



COLUMN SPARKS DIALOGUE

Turn to A4

Opinion

question view

The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Wednesday, 7.13.16

Staton meets with students over policies

Melissa Glen
TEC STAFF

After a meeting Friday with East Carolina University's new chancellor, Cecil Staton, students came away with mixed reactions.

According to students, Chancellor Staton held the meeting to discuss the recent controversy regarding a Twitter encounter between himself and a student, Anniken Williams.

A Senior political science major, Williams voiced her concerns online about Staton's past as a Georgia senator on July 1, Staton's first day in office.

"As soon as I heard who they had picked, I started doing my research and it didn't take me long to realize that he isn't what ECU needs," Williams said.

In the tweet, Williams stressed her frustration about the fact Staton supported voter identification laws, keeping students from using student IDs at the voter booths, "How am I supposed to support my 'chancellor' when he supported voter ID laws that disenfranchise students," said Williams in her tweet.

Staton blocked Williams and changed his Twitter bio later that day to say "Social media bullies and trolls will be blocked".

Williams said this was unprofessional of Staton and demanded he give her an apology and an explanation for being what she called "silenced".

Since this, Staton has unblocked Williams and changed his bio two more times. First to "I use social media to be a cheerleader for this institution and that's what I am going to do, and without apology" and then to what his bio currently reads, "On Twitter to promote ECU. We follow the East Carolina Creed. Civil discourse please!"

Williams and numerous other student leaders were invited to attend the meeting and greet with Staton and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs

> STATON page A2



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students gather for a Black Lives Matter protest outside of Mendenhall Student Center to honor victims of police brutality and recent events.

PROTEST SHEDS LIGHT

Students speak out against injustice

Melissa Glen
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University students from all over campus united together Monday in front of Mendenhall Student Center for a Black Lives Matter protest to speak out against this violent events of this past weekend.

Three students were responsible for planning the protest: Brittany Weatherall, a sophomore intended nursing major; Todd Gabriel, a junior public health major and Haley Holland, a senior hospitality management major.

Gabriel said the protest was a way to stand with all the victims of the past weekend.

"What we want to do is stand with victims on both sides from the citizens affected as well as the officers and focus on bridging that gap to restore trust in the community between the people and law enforcement," said Gabriel.

During the protest, students chanted a number of phrases, including "No justice, no peace, no racist police". After every student got a chance to share their ideas, the students thanked the administration and the police for supporting them in their efforts. The protest ended with everyone joining together in prayer.

Holland said what she wanted to gain most from the protest was a greater sense of unity on campus.

"We are more divided than ever, why not come together when we need it," said Holland. "We lost seven people in 48 hours."

Holland said now is a great time to protest, because all of the new students are visiting the school for orientation.

"This is the perfect time for us to get ready for the fall and come in as one and finish the year strong," said Holland.

ECU's Black Student Union President Tamar Turner was among the students present at the protest. Turner said he was in attendance not only because of

> PROTEST page A2

Indoor miniature golf hits Greenville



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Jeremiah Holland, ECU alum, puts on the pirate themed indoor course.

Summer Rivenbark
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Escaping the heat while still making use of precious summer hours is often a hard commodity to come by in Greenville.

Fortunately for some, the area just gained a new source of indoor entertainment.

Captain Jack's is an indoor miniature golf center and date night destination that features 18 holes of miniature golf and a build your own pizza bar.

"We wanted to bring something to Greenville that was community friendly, family oriented and wouldn't break the bank," said owner Kristin Voytek.

Voytek said it has been busy since she opened up Captain Jack's in late June.

With the location being so close to East Carolina University, Captain Jack's features a pirate theme and is filled with a scenic collection of artifacts that give a historical and cultural touch to the atmosphere.

"My partner and I traveled up and down the east coast for three years collecting authentic artifacts that we used for the look of the miniature golf course," said Voytek. "Being a teacher at ECU, I wanted to bring sort of an educational component to the history of pirates."

In hopes that Captain Jack's would serve as a source of entertainment for all age groups, Voytek also wanted to make sure the hours of operation suited the needs of both the college students and families of Greenville.



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The first few holes at Captain Jack's miniature golf course, featuring pirate themed decor.

"We have structured our hours so that we can have families and groups come in during the day, so we are open early," said Voytek. "Then we are open until past midnight so if college students want to come in later in the night, we're open for them as well."

Voytek also included that basing its hours to be open for particular groups has worked out well for the business, which hasn't done any outside advertising yet. By utilizing word-of-mouth, Captain Jack's has brought in a significant amount of business and feedback from the community.

"We are very happy with the positive feedback and the way it has turned out," said Voytek.

Among the college crowd, ECU

alumni have also come to check out Captain Jack's.

"It was a good time and it was a nice place to go while I was in town for the weekend," said Colin Silverthorne, an ECU alumnus.

Captain Jack's is located at 2903 East 10th St. and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., though sometimes later.

"The employees make you feel welcome and it's nice to see something cool like this open up for people to go to while they're in Greenville," said Silverthorne.

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

ONLINE

» Summer camps offer
fine arts training

» Check out our online photo gallery
of the Black Lives Matter protest

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU Brody School of Medicine Dean Search Committee to meet

The East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine dean search committee is set to meet via conference call tomorrow at 3 p.m. in the Brody Executive Conference Room, 600 Moye Blvd., Greenville. The committee expects to move into closed session following the general business at the start of the meeting. The committee is not expected to have official discussion or take action at this meeting.

American Red Cross issues an emergency request for blood

Due to the summer season and recent holiday vacations, the Red Cross has encountered a shortage in blood and platelet donations resulting in 39,000 fewer donations than what's needed. Because of this emergency need, the Red Cross has extended hours at numerous donation sites in hopes to offset the shortfall. Locals can donate blood on Saturday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Eastern North Carolina's (ENC) Blood Donor Center or between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Holly Hill Free Will Baptist Church's Family Life Center. There will be another drive at ENC's Blood Donor Center July 19 between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

72 PLUS

WEDNESDAY

Umbrella Market
Five Points Plaza
5-8 p.m.

THURSDAY

"Pokemon Go" Lure Party
Greensprings Park
July 14 at 6 p.m.

Karaoke Night
Crossbones Tavern
July 14 at 9 p.m.

SUNDAY

Sunday in the Park — The Monitors
Greenville Town Common
July 17 at 7 p.m.

MONDAY

Board Game Night
Blue Ox
July 18 at 6 p.m.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Graduate students help teach autistic adults driving skills

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

Helping to develop skills for a lifetime, East Carolina University graduate students have paired with autistic young adults to learn and practice driving skills.

This is the second year of the six-week driving “boot camp,” according to occupational therapy graduate student Erin Whitman. Beginning today and ending July 21, the participants attend the camp either on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and various Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at ECU’s Health Sciences Campus.

The eight campers practice on driving simulators with occupational therapy graduate student Lea Taylor, who is in charge of the simulators and said she has various simulated drives for the participants.

“Each participant will do three or four drives each day, and then we work on different things, so towards the beginning of the camp we worked on stop signs, stop lights,” Taylor said. “Now we’re working on hazards, so we’ve kind of progressed from the more simple things to the harder things.”

The driving simulators are complete with accelerator and brake pedals, steering wheels, “rear-view mirrors” through the computer set-up and turn signals, among other features.

Participant Annie Sullivan, 23, who has undergone over 30 driving lessons and is working to get her license said the camp, specifically the simulator, has improved her driving.

“I think it’s been fun, and I’ve enjoyed it, and the atmosphere and the people and how patient everyone



MICHAEL SEEGARS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Graduate student, Erin Whitman, tests out one of the simulators used in “boot camp.”

is with each other, how we all get along so well, but mostly learning how to drive and how everything, like the driving simulator, has improved my driving a lot,” Sullivan said. “First it was a little hard for me, but it’s pretty easy, and like I said, it’s improving my driving on the real road, and the fact that I can make a real turn on a driving simulator and then apply it to the real road, that’s amazing.”

Whitman said the prospective drivers spend time on the driving simulator, as well as the “vision coach” every time they are at camp.

“I’m in charge of the vision coach, which is a technology for their hand-eye coordination, to kind of test their visual acuity and how quickly they react to hazards, or anything really, but essentially what it is, is you see a sequence of lights, and the object is for them to hit the lights as quickly as they can, so I’m doing a lot of training with them,” Whitman said. “They started just hitting lights, now you can see some of them have letters and numbers in them, so I kind of introduced a more cognitive component.”

Whitman said this helps to test their multitasking abilities, since drivers are often faced with focusing on more than one thing at a time.

“It’s interesting to see with the cognitive component, how they react, and how their reaction times change,” Whitman said.

Participant Jon Blasco, 19, said the simulator and vision coach have helped him with his driving and reaction times, and camp has taught him things he did not know before, such as how to read maps, pass cars safely and even the meaning of some signs.

“I know a lot of signs, but there were some signs that were new to me, so I’ve actually learned a whole lot here and I think this is going to be pretty useful,” Blasco said.

Two officers from the ECU police department spoke at the camp on Friday.

“We’re going to be talking about traffic stops, the reason for traffic stops, the procedure that the officer should take when they approach the car and talk to them during the traffic stops,” master patrol officer Kimberly

Bell said. “And then when the traffic stop ends, how they will know that the traffic stop is over, and basically things that as far as where to pull over, safely pull over.”

Whitman said the camp is held to teach the participants how to be safe drivers.

“The objective of the camp is to get them to be more functional drivers, safe drivers; we want them to, if they reach that level and they can get a driver’s license, that they aren’t putting themselves in danger and they aren’t putting anybody else in danger,” Whitman said. “Driver’s Ed doesn’t always give them enough time and enough opportunity to learn, sometimes, the more in-depth things that they need.”

Campers will also learn about bus systems, with the community mobility aspect especially relevant for those who may not end up getting their license.

“They’re trying to get on an ECU bus next week and learning how to navigate the bus systems in Greenville,” Whitman said. “We actually had, last year, an ECU student that relied still on his parents to come and pick him up, so they taught him how to use the bus system so that he could get around independently.”

Whitman said the occupational therapy graduate students involved are completing their projects and thesis through the camp. There are two faculty advisors involved, as well as a graduate student for the department of public health working on her internship.

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

PROTEST

continued from A1

his leadership role in BSU, but also because the issue is close to his heart as well.

“From a leadership standpoint I knew I had to be here, but just as a human being just watching the news lately and just watching videos, scrolling through Twitter and seeing all types of inhuman acts happening,” said Turner. “It really just has to stop.”

Turner added he hopes the school will come together and educate each other to “bridge that divide that should have never happened.”

During the protest, Turner stressed how people should take action, saying true change happens when people get off social media.

“Retweets only go so far and

social media only reaches so many people,” said Turner. “It really takes those people who are dedicated to come out here, to stand in this heat, to fight for what they believe in.”

ECU police showed up for the protest, passing out water bottles to the students who were there exercising their right to free speech.

“We are here today to make sure that these students that are protesting and voicing their right to be able to do that are able to do so safely and that we also can continue to maintain a high level of safety on campus,” said Lt. Chris Sutton, ECU PD’s public information officer.

Sutton added, “It is important that we do our part to make sure that this group or any other group on campus feels like they’re welcome to be able to do what is allowed of them but do it in a peaceful way, to do it in a way that doesn’t bring a negative



JAVIERA SALMAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

An officer from ECU's police department speaks with protesters yesterday.

opinion to East Carolina University.”

Holland said she got the inspiration for the protest from a protest she was a part of her junior year to change the name of Aycock Residence Hall.

“It was one honestly one of the

best experiences of my life on my college campus seeing anybody come out here who is willing to do something for a change,” Holland said.

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

STATON

continued from A1

Virginia Hardy Friday.

Garrett Taylor, junior accounting and finance major, was at the meeting and said it “went well.”

“I look forward to see what Dr. Staton plans to do while at ECU,” said Taylor. “He really does want to listen to the students and take our opinion into consideration. Williams said she did

not get this impression from the meeting. On Facebook, she vocalized her disappointment with the way the meeting turned out, saying, “If anyone is wondering how the meeting with chancellor went today, it was horrible.”

She added, “I thought we were there to fix things and build a working relationship, but that wasn’t the case...it was a meeting to belittle me and tell me I was wrong.”

Kristoff Rixon, who was

at the meeting representing College Democrats, said he agreed with Williams that the meeting was not what he thought it was going to be.

“I thought the meeting was going to be about transparency and being open with others,” said Rixon. “The entire time, I felt as if the student in question was being attacked for her action(s) on Twitter — attacked for being a concerned student.”

Rixon said even after the meeting, he thought there were still many questions that need to be answered.

Rixon said, “I want Chancellor Staton to understand and realize

the voices of students matter, and I truly feel as if student voices have been disregarded.”

ECU’s Chairman of College Republicans Roger Villarreal said for him the question and answer session with Staton made him excited for the university’s future.

“We got to hear more about his background and past work, and I could just tell how important higher education is to him,” said Villarreal. “He repeatedly told us that he plans to put ECU on the map in terms of more national recognition.”

Villarreal said after hearing these plans, he can

definitely see this future happening for ECU.

Another student at the meeting, Walter Wright, a sophomore political science and Spanish major said the meeting actually gave him a negative perspective of the new chancellor and his intentions for the university.

“What I got was him beating around the bush a little bit, kind of going around questions and being stubborn,” said Wright. “I saw no plan, I saw no future, I saw nothing.”

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SINCE 1925

The East Carolinian

PIRATE RANTS

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

The new freshmen will be in for a surprise when they find out how bad the internet service is.

Baba BooeY Baba BooeY

Valid point about the 4th. But mindless Americans won't want to admit their dark history.

BaBa BooeY BaBa BooeY

ECU College Dems showed tolerance and bipartisanship in welcoming Chancellor Staton the only way they know how: by being intolerant and hyper-partisan.

I wonder how much profit ECU makes from selling their student's email addresses to ALL the local apartment complexes. #SPAM #FlagThemAll

When you click on the faculty/staff email link, a picture from 1994 shows up. What a joke. How can this have not been fixed by now?

Kai, if America is so oppressive, pack your bags and move on out. You won't be missed.

Oh TEC, instead of making names for yourselves and telling your own stories, you just regurgitate week old stories with nothing new added to them. Get use to your career as a bottom of the barrel journalist.

ANSWER

Do you remember your orientation assistant?

Yes - 62.5%
No - 37.5%

QUESTION

Do you think the U.S. has a police brutality problem toward minorities?

Vote online at
www.TheEastCarolinian.com

Questions regarding Pirate Rants can be directed to Seth Gulledge at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



Our view

Public record label requires video release

As an editorial staff, we have taken our stance on the release of the St. Patrick's Day assault tape on several occasions. As a news organization, we have actively filed and petitioned for the tape to be released, and these attempts have all failed. As the newspaper that serves our student body, that interacts with newsmakers, students and faculty on a daily basis, we have heard the public outrage at its withholding.

Which is why, as the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, we could not believe when we heard East Carolina University officials such as former chancellor Steve Ballard and ECUPD public information officer Lt. Chris Sutton refer to the video as a public record. We could not understand, that when men who represent the highest echelons of both ECU and the police department that documented the incident referred to footage as a public record, that we still can not obtain the footage, explicitly *for the public record*.

During the course of the months since the assault, through countless instances of ECU faculty, students and news outlets demanding for the release of the video, the dialogue has surrounded the university's obligation to withhold the evidence as part of a police investigation and the laws surrounding public record. Until this point, the university, the district attorney's office and the police departments have refused these request based solely on its exemption from being a public record.

To refer to this footage as a public record is not the wrong thing to do, in fact it is precisely what the public has been arguing for months. What is wrong, what is seemingly impossible to justify, is to admit that the footage is a public record while simultaneously denying the public's right to the record.

It is time for the district attorney's office to release the footage. It has been time for months, and as violence and misunderstanding spread across this country, there is no better time for a show of good faith and transparency. Even the former chancellor of the University, a man with a proven record of acting on behalf of the University, an administrator who has seen the very video, believes it is in the public's interest to see the video. We agree, and we hope Kimberly Robb does as well.

TEC supports free speech



Seth Gulledge
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As a news organization, The East Carolinian seeks to serve our community in a variety of ways. Its chief function however, one for which it has endured countless instances of outrage, is its commitment to the expression of opinion.

Though more commonly known by our tradition of publishing Pirate Rants, our true obligation to this mission has laid in our devotion to the honest representation of our community through the fair, inviting and unbiased acceptance and publishing of letters to the editor, and opinion columns.

In our last issue, we carried forward this proud tradition, and have unshakable certainty in not only its right, but in its value within our pages.

Kai Jones wrote a column criticising the current state of our country, specifically through its celebration of Independence Day. In his column, he cited examples of America's tainted history in its dealings with African and Native Americans, and commented on the current state of the nation, one in which he believes continues to oppress minorities.

His opinion, although not universally agreed upon, is one held by a large percentage of America's population today. In the days since his column, tragic events across our nation have sparked controversy surrounding many of the same ideas he sought to address in his column, and thousands protested in the streets claiming that the state of the United States represented precisely what Jones claimed in his column.

Though these events may neither validate

As the medium that has so proudly served this University and community, we believe it is our duty to act as the active and impartial patron of these voices, and we hope that in doing so, we can continue to serve our community

Seth Gulledge

nor disapprove the opinions stated in his column, the general atmosphere of our nation in the last week has spoken volumes to both the popularity of this opinion, and to the necessity of our nation coming together to simply listen.

The increased sensitivity caused by these events created a spike of interest, and many of our readership has reached out to express their discontent in seeing an opinion they disagree with published within our pages. Many made claims that his opinion had no purpose being published, no value in being seen or furthermore no right to be expressed.

As an editorial board composed of students, we disagree. We have always sought to serve our role as part of the educational system of our university. As students, we seek to learn, to understand and to grow through the exposure to knowledge, and as journalists we seek to share as much of this knowledge as we can with our community. It is easy for us to listen to those voices which share our mind, but to grow and to truly progress as individuals, we must actively

seek to understand the voices that speak against our own beliefs.

This week we seek to continue this tradition, and hope to inspire conversation about what is undoubtedly one of the most pressing issues in our country today. In a time of misunderstanding, in a time of violence, we believe the first step is creating dialogue. Though we have featured the voices of our readership in this issue, we would like nothing more than for those who feel strongly on the current issues within our society to submit letters and columns to us in the coming weeks.

In a time of fear and uncertainty, many feel they can only confide their opinions to those they believe share those opinions. As the medium that has so proudly served this University and community, we believe it is our duty to act as the active and impartial patron of these voices, and we hope that in doing so, we can continue to serve our community.

Seth Gulledge is a rising senior majoring in English and Great Books and is the Editor in Chief. To contact him, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

Blocked by the Chancellor



Anniken Williams
GUEST COLUMNIST

I write this as a concerned Pirate. That is also how I composed my first two Tweets to the Chancellor. Unfortunately, when I voiced my opinion he quickly shut me down and blocked me on Twitter.

Is this how the head of our amazing university should act? I do not think so. As many fellow millennials do, I use Twitter on a daily basis. My account has its fair share of funny retweets, but there is also a section that is a bit more serious. Whether it is supporting a woman's right to choose, the #BlackLivesMatter movement, or the right of a transgender individual to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with, I never hesitate to voice my opinion even if it may be controversial. So when I saw Chancellor Staton's interesting past, I wanted to say a few things about it.

My tweets included remarks about how I was displeased with the fact that a "Repub-

lican politician was put in charge of my university," followed by, "This is a school. Not a state legislature." I also questioned how I could fully support my Chancellor when he supported voter ID laws that disenfranchise students and minorities. Not once did I say he would do a horrible job as Chancellor as some have implied. I was simply concerned about his past, and how it relates to our future. These were sent out a day before July 1, his first day on the job.

This is the same day I found that he blocked me on Twitter.

Chancellor Staton not only blocked me but continued to change his bio to fit the situation. In the many changes to his Twitter bio, I was indirectly called a bully, troll and an abuser. I do not believe a Chancellor should act this way. I think this is highly unprofessional. I had concerns about a politician running my beautiful university and throughout the ordeal I began to realize these concerns were justified. I do not believe a politician - Democrat nor Republican - should be running our university. To me, an alumni or

a lifelong professor would be a better fit.

There was a chance to make things right during an "open" meeting with the Chancellor and other students, but progress was not made on this front. As I sat in that room I felt like I was on an episode of the Comedy Central Roast except I was the one getting roasted, and none of it was funny. He offered what some may call an apology, but it was certainly one that did not feel sincere. I wanted to have a working relationship with the Chancellor, but it became very apparent to me that he does not like me and is not interested in such things.

So to Chancellor Staton I say this, you were given the reigns of an incredibly proud, and strong university. Understand that when you silence one student, you silence us all. ECU is a school that prides itself on the heart and soul of its students. Disregarding our voices is not OK — and will never be ok.

Anniken Williams is a rising senior majoring in political science and international studies. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

FOR RENT

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

3								8
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Thursday's Puzzle Solved

7/13/16

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

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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PUZZLES

FOR RELEASE JULY 13, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Targets of some bark beetles

5 Spreadsheet info

9 "The Blacklist" network

14 Sunbeam floater

15 High-tech read

16 Cliff dwelling

17 Paperwork carrier

19 Razz

20 "Bewitched" witch

21 Offers unsolicited advice

23 Overwhelms with sound

25 "I'm getting to it"

26 Detector of a tiny heartbeat

31 Batting no.

34 Move among moguls

35 Develop a liking for

36 Ascend

39 Conniving

41 Exams for future D.A.'s

42 Obstacle on the links

44 Crumpet accompaniment

46 Levels, briefly

47 Asian bean dish

51 Rent—

52 Starts to grow

56 Facial indication of amazement

60 Takes, as advice

61 Heavenly explosions

62 Photographer's request, and a hint to what's hidden at the starts of 17-, 26- and 47-Across

64 Most desirable invitees

65 Lamb pen name

66 Risotto base

67 Stained —

68 Workout count

69 Symbol on Texas' flag

DOWN

1 Journalist in a battle zone

2 "Bonanza" co-star of Michael, Dan and Pernell

3 Crete's highest elev.

4 Accompany to the depot, say

5 Pours into a carafe

6 Gp. with many specialists

7 Chore

8 AARP concern

9 Washington ballplayer

10 Unconventional '50s-'60s types

11 Cross, in Costa Rica

12 Point on a rake

13 Cat scanners?

18 Gratis

22 Heave-ho

24 — OFF 5TH: discount store

27 Jaunty tunes

28 Tropical hardwood

29 "Beetle Bailey" dog

30 Diana of "The Wiz"

31 Long (for)

32 "The Impaler" of Romanian history

33 Sphinx city

37 Voice heard in "California Dreamin'"

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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67						68					69			

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke

7/13/16

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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

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38 March Madness concerns

40 Supporters' votes

43 Key with two sharps: Abbr.

45 Sources of fine wool

48 Traditional golf pencil's lack

49 Footwear insert

50 Nanas, often

53 Start of a fitness motto

54 Puccini opera

55 "And wrinkled lip, and ___ of cold command": "Ozymandias"

56 Unforeseen obstacle

57 Lounge around

58 Saucony competitor

59 Corduroy feature

63 Peke's squeak

COMIC

BREWSTER ROCKET

THAT OBJECT YOU WERE GOING TO SHOOT DOWN WAS ACTUALLY ONE OF OUR **ROCKETS!**

UMM ...

THAT MEANS CLIFF WAS **RIGHT** TO **NOT** OPEN THE MISSILE SILO DOOR!

GREAT!

I WONDER IF CLIFF'S AWARE OF THIS?

I TOLD YOU SO!

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www.gocomics.com/brewsterrocket

www.gocomics.com/brewsterrocket@yahoo.com

HOROSCOPES

Aries

★★★★★★

Collaborate on family accounts. The next three weeks look excellent for conversation, with Mercury in Leo. Creative writing can be fun. Talk about your passions, enthusiasms and beloved people.

Taurus

★★★★★★

Dress things up with a little glamour. The next three weeks (with Mercury in Leo) are especially good for family meetings and discussions. Strengthen communications and foundations. Enjoy creative domestic projects.

Gemini

★★★★★★

For the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo, it's

easier to learn, express and get your message across. Communications channels are wide open. Delegate and muster support.

Cancer

★★★★★★

Following your heart can get lucrative. For the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo, it's easier to make money. Don't be tempted to spend it all. Stash your nuts for winter.

Leo

★★★★★★

Taking care of others improves your self-confidence. You're even more clever and strong over the next three weeks, with Mercury in your sign. Whistle your own tune. Nurture your family.

Virgo

★★★★★★

Tie up loose ends and finish old business over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo. Forgive, even if you don't forget, so you can move on. Write down your dreams and journal.

Libra

★★★★★★

Bring home the bacon today and tomorrow. Teamwork gets the word out over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo. Meetings go well. Social participation leads to new possibilities.

Scorpio

★★★★★★

Today is a 9 -- Follow personal dreams today and tomorrow.

New opportunities arise over the next three weeks (with Mercury in Leo), to teach and to learn. Expand your investigation. Travel beckons. Plan your moves.

Sagittarius

★★★★★★

Concentrate on rest and clean-up today and tomorrow. Opportunities to teach and to learn arise over the next three weeks (with Mercury in Leo). Expand your investigation.

Capricorn

★★★★★★

Inventory shared resources and assets over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo. Communications lead to profitable collaborations. Make promises with your team today and tomorrow to grow your garden

Aquarius

★★★★★★

Pursue career opportunities over the next few days. Partnership is key. Communicate, negotiate and delegate for the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo. Learn from experts. Maintain clear communication channels.

Pisces

★★★★★★

Launch an adventure over the next two days. Discuss decisions with the entire team. Over the next three weeks, with Mercury in Leo, your creative work flourishes. Genius sparks in a conversation.

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TAKEAWAYS

Volleyball
ECU added Nick Polite to its coaching staff.

Track & Field
Avion Jones comes up short in Olympic trials this past weekend.

Baseball
Dwanya Williams-Sutton was named to D1Baseball's First-Team Freshman All-America.

Football
Worth Gregory was named to the 2016 Ray Guy Award Watch List.

Football
J.T. Boyd was named to the Outland Trophy Award Watch List for the second straight season.

Athletics
Long-time strength and conditioning coach for ECU, Jeff Connors, was inducted into the USA Strength & Conditioning Coaches Hall of Fame.

ONLINE



Follow us on Twitter at @TEC_Sports for ECU sports coverage.



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Where Arrgh They Now?

Part 2 of a 4 part series following football players after their graduations from ECU



Dodge-ing accidents

Former ECU punter finds silver lining

Gerin Honeycutt
TEC STAFF

In the National Football League, a player is expected to leave every ounce of effort on the field and making a mistake is not acceptable, especially in a game with playoff implications.



Matt Dodge

“Both teams had the same records, and if you won, you controlled your own destiny,” said former New York Giants punter Matt Dodge. “Leading up into that game we knew it, all week prepping for that game the talk from

not only the special teams coach but the head coach and, heck, I think even the janitor told me, ‘we’ve got to keep it out of his hands.”

Only having three games remaining in his rookie season with the New York Giants, Dodge saw his defense crumble at the hands of Michael Vick and the Philadelphia Eagles and throw away a 31-10 half time lead. Ultimately, the Eagles would tie the game and the Giants final drive to go ahead before the end of regulation would stall, with 14 seconds left.

Naturally, Matt Dodge walked out on

the field after taking directions from head coach Tom Coughlin on where to boot it, though he didn’t need them because he knew the obvious. A two-time Pro-Bowler and reigning Second Team All-Pro wide receiver in Desean Jackson was on the other side of Dodge and the obvious was to not give arguably the most dangerous and electric return man in the game a chance to touch the ball. Punt it out of bounds.

“As you can imagine, I knew the game plan was that we didn’t want to punt it to the guy and prove we could tackle him, to thy own self be true,” said Dodge.

From the low snap to the line drive punt, the play started on a bad note, but to make things worse, the ball didn’t go out of bounds, it went right to Jackson without any air under the football, the punt return coverage was late getting to Jackson, and well, the rest is history, or otherwise known as the “Miracle of the New Meadowlands.”

“My life changed forever after that play,” said Dodge. “I knew it was a big deal, but I had no idea how big of a deal it was. There were death threats, how legitimate they were, I don’t know. I can remember people were posting my car and address online.”

One bad play made at such a pinnacle of one’s career would usually devastate them, leaving them gasping for motivation. Next August, Dodge was out of New York, in fact Dodge would never play again. However, for Dodge, a mistake is what guided his path to the NFL.

“The Mistake That Changed Everything”

“I was fourteen and I remember my mom dropped me off at the field for my first varsity soccer practice, I got invited to practice with the varsity, but I was still JV,” said Dodge. “I was about a minute late for practice. I’m fourteen, it’s not like I was dilly dallying, I was trying to get a ride. Well, a coach decided to make an example out of me, essentially telling me to get off the field.”

Dodge remembers having his cleats in hand and seeing the football team practicing in the distance. Across the field was the varsity kicker for West Carteret, practicing punting and kicking.

“I had my cleats, I remember thinking I might as well walk over there,” said Dodge. “I walked over there and kicked and that’s how I started playing football in high school, being a minute late to soccer practice.”

A connoisseur of all sports as a kid, Dodge found that football, his least favorite one, complemented his abilities best.

Too small to play any other position and too late to play soccer, Dodge would then compete as a punter and kicker throughout high school. He established himself as having one of the best legs on the eastern coast.

Receiving the butt end of a recruiting class stacked with kickers and punters, Dodge was shafted on scholarships. Originally he chose to be a preferred walk-on at Appalachian State, a decision made after Dodge and his dad narrowed the decision down to App State and East Carolina. The decision maker was finally left up to a field goal proposition the two made. If he hit the left upright of the field goal post, he’d be a Mountaineer, anywhere else and he’d be a Pirate.

That fall, Dodge took the field for his first ever collegiate game in Boone, and after appearing in all 12 games and winning a division I-AA championship with the 2005 team, Dodge felt a calling to come back home to the eastern part of the state and would eventually become a Pirate.

Just like he did as a Mountaineer he also entered ECU as a preferred walk-on before earning a scholarship for his last two seasons.

His next three seasons, he would watch his punt average soar to one of the top averages in the nation. Dodge was averaging almost 46 yards a punt in his last season, after setting a goal of 46 for himself in the spring.

“Before my senior year, I really made a

decision that if I wanted to get to the NFL I had to be intentional about it,” said Dodge. “I picked up a book, ‘Maximum Achievement,’ It taught me how to set goals. I set goals for what I wanted to average, to be an All-American, and a lot of other things. It sent me on a habit of writing goals so much to where as I even did it before every practice.”

Dodge added, “I remember finding the book of my goals not too long ago and I had accomplished all my goals to almost a tee.”

After competing in the North-South Shrine game following his senior season, Dodge found himself ranked as the No. 2 punter, nationally.

He would show how good he really was and be one of a few punters drafted when he was selected in the seventh round of the 2010 NFL draft by the New York Giants.

Dodge hadn’t realized just what he was walking into.

“The second day I was there, (long-time Giants’ punter) Jeff Feagles announced his retirement, the next thing you know all cameras had panned on me,” said Dodge. “Jeff was what is known as a directional guy, he hit it wherever you asked him to, he was like Tom Glavine, he was precise. If you watched me in college I was the exact opposite, I was a kick-the-heck-out-of-it kind of guy and trusted in my punt return defense.”

Dodge started rookie mini-camp out great, nailing kicks, but by his third day his coaches decided to radically change everything about the rookie punter.

Unfortunately for Dodge, breaking his fundamentals down, throwing them away and building them back ruined him more mentally than anything.

Dodge had seen his fair share of punts shank and go flat throughout his rookie season, making fans question the coaching staff’s choice to begin with. Drafting this kid from “Eastern” Carolina and bringing him in with an already established punter would eventually have some loyal fans questioning if the motive was to force Feagles into retirement.

Every shank punt added more fuel to a fan fire that would eventually explode with a Desean Jackson punt return touchdown, banishing Dodge from the NFL forever.

“God’s Plan is Revealed”

“God had his finger on the pulse of my Journey the whole way,” said Dodge.

Though Dodge had taken a heap of criticism, the one thing his father taught him that stuck has recently paid off.

“I was raised pretty simple, but I was raised to always answer for what you have done and don’t shy away from it,” said Dodge.

Doing things the right way is what got Dodge where he is today. He is a savvy wealth management consultant where he helps show those in need a plan for their post-retirement days.

His clients are growing rapidly and so is his status in his other occupation. Dodge, who is a writer on the side, eventually teamed his two talents together, and wrote a book on how to manage one’s financials after retirement.

The book’s name is “Halftime Shift” and though it is Dodge’s first, he vows it’s definitely not his last, using some of his NFL money earned to invest in classes on book writing.

Nowadays, Dodge uses his faith to lean on and looks at the role he played while in New York as more of a blessing than anything.

“If that play never happened nobody would know who I am, or they wouldn’t remember me,” said Dodge. “That has opened up so many doors for me. I’m a huge Christian so I believe God works in very mysterious ways, and this is a perfect example of that.”

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

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MANOR

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