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EMILY HARVEY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Local residents commemorate fallen service men and women at the Greenville Memorial Day ceremony on Monday in the Town Common.

CITY REMEMBERS VETERANS

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

On Memorial Day in Greenville, North Carolina, the sun shined down through a perfectly blue sky on flags at half-mast, the names of veterans who died fighting for freedom and a congregation of Americans.

A Memorial Day ceremony was held Monday at the Town Common at 10:58 a.m. to honor and remember individuals who died serving in the United States' armed forces.

"There are many times in life that we get an opportunity to celebrate, but more important is the opportunity to commemorate," Mayor of Greenville, Allen Thomas said during his Memorial Day speech. "Where we came from, how we got here and how blessed we are in this society. I

think that gets taken for granted."

Thomas thanked the veterans in the audience for their service and dedication, saying the real stories are with them, and the stories need to be shared.

"Share your stories with your children, your grandchildren. Let them know how we got here, what this country stands for," Thomas said. "Technology and things will come and go, but the pride and glory that you represent will stand forever and it is indeed a tremendous honor to help salute our fallen today."

Army veteran Lennon Hooper, ECU alumni class of 1957, served three years in the army during the Korean War in a military police training unit. Hooper also had a grandfather in the Civil War.

"It's so important for our country to keep remembering the people that passed away and not only remember them, but

keep the country more involved with the steering of the country and what it used to be," Hooper said.

Hooper added that he knows many who died fighting for the freedom that American citizens have today.

"I think we should keep our country in mind," Hooper said. "It's so important and so something we should honor. And the veterans that gave their life, so many that I know have given their life for this country."

While many college students spend Memorial Day weekend at the beach, grilling out or shopping Memorial Day sales, junior communication major Samantha Walsh, from Gaithersburg, Maryland, spent hers much differently. Walsh said her family wakes up early the Sunday

> VETERANS page A3

ECU SigEp closes doors

National organization revokes local chapter

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

The list of fraternities at East Carolina University will shrink after the national organization of Sigma Phi Epsilon decided to close their local ECU chapter after years of violations.

In a statement emailed to The East Carolinian, the national organization of Sigma Phi Epsilon explained that "chapter revocation" is a last resort for them. The statement went on to explain that the organization wasn't satisfied with the years of violations the ECU chapter had accumulated.

"In the years since the chapter's closure and subsequent appeal in 2010, Sigma Phi Epsilon North Carolina Kappa has been the source of nearly annual hazing and risk management incidents," according to the statement.

In the 2016-17 academic year, the fraternity committed several violations including a joint party with another fraternity which resulted in the police being called, destroying neighboring property, multiple occurrences of burning furniture which resulted in the fire department being called and different incidents of drinking on the roof, according to the Sigma Phi Epsilon organization statement.

According to the organization, "the deliberate choices of current chapter members to violate the clear expectations set these last several school years show that the members are unwilling to hold themselves and others to the basic expectations of the law and East Carolina's student code of conduct."

Following the announcement, members of the fraternity released a statement through the group's Facebook page.

"The actions of a few brothers, some of whom have moved on in life and no longer are associated with the fraternity, were included in the reasoning for our chapter's closure," the group said. "These dates of allegations were traced back to 2010, before our oldest active member had even graduated high school."

In 2010, the fraternity chapter was closed for poor behavior. In 2013, three members of the fraternity were arrested on multiple drug charges after police found marijuana and digital scales inside the house. The fraternity was investigated on sexual assault charges stemming from an incident on January 25, 2015. No charges were filed, but the university imposed a temporary moratorium on all social events sponsored by Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Before the decision was made, the national organization of Sigma Phi Epsilon had been investigating the ECU chapter's years of poor behavior. ECU was

> SIGMA page A2

TITLE Boxing Club offers free classes to military



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Boxers at TITLE Boxing Club relieve tension. In May, TITLE offered free classes to veterans and their families.

Cookie Brower
TEC STAFF

The transition from military to civilian life can be difficult for some veterans and TITLE Boxing Club aims to help combat mental health issues through boxing.

This month, TITLE Boxing Club sponsored various classes for National Military Appreciation Month. Any active or current military member and their families were able to come and take classes and use any other service the club offers for free.

"Currently we have between six to seven military members," said Nichole Alley, TITLE Boxing Club general manager. "But as the month of May came around, ten more came along and took advantage of the classes."

Alley and her fellow employees

utilize the Veterans Services and other platforms to get in contact with an abundance of Greenville local veterans. She said they want to help veterans release any anger and tension, as well as connect them with other members of the community.

"It seems as of lately, the divide between the community and the military has grown for many different reasons," Alley said. "We feel it is important to bring these groups together not only to spark conversations, but to broaden the community for many military members that see their circle of support shrink when they are no longer on active duty."

During Operation Iraqi

> BOXING page A2

ONLINE

» 'Yoga in the Park' provides relaxation outlet

» Full coverage of ECU baseball in AAC tournament

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU to host CPR training

East Carolina University will host a CPR/AED training session to get more individuals certified through the American Heart Association.

The session will be held Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Recreation and Wellness studio in the new student center on the Health Sciences campus.

Admission to the session is \$75 for Campus Recreation and Wellness members and \$85 for non-members. The CPR/AED training certificate is valid for two years upon completion of the session, according to the American Heart Association.

Blood Drive to be held in support of EMS Week

The city of Greenville and Greenville Fire/Rescue will host a blood drive in support of National Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Week.

The event will be held today at the GFR Station 6 located on 3375 10th St. Donors are welcomed between 1-6 p.m.

For those interested, GFR encourages people to make an appointment to save time.

City to celebrate National Trails Day

The city of Greenville is encouraging members of the public to come and volunteer to maintain the trails around River Park North in celebration of National Trails Day.

The event is free to participants of all ages. It will be held at River Park North on June 3, at 1000 Mumford Road.

The project is meant to remove debris and trash. Volunteers who work for at least an hour will receive a number of prizes for their service. Participants are asked to bring gloves, water and long pants with them.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Initiative aims to improve bond

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

Amidst the buzz of razors dancing across heads, conversations about police brutality and racial profiling took place openly between law enforcement officers, barbers and Greenville citizens during the second annual Cops and Barbers community forum at Rodney's Barber Shop on May 23.

The initiative is spearheaded by Greenville Police Department Officer Richie Williams, a 15-year veteran of the department. He said the Cops and Barbers program is rooted in tragic instances of police brutality and conflict that have received national attention recently, namely the shooting of young African American civilians like Michael Brown of Ferguson, Missouri.

"When the Ferguson stuff was going on, it was on TV and the barber said 'we got to do something about that, chief, and so they got together and formed the program. It got started because of the issues we saw with Ferguson,'" Williams said.

Tragic events of police brutality, lives taken and racial profiling have led to distrust in law enforcement around the nation, an issue the Cops and Barbers Program hopes to combat, according to Williams.

Issues discussed at these meetings range from racial profiling to domestic issues, which are all considered, taken to the department and handled accordingly.

Williams said GPD is also making changes to hold law enforcement officers more accountable and offer security for both the officers and the communities they serve. Greenville, one of the first cities in North Carolina to equip their officers with body cameras, will now require all officers in the department to wear body cameras.



Greenville police officers join customers at Rodney's Barber Shop to improve community relations with citizens. TREVOR HAMLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The department is also undergoing additional training in techniques to decrease violent encounters and how to handle dangerous situations as well as openly discussing trends of profiling and other related issues according to Williams.

"Everyone's going to have body cameras, we just got new body cameras, we talked about de-escalation techniques we are going to be using," Williams said. "And then we talked about some racial profiling stuff that we were going through with the department so the community can see some of the things we are doing to address police relations with the black community."

Williams said the program is about to reach its one year anniversary and during that time span, the program has had significant impacts on the Greenville area. Over the course of this past year, he says the community began to view the 11 barbershops involved in the Cops and Barbers program as a direct connection to the police department.

"Once we started doing that,

we had addressed a lot of issues in the community," Williams said. "It's helped tremendously, the barbers are my biggest advocates, a lot of people have called my barbers because they didn't know where to go and it's because they're with the Cops and Barbers program."

According to a press release sent out by the GPD last week, the initiative, which was launched in Greenville in 2016, was modeled after a program that came out of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. The idea formed because local barbershops are usually places of insightful conversation where people of the community unabashedly discuss problems in their lives. This makes the shops the perfect place for law enforcement officers to connect with members of the community, understand their perspectives and take what they have learned and apply it to their work within law enforcement.

"Well, the Cops and Barbers program, the point of it is we're trying to bridge the gap in the African American community through the barbershops and the

police department," Williams said. "The premise behind that is an underprivileged man comes into the barbershops and they're having conversations about things going on in their neighborhoods."

In collaboration with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, Williams has implemented the program locally, as he partners with local barbershops to coordinate meetings at their locations. Meetings are held every second Monday of the month at various shops located throughout Greenville.

Williams said the recent event was very much a success as feedback showed signs of growing trust and positivity towards law enforcement.

"It was really good because there was a lot of positive feedback, most of the barbers said most of the conversations in their shops now have been positive up to this point and they attribute that to the Cops and Barbers program," Williams said.

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

Director: Failure by chapter to correct violations



The Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house located on 5th Street near ECU main campus. ARCHIVED | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

SIGMA
continued from A1

aware of the investigation by the national organization, according to John Mountz, director of Greek life at ECU.

Mountz said when the decision was made to close the chapter ECU officials were notified at the same time as the fraternity members.

"My understanding from Sigma Phi Epsilon is that they decided to close the chapter based on the totality of things they had seen over time," Mountz said. "Not one significant incident, but a failure of the chapter to respond to corrective action over several years."

Mountz added that the chapter had recent "incidents" with the university Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities and was currently working with ECU on a "chapter enhancement plan." The university expected the ECU Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter to complete that plan and move forward.

"A chapter enhancement plan is when an organization has a violation of institutional policy or expectations and we want to work with them to take corrective action," Mountz said. "It's an opportunity for us to step in and say 'Hey, you've made a couple mistakes, we want to put you back on the right path'"

The national organization's statement didn't mention any timetable, but explained that they hope to see Sigma Phi Epsilon return to ECU in the future.

With ECU's plans to expand the greek life culture at the university, Mountz predicted that Sigma Phi Epsilon would return in the next four to five years. He added, "We have not made a formal arrangement or even entered into those discussions with the (SigEp) national fraternity yet."

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BOXING continued from A1

Freedom, between 11-20 out of every 100 veterans suffer from PTSD. From the Gulf War, about 12 out of every 100 soldiers have PTSD. Similar to those of the Gulf war, about 15 out of every 100 veterans had PTSD after the Vietnam War, according to the United States Veterans Affairs.



"The statistics of depression, PTSD and suicide among the military community is staggering," Alley said. "If we can share our 'family' mentality with a few of those to help them feel connected, relieve stress and punch out some frustration, we feel we are showing our gratitude; even if it is just a small gesture."

Alley explained that boxing is a tool to combat mental health issues. TITLE Boxing's mission to help active or retired military isn't the only service they are providing.

"We have a fireman and policemen that always say this is the best stress release for them," Alley said. "I believe that anybody with a high stress job is great for these type of classes."

Earlier this month, marine recruits from

"I believe that anybody with a high stress job is great for these type of classes"

-Nichole Alley

eastern North Carolina came to partake in the boxing festivities and enhance their training for basic before heading off to face the real deal.

"By giving free membership to veterans and active members of the armed forces, we have an opportunity to say thanks to all those, past and present, who have contributed to the U.S. military," Alley said. "This idea has circulated through all our clubs around the country and this year, we wanted to make it an official campaign for all the TITLE Boxing Clubs."

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72 PLUS

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

TODAY

Umbrella Market
Five Points Plaza
5 p.m.

Greenville HCC Remembrance Day Ceremony
401 Moye Boulevard
2 p.m.

THURSDAY

Contemporary Perspectives opening reception
City Art Gallery
6 p.m.

Beer of the Month Kickoff Party
Mellow Mushroom
6 p.m.

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

FRIDAY

First Friday ArtWalk
Uptown Greenville
5 p.m.

First Friday in June at the Pub
Christy's Euro Pub
6 p.m.

The Jake Johnson Band
Tiebreakers
9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Wonder Woman Day
World's Coolest Comics and Toys
11 a.m.

Incense Making Workshop
The Sojourner
12 p.m.

Mike and Rebekah's Benefit Show
Trollingwood
8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Parking Lot Skate Competition
Trollingwood
11 a.m.

Sunday in the Park
Town Common
7 p.m.

G.A.P.S. raises money for park

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Jaycee Park, once considered a haven for skateboarders and BMX riders, has since fallen into disrepair. Grassroots organization Greenville Advocates for Public Skateparks, also known as G.A.P.S., is hoping to find a solution by fundraising to build an action sports complex.

Jaycee Park, the only place to skateboard in Greenville, is no longer what it used to be in its early years due to worn down equipment and concrete that is no longer in good condition for skateboarders or BMX riders

The most recent event held by G.A.P.S was Friday. The event included dinner at Dickinson Avenue Public House and beers at Trollingwood. A portion of the proceeds were given to the skate park fund. G.A.P.S. representative Benjamin Herd said he would like to have an event every month and to try and raise at least \$2,000 per event.

The park will be funded through fundraising, city dollars and grant money, according to Herd.

G.A.P.S will also be hosting a benefit fundraiser for a future action sports complex on June 4 at 11 a.m. The event will be a skateboarding contest and that will take place in the Trollingwood Taproom parking lot. The brewery will be



MELISSA GLENN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Benjamin Herd (left), G.A.P.S representative, speaks with a local resident.

open to serve drinks, while a food truck will be serving plates starting at \$5 for attendees.

The group's first public forum about the action sports complex was on April 6, 2017 at the Jaycee Park Auditorium where they talked with people in the community about what they'd like to see in a new skate park.

Herd said he believes that a skate park can't be built in Greenville without acknowledging that if it wasn't for Dave Mirra, a BMX rider who passed away last year, this town wouldn't be on the map.

"Dave Mirra has to be the inspiration behind the skate park,"

Herd said.

For a while, he says, Greenville was home to many professional action sport athletes.

"If you would have looked at a roster from the X-Games in the past, half of that roster would have had people from Greenville, North Carolina, but that isn't the case anymore. G.A.P.S wants to change that," Herd said.

Herd also believes that skateboarding is important and something that could help prevent trouble for the youth of Greenville.

"I have two sons who skate, so this is important to me. I think every

town should have this, I also think the youth of Greenville (haven't) been given a fair shake at everything to generate their interests to keep them away from trouble," Herd said. "They're not out there getting drunk if they're at a skate park, you can't do that and be a good skater."

Herd said he is a firm believer that youth have to be occupied and a new skate park would be developmental for the youth of Greenville because no one knows when the next kid could make it big in something or even just be kept off of the streets.

G.A.P.S representative Levi Varner used to skateboard all the time at Jaycee. He said Greenville has never had an up-to-date concrete skatepark.

"Every other city of our size or larger in the state has a concrete park," Varner said. "This is the standard for skateparks and we only have a dilapidated professional level BMX park from 20 years ago that needs constant maintenance."

He added Jaycee Park was never intended for skateboarders in the first place or even a moderately skilled BMX rider.

"Our vision is to build a state-of-the-art park that serves as many citizens in as many skills as possible," Varner said.

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TREVOR HAMLETT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Boulevard Records displays a number of options in its store, located on Greenville Boulevard.

Boulevard Records provides vinyl option

Mary Katherine Karcher
TEC STAFF

When David Brown started selling CDs and records in his bookstore, David's Used Bookstore, he didn't expect his business to grow into another store, Boulevard Records, the only store in Greenville that's whole inventory is vinyl records and other sources of music.

"That's when I decided to kind of expand and start doing records," Brown said. "Mostly because the demand has been so high. It was a small, side thing out of the bookstore originally, I had a little bit of everything."

The store, which is located on Greenville Boulevard, is the one of the few sources available for those interested in buying vinyl records of older and newer music. Brown attributed his store's success to the growing demand for alternatives to digital music.

"If you ask different

people, they'll be different opinions on it but for me, I think it's because the younger kids nowadays, they've only grown up with digital music like iTunes, Pandora and Spotify," Brown said. "It's only been about a month and things have been going really well."

Boulevard Records offers around three thousand new titles, two to three thousands used, as well as several collections of CDs, 45's and other music sources, according to Brown.

Brown said his store is not only unique to the area, but the records the store supplies also offer something special. He said the store offers customers the opportunity to order records from a distributor that has access to thousands of albums and artists. Most other places, Brown said, such as thrift stores, usually only offer older records.

"It's the only place in town where you can get the new stuff, that's another thing we

do, if there's anything really obscure that we don't have in stock they can come in, and I can look it up through my distributor and I can order the stuff that's gotten released lately," Brown said.

While vinyl records may often be associated with the past, Brown said his customer base generally consists of younger students interested in the records the store offers.

"I'll have older people and younger, but I would say it is a lot of younger people," Brown said. "I also feel like part of that is because it's (near) ECU, it's a college town. I do have a lot of young people come in and buy the newer stuff."

Brown said he hopes to see the store grow organically and expand into larger locations to serve more customers.

"For the future, I would obviously like to grow," said Brown.

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

VETERANS continued from A1

before Memorial Day every year to watch hundreds of motorcyclists who are part of Rolling Thunder, a United States advocacy group, ride to Washington, D.C.

"Rolling Thunder is a group that brings awareness of prisoners of war and those missing in action, people that didn't come home, from all U.S. wars on Memorial Day weekend every year," Walsh said. "They ride to the Vietnam Memorial Wall."

Police escort the Rolling Thunder motorcyclists from the pentagon to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

"The motorcycles take off from 10 different points throughout the DMV (D.C.,

Maryland, Virginia region) and everyone that does the motorcycle drive to D.C. is police escorted. They block off major highways to be escorted to the pentagon," Walsh said. "It's just super cool because one of the starting points is a mile from my house so it's become a Memorial Day weekend tradition to wake up, get Dunkin Donuts, sit on the curb and watch them all ride by."

Thomas recounted what he and his family saw on their way home from Carteret County Monday morning, saying they had a great weekend celebrating, but remembering what Memorial Day stands for is the most important part of the weekend.

"In the early morning, as we crossed over the bridge, the causeway from Atlantic

beach over to Morehead, you saw the flags of every military unit displayed proudly, prominently on that bridge, for every person coming into our part of the world to show them what we place as important," Thomas said. "As we came through Havelock, we saw military personnel. As we neared Cherry Point, the line of boots began to line up on the ground, empty boots, we know what that signifies, walking all the way to that marine base."

The ceremony ended in prayer, with the sun continuing to shine down on the veterans, families and individuals gathered to commemorate the lives of the men and women who died to protect the United States of America.

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eMindLog wins award for innovation

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Greenville-based eMind Science Corp. recently won The New Product Innovation Award from Frost and Sullivan for their new mobile health app, eMindLog, which was developed with intellectual property licensed from East Carolina University.

The app is a smartphone-based, self-assessment application that allows consumers and patients the ability to track their stress, anxiety and depression. It is available to the general public but is especially useful for those suffering from depression, anxiety and other mental disorders.

"We exploited mobile technology to develop a smart phone application and an entire ecosystem to share your self-reporting results with a health care provider," co-founder, Michael Heffernan, the chief executive officer said. "It allows you to measure your emotions, thoughts and behaviors and provides you a narrative on how you may be feeling but also reflect through daily and weekly surveys."

A professional version of the product, called eMindLogPro, is also available. This version is designed for physicians and therapists to view the status of their patients who use the app.

"If you go to a doctor and they tell you to use this, then you can share your self-charting confidentially and the health care provider can log into the portal and see charting and reporting," Heffernan said.

Heffernan said depression is more common in females than males, but that they have more male users than female.

"The age groups that are more commonly using the app are 23-24 year olds and people in their mid-30s," Heffernan said. "It is used in America, but also New Zealand, Australia and a few other places. More people also use it on android because it is more popular across other economic groups."

Heffernan said they are excited about the use of the app on the college campus, especially when it comes to freshmen.

"It's a phenomenon. You meet a bunch of new people and with the pressure of meeting new people and also missing friends and family at home can cause stress," Heffernan said. "You can use this app to connect to your health care provider back home."

Heffernan said the app helps you think through your thoughts and feelings which are different than your behaviors.

"It's important to find the difference between the three elements and it opens up a whole insight to yourself and to your mind. You can scan the brain, but the mind is completely illusive," Heffernan said.

He added the app is not to fix people, but to educate them by making them more aware of their feelings, the outcome of those feelings and where they come from.

"Most times when people are prescribed antidepressants, a third of the people don't take the medicine because they don't think anything is wrong, which then in return affects relationships and other aspects of life," he said. "This will allow you to be a better form of yourself."

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OUR VIEW

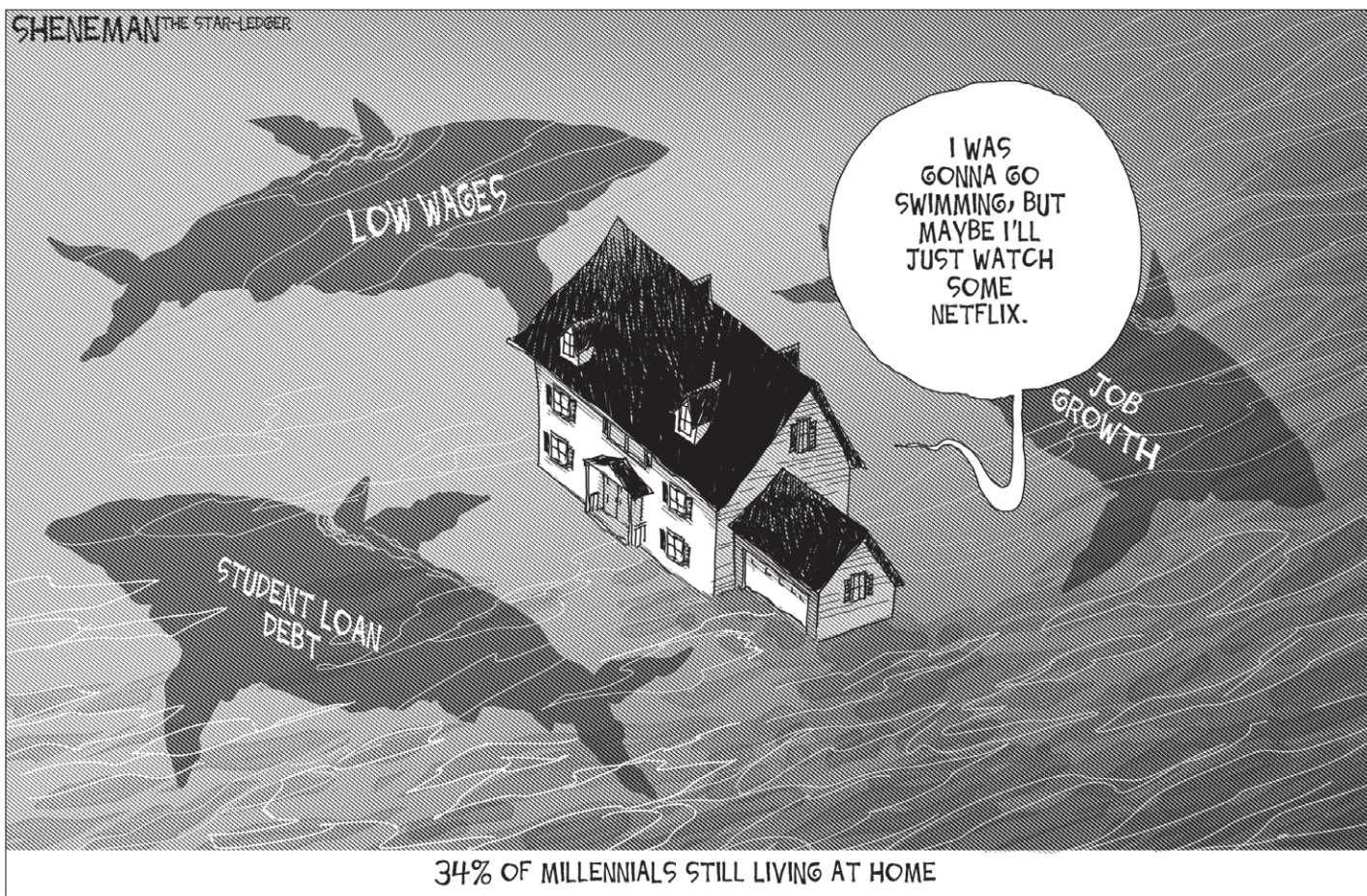
Student center funds misguided

Between the jumbo outdoor screen, ballroom, black box theatre and plethora of new eateries, the new student center on main campus will give East Carolina University students exciting opportunities and experiences, but funding should have been used more wisely.

We, as the staff of The East Carolinian, believe the student center will be a great addition to ECU, and understand that Mendenhall Student Center needs time to be shut down and revamped, but the new student center has some expensive features that are not necessary.

The Archie Burnett Studio Theatre has had investigations for mold, forcing students, faculty and staff to relocate at times. Communication students are required to purchase their own cameras and video equipment for classes on top of everything else. The education department is in need of additional resources to help prepare future teachers for licensure exams and study abroad programs across departments need funding.

Student fees, already at an all time high, will be going up for various reasons, but partially to pay the mortgage and other costs on the student center. The new center has exciting features, but a ridiculous amount of funds have been used that could have easily been allocated across campus to help finance repairs and fund costly equipment and salaries.



Common sense needed

Greenville pedestrian problems create danger for commuters



Matthew Prensky
TEC STAFF

Don't Mind Matt

The main campus of East Carolina University presents an interesting challenge for pedestrian safety. Condensing thousands of employees, students and visitors onto a campus surrounded by busy roadways creates a nightmare for safety officials.

ECU's main campus is organized to create a pedestrian friendly environment by sporting more pathways than roads. However, if someone steps off of 75 percent of the campus they're stepping into a roadway.

Whether a student is leaving campus from the northern, western or southern side of campus, they have to contend with traffic in order to reach their destination. That meeting point of vehicle traffic and pedestrians creates a danger the university, city and state have all recognized.

While the problem may seem simple, the solution is difficult, if not impossible to solve. Fixing the pedestrian problem around the main campus of ECU is hard for four reasons.

First, the roadways around ECU are owned and maintained by different agencies. For example, 10th Street is both a city street and a state highway. In the area near campus, the North Carolina Department of Transportation is responsible for road construction, but the city is responsible for the areas surrounding the road. This entanglement of bureaucracy makes executing pedestrian projects slow and tedious.

Second, pedestrian projects aren't cheap and can be extremely disruptive to traffic. For example, once the ECU student center is completed in the Fall

of 2018, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will be installing new medians along 10th Street between Charles Street and the Blount House. With the student center and new apartment complex, pedestrians will flood the area increasing the danger of an accident. Because of this problem, NCDOT will have to create clear crossing areas at the expense of North Carolina taxpayers.

Third, pedestrian issues change faster than ECU, the city or state can identify and adapt to. While the majority of pedestrians walk onto campus in the same area there are certain pathways that change depending on a number of conditions. That unpredictability of foot traffic makes it hard for the city and state to install preemptive pedestrian safety measures.

Four, public perception about pedestrian safety is wrong. In my three years at ECU, I can't describe how many times I've heard students say "if they hit me, they'll have to pay my tuition". In large part that suicidal phrase is wrong. Pedestrian laws in the state of North Carolina are very vague. To an average pedestrian, if a driver doesn't stop then they are at fault. In actuality, the conclusion isn't that easy. Pedestrians can be ruled at fault for accidents if they cross in the wrong areas. In a state with a mixture of rural and suburban roads the pedestrian must yield to the driver in some cases.

With entangled bureaucracy, a lack of funds, changing areas of concern and incorrect public perception, pedestrian safety in Greenville seems grim. However, there is a simple, free and easy option available to both drivers and pedestrians. The project is called common sense.

Drivers, understand that vehicles are thousands of pounds. They are moving missiles that with one lapse in focus can

kill an innocent being. Pedestrians can be annoying, difficult, rude or slow down your commute, but compared to killing someone, taking an extra five minutes seems easy. Drivers have the power to press the brake, but not to bring back someone's loved one.

Pedestrians, understand that vehicles are a lot heavier and, in a fight with one, most times, you will lose. The average American male weights close to 200 pounds while females are closer to 150. Compared to a car, humans are 15-20 times smaller which means in an accident, they get the worse end of the deal. Marked crosswalks were created for a reason. State laws are vague, but do protect pedestrians if they cross in a marked crosswalk.

Drivers can be distracted with all the technology available to them these days. They should stop for pedestrians, but always banking on that isn't realistic. Humans only get one body, so they should take care of it. If that means waiting an extra minute before crossing or walking across the road in a safer area, than so be it.

Pedestrian safety boils down to being polite, aware and smart. If a driver allows a pedestrian to cross, then thank them. Pedestrian must always be aware of their surroundings. They should also limit burying their head in a smartphone. Finally, both drivers and pedestrians must be smart. Killing someone or losing a loved one should never happen. Pedestrians should be careful crossing and drivers must pay attention.

Cars were invented to give humans greater comfort when travelling. They should be respected. They're not a toy that should be used irresponsibly. Like a gun or a knife, someone could get hurt if they're not paying attention.

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Hookup culture kills romance



Melissa Glen
TEC STAFF

Yout Daily Mel

Someone call Nicholas Sparks, because romance is dead. What was once called courting seems to have been replaced with the quicker and easier option of jumping into bed with the first stranger someone encounters.

As a college student, it is becoming increasingly hard to find someone who is looking for something beyond the bedroom. Most guys I meet expect sex without commitment. Most girls I meet seem okay with this, and apparently, I have not received the memo.

This culture first started as a way of reclaiming one's own sexuality and regaining independence. Specifically for women, hooking up was a way to rebel against the typical societal demands for females.

The casualness of hook ups served as the perfect solution for many women and men who did not want to settle down but wanted to focus on their

career instead. However, now it seems to be the only option.

With the rise of dating apps like Tinder, people have access to casual relationships at their fingertips without having to put in the effort. Most people would rather communicate their feelings through technology than have a one-on-one conversation.

As we choose to be more attached to a four-inch screen than an actual human being, we begin to lose touch with reality. Conversation is an intimacy expressed in the realest sense, and the reality for me is that conversation is just as important as sex.

It seems impossible nowadays to find someone that will spend time getting to know you without wanting something in return. That this guy seemed more interested in our personalities than our bodies is what drew us to him initially. If people would stop swiping left and right and put in conversational effort, the people who want a real relationship would have a better shot at finding it.

In my opinion, dating should not be a last minute effort. It should be intentional and meaningful. If we do not stop mind-

lessly hooking up without being on the same page, miscommunication will ruin any chance of a potential relationship.

One cannot rely solely on sex to express their feelings; they need to use their words. I see many of my friends entering into causal relationships with the expectation it will lead to something serious, but this is unlikely to happen if hook up culture stays the same. We need to kill this habit of not communicating with one another.

Look guys, I get it— hookup culture provides a temporary fix to feeling lonely and is easier than taking the time to get to know someone, but this seems to defeat the purpose of connecting in the first place. If people are so lonely, why try to cure the loneliness with meaningless interactions, rather than something real?

People see hook ups as half-assed solutions to not committing to a relationship while still receiving all the benefits. In the end, this philosophy will lead to disappointment unless the conversation begins.

Melissa Glen is a junior majoring in political science and communication. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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.

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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.

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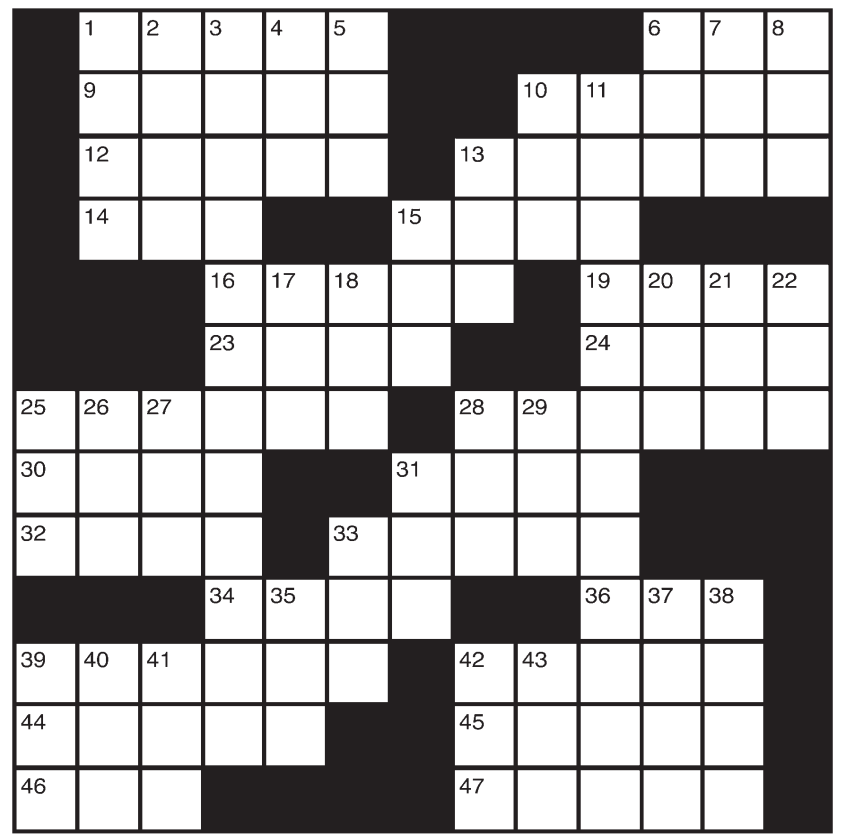
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PUZZLES

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



ACROSS

- Sarah Hyland's role on "Modern Family"
- "One Day ___ Time"
- Popeye's love
- Ability; talent
- Bank vaults
- Actor David Hyde ___
- 180 degrees from NNW
- "Jeopardy!" creator ___ Griffin
- Nincompoop
- "___ la Douce"; Shirley MacLaine movie
- Role on "Cheers"
- ___ a soul; no one
- "The ___ of Wrath"
- Edith Bunker's hubby
- Actress Gilpin of "Frasier"
- Creative thought
- Opening bet
- Liz ___; Tina Fey's role on "30 Rock"
- "The Sonny and ___ Comedy Hour"
- "How the West ___ Won"
- "Sesame ___"

DOWN

- Role on "Bonanza"
- "Woe is me!"
- Sitcom for Colin Hanks
- Role on "Last Man Standing"
- "Say ___ to the Dress"
- "Up in the ___"; George Clooney film
- "Long Lost Family" network
- Tavern order
- "To ___ with Love"; movie for Sidney Poitier
- Sitcom for Kevin James
- "___ Sematary"; Fred Gwynne horror film
- Series for Allison Janney
- Female deer
- Tax-collecting agcy.
- Cheerleader's cry
- Diagnostic scan, for short
- Certain vote
- Student's avg.
- "The ___ & Stimp Show"
- Carney or Linkletter
- High-ranking nav. officer
- Old Oldsmobile
- Suffix for boss or wind
- "Never ___ Me Go"; film for Clark Gable and Gene Tierney
- "___ Just Not That Into You"; Jennifer Aniston movie
- Bancroft or Meara
- Talk back
- ___ Paulo, Brazil
- Premium cable network
- Long-tailed rodent
- 1/60 of a min.
- Refrain syllable

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

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

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Accept or offer assistance. Partnership grows with steady support. Talk about immediate concerns, and express your appreciation. Give and receive gifts.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Dig deeper into a favorite subject. Read, research and discover clues. Ask questions of experts who share your enthusiasm. Write and express what you're learning.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Get into a two-day party phase. You have more friends than you realized. Share what you're discovering. Make great connections through social gatherings.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Keep practicing. Physical action builds strength and vitality through tomorrow. Building stamina helps with a heavy workload. Keep track of details, despite a busy flurry.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- The next two days can get profitable. Track and measure your income and expenses. Attention to details keeps your people satisfied.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- A professional chance is worth going for. Practice your skills for an upcoming test or challenge over the next few days. Consider how to win.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Rest and relax over the next few days. Enjoy games, sports and hobbies. Create a work of art. Fall in love again. Share sweet moments.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Stand for your personal commitments. Consider all options. Focus on your own power. You have the confidence to get things done. Check your lists again.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Discover new views and characters through tomorrow. Study the history of the place. Put puzzle pieces together. Explore your surroundings and learn their secrets.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Budget and make decisions for a home renovation project. Authorize improvements after research. Choose materials, colors and style. Picture it done.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Keep a low profile today and tomorrow. Avoid reckless spending. File documents and receipts. Plan and organize. Let your imagination roam. Relax in hot water.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Contribute to shared accounts over the next few days. Keep track of what's coming in and going out. Play it strictly by the book.

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level:

1	2
3	4

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

Solution from last week

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

COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKET



GREEN APPLES



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— on —
ISSU.COM



Jharel Cotton, former pitcher on the ECU baseball team, winds up to pitch while on the mound for his MLB team, the Oakland Athletics.

Greenville to Oakland

Long road to majors for former Pirate Cotton

Kayla Morton
TEC STAFF

After being sent to the Oakland Athletics from the Los Angeles Dodgers last summer in a blockbuster trade, former East Carolina pitcher Jharel Cotton's rollercoaster baseball career recently took off, as he now sits in the day five pitching rotation spot for the club.

Last August when the Dodgers were on a quest to fill their right fielder position and acquire more depth in the pitching rotation for the postseason, they pulled off a trade that sent Cotton, along with two other right handed pitchers, Frankie Montas and Grant Holmes, to Oakland for right fielder Josh Reddick and pitcher Rich Hill.

"I was not aware (of the trade) but I had an idea something was going to happen," Cotton said. "One day I got a phone call from my director telling me I had been traded, and he wished me the best. The trade gave me a better chance to stay in the big leagues; I pitched a great August with the Oakland Athletics in Triple-A and they called me up, and that's how I started my big league career."

Cotton originally had the third spot to begin the season but was sent down to Triple A on May 11 to work on the fundamentals to lower his ERA and to maintain his pitching accuracy. After early injuries plagued the Athletics, he is now back in Oakland in the five spot after being recalled on May 26 for injured pitchers Kendall Graveman and Jesse Hahn. Both of these pitchers started the season in the starting rotation with Cotton but now find themselves on the disabled list. Working alongside him in days one through four respectively, are right handed pitcher Andrew Triggs, rightie Daniel Mengden, who was also recently added to the starting rotation, ace righthander Sonny Gray and southpaw Sean Manaea.

"If I would do it all over again I would choose to come here again."

—Jharel Cotton

Cotton's ERA for the Athletics currently sits at a 5.56 with a 3-5 record in eight games started. He is one of the few pitchers for Oakland to have a decision in each game started this year. In those eight starts, he has pitched 43 2/3 innings — allowing 44 hits and just 27 earned runs. Cotton has accumulated 40 strikeouts for an opposing .265 BA and owns a 1.44 WHIP (walks plus hits per inning pitched).

Cotton transferred to ECU from Miami Dade College in 2011 after not accepting a contract from the New York Mets, who drafted him with the 852nd pick in the draft that year. Instead, he was scouted and offered a scholarship by the Pirates, where he pitched to finish up his college career.

Under former baseball Head Coach Billy Godwin, the Pirates made Regionals behind Cotton in the pitching rotation. He brought his knack for strikeouts to Greenville along with a mentality to keep his team in every game during the regular and postseason. Cotton best remembered a Sunday appearance against Central Florida on March 25, 2012 to salvage a win in a lost series against the Knights to go along with his career strikeout day against University of Birmingham Alabama; both of which saw Cotton fan double-digit batters.

"Against Central Florida, I had an 11-strikeout game in seven (innings) and I thought that was one of my best games," Cotton said. "Then I had

another one where I played against University of Birmingham Alabama and I struck out 12. Both of those were the best games I pitched there. I think I won eight ball games and I kept my team in it during the year."

During his year at ECU as the Sunday starter, Cotton posted an 8-3 record in 15 starts with a 3.65 ERA. He pitched a total of 74 innings, allowing just 76 hits and picking up 62 strikeouts, accumulating to roughly one per inning pitched. He gave up just 30 earned runs with a 1.35 WHIP and a 2.58 strike-to-ball ratio, while allowing just two home runs all year.

"When I transferred to ECU, it made my mindset of the game a lot better," Cotton said. "It taught me how to become a better pitcher and how to stay in the game mentally."

Following his junior season at ECU, Cotton was drafted in the 20th round by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2012. He took the contract this time and started out in the Dodgers' Double-A and Triple-A farm teams. Cotton spent that next year with the Great Lakes Loons and Rancho Cucamonga Quakes in Triple-A before breaking his wrist and being sent down to the Chattanooga Lookouts in Double-A.

"I broke my wrist on a comebacker in a big leagues spring training game from a left handed hitter on the Angels and it shattered my wrist," Cotton said. "I ended up getting surgery and I was out for two months. Rehab was very intense because I needed to get my range of motion back."

Coming off a 3-2 loss to the New York Yankees, where Cotton threw a career-high 107 pitches and had a no-hit bid through six innings before giving up a two-run home run, the former Pirate will take the mound again on Thursday against the Cleveland Indians.

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

>> TRACK & FIELD COLUMN

University investment necessary



Robbie Milton III
TEC STAFF

East Carolina's track and field team had 31 athletes on the men's team and 49 athletes on the women's team and sent 13 athletes to the NCAA preliminary rounds in Lexington, Kentucky last week.

This season was successful in seeing multiple school and personal records broken, while also winning some league titles at the American Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships. One example of the team's success is Stefano Migliorati. The sophomore from Calvisano, Italy broke the school's men's 800 meter race record twice this year and also won the AAC title in the same event. The Pirates achieved this in the outdoor season while having only one home meet and five away meets before the conference championships.

The problem with this setup though, is the unfair quality of meets that the team gets to travel to and compete in. The track and field team has to travel to other North Carolina universities such as Duke, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State. However, these meets don't always offer the best competition for the team to improve and be on bigger stages to help get the publicity they so deserve.

ECU could put more money towards sending the track and field team to bigger track meets, such as the Drake Relays. Along with this, the track and field team could use more money to bring better competition to their one home meet the Bill Carson Invitational they have each outdoor season. Having watched this past years' home meets in person, I witnessed the level of competition first hand, and while some participating schools were competitive, others were not.

If the athletic program would put more of a focus on the "small money" sports, such as track and field, swimming and softball, I believe the university would grow and could possibly lead to getting into bigger conferences, such as the ACC, which holds in-state rivals, UNC and NC State.

Not only does the track and field team not get enough attention from the athletic program, it is missing its support from the students in the university as well. I put that blame on a lack of unity from the "small money" sports and the student body. However, if these sports were to get more money and be put in better situations to improve their standings in the conference, there would be more of a well-rounded sense of connection to all the sports that ECU has.

Overall, the track and field program has a bright future ahead of itself and could one day be one of the "big money" sports. If the program were to get the necessary improvements in funding and opportunity to compete in larger meets with bigger track programs, it could allow this university to improve and bring in more money and create greater and better opportunities.

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

Former ECU track star focuses on future

Robbie Milton III
TEC STAFF

Avion Jones made his mark on both the East Carolina track and field program's and the NCAA's history but he hasn't stopped grinding since completing his athletic career as a Pirate.

Jones had a record-breaking career at ECU after his transfer from the Virginia Military Institute. In 2016, his final year of NCAA eligibility, Jones set the NCAA record for the men's high jump when he cleared 2.31 meters. Jones was also a two-time, first-team All-American during his time in Greenville, North Carolina.

"I think it sets a precedent that if you're going to transfer here, the resources are available to you to be very successful not only as an athlete, but a student as well," said Head Coach Curt Kraft.

Kraft said Jones' impact on the ECU track and field team can't be

measured by just his achievements and on-field ability.

"He set the bar high and actions speak louder than words," Kraft said. "When they saw him compete, one of the biggest impacts he left was that people wanted to elevate their level, their game."

2016 saw Jones working his hardest for ECU's track and field team, while also trying to earn a spot on the United States' 2016 Olympic squad as a high jumper. Although Jones didn't receive a ticket to fly down to Rio de Janeiro to represent the U.S. in the Olympics, he's not letting that slow him down.

Jones is working to further his athletic career after finishing his final year of collegiate eligibility last May. This past outdoor track season, Jones competed across the country, including in some meets where ECU also competed. He said he has also been working hard to pursue his goals of winning on

the next level by training to make the U.S. team for the IAAF World Championships, which will be held in London this August.

Soon, Jones will begin training to earn the chance to compete for the U.S. in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

"For right now, it's training to try to make it to London, trying to get back to where I was last year," Jones said.

This goal requires a tremendous amount of training, and during the school year, Jones says he had a tough time fitting training into his schedule. During the second semester of the school year, Jones began his internship teaching at E.B. Aycock Middle School for his degree in special education, which took up most of his day. Jones was then forced to train in the evening but was limited in the winter because of the lack of lighting. As the year went on though, Jones says he was able to gain more and more time to train.



Former Pirate track star Avion Jones competes in his event, the high jump.

"I was, to me, below average when competing unattached in the indoor season," Jones said.

Jones, like every other college student, has to say goodbye to his school at some point, but for Jones, his experience was a little different. He had to say goodbye to competing for the team where he completed his college career, and where he made history in collegiate athletics.

"Overall I wouldn't trade it for the world. I transferred here," Jones said. "And I'm definitely glad I came here rather than anywhere else. If I would do it all over again, I would choose to come here again because experience taught me a lot."

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