



LUNA PIZZA TO BRING DINING OPTIONS TO DICKINSON Turn to A3



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Wednesday, 7.19.17

Coach Mo demands excellence



TYLER GAVIN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Jimmy Williams, Jordan Williams and Scottie Montgomery speak to media during the AAC Summer Kickoff and Media Days yesterday.

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

The football coaches of the American Athletic Conference, escorted by selected players, descended on Rhode Island to participate in the AAC's Summer Kickoff and Media Days, which came to an end yesterday.

East Carolina University's Head Coach Scottie Montgomery came to the two-day event with one objective in mind: "Excellence."

That is a far cry for the team that went 3-9 last season and had the worst turnover differential in the entire conference. This year Montgomery expects every player to strive to reach his goal.

"Whether it's off the field or on the field, they know exactly what I mean when I say excellence," Montgomery said. "Nothing less. If we're playing on the field, we're playing lights out. There's no question about it."

To be excellent this season, facing a grueling non-conference schedule and improved American conference, the Pirates need to focus on two essential components- ball control and defense, according to Montgomery. Besides turning the ball more than 16 times more than taking it away, ECU also surrendered

> CONFERENCE page A6

ECU student charged with statutory rape

Mathew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

A student enrolled at East Carolina University as of Spring 2017 was charged Monday with statutory rape and indecent liberties with a child in Pender County, North Carolina.

Taylor Moseley, 20, of Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, turned herself into the Pender County Magistrate's office Monday, according to a press release by the Surf City Police Department.

"Her charges stem from a sexual relationship with a 14-year-old male during the month of May," according to the release. "The 14-year-old's mother became aware of the sexual contact and contacted Pender Department of Social Services."



Taylor Moseley

The victim and Moseley met at JM's Place, a bar in Surf City, North Carolina where she and the mutual friend worked together, according to the release.

The Pender Department of Social Services referred the case to the Surf City Police Department, who then charged Moseley.

According to the Surf City Police Department, Moseley was booked in the Pender County jail under a \$225,000 bond. She has been charged with indecent liberties with a child, statutory rape of a 13, 14 or 15-year-old individual and statutory sex offense with a child. Her first appearance in court was scheduled for yesterday.

According to ECU News Services, Moseley was most recently enrolled at ECU in the Spring of 2017 and majoring in psychology. It is unknown if Moseley was enrolled in the upcoming fall semester.

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



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
(From left) Israel Mendez, Destiny Eddleman and Emily Franklin discuss different student organizations during the orientation club fair.

ORIENTATION COMES TO CLOSE

Incoming students learn about ECU's traditions, values

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

The crowds of incoming students wearing lanyards and rushing around campus for orientation activities left for the summer yesterday as freshmen orientation at East Carolina University came to a close.

Mary Beth Corbin, executive director of the Office of Student Transitions, said the orientation season went really well.

"All the families, I feel like, have left here happy with what they've seen around campus," Corbin said. "They're really satisfied. We hear over and over what a good experience this is for them. Honestly, we have people say (they) went to State's or Carolina's and ECU's orientation is just the best."

Director of ECU Dowdy Student Stores Bryan Tuten said Dowdy was involved with

orientations through contributing different items to help welcome students.

"What we donated for summer orientations were the store bags, folders, pens, notepads," Tuten said. "For the free gift for the students that came in, they got the orientation T-shirt, for the parents, their free gift was an ECU custom calendar. For the orientation staff, that includes the orientation assistants, we donated to them their Adidas Polo shirts... orientation T-shirts and I think a planner, some socks."

Junior political science major Joshua Killian, Sergeant-at-Arms for ECU's chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, a National Honorary Band Fraternity, said he has attended most of the orientation fairs during this summer's sessions to help represent his fraternity.



Mary Beth Corbin

"We've had more interest than we thought we would," Killian said. "This is our first year out here so we didn't know how it would go. I'm meeting people who are in bands, interested in marching band, things like that, (and) giving them more information on marching band or any other concert bands or really any questions they have about the music program here so that's been pretty nice."

Geoffrey Whitley, ECU orientation

> ORIENTATION page A2

Sexual consent loophole raises concern ahead of fall

Mathew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

As North Carolina Democratic state Senator Jeff Jackson fights to allow individuals to revoke consent during sexual intercourse, East Carolina University and the Greenville Police Department await the busiest time of year for sexual violence cases.

Jackson is fighting against a law created by a 1979 North Carolina Supreme Court case in which they ruled that an individual cannot revoke consent during sexual intercourse.

As the debate rages on at the state legislature, the beginning of the fall semester marks a time in ECU's calendar year where more sexual violence cases are reported.

"Right at the beginning of the ECU school semester, we see an increase until about, I would say, December," GPD Detective Nikki Verdin said. "We see an increase

in reports of sexual assaults due to the fact that you have a lot of outside elements."



Malorie Porter

Verdin went on to explain that individuals being away from their families for the first time and alcohol both contribute to the increase during the fall semester.

"If you're impaired, then you can't legally give consent," GPD Sergeant Chris Viverette said. "The question would be if their impairment is not so gross that they're able to give consent and if that consent is valid, then they wouldn't be able to withdraw it, according to that loophole."

In the event of a sexual assault, GPD would investigate the criminal aspect of the case while ECU

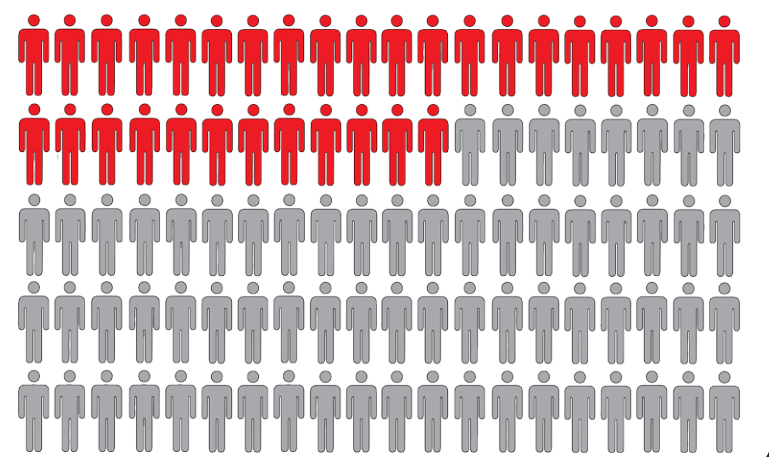
would interpret the act as a violation of university policy.

"Consent is explicit approval and permission to engage in sexual activity demonstrated by clear actions, words, or writings," according to university policy. "Consent is informed, freely given, continuing, and mutually understood by all parties involved."

Once ECU is made aware of a sexual assault case or report, the university will work to investigate the claim, according to Malorie Porter, Title XI compliance officer at ECU. If the investigation yields any violations to university policy, then the case is referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for any disciplinary action.

According to the 2016 Annual Report of Incidents of Alleged Sex

32% OF ECU TITLE IX CASES ARE SEXUAL ASSAULT



INFOGRAPHIC BY JESSICA EVANS

> CONSENT page A2 Information courtesy of the ECU Office for Equity and Diversity's annual report.

ONLINE

» ECU Athletic official explains facilities policy

» Danielle's Discover Weekly brings listeners five underrated songs

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU vice chancellor awarded by PCC

Pitt Community College honored East Carolina University Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Virginia Hardy with the Distinguished Service Award at Thursday's graduation ceremony.

Hardy, a Greenville native, served as a trustee of PCC from 2008-16 after being appointed to the board by the Pitt County Commissioners. As a trustee, Hardy chaired the college's Personnel Committee and served on several other committees.

PCC Trustee Patti Sanders-Smith noted during the ceremony that Hardy utilized the student affairs and employee leadership experience she gained at ECU to provide trustees and college administrative staff with welcomed insight throughout her eight years of service.

ECU Summer Ventures to host open house

High school students from the East Carolina University Summer Ventures program will host an archaeological open house in Greenville.

The open house will be located at the Leroy James Farmers' Market. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and will be free to the public.

The event will teach visitors more about the County Home for the Aged and Infirm and its operations in the late 1800's and 1900's. The organizers will also demonstrate excavation techniques and display artifacts that have been found at the site.

ECU faculty member named leader of Coastal Studies Institute

East Carolina University has filled the Interim Executive Director of the University of North Carolina Coastal Studies Institute after it was vacated earlier this year.

Michael Piehler will take over the position from Nancy White after she retired earlier this year. Piehler has served as the head of the estuarine ecology and the human health research program since 2004.

The UNC Coastal Studies Institute is a multi-university institute located in Wanchese, North Carolina and is administered by ECU.

Piehler received his doctorate in environmental science and engineering from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since 1998 he has been a member of the faculty at the UNC Chapel Hill Institute of Marine Science.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Interim Mayor Smith aims to inspire youth

Cookie Brower
TEC STAFF

As the first African-American female mayor of Greenville, Kandie Smith said she is looking to inspire the next generation while filling key positions in the city government being vacated by retirement.

"This has never happened before, so this is historic," Smith said. "This shows that we are on the dawn of embracing diversity."



Kandie Smith

Smith said she plans to continue to teach, uplift and be a role model for each child in Greenville, while focusing on hiring the correct staff for key positions, the safety of each citizen and economic development.

Smith is originally from Spartanburg, South Carolina, but later moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. Smith went to Charleston Southern University in Charleston, South Carolina. There, she studied sociology with a minor in communication.

"Sociology helps with the caring and the people side, but being an advocate for people and their rights, communication helps with that side, the public speaking side," Smith said.

Smith previously coached basketball at South Central High School in Greenville and the East Carolina University Club basketball team.

"I have been involved with the community for years and I feel that being the past president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc has molded me to get involved in the community so I plan to bring that mentality to Greenville," Smith said.

Smith said she interacts with students at local elementary, middle and high schools in Greenville through being a substitute teacher, regardless of what other job she may be doing.

"My goal is to tell them they could be something," Smith said. "Through challenges, rewards and encouragement"

Smith said children are her passion.

"I want them to know they can be anything they want to be," Smith said. "And I always tell people... 'You didn't stop playing because you got

" This has never happened before, so this is historic "

-Kandie Smith

old. You got old because you stopped playing."

Although Smith is currently the interim mayor, being a part of city council was not in her sights when initially coming to Greenville.

"My friend told me to run," Smith said. "I told them to give me two years so that I can learn the city. That time came and I ran against a 22-year incumbent and I won by 12 votes... I'm a fighter. I don't stop."

Smith said her goal is to maintain stability in Greenville since many jobs on the city's side are changing seats. She added, "Changes of key positions creates chaos and that's what we don't want to happen."

Smith said through interactions with citizens of the community, she is better able to assess what issues are present in order to find ways to fix them.

"I do research on economic development, jobs and how to make the city best for paying citizens," Smith said. "I want to continue developing the area."

Smith said her participation in a sorority was influential to her motivation and drive.

"I am a natural advocate by heart," Smith said. "Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc were big on social action and it is great that I can take that to a higher level. I have helped people find housing and jobs, as well as help them fit the requirements that may make them successful in their job quest."

Mayor Pro Tem Rose Glover said her experience working with Smith has shown her the new mayor's character.

"Kandie and I have known each other for about ten years," Glover said. "We met doing social work in the community for Saturday clean up and got closer once we both had a seat in city council."

She added, "Kandie is young, smart, mature, easy to get along with and relentless in her pursuits."

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

ORIENTATION continued from A1

assistant, said he loved the incoming freshmen's attitude and energy.

"They've been very positive about everything and of course the orientation assistants have been doing a phenomenal job these last 10 sessions to get everything done and ready for the fall, so I think overall we've had a great ECU orientation session," Whitley said.

Whitley added orientation assistants make sure to tell freshmen to have fun while at ECU, but to remember they came here to get a degree.

"So the most important thing they've learned here is balance, but also they learn about our Pirate traditions and our spirit here so I think in the fall when they come here they're going to really enjoy ECU," Whitley said.

Incoming ECU freshman Shanira Mitchell said she got a lot of useful information from orientation for the upcoming school year.

"It's making me excited for the fall," Mitchell said. "I'm learning a lot about my major and starting to rethink some things but I think if I



Christopher Leggett (left) and Joshua Killian discuss their club during the orientation club fair.

didn't have this, then I would be a lot more lost... It's preparing me well."

Fellow incoming ECU freshman, Dasir King, said he had the chance to talk with a lot of different people.

"A lot of other students, a lot of other people coming in, people who have already been here. It's a family-like environment," King said. "The campus is beautiful so just seeing it made me more excited to come on and move in."

Corbin said orientation is not a show for the incoming students and their parents, but to show

them how ECU's campus really is.

"I think everybody on this campus really believes in student success and we all want to do what we can do to help them and we start that at admitted student days but we really begin it at orientation," Corbin said. "Research tells us that if students connect to their university then they're more likely to come back the second year and they're more likely to graduate so I think those early sessions are huge."

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

HELP WANTED

ECU STUDENT MEDIA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ECU Student Media has immediate openings for several positions

- Junior Account Executive
- Campus Account Executive

Must be a reliable, enthusiastic, team-player. Interested applicants must be enrolled at East Carolina University, possess and maintain a minimum 2.25 GPA, and be in good disciplinary and academic standing with ECU.

To apply, Please send letter of interest and resume to SMAA@ecu.edu

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PLUS
MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

TODAY

Christmas in July at the Umbrella Market

Five Points Plaza
5 p.m.

Yoga in the Park

Town Common
6 p.m.

Wine Down

Wednesday

Pure Barre
7 p.m.

Magic the Gathering—Booster Draft

Blue Ox Games
7 p.m.

THURSDAY

Ancient Photons Exhibition Reception

Joyner Library
4 p.m.

Open Mic Night

Professor O'Cool's
7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Barks & Brews

Uptown Brewing Company
5 p.m.

Sun Salutation Remix

YogiVibes Studio
6 p.m.

SATURDAY

The Witch's Basic Apothecary Class

The Sojourner
3 p.m.

Adult Prom: Make It Last Forever

Convention Center
8 p.m.

Spazz Presents - Cranes Are Flying (Philly) w/ August Is Ours

Trollingwood
8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Yoga In The Park

Town Common
4 p.m.

Sunday in the Park Concert Series

Town Common
7 p.m.



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Glassblown projects created at the GlasStation. ECU began offering the glassblowing classes in spring 2017 and they are set to continue in the fall.

Glass shows student creativity

ECU offers first college glassblowing program in state

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

In a rural town about 15 miles away from main campus, the GlasStation can be found, where glassblowing classes are available to students at East Carolina University.

ECU became the first college to provide a glass program in North Carolina when it added a glassblowing class to their College of Fine Arts and Communication curriculum during the spring semester of 2017. The glassblowing classes will once again be available to ECU students in the fall.

The class is taught by adjunct instructor Michael Tracy and takes place at the GlasStation in Farmville, North Carolina.

Tracy said he was initially nervous but he looked forward to instructing the first glassblowing class at ECU.

"It's exciting to be part of a new glass studio and program from the ground up," Tracy said. "I'm able to take from everything I've seen in various programs and implement what I've felt worked and try to avoid what didn't."

ECU Master of Fine Arts student Ronson Shultz said he liked being one of the first students to take the class because it allowed him to break in some new equipment and tools.

"With anything, there is always a guinea pig element to it," Shultz said. "What will work, what doesn't, it's all kind of up in the air but I don't mind, I enjoy the new set of challenges."

Shultz added there was a natural familiarity to the process of glassblowing.

"The process of creating an object on an axis," Shultz said. "The thought process of making something for the hand to conform around and I already have the eye to critique an object that stands up to both utilitarian function and artist merit."

Shultz said it seemed practical to learn something about glassblowing and it would aid him in pushing his boundaries.

Glassblowing stands out in comparison to other art forms in its transparency, Shultz said. Since it's one of the few things that individuals can build with that is transparent, it comes with



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Various glassblown designs displayed. ECU is the first university in North Carolina to offer the program.

a whole host of ideas both conceptual and practical, according to Shultz.

Tracy said there is a simple answer as to why people are interested in glassblowing— it's shiny.

"Even with materials such as clear acrylic resins being fairly accessible these days, they can't compare to glass in transparency and light refraction in many cases," Tracy said. "The physical properties of glass are what keep me enthralled with it. It can be shiny and transparent, or it can be opaque and matte. It can be a large, solid, heavy mass or a very delicate, thin bubble."

Tracy added that as an artist, the flexibility and adaptability of the material make it fantastic to work with and give a never-ending learning experience. He said early on in his own education, a friend told him "there's always something else to do to glass."

Tracy said community outreach is also a part of their mission at the GlasStation.

"We do regular demonstrations that anybody

can come and watch," Tracy said. "We have short classes offered through continuing-(education) that are open to anybody, not just ECU students."

Tracy said he has worked with the Farmville Community Arts Council and put on a joint glassblowing and music event.

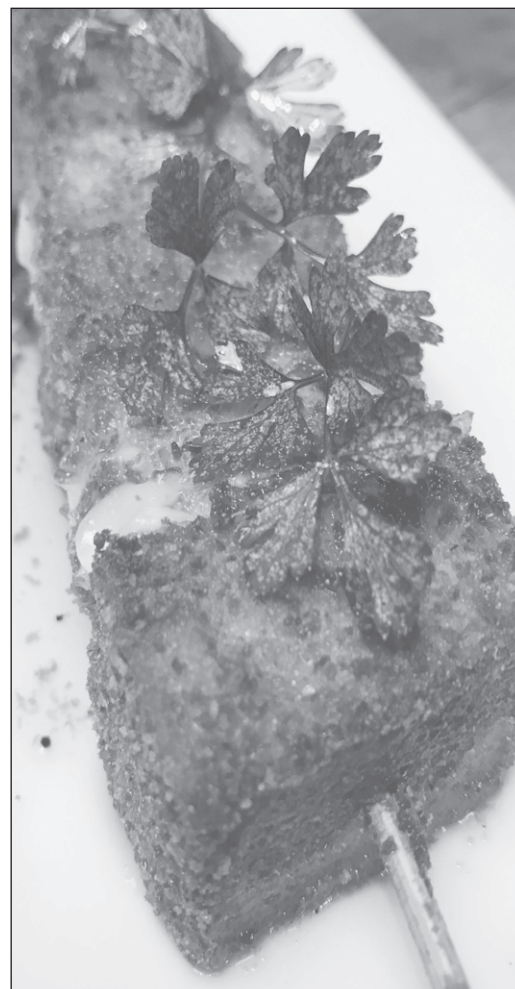
Shultz said he hopes to gain a different sphere of influence from taking the glassblowing class. He wants a different way to approach his own work and hopefully find a way to let it stand out from others who work in ceramics.

Although the GlasStation is currently closed for maintenance, according to their Facebook page, they will reopen for students and the public by the end of August for the fall semester.

According to the the School of Art and Design's website, classes are two-hours long and no experience is required. Participants must be 18 or older and may register at www.enrole.com/ecu.

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

Pizzeria to open downtown this fall



Luna Pizza's appetizer, Spiedini alla Romana, is mozzarella stuffed white bread pan-fried.

Hope Benton
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Uptown Greenville has been in the process of growing its local businesses throughout the year and it doesn't plan on stopping anytime soon. A new pizza restaurant called Luna Pizza is the latest addition and will be opening in early to mid-September.

The owner of Luna Pizza, Richard Williams, has a real passion for food. Williams said he was in the middle of a crisis earlier this year, while deciding if he wanted to make a change of career at age 52. He finally decided it was time for a change after attending the BIVERO Pizza Academy in Florence, Italy.

"I chose pizza because no one is doing high end pizza here," Williams said. "It's America's favorite food and they need more places that are doing interesting things with familiar foods."

He said he wants his pizza to have a very traditional recipe.

"I think pizza is really special, and this isn't normal pizza," Williams said. "It's the

traditional style pizza, cooked very quickly, at very high temperatures in a brick oven. The dough will go through a three to four day fermentation. There will be no pepperonis, no fountain drinks. We're trying to elevate everything and make everything a little nicer."

Luna Pizza will be located on Dickinson Street between Smash Waffles' permanent location and the new Pitt Street Brewery.

Williams added his restaurant will be a small space with 60 seats total, 12 of which will be at the bar.

"The whole thing is influenced by Italy," Williams said. "I want to create a wonderful dining experience, you won't believe you're in Greenville, it won't look like it. You'll walk out thankful that we have this place."

Williams added part of his mission is to give back to the community.

"Give more than you get and be blessed, we want to use that," Williams said. "There is a golden pizza option where customers 10 times a day can add

\$10 to their bills and they can choose to donate that money to the charity of their choice in Greenville. We'd also like to sponsor a little league team, at some point, just to get involved with youth sports locally."

Williams said he wants suggestions from customers and that if a customer comes up with a pizza idea that isn't listed on the menu, he'll name it after them and keep it for that month.

Williams added there also needs to be a place for Greenville's young professionals. He hopes Luna Pizza will be a place that college students want to bring their parents when they're visiting or for a date night.

"We want everything done right," Williams said. "We want the cooks to be well trained and the wait staff to be well trained. We want people to be excited about the opening. Ethic of high quality, giving back and terrific dining experience is going to translate very well."

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

OUR VIEW

Alcohol sales should not be regulated

Buying or selling alcohol in Greenville took one step closer to becoming legal recently when the city council announced it would debate the topic at its August meeting.

The "Brunch Bill" was signed into law by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper at the end of June. Individual municipalities have the right to adopt the law or not.

However, instead of debating whether or not Greenville businesses should be allowed to sell alcohol two hours earlier on Sunday, shouldn't we as a community talk about why North Carolina even needs to regulate when consumers can purchase alcohol at all?

If the city council passes an ordinance in support of the new alcohol sales law, it will be great for businesses, consumers and anyone concerned about the overreach of government. Businesses could begin selling alcohol to patrons earlier which could increase sales, consumers don't have to live by archaic laws and those worried about the overreach of government regulation can rejoice over a cold beer to celebrate their new found freedom. Therefore, debating whether or not an individual can buy a beer two hours earlier seems a little foolish.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, support the idea that no government should regulate when a consumer should purchase alcohol. No matter if it's 5 a.m. or 5 p.m., in all likelihood, the difference in time will have no tangible effect on crime or any other danger to the community.

This debate over the times alcohol can be purchased or sold is encouraging. Nevertheless, it seems to be waste of debate in comparison to the benefits of allowing businesses and consumers to freely buy or sell alcohol at their leisure.

SHENEMAN TRUJE CONTENT AGENCY



Campus parking needs reevaluation



Matthew Prensky
TEC STAFF

Don't Mind Matt

Being stuck between a rock and a hard place is the perfect analogy to describe parking on the main campus of East Carolina University.

For students, professors and faculty, parking on campus without a permit presents the risks of getting caught and paying a \$35 fine to the university.

Similarly to most students, many professors or staff are forced to park off campus and walk to their classes or offices. After enough time, some faculty do receive an A1 parking sticker, but those occurrences are rare.

The answer mosts students and faculty come up with is to build more parking lots or decks. However, the university's leadership is stuck in the same hard place as the students and faculty.

If someone takes a walk through campus or drives around the perimeter of ECU, they will quickly notice that space in the surrounding neighborhood is sparse. ECU's leadership recognize the need for more parking, but space close to main campus isn't available.

That lack of space forces off-campus or commuter students to park by Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium and staff to parking near the intersection of Evans Street and 10th Street. On campus, students get the "best" deal by being allowed to park in B lots located relatively close to main campus compared to the C or D lots.

ECU is in a difficult situation when it comes to parking. The reason a solution is

hard to find is because there doesn't seem to be a simple, complete fix to the problem.

However, there is a solution that could ease the parking frustrations. If ECU relaxed certain parking rules around main campus, lowered the price and made student parking stickers easier to purchase and improved the ECU Transit system, the university could see some relief from its parking woes.

If ECU changed certain parking regulations around main campus, it would allow more individuals to have better access to their vehicles, and give off-campus students a chance to park on campus and not risk getting a parking ticket.

There are certain portions of main campus such as the parking near West End, the spaces near Joyner Library and the Old Cafeteria building and surrounding the Brewster building that could be opened up to any vehicle, regardless of a parking sticker, after 7 p.m.

The spaces sit unused, but if a student tries to park on main campus they run the risks of paying a \$35 ticket. Giving students the chance to freely park anywhere on campus from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., seven days a week, gives them a chance to use the amenities on campus they pay good money for.

Furthermore, more students would buy parking stickers if they were cheaper and more readily available. For students buying a parking pass is an ordeal. First, depending on the time of year, parking passes may not even be available. If they are, be prepared to pay good money to park off campus and hike to class or wait for a bus to commute to campus.

This system doesn't make any sense. The worst part is, even with an expensive parking pass, students can still receive

parking tickets if they don't pay attention to the fine-print on signs.

Finally, ECU Transit plays a crucial role in solving the parking dilemma. Off-campus students, particularly at The Landing, 33 East, Copper Beech or The Davis, rely on buses for their commutes to class. Even on a good day, consistent, reliable bus service isn't a guarantee.

Accidents happen, delays occur and that is understandable. The university should increase funding to ECU Transit so the department can hire more employees and purchase more buses. With that larger workforce, the department can rotate more buses on a route to ensure constant service to students. Better than that, on weeknights and weekends, ECU Transit can continue to offer that constant service to student apartments.

Parking at ECU isn't a fun situation for students, faculty or even administrators. While an overarching solution isn't available, they're small fixes possible that could improve the problem.

Instead of constructing massive buildings such as a student center, ECU would be wise to save the money, frustration and time to focus on current problems facing the university.

Student centers are definitely exciting and great for ECU, but if buildings aren't reinforced as they grow then they'll crumple onto itself. ECU is growing at an impressive rate, but unless the administration takes the time to fix these minor issues this university can't be the next great institution our chancellor envisions.

Matthew Prensky is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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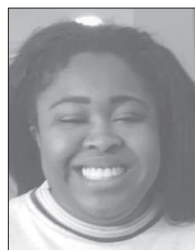
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Concept albums mark artist growth



Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Bless The Press

From the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" to Green Day's "American Idiot," concept albums have been long ingrained in the past of rock music. As a music consumer, I can't help but wonder how captivating it would be if artists from all genres of music would take such a creative initiative.

A concept album takes a central theme and explores all of its facets through each of its tracks. For example, Sufjan Steven's "Illinois" explores the geographical, political and literary history of Illinois, while also exploring the artist's sexuality and religion. As long as there have been records, there have been concept albums. Concept albums can be difficult to pull off, but are well worth the effort. It can showcase the depth of one's talent and challenges a musician to think in a way they may never have thought of before. Concept albums have no business being confined to one genre. Artists have to be willing to break free from their comfort zones and predispositions.

For one, concept albums can provide a sense of relatability to the listener. These albums tend to be more time consuming to create, but that is only due to how much extra thought goes into the structure of such

a musical project. Concept albums tend to centralize on thematic elements. Each song tells a story, through the title or lyrical content, and conveys a picture in the reader's mind. After finishing a concept album, listeners usually end up gaining a better understanding of what the artist stands for and against, establishing a music-made bond like no other.

Big Sean's latest album, "I Decided," is one that holds true to a message of relatability. Telling the tale of a man who gets a second chance at life, the Detroit rapper tells a story of mistakes and rebirth from the songs all the way to the album cover, which is an illustration of a present-day version of himself on the left and an older version of himself on the right. With songs like "Jump Out The Window" and "Bigger Than Me," he captivates lyrical truth about relationships and perseverance, which can be related to by a diverse range of listeners.

Secondly, concept albums can make consumers interested in another genre or in that particular artist. The songs fit together like a puzzle, so if someone listens to one song of a concept album, they're more likely to listen to another being that that one song is one part of a bigger piece.

Take electropop singer Melanie Martinez's 2015 debut album, "Crybaby," for example. The album is about a character named Cry Baby, a fantasy version of Martinez as a child, and is a representation of her vulnerable and messed up side. Described by Martinez as a "a child who

experiences adult things," she also claims that many of the things that have happened to Cry Baby are similar to the things that have happened in her own life.

No matter the age, race or background, music is something that has the ability to connect all people. Concept albums take a simple album to new heights. By basing a whole album around a certain theme, more people are likely to appreciate the time and effort. More people would want to listen to each track, as they are chapters building up to the climax. A concept album is a journey for both the artist and the listener, and the bond of relatability can deepen through the fruition of the thematic, yet melodic work.

While I'm convinced that all albums take a great deal of work to create, it's important for musicians to go the extra mile and take their artistry to the next level. From newcomers to veterans, a concept album is a step in the right direction when it comes to building upon any musician's discography.

Finally, concept albums can be the peak or the turning point for a musician in terms of growth, depth and popularity. It's one thing to just switch your sound, but it's another thing to morph your music. Concept albums are an innovative method for an artist to morph their musical talent in a way they never have before.

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

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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKET

TRAPPIST-1 PLANETS! HOW CAN WE DETERMINE IF PLANETS TOO FAR AWAY TO SEE EVEN WITH A TELESCOPE COULD BE HABITABLE?

WHAT A STAR 232 TRILLION MILES AWAY CAN TELL US ABOUT ITS PLANETS

1. DOES THE STAR HAVE ANY PLANETS? WE SEE A TINY DROP IN A STAR'S BRIGHTNESS IF A PLANET PASSES IN FRONT OF IT.
2. HOW BIG IS THE PLANET? THE LARGER THE DROP IN BRIGHTNESS.
3. MULTIPLE PLANETS? IF THE DROPS IN BRIGHTNESS VARY IN INTENSITY AND REPEAT AT DIFFERENT INTERVALS, IT COULD MEAN MULTIPLE PLANETS.
4. HOW CLOSE TO ITS STAR? THE FREQUENCY OF THE DROP REVEALS ITS DISTANCE FROM THE STAR. (PLANETS FARTHER AWAY TAKE LONGER TO ORBIT.)
5. IS THE PLANET HABITABLE? THE DISTANCE FROM THE STAR TELLS US IF A PLANET FALLS INTO A HABITABLE ZONE - NOT TOO CLOSE OR TOO FAR FROM THE STAR.

FINALLY, THIS TELLS US IF A PLANET IS WORTH INHABITING!

TRAPPIST-1 DONUT SHOP

BEST IN SHOW

HI, PEEZ! WHAT'RE YOU DRAWING? AN EPIC BATTLE BETWEEN THE REBEL ALLIANCE AND THE EMPIRE.

BZZZ-KN-BLOON! HOLY BUCKETS, WHAT WAS THAT?!

THE DEATH STAR'S SUPER LASER. UNTIL THAT THING IS DESTROYED, RESISTANCE IS FUTILE.

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Samms
- 5 "A Nightmare on ___ Street"; Johnny Depp movie
- 8 "Family ___"
- 9 Disney's elephant
- 12 Older son on "Family Guy"
- 13 Intense unhappiness
- 14 Look searchingly
- 15 Damon or Dillon
- 16 "___ Got a Secret"
- 18 Actress MacGraw
- 19 Sitcom for Jamie Farr
- 20 Max of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 21 Marvin and Majors
- 23 Skater ___ Harding
- 24 "___ Man Standing"
- 25 Actor Everett
- 26 Morgan, once of "America's Got Talent"
- 28 Part of the musical scale
- 29 Miners' discoveries
- 30 "The Sonny and ___ Comedy Hour"
- 32 Letter from Greece
- 35 Role on "Roseanne"

- 36 City in Utah
- 37 "Bus ___"; movie for Marilyn Monroe
- 38 Leo G. Carroll series of old TV
- 40 Actress Debi ___
- 41 Actor Rob ___
- 42 "The Crazy ___"; last series for Robin Williams
- 43 Colony insect
- 44 Fender ding

DOWN

- 1 Role on "I Love Lucy"
- 2 Star of "The Catch"
- 3 Israel's Golda
- 4 Burro
- 5 Mrs. Bunker
- 6 One of seven deadly sins
- 7 Sra. in Paris
- 10 Actor on "NCIS"
- 11 Comment from Fran of "The Nanny"
- 12 Expert accountant, for short
- 13 Bell and Barker
- 15 "Two Years Before the ___"; Alan Ladd film based on a classic
- 17 Historical period
- 19 Clutter
- 20 "Fresh Off the ___"
- 22 All ___; listening
- 23 "___ she blows!"
- 25 Skelton's Kadiddlehopper
- 26 Pea casing
- 27 Up in arms
- 30 "Falcon ___"
- 31 "I'm with ___"
- 33 Breakfast side order
- 34 Spring month: abbr.
- 36 "___ Season"; Ashton Kutcher movie
- 37 Not bananas
- 39 "Harper Valley ___"
- 40 "The ___ Squad"; series for Michael Cole

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Concentrate on your message through tomorrow. Writing projects thrive with disciplined efforts. Stick to solid ground; avoid fantastical illusions. Follow rules and basic structures.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Cash flow increases over the next few days. Pay bills and handle obligations before spending on treats. Disciplined communications lead to profitable connections.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Assertiveness works in your favor today and tomorrow. Experienced connections can teach you the rules of the game. Study a personal passion.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Slow down and consider options. Finish your work in private today and tomorrow. Determine the results you're after, and come up with a persuasive pitch.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Team coordination pays off over the next few days. Good news comes through networking. Share information and resources. Ask for what you need.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Professional opportunities arise in conversation with your network. Forge ahead, and talk about the possibilities. Get expert support for the tricky stuff. Obsess over details.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- News affects your decisions over the next few days, especially regarding travel or studies. Plan your route. Your wit and cleverness attract new opportunities.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Work together with your partner to keep accounts current over the next few days. Discuss financial priorities, and align on a course of action.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Compromise comes easier over the next few days. Coordinated efforts get through. Be receptive. Listen to your elders. Make future plans together.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- ver the next two days, get your ideas into motion. Share them far and wide. Communications pay off. Talk about your work and health.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Have fun with family and friends through tomorrow. Share resources and chores. Relax and entertain each other. Learn from the ones you love.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Discuss what could be possible for your home with family today and tomorrow. Invest in efficiency. Share ideas and solutions. Implement the best ones.

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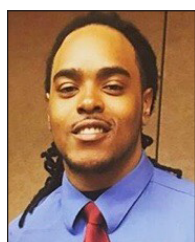
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>> COLUMN

Basketball needs change in leadership



Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

After a roller coaster season that saw key players and Pirates' Head Coach Jeff Lebo miss some games, the East Carolina men's basketball team

prepares to bounce back after a loss in the quarterfinals of the American Athletic Conference Basketball Championship. But should it be done with Lebo still in charge? Has Lebo done enough to stay at the helm for the ECU men's basketball team?

The Pirates started the 2016-17 season off hot by winning seven of their first 10 games under their coach, who is one of the most accomplished in program history.

Under Lebo, the team appeared to play stagnant and unable to compete with teams they should easily defeat. The enthusiasm to win under Lebo seemed at an all-time low for the program. As the Pirates lost games leading up to the midpoint of the season, history began to repeat itself with another disappointing season unfolding.

A quarter way through the season, ECU's winning percentage was slightly above 60 percent, with a record of 8-5, before it started conference play. Power forward Clarence Williams, who was in and out of the starting line-up, was dismissed from the team by Lebo. At the time, Williams was averaging six points, seven rebounds, and two blocks per game. The dismissal of Williams was a shock to both the team and Pirate fanbase, and marked the beginning of the team's decline.

Lebo's decision to dismiss Williams hurt the team, but

not as much as the injuries to his teammates. Over the rest of conference play, injuries began to mount for the Pirates, taking a toll on the team. Starters B.J. Tyson, Kentrell Barkley, Jeremy Shepard, Caleb White and Michel Nzege all missed a couple games during the season, but no injury was worse for the team than losing its coach to a hip injury.

Lebo went through a hip surgery on Jan. 16 and thus was ruled out from coaching indefinitely, eventually missing the rest of the season. Assistant Coach Michael Perry took over as the interim head coach, debuting in the AAC matchup against the



Jeff Lebo

Connecticut Huskies on Jan. 22. Under Perry, the team went 6-8 in the last 14 games of the season. Some can say that while Lebo was out, the team performed better and played with more intensity. Perry turned around the lackluster season for the Pirates, helping get them to the second round of the AAC conference tournament where ECU lost to No. 12 Southern Methodist University 81-77.

Lebo has had a good run with the Pirates, but as the past season shows the team is beginning to grow apart from its operator. Lebo has accomplished many things during his time at ECU, but leading the Pirates to the NCAA tournament isn't among his list of achievements. Most coaches who consistently have a stagnant record do not get the chance to renew their contract.

Lebo is headed into his eighth season as coach of the Pirates, which will make him one of only three coaches in the program's history to last at least eight seasons. His 114 wins are the second most in school history and make him the winningest coach in the program's 52-year Division I history. The best season for Lebo came four years ago in 2013 when the team won a school-record 23 games, while also winning the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament. Despite that, Lebo has had only two winning seasons heading into the upcoming campaign, and the past season did not take any heat off his seat.

I believe because Lebo has been head coach at ECU for seven years and only had two winning seasons, the school needs to part ways with him, despite Lebo being one of the winningest coaches in program history. After leading the team to 18-win and 23-win seasons in his first three years on the job, the Pirates have regressed over the last three seasons. The team has consistently not advanced past the conference tournament under Lebo. Making matters worse for Lebo, the team finished this past season strong under Perry.

Ultimately, last year was an average season for the Pirates compared to past seasons under Lebo. ECU finished 15-18 in the regular season and 6-12 in the AAC, good for ninth in the conference.

The new normal of the program has become a losing mentality. Therefore, we should wish Coach Lebo farewell, and start a new dynasty.

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



ARCHIVED | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Kentrell Barkley grabs a rebound. Barkley was one of several players who missed time during the season, contributing to the disappointing year.



(From left) Scottie Montgomery, Charlie Strong and Geoff Collins at the AAC's Summer Kickoff.

CONFERENCE

continued from A1

30-plus-points on nine separate occasions.

Inside linebacker Jordan Williams, who led the Pirates with 77 tackles last season, and five more returning starters on the defensive side of the ball are optimistic that East Carolina can hold offenses from running away with any more games.

"There's a big focus on defense," Jordan Williams said. "I think we're trying to move over to a defensive minded team. We need that back, that flame and fire."

There seems to be a restored sense of continuity between the players and coaches after a year of adjusting.

Going into the season, Montgomery says it is crucial for the players and coaches to stay on the same page during game days.

"Alignment between our players and our assistant coaches (is key)," Montgomery said. "I think all of our players will tell you that they are all aligned and that I have a great relationship with just about every player just because of our time spend together."

The Pirate's top wide receiver this year, Jimmy Williams, can attest to his head coaches statements.

"I feel like [Montgomery] did a great job bringing in great coaches," Jimmy Williams said. "The players seem to really love the coaches that Coach Mo brought in, even with other coaches leaving. So there's been no slump in learning or teaching.

"I want us to be known as a hard-nose, gritty team that is always relentless in their pursuance of excellence."

— Scottie Montgomery

Everybody is still clicking."

If this coaching staff expects to right the ship this year after a disappointing 2016 campaign, they need to rely on significant production from their returning starters.

While only 11 starters are returning, ECU returns nearly 70 percent of its letterwinners, 51 of which are upperclassmen.

There will be no lack of experience on this roster- experiences such as getting blown out 54-17 in Blacksburg, Virginia, by Virginia Tech. Or having Navy run up and down Dowdy-Ficklen stadium to the tune of 66 points.

Pulling from these humiliations can add an entirely new element to ECU, an element that refuses to be embarrassed by any opponent.

"I want us to be known as a hard-nose, gritty team that is always relentless in their pursuance of excellence," Montgomery said.

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

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