



ALUMNI REFLECT ON DOWNTOWN PAST

Turn to A4



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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Vigil held to memorialize Brussels' victims

Teagan Welch
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU's Student Government Association, along with the ECU German Club, held a candlelight vigil Wednesday evening to commemorate the victims of Tuesday morning's attacks in Brussels, Belgium.

Approximately 30 students attended the vigil at the Memorial Garden with each student holding a candle promptly in the air to show their compassion for the tragedy.

Mark Matulewicz, SGA Student Body President, helped to host this event and said the event was a good way for students of ECU to give their insight on the Brussels attack.

"I do think this will help to educate our students about what is happening in the world

today," Matulewicz said, "and get their involvement in sharing their condolences and understanding how this event affects the people around us."

Early Tuesday morning in Brussels, gunfire was heard in a departure terminal of the Brussels airport and a pair of blasts were heard near the airport entrance. A little over an hour later, there was a blast reported on a train inside of metro station. Minutes later, the Brussels metro system was closed and all public transportation was stopped by 10 a.m.

ISIS claimed responsibility for the attacks, which left at least 30 people dead and more than 230 people injured.

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

BODY FOUND IN TAR RIVER



Students stand by the Tar River while first responders pull the body of a man out of the river. The body of Anthony Brunett was discovered Tuesday morning after he went missing March 13. Boaters on the river noticed the body and reported it to police.

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Legacy honors Ballard

Chancellor's leadership focus of week-long events

Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University hosted A Legacy of Leadership week from March 21-23 to honor outgoing Chancellor Steve Ballard by highlighting some of his achievements in leadership.

The programs during the week included leadership discussions and panels with some of the past and present senior leaders at ECU and the University of North Carolina system.

Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor of student affairs, said this week gave ECU an opportunity to celebrate Ballard's leadership and his accomplishments at this institution.

"Chancellor Ballard has done so many wonderful things at this institution, namely cultivating a strong leadership concept here at East Carolina," said Hardy. "I think it makes him feel good to be able to have these folks here to say we appreciate you, respect you for what you've done

for us and really, to say thank you."

The week started on Monday with the program titled "Making Leadership a Part of the Fabric at a Public University" where Patricia Long, president emeritus at Baker University and long time friend and former colleague of Ballard's, said there is a need for public universities to "integrate strong, effective leadership into day-to-day operations" and the basic tenets of successful leadership.

Long stressed that there has never been a more vital time than right now to be developing "outstanding leaders" who have "integrity" to go out in our communities, government, businesses and homes.

Long added in her speech that with all the people she has worked with over the years, Ballard is the person that epitomizes leadership.

Following her talk, Long joined panelists including North Carolina State University Chancellor Randy Woodson, former Board of Trustee member Carol

Mabe, and Vice President of the American Council on Education and Ballard's former Chief of Staff Philip Rogers, for a discussion on what leadership means, how to adapt to a new chancellor or leader but continue the institution's mission, and issues in higher education.

The panelists also shared personal and professional stories about Ballard, highlighting his leadership capabilities over the years.

"Chancellor Ballard is the epitome of a phenomenal leader in education," Rogers said. "I think taking the time to pause and reflect on the success he has led ECU to for the last 12 years is important moment in ECU's history."

Tuesday, the East Carolina Heart Institute hosted the second program of the week, "Transitional Leadership in Higher Education" with Tom Ross,

> LEADERSHIP page A2

MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Panelists during the Leadership week (left to right) Jeff Compher, Ron Mitchelson, Phyllis Horns and Virginia Hardy speak during an event.

CFP director talks ECU, postseason

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

Playing in the American Athletic Conference, East Carolina is considered a long shot every year to make the College Football Playoff, something that Bill Hancock, the executive director of the CFP said can still be achieved.



Bill Hancock

"Play a good schedule, win your games and you're going to be in the hunt," Hancock said. "It all depends on what the other teams are doing around the country.

12-0 in some years against a good schedule would look different than a 12-0 in other years depending on what other teams have done."

Hancock was ECU's guest for the sixth annual Sports Business Leadership Lecture Tuesday afternoon and spoke to Pirate athletes and coaches, as well as students and faculty, detailing his travel up the totem pole of college athletics.

He worked various other jobs before making it atop of college football, serving as the director of the Bowl Championship series and the Final Four.

Hancock, who joked that he is "the most hated person in college football," also explained that the American Athletic Conference is a strong and respected football conference.

"All 10 conferences, the American Athletic Conference has the same weight, the same vote in CFP matters as the SEC does," Hancock said.

The AAC is apart of the Group of 5 conferences, a group that is seen as long shots for the playoff because of their being absent in the perennial Power 5 league of conferences.

Although things would have to fall into place, Hancock didn't rule out the fact that a team like ECU could potentially make the postseason tournament, saying that the Pirates would most likely have to go undefeated.

Hancock did also explain that if a team like ECU

> HANCOCK page A8

ONLINE

» Baseball looks ahead to Jacksonville matchup

» Softball picks up big win over N.C. State

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU receives Paul Simon Award

East Carolina University is one of seven colleges nationwide recognized for the prestigious 2016 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization. Awarded by the National Association of Foreign Advisors: Association of International Educators (NAFSA), the prize is given to schools for their achievements in campus internationalization.

ECU's Global Academic Initiatives (GAI), a program within the Academic Affairs community, received the award for its success in providing direct international experience to students using technology. The GAI program collaborates with 62 institutions in 33 countries to provide about 300 ECU students with a student-focused international experience each semester.

ECU opens hand-blown glass studio

Yesterday, the ECU School of Art and Design opened a hand-blown glass art studio in downtown Farmville. The studio will have public viewing areas and will offer workshops to the public. Those working on this studio hope to inspire and give people a place to create art.

Hand-blown glass is a new curriculum area for ECU and the first in the UNC system. Students will travel from main campus on ECU to Farmville for classes, which are expected to begin in the fall.

NC DOT kicks off traffic campaign

N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program along with local and state law enforcement will the "Obey The Sign Or Pay The Fine" today along Interstate 95 and NC Highway 64 to promote safer driving practices. The idea is to key in on drivers traveling over the posted speed limit to tone down the idea of a "buffer zone" that exists above the speed limit.

The program and officers hope to make travel safer with this initiative.

School of Medicine set to graduate top class

ECU's Brody School of Medicine had its Match Day last Friday to announce residencies of graduates. According to Brody School of Medicine Dean Dr. Paul Cunningham, 73 percent of graduates will take primary care residencies while the other 23 percent will work in family medicine. Also, 47 percent of the class will take residencies within North Carolina.

According to a release from ECU News Services, just 15 percent of last year's class went on to work in family medicine, compared to 23 percent for this year's class.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



Members of the German Club pose for a photo on their trip to Germany. There, they helped assimilate refugees.

German Club reflects on Spring Break trip

Samuel Privette
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

While Spring Break is a week for most students to refresh and appreciate their time away from the classroom, the German Club at East Carolina University spent their time doing a service to the world by teaching refugees in Munich, Germany.

Partnering with the local aid organization in Munich, Asyl-Helferkreis-Waldperlach, 11 ECU students lead by German Club President Anthony Razov taught basic German language and other necessary societal skills to refugees fleeing conflicts in the Middle East.

"It's always good to give people a chance. I think we gave them a chance and really put ourselves out there for a group of people severely in need," Razov said.

Razov and fellow German Club member Daniel Franch said the most important factor in effectively assimilating refugees into society is teaching them the fundamental aspects of their new home.

"Integration into society is crucial and it all starts with teaching the migrants the native language," Razov said.

Other than teaching the refugees common German phrases, the ECU German Club also helped provide direction in showing refugees how to navigate public transportation and abide by local traffic rules.

"We were not sure what to expect at first," Franch said. "You hear about on the news all of the negative images painted on the refugees, I was interested in understanding more about their situation and just getting to know them on a personal level."

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, since 2014 more than 1,100,000 people have fled from conflict in the Middle East. Although most European nations have continuously turned away large populations of refugees, Germany has generously welcomed all asylum seekers, assum-

ing the greatest burden of the crisis.

While the German Club pitched its best effort into making a positive impact on the refugees, ECU students who participated in the trip to Munich also learned a great deal about themselves.

"To be in the epicenter of the refugee crisis was eye-opening," said Franch.

German Club members anticipated an enlightening and inspirational week, but were overjoyed by their reception from the refugees and the friendships they created.

"In the beginning we kind of had to respect the boundaries of each other. It was a little bit like going into the unknown, but overall the refugees were incredibly friendly," Razov said.

Razov described one refugee who he quickly developed a unique relationship with.

"One refugee I taught could only speak a few English words," Razov said. "He seemed very traumatized, like he had seen something."

Razov said despite the apparent trauma and effects of displacement, the interest in learning and appreciation of this particular refugee was a prime example of the roughly 100 migrants the ECU German Club worked with at Asyl-Helferkreis-Waldperlach.

Along with its time at the refugee facility, the German Club was invited to discuss the refugee crisis with the U.S. Consulate in Munich, where members shared their thoughts on how the situation could improve for refugees.

Razov and Franch both believe that the United States should be doing more to appease the refugee crisis.

"It really comes down to actually putting a name on a face, instead of just treating the refugee population as one whole," Razov said.

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

College of Nursing earns grant

Anna Parrish
TEC STAFF

The ECU College of Nursing received a \$2.1 million grant to advance in research in the transition of nurses.

Versant Center for the Advancement of Nursing, or VCAN, is funding this grant. The grant will go towards advancing the high quality patient care and safety. One of the grant's main goals is to spread awareness of the value of nursing and advanced nurse science all together.

"Not only will this grant fund research for ECU, but it will build a network of researchers across the country and to have more of a national perspective," said Elaine Scott, director of ECU's Ph.D. program in nursing.

Scott said this grant plans to help build across the United States with other colleges and build research along with building more structure.

Scott and her team will head the research using the data from VCAN. The College of Nursing will accept applications from other universities and students from other schools. This grant allows \$200,000 to be awarded each year to university faculty and doctoral students.

The ECU College Of Nursing will work with VCAN by allowing research to be done on the long term influence nurses have on leadership succession, staff engagement and succession planning in health care.

VCAN is one of the main research branches of Versant, which provides competency development systems for new graduate nurses along with nurses transitioning from one area to another.

When nurses are transitioning fields, or from students to nurses in the field, it can be very intense in the first few months. This program helps nurses with this process and helps the nurse become completely independent, said Scott.

Versant has put together data and feedback that has assisted faculty, staff and doctoral student research that helps to make the transitions easier for these nurses. With the grant, they will be able to hire two full-time data analysts, a lead researcher and a research project manager.

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

LEADERSHIP continued from A1

president emeritus of the University of North Carolina System.

Ross shared his insight on the changes taking place in higher education and the need for strong and effective leadership during times of transition.

During his talk, Ross discussed some of the issues facing the future of higher education and the importance of changing the direction in which it is headed by investing in and valuing students, faculty, and staff and making sure college remains affordable and accessible to everyone.

Ballard presented Ross the Chancellor's Coin and thanked him for his courageous leadership.

Ballard said while he has worked for many system presidents and bosses, "none of them were more supportive or helpful to moving this campus forward than President Ross".

Ross thanked Ballard for his support and friendship during his time as system president and following his departure last year.

"I feel really privileged to be to help honor Chancellor Ballard," said Ross. "He really has been a close colleague and friend. To be asked to come

and participate in this week meant a lot to me."

The last program of the week, "The Power of Teams", took place yesterday with ECU's senior leadership with both staff and students.

First a panel discussion was lead by Ballard's current Chief of Staff Chris Locklear, which included Hardy, Athletic Director Jeff Compher, Vice Chancellor of Health Sciences Phyllis Horns, and Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Ron Mitchelson talking about different approaches to leadership and how to be successful working as a team, especially during a time of transition.

Wednesday's program also included concurrent sessions by ECU staff and faculty representatives on the topic of "Leading with Shared Governance" and a "Student's Leading Change," a panel discussion with current and past ECU Student Government Association presidents who talked about the role of students in leading higher education, as well as increasing student activism.

Former SGA presidents including Shannon Russell, the first SGA president under Ballard's leadership in 2004-05, Brad Congleton, 2009-10 SGA president and Jake Srednicki, 2014-15 SGA president shared their experiences as student leaders and how important it is for students to

have a voice and how Chancellor Ballard has been a mentor for student leaders on campus during his tenure.

"It's really important to recognize everything Chancellor Ballard has done for this university in terms of creating a strategic plan of student success, public service, and transformation," said Mark Matulewicz, current SGA president. "Dr. Ballard has done so much in making ECU the leadership university and everyone truly sees that form the classrooms to the students."

Srednicki said, "We really should ensure everybody realizes all the contributions he's made to the university. He truly deserves to be recognized for his accomplishments."

Ballard said this week was really special for him.

"I don't think any one of us do this job looking for praise, it's because we believe in what we mean for our students," Ballard said. "When your peers say those nice things about you, it's just heart-warming. I think we all fear that we go through life and don't make a difference on anybody and these people make me feel like we did make a difference."

Hardy added that it was befitting to talk leadership this week as Ballard is "the leadership guru for East Carolina University."

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

New & old cigar enthusiasts welcome!

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PIRATE RANTS

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

#PrayForBrussels

Tried heating up a hard boiled egg in the microwave. Bad decision.

Blind adherence to any set of ideals and a dismissal of any set that isn't yours is going to turn you into a moron. The world is always more complex than what you think.

Really weird seeing Obama talk about Cuba and the future on one half of the TV screen and the devastation in Brussels on the other half. At least he wasn't too busy reading books to children I guess.

Just imagine how much nicer the world would be if instead of writing hateful and rude comments people said kind things about others. Rather than insult someone you should compliment them.

You know you could go write for TEC if you think they're doing it so wrong, I'm sure they're not tripping over writers down there.

Why can people not understand that the 3rd floor of the library is the QUIET FLOOR...

Do your research. There's a good reason why ECU no longer has a men's soccer team.

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

Our
view

Homecoming game places safety in peril

With the recent release of ECU’s 2016 football schedule and the start of spring practice, everyone’s getting geared up for the next season of Pirate football. While the schedule is filled with exciting games that are sure to pack Dowdy-Ficklen, the date of the homecoming game stands out as an odd choice by ECU. On October 29th, Halloween weekend, the Pirates will play take on the UConn Huskies in what’s sure to be a crazy environment. This decision, while surely good for hyping up the game, will definitely further ECU’s image as a “party school”. After the disaster that was Halloween weekend 2014, when drunken riots and pure idiocracy surrounded ECU students at the local Riverwalk apartment complex, placing the homecoming game on the 29th seems like an easily avoidable recipe for disaster. Faculty and local law enforcement have made it clear that ECU needs to move away from its “party school” reputation, especially during Halloween weekend. Adding a football game into the mix may render this past Halloween as a peaceful outlier. We believe that the scheduling of this football game will not only regress the attempts to improve the school’s public image but also deter alumni from coming back for homecoming. The atmosphere is sure to be wild, and if Halloweens past are any indication, attendees safety may be at risk.

Hulk Hogan deserves privacy



Kai Jones
TEC COLUMNIST

EVERYBODY
HATES KAI

It’s not often I’m critical of media people, but when I am, it’s normally Deadspin, Gawkers, Media TakeOut, or TMZ-like websites. As a journalist, they make media professionals look extremely bad, because we all get grouped into that realm of media only wanting to ruin people. So seeing Hulk Hogan pick up a cool \$115 million check on the Gawkers dime is poetic justice, even though Hogan’s lost my respect after using the n-word. Still, those websites’ only content is full of negativity, and that is not something I can endorse. What kind of human being solely wants to ruin another person’s life? A scum bag. That’s what those people are. Their only intention is to hurt people and make money off of it. Everyone should boycott sites like this. Gawkers, which published an 101-second part of a sex tape Hogan made with another man’s wife, had the nerve to attempt to hide behind the First Amendment’s freedom of press

law. As a journalist who abides by this law, that is insulting. Since when is the Hulk-a-maniac’s private sex life considered news? Yes, he is a public figure, but this was a complete invasion into Hogan’s private life. This is different than your typical celebrity embarrassment. It wasn’t a video of him falling during a sobriety test on the side of the road; that’s public record. While Hogan is definitely scum, this was something he did privately. Those deplorable actions have no relevance to people’s everyday lives, and publishing them served only to destroy Hogan’s life and score Gawker hits. Journalists whose goal is to get clicks by any means don’t understand what the job is all about. We generally are critical and can be instigators like these websites, but in the end we’re different. Journalists want to get the truth. Journalists want to get the full story. These websites only purpose is to instigate problems in famous people’s lives, even if it’s inaccurate. I know it can be enticing to see people you know doing stupid or nefarious things, but we must resist and boycott these types of websites. Let them see that there is no value in negativity and hurting people. Remember, that could be

you on that “summer jam screen.” Being on that screen is not fun, it’s cold and lonely. If you aren’t built for it, it will kill or badly damage you mentally. A lot of times we look at these celebrities like gods or above us in someway, but they are people with emotions too. Feeding into web-sites like Gawkers and TMZ helps dehumanize these people by telling them that their emotions and privacy don’t matter. And what do we, the people who feed into this behavior, get from it? Nothing besides a brief moment of entertainment. Is that entertainment worth making those scum bag media people rich by hurting another person? Then again, I am wearing Nike slides...so who am I to ask you stop hurting people’s feelings by not supporting a company that benefits off of negativity? That’s not the American way. The American way is letting other people burn in silence while we enjoy the rugged individualism, consumer-based riches of our land. If I’m wrong, prove me wrong, America.

Kai Jones is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Poll
results

Is your bracket busted?

Yes- 71.4%

No- 28.6%

Poll
question

Do you read TMZ, Deadspin or Gawker?

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The keyboard is calling your name.

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Misconceptions fuel religious fears



Zach Elsam
TEC COLUMNIST

ELSAM BY EXAMPLE

It is a fearful time we live in. Showcased in lights on television screens and media feeds are images and stories of horrific, macabre events of murder in places of innocent community. What’s more, the people who we as United States citizens have determined we’d perhaps like to lead us one day are proposing outlandish ideas that violate the very laws they are determined to defend. However, it is not a fearful time for the reasons above – No, it is fearful because we are fearlessly ignorant. After the tragic events in Brussels, Paris, San Bernardino and hundreds of others in the Middle East, the Islamic State, properly known as Daesh, has successfully radicalized thousands of militants and believers into an ideology which seeks to blatantly kill the innocent. And that’s about the extent of the background mainstream media is willing to divulge. The result of this lack of information has the public looking for instantly gratifying results – very similar to post-9/11 reactionary tactics of warfare. This dangerous new wrinkle has misled the public, influenced by several presidential candidates, into finding an all-encompassing scapegoat by connecting dots that have no business being associated. Their collective target is Islam. The largest religion this world has ever known. It’s worth mentioning that something does need to be done about radical terrorism, but it

is important to gather important information before hastily taking irrational action. Crucial conversations about possible peace between religions rarely advance beyond the hard questions. “Is Islam a religion of terror? Are Christianity and Islam now engaged in a clash of civilizations? Or can Muslims live peaceably alongside her sibling religions?” The answers to these questions are impossible to find because one side ignores Quranic passages and Islamic traditions that have been used to justify war on unbelievers, while the other ignores Islam’s just-war injunctions against killing women, children, civilians and fellow Muslims. The reason for all this collective ignorance is that we are incapable of reckoning with Islam because we all know next to nothing about it. Islam is the most widely followed religion on Earth with well over one billion followers throughout. It is a religion based around the belief through submission to Allah, rather than salvation in Christianity. Muslims believe Allah does not have a physical form and that his power is absolute. Practice is paramount in Islam, which behooves them to prostrate themselves in prayer five times a day in the direction of Mecca, where the prophet Muhammad, Islam’s founder, was born. Whereas there are many different interpretations of the Bible, Muslims have very few differing views. Primarily encompassed by the Sunnis, who bestow social and political authority in a series of caliphs, leaving religious authority in the hands of the community. The Shia, who believe all authority should be held be those thought to be blood descendants of Muhammad. Enveloping those

are the progressive and moderate Muslims whom westerners interact with daily. They agree with prospects of peace, prosperity and, most importantly, essential cooperation between the three ‘religions of the book.’ These parties make up the vast majority, about 99% of the Islamic community. Which inevitably leaves the rest to Islamism, followed by Daesh, Taliban, Hezbollah, Hamas and al-Qaeda. An ideology that seeks to move forward by thinking backwards. Taking the need for Jihad literally, similar to how one would interpret the violent passages of Deuteronomy, Leviticus, Numbers and many Psalms in Christianity’s Bible. And ultimately the elimination of western modernity, which ironically enough, is what enabled its culmination in the first place. Most telling through all of this is that you probably knew more about this less than one percent niche group of extremists than the not-so particular details of the 99+ percent majority in the previous paragraph. Justice is a goal, information is the solution. Terrorist attacks do awful, bloody things to everyday people. Fear does something worse. Fear transforms good people into the hateful. Educate yourself and support representatives who will not give into fear for terms of the blind need for security by advancing a platformed political agenda. It’s not just about the world’s future, it’s your own. And that’s what matters most, right?

Zach Elsam is a senior majoring in communication and is a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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72

hours

MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND

TODAY

Mac and Juice Duo
Ribeyes
8 p.m.

**March Exhibits at
Emerge: Downeast
Sculpture Exhibition &
On the Wall**
Emerge Gallery and Art
Center
8 p.m.- 10 p.m.
Thursday-Sunday

SATURDAY

**Greenville Games
for LLS**
CrossFit Reaction
10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Holi Festival
River Park North
3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

The Mikele Buck Band
Buccaneer Music Hall
10 p.m.

**2nd Annual Easter on
The Farm**
Brock's Berries &
Produce Farm
10 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Spring Celebration
Raised in a Barn Farm
10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
Tryon Palace
10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

**Easter Run/Walk for
Autism**
Town Common
9 a.m.

Easter Egg-stravaganza
Temple Baptist Church
9 a.m.

SUNDAY

Lights Up!
ECU Messick Theatre
Arts Center
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**River Park North Annual
Easter Egg Hunt**
River Park North
2 p.m.

**Greenville Games
for LLS**
CrossFit Reaction
10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

DOWNTOWN



COURTESY OF STILLLIFE



ARCHIVE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Alumni rate downtown

Former Pirates weigh in on nightlife changes

Rebecca Sefter
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Many things have changed in downtown Greenville over the years, such as bars, clubs and various hangout spots, but according to a few alumni, the social environment has remained virtually the same.

Davis Clark, class of 1988 and father of two current ECU students, said the drinking age was 18 when he attended ECU, so there was much less secrecy when it came to going out.

“I think having alcohol at the parties was more prevalent,” said Clark. “You’re not breaking the law, so it wasn’t that big of a deal.”

When asked about downtown nightlife, Clark referenced a very popular club in downtown Greenville, the Elbo Room,

that has since been shut down.

“The Elbo Room was the hot spot to go dancing,” said Clark. “It was aptly named because it was crowded in there and all you had was elbow room.”

The Elbo Room was established in the late ‘60s, and was changed to ‘Cabana’s’ in 2000. The building has since been converted into the Greenville-Pitt County Convention and Visitors Bureau on Cotanche Street.

Molly Dillon, class of 2008, said Pantana Bob’s was as much of a popular spot when she was a student as it is today.

“We would usually either go to PB’s when we were younger, and then Levels when we were older,” said Dillon. “Just because it was a totally different feel of a bar.”

Levels, which was located on E. 5th Street, has also since been

shut down.

A current freshman at ECU, Samantha Smith, said popularity at Pantana Bob’s still holds among students today.

“PB’s is more chill,” said Smith. “So if you want to play pool or something or just hang out with your friends, it’s more of just a chill vibe.”

Smith said the popular nightclub, StillLife, as a place to go for students in the mood to dance.

Clark finds both similarities and differences to social life at ECU, as he compares his college experiences in the 80’s to the atmosphere of his daughters.

“It depends on the crowd you run with,” said Clark. “That’s the same that it is now.”

Dillon accredits the closeness of the dorm rooms to the quality of friendships developed at ECU.

“All of my friends who I lived with in my dorm, we all lived together, continued to live together, and we all have been in each other’s weddings,” said Dillon. “That’s still my core group.”

One thing that all of the past and present Pirates agreed on is the welcoming social atmosphere of Greenville.

“One of the best things about ECU is the social environment,” said Dillon. “There are so many different types of groups that you can be a part of and the social scene is really just very welcoming.”

Many things have changed in Greenville, but Pirates will always know how to have fun, no matter how many years go by.

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

ARCHIVE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Every weekend you can find hundreds of ECU students and visitors enjoying the various bars and clubs located throughout downtown Greenville.

Jenkins Gallery displays Guild art

Alaina Corsini
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Metal Design Guild Exhibition and Demo, which opened Monday in the Burroughs Wellcome Gallery in Jenkins Fine Arts Center, unveils a variety of metal work created by fine arts students in the Metal Design Guild.

“It show cases the many talents of our members and methods used in metal design,” said Cara Clemmer, a junior pursuing a bachelor’s degree in fine arts with a metal design concentration. Clemmer is also the vice president of the Metal Guild organization.

“We are having the guild show not only to display the metal guild and metal design concentration but to get people interested and excited about metal design at ECU,” said Clemmer. “We are hoping it encourages students to take an interest in metals and even take the metal design survey course.”

Clemmer described metal design as a fantastic art form.

“There is so much that can be done with metal design,” she said.

Clemmer said the Metal Guild at ECU tries to be involved with other metalsmiths around the country and support networking between various artists.

“The concentration itself is really something everyone should try out by taking the survey classes,”



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A variety of metal designs and creations are displayed in the Burroughs Wellcome Gallery in Jenkins Fine Arts Center.

said Clemmer. “We have great professors who make the experience that much better. But I hope people come see for themselves.”

According to Clemmer, there are many different techniques used in metal design. For example, one technique is raising and forming, or taking different sheets of metal and manipulating them into a particular form. Metal bowls and cups are made by raising and forming, this technique changes the surface of the metal but not the surface area. There are other methods of metal design such as casting, which involves pouring molten metal in a mold. Enameling is a

technique typically used in jewelry, the art of fusing glass to metal. These methods can also be combined when working with metal.

“I submitted to the metal design concentration because I haven’t found anything like working with metal,” said Clemmer. “We are taught how to manipulate metal in so many ways it feels like the possibilities are limitless.”

According to Clemmer, the Metals Guild is an organization run by students who are apart of the metal design concentration. The guild raises funds to purchase studio equipment, organize field trips, workshops and lectures

and participate in activities for students to enrich their experience in metal design.

“The metal design professors are fantastic at what they do. They are really there to help us get a better understanding of techniques, improve our craft, expand our concepts, and make us overall better artists.”

The Metal Design Guild Exhibition & Demo is available for viewing until March 25 in the Burroughs Wellcome Gallery, Jenkins Fine Arts Center.

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

Lily Pulitzer boutique prepares for Easter

Victoria Schule
TEC STAFF

Even though it may take going through a couple of bad eggs to find the right dress for Easter, Pink: a Lilly Pulitzer Signature Store, is offering the chance for customers to crack the right one.

From now until Saturday, the store is having their “Crack the Egg Event.” Customers will have the opportunity to crack an egg at checkout and win a PINK gift certificate.

Manager of Pink: a Lilly Pulitzer Signature Store Tyler Welch said this is an annual deal they hold every year in celebration of Easter.

“Easter is the perfect time of the year to wear a Lilly Pulitzer,” said Welch. “It offers a classic but bright style that are perfect for the spring time.”

Lilly Pulitzer dresses offer a clean, preppy style while showing colorful and unique prints in their dresses and everyday wear.

Welch said she hopes the deal will get customers to look and feel good in Lilly Pulitzer while being in style.

“I hope this sale will get people looking forward to being happy and feeling pretty for Easter,” said Welch.

This spring, florals and print have hit runways and certainly have made their way into stores. Lilly Pulitzer outfits are known for these bright styles which fit right into the spring season.

Prints like the Elephant Ears print and the Coconut Jungle are some of the most popular. “Another trending print I see, which was brought back from last year, was the Southern Charm print,” said Welch.

These prints portray the idea of a green garden with a pink base color, but the original Pulitzer prints were actually inspired from an ordinary object: a lemonade stand.

The Lilly Pulitzer brand all started when

Pulitzer herself started to make bright, floral dresses to hide lemon stains on her clothing that resulted from making lemonade for her juice stand.

Customers started to notice Pulitzer’s dresses more than the lemonade she made and started to sell more dresses instead.

Ever since, the patterned womenswear spread all along the east coast.

“I see many customers go for the classic shift dress for Easter as well, in which many of those dresses portray that bright and happy look,” said Welch.

The store is also offering a sale for the Carolina Cup as well which is running from the 24 to the 25.

“With every full purchase customers receive a free T-shirt that is specific to our store here,” said Welch.

For those looking for a little less prep and little more laid-back style, Truly Yours in

downtown Greenville offers different styles for Easter dressing.

“This week we are having free shipping on our items online,” said Erin Bartfield, Truly Yours owner.

Bartfield said floral prints are in as well for Easter and spring.

“We recently sold quite a few floral dresses within the past week and we’re getting a new shipment of those soon,” said Bartfield.

Bartfield said another big spring trend is chokers.

“Chokers seem to have made big come-back this season. We have a big shipment of those coming in this week,” said Bartfield.

“Another surprising trend this Spring is that suedes are still in this season from winter.”

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

Crossbones to host local reggae band

Arvanna Smart
TEC STAFF

Signal Fire, a reggae band with a unique and fiery sound, will perform Friday night at Crossbones Tavern.

Signal Fire is a rock and reggae band that plays a mixture of different musical genres. Originating from the east coast of North Carolina, Signal Fire creates feel-good vibes with their music. The band includes Sean Gregory, Ken Forrest, Cullen Seward, and Karl Blackmon.

The band came together after disbanding from other groups across eastern North Carolina. While a few of the members met here in Greenville during their time at East Carolina University.

“Sean Gregory and Ken Forrest were in a really popular band called Fifth Generation,” Said Cullen Seward, lead bass guitarist. “I met Ken and Sean both in Greenville and we all kind of reconnected.”

The members of Signal Fire first started out playing small concerts together that one member would book and bring the others along on tour.

“Sean had an acoustic show in Wilmington. For the first show we were just going to jam two or three songs together,” said Seward. “We ended up playing for two and half hours with relatively no stops, just jam-

ming out tunes. I think after that the energy was just there.”

In the beginning of the formation of the band, Signal Fire had more of a rock and reggae feel while over the years they have evolved into more traditional reggae music.

“I would say we are definitely reggae,” said Seward. “Our sound now includes some real roots. Listeners of original reggae will find these tunes a lot more in line with the original reggae sound.”

According to Seward, Signal Fire is also still trying to incorporate some sounds on the progressive reggae sound by honoring the people that came before them and keeping true to where they learned the sound.

“[We want] to still create a new and unique sound while still delivering the message,” said Seward.

Unlike most other local bands, Signal Fire tends to stay away from doing covers during their sets as they will only do a couple cover reggae songs.

“We definitely sprinkle a couple within our set but we are an original based band,” said Seward. “To quote a friend of ours, Scott Paynter from the band Jah Works, ‘if we weren’t playing original music we would be just another jukebox.’”

Signal Fire focuses on getting their message across in their songs and uplifting everyone.

“The music is most important but the message behind it is something we feel a lot of people today need,” said Seward. “Whether it’s us or anyone else we feel like people getting behind the message of positivity and trying to escape that is something we can all relate to.”

According to Seward, the message Signal Fire gives off is about bringing people together with positivity and realistic aspects making it a universal message.

This will be the second time that Signal Fire has played at Crossbones while having played over 150 shows with acts such as Dirty Heads and The Movement. They are

currently touring.

Signal Fire released their debut album “Ignite” in September of 2013 which reached No. 8 on the iTunes US reggae charts.

“Greenville is really exciting for us,” said Seward. “We get to introduce the music. It’s ECU, there is always a new crowd, new people coming in so we think it’s a great environment.”

Signal Fire will perform at Crossbones Friday at 10 p.m.

For questions or comments, contact
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PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 3/24/16

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

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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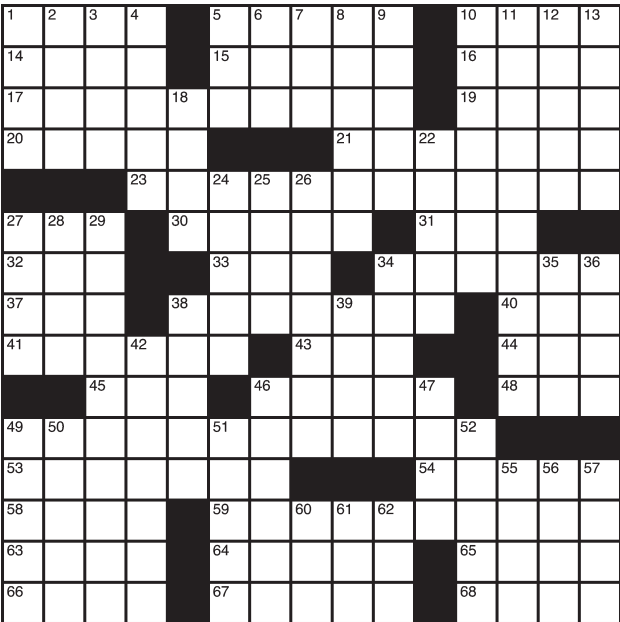


FOR RELEASE MARCH 24, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 See 44-Across
5 Bremen or Hamburg, locally
10 Fast-food order
14 Joie de vivre
15 Circus Maximus attire
16 Pizza chain started in Chicago, informally
17 Rich and Chris in a capital?
19 Pond denizen
20 Stumped
21 Fragrant hybrid
23 Billy and Minnie on a road?
27 Pub order
30 Cause harm
31 Capt.'s direction
32 Family member
33 "Mir Bist Du Schoen": Andrews Sisters hit
34 Come out
37 i follower
38 Vida and John in a ballpark?
40 i follower
41 Nicks on albums
43 1980s-'90s gaming console
44 With 1-Across, woodcutter who stole from thieves
45 River island
46 "I gotta run!"
48 Animal in the Chinese zodiac
49 Karen and Adam on a hill?
53 Eellike fish
54 Brand with classic "beep beep" commercials
58 Forte
59 Eddie and Arsenio in a concert venue?
63 Scams
64 firma
65 Exam type
66 Some honored Brits: Abbr.
67 Aerosol targets
68 Europe's highest volcano



DOWN

1 Composer Bartók
2 Settled down
3 Cricket equipment
4 Starting stakes
5 Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.: Abbr.
6 Craggy crest
7 Earlier
8 Three-syllable foot
9 Expressed disdain for
10 Often photogenic event
11 A round of 73, usually
12 Use a divining rod
13 Fall flower
18 Acclaim
22 "You _____ Destiny"
24 To the manor born
25 Dijon deity
26 Property recipient, in law
27 Nile threats
28 Hot stuff?
29 Affection
34 Campus breeze

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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3/24/16

35 It might be a big benefit
36 Cut and paste, say
38 Muzzle wearer, probably
39 Derivative shout
42 One way to get backstage
46 Worked in a salon
47 Art major's subj.
49 Rattling sound
50 Golden calf maker, in Exodus
51 "Peachy-keen!"
52 Second-deepest U.S. lake
55 Trading center
56 Feud faction
57 Clay crock
60 Good bud
61 Guess wrong
62 Dorm deputies: Abbr.

KEEPING PIRATES INFORMED

SINCE 1925

The East Carolinian

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Look before leaping. Don't get stopped by past failures, but don't start projects either. New information becomes available, with Mercury trine Mars. The puzzle starts coming together. Reality bursts a fantasy bubble. Guard against breakage.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Watch your mouth! Oversharing comes too easily. Listen more than you speak ... it's about timing. Rewrite the copy, if not the concept. Consider consequences of your words. Finalize and sign documents after thorough review.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Discuss changes you want, with Mercury trine Mars. Collect suggestions and

criticism. List negatives and make corrections. Anticipate confusion with accurate data. The potential for error is high. Avoid an awkward stall. Messages travel far.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- An interesting development sends the grapevine buzzing. Get the word out, after scrubbing for public consumption. Keep family confidences. Ask irreverent questions and get surprising answers. Hitch your wagon to a breaking story.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Listen for the perfect timing. Friends follow wherever you lead, as word spreads like wildfire today. Don't tell all you know yet. Keep the conversation respectful. Do a good job; impor-

tant people are watching.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Don't be hasty. Choose your own path. Follow a dreamer with an enchanting vision. Present arguments tactfully. Surprising reactions can erupt. Relax, and wait for the punch line. Write your own conclusion.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Choose your words carefully. Clear up misunderstandings before they ferment. Things don't necessarily go by the book. Speak now, or forever hold your peace. Write, record and film. Deliver your heart-felt message.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Sort facts from gossip. The flow of information

could seem like a deluge. A possible gain or loss depends on recent actions. Writing projects go further than expected. Post, publish and broadcast.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Expand your view. Allocate funds for communications. Invest in business promotions. Participate in an intellectual conversation at a higher level. A conflict of interests gets exposed. Truth leads to healing. List limitations and barriers.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Back up intuition with research. Confer with partners on professional opportunities. The truth is revealed, and it might not be pretty. Make the case for a new direction. Ask great

questions. Share what you learn. **Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Finalize advertising or other public communications. Your income rises as your communications go viral, with Mercury trine Mars. Take the lead. Keep cool as angry rhetoric can backfire. Speak out. Don't be bashful.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Express your views in writing. Discuss the financial implications of your plan. Use facts to back up your position. Expect criticism, and deflect with a thoughtful response. Persuade, motivate and incite action.

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TUNE IN



EVERYDAY



MICHAEL SEEGARS / THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina redshirt junior catcher Travis Watkins rounds third base and heads home during a home game this season.

ECU defeats Duke

Kai Jones
TEC STAFF

Road wins over power five conferences are always important, but it was especially crucial for East Carolina’s baseball team this week, as the Pirates beat Duke, 8-6, after coming off of a disappointing 4-0 loss to Monmouth on Sunday.

Second year head coach Cliff Godwin is now 5-3 against the Atlantic Coast Conference in his career, including three road wins this season.

“Everyone wants to make a big deal about the ACC, but anytime you can go on the road and win is good,” Godwin said. “We just got on a bus and went and beat a good opponent.”

After putting up just one hit and no runs in Sunday’s loss, the Pirates bounced back with a 15-hit, eight-run performance.

“Sunday, the guy beat us and pitched better than our hitters were hitting,” Godwin said. “[Tuesday] the first five innings were better. When we go on the road and to play bad early and then come out with the win is tremendous.”

Godwin handed the ball to senior lefty Nick Durazo to start the game. Durazo pitched 2 1/3 innings and

allowed three runs, one of which was earned. The mid-week pitching has been a problem this year, as the Pirates haven’t found consistency from one starter. Freshman Cam Colmore has helped clear the smoke, as he is now 2-0 in the midweek games with one start.

The offense on the other hand is badly missing captain outfielder Parker Lamm, who is sidelined with a thumb injury at the lead off spot in the lineup. Lamm played in the field and ran bases at the end of the game, but his bat is very valuable at the top of the lineup because of how often he gets on base.

On Sunday, the lineup started with freshman shortstop Turner Brown, but in Tuesday’s affair, Godwin led with his other outfield captain Garrett Brooks. That move was as unsuccessful as the Brown move, as Brooks went 0-for-4, and was eventually pinch hit for by pinch hitting specialist Luke Bolka in the eighth inning.

Bolka was replaced after his hit with Lamm to run and play the field. Bolka’s hit was part of the huge eighth-inning rally for the Pirates that eventually won the game, as ECU played from behind from the third inning until the eighth.

The hit put Jeff Nelson on second and Lamm on first. After a pop-up by

Charlie Yorgen and a wild pitch advancing the runners, Travis Watkins doubled to left center that brought Nelson and Lamm home, and put the team up 7-6. Watkins had a huge 2-for-5, three-RBI game, to bring his batting average to .324 with a team leading 16 RBIs.

ECU tacked on another run in the inning, that Duke (10-11) ultimately couldn’t match. Colmore picked up the win as he pitched a hitless sixth and seventh inning, and picked up one out before leaving the eighth in the steady hands of closer Joe Ingle, who picked up his third save of the season.

The Pirates now sit at 14-7 heading into the Jacksonville series this weekend this weekend, which will be their last series before conference play starts. But ECU has lost four of its last seven games, putting it slightly off its wanted 8-3 pace every 11 games.

“One game behind what we want to be, [but] we don’t need to do a lot more, just [be] a lot more consistent,” Godwin said. “It’s a marathon, not a sprint. Peaks and valleys in the season. The one who stays out of long valleys is better.”

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

Softball set to open AAC play vs. USF

Allison Jobe
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina softball team returns home for the first time in over a month as it hosts South Florida in a weekend series to start American conference play.

“Like it is for any team when they’re home, they’re more comfortable and this is their house so they tend to be more relaxed,” ECU head coach Courtney Oliver said.

The Pirates (18-13) will kick off the action tonight against USF (26-9) and will continue action against the Bulls Friday and Saturday to close out the series.

USF is currently riding an 18-game win streak. The Bulls have taken the American Athletic Conference by storm as they sit at first place in almost every statistical category. They currently rank above the others in batting average, slugging percentage, on base percentage, runs scored, hits, runs batted in, doubles, triples, home runs, total bases, total plate appearances, at bats and strikeouts.

After an unexpected weekend off, ECU was given the weekend to rest before it met with NC State (15-15) Tuesday evening for midweek action. The Pirates snapped a four-game skid in the series, pulling out a 7-4 win.

ECU out hit NC State by an 11-7 margin while the teams combined for 10 walks

and 10 strikeouts. Junior right-hander Lydia Ritchie went 6 1/3 innings and surrendered three runs on five hits with five walks and six strikeouts.

The victory earned the Pirates their first road win over the Wolfpack since 2010.

“It’s been a long stretch, it was mentally draining,” Oliver said. “[The team is] much more relaxed, with the weekend being cancelled. We were able to rest and fix any injuries we had. I’m without a doubt ready to play at home again.”

As a team, ECU is hitting .263 with a slugging percentage of .404 and a .359 on base mark. The Pirates have recorded 19 home runs while limiting their opponents to just six.

Sophomore third baseman, Karlie Smith leads the way with a .311 batting average, while senior shortstop Casey Alcorn paces ECU in at-bats, hits, runs scored and RBI.

The pitching staff has done tremendous work this season as well, checking in with a 3.23 earned run average and 195 strikeouts with six shutouts in 199.1 innings pitched. Leading the team is Ritchie who owns a 1.80 ERA, a 10-4 overall record, eight complete games, six complete-game shutouts and 115 strikeouts in 93.1 innings of work.

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

TAKEAWAYS

WOMEN'S GOLF

Senior Frida Gustafsson Spang broke the ECU record for the most career wins with her sixth.

SOFTBALL

ECU (18-13) reigned victorious 7-4 Tuesday over NC State after seven unanswered runs.

MEN'S TENNIS

The Pirates (8-7, 1-2 AAC) will return home this weekend, playing Charleston and Charlotte Sunday.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Pirates (12-6, 0-1 AAC) will play Richmond at home on Friday.

TRACK & FIELD

Senior Kayla Padgett was named AAC field athlete of the week after winning hammer throw at the Carolina Relays in Chapel Hill.

CAROLINA HURRICANES

The Carolina Hurricanes (31-28-14) fell short 3-2 to the Buffalo Sabres Wednesday night.

ONLINE



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Pirate golf places fourth

Craig Moyer
TEC STAFF

Senior Frida Gustafsson Spang set a school record for individual medalist honors and led the Pirates to a fourth place finish at the Briar’s Creek Invitational.

Spang finished the tournament with a three round score of 8-under-par 208, resulting in her sixth career first place finish, the most in ECU history. The first place finish in Charleston, South Carolina, was Spang’s third of the season, after tying the school record for career wins in Augusta, Georgia, on March 11-12.

Spang’s coaches have seen the same impressive talent in her game throughout her four-year career, but have seen her mentality improve this season.

“She’s always been that talented, but she’s just playing smarter now and she’s playing with a lot more patience,” head coach Kevin Williams said.

The Pirates finished the tournament with a team score of 7-over-par, 871, 13 shots back of tournament champions, No. 8 Florida.

ECU finished just one shot behind third-place finisher Clemson and just two strokes behind second-place finisher Indiana.

The Pirates found success on the courses four par-3 holes, leading the tournament field at 1-over-par after three rounds with a 3.02 scoring average for the tournament.

“We played [par-3’s] smart. We just tried to put them in the right spot below the hole and we hit good shots and made some birdies on them,” Williams said.

ECU also finished with the most pars of any team after all three rounds with 178, three ahead of second-place finisher Kent State.

Even though the team finished ninth out of the 18 team field in birdies with 41, the high amount of pars helped keep it near the top of the field in overall scoring.

“What a lot of pars do is that they settle you down, they just level out your emotions and your able to put some good holes back to back,” Williams said.

Even though the Pirates led the field in pars, they did struggle on some holes, with a team total of 10 holes where an individual scored two or more above par, hurting the



COURTESY OF ECU MEDIA RELATIONS

East Carolina’s Catherine Ashworth lines up a put attempt during a match earlier this season.

team’s score.

“Lots of times the double bogeys are self inflicted, you hit a bad shot and then try to do too much with it,” Williams said.

Although the team had several bad holes, it often recovered from its mistake with a stretch of good holes after.

After nine of the ten trouble holes for ECU, the player with the double or triple bogey responded with a par or a birdie.

The Pirates’ ability to recover quickly from mistakes was a key part of their success and eventual fourth-place finish.

“Even though we make that double bogey, we don’t really let it affect our momentum too much, we really grind it out,” Williams said.

Lisa Pettersson finished with the Pirates’ second best finish, tying for ninth place with a season best 2-under-par, 214. Freshman

Kate Law finished tied for 58th place with a 10-over-par, 226, including a 1-under-par, 71, in the second round.

Teammates Nico Engstroem Skaug and Catherine Ashworth both finished tied for 66th after finishing at 12-over-par, 228.

ECU finished the tournament ahead of No. 12 ranked Kent State for the second time this season and its second straight win over No. 20 Florida State.

The victories over top 25 teams build the team’s confidence and validates what the coaching staff has been telling them all season.

“We’ve been saying all along we are a top 25 team, we may not be ranked at that number, but we feel like we can compete with any of those teams,” Williams said.

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East Carolina's Kasey Countee follows through on a swing during a match earlier this season.

Welcomed return

Tennis comes home after road stint

Corey Jones
TEC STAFF

The College of Charleston travels to Greenville to face the East Carolina men's tennis team this Friday, which will serve as the first of four consecutive home matches for the Pirates.

"I think we have a good chance to do well on Friday," junior Freddy Lehfeldt said. "It is a new match so we have to be ready from the first point."

The Pirates (8-7) are coming off of a tough road loss to Liberty University. Prior to getting tripped up by the Flames, they also lost to UNC Greensboro and Central Florida. ECU has hopes to snap its three-match losing streak.

If all goes as planned for the Pirates against College of Charleston (9-5), then it would not be the first time ECU has defeated the Cougars to snap a losing streak. Last spring season, the Pirates were on a five-match losing streak, which they ended with a 4-2 win over the Cougars.

"It is going to be a tough match. It was close last year and I think they are a bit better this year so we are looking forward to the challenge," sophomore Kasey Countee said. "I think they are having a pretty good year so far."

The only players on ECU's roster this season who played against the Cougars last year are seniors Tendai Tapfuma and Countee. Tapfuma finished 1-1 on the day, as he and his

partner won their doubles match, but were downed in straight sets by Rodrigo Encinas on the No. 2 singles court. Countee finished 2-0, as he also won his doubles match and defeated Zack Lewis in singles on the No. 5 court.

Both of the players that Tapfuma and Countee played last season are still on the Cougar's roster, but they probably will not be set to face each other again. Tapfuma has moved up to the No. 1 court and Countee is on the No. 2 court for singles.

"Getting off to a good start, especially with trying to get an early one point lead in doubles will help our case against College of Charleston," Tapfuma said. "We are practicing our doubles and singles games, also focusing on both our weaknesses and strengths as a team."

Though the Pirates have home court advantage, this will not be an easy match for them. All but one of the Cougar's players have winning records in both singles and doubles. Juan Estevarena, their No. 1 singles court player is sitting at 10-4, and all four of his losses came against nationally ranked schools.

"Never mind the losing streak, we know it is a new game and what has happened does not matter, as we will continue to look forward," Lehfeldt said.

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HANCOCK continued from A1

went a perfect 12-0 it would need three or four victories over Power 5 schools to put it over the edge, although nothing is guaranteed.

Although it's a long shot, the installation of the College Football Playoff did help smaller conference schools, as it put an automatic bid to a premier bowl game in place for the best Group of 5 school, something that wasn't in place before the playoff.

"Look at what the BCS and now the playoff has done for schools like ECU in terms of ability to play at the top level," Hancock said. "It's opened up. The BCS did it and now the playoff opened the door even more, to be able to play at the top level of college football, the very top level that they never have before."

Central Florida and Houston have claimed two major bowl victories in the last three years, as the Cougars defeated No. 9 Florida State in the Peach Bowl last season,

showing that the AAC and ECU are more than capable of earning a key bowl game.

"The guaranteed access into one of the top tier bowl games that the CFP brought is a remarkable thing for all of the schools at [the Group of 5] level," Hancock said.

ECU had realistic hopes of reaching such a bowl in 2014, when Shane Carden and Justin Hardy led the Pirates to a 6-1 record before losing four of its last six games, dropping them out of contention.

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