

Spellings takes reins of system

Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF



Margaret Spellings

Margaret Spellings began her job as the new University of North Carolina system president on Tuesday amid on-going protests from

students and faculty.

On her first day in office, hundreds of students and faculty from across the UNC campuses gathered at UNC-Chapel Hill to express their discontent and their decision of walking out of their classes.

"I completely support the protest that are going across the UNC

schools -- and they are going with 'Spellings walks in, students walk out' chant," said Carson Rhodes, a political science major and the executive director of local & state affairs for ECU's Student Government Association. "It speaks volumes and it's really good that these students are really taking notice -- and are taking

initiative to learn who Margaret Spellings is and some of the things she done and said in the past."

Since Spellings selection as the new president by the UNC Board of Governors, following the forced resignation of former President Tom Ross, protests have taken place across the state with people calling

into question the BOG hiring process and Spellings' career history.

Spellings, who served as the U.S. Secretary of Education under President George W. Bush, has been criticized particularly for being the architect of the No Child Left

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Veteran Services expand ECU opens new lounge area for student vets

Teagan Welch
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU is now expanding their services to students that have served in the military. At the end of last month, Office of Student Veteran Services opened a new lounge complete with a brand new study room for those who want a quiet place to study or just some downtime between classes.

Nicole Jablonski, assistant director of Student Veteran Services at ECU, served in the Navy before going to college and said she knows firsthand how stressful the adjustment can be.

"Being in the military, you are immersed into a different culture than those at college and that can make it hard to relate to traditional student," she said. "So the student veteran's lounge is a nice place to come and relax where vets can talk to each other, and speak the same language. They understand each other, it's a nice, safe place to reconnect."

The VetSuccess On Campus program is fairly new, first starting in 2010, and continues to grow every year. Currently, ECU is the only campus in North Carolina that has a VSOC counselor. The Vet-Success On Campus program is the face of Veteran Affairs and serves the unique needs of veterans in college.

The purpose of the VSOC counselor is to help military students transition from active duty to any educational inquires

> **VETERAN** page **A2**



Sarah Smith, senior philosophy and marketing major and E-5 Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps, studies for one of her classes.

Zika may impact spring breakers

Anna Parrish
TEC STAFF

The Zika virus had its first confirmed case in North Carolina this past month, but that isn't the only concern with this virus that recently made its way to the United States.

Medical personnel have opened the idea of spring breakers contracting the disease while visiting popular spring break destinations such as Caribbean Islands, Mexico, Central America, Cape Verde, Pacific Islands and South America

According to the Center for Disease Control, Zika is a disease caused primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. Along with the mosquito bite, Zika can be contracted through fluids, like semen and through sexual intercourse. Some common symptoms of Zika include, rash, fever, conjunctivitis and joint pain.

Zika is known to cause birth defects because the virus stays in the bloodstream of those who are infected. Women who are pregnant while infected with Zika have a more likely risk of birth defects because the fetus is exposed

to the virus through the mother's bloodstream. Pregnant women traveling to Zika areas need to be informed and discussed with their doctor.

"Others traveling to Zika areas should be knowledgeable about mosquito prevention, not just for Zika, but [also] for other mosquito borne illnesses (malaria, dengue, chikungunya)," said Ellen Goldberg, associate director for clinical operations at the Student Health Center.

Goldberg said Zika is not a threat to the majority to the population.

"The only cases in the US have been from traveling individuals, or from people who have had sex with travelers to Zika areas," said Goldberg.

Ways to protect yourself if you headed to an area where Zika is prevalent are to prevent bites. Because there is no vaccine or medicine currently to treat symptoms, it is recommended to treat the symptoms by getting plenty of rest, staying hydrated and taking acetaminophen to relieve pain and fever.

"Travelers should always learn about the

> **ZIKA** page **A2**

German Club to spend spring break teaching refugees

Samuel Privette
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

War, economic hardship and dreams of a better life has brought waves of Middle Eastern and Northern African refugees to Europe, causing one of the greatest humanitarian crisis in history. While leading nations struggle to find a solution to the problem, the German Club at East Carolina University is stretching its efforts to improve the situation.

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, since 2014 more than 1,100,000 refugees from primarily Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan have made the perilous journey of crossing the Mediterranean Sea into Europe.

Those lucky enough to cross safely typically wind up in Greece, however, most refugees do not settle there permanently and ultimately seek asylum elsewhere

in more welcoming countries like Germany.

Although many European countries have felt the negative impacts of the refugee crisis, Germany has assumed the heaviest burden by allowing all asylum seekers to settle in their country.

With thousands of foreigners living in Germany, it is essential for the refugee population to learn the native language and contribute to society. This is why 11 students from the ECU German Club are partnering with Asyl-Helferkreis-Waldperlach, a local aid organization in Munich, Germany, to teach refugees the German language.

Daniel Franch, a member of the German club and participant in the trip to Munich, said that he is eager to help refugees adjust to German culture.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know and understand people from a completely different

society," said Franch.

Franch said that some of the most difficult aspects of being a foreigner for the refugees are really the littlest of concerns, like the taste of local food and weather. He said he is looking forward to getting to know the refugees on a human level and helping them to become more comfortable adapting to their new culture.

Other than teaching refugees how to speak basic German, Franch and other participants in the trip to Munich are also tasked with the goal of advising foreigners how to cope with topics relevant to their daily lives, such as using public transportation.

German and International Studies Professor David Smith, as well as the German Club President Anthony Razov are sponsoring the German Club trip to Munich.

The German Club received \$20,770.40 from the ECU Student



WEB PHOTO | FACEBOOK

The German Club will be going to Germany over break to teach refugees German.

Government Association to pay for the associated costs for their trip to Munich. They also successfully raised money to exclusively benefit the refugees and provide their basic necessities like clothing and toiletries via crowd-funding websites and local community

support.

The German club trip to Munich is set to take place from Friday, March 4 to March 15.

For questions or comments, contact news@theeastcarolinian.com.

ONLINE

» **ECUWithoutMe** participants hope to see change with take off of videos

» **ECU women's tennis** heads to Puerto Rico for tournament

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU partners with Panasonic Foundation

ECU's College of Education is partnering with the Panasonic Foundation and four rural school districts in eastern North Carolina to help improve students' academic and social success despite race and poverty.

The launch of this partnership will be from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday in the East Carolina Heart Institute, Conference Room A.

International Women's Day program

International Women's Day will be recognized by ECU from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today in Mendenhall Student Center Great Rooms one and two. This event is free and open to the public.

The day's theme is "Sex, Violence, and Gender Roles." The day will be broken up into segments of different presentations.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

The School of Entrepreneurship is within the College of Business.

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper please contact Ryan Clancy, editor@theeastcarolinian.com

ECO-pirates and The East Carolinian would like to remind you to recycle this paper.

SPELLINGS continued from A1

Behind Law, her position on the board of directors for the Apollo Education Group, Inc., which is the parent company of the for-profit University of Phoenix, and her history on LGBT rights.

"I am not happy that she was appointed as the UNC system president and I don't think she is deserving of the role that she has taken on" said Rhodes.

In an interview with WUNC, Spellings responded to her critics by saying that she looks forward to working with students and faculty in the UNC System.

Spellings said she hopes to find common ground with everyone. "No matter what your view, I think we can all agree that college education is the key to the American dream."

In system-wide letters to students and faculty, Spellings highlighted some goals she hopes to achieve during term on such as access to education and affordability.

She also added, "I will ensure

"I am not happy that she was appointed as the UNC system president and I don't think she is deserving of the role that she has taken on. "

-Carson Rhodes

that we are transparent about what we are doing while and where we have room to improve, and I will advocate for the policies and the resources that our campuses need to be the undisputed best."

Brian Massey, assistant professor at the School of Communication, said her previous policies come with a different context that might not necessarily work in this context.

"She's got a lot of baggage of her own and then what baggage she's walked into. Like it or not she's either going to have to own some of the baggage or clearly and factually show how the baggage doesn't fit," Massey said.

He added that those protesting should wait until Spellings puts down a policy and then present "a reasoned, fact-based, dispassionate argument against it."

"She hasn't done anything yet. She's there and you're not going to get her out unless you can find a way where she totally screwed up and violates the language of her contract," he said. "Read the contract closely and be on the lookout for stuff she does."

Spellings's history with the LGBT community has been a point of concern for students and faculty as well.

"I don't think she will be able to connect with students, particularly

with LGBT students because of some of the comments she made in the past," said Rhodes. "I don't appreciate when she makes comments like that and I think there are a lot of other LGBT students at our campus and across the UNC system who don't appreciate them being who they are as a lifestyle."

Rhodes added that he wishes Spellings had addressed those comments openly in her system-wide letter to students.

In a system-wide letter to students, Spellings said she will work to ensure "that our campuses are welcoming and safe places for students and faculty of all races, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to live and learn and work alongside one another."

"President Spellings has committed to visiting all 17 UNC campuses within her first few months," said ECU Vice Chancellor Virginia Hardy. "We look forward to getting to know President Spellings and sharing East Carolina's distinct and authentic mission with her."

For questions or comments, contact news@theeastcarolinian.com.

VETERAN continued from A1

they may have in the future. With the new expansion of this service, it makes it that much easier for these students to transition easily and effectively.

ECU has become more veteran friendly every year, and expanding its services will help them achieve even more. During early February, East Carolina was one of 20 schools in the nation selected to participate in the Peer Advisors for Veteran Affairs program, or PAVE. PAVE helps connect incoming student vet-

erans with student veterans already on campus in order to help them adapt to the college lifestyle. ECU's chapter of this will initiate in the fall.

The Veteran Services office also has plans to launch a three-day orientation just for student veterans. This will give the student veterans hands-on training where they can physically go walk around campus to find buildings that their classes will be held, and go through mock lectures, so that they can experience a college lifestyle firsthand.

"Vets don't like to ask for help," Jablonski said. "This workshop will help these students succeed here. They are real assets to campus so we

want to teach them to leverage their skills so they can be the standout students we know they can be."

Former Air Force cadet, Brad Sweesy, is a sophomore accounting major and is excited to see the Veteran Services Programs expand.

"I think it's great that ECU is doing more for the veterans," he said. "I love that they are trying to make our adjustment to college less stressful."

Sweesy also said it's difficult adjusting from military life to college life, so this expansion can help many students recoup.

However, the expansion of the student veterans program doesn't

stop here. On April 23, the Student Veteran Services is hosting the Storm the Stadium event which is where attendees will run up and down the steps of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. All proceeds will go towards a scholarship for the student veterans.

Jablonski believes this will be a great event for a great cause.

"It's a powerful indication of this community's support to our veterans and this extra money for scholarships will be a nice help for them," Jablonski said.

For questions or comments, contact news@theeastcarolinian.com.



91.3 FM

WZMB

ZIKA continued from A1

area they are visiting and what types of precautions for endemic illnesses they should make," said Goldberg.

As stated by the CDC, the Zika virus was first discovered in 1947 and in 1952 the first human cases of Zika were dis-

covered. Since then, outbreaks of Zika have been reported just in tropical Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Before 2007, there had been at least 14 cases of Zika documented, although it is possible that there were other cases that were not reported because symptoms are similar to other diseases.

As recently as of May 2015,

the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) released an alert regarding its first confirmed Zika virus infection in Brazil. In the beginning of February, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced Zika to be a public health emergency of international concern.

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PIRATE RANTS

The East Carolinian does not endorse statements made in Pirate Rants.

Administration, wake the heck up! FUTURE STUDENTS CARE MORE ABOUT PARKING THAN SOME CRAPPY STUDENT CENTER. This is beyond BS! Just expand the bus routes already so they use GREAT routes already.

Did you all hear feminists' latest demand? They want time off during their period, every month. Not sick time, PERIOD TIME. Just in case you're still thinking feminism is about equality. Of course, they must be paid the same as men. Don't periods align to the alpha females in humans? Even women are asking to be sent home because of their gender... The patriarchy was way ahead of you, ladies.

Shame on the Oscars. Correcting their history on Black nominees does not give them the right to insult Trans and Asian people

Our young men are constantly bombarded by media which finds their nature repulsive. Men need to go back to their roots and understand that there IS A WAR AGAINST THEM. Rise up and reclaim your manhood!

So what if T. Swift makes cookie-cutter pop? That's her niche, and she's KILLING it and laughing all the way to the bank.

Why is everyone so offended? It's like you all have been personally victimized by Regina George.

My favorite part of the rants tearing apart Kelbaugh's feminism article is that you can easily tell who actually read the article and who just got immediately pissed off that the paper ran a feminism article written by a guy.

When "I love lamp" is the only rant that makes me laugh and the joke is 12 years old.

The graphic design students will be more than happy to design the requested map of Jenkins just as soon as you agree to pay us our worth.

There's a special place in hell for men who vote for Clinton. Same place women who don't vote for Clinton go. Seriously though, don't vote for either Trump or Clinton. It's YOUR generation who will pay for either one of these people making it to office.

Questions regarding rants can be directed to Tyler Kelbaugh at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Poll results

Did you watch the Oscars on Sunday?

Yes- 21.3%
No- 78.7%

Poll question

Would you define yourself as a feminist?

Visit theeastcarolinian.com to vote.

Our view

SGA needs to fix low voter turnout

An alarmingly low number of students made it to the polls to cast their votes in the Student Government Association presidential voting. So low, in fact, that no party received enough votes to even win.

In order for a winner to be sworn into their hypothetical oval office in Mendenhall, a candidate is required to receive 50 percent of the votes. Ticket 1 and Ticket 4 found the mselves in a 450-496 stalemate, but another election period will finalize Friday.

Will they do better this time in terms of getting voters to hit the polls? That's the questions that SGA is ultimately facing after the surprisingly low turnout.

But perhaps it's not as surprising as the numbers may indicate. Obviously students should care about who is leading their student body, but it's the opinion of the editorial board that candidates aren't doing enough to actively

engage the voting population to pitch ideas and policy.

So who should you vote for if all you see are names on signs and not ideas in leadership? An uneducated voter often times does more damage than good, but it is up to the candidates to educate the people on why and how to vote.

Perhaps door-to-door campaigning and classroom speeches would grab students' attention. While SGA does hold debates meant to inform students, they are both inconvenient to attend and under-advertised. Instead of simply hoping that their name will resonate long enough for students to cast their ballots, candidates should engage the voters in a way that will give them no option but to turn the polls to do their civic duty.

One thing is for certain, SGA has just one more day to capture voters and right the wrong.

Google wrong to cave to China



Joseph Perez
TEC COLUMNIST

A CUP OF JOE

Thanks to smartphones, we live in an age where the potential for learning is almost limitless. While it is truly a great thing to be able to possess the ability to access knowledge freely, the ability to access misinformation as easily is not only worthless, but also dangerous.

This is especially the case if this misinformation is being hand fed to you by your government; under the guise of search results from multi-national companies such as Google or Yahoo, companies whom are assumed by many to have ethical practices regulating the extent of censorship. Search engines like Google, which are selling out on their values in order to reap financial gain, are doing themselves and the world around them a major disservice.

In China, googling "Tiananmen Square" or "Dalai Lama" will only result in websites hand picked by the Chinese government. This blatant disregard for the rights of citizens is nothing new in the nation. When Chairman

Mao took over China in 1949, the execution of over one million landlords, brutal invasion, occupation and incorporation of Tibet, and the deaths of an estimated 45 million Chinese from starvation in the early years of his leadership made censorship necessary for Chairman Mao's control to continue.

This is terrible decision, however, both for China and search engines. While we as citizens of America cannot control the ethical decisions of a government based in China, our government should have the power to control the ethical decisions made by companies with branches in the US.

Citizens of a technologically advanced country such as China trust and believe in the information retrieved through a search engine, why should they not when it is the only information they can access coming from international servers? China is dangerously creating an atmosphere of misinformation, and about such issues as religion, race, and cultural heritage that could be permanently damaging.

Indigenous populations of areas annexed by the People's Republic of China in 1949 such as Tibet and Mongolia now make up only 20 percent of the population in those areas. Hate mongering against these populations is at a

high thanks to the dangerous misinformation fed to its citizens by China.

If China wishes to become a respected member of the international community not just commercially but as a true republic, where people elect their officials based off of their own desires, it is critical that it become open and transparent with its citizens and allow them the freedom to access true information, not misinformation. A country whose citizens base their decisions on lies they believe to be true, whose government creates these lies for its own purposes and removes any ideas contrary to their own, is no nation to be respected.

Companies such as Google, Yahoo and Microsoft have their own obligations as well. The purpose of providing a search engine is to provide information to the world. It is not only ethically responsible then, but a core part of these companies mission's that they provide correct information, untampered with and free from censorship. The commercial interests of a company, even in a market as large as China, should never come before the interests of the citizens of the world.

Joseph Perez is a junior majoring in recreation and park management and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Feminism abandons intended path



Dimitri Dragonas
TEC COLUMNIST

IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME

Feminism has a long history fighting for Women's rights, but the percentage of people identifying with the label has never been lower. Only 23 percent of women and 16 percent of men identifying themselves as such. Eighty two percent of the survey respondents, both men and women, said they agreed men and women should have equal rights, and just 9 percent said they did not. But doesn't Feminism stand for equality between men and women?

There are more women in college than ever before often in ratios exceeding 60-40. Women are also earning more degrees than men in every category. Just under five percent of the Fortune 500 having women CEO's and 14 percent of all top executives being women, admittedly small numbers, but continually growing as the barriers to these positions have been shed. Women in their 20's are out-earning men in total earnings, often in the same fields. Gender Discrimination laws have been passed outlawing pay discrimination with The Equal Pay Act of 1963, enforced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The best part is these rights have been attained for all women, where many other cultures only wanted them for the aristocratic

class. So why, after all these accomplishments, are women and men rejecting the label? Perhaps it's because modern feminism has left most of it's previous glory behind, its leaders instead engaging in ridiculously petty battles.

For example, Secretary of State Madeline Albright has said that there is a special place in hell for women who don't vote for Hillary Clinton. Anita Sarkeesian and Zoe Quinn complained in front of the UN, saying governments need to pass laws to ensure that information providers only allow connection to the public if they actively supervise and censor content critical of feminism. Jessica Valenti considers you a sexist if you don't follow enough women on twitter, and it is "suspect" if too many of your favorite artists, singers, artists, etc, are male. Gloria Steinem has made incredibly sexist comments, such as "younger women were backing Mr. Sanders just so they could meet young men" and "When you're young, you're thinking: 'Where are the boys? The boys are with Bernie'". Does she think women have any self agency?

But it's not just the leaders that have degraded a once great movement, it's the everyday activists and workers forming hate mobs on social media. Feminist activists banned Grand Theft Auto 5 from stores in Australia because the game allows you complete freedom of action, which included assaulting women. Social Media exploded because they didn't like DC comics reinvention of "The Killing Joke" Batman storyline because the cover showed Batgirl held captive

and tortured by the Joker. Dr. Matt Taylor, a member of the team which landed the first spacecraft on a comet nucleus, was made to cry in a public apology after an internet hate mob lashed out at him for wearing a shirt with scantily clad women in an interview, a shirt made for him by a close female friend. Film Director Joss Whedon, who was widely heralded as a backer of modern feminism, was forced to quit twitter after receiving uncountably high numbers of hate tweets for Black Widow's character development in Avengers 2, many calling for him to be beaten, curb stomped, and killed. Plenty more examples abound, but I encourage you, dear reader, to seek them out on your own.

Perhaps instead of telling women that they just don't really know what Feminism really is, we should realize that they are smart enough to make the decision on their own. They observe the actions of those affiliated with the current movement, and the words of their leaders. It's incredibly patronizing to tell them "well you just don't really know what your talking about. Here, let me tell you what feminism is, so you don't have to worry about it". That this kind of attitude, one that feminism has been fighting against for so long, is coming from third-wave feminist leaders highlights the sad truth that yet another revolution has begun to cannibalize its own.

Dimitri Dragonas is a sophomore majoring in business administration and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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72 hours

MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND

TODAY

Adult Metal Design & Jewelry Class

Emerge Gallery & Art Center

Thursday & Friday
10 a.m.- 9 p.m.

Belly Dance for Everyone

Student Recreation Center Room 239

5:30- 6:30 p.m.
Thursday- Sunday

Undergraduate Exhibition

Jenkins Fine Art Center, Gray Gallery

10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Thursday- Sunday

FRIDAY

North Carolina New Music Initiative

A.J Fletcher Recital Hall

7:30- 8:30 p.m.

March Exhibits at EmERGE: Downeast Sculpture Exhibition & On The Wall

Emerge Gallery & Art Center

5- 11:59 p.m.
Friday-Sunday

SATURDAY

Groove Fish

Crossbones Tavern

9- 11:59 p.m.

Mi-sook Hur: Feather Trace Opening Reception

Faulkner Gallery

4:30- 7 p.m.

SPRING BREAK 2016

Intro to Creative Jewelry Making

Greenville Museum of Art

1 - 3 p.m.
Monday

FUNctional Handbuilding Spring Session I

Greenville Museum of Art

6-8 p.m.
Monday

Uptown Small Plates Tour

Uptown Greenville

7 - 11:59 p.m.
Wednesday- Saturday

Color Vibe 5K

Greenville Town Common and Toyota Amphitheatre

11 a.m. - 11:59 p.m.
Saturday

New shop makes beauty natural

Jordyn Sasser
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Shea Be Natural, a new natural beauty store, is set to open on Saturday in Uptown Greenville.

Shea Be Natural, originally known as its online presence QOTN Body Essentials, is a small, family-owned business that prides itself on providing artisan crafted bath and body products. Owner Mecheline Muhammad is excited about the upcoming expansion, but plans to keep things local.

"The business started in January of 2013 online, and the website will still be running after we open the store for those who are not local," said Muhammad. "My goal for the store itself is for it to become a staple within the community."

The products range from lip and body moisturizers, bath bombs and soaps, aromatherapy and fragrance oils, to even natural hair and scalp treatments.

"The idea for this has been a dream. No, literally. I had a dream where someone I didn't know showed me around a store with all of the products that are in my store now," said Muhammad. "After that, I wrote down my ideas and knew that was what I needed to pursue and do. I didn't even know how to make the products, but I learned how."

With an ever-growing desire for all-natural products, consumers have helped companies like LUSH



SHANNON MURPHY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Shea Be Natural owner Mecheline Muhammad mixes together a natural beauty product to be sold in her new store.

Handmade Cosmetics soar in popularity, nationally and internationally.

"I appreciate what companies out there like LUSH are doing, and they are successful," said Muhammad. "But for this community, I saw a need locally, and our products are handmade in small batches for better quality, so you know directly who you're getting your product from, and you know it's fresh."

Muhammad believes in quality over quantity.

"That's what sticks out the most," said Muhammad. "You may

not see the quantity of those types of chain stores when you walk in, but you know each product has strong quality with fresh ingredients."

"Everything I have online is not in store, but you can come in and see something online and you can get it freshly made in store," said Muhammad.

To meet the demands and work directly with customers, the store will even take suggestions for scents and work with you to customize your product.

"It's easier to get personal with each customer on this level, and I want the community to know we care about what goes into our products and that they do what they say they will do, not only smell good," said Muhammad.

There are flyers posted, and some at the location, with attached coupons good for shopping on opening day. The store will unveil on Saturday at 415 Evans Street in Uptown Greenville.

For questions or comments, contact arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

Rec Center offers 'wild' clinic

Alaina Corsini
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Adventure Program Office is an area of the gym that many rec-goers seem to pass by. However, one step into the office introduces students to a way to exercise in a more natural setting: backpacking.

According to Samantha Proctor Briley, interim adventure program coordinator, backpacking provides a low cost travel opportunity and a chance to explore many North Carolina's national parks.

"With backpacking there's

tons of opportunities to backpack in North Carolina between the Croatan National Forest, Pisgah National Forest, the Great Smoky Mountains and the Appalachian Trail that goes straight through North Carolina," said Proctor Briley.

Every Thursday night a backpacking clinic is offered to students, which discusses how to prepare and properly plan for a trip. Each week, the meeting focuses on different tools needed to backpack safely.

"It is a way for our students to

refine those skills and learn the basics, so they can get out on their own," said Proctor Briley.

Backpackers are taught what goes in your "bear bag" and where you should set it up in relation to camp. According to Proctor Briley, "bear bagging" refers to storing food, utensils and garbage and hanging the bag over branches in the upper part of the tree to keep it out of the reach of animals.

"Eastern North Carolina has ton of black bears," said Proctor Briley, "Even though they're not giant..."

"They ARE bears," added Emma Cunningham, junior majoring in ecology and evolution with a minor in recreation park management.

Cunningham is a leader within the student development organization of the adventure program and creates the outlines for the clinic each week. She has been backpacking in the Croatan National Forest and plans to hike the White Mountains in New Hampshire this summer.

According to Cunningham,

> WILD page A5

MOVIE REVIEW

'Eddie the Eagle' soars into hearts



Jennifer Hines
TEC STAFF

"Eddie the Eagle" left smiles on audiences' faces from the minute the opening scene started.

The heartwarming tale is based on the true story of Eddie Edwards, Great Britain's first and last ski jumper who defied expectations and won over millions of fans. "Eddie the Eagle" is the story of his journey from being the underdog to the 1988 Olympics in Calgary, Canada.

Edwards was not necessarily the best ski jumper to enter the Olympics, but his hard work and determination made him one-of-a-kind. Viewers of the 1988 Olympics quickly fell in love with his youthful exuberance and humble nature and named him Eddie the Eagle.

Edwards, played by Taron Egerton, is a completely loveable character. From the first scene where he was a young boy with leg braces hobbling down the street to go to the Olympics, his hope and determination was clear.

Egerton delivered an amazing performance as the quirky Edwards, nailing his demeanor and mannerisms. He transformed himself entirely from the way he squints to the way he holds his jaw, Egerton completely conveyed Edwards' clumsy and courageous personality.

Edwards had every opportunity to give up on his dream when he was knocked down time and time again, but he never let anything stop him. His journey pulls on the heartstrings of viewers everywhere.

Parts of "Eddie the Eagle" were more loosely based on the actual events and the writers and producers took some liberties with fluffing up the storyline. One of the biggest fabrications being the creation of Bronson Peary, Edwards' coach.

Bronson Peary, played by Hugh Jackman, did not exist in real life but adds a new depth to the movie's plot. With Peary being a washed up athlete himself, his character added humor and a new layer of redemption to the movie.

Through Edwards, Peary was able to redeem his past transgressions that led him to giving up the sport. Peary's character gave the plot arc a greater depth and a deeper meaning.

Jackman's performance of Peary was that of a typical Jackman character, a tough guy with a sensitive side deep down inside. Watching the various sarcastic and sardonic sides of Jackman's character provided extra comic relief throughout more serious topics.

Throughout the movie, both characters came together to show off their skiing skills in spectacular ways.

Starting with the high elevations they were jumping from, the filmography literally took the movie to new heights. There were constant breathtaking views of snow-capped mountains

and villages as tiny specks in the distance.

When on the move, extreme close-ups of the athletes in action capture every emotion that crosses their face when flying through the air. The feats that they achieve are downright incredible and leave audiences clapping and cheering as if it were a live sporting event.

"Eddie the Eagle" is infectious. Edwards' determined and, what one would call, innocent personality makes audiences instantly care for his story. His hardships and perseverance make him relatable.

Even though Edwards is not the typical accomplished athlete who had been training his whole life, he was able to achieve his dream in an unconventional way. As Hugh Jackman said on Good Morning America, "it shows that you don't have to win in life to be a winner"

"Eddie the Eagle" is a completely uplifting story that inspires everyone of all ages. This movie shows just how far determination and not taking no for an answer can go.

RATING:



4 out of 5

For questions or comments, contact arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

DINING REVIEW

GridIron's service disappoints



Danielle Gentry
TEC STAFF

During the first few weeks of East Carolina University's spring semester, a new restaurant and bar, The GridIron, officially opened its doors in Greenville.

Located on 201 S. Jarvis Street near Christy's Euro Pub, The GridIron serves up burgers, pizza and other typical Americana-style food.

The GridIron's size and spaciousness are immediately noticeable. There is enough space for 18 bar seats, five high-top tables and enough booth tables to seat around 160 people. Additionally, there are two regulation-sized pool tables and three old-school arcade games, offering classic games such as "Pac Man."

The space itself is inviting and very clean, although its 83.5 sanitation would seem to suggest otherwise. When my friend and I visited, we were seated quickly, although it must be noted that when we visited the restaurant at 5 p.m. on a Saturday afternoon, we were the only customers there at the time.

The restaurant is apparently known for its shrimp and crab dip, but according to the waitress, it had been out-of-stock for quite some time due to the high demand. They were also out of their spinach and artichoke dip. Seeing as it was just the beginning of a weekend, and there weren't any other customers, it was odd that the restaurant could already be out of multiple appetizer dishes.

Instead, as an appetizer I ordered the Grid Knots, which are GridIron's own take on garlic knots, topped with butter and parmesan cheese. My Grid Knots were warm, and I could tell they were actually made fresh, which made me forget about the amount of time I had to

wait, pushing 20 minutes, to get them.

My table went ahead and ordered our main dishes along with my appetizer. Some of the entrees my table ordered included a flatbread pizza, mozzarella sticks and the Shroomin Burger.

The burgers were delicious, especially the Shroomin Burger, which was piled with melted cheeses and mushrooms. However, the fries that accompanied the burgers were the only food from the GridIron that were subpar. There was nothing special to the fries, no seasoning or sauces. An "Americana style" restaurant and bar should offer quality American classics, such as fries and burgers with at least a little flavouring.

The restaurant does offer drink specials, and our table ordered a \$5 domestic draft pitcher of beer while we waited an unnecessarily long time for our food to come out. Considering we the only table in the restaurant, 20 minutes seemed much too long to wait.

Overall, the food was quite good, but the lack of availability in their appetizers, as well as the terribly slow service and questionable sanitation rating were disappointing enough to dissuade me from making The GridIron my first choice when dining out on the Grid.

RATING:



For questions or comments, contact
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

WILD continued from A4

the only things students need to bring to the clinic is "a willingness to learn," since the adventure program lends the gear needed to learn these skills.

"When we did the cooking seminar we brought our own backcountry stoves out and boiled water," said Cunningham. "A lot of the skills you learn in our clinics or just backpacking in general overlap with other trips."

In addition to clinics, the adventure program runs trips during breaks and holidays. Students on these travels experience backcountry canoeing, kayaking and bikepacking. During the easter weekend the program is offering a white water rafting trip on the James River in Richmond, Virginia. According to assistant coordinator Proctor Briley the program is expanding and also offers 'custom' trips.

"If you and a couple of other gals or friends want to go backpacking over the summer or next fall," said Proctor Briley "We can cater a specific trip to you."

According to the two, no backpacker could leave for a trip without a bag full of rain gear, water, and an extra pair of shoes.

Cunningham said her secret to success is always found in her pack-pepper-

mint oil.

"When I went backpacking it was extremely buggy and I'm prone to headaches. I use it for my headaches and as bug spray," said Cunningham. "With peppermint oil you just take a couple drops smear it on your leg and the bugs are gone, it's great."

Reading up on the trail and utilizing resources was the biggest piece of advice Proctor Briley had to begining backpackers.

"Do your research ahead of time, like knowing what size backpack you need because there are multiple sizes," said Proctor Briley. "Our backpacks here are giant. You could fit into this backpack and I could haul you around, this is how large this backpack is."

Gear and supplies are available to rent to students for their trip in the adventure program office.

"If you wanted to go backpacking but you've got the tent and the sleeping bag but you don't have the backpack, we have them here and you can rent them out really easily for a weekend," said Cunningham.

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PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 3/3/16

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

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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FOR RELEASE MARCH 3, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Congressional authority

5 Lifeless

9 Repaired, as a boot

14 Warning to a tot

15 Academic apparel

16 Dancer Fred's dancing sister

17 Temporarily out of stock, with "on"

19 Add a lane to, say

20 Hot rod rods

21 Not stable, in a way

23 Signed line

26 Wall St. event

27 "Yeah, sure!"

30 One might spoil a dream

36 Beth, to Jo

37 Hindu "sir"

38 Spot in a spa

39 Jangle pop and the like, and a hint to a hidden feature of 17-, 30-, 46- and 63-Across

43 Old counters

44 Aussie hoppers

45 Daisy ____

46 Gadgets with helical parts called worms

49 The Constitution St.

50 Cadenza maker

51 50-Across' locale

53 Enjoy the sunset

58 About

62 Old marketplace

63 Restaurant convenience

66 Flower part

67 Dynamic beginning?

68 The Big Easy acronym

69 "East of Eden" surname

70 Balcony section

71 Card game for three

DOWN

1 Where the Sky and the Sun collide, for short?

2 Scam

3 Part of the pkg.

4 Jab

5 "Dam, it's cold!"

6 Airport near Tel Aviv

7 Withhold information about, say

8 Beyond noble

9 Supports in shop class

10 Comic strip drooler

11 Mythical Spartan queen

12 The mi. in Mile-High City

13 Opposite of admit

18 Kyrgyzstan city

22 Walther ____: James Bond's pistol

24 Thom of shoes

25 Tyrrhenian Sea island

27 Name on the "Robot" series books

28 Bag End notable

29 To be, in Toledo

31 Bizarre

32 Berne's river

33 Italian cathedral

34 Like Andean pyramids

35 Kind of bucket

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

B	I	A	N	C	A		R	A	C	E	S	O	F	F
A	L	L	U	R	E		E	D	U	C	A	B	L	E
W	I	L	B	U	R		N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N
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I ADMIT TO BEING A BIT FOGGY ON THE KINESIOLOGY.

THIS CAMEL IS NEVER FLY, CAN NOT EVEN JUMP GOOD.

AH, I SEE. THE BROCHURE WAS MISLEADING.

VERY WELL. HOW DEEP CAN IT DIVE? AND WILL I BREATHE INSIDE THE HUMP, OR...?

NO! NOT FOR SWIM! THIS CAMEL IS DROWNING IF YOU SWIM. WEAK LEGS! YOU LOSE YOUR DEPOSIT!

POGO, THEN, CAN THE CAMEL POGO.

POGO, SIR?

YOU KNOW! SPRING SPROING HOPPIY-HOP! CAN THE CAMEL POGO!

SIR THIS CAMEL IS TOTALLY INCAPABLE OF ANY POGO. ITS FEET IS NEVER FIT ON A HUMAN POGO, AND QUADRUPED CAMEL POGOS IS A THING SCIENCE DOES NOT INVENTED YET.

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- The next two days bring plenty of professional activity. New skills are required. Make a connection to take new territory. Avoid stress with short, frequent breaks. Rest eyes and mind with some nothing time.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Check your itinerary before dashing off. The next two days favor travel and study. Review long-range goals, and align current actions to suit. Keep your frugal ways. Explore and discover uncharted territory.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Consider new possibilities. For the next two days, review financial arrangements. Discuss shared accounts, and align on priorities. Make plans,

and keep your team informed. Opposites attract. Share perspectives. Support each other.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Kindle passion with tender care. Refine plans for mutual motivation. Partnership negotiations occur today and tomorrow. Ask for what you want. Give generously. Get promises in writing. Make sure your partner gets what they need.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Energize your work today and tomorrow. A production streak checks things off your list. Get into powerhouse mode. Gather support for a project. Make agreements and deals. Create new networks. Outsmart the competition.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Get carried away by someone's fascinating ideas. Share fun with family and friends today and tomorrow. Play and practice your arts. Consider tossing everything and starting over. Invent, craft and create.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- The next two days are good for making changes at home. Get family to help. Talk it over. Draw up your fantasies, and limit to one shared dream. Clean, sort and organize. Give away stuff.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- You're especially persuasive. Take advantage of your way with words over the next two days. Write a novel, comment or post. Upgrade your communications infrastructure.

Learn like a child. Conversation sparks a new opportunity.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Bring home the bacon today and tomorrow. The more you complete, the higher you climb. Pay attention to maintain positive cash flow. It's OK to mix business and pleasure. Add some glamour to the proceedings.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- You're becoming more confident and powerful over the next two days. Make a personal change. Keep your promises, and make new ones for exciting projects. Create what you want to see realized. Take responsibility.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 5 -- You're entering a two-day pensive phase. Get into thoughtful planning mode. Get intimately involved with a project. Peaceful productivity suits your mood. Make nostalgic diversions. Listen to your heart. Success comes through diversity.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Group projects and team efforts go far over the next few days. Pay back a debt. Hold meetings and gatherings. Delegate tasks, and take advantage of diverse talents. Build a shared dream together.

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TUNE IN

EVERYDAY



Tenth frame tailspin

Pirates fall in extra innings at home to Elon

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

East Carolina played a game of cat and mouse with Elon Wednesday night, as the Pirates were constantly playing catch up with the Phoenix, ultimately losing, 8-7 in extra innings.

After walking the bases loaded, Joe Ingle, the Pirates' most proven relief threat, surrendered the game-winning run in the bottom of the tenth inning.

Ingle, who primarily serves as the team's closer, allowed the run in his third inning of work

after walking the bases loaded, a decision that ECU head coach Cliff Godwin ultimately thinks was the right call.

"If I'm going to lose, I'm going to lose with our guy. We lost with our guy," Godwin said. "We should have won it in the ninth and he wouldn't have had to go out there in the tenth."

After only allowing 10 runs total in the weekend series at No. 4 ranked Virginia, the plethora of Pirate pitchers allowed eight runs Wednesday.

Starting pitcher Denny Brady was on a pitch count for

the Pirates, only throwing two and two-third innings. ECU then had to depend on the depth of its bullpen, something that didn't pan out for the Pirates.

"I thought the game was won early, even though we kept battling back I thought we played bad defense, walked too many guys on the mound," Godwin said. "Defense and walks and not getting some clutch hits cost us."

After ECU came from behind and tied the game at two, Elon jumped out to a 4-2 lead after a two-out, two-RBI

double from Danny Lynch.

Once again, ECU battled back and managed to load the bases. Third baseman Eric Tyler then smacked a one-one pitch up the middle, scoring two Pirate runs to tie the game at four in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The ECU bullpen then began to struggle in the top of the sixth inning, as Elon jumped out to a comfortable lead, bringing home three runs on four hits and a walk to make

> **BASEBALL** page A8

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina senior center fielder Garrett Brooks attempts to score the game-winning run against Elon but is thrown out in the ninth inning.

Softball heads to Florida

Allison Jobe
TEC STAFF

East Carolina softball hopes to keep its winning streak alive, as it prepares for action this weekend, playing in the Under Armor Invitational in Clearwater, Florida.

The Pirates (11-6) are coming off of a 4-1 record earned at the Citrus Classic II, where they took victories over Bryant (0-5), North Florida (4-11), Yale (1-4) and Morgan State (2-9).

ECU fell 8-0 to No. 23 Notre Dame in the first game, sparking a winning streak, as it took a 1-0 win over Bryant, 8-4 over North Florida, 7-2 against Yale and finished strong with a final 5-3 victory against Saint Francis (PA) to close out the Citrus Classic.

Sophomore Ashley Cruise helped lead the Pirates in the Classic where she posted a 2-0 record without allowing a run. Cruise struck out 11 batters and walked just one in 10 innings pitched.

Against North Florida, Cruise threw seven scoreless innings and struck out five batters against just one walk, while allowing three hits. Also, against Morgan State, Cruise tossed three scoreless innings, fanning six hitters without allowing a walk.

Cruise was named to the American Athletic Conference Softball Weekly Honor Roll Monday. This is the first weekly honor of Cruise's career and third for the Pirates this season alone.

She has not allowed a run, earned or unearned, in her last three appearances, accounting for 12 and one-thirds innings pitched. She has also surrendered just one extra base hit during the stretch.

"We're looking forward to [the Under Armor Showcase], we have five games this week and then a midweek and we come back

> **SOFTBALL** page A8

TAKEAWAYS

BASEBALL

ECU (6-2) failed to convert in the ninth inning, ultimately falling to Elon, 8-7 in extra innings yesterday.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Pirates will meet the Cincinnati Bearcats in the first round of the conference tournament Friday.

SOFTBALL

ECU (11-6) will travel to Clearwater, Florida, for the Under Armour Showcase.

MEN'S TENNIS

The Pirates (6-4, 1-2 AAC) will square off against The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, Sunday.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

ECU (6-4, 0-1 AAC) will travel to Puerto Rico for a series of matches against multiple opponents.

CAROLINA HURRICANES

The Carolina Hurricanes (29-26-10) defeated the New Jersey Devils, 3-1 Tuesday night.

ONLINE



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Live to fight another day

Pirates hope to keep season alive in AAC tourney

Carson Cherry
TEC STAFF

East Carolina will hope to keep its season alive in the American Athletic Conference tournament this weekend, where if it loses once, it will mark the end of the line for the Pirates.

"It's our job now to help the seniors extend their ECU careers as long as we can," head coach Heather Macy said.

The team (12-18, 6-12 AAC) did not expect to be where they are in the standings, but will look to make their season better in this tournament. At their current record, the Pirates will be placed into the eighth seed in the tournament, pitting them against the ninth seeded Cincinnati Bearcats (8-21, 4-14 AAC).

The Pirates have played the Bearcats twice this season so far, with ECU coming out victorious in both games. The first game was in Minges, where the Pirates won by a close margin of 63-60. When ECU traveled to play Cincinnati, the win was more comfortable, as the Pirates won 77-55. Junior post player Marina Laramie scored a career high 31 points against the Bearcats in the last meeting.

If the Pirates grab the win against Cincinnati, they will play the three-time defending National Champions UConn Huskies. This game will be difficult, considering that the Huskies' last defeat came back in 2014 against Stanford.

ECU has won three of its last five games, coming off a great senior night win against in conference rival Southern Methodist University.

"We have momentum as we



PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Pirate senior basketball player Jada Payne talks to a fellow teammate during a game earlier this season.

progress into this tournament," said Macy.

The Pirates have been led this season by seniors Jaya Payne and I'Tiana Taylor. Payne has averaged 19.4 points and 8.5 rebounds per game so far this season. She is also 14 points shy of hitting 2000 career points in her ECU basketball career.

Taylor has a better presence in the paint, grabbing 10.4 rebounds per game, while still managing to score 14.1 points per game. Laramie has been a great addition to the team as well, as she has averaged 11.7 points and 6.4 rebounds-per-game this season.

"We've been playing really well the past couple of weeks," Macy said.

ECU will begin its postseason play when it tips off Friday at 4 p.m. in Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut.

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

Coaches honored



COURTESY OF ECU MEDIA RELATIONS
East Carolina swim coach Rick Kobe celebrates next to a diver during an event earlier this year.

Kobe, Hunt earn AAC awards

Kayla Morton
TEC STAFF

After East Carolina’s men’s swimming and diving team brought home its second consecutive American Athletic Conference championship, head swim coach Rick Kobe and head dive coach Ryan Hunt were named the AAC Coaches-of-the-Year.

Kobe began working in the ECU program in 1980 as an assistant coach, a position he held for two years before taking over the program and becoming head coach in 1982. After graduation in 2008, Hunt was a volunteer assistant coach until he accepted the head coaching position in 2012.

“There’s not too much I don’t like about my job,” Hunt said. “I like seeing kids excel and can tell when they do some of those correlations with what they’ve learned in our sport.”

Hunt attended ECU, where he graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in health and human performance, while also being a four-year letterman for the Pirates in diving.

Hunt attended the NCAA Zone B Regional Championships four times and will be heading back Monday for the full week. Four current qualified ECU divers will join him to compete, with the lone women’s diver, Ashley Sams, as well as Matt Mullen, Scottie Kent and Zach Duval on the men’s side.

“[The] whole season is a progression,” Hunt said. “Practice six days per week, doubles on Tuesday and Thursdays, some Saturday mornings, dry lands and mechanics.”

The Pirates’ notable work ethic was key in helping them achieve the championship, as

well as sending a handful to the zones. Their hard work, determination, numerous hours at the pool training and winning outlet strategies alone helped propel Hunt into the driver’s seat for Coach-of-the-Year.

Unlike Hunt, Kobe swam for four years at Fairmont State while receiving his undergraduate degree and attended West Virginia University for his Master’s. Kobe was also a volunteer assistant coach in Raleigh before coming to ECU.

Since becoming the head coach for the Pirates, he has made the program one of the winningest in the country. He has a career 512-181-1 record. The most challenging effort for Kobe’s team this season was when the Pirates traveled to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

“I enjoyed the very first dual meet at Naval Academy,” Kobe said. “It came down to last relay for girls.”

On top of his successful record, this is Kobe’s ninth Head Coach-of-the-Year award. Along the way, he has helped achieve the same number of conference championships, 332 varsity records, 167 freshman records, has coached four All-Americans and one Olympic athlete.

“I enjoy working every day with athletes because everyone is different training and personality-wise,” Kobe said.

Over his 36-year career, Kobe has become the winningest coach in Pirate history, holding a .738 winning percentage.

“The key is to be organized, [I] don’t like surprises. Dot all the I’s and cross all the T’s,” Kobe said.

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BASEBALL continued from A7

the score 7-4.

To continue the game’s pattern, the Pirates matched Elon’s scoring outburst 7-7 in the bottom half of the inning, scoring three runs on doubles from Jeff Nelson and Travis Watkins.

Tyler then had another chance with the bases loaded

in the bottom of the eighth inning, hoping to give the Pirates their first lead of the game, but struck out sending the game into the ninth inning knotted 7-7.

It was the same story in the ninth, as Garrett Brooks got gunned at the plate trying to score the winning run off of a Parker Lamm fly ball, which sent the game into extra innings, where the

ECU would eventually lose. “I think Elon wanted it more than us and that’s my fault,” Godwin said. “We’re going to have a really good practice tomorrow and we’re going to have a lot of energy. We’re going to get after it and we’ll see who wants to play on Friday night.”

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SOFTBALL continued from A7

to Tampa and we have another five,” ECU head coach Courtney Oliver said.

In the Under Armor Invitational, the Pirates will face Villanova (4-6), Detroit (4-9), Sam Houston State (4-8), Central Michigan (4-6) and Illinois (8-6) this weekend to kick things off.

ECU will then see a mid-

week matchup against FIU in Miami and continue back to Clearwater to see Northern Kentucky (1-9), Bowling Green (5-8), New Mexico State (11-6), Southern Illinois (7-5) and IPFW (2-11) the following weekend.

“Spring break is going to be a long set of games. I think we have 11 games in there, but we’ll have some practice times built in there and a couple of days off, so I’m looking forward to it,” Oliver said.

Last season, ECU met Illinois in the USF Invitational, where it suffered 7-6 defeat. The Pirates haven’t played Villanova, Detroit, Sam Houston State or Central Michigan in over 10 years, some of which they haven’t played at all.

“I think they’re excited for it. It’s going to be a long trip, but they’re excited,” Oliver said.

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