



STILLIFE RENOVATIONS
NEAR COMPLETION Turn to A5

The East Carolinian

stillife

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YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Monday, 1.8.18



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Senior nursing student Regent Perez gets hit with a snowball. Students were encouraged to delay returning to campus over break.

WINTER STRIKES

Students face snow, ice on first day of classes

Andy Li
TEC STAFF

After Winter Storm Grayson buried Greenville in snow, many East Carolina University students struggled to stay warm in this new, winter wonderland. The university announced yesterday in an ECU alert all classes before 10 a.m. today would be cancelled for the first day of classes.

“Campus is in good condition, but icy spots will remain through Monday. Facilities staff report that every building has at least one cleared pathway,” according to the ECU alert. “Conditions experienced by individuals will vary, and everyone is responsible for their own actions and safety.”

While the university may have cancelled early classes to



ONLINE |
SNOW GALLERY

THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

An icy sidewalk in front of Joyner Library. Many roads and walkways on campus were obscured by snow.

keep students safe, some are having difficulty even getting to their homes.

Brenden Fout, a sophomore interior design major, lives at 33 East and said the parking lot made getting to his apartment a challenge.

“The roads of Greenville are actually not that bad, the roads inside the apartment complex seem to be really bad. They’re all like— it’s just ice everywhere,” Fout said. “I came down to the South to actually get away from snow. I was just actually out of the country like

three days ago and it was 50 degrees and warm.”

The storm also proved difficult for Server Thorn, a senior computer science major, who said his apartment at Copper Beech lost power

> WINTER page A3

>> WHERE THERE’S SMOKE THERE’S FIRE

Records show GFR turnover worst in decade

Matthew Prenskey
TEC STAFF

Greenville Fire/Rescue ended 2017 with a flurry of separations making it the worst year of personnel turnover in a decade, which one state official said should serve as a warning to city officials.

City records, which were obtained through a public records request by The East Carolinian, revealed 30 firefighters left GFR in 2017, with the majority of them resigning. December proved to be the worst month for separations, as seven firefighters left GFR, according to city personnel turnover records.

Both state and national fire fighting experts said GFR’s personnel turnover is unusually high and doesn’t reflect the turnover rates across the fire service industry.

“In my work throughout the state, I can unequivocally say that I can’t think of another department, especially a



Tom Brewer

department of Greenville’s size, with numbers even close to that,” Tom Brewer, president of the Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association of North Carolina, said.

The PFFPNC is the state branch of the International Association of Firefighters and represents firefighters and paramedics in the North Carolina state legislature, according to the organization’s website.

Gregory Cade, the Mid-Atlantic regional director of the National Fire Protection Association, a trade organization which creates protocols for GFR and other fire departments, said personnel turnover is usually very low.

“My experience has been it (personnel turnover) is certainly in the single digits and closer to zero, not 18 percent,” Cade said.

Cade, who joined the fire service in October of 1968, said in his experience, the standard personnel turnover rate at a fire department is between two or three percent.

Cade and Brewer’s comments come in stark contrast to what GFR Fire Chief Eric Griffin told The East Carolinian in September.

“The (staff turnover) issue that you (The East Carolinian) are referring to is not centralized and only located to Greenville Fire/Rescue. That issue is an



Gregory Cade

> GFR page A3

‘Plunge Into Purple’ to welcome students

Initiative aims to immerse students in school pride, campus atmosphere



ECU students jump into the Student Recreation Center’s pool to take the Polar Bear Plunge.

Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

While the month of January brings a fresh semester of academia and activities for East Carolina University students, it also brings the option to take their campus experience to the next level by taking the Plunge.

‘Plunge Into Purple’ is an annual, year-long initiative that offers a multitude of events from different departments on campus, according to the Office of Student Transitions. From community outreach to campus athletics, the opportunities to indulge in

activities on campus ranges from the vast to the various.

“With ‘Plunge Into Purple’s’ spring events, we really want students to have appealing activities to choose from, so that students can look at their calendars and see something for them,” Karen Smith, ECU’s associate director of First Year Transitions, said. “This initiative is all about making the student body aware of all the opportunities on campus they can partake in.”

Kicking off the spring events is the Winter Welcome Back from 4 to 7 p.m. this afternoon. In the Student Recreation

Center, students are encouraged to enjoy the free winter themed novelties and attractions the Student Recreation Center has to offer, according to the ‘Plunge Into Purple’ event’s page. The theme of fun, despite the frosty weather, will be carried into tomorrow’s event, ‘Hot Chocolate and Coffee Giveaway,’ where students can start their morning with a warm beverage at Mendenhall bus stop, Brewster Building and the Allied Health Sciences campus.

“The Winter Welcome Back event has been happening

> PLUNGE page A3

ONLINE

» GPD gains national attention
with snowball fight video

» Danielle’s Discover Weekly features
fresh songs for the new year

SOCIAL MEDIA



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ecu.edu/plungeintopurple #PLUNGE2018
PLUNGE INTO PURPLE 2018

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**PLUNGE
— — — — — INTO — — — — —
PURPLE**

Don't just be a student, be a pirate!™
Take full advantage of every opportunity offered at ECU®.

Calendar of Events

Winter Welcome Back

January 8 • 4:00PM - 7:00PM • SRC

Hot Chocolate and Coffee Giveaway

January 9 • 8:30am - 10:00am • Brewster and Wright Place

ECU Women's Basketball vs. Tulsa

January 10 • 7:00pm • Minges Coliseum

SAB Winter Concert

January 11 • 7:00pm • Wright Auditorium

ECU Men's Basketball vs. Wichita State

January 11 • 9:00pm • Minges Coliseum

ECU Swimming & Diving Meet vs. USC

January 13 • 1:00pm • Minges Natatorium

ECU Men's Basketball vs. Houston

January 14 • 2:00pm • Minges Coliseum

MLK Day of Service

January 15 • 8:00am - 4:00pm • Great Rooms, MSC

Pirate Read Author Matthew Desmond

January 16 • 7:00pm - 8:30pm • Wright Auditorium

MLK Jr. Celebration - Tamika Mallory

January 17 • 7:00pm • Wright Auditorium

Polar Bear Plunge & Involvement Fair

January 18 • 5:30PM • SRC

Winter Warm-up Basketball Tournament

January 19 • 5:00pm - 11:00pm • SRC

ECU Women's Basketball "Play4Kay" game vs. Houston

January 20 • 5:00pm • Minges Coliseum

For more information on events, please go to
www.ecu.edu/plungeintopurple

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at least 48 hours prior to the event at (252) 737-1016 (Voice/TTY).

18-861



ECU®

**STUDENT
TRANSITIONS**

BRIEFS

Gallery to showcase exhibits on deconstruction, reconstruction

The Wellington B. Gray Gallery at East Carolina University will host five exhibits in connection to the ninth annual ECU Material Topics Symposium Jan. 5-25.

This year's theme is "Deconstruct/Reconstruct," and will focus on people interested in metal, material or adornment. The main gallery will host three exhibits: "Vitreous Voices," which has enamel works "Spoon," which showcases spoons of all sizes and "Ripple Effect 168," which shows metalwork from ECU and Virginia Commonwealth University. The other two exhibits, "Smitten Forum" and "Snail Mail Project Snail Mail Project," will be placed in the African Art Room and the gallery foyer respectively.

A free special symposium reception will be held 5-7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12 for the public. The gallery is located off Fifth and Jarvis Street in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Women's strength clinics to come to SRC

East Carolina University's 'Lift Like a Girl' strength clinics will be held in the Student Recreation Center, SRC room 240, on three separate Thursdays: Jan. 18, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, from 4-5 p.m.

This event will provide knowledge and technique for using free weights and machines along with introducing a variety of Total Body Resistance Exercises and exercise modifications.

'Lift Like a Girl' is being hosted by ECU Student Affairs and is designed for all women, but open to all beginners who are new to the resistance training basics. The event is free, however, participants must register ahead of time for the event on the Campus Recreation and Wellness' website.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Vice President details goals SGA to focus on student engagement in spring

Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University student body Vice President Ryan Smith said productivity and student involvement are the Student Government Association's top priorities as the spring semester starts.

Students would typically be welcomed back by clubs and organizations, with tables set up in the open areas on campus to pass out treats on a frigid walk to class, but Smith said SGA will not be opening the semester with an event in the first couple of weeks.

"Programs don't pick up until after the second week, since things are so hectic," Smith said.

Smith, a senior business finance major, said the recent snow, ice and general cold weather didn't affect plans as everything is looking to be scheduled closer to February.



From left: East Carolina University student body Vice President Ryan Smith and President La'Quon Rogers.

Passing out snacks is just one of the few ways that SGA is planning to build a stronger bridge between the student body and its representatives. Smith said he has high hopes for the spring semester involving administrative involvement.

"Number one goal, we want to be productive," Smith said. "We want to spend time on worthwhile endeavors while setting a professional environment and maintaining an image to our board and student outreach."

Imran Ahmed, the head of SGA's University Affairs Committee, said he shares the same energy as Smith and the rest of the organization when it comes to student outreach and empowerment.

Ahmed said SGA wants to engage with the student body in order to hear ideas from the diverse student body. He said it will do this by sponsoring organizations, doing community service and hosting tabling events.

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

GFR continued from A1

international issue," Griffin said in an interview conducted on Sept. 20. "They (firefighters) are very mobile. People are typically three to five year employees."

After Brewer heard Griffin's comment, he said the fire chief would need to show him the cities he's getting his turnover information from.

"I'm speaking from experience. I do work across the state and I called two fire departments today for this interview and the departments were just about the same size of Greenville and they are nowhere near Greenville's numbers," Brewer said.

Cade said in his experience, firefighters are not three-to-five or six-year employees. He added once most firefighters settle into a department, they tend to stay.

After multiple attempts to get any comment from GFR, no emails were returned to The East Carolinian by any official in the city of Greenville in regards to this story.

In an emailed statement, Tim Bradley, the executive director of the North Carolina State Firefighters Association, said in cases where fire departments have an issue with maintaining firefighters, they generally bring in an outside consultant to study the problem and make recommendations.

Bradley added, "This would only occur if the city believes there is an issue with retention."

In an emailed statement to The East Carolinian, Brock Letchworth, the public information officer for the city of Greenville, said on behalf of City Manager Ann Wall, the city pays attention to personnel turnover.

"We are always monitoring the turnover rate in all departments because we value all



The Greenville Fire/Rescue headquarters. Records show GFR had its worst turnover in a decade in 2017.

of our employees," Wall said in the statement, which was emailed to The East Carolinian by Letchworth. "Our goal is for everyone who works for the city of Greenville to do well and thrive, and we will continue to explore ways in which we can assist them in doing so."

City records also revealed GFR was worst among all Greenville city departments in regards to personnel turnover in 2017, even eclipsing the personnel turnover rate of the Greenville Police Department, which has 82 more employees, according to both departments' websites.

As a new year begins, multiple people both in and outside the fire department said more firefighters are looking at other jobs and will be leaving soon. One of the sources, Paul Ahearn, a former battalion chief at GFR who retired in 2013, said there are a number of firefighters who

are looking to leave the department.

"I understand some more people are leaving," Ahearn said. "There are more people looking at jobs and to leave. I was told that. Cary is hiring again, Raleigh is getting ready to do another hiring process so there are people who are looking to move on and away."

Ahearn said he wasn't aware of how many firefighters were looking at other opportunities. He added that he isn't surprised more firefighters were interested in leaving.

"I just heard that several (firefighters) are looking to get out of there (GFR), but that doesn't surprise me because if it hasn't changed, then why would you want to stay there?" Ahearn said.

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

WINTER continued from A1

Saturday, while he was at the movies.

"They (Copper Beech) were closed so I called Greenville Utilities directly and it was fixed within 30 minutes," Thorn said. "About two hours after that, it went out again. And about an hour went by and it got fixed."

Although the lack of power frustrated Thorn, he said Copper Beach and the city of Greenville handled the situation appropriately, and all that matters is he has power now.

Winter Storm Grayson brought near-blizzard conditions to northern Florida up to Maine, impacting each state on the East Coast, according to The Weather Channel. Over the weekend, Greenville experienced heavy sleet and six inches of snow.

Mayor P.J. Connelly said in a press briefing Thursday the Greenville community was not out of the woods yet.

"The weather outlook for tonight and the next couple days include record-breaking cold temperatures and wind chills that will cause some roads, bridges, (and) overpasses to refreeze," Connelly said.

Connelly asked residents to respect law enforcement officials as they try to keep them safe. Greenville Police Department's Public



The Peedee the Pirate statue by Cotton Residence Hall was covered in snow over winter break.

Information Officer Kristen Hunter said in an emailed statement there had been no major accidents but urged drivers to stay indoors.

"Since 5 p.m. last night (Wednesday) we've responded to 16 wrecks. No injuries," Hunter said. "We have had to respond to quite a few assist motorist calls where cars have gotten stuck in the ice and snow. The roads are still very slick, there is a thick layer of ice underneath the snow."

While safety on the road is a top priority for most Greenville and ECU officials, the Greenville Utilities Commission said its focus

is keeping water, electric and sewer services ongoing for Greenville residents. GUC provides these services to all of Greenville and 75 percent of Pitt County, according to its website.

"It all starts with behavior and behavior is something we can control ourselves depending on where we live, you know, in an apartment or in a home," Jonathan Sergeant, an energy auditor at GUC, said.

Sergeant said GUC is urging Greenville residents to keep their apartments and homes at the lowest temperature comfortable for them.

Each degree a homeowner sets their

thermostat above 68 degrees could potentially increase their utility cost from three to five percent, according to Sergeant.

Lauren Mink, ECU's continuity and emergency planner, said in an email statement ECU is staying proactive to protect its students.

"Our grounds crews were busy preparing roadways, parking lots, and walkways – pretreating before any precipitation fell Wednesday," Mink said. "Our plumbing crews were busy checking water issues across campus due to some frozen water pipes, and insulating potential problem areas."

ECU's faculty has been observing Condition 1 since Friday, which states employees at the university can come in if they choose to but are not obligated to depending on the road conditions in their area.

Several roadways on campus were closed by ECU Police and Parking & Traffic to avoid unnecessary travel and to allow clean-up crews to prepare the campus for the start of the semester, according to Mink.

A second low pressure system coming from the West Coast could bring more snow and sleet to the East, including Greenville, later in the week, according to the Weather Channel. The East Carolinian will continue to monitor the storm and provide updates.

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

PLUNGE continued from A1

for the last couple of years at ECU, and it's really meant to welcome returning, transfer and first year students back to campus after winter break," Justin Janak, director for ECU's Student Activities and Organizations, said. "There, students can find out about campus resources from Student Affairs, as well as enjoy the hot chocolate bar and the much requested street signs that they can personalize to

their liking."

This year, SAB announced at midnight on Jan. 1 that musician Wale would be joining the likes of Kehlani and Waka Flocka Flame as the headlining artist of the 2018 SAB Winter Concert, according to ECUSAB's official Twitter page. The 2018 Winter Concert will take place in Wright Auditorium Thursday at 7 p.m. Tickets are free for ECU students and \$20 for the general public, and can be purchased at the central ticket office.

The self-proclaimed "Ambassador of Rap for the Capital,"

Washington D.C. native Olubowale Victor Akintimehin (stage name Wale), is a 2013 Grammy nominee and has collaborated with artists such as Lady Gaga, Nicki Minaj and Lil Wayne, according to Wale's Spotify page.

"SHINE (Wale's fifth and latest studio album) was by far one of the most underrated albums of 2017," sophomore hospitality management major Michael Felton said. "I think he's going to turn haters into fans on Thursday, and I'm excited to see him perform live for the first time."

While the winter air provides an

inevitable chill for ECU students, the choice to unleash their "wild side" with the 'Polar Bear Plunge' by plunging into the icy outdoor waters of the Student Recreation Center has become an annual ritual for many, including Kim Lofton, who anticipates being one of the first 1,100 in line Jan. 18 to earn his free T-shirt.

"There's nothing more fun and thrilling than jumping in that ice cold water with a group of friends, laughing and screaming about your 'regrets' and how freezing you are," Lofton, a sophomore

communications major, said.

The last 'Plunge into Purple' of this year's event takes place on Jan. 20 at 5 p.m. in Minges Coliseum, according to the 'Plunge into Purple' events' page. At this event, the ECU women's basketball team will host the University of Houston for its annual Play4Kay game to raise breast cancer awareness in memory of former North Carolina State women's basketball coach and ECU alumni Kay Yow.

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

OUR VIEW

ECU students should heed weather warnings

The recent winter weather blanketed Greenville with six inches of snow this weekend, causing East Carolina University and city officials to implore residents to stay off the road for their safety.

However, many students were not as quick when it came to taking the storm seriously.

Winter Storm Grayson brought heavy snowfall to the entire East Coast, from northern Florida to Maine. The storm created up to 22 inches of snow in some areas, according to the Weather Channel.

Upon their return, many students were surprised to find that some roads were still covered in snow and ice. Apartment buildings lost power and many students were stuck in their apartment parking lots due to the large amounts of snow. According to the Greenville Police Department, there were 16 traffic accidents as a result of the winter storm.

In an ECU alert sent out on Thursday, the university urged students to delay their return to campus as much as possible.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe city and university officials took the proper considerations when making these recommendations, so students and citizens should not take warnings such as these lightly.

ECU Parents and Family Programs and the Greenville Police Department both sent out numerous tweets and Facebook posts to provide students with the best information possible on staying safe on the roads and in their homes.

With another low pressure system on the heels of Grayson, it is important for students to remember while they may feel confident behind the wheel or walking on campus, university and city officials are trained to deal with severe winter weather and their advice about staying indoors should be heeded.

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As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 250 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

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>>LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

TEC seeks new talent



Annah Schwartz
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

So, it's 2018. New Year's resolutions are kicking in with great determination and there's a sea of "new year, new me" captions on Instagram photos. But, as you sit there, soaking in the new year, and thinking of how you're going to spend the next 300-some days of your life, what do you see yourself doing?

Do you hope to find a new passion for something? Do you wish to get more involved on campus? Do you want to make a difference? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, keep reading. If you answered "no," keep reading anyway because I spent a good amount of time on this column and you're already this far in.

This month, The East Carolinian will hold tryouts for our candidate program. From Jan. 8-11 and Jan. 15 tryouts will be held anytime between 3-5 p.m. at 301 S. Evans Street in Suite 100F, and one final tryout will be held Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. All you need for this process is a bluebook, that can be found in Dowdy Student stores, a

pencil and the desire to do something not only meaningful for yourself, but also for those around you. Did that last part sound cheesy? Good. I've spent four years with this organization, and while every position I've held is a nice line on my resume, I'd be lying if I said there wasn't something deeper to working for your college newspaper.

It's the end of the night, when hours worth of work come together into another publication. It's the family that you find in the people you work with. It's the thought that someday, down the line, someone is going to be looking through the archives of Joyner Library and they'll find an old copy of The East Carolinian— with your name in it— and that piece of you will always have a home on this campus.

If you were wondering what The East Carolinian has declared as our own new year's resolution, we plan to boost our multimedia efforts with increased activity on our social media accounts and even more video news production this semester. Come be a part of that. Did I mention we have tryouts this week?

And one more thing— if writing isn't your cup of tea, TEC is also looking

PLAN TO GO

» **WHAT:** TEC's candidate tryouts

» **WHERE:** 301 S. Evans St., Suite 100F
Downtown Greenville

» **WHEN:** Jan. 8-11 and Jan. 15 from 3-5 p.m. and Jan. 16 from 6-7:30 p.m.

for graphic designers and freelance photographers who play an equally important role in the world of storytelling. Make your mark now; don't just sit there and tell yourself "maybe next semester."

Email me at editor@theeastcarolinian.com if you have questions. I'll see you at tryouts.

Annah Schwartz is a senior majoring in communication and is a TEC staff member. To contact this writer, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

Embracing individuality is key



Marina Hobday
GUEST COLUMNIST

I am depressed. I am depressed when I wake up, I am depressed when I go to sleep. Sometimes, I may be happy, but that happiness is diminished by the fact that I feel depressed.

The haul of the 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. day, the expectations of what my professor or boss expects from me always concludes with the idea that within the expectations, there is always something I cannot live up to myself. That constant pressure makes me feel depressed. Sometimes I feel I am living as a dead man. I question sometimes, "Do I even exist?"

Mental health is a concept, which really takes a lot to wrap your head around. The appreciation of self is often caught up in a world where society defines your being. From being classified by race to gender to religion to personal interests, it's hard to be comfortable with individuality when society's emphasis is put so much on being part of groups. As social beings, it is a natural feeling to want to be part of something.

However, the expectations of being part of a group usually come with norms that can be harmful. Feeling pressure to conform to something you are not causes inner turmoil. Stereotypes which can give someone a bad image, due to being part of a group, can be harmful in wanting to succeed in society. Both ways cause confusion and mental suffering within an individual.

This idea of similarities not only builds

bridges between people, but it also creates pain. Competition is unhealthy, especially when comparison is made between people who will always have differences. Overall, it is very easy for an individual in such a pressurizing social environment to become lost.

I personally believe with the growth of the modern society, mental health is becoming more increasingly a problem. The feeling of being lost, excluded, isolated and different causes anxiety and feelings of depression. As society does not recognize these emotions, many people every year lose their lives to the inner fight within their mental state.

In the U.S. alone, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death. The fact people choose to take their life, a decision that cannot be undone, is a huge problem that needs to be addressed. However, unless it affects everyone, people choose to ignore this issue and lack empathy to relate to mental health problems.

It is important we all start to acknowledge the importance of the individual person. It is not necessarily similarities that unite us but differences. Although our common similarity is being human beings, our differences make us even more human and even more connectable. Respect and empathy need to be created through education and dialogue for individual cultures.

It is up to us as a community to educate ourselves and to embrace the ups and downs of life by creating awareness for our self being. As someone who has suffered with this mentality from an early age and

experienced losing people to those thoughts, I decided to stand up for this cause.

Through my passion for the movement "I Exist," I hope to further spread this message and create a better understanding through all our differences. I hope Pirate Nation can be this influence for others to acknowledge everyone's existence and embrace our diversity.

"I Exist" first started with a student death on East Carolina University's campus and has now become something bigger for every individual. It questions the same question we think when we think all hope is lost: "Do I even exist?" Yes, yes you do.

In the moment I first stood out in the rain for seven hours protesting for the awareness of my friend's death, mental health and minority voices, I thought I looked stupid and even questioned my own motive. But it has now become a stepping stone for some much bigger than me. It is has become about everyone, the chance for us to use this statement to create a voice.

By doing 'Free Hugs' campaigns on campus and teaming up with other students at organizations on campus to students at other college campuses in the U.S. and worldwide, I hope that our young, enthusiastic voices can get out there to everyone. That is what a movement is about, embracing differences to come together and stand up for what we all believe in—our existence, our mental health.

Together, we exist, and every single one of you can make a difference.

Marina Hobday is a freshman majoring in geology and a guest columnist. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

EVENTS

TODAY

Winter Welcome Back
Student Rec Center
4 p.m.

Hot Flow Yoga
Purple Blossom
7 p.m.

ECU Jazz Faculty
A.J. Fletcher Hall
7:30 p.m.

TOMORROW

10th Annual Joyner Library School of Art Graduate Student Exhibition
Joyner Library
Faulkner Gallery
9 a.m.

Team Trivia
Fire American Tavern
8 p.m.

Stilllife to open rooftop

Nightclub aims to unveil renovation in February

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

After months of concrete plowing, electrical rewiring and installing of more steel beams, the final product of Stilllife Nightclub is finally coming together. Soon, young adults will get to experience the first rooftop patio in Greenville to gather, drink and mingle.

Located at 511 Cotanche St., and open Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., Stilllife renovated and reopened its ground floor Sept. 30 and is now on its way to opening the first rooftop patio in Greenville. Travis Hixon, owner and operator, said the rooftop addition should open in February.

"The scope of this project was so big it's just taking a lot longer than we anticipated," Hixon said. "It has to be perfect, we're not going to open at anything less than perfect and we didn't cut any corners in the whole build so once we open, it's a beautiful project and it's going to blow everyone away. It's something Greenville has never seen before, or East Carolina University's never seen before, so we're excited."

Once open, the nightclub will offer 'Sky' for individuals 21 and up, and 'The Loft' for individuals 21 and up all nights except Friday and Saturday, when it will be 25 and up. These two coming spaces will be in addition to what is already offered on the ground floor, including 'Tiki,' an outdoor island bar, and the club space with VIP booths and a bar.

"What we've done is we've really encompassed the entertainment



New additions 'Sky' and 'The Loft' are estimated to open in February as a part of Stilllife Nightclub's rooftop patio.

complex aspect so we're creating four different atmospheres inside one building," Hixon said. "So the 'Sky,' which is right above 'Tiki,' is going to be 21 and up and it's going to be more like a sports patio bar."

Hixon said there will be plenty of furniture and places to sit, craft and draft beers, as well as T.V.'s playing the sporting events going on. There will also be a sound system to stream and play the featured game at the time.

"We're going to encompass a lot of the local breweries that are coming to town and also have other state and nationally known craft beers up there, so that's what it's going to be kind of known for is the craft beer and sports feel that we're going to give off," Hixon said. "Then we're also going to have 'The Loft,' which is more of a craft cocktail lounge."

Hixon said 'The Loft' will have fire tables, plenty of seating and a retractable roof system so Stilllife

> STILLLIFE page A6

DAP House to feature the Odyssey

Nicolette Giambalvo
TEC STAFF

Warbling jazz melodies and electric rock riffs combine into one sound in William Seymour and the Odyssey, as the band prepares to hit the stage of the Dickinson Avenue Public House Wednesday at 7 p.m.

With William Seymour on the guitar, Evan Roberson on trombone, Chris Knuckles on saxophone, Quincy Jones on the piano and Brandon Mooring on the drums, the unique vibes of William Seymour and the Odyssey are sure to attract a diverse crowd of music-lovers to the bar.

Every second Wednesday of the month, DAP House arranges a music performance to give its pub an entertaining, lively feel. The bar decided to kick off the new year with the Odyssey after its recent, successful New Year's Eve gig at Christy's Euro Pub.

"The style of music they play



Kristi Southern

together is the perfect low-key jazz dinner music for our space," Kristi Southern, owner of DAP House said. "It really goes with our physical environment."

Southern said this is the group's third performance at the pub, and she has received positive feedback ever since its first show. According to Southern, the guests at DAP House had tremendous reactions to the music and have even returned just to hear the group play.

Seymour, the guitar and bass player, said he would describe the group's genre of music as everything from blues, rock and even jazz. The variety of styles attracts a greater audience by appealing to the interests of more people, creating a larger fanbase.

"Although we all play in different groups and live in different areas, it's cool that we can come together and perform in Greenville," Seymour said.

Along with DAP House, Seymour said the group also has weekly gigs at Christy's Euro Pub. The band's performance on New Year's Eve really sparked an interest within the Greenville community.

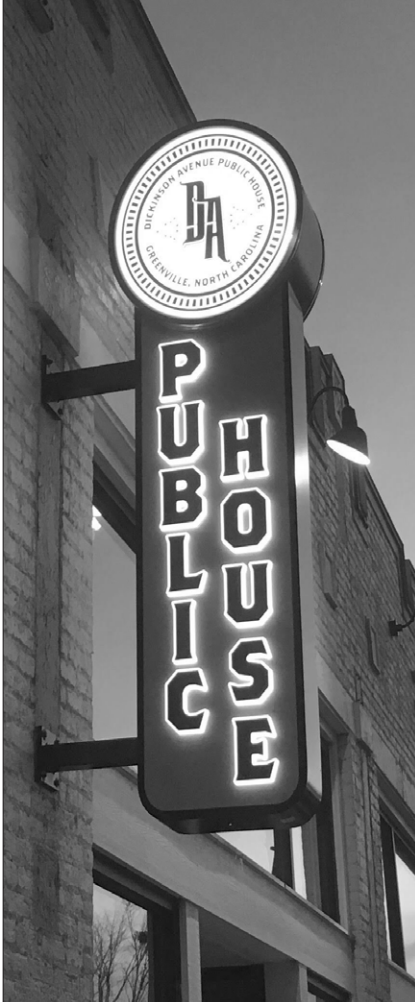
Seymour said the event had a great turn out and the bar was even at capacity for a while throughout the night.

"We get together and play on Tuesday's at Christy's and have been doing the same on Wednesday's at DAP House," Seymour said. "We hope to expand even bigger and advertise ourselves with Facebook events and by word of mouth."

Although the group has made a name for itself within the city, Seymour said because all of the members play in other groups, the band does not plan on touring and expanding beyond Greenville.

Ruby Lauman, a junior elementary education major at ECU, said she got a chance to spread the word about the group after hearing them at Christy's Pub.

"I heard the group play some really nice jazzy music at Christy's and just by being with a group of people who also heard and liked it, we formed a handful of more fans for them," Lauman said. "I'd definitely be down to hear them again at DAP House."



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Alumna showcases original musical

Jenna Price
TEC STAFF

Over winter break, recent East Carolina University School of Theatre and Dance graduate Lisette Glodowski highlighted her talent by debuting her original musical "Velvet over Steel" at ECU that showcases the power of love when fear mongering and extremism run rampant.

The original production, which Glodowski wrote the music and lyrics for, started out as a final project before graduation. She performed it at a workshop in early May 2017 at ECU, however, once attending graduate school at The Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program at New York University, she continued to work on the production and brought it back to ECU's Burnette Studio Theatre in Messick for a staged performance.

"I had spent my senior year in the School of Theatre and Dance at ECU writing this musical and we did a sold-out workshop production in the Studio Theatre at ECU on May 4, 2017," Glodowski said. "I hand selected this cast because they were the perfect actors within our program for the specific parts I was writing."

The play is set in 2017 and follows an ensemble of characters, beginning when Kelly finds a box of things that belonged to her late grandfather, Walter. The contents of the box are from a few years before World War II and during the war. This box begins to paint a picture of her grandfather that she hadn't realized, as the play compares the intense political tension of that time in history to the current political issues in the United States, and how love can drive out hate.

"It has been, and I mean this in a good way, a long experience," senior Donald Sutton, one of the lead actors, said. "We've sort of been able to flesh out things and



Cast members from 'Velvet Over Steel' perform on stage. The musical was written by ECU alumna Lisette Glodowski and debuted during winter break.

figure out what does and doesn't work. To be a part of it beginning to finish has been an incredible experience. Also, to be a part of an original cast recording was great."

This has been a unique experience for Glodowski's family. Her mother, Laurie Glowdowski, stepped in to direct the production, and Glodowski's sisters, Cherise and Jillienne Glodowski, also helped with co-writing the book and assistant directing.

The direction used for the production created a unique atmosphere. It was a staged reading, which means the cast members had their scripts in their hands during the performance.

"We wanted to do something that would

tempt the audience and something that would get as much of the work out as possible," Laurie Glodowski said. "So we decided to do a staged reading. We sort of had a full-fledged performance, which isn't something that you always get to do. To their credit, they are all very well trained at ECU. They could fall into a professional setting so well."

A former mentor of Glodowski and current ECU faculty member in the School of Theatre and Dance, Aimee Radics, has also been a part of this production since the beginning.

"It has been an incredible journey working with Lisette as the music director for 'Velvet Over Steel' since its inception," Radics

said. "Her passion and talent were evident from the very first song she played for me from what eventually became this beautiful show, and it is has been wonderfully fun and exciting to help bring her vision to life with so many extremely talented ECU students."

Radics said she enjoyed performing the role of music director, accompanist and supervisor.

"As music director for a new show, I've enjoyed being part of the team involved in shaping the vocal performances and bringing the music and lyrics of these characters to life," Radics said.

This writer can be contacted at
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STILLIFE

continued from A5

can use it all year. Hixon added wine will be offered up there as well, and that the area will be open during the day, evening and night time hours.

Stilllife employee Megan Moshinski, a senior economics and

business major at ECU, said she is excited for 'Sky' and 'The Loft' to open.

"This is going to be a great addition to Stilllife and downtown Greenville as a whole," Moshinski said. "Millions of dollars were spent last year rebuilding downtown and I'm so glad we got to be a part of it."

Moshinski said the rooftop area will be unlike anything else Greenville

has seen. She added she's looking forward to see what the additions will bring.

"Buildings all around downtown are being turned into stores, restaurants and bars for everyone in Greenville to enjoy; we wanted to stay on top and move with the new and improving downtown scene," Moshinski said. "More hours, more

space and a new scene is what we will be able to offer once we open the doors to the upstairs."

With a total of four different bars, a variety of individuals with different expectations will be able to have a great night out, according to Moshinski.

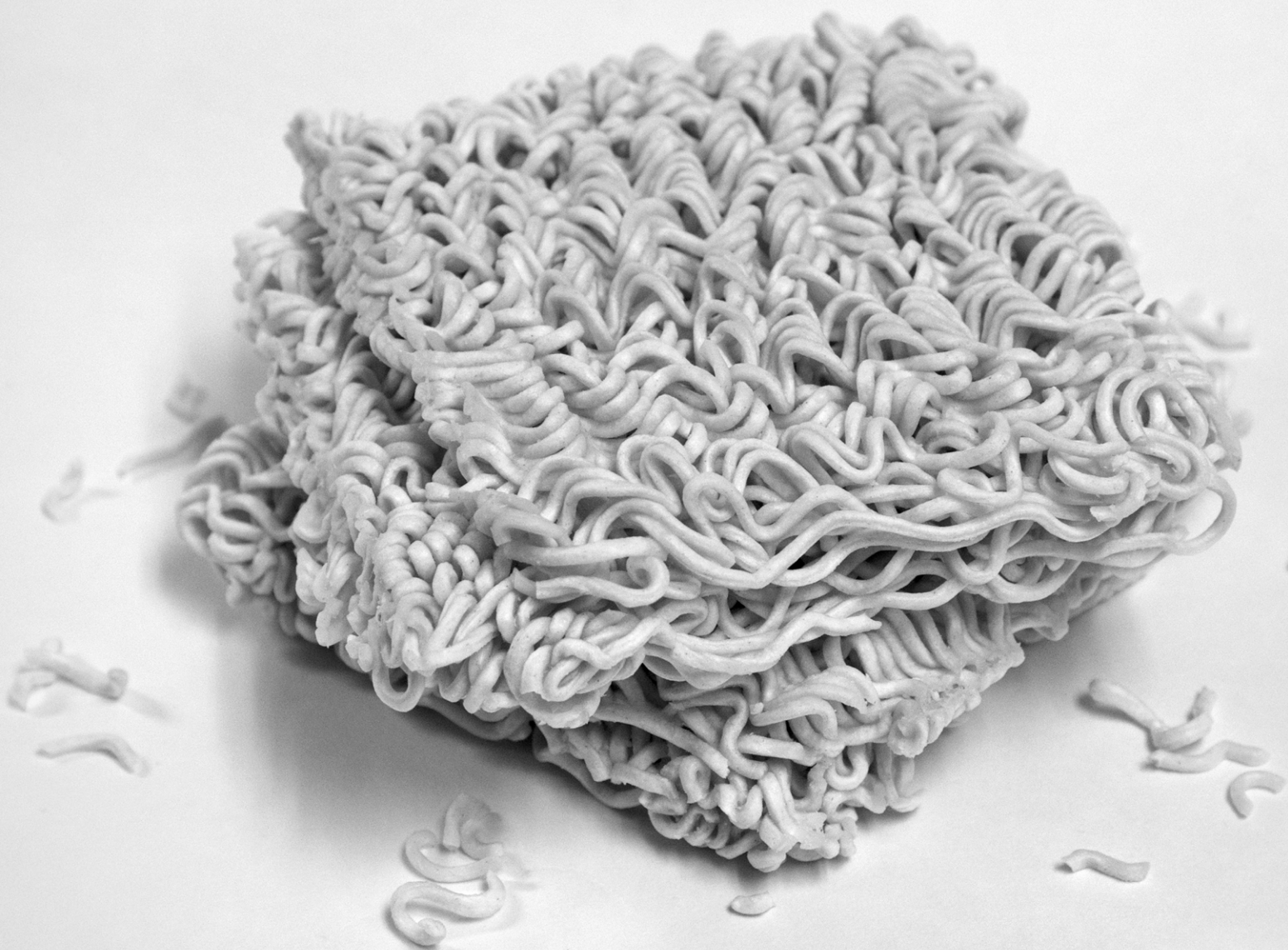
Junior psychology major Shamin Jamadar said she wants to go to Stilllife

once the rooftop section opens.

"Stilllife is loads of fun but often gets super crowded with the amount of younger crowd that also comes in making it hard to grab a drink and maneuver," Jamadar said. "It also will be great to not feel like the older kids with a 21-and-up section."

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Your collaboration is growing more productive, fruitful and profitable. Take action for long-term benefit. Choose what's best for family. Ignore petty irritations. Stay focused.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You're in action. More work feeds profits. Efforts now pay long-term benefits. Still, avoid pushing yourself too hard. Moderate activities to relieve stress. Avoid overindulging.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Focus on what your heart wants. Pursue passion, love and family harmony. A partnership formed now is beneficial. Together, create something beautiful.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Work on your home's exterior. Renovations and repairs could create a mess in the short term for long-term benefit. For fun, call a sibling.

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Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Share your story. Use your persuasive arts to win over a skeptic. Optimism makes a difference. If you know what you're doing, you win.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Hold out for the best deal. You can make an excellent bargain, and actions taken today have long-lasting rewards. Play the ace you've been holding.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Hold yourself to high standards. Stifle rebellious tendencies for now. Talk is cheap; get into action for what you love and win a long-term prize.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Postpone travel, fuss or expense. Rest and take it easy. Meditate on upcoming plans while lounging somewhere peaceful. Envision perfection and chart it.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Your team can advance beyond expectations with coordination and cool heads. Obstacles or provocations could distract. Collaborate and win long-term reward.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- A professional move made now goes farther than imagined. You're gaining respect and status. Keep your cool. Meet deadlines. Smile and wave.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Long-distance travel or study reveals unexpected treasure. Sidestep traffic. Press for an advantage. Don't feel the least bit guilty. Full speed ahead.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Get financial advice from a trusted elder. Resolve a misunderstanding with a partner to get farther. Take time to really listen.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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59					60				61			

ACROSS

- 1 "Star Wars" character
- 5 "The ___ Show"
- 8 Hayworth or Rudner
- 12 "Once ___ a Mattress"
- 13 Slugger's stat
- 14 One of "The Waltons"
- 15 Beatty and Buntline
- 16 Mallon of the LPGA
- 17 "Push It!" group, ___-n-Pepa
- 18 Tabitha's TV grandmother
- 20 Business letter abbr.
- 22 Egg drink
- 23 Estee of cosmetics
- 27 Calendar-watch abbreviation
- 30 "Death Be ___ Proud"
- 32 Country singer Clark
- 33 Caesar's hail
- 34 Sally Field movie, "___ Rae"
- 36 Electric guitar adjunct, for short
- 37 "CHiPs" co-star Oakes
- 39 Brynner of "The King and I"
- 40 "I ___ a Male War Bride"
- 41 John Denver hit, "___ Song"
- 43 "The ___ and the Pendulum"
- 45 Mach+ plane

DOWN

- 1 Comic Johnny
- 2 Peter Fonda film, "___ Season"
- 3 Blair Brown series, "The Days and Nights of Molly ___"
- 4 Williams of "Happy Days"
- 5 1997 Leslie Nielsen film
- 6 "The Simpsons" grandpa
- 7 Bruce of Sherlock Holmes films
- 8 William Shatner's "___ 911"
- 9 Personal retirement \$
- 10 "Shop ___ You Drop"
- 11 Adam or Atom
- 19 Schell and Milsap
- 21 Maines of the Dixie Chicks
- 24 "Win, Lose or ___"
- 25 Columnist Bombeck
- 26 Torn and Taylor
- 27 Geena Davis sitcom
- 28 Tom Skerritt role on "Cheers"
- 29 Teller's partner
- 31 "___ a Little Tenderness"
- 35 Gonzo and Grover
- 38 Mickey Mouse channel
- 42 Ringo of the Beatles
- 44 Woodbridge and Bridges
- 47 Gilpin of "Frasier"
- 48 "___ of the Giants"
- 49 Sonny Shroyer series
- 50 Medicines approval grp.
- 51 "Cannery ___"
- 52 "Mogambo" star Gardner
- 54 Nicolas Cage film, "___ Air"

Solution from Monday

S	W	A	P		M	O	B		K	A	T	T		
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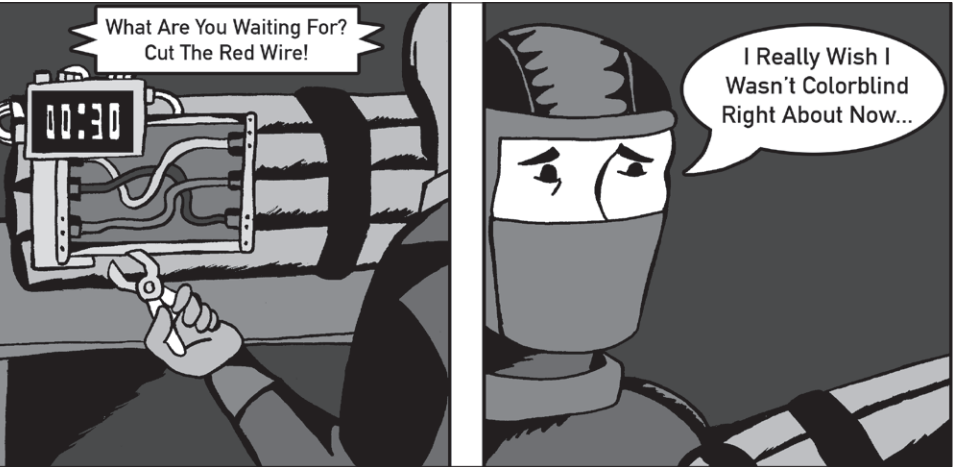
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- 1 2
- 3 4

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

Solution from Monday

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

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>> ANALYSIS

Turnovers undercut men’s hoops



Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University men’s basketball team has started off American Athletic Conference play with a 1-3 record due to turnover problems and shooting inconsistencies, after entering Conference play with a 6-5 overall record.

Looking at the first four conference games, the Pirates had terrible performances against the University of Tulsa Dec. 28 and University of Central Florida Dec. 31. ECU however responded against the University of South Florida Jan. 3 and the University of Connecticut Jan. 6 over the winter break span.

Turnovers in three of the four contests really hurt the chances ECU had of winning against UCF and UConn. In both contests, the Pirates committed 21 turnovers, which in key possessions can, and have proven, to be a difference maker in whether they walk out with a win or a loss. Guard Isaac Fleming had 16

ONLINE | FULL STORY

turnovers over the four-game span, followed by forward Kentrell Barkley with 11.

In its last matchup against UConn Saturday, ECU played good defense throughout forcing the Huskies to shoot 12 percent from the three point line and 41 percent from the field. The Pirates managed to stay in the game after falling behind 16-4 early. The Pirates rallied back and trailed 32-31 at halftime.

Early in the second half, ECU went down by seven due to three key turnovers. The Pirates rallied back in the second half to cut the lead to three with eight seconds left in the game. The Pirates failed to complete the comeback losing 70-65.



Isaac Fleming

The game before UConn, ECU earned its first road win of the season against USF after trailing by double-digits again, but fought back to make it a ball game in the first half. They trailed by six entering halftime, 35-29.

In the second half, ECU played great defense and posted its best shooting half of the season, shooting 52.1 percent from the field and only committed six turnovers in the whole game eventually winning 67-65 on the road.

The next game for the Pirates will be on Thursday, as they welcome No. 9 Wichita State University to Minges Coliseum at 9 p.m. for another AAC battle.

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



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

ECU’s starting guard Alex Frazier attempts shot near basket in the Pirate’s American Athletic Conference loss to the University of Connecticut.

Pirates struggle over break ECU’s women’s team drops four out of six games

Dylan Johnson
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University’s women’s basketball team struggled in its games over the winter break, going 2-4, including 0-3 in its first three American Athletic Conference games.

The Pirates (8-7, 0-3 AAC) experienced many ups and downs in a season already filled with inconsistency, as five of the six games over winter break were decided by 10 points or more. To give perspective, ECU won against Savannah State University on Dec. 20 by 66 and lost to the University of Connecticut on Jan. 3 by 61.

East Carolina closed out the break with a bad 72-36 loss at the University of Memphis on Saturday. It got down early with a 23-9 first quarter and never bounced back from that.

ECU hosted No. 1 UConn on Jan. 3, and lost 96-35 in embarrassing fashion. It marked the second game in a row the Pirates did not have any scorers in double figures, while the Huskies had five. It was a performance ECU and head coach Heather Macy would like to forget.

“It was a really tough game, not a lot of positives to take away. We’ll quickly take a couple

of quick glances at things we can take away and then get prepared to head on the road for Memphis this Saturday,” Macy said in a press release.

The Pirates opened up AAC conference play with a 66-54 loss at home against Cincinnati on Dec. 30. It was the first game this season ECU didn’t have a single player score in double figures in a game where it never had a lead and just couldn’t execute.

“Obviously the effort was incredible, but in the American Conference, it takes way more than effort. It’s going to take recognition,” Macy said. “It’s going to take execution and tonight in those two areas we were not very good. As much as you can prepare them and address it until you do it, you’ve just never done it.”

ECU got a second consecutive win when it defeated the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, 64-54, at home on Dec. 28. The win wrapped up ECU’s non-conference schedule with a record of 8-5. Both teams particularly struggled in the first quarter before the Pirates’ offense bounced back big, something Macy was glad to see happen when it did.

“I think it was a good non-

“ It takes way more than effort. It’s going to take recognition ”

-Heather Macy

conference win to help prepare us,” Macy said. “I’m thankful for this game before conference play with the way we started that first quarter. I think we needed that to knock off the Christmas rust a little bit.”

The win gave Macy her 126th win and a tie for the programs all-time win record.

The Pirates were dominant in a 103-37 win against Savannah State at Minges Coliseum. The win was historic as the 66-point win tied the largest margin of victory in program history. Junior guard Alex Frazier thought it was significant for the team to reach 100 points.

“We’ve only done it once since I’ve been here and that was against Greensboro College,” Frazier said. “And every time we can, it is definitely a team effort because that means that everyone has contributed and everyone has played.”

ECU started off with a tough 93-79 overtime loss against the University of Texas at El Paso in the Philanthropist.com

Carolinas Challenge in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on Dec. 17. The Pirates hung on to force overtime in a game they were down by 12 at half, before collapsing and being outscored 18-4 in the extra period.

“This was a tough game. We played well for basically two quarters and typically when you do that you don’t get an opportunity to play in overtime,” Macy said.

Ariana Williams continued to lead ECU during the break as she leads the team in scoring at 11.1 points per game, including her career high 34 against Savannah State that led her to AAC Freshman of the Week honors.

ECU, hoping the end of the break will also bring the end of its three-game losing streak, will try to bounce back with its first win in conference play when it hosts Tulsa University on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Minges Coliseum.

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

>> TRACK AND FIELD

D’Ante Yarborough set for comeback year

Gabby Cates
TEC STAFF

As the spring semester approaches, senior D’Ante Yarborough for the East Carolina University men’s track and field team prepares for the indoor season with hopes of winning the conference championship in both the 60-meter hurdles and 4x400 meter relay and setting new school records for the Pirates.

“People can expect me to make some noise this upcoming season,” Yarborough said. “I plan on pushing up on some school records and helping to put ECU track on the map.”

Before coming to ECU, Yarborough attended Stone Bridge High School in Ashburn, Virginia. During his senior year, he placed



D’Ante Yarborough

to finish second with a time of 38.6 seconds in the 300-meter hurdles as well. During the 2014 New Balance Indoor Nationals, Yarborough finished third with 7.95 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles.



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Senior hurdeler D’Ante Yarborough, competes in the hurdles event for the Pirates track and field team last season.

Not only did Yarborough run track, he also spent some time playing football where he earned three varsity letters as a wide receiver and also claimed the 2012 First Team All-State wide receiver title.

“I initially ran track just to get faster for football because that was my main sport growing up,” Yarborough said.

Throughout high school track season, Yarborough never really had a solid track coach teach him how to become a better runner for his specific events. During the summer, his high school coach

would train and prepare him for seasons to come, but it was nothing like training at the collegiate level.

“The transition from high school track to college track was huge. I went from coaching myself pretty much to actually having a coach who knew how to train me for my events,” Yarborough said. “My high school summer coach was the closest thing I had to a collegiate coach and collegiate practices.”

In his past years as a Pirate, Yarborough never got the chance to perform to his full potential due to injuries. During training

his freshman year, he broke his toe which left him out the entire season causing him to receive a redshirt, giving him another year of eligibility.

Yarborough has also pulled his hamstring a few times throughout other seasons which made competing to his full potential slightly harder, as he had to focus more attention on his injuries rather than races. Despite the setbacks throughout past seasons, Yarborough is ready to come back with a vengeance. He currently has a fractured back, but that isn’t

stopping him from competing this season.

In order to prepare for his comeback, Yarborough said he has worked long and hard during the offseason to ensure that this upcoming season will be what he’s been waiting for. Teammate Hakeem Horton has worked with Yarborough during his time as a member of the men’s track team and seen his hard work and dedication first-hand during practices.

“D’Ante is hardworking and very competitive, but he really works in silence and doesn’t really try to put himself out as one of the best but I can say that he most definitely can become one,” Horton said.

With the season starting off Jan. 13 at the Dick Taylor Carolina Cup in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Yarborough has prepared long and hard for this moment. If things go as planned, the Pirates will want to keep an eye out for what Yarborough holds in store for the season.



Hakeem Horton

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



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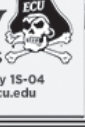
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