



BASEBALL ROUTS NC STATE IN MIDWEEK MATCHUP

Turn to A7



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Thursday, 4.21.16

Investigation yields officer dismissal

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

A East Carolina University Police Department officer has been dismissed from the force after an internal investigation revealed multiple policy violations in connection with the Saint Patrick's Day double assault in the West

Patrick's Day double assault in the West End neighborhood on ECU's campus.

The Greenville Police Department and East Carolina University Police Department have both concluded their initial investigation of the Saint Patrick's Day double assault in the West End neighborhood on ECU's campus.

"We have completed our internal investigation of the East Carolina University Police Department response to this incident," ECU Chief of Police Gerald Lewis said. "ECU officers did not use violence in their response, but the internal investigation indicates the protocol followed by the initial responding officer violated multiple police policies."

Lewis identified the dismissed officer as Sergeant Ralph Whitehurst. According to the ECU Police Department website, he was a patrol supervisor with the ECU Police Department and had been with the department for some time. Chief Lewis said the officer broke multiple policies.

"The initial officer did not gather the required information, he didn't canvass any witnesses, and truly he didn't gather any information from the person who was injured," said Lewis.

Greenville Chief of Police Mark Holtzman said his department had identified the final suspect. According to Holtzman, Christopher Hill is currently not in North Carolina. He is currently receiving "medical treatment" at undisclosed location out of state, said Holtzman. GPD believe Hill is not a flight risk and that he will turn himself in to police in early May. According to social media, Hill is a resident of Greenville and is associated with Chase Montanye, 19, and Jesse Clay Wilbourn, 22. Both Montanye and Wilbourn have been charged in relation to Myrick's assault.

Holtzman also announced to the audience of local officials and media members that the video footage showing the ECU campus assault will not be released. Holtzman said Pitt County District Attorney Kimberly Robb requested the department's withhold the video in order to help with the prosecution of the indicted individuals. This video footage helped ECU dispatchers in describing the ongoing crime to police officers responding.

In response to concerns over the involvement

> VIOLATION page A2

BAREFOOT RETURNS



MKTO performs during the 2015 Barefoot on the Mall April 23. This year's headliner cancelled early this week.

Puth cancels; show to go on

Rebecca Sefter
TEC STAFF

Despite the cancellation of headliner Charlie Puth at this year's Barefoot on the Mall, The 37th annual event will still bring fun and festivities to ECU today.

Wednesday evening, Charlie Puth gave word that he would not be able to perform at his scheduled 7 p.m. show at Barefoot on the Mall due to an unexpected illness. However, the Student Activities Board still has a day full of entertainment planned for ECU students.

"This year is the most that we've done for Barefoot ever," said SAB Special Events Chair Alec Fortune. "We've had the biggest budget this year, so it's overall going to be a bigger experience than people are used to."

This year, SAB will be bringing a rock wall to Barefoot, a new addition to the yearly attractions. They will also be hosting the nation's largest portable

laser tag arena, a photo booth, live karaoke and a number of other activities for students to partake in.

Battle of the Bands winner Eastern Comfort will be performing music from their E.P. "In the Moment," as well as a brand new song that will be featured on their next album that is planned to be released within the next year. They will also be performing covers of popular country and rock tunes.

"We're going to do everything from Zac Brown Band to Jimi Hendrix [at Barefoot]," said Brandon Robertson, lead vocalist for Eastern Comfort.

Along with Robertson, band members Lucas Dadosky, Kevin Sebring and Collin Sullivan will be making their first appearance as performers at Barefoot on the Mall. Robertson is a recent ECU graduate and all other band members are current ECU students.

Pirates Got Talent winning duo Xavier Brodie and Trey Scarborough will also be a featured performance at Barefoot. Since Puth's cancellation, SAB has welcomed local band Gumbo to play on the main stage.

"[Barefoot] is the last Thursday before classes end," said Fortune. "So it gives students that last big blowout before they start studying for exams."

The Organization Fair will take place on the mall throughout the duration of the event, featuring a variety of student-run campus organizations.

The secret to running an event for nearly four decades can be explained by tradition and convenience.

"It's for the students," said Fortune. "It's not something that you have to go out of your way to find. It's right in the middle of campus, so you're going to see it."

Barefoot On the Mall will be hosted from 2-8 p.m. followed by an outdoor screening of the movie, "Finding Nemo."

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

Activities
Eastern Comfort
Performance,
Rock Wall
Climbing,
Laser Tag,
Food, and
More!

Storm the Stadium to aid veteran ECU students

Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University Student Veteran Services and the Office of Student Transitions will host the first ever Storm the Stadium Challenge to support student veterans Saturday from 8-10 a.m. at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

The event will challenge participants to climb 3,200 steps in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium as individuals or in teams of five.

Storm the Stadium will raise funds for services and programming to support ECU's student veterans and help raise money to "endow a scholarship for our student veterans here at ECU," said Nicole Jablonski, assistant director of Student Veteran Services.

Jablonski said many student veterans are not traditional students, supporting their families, spouses, and children, and paying mortgages and car payments in addition to paying for college.

"They have a lot of financial obligations they accrue while they were in service and they still want to keep those obligations while going to school," said Jablonski. "But the post-9/11 G.I. Bill, while it is very generous, does not necessarily provide a living stipend that is adequate to meet all their financial obligations."

To cover the financial costs, sometimes student veterans will need to take out student loans. Jablonski added that there is a misconception that student veterans with the post-9/11 G.I. Bill don't need to take out student loans ever again.

"That's just not the case. The average student veteran carries about \$25,000 in student loan debt," said Jablonski. "So if we can create a scholarship and, you know, reduce student loans debt for even a few veterans, I think that's a really big success and that's what we are trying to do."

Jablonski said that the post-9/11 G.I. Bill is a finite benefit, meaning it eventually runs out.

"A lot of times, veterans will have transferred some of their benefits to their children or their spouse," said Jablonski. "So maybe they do not have a lot of months of eligibility remaining or their school takes longer than they thought it would, like if they're going to the nursing program or they need to go on for masters and they run out of benefits."

The proposed scholarship would help student veterans in those circumstances or if a student veteran wasn't eligible for the full, monetary benefits of the G.I. Bill based on how long they were deployed, they could apply for this scholarship as well.

She added that while there may be a lot of scholarships out there for veterans, most of the time they are branch specific or they are major or career specific.

"So we're hoping that if we have a scholarship that's as open as possible, we can help

as many veterans on campus as possible," said Jablonski. "We just want to be able to offer a scholarship that all our student veterans would be eligible for."

Aside from the scholarship, the funds will also go towards providing additional services to support students.

"We are also trying to raise some money to help provide the campus community with programing about student veterans and a lot of the challenges when they are transitioning back from the military into the civilian world," said Jablonski.

Jablonski said having the challenge at the Dowdy-Ficklen stadium was a way to attract a wider audience.

"It's pretty apparent that everyone loves the Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium so we were thinking of

> STEPS page A2

ONLINE

» ECU baseball prepares for weekend set against conference-foe UConn

» Softball to host three-game set against AAC rival Houston

SOCIAL MEDIA



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PIRATE RANTS

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

Party at my place!

To be fair, the Pirate Rant submission system has not been working right. So we missed out on some possibly awesome rants last week.

I caught my best friend's boyfriend cheating with another friend of ours. What should I do? No one suspects anything or knows I know.

If you were forced to transfer from ECU and enroll at any ACC school, which would you choose and why?

Bravo TEC for giving conservatives a voice (albeit small) in the newspaper. Pirate Rants has an earthy feel to it, rather than the usually delusional rants followed by hashtags. /clap

The ECU student body is very lucky I'm not a Jedi. If I was, I would be flinging you people left and right when I'm walking through campus. #DontWalkSoCloseToMe #INeedSpace

Pirate Rants used to be hilarious, come on currents Pirates, step your game up and make us alumni proud!

To the #upsetalum....Rather than ranting about how bad the pirate rants have been perhaps it would be more beneficial for everyone for you to submit something worth reading rather than a complaint on how bad they are. Signed a fellow alumni.

We get it! You hate feminism! Would you kindly shut up about it? Notice no one is engaging you and you're speaking to an empty void. Give it up; you just look desperate.

In response to HB2 proponents, "I may have been born a European American, but I really feel in my heart that I am Asian American, African American, or maybe Native American. I identify with them and their culture even though I wasn't born apart of them. I'm going to start applying for minority scholarships to pay for my college education. I should receive them. I have good grades and I identify as a minority, so why shouldn't I?"

What don't you realize about they post every pirate rant they get?

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

Poll results

Did you attend the Spring Football Game?

Yes- 44.5%
No- 55.5%

Poll question

Have you stopped to listen to Brother Ross speak?

Visit theeastcarolinian.com to vote.

Our view

The announcement of the Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium renovations has brought a lot of buzz around East Carolina athletics. ECU director of athletics Jeff Compher announced the renovations on the stadium's south side, a project that is estimated to cost \$55 million. The project is expected to start in 2017, as the Board of Trustees and state legislature will still have to approve the project.

The south side press box was built in 1978 and labeled as the last addition to the side of the stadium. The expected renovations are addressed to change the south side as it will add more seats, a club level, loge boxes, standard suites and founders suites, all of which will change the current stadiums blandness.

We as an editorial staff at The East Carolinian feel that

Stadium addition gives ECU new edge

the stadium renovations are a solid idea that will further expand the direction of ECU athletics. Since Pirate athletics joined the American Athletic Conference in 2014, Compher and other ECU officials have worked towards increasing the appeal of its facilities to compete with the bigger conference schools.

The renovations will also expand to help the baseball and softball programs, as a new indoor batting complex will also be added. The dedication that ECU has shown to increase its appeal and competitiveness is refreshing. The increase in accommodations and overall fan experience show that the University cares about not only its students, but also Pirate Nation fans everywhere.

Brother Ross fuels vice
Speeches place positive values in negative light



Seth Gullledge
TEC COLUMNIST

A MODEST OPINION

Yesterday, instead of going to lunch, and heavily influenced by a desire to remain outside, I decided to attend an hour long portion of a much grander sermon delivered on campus by the infamous ‘Brother Ross.’

For those who haven’t had the pleasure, Brother Ross is a locally renown anomaly who spends a great deal of his time tirading about the Cupola, giving impassioned and shall we say grandiose speeches decrying various aspects of college culture and the state of today’s youth.

Seldom throughout the campus will you hear favorable words about Ross, and there is good reason. A Ross “sermon” is an unmistakably deplorable and hateful thing, combining the hell and brimstone stylings of a Great Awakening tent revival with absurdist statements denouncing entire audiences as sexual deviants bound to hell with no chance of redemption.

Ross stops at nothing, individually targeting people in nearby proximity and drawing crowds by accusing them of being homosexuals, prostitutes, satan worshipers, sexual deviants and so on. The resulting crowds that gather are a mix of those looking for cheap humor at his expense and those furiously upset with him for attacking their identity, religion or for just being downright insensitive and vulgar.

Perhaps the strangest part of listening to Ross is the unmistakable sense that somewhere within his tirade is an opinion worth hearing. Now mind you, this opinion is buried beneath countless perceivable layers of shaming, hatred, vile imagery and purposefully antagonistic statements, but that’s precisely what makes his actions so shameful and insidious.

However reluctant I am to admit it and perhaps requiring some amount of suspension of disbelief, what Ross is attempting to achieve around the Cupola is not so entirely different than what I, and my fellow columnists attempt to do on a weekly basis. Taking just one moment to forget the cascade of inexcusable statements, perhaps the opinion that students of this campus should spend less time partying, or focus less on the downtown culture is understandable. Perhaps the message that students should spend more time in reflection about alcohol and drug use, or on sexual encounters is not a universally held opinion, but it likely has some merit, and is at least valid. In fact, when you take the time to remove the threats of eternal damnation and shaming, much of what Ross is ranting



SETH GULLEDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students taunt Brother Ross by playing “Keep Up” with an inflated condom as a crowd gathers to watch

about appears in core curriculum health classes and orientation sessions.

The most dangerous result of Ross’s actions lies in the damage they do to these positive ideals. When such ideals are presented within a torrent of homophobic, hateful and mocking verbal abuse, Ross only serves to solidify the very deviant culture he *supposedly* seeks to change. By presenting what would otherwise would be advisable suggestions in such a way, he not only vilifies himself to his audiences, but his ideas as well.

Spending any amount of time at the ensuing madhouse that inevitably surrounds him, one can witness this effect first hand. Within an hour of beginning his rants yesterday, public applause of sexual deviance, partying and even cries of “Hail Satan” could be heard. At one point, members of the crowd even began playing volleyball with a condom. The actions and conversations that consistently surround Ross would otherwise be found unacceptable by the general student body, save in the circumstance of his presence. By presenting students with what is in their minds a vile and disgusting icon to rebel against, the supposed deviant behaviors he condemns are simultaneously justified, merely out of hatred of his image.

The problem with Ross and determin-

ing his arguments and intentions is that it requires a level of disbelief to believe that he seeks to help students. To assume that he genuinely wishes to help alter a culture and present an opinion, is to completely dismiss the theories that he’s merely an self righteous egotist that seeks to justify his own actions by the negative attention he garners from a populace that he’s predetermined as reprehensible. Further, you would have to believe that he genuinely is unaware of his antagonistic nature, and that the camera he wears strapped to his chest is for protection from unprovoked attack, and not because he realizes that he purposefully provokes people and that video evidence of such moments expedites the resulting lawsuit he will file.

It is likely impossible to ascertain what his purpose is, but what is abundantly clear is that whatever he hopes to achieve, he only further ingrains a culture that looks down upon the ideals he peddles, and creates a lasting false impression of a religion by wielding a Bible while he does it.

That being said, perhaps I’m just jaded because my usual lunch combo would have been a far better investment than his hatred.

Seth Gullledge is a junior majoring in English and is the multimedia director. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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72
hours

TODAY

**Dowdy Spring
Sidewalk Sale**
ECU Dowdy
Student Stores
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

FRIDAY

Storm the Stadium
Dowdy-Ficklin
Stadium
8 a.m.

**Craven County
Relay for Life**
Grover C. Fields
8 a.m.

Lost Colony Festival
Roanoke Cashie
River Center
10 a.m.

**Earth Day at Tryon
Palace**
10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

**Electric Soul
Pandemic**
Crossbones Tavern
9 p.m.

**Psylo Joe RETURNS
to The Red Room**
The Red Room
8 p.m.- 2 a.m.

Ladies Night Out
The Founders Hall
7 p.m.

SATURDAY

**Spring Family
Fun Day**
Greenville Museum
of Art
1 p.m.

**Dads & Donuts,
Mother's Day Prep
Night**
The Painted Peacock
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

**Mikele Buck Band
with Megan Doss**
Buccaneer Music Hall
9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

**Give Every Dog
a Bone Fundraiser**
Crossbones Tavern
4 p.m.- 9 p.m.

COACHELLA FASHION



Festival of Fashion
Coachella style-setters inspire new industry trends

Victoria Schule
TEC STAFF

The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Southern California is a two-weekend long event that draws celebrities and music lovers from all parts of the world, but this festival is more than just the music. In recent years, it's influenced many an industry, most specifically the fashion industry.

Many stores like Forever21 and Express have released festival-wear collections which resembles many of the styles and bohemian looks that were first popularized in the 60s and 70s.

For AIMO fashion chair and stylist Chelsea Kay, tracking Coachella fashion is a good way to pick out rising trends.

"Music festivals are great because that is where people bring out some really great outfits and express themselves in some

of the most stylish ways," said Kay.

Coachella may be an expensive ticket and plane ride away, but looking at the outfit trends found at the festival can translate easily into this year's summer trends.

Styles like the maximalist and tribal patterned outfits found on the runways for spring were also found in same outfits people wore to Coachella.

Celebrities like Kylie and Kendall Jenner went along with the bohemian look with crocheted outfits, laced crops-tops and sheer dresses.

"The crocheted outfits are a huge summer thing coming up," said Kay. "I see them everywhere in stores and on celebrities."

Kay said her favorite trend at Coachella is the sheer dress.

"I love how you can just match a nice outfit underneath like a high waisted bottom with a

nice top underneath and still not have it be too revealing," she said.

Bedazzled bathing suits also made a splash at the festival with accessories like metallic-state-ment necklaces.

"I am not a fan of the bathing suit trend going because it just looks like you are wearing nothing," said Kay. "You can wear a bathing suit at the beach or pool or at least match it with something. It is just not my style."

Kay said statement necklaces are a huge fashion trend and that they are everywhere.

"Its really funny seeing these at Coachella because when I went for my meeting in Atlanta, I noticed the same type of state-ment necklaces everywhere," said Kay.

Another prominent trend was the Rock n' Roll theme with vintage shirts, fringes and ripped-denim jeans.

Rihanna wore the ripped denim jeans with a sleeve-fringe jacket when she surprised fans a performance during Calvin Harris's set.

"I really love seeing the fringed outfits out there, those are are definitely making their way back."

While flared bell-bottom pants, v-neck body suits and overalls were apparent, some popular festival-wear trends weren't at Coachella.

"I am not surprised to see flower crowns a thing this year at Coachella," said Kay. "It is just so cliché now to wear them to festival and is something that became too popular."

The second weekend of Coachella will continue this weekend beginning on Friday.

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

INSTAGRAM | WEB PHOTO

The two-weekend long event attracts celebrities and music lovers alike, whose festival fashion has inspired stores to create similar collections.

Magnolia Belles go a cappella

Alaina Corsini
TEC STAFF

Sunday night, the Magnolia Belles will host their 7th annual spring concert, which will feature a cappella talent.

Lia Johnson, a senior speech and hearing sciences major who is the officer of public relations for the Magnolia Belles, has served on the executive council for two consecutive years and is looking forward to her final performances with the group.

According to Johnson, the set for the Magnolia Belles' Sunday concert includes a wide array of songs, including rap songs, country songs and throwback hits prominent throughout the decades.

"Our spring concert is full of hit songs and this year we are really expanding our repertoire and singing songs from a variety of genres," said Johnson. "This year we have also challenged ourselves with more difficult choreography."

"I don't want to give it all away," said Jaclyn Ray, a senior

majoring in public health studies and the President of Magnolia Belles. "But there's a chance that you might hear some Elvis as well as a Britney Spears mashup that will definitely bring all college students back to their childhood."

According to Ray, her presidential duties include arranging most of the music for the Magnolia Belles.

"I would have to say that my favorite thing about being President is hearing a song that I've worked so hard arranging finally come together."

The Magnolia Belles perform at on and off campus events and for organizations multiple times throughout the semester. The group hosts their annual spring concert and during the previous fall semester, held their first invitational, inviting five other collegiate a cappella ensembles from across the state.

"I think this concert shows a different side of the Magnolia Belles," said Johnson. "We are really upping our game."

According to Johnson, her

favorite song to perform with the Magnolia Belles is "Nobody Love" by Tori Kelly.

"We really get into it," said Johnson.

However, Ray's preferred song to sing with the Belles is "Killing Me Softly" by Roberta Flack.

"This song is my favorite because you can just feel the connection between all of the group members," said Ray. "It definitely offers a great musical experience."

"My favorite part of the organization is being around so many talented and amazing women that I get to call my close friends as well," said Johnson, "It's just great to be able to make amazing music with my best friends."

The Magnolia Belles are holding their seventh annual spring concert at 3 p.m. in Wright Auditorium on Sunday, April 24. No ticket is required for entry into the show.

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

PLAN TO GO



WHAT: Magnolia Belles Spring Concert

WHEN: Sunday at 3 p.m.

WHERE: Wright Auditorium

SINGLE REVIEW

Drake's singles take new direction



Arvanna Smart
TEC STAFF

As Drake's new album release approaches, the artist keeps fans engaged with the release of two new songs titled "Pop Style" and "One Dance."

Drake took a different route with "Pop Style" as he tries to bring out a more trap influenced kind of rap. He taunts other various rappers who tried to start beef with him in the year of 2015 including rapper Meek Mill. The result is an intimidating track with a delivery and flow that is calculated and enticing.

Throughout the track, Drake boasts that his haters don't know what they've started. He proves his status in the rap game with features from two heavy hitters in the rap genre, Kanye West and Jay Z. Jay Z's feature is brilliantly short as

he raps, "They still out to get me, they don't get it / I can not be gotten, that's a given." This line emphasizes the idea that Jay Z is untouchable.

Meanwhile, West takes over with a verse filled with references to his multi-million dollar home renovation, his infamous "Imma let you finish" line to Taylor Swift, Drake's hit "The Motto" and his Chicago roots. West matched Drake's flow from the first verse but gave it his own arrogant twist to it as Kanye always does.

It's still unclear if Drake has a ghost-writer or not, but either way he has once again established himself as one of the best in the game right now with "Pop Style" just as he did with "Back to Back."

Drake has also dropped 'One Dance' featuring Wizkid. After becoming friends with Skepta, a UK artist, and getting a "Boy Better Know" tattoo, Drake has now paid his respects to the classic group, UK

funky, by sampling the Crazy Cousinz remix of Kyla's 'Do You Mind'.

'One Dance' is a dancehall type of song, something we have not heard from Drake since 'Hotline Bling'

Meanwhile, Drake's "Jumpman," with Future has earned Digital Gainer honors on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs following the arrival of an Apple Music advertisement featuring Taylor Swift. The sales gain causes the track to top 10-8 in its 29th week on the chart.

With Drake continuing at No. 1 as the featured artist on Rihanna's "Work", the debuts help him to tally four concurrent top 10s, matching his own record. He is tied with Eminem, 2 Chainz, Lil Wayne and 50 Cent, all who have placed four tracks in the top 10.

To top off the rappers great start to 2016, Drake also landed a third debut on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs, with a No.

35 entry as a feature on PartyNextDoor's "Come And See Me." In total, Drake has now earned 124 charting titles on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart.

With the success that Drake continues to gain, Views from the 6 is sure to live up to the hype surrounded around the album as fans have been patiently awaiting its release.

The new album Views from the 6 is set to release on April 29, 2016.

RATING:

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

3 out of 5

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

Recital Hall to host annual jazz festival

Arvanna Smart
TEC STAFF

Tomorrow night at 8pm, ECU will present the Billy Taylor Jazz Festival at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, jazz is a type of american music developed especially from ragtime and blues and characterized by propulsive syncopated rhythms, polyphonic ensemble playing, varying degrees of improvisation, and often deliberate distortions of pitch and timbre

The Billy Taylor Jazz Festival is a festival dedicated Billy Taylor. Billy Taylor, a pianist and composer who was also a spokesman and advocate for jazz, helped bring jazz to pre-

dominantly black neighborhoods with Jazzmobile, an organization he founded in 1965 to present free outdoor concerts by nationally known musicians at street corners and housing projects throughout New York City.

The Billy Taylor Jazz Festival consist of high school and middle school jazz bands as they come together to perform during different sessions. The festival also includes a performance by the ECU Jazz Ensemble and a guest artist. This year the guest artist will be saxophonist, Bobby Watson.

Watson is also a composer, arranger and educator. He grew up in Kansas City, Kansas. He trained

at the University of Miami. After graduating, he proceeded to earn his doctorate as musical director of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers. Jazz Messengers was a group created in 1955 used to showcase a broad variety of talent. The Jazz Messengers was the ultimate group for students to join postgraduate school.

Recently Watson issued a series of recordings on the Palmetto label. These recordings included his No. 1 releases, Live & Learn (2005) and Horizon Reassembled (2006), which brought him back together with Lewis, Stafford, Simon and Essiet.

"I am excited to hear Bobby Watson perform," said Rachel Todd,

Junior music performance major. "I have learned about him, listened to his stuff, to finally see him will be an honor."

The Billy Taylor Jazz Festival started in A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall and became something big. In 2003, the festival was held in the Greenville Convention Center to accommodate the large crowds. The festival offers three public concerts, a free jam session, critiquing sessions for eight or more high school and middle school jazz bands, and opportunities for Jazz Friends to mingle and celebrate.

"I have never been a jazz fan but seeing as this is a competition and the students are involved, I will

PLAN TO GO

WHAT: Billy Taylor Jazz Festival

WHEN: Friday at 8 p.m.

WHERE: A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall

definitely be in attendance," said Kira Lewis, junior fashion major.

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

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BUYBACK BEGINS MONDAY!

Wright Building April 25-May 6

Dowdy Trailers: April 28-May 5 weekdays

• West End by Old Cafeteria/Faculty Way

• College Hill Drive

One ECU student at Dowdy buyback will win a Home Entertainment Package!

That's one SWEET deal!

Watch our social media sites (Facebooks, Twitter, Instagram) as well as our buyback locations for announcement of one special day during the buyback period, April 25-May 6. Sell back books* this day & pick a piece of candy. If you pick the specially identified prize piece, you win instantly! Prize includes Flat Screen TV & Gaming System. *See Dowdy web site for rules & details, including no obligation option for playing.

DOWDY STUDENT STORES



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f

t

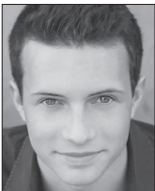
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Student pursues dream of theater career

Jennifer Hines
TEC STAFF

Student director of “Spring Awakening” Matthew Johnson may have finished with the spring production, but he has not finished creating a career path for himself in theater.

Johnson, one of the co-founders of the student-run 5th Street Players theater group, directed and produced “Spring Awakening.” It was his first experience directing a feature-length production and he said it went very well.



Matthew Johnson

“We had a sold out show every night and the audience was receptive of it,” said Johnson. “Everybody enjoyed the show from what I could tell.”

“Spring Awakening” follows several teenagers in late 19th century Germany as they question several controversial topics including puberty and sex. The adults of the era, and in the play, left the adolescents in the dark when it came to these matters, resulting in some dark, unexpected events.

The audience’s reception of the controversial subject matter was a concern for Johnson, but it went over smoothly once the show was underway.

“From what I can tell, people really liked it,” said Johnson. “A lot of college students came and they were all really moved by it. Some parents came that also were affected by the show. I think people handled the material very well.”

As Johnson is nearing his graduation, he is looking to go on to bigger and better things. He said he will consider directing, but not until later in his career.

“It’s definitely something I’d be interested in, just not for a while,” he said. “But it definitely makes me feel better because now that I’ve done it once... I can understand what to expect. It gave me a taste of what it would

be like to direct a show, like a professional setting that isn’t my peers that I’m working with.”

The entire semester has been a learning experience for Johnson. He said he learned a lot of skills that are important to being successful in his career.

Johnson said that scheduling is crucial.

“A lot of students as well as you would like for them to,” said Johnson.

He also said knowing the script is a must and that bringing a team together is hard work.

“Bringing them all together to create one final product was hard and it took me a while to get a feel for it,” said Johnson.

Most importantly, it made Johnson a better actor.

“Working with actors, everyone is different,” said Johnson. “I learned how to deal with the different types of people when it comes to giving them notes to make their performance better and it also gave me an opportunity to reflect on myself as an actor.”

“I’m glad I did it,” said Johnson. “I learned a lot.”

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries: March 21 _ April 19 This is a great week to meet new people. Mars is encouraging you to get out there and take risks. If you have a cute neighbor, chat him up and invite him out for coffee. If you have a crush on a gorgeous lady friend, schedule a hot date.

Taurus: April 20 _ May 20 Good things are coming your way as the sun beams positive energy on you. Stretch your wings. It's a great time to challenge yourself and expand in some new directions. Network, show off and get together with some interesting people.

Gemini: May 21 _ June 21 Mars is opposite your sign, and this means your energy levels could be low. Don't stress out if you're not excited

about going to the gym. Your system needs some time to recharge. Hibernates for a while until you're ready to emerge from your cave.

Cancer: June 22 _ July 22 A dreamy moon has you thinking about a former flame, wondering if the two of you could get back together. But even if you had fun with this person in the past, life has moved on and you need to focus on other things.

Leo: July 23 _ Aug. 22 Your lust levels are high right now, courtesy of Mars. If you're single, you'll want to change this situation as quickly as possible. If you're involved with someone, you'll be inspired to spend quality time with your sweetheart.

Virgo: Aug. 23 _ Sept. 22 Something is cooking in your career sector. You've been working to achieve a particular goal, and Jupiter is helping you to get closer to the finish line. Pay attention to any helpful people who cross your path, because they could offer great information.

Libra: Sept. 23 _ Oct. 23 Don't waste energy arguing with your honey. With the moon opposite your sign, you're likely to be a little grumpy. Tiny things could set you off. Blow off some steam by doing something fun like taking a short trip or going out to a nice restaurant.

Scorpio: Oct. 24 _ Nov. 2 Venus isn't doing your love life any favors. You're wondering if you'll ever be happy in a relationship. Don't panic.

This is just a period of change and reinvention for you. You're evolving into a different person, so relationships are shifting.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 _ Dec. 21 You'll find it easy to attract attention as Mars increases your charisma. Be open to meeting people. It's a great time to flirt and to seduce. You could find yourself overwhelmed by sexy strangers who want to date you.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 _ Jan.19 The moon is putting you in a social mood. Usually you're so busy with work that you avoid going out with friends and family, but this week you'll be ready to lighten up. Attend a party, go to a concert or circulate at a business networking event.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 _ Feb. 18 Venus has you going back and forth about a relationship, wondering which way to turn. As an Air sign, you require lots of freedom. It's hard for you to make a commitment to someone since you like to maintain a wide social circle. Be honest with yourself.

Pisces: Feb. 19 _ March 20 Neptune is heightening your psychic gifts. You could feel a sudden attraction to someone, and this person could end up being a soul mate. Or you could have a dream about somebody that later comes true. Pay attention to random thoughts and dreams.

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PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

4/20/16

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

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

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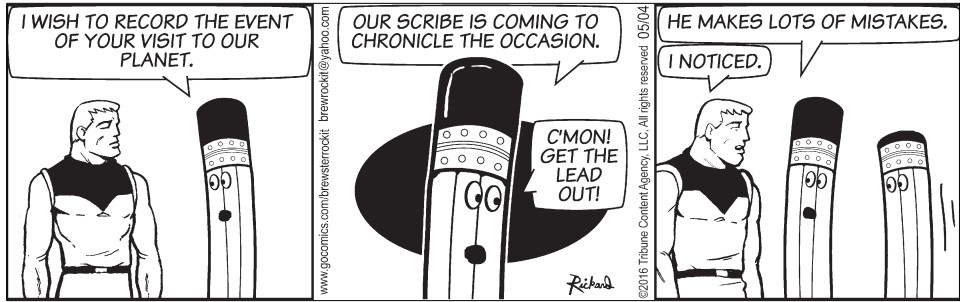
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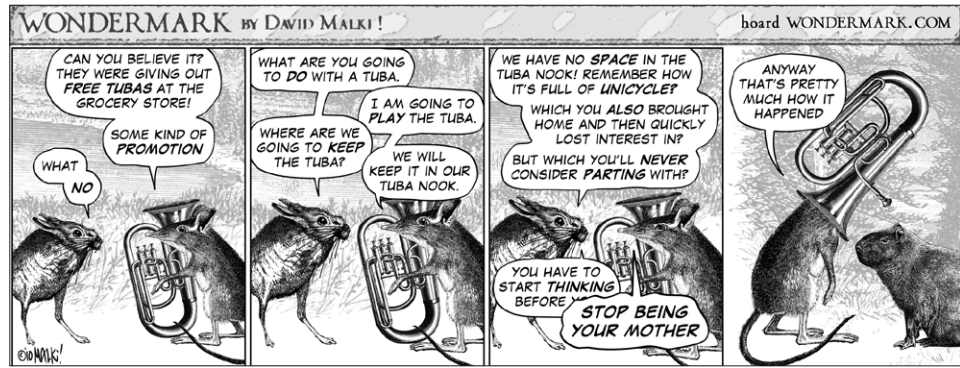
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COMICS

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WONDERMARK



FOR RELEASE APRIL 20, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21				22			
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	48				49		50			51	52	53
54						55				56		
57					58				59			
60					61				62			
63					64				65			

- 63 Get one's feet wet
64 Mesozoic and Paleozoic
65 Slangy craving

DOWN

- 1 One way to be taken
2 Japanese finger food
3 ___ four: teacake
4 Privy to
5 Eye part
6 Subject for Stephen Hawking
7 Promise
8 Killed, as a dragon
9 Is unable to
10 Supermarket employees
11 Like the Sherman Act
12 Deal with interest
13 New Deal pres.
21 Basic question type
22 Spanish girl
28 Falco of "Oz"
29 Prefix with pod

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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4/20/16

- 30 They record beats per min.
31 Friend of Tigger
32 Switched on
34 Compete in a box
35 Braking sounds
38 Medication used for dilating pupils
39 Bistro offering
40 "Unhand me!"
45 Tie tightly
47 High-ranking NCO
49 Turbine blade
51 Industry honcho
52 Wide open
53 Runs down the mountain, maybe
54 Musical finale
55 Man Ray genre
56 Commotion
57 Wet behind the ears

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TUNE IN



EVERYDAY

Spang claims medal

Craig Moyer
TEC STAFF

Frida Gustafsson Spang used a strong finish to claim individual medalist honors at the American Athletic Conference Championships in Palm Coast, Florida April 17-19.

Spang birdied three of the final five holes in her third round, including hole 18, to finish the round at 5-under par and the tournament at 1-under, 215. Her birdie on the final hole put her one shot ahead of second place finisher, UCF's Ashley Holder.

Spang began the tournament with a 1-under par, 71, in the opening round, but then struggled in the second round, posting a 5-over par, 77, dropping her into fourth place.

"She didn't really worry about the scoreboard, she just worried about the process of hitting each shot and letting the results take care of themselves," Williams said.

After five bogeys and a double bogey in the second round, she responded with a bogey-free final round, along with five birdies to claim first place. Spang's round of 67 tied the lowest 18-hole score in AAC Championship history, tying USF's Ashley Burke in 2015.

Spang celebrated her win with her teammates as well as her family, who came from her hometown of Kinna, Sweden, to watch her play.

"Their support is just awesome and it just means a lot to me that they saw me playing this week," Spang said.

As a team, the Pirates finished the tournament in second, with a total of 40-over par, 904, 10 shots behind tournament champion Houston.

> GOLF page A10



Lane Gakeler

Finished tied for 15th place in the American Athletic Conference Championships as a junior in 2015 with a career-best score of 221.

Frida Gustafsson Spang

Earned a team-best four first-place finishes as a senior in 2016. She finished the season even and shot a season best eight-under-par in the Briar's Creek Invitational.

Nicoline Engstroem Skaug

Finished tied for second in the Lady Pirate Intercollegiate as a senior with a four-over-par performance. Represented Norway in the 2014 Spirit International Amateur Championships in Japan.

NICHOLAS HILLIARD | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Seniors bid ECU farewell
Trio of Pirates look back at time on the course

Tori Poole
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A senior athlete saying goodbye to college teammates is never an easy task, and for a group as tight knit as East Carolina's women's golf team, it's still easier said than done.

"I'm going to miss the team a lot and just the team atmosphere we have," said senior Nicoline Engstroem Skaug. "I'll definitely miss competing, since I most likely won't play

as much competitive golf after college. So I'll miss that for sure."

Purple and gold faithful will be saying goodbye to three of its female golfers. The graduating Pirates have set an example to the underclassmen and will leave behind several traditions, including the notorious "no quarter" gesture after scoring a birdie during tournaments, according to Skaug.

"Before every round we get together, all

five or six of us, however many are playing, and we kind of break it down," said senior Lane Gakeler. "The past few years I've said the 'Pirates on three...one, two, three!' So I hope somebody keeps that up and they don't let that die because that really kind of gets us fired up for the round."

> SENIORS page A9

TAKEAWAYS

BASEBALL

ECU (24-12, 5-4 AAC) defeated rival NC State, 15-3 Tuesday night.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Frida Gustafsson Spang won the AAC Women's Golf Individual Championship.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Forward Jada Payne signed as an undrafted free agent with the Washington Mystics.

WOMEN'S GOLF

As a team, ECU finished in second place at the AAC Championship.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wake Forest center Andre Washington has announced that he will transfer to ECU.

CAROLINA PANTHERS

The Panthers have rescinded the franchise tag on cornerback Josh Norman, making him an unrestricted free agent.

ONLINE



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PARIS SILVER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU infielder Kirk Morgan gives head coach Cliff Godwin a high five as he rounds third and heads home during Tuesday's victory over NC State.

Pirates trump Wolfpack

Adam Decker
TEC STAFF

After losing to North Carolina 17-4 in front of its home crowd nearly a month ago, East Carolina pushed back and defeated fellow in-state rival No. 8 NC State, 15-3 Tuesday night.

"That was huge. It's just nice to get a huge win over an in-state rival," freshman shortstop Turner Brown said. "We didn't like the feeling after UNC so we weren't going to let another in-state rival do that."

Brown, along with Bryce Harman and Zack Mozingo, each tallied four RBIs and a home run to lead the Pirates. As a team, ECU (24-12; 5-4 AAC) combined for 15 hits on the night, tallying double digits hits for the 22nd time this season. Harman and catcher Travis Watkins each collected three base knocks, with Watkins also adding four runs

In the offensive onslaught, the Pirates had all nine starters reach base, with eight of the nine registering a hit. The contagious offensive outburst allowed the Pirates to score a season high 15 runs.

"I just thought our guys had a good approach. When they got fastballs in good counts they got good swings off," ECU head coach Cliff Godwin said. "We talked about NC State being an in-state rival, it was going to be in front of a big crowd. I'm just happy that we were able to play well in front of a packed house."

ECU really separated itself from NC State in the fourth inning, when Mozingo belted a 1-1 offering over the right field fence for a bases clearing grand slam, making the score 7-0. The dinger was Mozingo's first career home run.

"Well it was my first one so I

finally got that out of the way. That felt good," Mozingo said. "I knew that they just made an error and I needed to capitalize on the error that they made. So I was sitting curve ball and just put a good swing on it."

In addition to its fiery offensive output, ECU played errorless defense to back up its young mid-week pitching staff. The Pirates have struggled on the defensive side, as they are second in the American with 49 errors with a subpar .966 fielding percentage.

To go along with no ECU errors, in the top of the fourth, before Mozingo's game-changing grand slam, right fielder Parker Lamm robbed what would have been a two run NC State home run. If not for the catch, the Pirates lead would have been cut to one, potentially changing the game.

Nick Durazo (1-0) started on the mound and picked up the

win for the Pirates, throwing 3 1/3 innings, allowing one hit and four walks, while striking out two. With Durazo being a weekend reliever, he had to be relieved early by freshman Matt Bridges.

Bridges continued the Pirates pitching momentum, going 2 2/3 innings with two punch outs, allowing two solo home runs and two additional hits.

"You look at those freshman pitchers... they've never been in that environment and all of a sudden they got in that environment and [performed]," Godwin said. "That's what you sign up for when you come and play baseball at ECU, is to play in front of big crowds and I tell them 'if you don't like pressure, you shouldn't play with East Carolina, you shouldn't put the purple and gold on.'"

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

Softball falters

Allison Jobe
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina softball team moved its losing streak to three games, as it fell to UNC-Wilmington Wednesday evening at home in a midweek non-conference game.

“Anytime we’re going to pay in-state you take it personal. It’s a win that you want,” head coach Courtney Oliver said.

The Pirates (20-27, 2-10 AAC) took the first lead in the bottom of the third, boosting them 1-0 over the Seahawks (25-18). In the top of the fifth frame UNCW brought all its momentum, taking over the lead from ECU.

The Seahawks racked up 11 hits, compared to the Pirates’ six and the teams combined for a total of four errors.

Senior shortstop Casey Alcorn had a team-high two hits to add to sophomore infielder Rebecca Perrell’s pair of runs.

Perrell got her first collegiate home run in the top of the sixth, putting the Pirates just behind the Seahawks, 4-3. Perrell had her fourth career start, ending the night

with two at bats, one run, one hit, two RBIs and nine put outs.

“I thought the team did pretty well today. I think two people who aren’t in the lineup every day, Ashley Weingartz and Rebecca Perrell, they did a great job,” head coach Courtney Oliver said. “Rebecca with the two-run home run, and Ashley, first inning throwing people out.”

Freshman right handed pitcher Mary Williams (5-13) took the loss in the circle, pitching all seven innings. Williams tossed her fifth complete game of the season, surrendering four runs on 11 hits with two walks and three strikeouts.

Junior right-hander Lydia Ritchie had an MRI this week, allowing no relief for Williams in the circle. Sophomore righty Ashley Cruise also sat the game out, as she is also injured.

The Pirates were without six players, as freshman pitcher Morgan Halo, senior catcher Kelsi Briggs, junior Alex Mycek, junior outfielder Ciara Ervin, junior first baseman Ali Ramirez and freshman first baseman Tate McClellan were all sus-

pended from the game for unannounced reasons.

Freshman catcher Ashley Weingartz received her first collegiate game start for the Pirates, proving she is a huge asset for the team. Weingartz finished her first game with one hit, four at bats, four assists and two put outs.

ECU and UNCW met for the 97th time, and the Pirates still lead the Seahawks in the series 80-17 all-time. However, that didn’t make the sting of the loss any easier to handle.

The Pirates will return home this weekend for a three-day series, hosting Houston in American Athletic Conference play. ECU will honor its senior class before Sunday’s finale.

“I feel pretty good about it [Houston]. We’re swinging the bat pretty well. We’re going to get our pitching back on track, and hopefully eliminate a couple walks and a couple hits here and there and hopefully we’ll have some close games,” Oliver said.

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



COURTESY OF ECU MEDIA RELATIONS
ECU secondary and assistant head coach Rick Smith walks through the field during practice.

Stepping aside Smith relishes new coaching role

Gerin Honeycutt
TEC STAFF

In eight years, secondary and assistant head coach Rick Smith has experienced a lot of change, but none bigger than the three coaching staffs he’s seen come and go along the way.

What makes Smith’s tenure at East Carolina so unusual though, is the fact that he didn’t personally know all three head coaches he’s coached under before being asked to join their staff.

From Skip Holtz, to Ruffin McNeill and now current head coach Scottie Montgomery, Smith’s job was given to him off the recommendation and demands of others.

“He told me that all the players told him that I would be the one to keep if he could only keep one,” Smith said.

When Montgomery decided to keep Smith, the former Pirate defensive coordinator, on his staff, Smith respectfully refused.

“I told him I didn’t want to coordinate if I had to coach five coaches again. And he said ‘well would you consider coaching just the secondary then’ and I said ‘I’d love to coach the secondary and not coordinate,’” said Smith.

After the job appeared to be perfect and so appealing to Smith, he still refused.

“I said ‘I don’t want the new coordinator to come in here and think that coach Smith’s going to always be looking over his shoulder, second guessing him, back stabbing him and I think it’s just best for Kenwick [Thompson] that you just hire somebody else.’”

However, it was at that moment Smith realized his importance to the ECU program, and that it wasn’t just the players who wanted him to stay.

After not taking no for an answer, Montgomery called Smith on Sunday and told him to listen and not say a word. Carrying on for the next thirty minutes, Montgomery would give the 67-year-old Smith one of his best recruiting pitches yet, as a first year head coach.

“So he called me Monday night and I took the job,” said Smith.

Besides his obvious humble nature, and willingness to put other’s first, some would

wonder why Smith was so special to Montgomery.

“I hired Mike Tomlin as the corners coach at Cincinnati when I was the coordinator. I helped Mike get his first NFL job with Tampa Bay,” said Smith.

Tomlin, the current head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, hired Montgomery in 2010 to coach wide receivers for the Steelers. Montgomery was there three seasons before departing in 2012 to the offensive coordinator job at Duke. Montgomery has said numerous times throughout the winter and spring that Tomlin is someone he looks up to, one of his mentors.

“He called Mike about me, so there was a connection there,” said Smith.

Ted Roof also recommended Smith, as he played linebacker under Smith at Georgia Tech. Roof was also the head coach at Duke for two seasons, during the time Montgomery coached receivers. Subsequently, Smith had two strong recommendations, without even asking for them.

The two recommendations, along with Smith’s mile long resume confirmed what Montgomery meant when he said earlier this spring that Smith was an asset ECU couldn’t afford to lose.

“Coach [Smith] has a lot of experience, valued experience over thirty years coaching college football. So a person would be naïve not to use that. We think that his knowledge, his experience and him being a humble man is huge,” defensive coordinator Kenwick Thompson said. “He’s all about the success of these players and caring about them. For us as a staff that’s the first thing you want is guys who cares about the well being of the players on and off the field.”

If anything, Smith brings a sturdy sense of comfort to former players who were abandoned after the surprising firing of McNeil. His experience and age can also factor into a mentor role for the young coaches looking for advice.

“He’s taught me number one, just by how he carries himself, humility,” said Thompson.

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

SENIORS continued from A8

All three seniors have had impressive careers at ECU. As a sophomore, Gakeler played in her first career NCAA Regional, carding an 11-over par, 227. By her junior year she had a 78.51 career stroke average in 51 career rounds. She closed out her college career by playing as an individual for ECU.

“I will definitely play for fun, but nothing serious,” said Gakeler. “I’ve never played just for fun, so I’m kind of excited to have some no-stress rounds.”

Skaug, like her fellow seniors, had an impressive career as a Pirate. As a freshman, she earned Second-Team All-Conference USA accolades after recording a 74.74 stroke average, becoming the second player in school history to win the C-USA Individual Championship. Then as a sophomore, she earned First-Team All-Conference USA Honors. Skaug continued her success throughout her senior year, as she recorded seven top-25 finishes, including two top-10 finishes.

For Skaug, her advice for her teammates is simple, “you’ll only regret doing what you didn’t do.”

To round out the senior lineup, Frida Gustafsson Spang broke several records in her time at ECU. Starting in her freshman season, she became the first golfer in Conference USA

history to earn Player and Freshman-of-the-year in the same season. In her sophomore season, she recorded eight top-20 finishes in 10 events.

She then went on to be one of four unanimous selections to the 2015 American All-Conference Team and became the seventh golfer in program history to be named to three all-conference teams. Spang went on to conclude her spectacular college career with seven top-five finishes, including four individual titles. She was also named the American Women’s Golfer-Of-The-Week three times in the spring season.

“My plan is to continue as a professional golfer, and I think there’s more of a possibility of that in the United States,” said Spang. “It’s exciting.”

Although the Pirates will miss these exemplary athletes, the team will have to rise to the challenge of filling their shoes. The underclassmen are more than prepared to do so, according to the leaving seniors.

“Catherine [Ashworth] and Kate [Law], the two freshmen, are definitely going to be a huge part of the team next year, even just as sophomores,” said Gakeler. “I think they’ll definitely be the ones to keep up the fire and the spirit of the team.”

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Tennis seniors depart

Corey Jones
TEC STAFF

The end is closing in on two East Carolina women's tennis seniors, as they have to say goodbye and turn their work, sweat and dedication for the Pirate program into mere memories.

Katie Hoch and Nicole LaDuca have earned respect from their coaches, teammates and professors for the clinic that they have put on at ECU.

Coming out of high school, LaDuca was Georgia's top-ranked player in the 16-and-under classification prior to signing with the ECU program as a high school senior back in November of 2011. She also claimed a pair of Southern Tennis titles and is the owner of over 500 career United States Tennis Association victories. The list goes on pertaining to her accomplishments.

"I chose East Carolina University because I wanted a college town and you can't get a better college atmosphere than being a Pirate," LaDuca said. "I also loved my teammates because they made me feel so welcomed."

Hoch did not shy from LaDuca's attainments, as both of them entered ECU with remarkable bragging rights. In high school Hoch was a five-star recruit according to the Tennis Recruiting Network and was ranked as high as No. 70 nationally in her recruiting class and in the top 10 of the USTA Eastern Section as a prep player. Tennis was not her only focus though, as she played basketball and was a member of the swimming team in addition to tennis.

"It is not really goodbye for me because I am going to be the volunteer assistant coach next year," Hoch said.

"After college I wanted to be a traveling tennis coach, where I go from resort to resort around the world to teach tennis."

LaDuca is going to have to find it in her heart to say goodbye. She plans on finishing her master's program and getting a job in sports broadcasting after this year. It's a change to be certain but it still gives an opportunity to remain close to sports and the sport she loves most.

"Saying goodbye has literally been the hardest thing. I know I still have not come to grips with being done with tennis and being around the team 24/7," LaDuca said. "I could not have gone to a better school and I am thankful for the opportunities that have come with it."

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

GOLF continued from A8

Lisa Pettersson finished the tournament with the team's second best score, 7-over par, 223, finishing tied for 5th. Teammate Nicoline Engstroem Skaug finished tied for 15th with a 14-over par, 230, including a 2-over par, 74, in the second round.

The Pirates were battling tough weather conditions, especially during the first two rounds, but the team knew everyone was dealing with the same conditions.

"It's just all about being positive and understanding the conditions are the same for everyone, so just keep fighting," Spang said.

Spang joined Lene Krog in 2006 and Skaug in 2013,

as the third player to claim individual medalist honors at a conference championship in ECU history.

Heading to the final hole, Williams knew Spang was in position to win, but decided not to tell her, in hopes of not adding any additional pressure.

"It changes how you attack and she was hitting it so well, I didn't think it was worth telling her at the time where she stood," Williams said.

The team played well in the final round, something they have done all season, but couldn't catch the Cougars, who finished 30-over par for the tournament with a team total of, 894.

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