park Management student had an idea of what career path they wanted to take and he would do anything to help."

Many ECU students have relayed their support and respects for Cooper and his family since his passing on social media. Students shared memories they have made

> **COOPER** page A2

STUDENT CENTER PREVIEW

New center to showcase Pirate Pride

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

The new student center at East Carolina University will become the signature building and front door to a school looking to prove they're a top notch institution.

During the planning phase, students were consulted about the different items or services they would like to have in the new building.

"(Students) wanted something that was going to showcase Pirate Pride and also show that ECU is a serious institution," said Erik Kneubuehl, associate vice chancellor of Student Involvement and Leadership.

A major theme throughout the building will be about the culture and history of eastern North Carolina and ECU. For example, in the ballroom, the entire floor will be a map showing the coast of North Carolina. It will show where all the major lighthouses are and include a large "X" to mark where Greenville is located.

Along with the map, a giant "Argh" will be painted on the wall. Another major university themed aspect to the building will be three 18 foot lighted letters spelling ECU. The giant letters will be on the corner of the student center near 10th Street and Charles Street.

"It's going to be the new front door of the institution," Kneubuehl said.

The construction of the 210,000 square foot structure is quickly reaching the second and

> **PREVIEW** page A3



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Construction site at the new main campus student center. The new student center will be open to the public in Fall of 2018 pending any disruption.

Construction to finish on time

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

The new main campus student center at East Carolina University is beginning to take shape as steel and concrete continue to grow towards the sky ahead of the Fall 2018 completion date.

According to the university's construction newsletter for May 2017, the construction of the student center is currently on schedule. Crews have finished the basement and first floor. As of now, they are working toward the second and third floors of the structure.

"We certainly had impacts from (Hurricane) Matthew when we had a bunch of water in the underground area and we've worked through those," said William Bagnell, associate vice chancellor for Campus Operations. "I don't anticipate we're going to have significant delays as a result of weather now that we are out of

the ground."

Once the new building is completed, many of the employees and offices in Mendenhall Student Center will move over. After that, ECU will close Mendenhall for a prolonged renovation to the building.

"We will do a renovation to (Mendenhall)," said Bagnell. "There's a lot of deferred maintenance needs that must be taken care of like utility systems, some fire code corrections and sprinkler system."

Bagnell said after the renovation, Mendenhall will become a meeting space with offices and some common areas. However, ECU's catering service will continue to work in Mendenhall along with the bowling alley and Hendrix Theatre.

Since the Mendenhall renovation is still at least a year away, some of the details of the

changes and who will move into the building haven't been decided. Bagnell estimated the renovation will take approximately 12 to 16 months.

A specific concern the university is examining with the construction of the new student center is pedestrian safety. Since the building will be located next to 10th Street and have many exits onto the sidewalk, the East Carolina University Police Department will work with the city in order to make sure pedestrians can safely cross 10th Street, according to Jason Sugg, interim police chief.

"10th Street is a pretty big hub not just for vehicular traffic, but also for pedestrian traffic," Sugg said. "I do think there is a concern for me that once this building goes up, nat-

> **BUILDING** page A3

ECU student leads mindfulness meditation session



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU junior Alessandra Lazarek leads a meditation session at Sage & Stone Restorative health.

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

In a dim room, men and women sit in great concentration, their muscles relaxing and the stress of their day disappearing as East Carolina University junior Alessandra Lazarek leads them, offering soft words as she guides them on a path to meditation.

Lazarek loves meditation, so her calmness and loving spirit come as no surprise once she begins to describe the way meditation plays out in her daily life. However, she hasn't always relied on meditation in her life.

"I had a lot going on as a kid," Lazarek said. "It was a way to allow me to decompress. I fell off for two years, and then found yoga when I was 14 or 15 and thought it was really great. But when I was 16, I met an amazing woman who influenced me in so many ways, she inspired me to not like meditation but to love it. That's when I became serious."

She now leads a mindfulness guided meditation class on Thursday's from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Sage & Stone Restorative Health.

Lazarek, an English education major, moved to Greenville two years ago around the time that Sage & Stone Restorative Health started looking for someone to lead meditation classes. She said she believes it fell into place.

"You come in, we all get settled wherever we want to be, sitting on the floor, lying down, sitting in a chair, whatever works for you," Lazarek said. "We do a five minute mindfulness activity, just to bring awareness to the body, we come out of that and ask if anyone has any questions. It can be powerful. You may find yourself crying or laughing. Then we go into a 20-minute meditation."

> **MEDITATION** page A3

ONLINE

» Four members confirmed to ECU Board of Trustees

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SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

No ECU students hurt in Manchester Attack

East Carolina University released a statement confirming that no students were involved or injured in the explosions in Manchester, England.

The university does have a summer study abroad program in England, but as of Tuesday no students were known to be affected by the attack at the Ariana Grande concert, according to Jon Rezek, executive director of Global Affairs at ECU.

G.A.P.S. to host 'Night Out' charity fundraiser

Greenville Advocates for Public Skateparks (GAPS) will be hosting a charity event for Greenville's future Action Sports Complex.

The fundraiser will be held on Friday at the Dickinson Avenue Public House starting at 6 p.m. Guests are encouraged to have dinner at Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery while live music will be performed. During the event, there will be a raffle.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the fundraiser that will benefit the skatepark fund.

Emerge Gallery to offer business branding critique

Greenville residents are encouraged to bring their business cards, brochures or logos to the Emerge Gallery and Art Center for constructive criticism.

A class will be today from 6-9 p.m. at the art center.

The workshop is free to the public however organizers do ask people who are interested to pre-register at www.ncsbc.net.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Redistricting denied

Supreme Court rules against North Carolina

Matthew Prensky
TEC STAFF

The Supreme Court of the United States ruled against the state of North Carolina in a case battling over the use of race in redrawing two congressional districts in predominantly African American areas.

The first congressional district, located throughout most of eastern North Carolina including a significant portion of Pitt County and the city of Greenville, was the first area involved in the case. The twelfth congressional district which runs along a narrow area from Charlotte to Greensboro was the other



G. K. Butterfield

Democratic congressman GK Butterfield, who represents D-1, quickly released a short statement after the court made their ruling.

"The U.S. Supreme Court's decision clearly

area involved.

In a 5-3 decision, the high court said that both districts were drawn with too much emphasis on race. This practice of drawing elected officials districts along specific lines because of race is commonly known as gerrymandering.

reaffirms my position that the Republican-controlled state legislature unlawfully used race as the predominant factor in the 2011 redistricting," Butterfield said. "The law has been quite clear that the legislature cannot use race as the predominant factor in drawing boundaries."

Along with Butterfield, Democratic congresswoman Alma Adams, who represents D-12, supported the court's decisions as well.

In Adam's statement she applauded the court's decision and believed it reaffirmed that

> COURT page A3

Parking anger expressed at meeting

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

Walker Parking Consulting gave their undivided attention to Greenville constituents during a question based public forum in Shepard Memorial Library where they discussed the ever evolving issue of parking.

During last week's meeting, the parking firm's consultants, Pitt county and university officials, local business owners and members of the public all took the time to speak of their experiences with parking in the downtown Greenville area.

The project manager assigned to Greenville, Michael Connor, a senior parking consultant with Walker Parking Consulting, has had over 20 years of experience in the parking consulting industry. During the meeting, Connor and analyst Andrew Baglini, presented the firm's role in the overall goal of revamping parts of Greenville.

The pair also explained the processes the firm has gone through to gather data that is important to implementing changes to a city's parking and took notes of people's perspectives as they were shared throughout the meeting. An important part of the analytical process, according to the pair, included public forums where the firm could hear concerns of people who live in the city to understand local issues and needs.

"Parking is obviously a piece of this com-

munity, a piece of it's infrastructure that makes it all work," Connor said. "We were fortunate to be hired to come and take a look at what is a very unique, vibrant and changing community and try to develop parking management policies, procedures, zoning- you name it, we're going to look at it can say, 'Can we make it better?'"

Connor said although he has just recently started the Greenville project, there are areas that would benefit from straightforward solutions.

"I think there's a number of opportunities to create curbside parking, we've got some streets here that are three lanes wide that could not be," Connor said. "We want it to certainly be a pedestrian friendly environment"

As opinions from local business owners and students were shared during the forum, it became clear that the city's parking is lacking in consistency when it comes to paid parking, signage, enforcement and availability.

"(We) certainly don't have all the answers or understand all the issues but what we do see is kind of a mixed bag of strategies, signage a little bit off, different bits of equipment and some odd pricing things," Connor said. "So it looks like a disjointed attempt to fix a problem, but not a consolidated or probably effective attempt."

Most East Carolina University students at the meeting held a negative view concerning

parking in Greenville.

"They should put more parking places in instead of building random student centers," said public health major Kelsey Foley. "I'm all for it but definitely need to address the parking problem before more luxuries."

Some students, like English major Courtney Rowe, offered a solution to parking on and around the campus area.

"Parking is very tight in Greenville," Rowe said. "There is limited space for parking spots and as such, the parking rules and regulations are strictly enforced to keep the system running smoothly. It can be extremely frustrating to find any parking on or near ECU campus."

Rowe added, "It is even more irritating to receive a parking ticket simply for trying to load your car with luggage from your dorm, but it is the way it is. My suggestion is: if you can find alternative transportation, please do so."

ECU officials were also present at the meeting, including Associate Vice Chancellor of Environmental Health and Campus Safety Bill Koch who felt the meeting was a good start in the right direction of addressing the parking issues in the area.

"I thought it was a good exchange of concerns and ideas," Koch said. "From talking to the consultants before that meeting where

> PARKING page A3

ECU faculty awarded grants to help veterans

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Three East Carolina University professors were recently awarded almost \$98,000 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities to work on a project with veterans and their families.

Project director Anna Froula, associate professor of film studies in the Department of English Jennifer McKinnon, associate professor of history in the Maritime Studies Program, and Anne Ticknor, associate professor of literacy studies in the College of Education, were three faculty members who were chosen to work on the project.

"War in the Pacific: Difficult Heritage," is an ECU project in partnership with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and the Saipan Historic Preservation Office. The project will engage veterans of contemporary wars, surviving civilian participants of WWII and families of military service personnel.

The project will consider how "difficult heritage" can be seen as universal to humanity and how it can be used to examine the veteran's experience and even heal and renew, according to McKinnon.

"This project is important because it will allow for veterans to reflect upon and talk about their experiences in the service and war," McKinnon said. "They will do this through examining and discussing texts, film, art and heritage sites from the Spanish Chamorro Wars of the 17th century and the WWII Battle of Saipan, which we hope will facilitate an understanding of shared experience and shared heritage."

McKinnon said they chose the Saipan veterans because it targets a poorly represented and supported veteran community, Indigenous Pacific Islanders. She has also been working in Saipan as a researcher since 2007 and worked on heritage sites on land and underwater with the community.

The initiative, according to McKinnon,



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Anne Ticknor (left), Jennifer McKinnon and Anna Froula were awarded almost \$98,000 in grant funds to work with Saipan veterans and their families.

is a continuation of community projects that she worked on that have focused on the protection and management of cultural heritage.

The program will benefit veterans as they return to civilian life "by assisting to reintegrate Pacific Islander veterans into a sociocultural position of authority on the history of war and conflict in their islands," McKinnon said.

McKinnon said the project is different

than any other initiatives that has received grant funding because it is multidisciplinary, in a sense, between educators that work in film, identity, literacy and heritage.

"It also connects strongly with the local community and experts in humanities, heritage and veteran affairs," she said. "As such, it has the potential to have effectual and long-lasting benefits to the community."

McKinnon said the project hopes to continue to complement the existing

humanities and heritage programs the local Humanities Council and Historic Preservation Office have been offering to engage the public and veterans in the past.

She said she also hopes the project will provide a new or renewed sense of cultural value for both the veterans' experiences and the local conflict heritage.

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COOPER continued from A1

with Cooper and the way he impacted their lives on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Dillon Slaughter, another recent graduate from ECU, said

Cooper cared on a fundamental level about every living thing and Cooper wanted to make sure that everyone knew and understood they had worth.

"The way he treated everyone rubbed off on me. I always try to learn and understand where people come from and I try my hardest to

accept everybody on an individual level," Slaughter said.

His involvement in students' lives did not go unnoticed, according to Slaughter.

"My favorite thing that Cooper ever did for me was help me enjoy school and Parks and Recreation. He was the first person to help

develop the interest in (the) profession that I have today," Slaughter said. "I also really love that he always wanted to hear what his students were up to."

During his time at ECU, Cooper was awarded the East Carolina University Vice Chancellor's Advocacy Award, the East Carolina Creed

Award and the North Carolina Recreation and Park Association Fellow Award, as well as additional other awards for his leadership.

Cooper is survived by his wife of 25 years, Mary Ann Bear Cooper, along with a son and daughter.

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72 PLUS

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

TODAY

Umbrella Market
Five Points Plaza
5 p.m.

Art Means Business: Business Branding Critique
Emerge Gallery and Art Center
6 p.m.

THURSDAY

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

Wine Tasting
CPW's Fine Food & Spirits
6 p.m.

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

FRIDAY

Workin' for the Weekend
Famiglia
12 p.m.

Silent Social
Great Harvest Bread Co.
4p.m.

Just Andy
Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery
8 p.m.

Blackaphillyated Presents: Who's Up Next Showcase
Case Greenville Restaurant & Bar
8 p.m.

Brendan Roberts Live
Buccaneer Music Hall
9 p.m.

SCE Rocks Tiebreakers!
Tiebreakers Sports Bar and Grill
10 p.m.



CONTRIBUTED BY ERIK KNEUBUEHL

Rendering of the new main campus student center from the 10th Street entrance. The building will feature new restaurants, a ballroom and a theatre.

State-of-the-art amenities to be featured

PREVIEW continued from A1

third floor. With some delays due to weather, the university is hoping now that the structure is off the ground less stoppages will occur, according to William Bagnell, associate vice chancellor for Campus Operations.

"We've had a very wet academic year with the storms and hurricanes so that slowed down construction," said Kneubuehl.

Depending on delays in construction the new student center could be opened to the public between August to October of 2018, according to Kneubuehl.

Kneubuehl said the building will bring a number of new services and architectural features to ECU. Some of the architectural features include a new ballroom, jumbo outdoor screen and 200 seat black box theatre equipped with retractable seating.

"We are going to have a true ballroom," Kneubuehl said. "It's going

to be a 14,000 square foot ballroom with 30 foot ceilings that break up into three rooms that hold up to 800 people."

Kneubuehl described the size of the ballroom as being similar to the Greenville Convention Center.

When Mendenhall Student Center was built in 1974, it was oriented for the smaller student body at the time. Kneubuehl said since then, the university has grown to almost 30,000 students, and a larger building was needed. Because of the lack of space in Mendenhall, many student groups had to go off-campus to host large events, according to Kneubuehl.

Another major facility feature to the new student center is Pirate Vision, a screen which will be roughly half the size of the jumbo screen located at Dowdy-Ficklen stadium, according to Kneubuehl.

"(Pirate Vision) is a 24 by 48 foot outdoor jumbo screen that will face Joyner Library," Kneubuehl said. The new student center will also have a commons area located near

the front entrance of the building. The commons area will be called the "GUC Commons" because it is being sponsored by the Greenville Utility Commission. It will have a three story glass-enclosed atrium that looks out onto 10th Street. The commons will have lots of space for students to sit and even include a fireplace at one end, according to Kneubuehl.

Next to the GUC Commons will be new food options. Kneubuehl explained the food options will include a full service Starbucks, Panda Express, Raising Cane's, which is a New Orleans-based chicken tender restaurant, a French style bakery named Au Bon Pain and a sit down burger restaurant.

Another dining option for students will include a creamery similar to a convenience store. Students will be able to purchase food.

Along with the new services available inside the building, other departments and stores will be moving into the student center.

Kneubuehl described the retail

space as a small mall where different companies will be located. Each company will have a 300 square foot "cube" for students or faculty to visit.

"We have a parking garage going right behind the student center so that helps to aid in some of our parking issues," Kneubuehl said. "Particularly as we have this building with big events we're going to need to park people."

After the student center opens there will be new paths that run between the parking deck and Joyner Library. The sidewalks will lead students to Mendenhall and the Student Recreation Center. Another service that will be restored after construction is finished is the return of a bus stop near Joyner Library.

"It will go around the police station, still drop you off in front of Joyner Library and right there in front of the student center," Kneubuehl said.

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

BUILDING continued from A1

ually it will draw more folks to this particular area of 10th Street so the likelihood of people crossing at this particular location is probably going to go up."

According to Sugg, the university has also implemented some security measures into the construction process to make sure the structures are safe when they open. Since the safety measures, like cameras and emergency phones, are built with the structure it alleviates the hassle of renovating in order to add more security.

ECU Police have been very involved in the new student center. The building will be located directly next door to ECU Police headquarters. Sugg, who has an office directly overlooking the construction site said his department hasn't been very interrupted by the student center.

"We have been business as usual ever since they started the (new student center)," Sugg said. "The most difficult thing being next (door) neighbor to a major construction project is sometimes during the day having to deal with some of the noise."

Since the Mendenhall Student Center was constructed in 1974, ECU has gradually outgrown the building.

Along with the growing size of ECU, Mendenhall Student Center was also reaching a point where its age was becoming a factor

in deciding to build a new student center, according to Rick Niswander, vice chancellor of Administration and Finance.

One major complaint the student body and faculty had when plans were announced to build a new student center was the loss of parking.

"We're taking 300 spaces offline, but we're building an 800 space parking deck," Niswander said. "We're a very land constrained campus and once that parking deck comes online we'll have about 1500-1700 spaces on core campus."

With 5,800 staff and 29,000 students, Niswander added that the demand for parking will always outpace the supply. Because of the development around the main campus, there isn't enough space to create more parking options for staff and students.

"That's the only way this is going to work," he said. "Its got to go up because there's just not enough space."

With the construction of the parking deck and the student center, Niswander said he hoped they would become the signature buildings on campus. He added the goal of the student center was to create a building for students interested in ECU to come and be amazed.

Niswander and Sugg both said they are looking forward to the completion of the student center and believe it will be an exciting addition to campus.

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PARKING continued from A2

they talked to us as some of the main stakeholders, I think they are very open to all those ideas and they certainly want everyone's perspective and they have a lot of experience, this is not anything new for them."

Prior to the public forum, Connor said he was in meetings throughout the day with ECU administration, county and city officials discussing the needs of each of these institutions' constituents and their concerns for parking.

"We met with some of them as part of a task force and we met with a large number of ECU officials including the parking and transportation facilities director and had a long conversation," Connor said.

While the consultants gave insight into their methods of data gathering including monitoring hourly occupancy in lots as well as surveying lots and people, the main goal of the public forum was to get to know the City of Greenville, understand its needs and create a parking plan that can help the city adapt as it continues to grow, according to Connor.

Connor said this is the beginning of the project and more public meetings will be happening in approximately three to four months.

"The whole point of this event is for the consultant's to listen. Data is wonderful but it's simply numbers on a spreadsheet," Connor said. "But the most important piece of information we gather is from the stakeholder. The people that live, and breath, and eat and work in this community."

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MEDITATION continued from A1

Another way to start mindfulness meditation, Lazarek said, is to pay attention to things in your daily life. She said to focus on just washing the dishes, or making your bed. The technique she recommended was peppermint meditation.

"You feel the weight of the peppermint, smell it, hear the crinkling of the wrapper, feel the stickiness, make sure to feel all five sensations. It's a three to five minute activity, but

you can do this same routine with everyday activities," Lazarek said.

She also recommends meditation to college students as the results are beneficial with increased focus, concentration and self-awareness. Lazarek said they find for students, there is less absenteeism, it reduces stress and anxiety and is great coping mechanism for depression.

"It allows the students to feel immediate benefits. They feel energized and relaxed, and they've released a lot of negative energy," Lazarek said.

Lazarek's favorite thing about meditation is

that it isn't a sport and you aren't in competition with anyone in that moment. She said once you see meditation for what it is, you can really start to feel the benefits.

"People don't know how to stop and breathe, and when you can cultivate into your life to stop and breathe it's really cool," Lazarek said.

Sage & Stone Restorative Health is located at 107 Commerce St. Suite D and each meditation session is \$10 per person.

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COURT continued from A2

using race to draw congressional districts in unconstitutional, according to Adam.

"This should serve as a wakeup call to the Republican-led general assembly, whose voter suppression tactics have been struck down twice in federal court, as in many weeks," said Adams.

While the court ruled against the 2011 redistricting by the state legislature, it's still unclear if new elections will need to be held. The court also didn't specify if the districts needed to be redrawn.

In their ruling, the Supreme Court didn't order a new election in either of the affected districts, according to Tom Eamon, political science professor at East Carolina University. However, he said the court does have the authority to



Alma Adams

I have a feeling that it will come with the regular mid-term elections in 2018," Eamon said. "(The Supreme Court) have taken up the case

order a new election.

"(The Supreme Court) could ask for an election to be held, but

I have a feeling that it will come with the regular mid-term elections in 2018," Eamon said. "(The Supreme Court) have taken up the case

on legislative redistricting and presumably one should be consistent with the other."

Eamon explained the point of gerrymandering is used to the advantage of a political party by grouping certain racial groups into specific areas to dilute their votes.

"(The Supreme Court) do seem to be suggesting, not just on the basis of this opinion but ones over the past several years, you can use party as a factor, but you can't

use race," Eamon said.

Eamon said ECU students and members of the community should pay attention to the case because many of them vote in the affected districts. Since Greenville and Pitt County, along with the majority of eastern North Carolina near Elizabeth City, are within D-1, the case directly affects the area.

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OUR VIEW

Flood insurance needs emphasis

Over the past year, Greenville has undergone a significant amount of flooding near the Tar River, which has led many city and East Carolina University officials to rethink the current precautions in place for any future flooding.

In October of 2016, Hurricane Matthew created a major flooding event which left students in multiple apartment complexes displaced or having to replace damaged possessions. Since then, having flood insurance in high risk areas and rezoning residential areas away from the Tar River have become important topics around the city.

After Hurricane Floyd, the city of Greenville decided not to redevelop certain neighborhoods near the Tar River because of the flooding danger. When Hurricane Matthew struck, those same areas were flooded along with the homes south of the river.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe apartment complexes near the Tar River should emphasize the benefits of flood insurance to residents, especially in flood plains. Students living near the river are in areas with high chances of flooding, but have no protection to save their possessions. The city, university or apartment complexes should have more dialogue with residents to stress the importance of the insurance.

Students should be made aware of the risks because it may affect their decision to live in certain areas. If a resident doesn't understand the dangers of living in a flood plain, they risk all of their personal belongings. By explaining the risks a certain apartment complex has, it gives a prospective resident the information they need to make an educated decision.

Furthermore, the city of Greenville should reconsider zoning residential neighborhoods away from the Tar River. The river presents an attractive beauty during calm weather, but can be dangerous and damaging for residents in the event of a storm.

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Stage dad gone wrong

LaVar Ball needs to stop hurting son's career



Sean Finnerty
TEC STAFF

If you follow sports, particularly college basketball and the NBA, then there's no doubt you've heard of LaVar Ball. The father of Lonzo Ball, a highly touted prospect from UCLA who's set to enter the

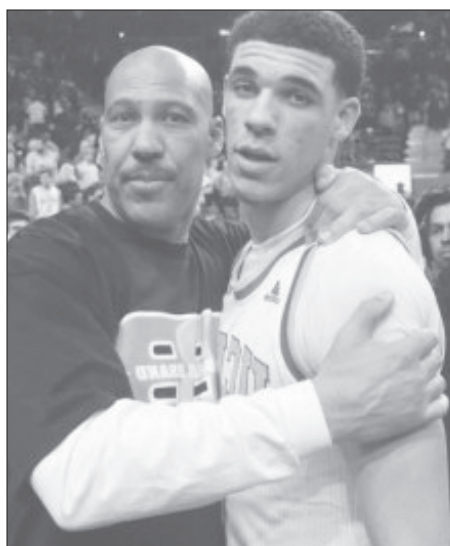
2017 NBA Draft, LaVar has been in the news recently because of the outrageous statements he makes.

Perhaps the most unbelievable statement the elder Ball has made was saying that when he was younger, he "would kill Michael Jordan one-on-one." LaVar has also said Lonzo is not only better than Steph Curry, the 2016 NBA Most Valuable Player, but is also the best basketball player in the world.

While statements like these serve to help bring exposure to LaVar's burgeoning sports apparel company, Big Baller Brand, and Big Ballers Training, where LaVar trains young athletes, they do nothing but potentially hurt Lonzo's career.

In no way am I saying LaVar's outspoken nature will keep NBA general managers from drafting Lonzo, a talented point guard who's projected by many to be one of the top picks in the upcoming NBA draft. In fact, two NBA executives, Los Angeles Lakers President Magic Johnson and Phoenix Suns General Manager Ryan McDonough, both said having a parent as involved as LaVar wouldn't factor in their decision to draft Lonzo.

"No effect at all," Johnson told ESPN at the NBA combine. "I think what you're drafting is the son and not the father. I think that you also are gauging and evaluating his son on his ability and what he



COURTESY OF BLEACHERFAN.COM

LaVar Ball embraces Lonzo Ball after a game.

can do not only on the basketball court but also what he can do for your team."

While LaVar's antics don't hurt his son's draft stock, they do potentially hurt Lonzo's brand. While NBA executives separate Lonzo and his ability as a basketball player from his father, fans don't. They hear and see all the outlandish things LaVar has said and associate them with Lonzo too. For evidence, just look at the reactions on Twitter when the Lonzo-led UCLA Bruins were knocked out of the NCAA basketball tournament by Kentucky.

Twitter users were taking pleasure in seeing Lonzo lose and play poorly in the process, most likely because they're sick and tired of LaVar. The sad thing about this is people are now rooting for Lonzo to fail, through no fault of his own. It'd be one thing if Lonzo himself was making outlandish comments that reeked of arrogance and caused people to wish failure upon him. But no, it is LaVar and his statements that are bringing unneeded pressure upon Lonzo.

And who really benefits from what LaVar says? It's not Lonzo, because he will be drafted highly regardless of what his father says, and most likely would have more fans to buy his sneakers and hang his poster on the wall if his father wasn't such a blow hard. It's LaVar who's really benefiting. With every out-there comment, the elder Ball is invited onto another sports talk show, decked out in Big Baller Brand merchandise. More and more attention is placed on LaVar and his business ventures, while it's Lonzo who actually has the talent.

If there's one quote that shows LaVar's priorities are askew, it's what he said when asked about getting advice from retired Los Angeles Lakers legend Kobe Bryant.

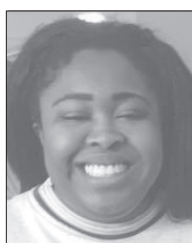
"I don't need advice from Kobe Bryant. Zo's got to play his game," LaVar said on the Keyshawn, Jorge and LZ Show on ESPN Radio 710 LA.

Notice how LaVar said *he* doesn't need advice from Kobe, yet it's Lonzo who's trying to become an all-time great like Kobe, who also happens to share advice with current NBA greats, like Russell Westbrook, James Harden and Isaiah Thomas. It seems like LaVar, who managed to average 2.2 points per game as a basketball player at Washington State and never made it past an NFL practice squad, is trying to live his dream of being a professional athlete through his son.

I know LaVar put a lot of time and effort into training his son to become the elite prospect he is now. But the time has come to step aside and let Lonzo take control of his own destiny.

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

Think before subscribing to YoutubeTV



Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

The rollout of YouTube's new streaming service YouTube TV has already been branded as the takedown of cable television and at first glance, it's hard to argue with such a statement.

At an impressive \$35 per month, YouTube TV offers live TV access from over 40 channels. In addition to subscribers being able to watch regular TV channels, YouTube TV subscriptions also include cloud DVR with unlimited storage and access to YouTube's other premium service: YouTube Red.

On the surface, the online video provider's move to live television seems harmless. However when digging beneath, many things arise to conclude that YouTube TV is not worth the investment for different demographics. For instance, as a college student, spending money on their "bargain" cable deal of \$35 can be costly. With that much money, a student could buy textbooks or save toward a bigger

educational purchase.

Over 40 channels makes a good first impression for public appeal, but YouTube TV's biggest potential drawback is holes in the programming it offers. Specifically, YouTube TV is missing several popular channels offered by the stiff competition—MTV, CNN, and Food Network, just to name a few. For those who love their Barefoot Contessa and Anderson Cooper, YouTube TV doesn't meet the mark.

While bundling YouTube Red would seem like a strategic move on YouTube's part, the two services differ greatly. YouTube TV would be for those cord-cutters who don't want to be consumers of traditional television, while YouTube Red is a service for the YouTube fanatics to get less ads and more specific content.

You also have to factor YouTube Red's cost, which is \$9.99 per month. If you choose to subscribe to YouTube TV, the cost of YouTube Red will be lumped along with that \$35 per month, meaning you will be charged extra for a service you didn't ask for and may not even need or want.

YouTube Red is also known for its YouTube Red Originals, Netflix-like original films and shows that feature famous YouTubers. If names like Smosh, Rhett & Link or AwesomenessTV don't ring a bell to you, then YouTube TV may be a path worth staying off of.

Finally, we have to bring roots into this conversation. For a service that has been doing just fine on its own for 10 years, this is a huge pivot from YouTube's original purpose. Years ago, YouTube was never considered a contender to cable television. YouTubers who wanted to pursue television careers were taken as jokes.

Now, over 10 years after its launch, you have YouTuber Grammy winners and New York Times bestselling authors. YouTube was unique in the internet that now has cable shows such as SNL and The Tonight Show bowing at their feet. YouTube is a machine of virality nowadays, and here they are, conforming to the mainstream.

Blessing Aghimien is a sophomore majoring in communication. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

OTHER

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

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

The East Carolina University Police Department gives notice that certain items of unclaimed property have been in possession of the police department for over 180 days. These items were found, confiscated or seized during lawful investigations and included various types of property such as but not limited to scooters, skateboards, documents, duffel bags/book bags, suitcases, keys, wallets/purses, electronics, car stereo equipment, clothing, power/hand tools, home décor, home improvement items, U.S. currency and bicycles. Some matters concern property in which the case has been disposed of in the judicial system and the property is no longer considered evidence in this matter. Persons who may be entitled thereof are required by law to make such a claim within (30) days of this notice. Owners may contact the ECU Police Department at (252) 737-2626 or (252) 328-6787 or in person at 609 East 10th Street, Greenville, NC. A description of the property along with the serial number or reasonable proof of ownership will need to be provided in order to claim property. After (30) days, the property will be administratively forfeited and disposed of according to law. Property items of value that remain unclaimed will be turned over for auction to Property.room.com, all bicycles not claimed will be donated to non-profit charities and all remaining items will be destroyed. References: N.C.G.S. 15-11.1, N.C.G.S. 15-12 through 15-16. First Date of Notice: May 24, 2017.

Last Date of Claim: June 24, 2017

HOUSES FOR RENT

ECU Student Duplexes on Bus Route or walk to class! Duplexes at Wyndham Circle, 2 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Newly Decorated, Cathedral Ceilings, Great Landlord, Great Price, Big Back Yard, Good Parking, Some Pets OK. Patios for Grilling. Available May 1, June 1, July 1, August 1, 2017. \$620.00 per month. 252.756.3009 or text 252.341.9789.

WALK TO CLASS - 1 BLOCK 2 bed/1.5bath quadplex. "Buccaneer Village" 507 E. 11th St. Save money, no ECU parking fees to pay, kitchen appliances and dishwasher. \$600.00/month. Pinnacle Mgmt. 561-RENT(7368). PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2017.

3 bed 3 bath spacious condo @ 320 Brownlea Dr. PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2017. You choose your rent amount. \$700.00/month includes H2O. \$1195.00/month gets you W/D, cable, internet, utilities and H2O. On ECU bus route or walk to class, bring your own roommates, we do not match. Pinnacle Mgmt. 561-RENT(7368)

EXPENSIVE ADS=EXPENSIVE RENTS. We Don't Do That - CHECK US OUT. WYNDHAM COURT APTS. PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2017. 2 bedroom with full size washer / dryer, dishwasher, FREE cable & internet, cheap utilities, on ECU bus route. As low as \$312.50 per person / \$625.00 per unit, some pets OK. Pinnacle Mgmt. 561-RENT(7368)

NOW ALL INCLUSIVE!! WYNDHAM COURT APTS. All Utilities, Cable, Internet, 2 bedroom with full size washer / dryer, dishwasher, storm door, on ECU bus route starting at only \$387.50 per person / \$775.00 per unit, some pets OK. Pinnacle Mgmt. 561-RENT(7368) PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2017.

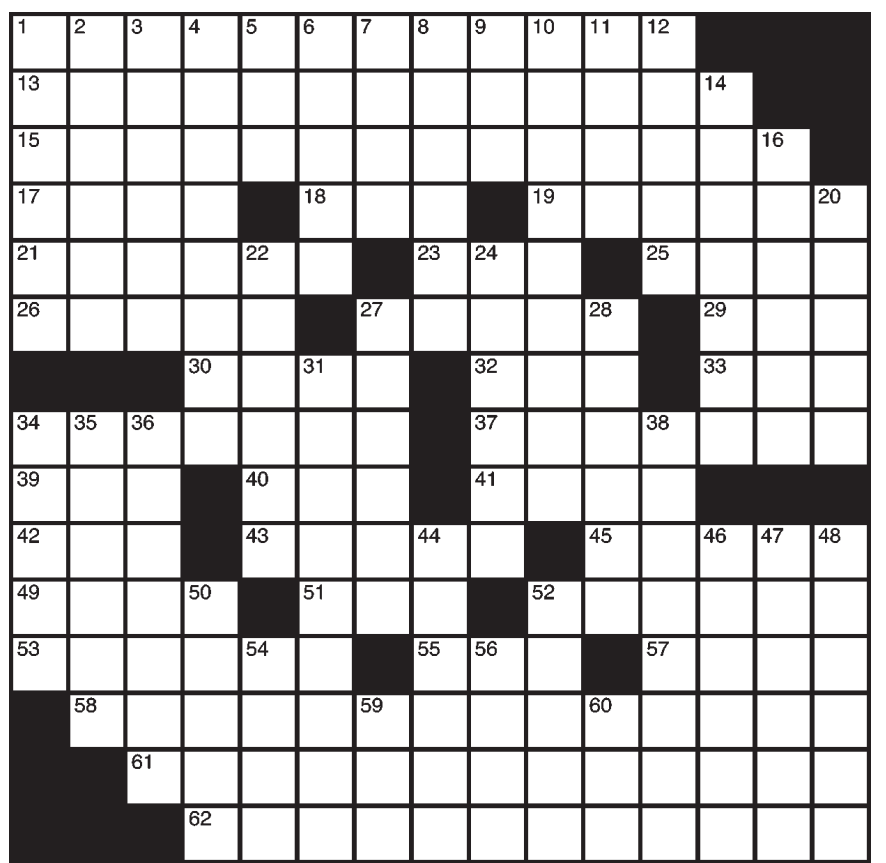
PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1 Canine cleaners
- 13 Canine fixers
- 15 Brown nemesis?
- 17 Be unproductive
- 18 But
- 19 __ wage
- 21 24/7
- 23 Movie makeup dept. creations
- 25 Small group
- 26 Capacity count
- 27 French physician Paul for whom an area of the brain is named
- 29 Rose on the charts
- 30 Idris of "Zootopia"
- 32 Small part of a big machine
- 33 Neat wrap-up?
- 34 Milky Way cousin
- 37 JFK skill
- 39 2010 role for Denzel
- 40 Mus. version
- 41 Go together well
- 42 Gun
- 43 Skein makeup
- 45 "Later"
- 49 PC components
- 51 Vowel-free lunch
- 52 Baited with a red herring
- 53 Violinist Mintz mentored by Isaac Stern
- 55 Ipanema greeting
- 57 Recess in church
- 58 Winner of the most Grand Slam singles titles in the Open Era
- 61 Dialogue box?
- 62 Company known for programming languages

DOWN

- 1 Stein's partner
- 2 Maryland state bird, e.g.



By Erik Agard

5/20/17

Monday's puzzle answers

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

- 3 National capital from the Algonquin for "to trade"
- 4 Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos
- 5 Commonly long-handled tool
- 6 E-card occasions
- 7 __ learning
- 8 Divider's opposite
- 9 Metro abbr.
- 10 Slugfest feature
- 11 "¿Qué es __?": "What's this?"
- 12 Confident walk
- 14 Pico de gallo pepper
- 16 Cure-all
- 20 Having an unusually large yellow part
- 22 High-end fashion accessory, briefly
- 24 On tap
- 27 Run with abandon
- 28 Sampras rival
- 31 Essentials

- 34 Monterey and Montclair, for short
- 35 A's in Hebrew school?
- 36 Small stream
- 38 Title role for Roger Moore and Val Kilmer
- 44 "That's enough outta you!"

- 46 Texas city near Juárez
- 47 Toadies
- 48 "__ Fideles"
- 50 More angry
- 52 Former White House daughter
- 54 Prefix with drama
- 56 Reel off
- 59 "__ Maria"
- 60 __ dos: both

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

Monday's puzzle answers

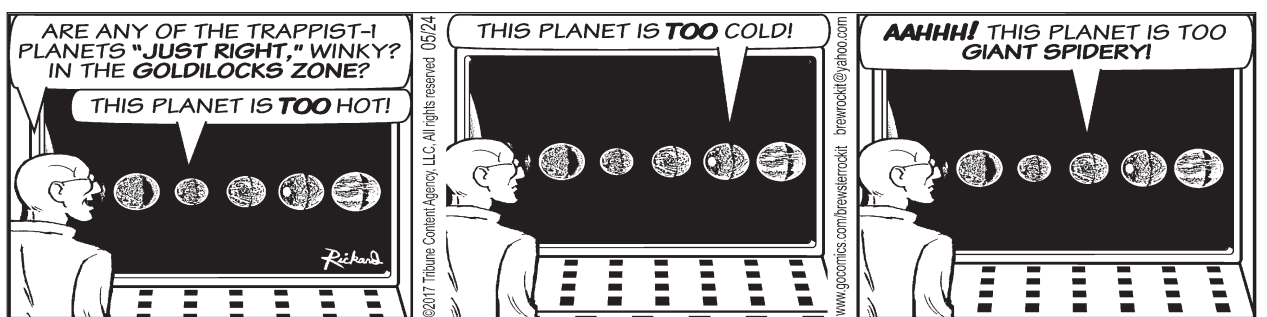
1	4	2	5	8	9	3	6	7
3	7	8	6	4	1	2	5	9
5	9	6	2	3	7	8	1	4
9	5	3	8	1	6	7	4	2
4	2	7	3	9	5	1	8	6
6	8	1	4	7	2	5	9	3
8	6	5	9	2	3	4	7	1
7	3	9	1	5	4	6	2	8
2	1	4	7	6	8	9	3	5

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

but by reserved.

COMIC

BREWSTER ROCKET



HOROSCOPES



Aries

(March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Settle into your cozy nest under the Cancer New Moon. Make bold declarations of love. Create romantic moments and reminders for someone you adore.



Taurus

(April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Your communication abilities flourish under this Cancer New Moon. Talk about what you love. Discuss dreams and fantasies. Speak from the heart.



Gemini

(May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Actions taken now can be quite profitable. Things may not go as planned. Keep your customers satisfied. Long-term benefits are available. Feed your savings.



Cancer

(June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Dress for success. Beautify your personal style under this Cancer New Moon. You're in the spotlight, and your work is in demand.



Leo

(July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Make plans for the future together. Follow love where it takes you. Listen to what your spirit wants. Pay attention to dreams and imagination.



Virgo

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Collaborate on a community puzzle under the New Moon in Cancer. Group actions go further, and can have long-lasting impact. Win a prize.



Libra

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Make an amazing professional discovery under the Cancer New Moon. Friends share valuable connections. Divert extra income to savings. Your work is getting profitable.



Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Expand your horizons under the New Moon in Cancer. Study, investigate and explore. Get valuable feedback on your presentation from the people you love.



Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Profit from a shared venture. Together, you're generating a profitable buzz. A dream seems within reach. Keep the momentum. Express your love and gratitude.



Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Love and romance blossoms. Your holdings are gaining value. Make promises and sign on the dotted line. Your actions can realize a long-held dream.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Breakthroughs with health and wellness arise under the Cancer New Moon. Physical action gets your blood pumping. Pamper yourself. Savor hot water.



Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Follow your heart. Someone's gaze makes it do a flip. Share romantic possibilities. Pursue a passionate endeavor. Talk about what you love.

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Zay Jones leaps above his defender to complete the catch.

>> COLUMN

Road to NFL

Jones, Summers to prove worth at professional level

Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

As two of the most electrifying athletes on the football team say goodbye to their careers at East Carolina, another journey awaits them. Isaiah "Zay" Jones and James Summers have been chosen by two NFL organizations to extend their careers.

The Buffalo Bills made the decision on day two of the 2017 NFL Draft to go with the career NCAA receptions leader, Zay Jones. The Arizona Cardinals signed a deal with James Summers on April 29, making him the second offensive player from the 2016 ECU football team to make it to the NFL.

The big question is, what will these players offer their respective teams that have chosen to give them a spot on the roster?

Zay Jones is a 6-foot-2-inch 200-pound receiver from Austin, Texas. During his career at ECU, he started all four years for the team, playing with some great athletes. Jones posted 1,434 yards with 143 receptions his freshman and sophomore season combined, before having two great seasons to end his collegiate career.

Jones was a second-team All-American Athletic Conference pick in 2015 with 98 catches for 1,099 yards and five scores. Jones followed that by being selected to the first-team All-AAC team in 2016, after he hauled in 158 receptions for 1,746 yards and eight touchdowns. His tremendous season led to him setting the record for most receptions in a season and most receptions in a career (399).

Now joining the Bills, Jones will be on a team that consists of matured NFL receivers and a few stars. Buffalo already has a primetime receiver in former Clemson Tiger Sammy Watkins, as well as veteran Brandon Tate, two experienced players Jones will have the chance to learn from.

Jones is no stranger to working with great receivers, like Justin Hardy, who previously held the career receptions record and now plays for the Atlanta Falcons. Zay has also had his fair share of quarterbacks. The Bills haven't had the most stability at the quarterback position over the years, but with Tyrod Taylor returning for a third year as starter, there should be more cohesion between the receivers and their quarterback. But even if there is change at the quarterback position, it won't be something Jones hasn't handled before. He dealt with multiple quarterbacks at ECU, catching footballs from six different passers over four seasons. Isaiah Jones may be a perfect fit for the Buffalo Bills organization, and has the capability to produce quality stats within the wide receiver corps in New York.

One of the quarterbacks that threw the ball to Jones will also get a chance to make an NFL team. James Summers, the junior college transfer from Greensboro, North Carolina, will be joining the Arizona Cardinals practice squad this summer. Summers was noticed not just for his passing ability but also for his versatility as a running back.

Summers operated as the backup quarterback during ECU's 2016 campaign and eventually transitioned to running back. He rushed for 869 yards, leading the team, and scored seven times. In 2015, when he played mostly quarterback, he was the spark plug for the team. His versatility, rushing for 446 yards and eight touchdowns while passing for 863 yards and five touchdowns, made him a dual threat.

Summers' big frame, standing at 6 foot 3 inches and weighing in at 210 pounds, makes him a powerful back with unexpected speed. He will be competing with David Johnson, Andre Ellington, Elijah Penny, Kerwynn Williams, and another North Carolina standout, T.J. Logan.

Jones will have the best chances to make an impact on the Buffalo Bills in his rookie season. As for Summers, he will battle with some great players to potentially get quality reps with the first or second teams. Both of these organizations took chances on these great athletes from ECU, and they will fight to the end in true Pirate fashion.

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

ECU surprises top seed

Baseball team takes commanding lead

Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

The Pirates faced off against Central Florida in their first game of the American Athletic Conference Baseball Championships Tuesday night, with East Carolina leading 9-2 after seven innings at the time of production.

It was No. 1 seed UCF who struck first, scoring a run in the bottom of the first inning. Luke Hamblin got things going with a double to left field, later advancing third after a wild pitch from ECU starting pitcher Evan Kruczynski. Kyle Marsh followed up with a double, sending Hamblin home and giving the Knights the 1-0 lead.

No. 8 seed ECU could not get going offensively early in the game, failing to reach base in its first seven at-bats. The Golden Knights' starting pitcher, Trent Thompson, tossed four strikeouts through the first two innings, while also getting help from his defense.

UCF added another run when ECU's Dwanya Williams-Sutton misplayed a ball hit by Anthony George, allowing Ryan Crile to score from first base, pushing UCF's lead to 2-0. Kruczynski



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

The Pirates take to the field before a game. Tuesday night, ECU played against UCF.

was then able to close out the second inning and the tides turned.

In the top of the third inning, ECU's Charlie Yorgen hit a three-run home run, giving the Pirates the lead at 3-2. Now with the Pirates back in their groove, Travis Watkins doubled to the outfield and advanced to third. Spencer Brickhouse then sent Watkins home with a single, making the score 4-2.

The scoring continued from the Pirates. With two outs in the fifth inning,

Tyler Brown hit a monstrous double, sending Watkins and Brickhouse home. Brown then came home to score after an error from the Golden Knights. Yorgen added two more runs to the lead with a double to the right center gap making the score 9-2.

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

ONLINE | FULL RECAP

>> TRACK AND FIELD

Senior aims for high finish

Robbie Milton III
TEC STAFF

As a fifth-year senior at East Carolina, high jump and javelin thrower, Lauren Lubarski has been on a roller coaster of a journey from being injured to finishing her career strongly with an invitation to the NCAA East Preliminary.

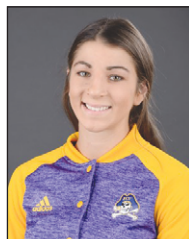
A Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania local, Lubarski comes from a family that includes three brothers, all who loved to compete athletically. However, Lubarski was the standout athlete of the family with the wide variety of sports she participated in. She played volleyball, basketball and softball, along with competing in track, while her family members were more single sport athletes.

"But a majority of the athleticism, just with our whole entire family, have been blessed with good genetics," Lubarski said.

And along with her athleticism comes her drive to be successful.

"It was her intestinal fortitude to accomplish what she accomplished. It's her makeup, it's in her DNA," East Carolina's track and field head coach Curt Kraft said.

Lubarski came to East Carolina as a thrower, and as a freshman made it to the national level competing in



Lauren Lubarski

the javelin. Two years later though, she injured her throwing shoulder, which led to two surgeries and a redshirt year to get back into competition form.

During her redshirt year, she had to slow down a lot with her rehabbing. Lubarski says she felt isolated from the team and coaching staff during her rehab because she wasn't participating in her normal athletic activities.

"Well, the thing I credit most is her, it's all on her," Kraft said. "The bottom line is she took the initiative to finish this thing out right, this fifth year out right, and she was bound and determined not to fall short and she definitely didn't fall short by any stretch of the imagination."

However, Lubarski says she took advantage of the down time due to her injury by focusing on the beauty in life, which helped her with one of her biggest hobbies, photography.

"I started becoming more introverted," said Lubarski. "And that's when I started investing more of my time into journaling and doing more artistic stuff that would make me slow down and look at life differently, so I really do like to take pictures."

She said she enjoys taking photos of nature and took a vacation to the Grand Canyon with a friend from her hometown. This trip, she says, helped her to really see the beauty in nature and enjoy it more.

"That was the best vacation I've ever taken in my life because it made me really take some time to slow down from our busy lives," said Lubarski. "And really appreciate what's around us because I feel like a lot of people are really distracted by the mindless stuff that's in front of us and we forget to take time to look at things differently."

With this life lesson, Lubarski has climbed back into top competing shape for her fifth year at ECU. Lubarski hopes to get back to Eugene, Oregon for nationals to finish off her final year of competing. In order to reach Oregon again, she has to earn it by placing high enough in either of her two events, the javelin and the high jump, at the NCAA East Preliminary, which runs from May 25-27, in Lexington, Kentucky.

"Every single meet that I've gone to, I feel that I have huge throw that's going to come out and wants to come out however it hasn't come out at the right time," Lubarski said.

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

>> TRACK AND FIELD

Pirates race to regionals

Robbie Milton III
TEC STAFF

East Carolina's track and field team has received invitations for 13 of its athletes to go to the NCAA East Preliminary Regional competition, which will take place in Lexington, Kentucky from May 25 through the 27.

This is the fourth consecutive year in which the Pirates have had at least 10 qualifiers in the regional section. Along with that, it is the twelfth consecutive year ECU is sending at least one athlete to regionals.

"It's always gratifying to be in double-digits as far as athletes qualifying for the NCAA first round," head track and field coach Curt Kraft said. "Any time you have that number of athletes qualify for the NCAA first round, it is (a) testimonial to the quality of student athletes on the team. So it shows you the strength of the team."

Among these athletes are two league title holders. Sophomore Stefano Migliorati, in the 800 meter race, and junior Mohogany Baker, in the discus, both hold the American Athletic Conference title in their respective events

after winning their events at the AAC Championships. Migliorati is ranked No. 23 in his event and Baker is No. 36 in hers, going into the east regional.

The Pirates have six athletes competing in two events while the other seven will be competing in a single event. The six athletes who will be competing in multiple events are sophomore Hakeem Horton in the 200 meter race and the long jump, senior Adam Manns in the shot put and discus, junior Galissia Cause in the shot put and discus, senior Cheyenne Hutchinson in the long jump and 100 meter hurdles, senior Lauren Lubarski in the javelin and high jump, and sophomore Courtney Warner in the 100 meter race and 4x100 meter relay.

"I'm really excited to be with this group because I know that we've all worked hard," said Lubarski. "I know that the plane should be packed a little more than what we expected to be with 13."

The other athletes that will be competing in Kentucky are sophomore Evan McCracken in the shot put, sophomore Amanda Salami in the

4x100 meter relay, sophomore Cedrina Singletary in the 4x100 meter relay, and sophomore Atlanta Woodall in the 4x100 meter relay.

"I think the women have the better chance of making it to Eugene because of the 4x100 team, Cheyenne in the long jump, and Lauren in the javelin," Kraft said.

The seniors on the team have found themselves in a great place to finish their careers, earning the opportunity to compete at regionals. But the ultimate goal is to move on to the finals.

"To have these three seniors qualify in not only one but in two events again is a credit to who they are and how good of an athlete they are," Kraft said. "It would be nice to see one of them move on to Eugene, Oregon would be the most gratifying thing."

The Pirates look to have some, if not all, of these athletes finish in the top 12 to then get sent to the University of Oregon to compete at Hayward Field in the NCAA Outdoor Championships from June 7-10.

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