



RAPPER TRISTON KIGHT BRINGS POSITIVITY TO GAME Turn to A4



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Thursday, 9.28.17

VOLUME 92, ISSUE 12

>> WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE

State to launch GFR inspection

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

After receiving tips from members of the public, state officials will be conducting an inspection of Greenville Fire/Rescue in the coming weeks, according to a North Carolina Department of Insurance spokesman. The NCDOI Office of State Fire Marshal will conduct a 9S rating inspection of GFR

in the coming weeks, Colin Day, assistant director of Public Information for NCDOI, said. "What we are doing is a 9S rating inspection in the next few weeks and then we are doing a 9S survey inspection and that's still going to happen in the later part of 2018," Day said. Brock Letchworth, public information officer for the city of Greenville, said GFR



Brock Letchworth

was looking forward to working with OSFM. "The city of Greenville Fire/Rescue Department is pleased to work with the Office of the State Fire Marshal to help facilitate its upcoming inspection

and excited about the opportunity to showcase one of the most efficient and effective departments in the state," Letchworth said. Day said he wasn't sure if the upcoming inspection had been previously scheduled by OSFM or GFR. He added there were a number

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THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Tyler Zieg swims butterfly during a practice this season. Tyler will welcome his younger brother, Parker, to the team this season.

Zieg brother dynasty begins

Swim program, coaches welcome family ties

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Most athletes form a family-type bond with their teammates. For the East Carolina University swim team, that bond has gotten stronger as two brothers begin what's the last season for one and the first for the other. Senior swimmer Tyler Zieg will be joined by his younger brother, freshman swimmer Parker. Both their family relationship and the opportunity to compete alongside each other means a lot, not only to them, but to the team as well. "Family is something that is big for us, not just bloodline wise," head coach Matthew Jabs said. "It is always good to see a younger brother look up to his older brother and want to follow

in his footsteps." Both Tyler and Parker had to transition from their individual respective sports to get to where they are today. Tyler played soccer while Parker played lacrosse before both started swimming at Grimsley High School, in Greensboro, North Carolina. "After freshman year, my parents sat me down," Tyler said. "They told me that they believed I could play a sport in college, but I needed to pick one and stick with it so I chose swimming (over soccer)." When they committed to swimming, both Tyler and Parker had to work twice as hard starting to swim competitively



Tyler Zieg



Parker Zieg

when they were sophomores in high school, lacking the multiple years of training like other athletes. "Adjusting to the collegiate level of swimming is a big change for someone who has only been swimming for two to three years before now," Tyler said. "Having the chance to compete with your friends and get better together is a cool thing." Both went on to be North Carolina High School Athletic Association Finalist swimmers in their individual events. Parker was a two-time finalist in 2017 at Grimsley High School, where he finished

> SWIMMING page A6

DACA support expressed during Cupola panel

Taylor Nishimoto
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

With the future of "DREAMers" lodged in uncertainty, East Carolina University made an effort to bring understanding to its students and faculty with its second installation of Cupola Conversations yesterday evening. A large crowd of students, faculty and staff gathered in Mendenhall Student Center, creating an open-minded atmosphere. The audience started off quiet and reserved but soon became a voice for the ECU community and those affected by the Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals program. The event is part of the program Cupola Conversations, which was created in the fall of 2016 by the Division of Student Affairs to give students an opportunity to discuss current world issues. The gathering focused on the possible removal of DACA, which is an U.S immigration policy created by former President Barack Obama giving immigrants who entered the United States as children a two-year deferred action period and eligibility to apply for a work permit. President Donald Trump moved to end this policy on Sep. 5, leaving the decision ultimately up to Congress. The moderator for the event was Chris Stansbury, executive director of marketing and communication at ECU. Stansbury said the event was an opportunity to create civil discourse on ECU's campus. Stansbury said the topic may be uncomfortable, but he pushed the audience to make discussion out of the discomfort that may arise. The event featured four panelists, including ECU Director of Immigration Services Brian Meyerhoeffer,



Chris Stansbury

> CUPOLA page A2

ECU students send funds to Puerto Rico

Darby Hubbell
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

From an idea that started nearly three years ago, one East Carolina University student was finally able to see her hard work come to life last week, raising almost \$5,000 for students affected by Hurricane Maria. Morgan Randolph, a senior engineering major with a concentration in environmental engineering, helped lead a fundraiser last Tuesday and Wednesday to provide aid in hurricane relief. The fundraiser was hosted by ECU's Residence Hall Association and allowed students to donate up to \$10 of their Purple or Gold Bucks to help with hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico. Originally, the money was going to be sent to two universities in Texas and Florida to help with the damage caused by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma but after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico and receiving guidance from Texas and Florida, RHA and Elite Pirates unanimously voted yesterday night to send the funds to Puerto Rico instead. Randolph said the funds will be transferred to a school with Aramark in Puerto Rico. Currently, Campus Living and Dining is working through power outages, but Randolph said Campus Living and Dining will do whatever it takes to get the money there. Relief effort tables were set up in front of Dowdy Student Stores, Todd Dining Hall and West End Dining Hall. Through using their meal plans, students were able to give by putting down their banner ID number. "My freshman year, when there was like two more days left in



Morgan Randolph



Hundreds of San Juan residents take shelter at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum in San Juan, Puerto Rico on Tuesday Sept. 19th.

the semester, I remember thinking 'I have all these Pirate Bucks, what am I going to do with them?'" Randolph said. Randolph, who is the vice president of Elite Pirates, first got the idea her freshman year, after she attempted to start a swipe for sandwiches program at the Subway located in Pirate Market POD by West End Dining Hall. The idea was for her and her friends to buy sandwiches that would then go to the local homeless shelter. However, Randolph said Campus Living and

Dining shut her down due to "health reasons." After this idea failed, Randolph refused to give up on her passion for serving. She persistently continued trying to reach out to Campus Living and Dining over the next two years to improve the idea of using unused bucks to go for a good cause. The project started to take off Randolph's sophomore year

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ONLINE

» East Carolina University honored with sixth consecutive diversity award
» Volleyball to face AAC Champ Southern Methodist tomorrow

SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

FYI Series to present '13 Reasons Why NOT'

East Carolina University will host an event called '13 Reasons Why NOT' today in honor of National Suicide Awareness Month.

The event will take place today in ECU Mendenhall Student Center, room 224 from 6:30 to 8 p.m and will be a passport event.

The event will analyze the television show "13 Reasons Why" and discuss the prevention of suicide, while exploring 13 reasons why not to end one's life. Students will have the chance to engage in discussion about suicide, suicide prevention and how to help a friend who may be struggling with depression and suicidal thoughts.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

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of reasons why officials decided now was the right time to conduct a new inspection of the department.

"Per getting information, tips and even just hearing from you (The East Carolinian) and other folks," Day said. "It had been about 10 years since we had ran that inspection so we figured it was due and it would make sense."

Chief State Fire Marshal for OSFM Brian Taylor added the state tries to inspect fire departments every five to seven years.

"These inspections are performed routinely on departments throughout the state," Letchworth said. "We recognize the importance of such inspections and appreciate the state's efforts to ensure public safety, so we have no reason to question the state's motives for performing the inspection."

Day said a 9S rating inspection is comparable to a physical most individuals get when they visit the doctor.

"The 9S one, that's coming up sooner, is a quick look," Day said. "It's going to look at everything. It's just not going to look at everything as deeply or in-depth."

The inspection will look into the department's roster, training levels, travel time and even details including the water supply in GFR's territory, Day said. During a 9S rating inspection, a fire department can either pass or fail.

"If you 'pass,' you're good. Chances are you have some deficiencies that could be better," Day said. "If you 'fail,' you would be put on probation. What probation means is that you



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Greenville Fire/Rescue Headquarters in downtown Greenville will be inspected in the coming weeks.

have 12 months to rectify any deficiencies that your department or station has seen."

In addition to the upcoming inspection, GFR is still scheduled for a 9S survey rating in late 2018, according to Day.

"Your survey rating is whenever we come in and it takes a couple days," Day said. "That's where you get your ISO (Insurance Service Office) rating that affects your homeowners insurance."

Taylor said the ISO rating of a fire department affects both commercial and residential properties.

"The rating itself will determine the homeowners and/or commercial fire rating cost for that jurisdiction," Taylor said. "The better the rating, the cheaper the insurance. The higher the rating, the more it is."

The North Carolina Response Rating System

(NCRRS), is a one to 10 scale used by the state to judge the capabilities of a fire department, according to the OSFM website. Departments that score highly on the inspection will receive a low ISO rating, or closer to a one, which will then benefit the citizens of the jurisdiction. If a department scores poorly, they are more likely to receive a higher ISO rating.

The last inspection of GFR was conducted in 2006, Day said in an email to The East Carolinian. During the 2006 inspection, the department scored a 72.73, which earned GFR a "Call Three Rating."

Day said no specific timeframe has been set with the GFR inspection or when any findings would become available.

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



CHARLES TRAINOR JR. | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

David and Dee Thorne hug near the remains of their home following Hurricane Irma in Florida.

HURRICANE

continued from A1

when she began running the program through RHA due to the higher authority and voice they held on campus, in hopes the project would receive more support.

"We created a program where people could donate Pirate Bucks and these bucks would go to Joy's Soup Kitchen, which feeds 120-170 people a day, which is crazy and really needed around here," Randolph said.

This partnership would eventually lead Randolph to meeting a student who would help spread the project nationally.

Randolph first met Troy Nance, a senior political science and security studies major, when she brought her project idea to RHA their sophomore year. Nance was a member of RHA at the time.

Nance aided Randolph with tabling for Joy's Soup Kitchen program her junior year. But after two category five hurricanes hit the country this year, Nance, a newly elected president of RHA and Elite Pirates, had the initiative to take the idea in a different direction.

"The idea came about in between the Harvey and Irma natural disasters," Nance said. "Morgan had the idea of the fundraiser a while ago, but I was receiving a whole bunch of emails from the Directors on campus asking if there were any relief efforts going on, so I was thinking why not do it now."

The change was a risk, as Campus Living and Dining only allows Pirate Bucks to be donated once a year, but it was a risk Randolph felt was necessary to take.

For Randolph, hurricane relief is just as important as service, as she spent part of 2012 helping rebuild communities in New Jersey after Hurricane Sandy.

"I had a little piece of insight whenever I went," Randolph said. "This one girl was so sad, she lived in this house for three generations...it wasn't just her home [that she lost] this meant everything to her. This was the only piece of her family that she had left."

After seeing the effects a hurricane can have firsthand, Randolph agreed to use the fundraiser for hurricane relief this year.

"I told my roommate, I wish we could just take a week off school and drive down there and help out, but in reality, you can't with school," Randolph said. "But this was a small way to give back in a sense and to be a helping hand in a tragic time."

Between the efforts of ECU RHA, The Campus Living Community Service Team, Campus Living and Dining and Elite Pirates, the fundraiser was able to raise \$4,723.50, far exceeding Randolph's expectations.

"Personally, I thought we were only going to receive a couple hundred dollars. I was amazed...I never expected it, especially a lot of the students that were so eager to give \$10," Randolph said.

For Nance, social media played a key role in the success of the fundraiser.

"Other than the press release that was sent out, that pretty much was sent out to all the news stations and they came out for that, it was put on all social media—RHA, Campus Dining, and Campus Living social," Nance said.

Ruby Sims, a recreational therapy major and Elite Pirate member, made marketing this fundraiser on social media a personal task of hers as a way to get the word out.

"Our goal is to just make sure they get the funds to buy what they need—that is my hope, that everyone gets what they deserve, because that kind of hurricane was just so unexpected and you really can't expect to lose your home in a blink of an eye like that," Sims said. "It will make a difference in your community. You just want to be the change that you want to see."

Sims said she posted frequently and, through her determined efforts, students were beginning to respond directly to her. Students asked which location and time she was going to be volunteering at and also asking which other locations they had tables available.

Hospitality major Gena Horton said she saw the relief fundraiser posted on social media and outside both dining halls and Dowdy. Horton donated the maximum amount of pirate bucks allowed, \$10.

"I chose to donate because even though we may not be able to help physically, there are other ways to help," Horton said.

Horton said she hopes the families and areas affected will get the help they need and know that people out there are willing to help them through this hard time.

Nance said the program will continue through Elite Pirates next year. "Through using Pirate Bucks everything can be done simply online, we are able to split and transfer the raised Pirate Bucks evenly in an easy and resourceful way," Nance said.

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

CUPOLA continued from A1

ECU professor of sociology Lee Maril, Executive Director A MEXCAN Juvenio Rocha-Peralta and ECU sophomore Nicky Quinones. Maril shared facts with the audience that cleared the air of misconceptions concerning DACA, including the fact that DACA is an executive order, not a law.

Meyerhoeffer said he believes the removal of DACA could have its benefits.

"DACA never gave a status, it was just deferred action," Meyerhoeffer said.

For ECU sophomore Nicky Quinones, her attendance was more personal. Quinones was there on behalf of her sister and significant other, who are both DACA recipients, and she said DACA recipients are now in panic mode due to the possible policy removal by President Donald Trump.

"It's like their whole lives have been turned around," Quinones said. "In 2012, when the act was passed, they were able get social security numbers and start building a life that many of us are afforded and we don't even think about."

Panelist and Executive Director A MEXCAN,

Juvenio Rocha-Peralta added the DACA policy is just a just a bandaid and does not pose an actual solution to the larger immigration problem.

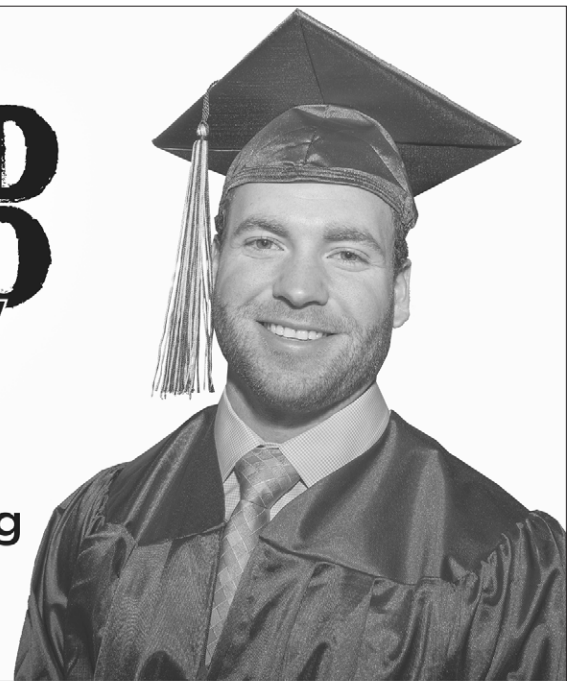
Maria Diaz-Ponce, a junior majoring in elementary education, shared Rocha-Peralta's views.

"To me, DACA is like he said, 'a bandaid' to make it seem like they are doing something," Diaz-Ponce said.

Quinones said she hopes students learn that, "One, the conversation doesn't end here and that two, students have a voice."

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

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Apparel and University Frames sales are Oct. 3-8. No coupons or other discounts permitted. If you miss the event, caps, gowns & other graduation items will be available at Dowdy Student Stores after the Expo. No purchase necessary to enter drawing. One entry per student, December 2017 graduates only. Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

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OUR VIEW

ECU investment in GFR's Tower 1 lacked full insight

Since the initial release of investigative report "Where There's Smoke There's Fire" on Aug. 31, follow-up information regarding the allegations from the original article have been released, including the confirmation from Chief Eric Griffin that Tower 1 is unable to reach parts of ECU's campus, as well as reach floors above a certain height.

Last week, during Chief Griffin and Deputy Chief Brock Davenport's first sit-down interview with TEC since the publication of the investigation, Griffin said, "There are many locations, especially when we look at the ECU campus, when you talk about it being a walkable campus, that Tower 1 can not get close to the buildings."

Because ECU's campus is built to be a "pedestrian friendly," meaning it can be walked from end to end simply, the space needed for the size of this truck is lacking.

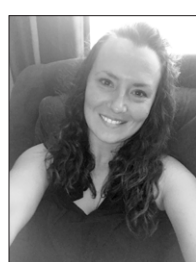
We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe ECU should have looked further into all of the components regarding Tower 1 to ensure students' safety, even in worst-case scenarios, before investing \$234,071.25 to help the city of Greenville purchase the \$936,285 truck.

While we understand the university has taken a number of steps to protect students in the dormitories, which according to Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, include investing "millions of dollars in sprinkler systems and fire resistant building materials" it seems as though the limitations of Tower 1 may have fallen through ECU's cracks.

No one in the Greenville community should be subjected to even the slightest possibility of risk. And when parents kiss their children goodbye and move them into the dormitories, they should be able to trust the university to protect their loved ones— again, even in a worst-case scenario.



Racial superiority drives division



Michelle Elmore
GUEST COLUMNIST

What does the face of an American look like today? With immigration and diverse family blending, there is no "typical" American face or family. We tend to add titles and labels to types of "Americans," but are we not all simply Americans with faces of our own? Does a Native American have to be a Native American? Does a person with any hint of color have to be an African American? Does a mixed person have to state all racial backgrounds in their imperative title to assure which box they properly fit into? Does a person who is now a citizen sharing the "equal rights" with the rest of us, have to have a label?

I know I am not a white American or mixed American. I am a proud American who grew up in a country where I felt protected by my military, received an education, had safe food to eat and clean drinking water, obtainable health care and was provided opportunities to make choices in my life to excel. Our nation is not changing simply because we are allowing other cultures to blend with us here in America. It is changing because it

is a part of the life cycle. In both evolution and creation theories, there is the cycle of life and change is present for both. Beaches erode, ice melts, the rain cycle repeats itself and so life goes on.

We are not fighting to stop those things from stopping, but we accept those as natural and honestly quite beautiful. We have to keep an open mind and heart to be able to receive the changing world around us. The realization that "this land is your land, this land is my land" is a great reminder that this was not ours to not share with the rest of the human world. It was simply explored, found and labeled. It is time to end the labels and invite unison to America's land and shorelines.

Instead of sharing love and promoting peace, xenophobia has been a bold factor throughout American history. The fear that other religions and cultures will be pressed upon them by those who come into the country with different backgrounds, is almost comical, as it happened upon arrival here and still takes place today. Immigrants flee their homelands for many of the same reasons the original settlers came here, yet contrary to their privileged freedoms, immigrants are in many cases forced to "Americanize". The pursuit of the "American Dream" is there for anyone wanting to take it, yet

some are so limited and misunderstood.

Assimilation is causing us to absorb these cultures into our own, but not allowing them to stay true to who they are without negative comments and anxieties. Revoking the freedom of speech and religion of those who look different than us causes them to memorize things some American citizens could not even repeat, all while providing them with "American" ideals. The main reason for the "American Dream" is coming here to prosper. Many times we see the same social cycle economically, because immigrants are shunned as they are labeled as not having the proper education, only know how to perform hard labor jobs, and for that, we must pay them less, because it takes less skill.

I have always been told, "It takes all kinds to make the world go round," and it surely does here, but we can grow so much from learning to extend love and acceptance to our neighbors of all types. The United States does not have one face to display its people, it has many. It is time that we accept the changes and stop holding on to the belief that one race, culture, or religion is superior to all others.

Michelle Elmore is a senior majoring in communication and a guest columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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

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Free speech must not be stripped



Alaina Corsini
GUEST COLUMNIST

Throughout our latest elections, more and more organizations are starting to form political ideologies. Demonstrated through brand image, companies and networks are displaying biases through subliminal messages and deliberate remarks. Despite the content of these messages, all interactions and text are protected under the First Amendment and should not be prohibited by the government.

One of the most recent instances of free speech under controversy took place last Monday, when ESPN anchor Jemele Hill tweeted that, "Donald Trump is a white supremacist who has largely surrounded himself w/ other white supremacist." Shortly after Hill's tweet, the White House announced their consideration of Hill's action as a "fireable offense". Although Hill's tweets caused controversy across political aisles, it also addresses the important issue of free speech in our society.

The president should have enough respect for the First Amendment to recognize the journalist's tweet was an act of free speech, as should the executives at ESPN. It is not a matter of whether or not her comments were appropriate but whether or not her right as an American was exercised. The immediate response should not be to fire an individual because their viewpoints do not align with yours. From a public relations standpoint, whether her actions are tolerated from ESPN or the content of what she said is not the issue. There shouldn't be a debate



President Donald Trump speaks to the crowd during his 2016 pre-election rally in Greenville.

on whether a reporter is able to shape or influence public opinion either. But rather the issue is that the White House should not use its power and authority to prohibit the free exercise of the press.

As a graduate of the School of Communication, I have studied the foundations of communication, all rooted in freedom of speech. I have put a lifetime of learning and money into studying the subject of communication and the essential component to be able to express whatever I see fit. Whether or not it represents the views of the organization is another problem, but it should never be scrutinized or lead to unemployment due to my right to exercise freedom of speech. As Jemele Hill's tweet should never have been condemned by the White House.

Without this critical appreciation for

the law and freedom of expression you cannot further expand your knowledge of communication, or any discipline. As an American, we have this right that should not be stripped of us due to the content of the speech. The First Amendment is not subjective, and only valid when you agree with what is being said. By undermining our press' freedom, we are setting back our democracy.

Free speech is the foundation of our culture and protecting that right should be important to every American. Especially those who take an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Alaina Corsini is a graduate student majoring in health communication and a guest columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

72 PLUS MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

TODAY

Oktoberfest Tasting
Christy's Euro Pub
6 p.m.

Moonlight Hayride and Campfire
River Park North
6:30 p.m.

The Dick Richards Duo live
Crossbones Tavern
8 p.m.

Will & Grace Viewing Party
Crave
9 p.m.

FRIDAY

SUP Yoga with Moxie Yoga!
Port Terminal Boat Ramp
8 a.m.

Art Soul & Poetry
Crave
7 p.m.

Kight grows fanbase

Danielle Schmid
TEC STAFF

From Facebook videos in middle school to East Carolina University's campus, Triston Kight's music and videos have continued to gain popularity. With more than 13,500 listens on his latest SoundCloud album, "Wait On It," Kight has come a long way.

"I've always been into rapping; when I was seven I use to dress up like Eminem," sophomore nursing major Kight said. "I'd learn CDs from front to back."

"Wait On It", released Aug. 16, has already gotten more hits than "Take Notice," which was released a year ago, showing the increase in his fanbase.

When it comes to Kight's music style, he said he tries to keep it hype and lively, admiring Mac Miller's early energetic party style. Kight's music tends to stay away from auto tune, and while he does mention drugs and alcohol, he doesn't do it as much as other artists.

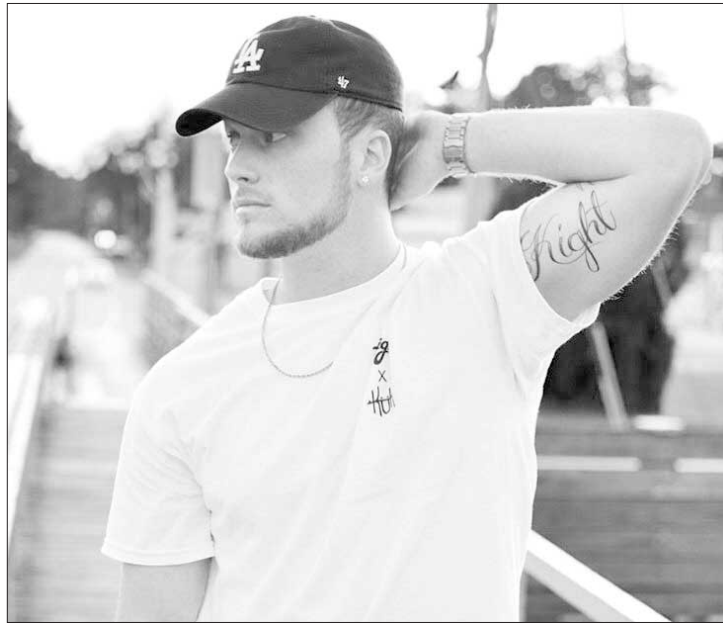
"I don't want to put people down, I wanna bring people up when I'm rapping," he said. "I try to bring positivity into my music. I try to make my music reflect me as a person because I like to have a good time."

Kight released his first music video in January for his song, "Rollin'," a track that brings hip hop vibes with a reggae twist in the beats.

"When I first heard the beat, I thought it was a little different but in a good way," Kight said.

He now has more than 3,000 views on the Youtube video and just dropped a video for his track "BANGER" this week, which includes footage from his recent performance. Kight's music and videos can be found at his Youtube channel, TKightMusic.

Kight had his first ever live



CONTRIBUTED BY TRISTON KIGHT

ECU rapper Triston Kight released his album "Wait On It" on Aug. 16.

performance on Aug. 4 at the Norva in Norfolk, Virginia, where he headlined a local show.

"It was kinda crazy to me because I've seen Mac Miller, Bryson Tiller, Young Thug, 21 Savage there," Kight said. "Just all these big named people, it was super fun."

Although Kight buys some of his beats from KeanuBeats and Canis Major, his friend has mixed his music and made beats for the young rapper as well. Kight's track "Gold" was remixed by his friend Jake Hodges, a student at Appalachian State University, and has over 4,000 views.

"I has a very unique sound and keeps his raps real and true to his own personal experiences," Hodges said.

Kight said he plans on expanding his following and having more live performances within the next couple months. Kight plans on working with roommate and fellow rapper Xavier Brodie soon.

"He (Brodie) was a random roommate and when we found out that we both rapped we were hype," Kight said.

Kight's motivation and connections have broadened his fan base and helped to get his music out there. He's beginning to see hundreds of listens per day on his SoundCloud and said he is flattered by this.

"Triston is a very genuine guy who has a passion for his craft," Brodie said. "I can tell he is a perfectionist; he's his own biggest critic."

As a young rapper, Kight wants to get himself out there and add more of his personal style into his music.

"I've been playing guitar since I was 14," Kight said. "I've been trying to incorporate a way I can rap and play."

While still growing and getting his talent out there, Kight said he will continue to live life and have fun while doing it.

"I want to show people that you can literally do anything you want to do as long as you put the time and work in," Kight said.

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

Comedy club reaches out to students

Trish Willis
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

With an easy going and light atmosphere, the members of People's Comedy Club sat on stage and engaged in friendly conversation with each other, and a few audience members, at their first show of the year.

In Mendenhall Student Center room 244 last Thursday, the wooden stage was illuminated under the glow of the bright overhead lights, and covered by the shadow of Jake Weddle as he opened the first comedy show of the semester.

"Now, we're not professional comedians, but we are here to make you laugh," Weddle, president of PCC and junior theatre major, said.

PCC is an on campus stand-up comedy student organization at East Carolina University that Weddle said is dedicated to making students feel happy and forget about their worries, for at least a few hours.



Jake Weddle

"I've wanted to make people laugh ever since I was in the third grade," Weddle said. "I started going to Goodnight's Comedy Club in Raleigh and I've been doing stand up ever since."

Never shying away from racially and politically charged jokes, Weddle said the entire cast connects sets to current events, even bringing up the most taboo topics.

He added this has been the club's mission for the past eight years.

"We don't feel the need to censor ourselves," Weddle said. "We are all college students and this is our campus. We should be able to make light of even the darkest subjects."

PCC has made it a point for its organization to reach a broader audience and be able to let all students know they are not alone in their frame of thinking.

"We've never taken it too far," said Joshua Hyman, ECU alum and comedy club member. "We know how to be funny without offending... at least, no one has ever told us we went too far."

Weddle said the comedy club has partnered with The Student Activities Board in order to reach out and draw more individuals in on campus. From The People's Comedy Club Valentine's Day dinner shows last year, to performances in Hendrix Theatre in Mendenhall Student Center, to open mic nights at Crossbone's Tavern every Tuesday, the club stays active throughout the year.

Tareq Salameh, People's Comedy Club member and ECU alum, said his comedy comes from his own experiences.

"I can relate to everyone because I'm telling how things are for me," Salameh said.

Hyman said comedy for People's Comedy Club is not just about getting on stage and making people laugh.

"My comedy is my truth," he said.

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

Dance program to showcase seniors

Amanda Shea
TEC STAFF

The performances showcase many of ECU's own choreographers' work. At Messick Theatre Arts Center in the Burnette Studio Theatre, the Fall Senior Choreography Concerts will begin Saturday, with shows held at noon and 4 p.m., and Sunday at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.



Emma Konnick

"(You can expect) a wide variety of pieces and styles, because we all kind of put a little bit of our own into it," Emma Konnick, a senior dance performance major, said. "What's really unique about our class, is that none of us are the same, so I think each one of them will bring a unique style."

Konnick, who is one of the many choreographers who will showcase her art, said the showcase is part of their senior thesis project.

"It's basically our capstone project, so all junior year, we've gone through composition projects and this is our big one where we get to hold our own auditions and audition the students and pick who we want," Konnick said. "We go through the whole audition process and then the four-week rehearsal process of putting on a full length show."

Among the performers is Olivia Chesneau, a junior dance performance major.

"I am lucky enough to be able to perform in two pieces in the upcoming senior choreography concert," Chesneau said. "This has taught me how to work with a lot of different people and has given me the opportunity to learn from others artistically."

Konnick said one of the best parts of being a choreographer is seeing her own pieces danced in performances.

"It's a lot more nerve-wracking, a lot more serious than what's happened in the past," Konnick said. "It's fun to finally have my own work in a real show, which is taken seriously. It's fun working with your friends because, as a senior, you know who dances what and now you have a turn to pick and have them dance your stuff."

As a dancer, Chesneau said she's grateful to be a part of the concerts.

"I love getting to work with new dancers in every piece I'm cast in," Chesneau said. "I'm



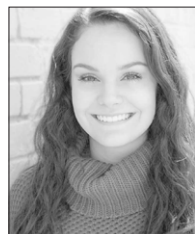
THOMAS WEYBRECHT THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Dancers in the Fall Senior Choreography Concerts practice. The performances begin Saturday at noon.

lucky enough to have had the opportunity to work with many different choreographers in the dance program."

Chesneau said the audience can expect a variety of dance styles from the choreographers.

"All of the shows are always a lot of fun and very entertaining," Chesneau said. "People can expect to watch pieces in many different styles of dance."



Olivia Chesneau

ECU's School of Theatre and Dance has many more shows planned for this school year, including a performance in October, called "Dance at Wright", with pieces from faculty, as well as guest choreographers.

"(The Dance Program) is definitely a hidden asset at ECU," Konnick said. "A lot of really talented people come here for the dance program and it's so not known about and if one person just gave it a chance to see a show, you'd be hooked because it's phenomenal."

Tickets for the Fall Senior Choreography Concerts can be bought online at ecuarts.com or at the Messick box office for \$5.

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

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December Ring Ceremony!



official
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at Dowdy Student Store, Wright Building

10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. | Tuesday, October 3 | Grad Expo
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. | Wednesday, October 4 | Grad Expo
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Thursday, October 5 | Store Lobby



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and then send us a list of your favorite houses and we will put you on the waiting list for those houses. Current tenants have until January 15th to renew their lease but if they do not renew we start signing new leases on January 16th for leases that start in June, July &

August. If we know a home is not renewing then you can see it and sign a lease for it now so you know your house is locked down for next year. Last year all of our houses were rented by March so don't miss out. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** today!

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Gain professional recognition, with Pluto direct in Capricorn. Mysteries get solved as the truth gets revealed. Interesting opportunities arise. You can see a shining future.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Nature inspires your health and works, with Pluto direct. Release worn-out addictions or habits to allow a new you to emerge. Epiphanies catalyze renewed vitality.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Release limitations around money, with Pluto direct. Put aside fears, worries and trust issues for a transformation. Revise bookkeeping and monitor closely. Create profitable new possibilities.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Experience a metamorphosis. Release old limitations and spread your wings, with Pluto direct in Capricorn. Pursue a long-desired dream. Discover new cultures and views.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Let go of fears around trust and uncertainty to benefit your relationship, with Pluto direct in Capricorn. Release old negative patterns. Create true love.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- You can see your limiting monologues, with Pluto direct in your sign. Abandon fears of humiliation or low self-worth to grow. Create a new personal identity that inspires you.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Increase the integrity of your bookkeeping with Pluto direct in Capricorn. Changes require adaptation. Be honest and kind with yourself and others.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Support your family to adapt to domestic changes, with Pluto direct. Clear the past from closets and spaces. Keep heirlooms. Give away unused stuff. Discover new freedom.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 7 -- Consider natural cycles of death and rebirth, with Pluto direct in Capricorn. Contemplate spiritual mysteries. Release old limitations to discover grace, hidden power and authenticity. Stay true to yourself.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Let go of limiting conversations, especially in the relationship with your partner. Let another see the real you. Create long-term possibilities, together with Pluto direct.

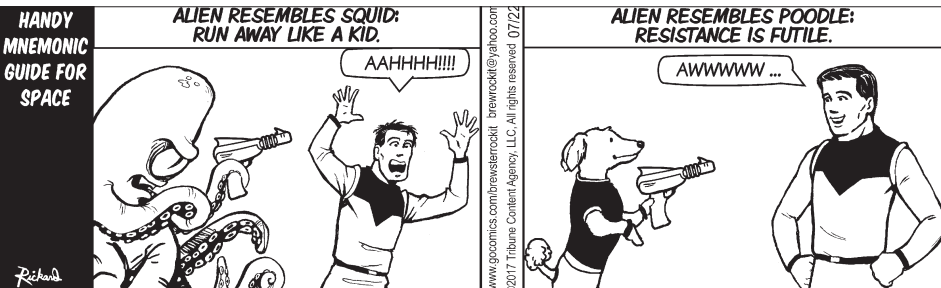
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Hidden facts get revealed. Use diplomacy around loss, power dynamics and change, with Pluto direct. You can see what's missing. Keep your word. Share your discoveries.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Hidden truths with community efforts get revealed, with Pluto direct. Give up power struggles or desires for control. An epiphany lights the way. Discover your true friends.

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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BEST IN SHOW



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CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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ACROSS

- Mrs. Dithers of "Blondie"
- Dean of "Lois & Clark"
- Way in: abbr.
- "Once ___ a Mattress"
- "One Life to ___"
- Billy ___ Williams
- MGM animal
- "White Wedding" singer Billy
- Nada
- "Hollywood Squares" host
- Lloyd Bridges series, "___ Hunt"
- "Mad About ___"
- Final: abbr.
- Letters on Cardinal caps
- Character actress Volz
- Connery or Astin
- ___ my dust!
- "My Favorite ___"
- "Lou Grant" star
- ___ Comedy Jam"
- Fruity beverage
- Rin Tin Tin or Lassie
- Nutrition letters
- Monty Hall's game show
- John's Yoko

- Gabor and Peron
- Columnist Bombeck
- Jack of "Barney Miller"
- Hayworth or Rudner
- Jennifer of "Star Trek: Voyager"
- Immigrant's class: abbr.
- "The Defiant ___"
- May Wong or Pavlova

DOWN

- Cosby's "I Spy" co-star
- Sheriff Taylor's kid
- Stephen of "NewsRadio"
- Meara and Archer
- Sally Field movie, "A Cooler ___"
- Turturro of "The Sopranos"
- "Ebony and ___"
- Ozzie or Harriet
- Mrs. Babish of "Laverne & Shirley"
- Diamond or Simon
- "Tammy ___ Me True"
- Notes of scales
- ___ Lewis & the News
- "Born in the ___"
- Paul or Brown
- Author of "The Joy Luck Club"
- "___: A Dog"
- Narcs' grp.
- Way cool!
- "People ___ Funny"
- Beatty and Buntline
- Brewer and Wright
- Ned or Cesar
- Medicines approval grp.
- MacLeod of "The Love Boat"
- Ms. Rogers St. Johns
- "Win, ___ or Draw"
- Sonny Shroyer series
- Worker's device
- "___ & Allie"
- Gray or Moran
- Sitcom co-starring Clifton Davis
- Turner of "Madame X"

Solution from Tuesday

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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

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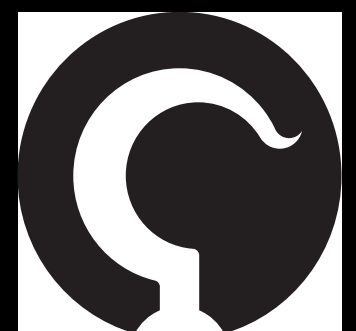
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THE Hook

ECU's Student Interest Magazine

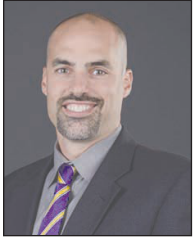
NEW ISSUE
COMING
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SWIMMING

continued from A1

third in the 50-yard freestyle race and seventh in the 100-yard freestyle race. Parker was a junior National Qualifier and two-time All-American swimmer while recording four top-eight finishes in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle races in 2017.



Matthew Jabs

“My brother winning conference three years in a row definitely helped influence my decision to swim for ECU,” Parker said. “It makes me feel like a bigger part of the team now that I get to swim alongside my brother.”

As a freshman at ECU, Tyler competed in six dual meets where he recorded two second-place finishes on the year. He captured the silver medal in the 100 and 200-yard butterfly races against the University of Maryland at Baltimore County (UMBC). As a sophomore, he only competed in two dual meets due to inflamed tissue in his back.

After recovering from his injury, Tyler came back as a junior stronger than ever. He scored 26 points at the conference championship meet, competed in the league championship finals of the 100-yard butterfly placing eighth and competed in 10 regular season meets where he added six top-three finishes and accumulated 39 dual meet points.

“It really excited me to find out that Parker wanted to be a part of the ECU program,” Tyler said. “I have known Parker to be an exceptional hard-worker both in and out of the pool. He has always been talented. We both had to transition from different sports to swimming.”

Coming off of a third straight AAC Championship, Tyler has the opportunity to graduate from ECU with four straight titles, with the last one possibly being more special than the others, given that he will have his brother alongside him.

“They are brothers that are definitely different as swimmers,” Jabs said. “We are lucky to have them and look forward to seeing what they accomplish this year.”

How well Parker adjusts to collegiate swimming, along with the type of impact Tyler has this year, could play a role in determining if the men can win a fourth straight conference championship.

Both swimmers will see action for the first time together on Sept. 29 at 3:30 p.m. inside Minges Coliseum in the Purple Gold Intrasquad meet.

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

Pirates football set to face Bulls

Flowers leads USF into first place battle

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

The powerhouse of the American Athletic Conference is coming to Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium this week for a battle for first-place in the conference. The No. 18 University of South Florida (4-0; 1-0 AAC), look poised for a deep run this season but will face a scrappy East Carolina University team who is coming off its first win Sunday.

The Bulls are a talented team who have demolished every team to this point in the season behind Preseason First-Team All-Conference quarterback Quinton Flowers. The senior has compiled 12 touchdowns between his powerful arm and dynamic running ability but hasn't produced the yards USF was expecting. During USF's demolition of Temple last week, 43-7 Bulls, Flowers threw for just 96 yards and rushed for 59 while scoring two touchdowns each way.



Quinton Flowers

Flowers is going to be another tough test for a Pirates' defense that has seen a slew of talented quarterbacks already. While the USF defense isn't as daunting as Virginia Tech's, it does lead the entire Football Bowl Subdivision with 12 interceptions compared to ECU's two. Bulls' senior safety Devin Abraham has been the biggest factor this far, leading the team with 3 interceptions, more than the Pirates' team has combined.

Even though the Bulls are loaded with talent in their secondary, their key defensive players aren't limited to just one spot. Montgomery alluded to players, such as defensive tackle Deadrin Senat and linebacker Auggie Sanchez, as players to watch considering their Preseason First-Team nominations. However, the two players producing the most so far for the USF defense are defensive end Mike Love and the second defensive tackle Bruce Hector. They've tormented opposing quarterbacks all season, recording five sacks and eight and a half tackles that resulted in a loss.

“They have a lot of athleticism and speed, I wouldn't say they're a Virginia Tech but in our league it's going to be the best defense we face,” ECU offensive coordinator Tony Petersen said.

Saturday will be the toughest test the Pirates face all season, not because the Bulls are the toughest opponent on the schedule, but because of the conference implications. ECU survived down the stretch in Connecticut in order to get its first win of the season, which resulted in the Pirates



Pirates wide receiver Davon Grayson catches a pass.

blindly falling into a tie for first in the AAC with USF. With first place on the line, and the Bulls coming off a blowout win over Temple, a team expected to outperform ECU, Saturday's game is setting up to be a trap-game the Pirates can take advantage of.

While the Pirates' battled the Bulls last season to a score of 38-22, this USF team is led in a much different way this season. Charlie Strong, the former coach at Texas, took over the program and has his sights set on playing in big-time bowl games. Strong has matched Montgomery's total wins at ECU in his team's first four games.

“They're going to have an edge coming into this game because, you know, this is one of the best teams in the country. We are looking forward to it, coming off of a victory,” Montgomery said. “You always have a lot more energy and you feel like you've had a little bit of success; you still know that you could have gotten a lot better in that game or played a lot better and everyone will feel the energy of the crowd, of course.”

This weekend's game is going to be an uphill battle the entire game for ECU. Despite being at home, ECU is still a 23.5 point underdog and has an 87.8 percent chance to lose this game, according to ESPN. Saturday's game is scheduled for a noon kickoff at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

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TEC Sports

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this weekend's football game

Kayla Morton

Sports Editor
@mortonsalt74



Record: 4-0
Closest Score: 1
Who wins? USF 46-27 Why? Quinton Flowers leads the Bulls from the QB position

who essentially goes to college to play football. His major is interdisciplinary social science, which is equivalent to majoring in playing in the NFL. He averages just below 200 yards in the air per game but that is not an accurate representation due to the amount of plays USF runs on the ground which nearly outnumbers the pass. The Bulls' weakness, however, is special teams, just like UConn. Their kicker has missed field goals and extra points on the year, with some returned for two-point conversions, notably against Temple. If the Pirates can disrupt the flow from special teams and win the point differential, they'll have a better chance in this game. Expect this game to be close until the middle of the third.

Aaron Jackson

Football Editor
@AaronJtheWriter



Record: 4-0
Closest Score: 2
Who wins? USF 44-27 Why? The Bulls win this game simply because they are the more put-together

team coming into the match up. Sitting at No. 18, USF is putting up numbers against opposing teams, winning by an average of 23.5 points per game. Behind the Bulls' rushing game is what will give the Pirates the most problems. In just four games, quarterback Quinton Flowers and running backs Darius Tice and D'Ernest Johnson each have more than 300 yards rushing and two touchdowns apiece. Look for ECU to come out hot as usual and fade in the end.

Tyler Gavin

Football Writer
@tygavin13



Record: 3-1
Closest Score: 0
Who wins? USF 37-10 Why? ECU has a great opportunity here to pull off a major upset and gain some

credibility after a terrible start to the season. Unfortunately, it's not going to happen. The USF defense is going to wreak havoc on a Pirate offense, who's just trying to find its identity and force at least two turnovers. The Bulls are strong at the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball and that's going to give Quinton Flowers and his running backs a lot of room to run, while giving Thomas Sirk no time to operate.

>> SWIM & DIVE

ECU hosts annual Purple Gold meet

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University swim team will have its first meet of the year tomorrow, commonly known as the Purple Gold meet.

This meet gives new head coach Matthew Jabs, the families and other fans a chance to see who is on the swim team and how the swim team looks as it prepares for its regular season. Each year, the Pirates host this event in order to showcase new and returning swimmers, as well as claim official times for the swimmers select events, according to the program.

“This meet is something we have been doing for years,” Jabs said. “There are different points in the season where you need a little jolt to routine. Purple and Gold gets everyone focused on ‘competing time.’”

For Jabs, this will be his first meet as the new head coach of the swim team since former head coach Rick Kobe retired earlier this year after serving 37 years as a head coach. Jabs dealt with a nearly month-long suspension for the swim and dive programs that ended just a few weeks ago. During this time, no swimmers or divers were allowed to practice at the ECU facility.

“Those investigations concluded that while a series of activities described as ‘team building’ were determined not to warrant continued

suspension of the team, recommendations will be presented to the athletics department for continued support and education of team members,” Tom McClellan, an ECU sports director, said in an email.

Jabs swam for the Pirates from 1996 to 2000, before becoming a volunteer assistant coach the following year in 2001. From 2001 to 2003, Jabs was only a volunteer assistant, but in 2003, he became an official assistant coach under Kobe.



John Myhre

“I have not thought about it much yet, I guess it will hit me at different times throughout the season,” Jabs said. “I am in a little bit of a different position compared to other first-year head coaches, I kind of know what to expect since I have been able to see what we have done in recent years. Maybe, perhaps during the meet, it will dawn on me that I am in the big chair now.”

All eyes will be on the men's swim team as they prepare for what could be its fourth straight American Athletic Conference Championship title.

“We want to bring home the championship,” senior John Myhre said. “I

am excited to see what we can do as a team. We have work to do, we have a lot of talent and we can have a good year that could result in another championship.”

For seniors, this will be their last Purple Gold meet they will compete in, while for freshman this will be their first meet ever as a swimmer for the Pirates.

“It is going to be fun but a little bit sad at the same time,” senior Vendela Normann said. “We will be able to see where everyone is at.”

The men have a chance achieve new heights for the program with another conference championship. If the women can win the AAC title or finish top-three, there's no telling how far the program could go.

“We have challenged them since they got back knowing everything is earned,” Jabs said. “One thing that I will be looking for is the energy level that can help us move forward. While their times will not be as important, they will be however competing for travel spots. We will be looking at who wants to step up this year so this intrasquad meet can help out with that.”

The Intrasquad Purple Gold Meet will be held on Friday in Minges Natatorium at 3:30 p.m. with free admission.

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

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