



COLUMNS EXPLORE
SELF LOVE, INDIVIDUALITY

Turn to A3

Opinion



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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Greenville locals fill Pitt Street Brewing Company. Pitt Street will host a Cupid's Party tomorrow for Valentine's Day from 7 to 11 p.m.

Uptown to host events

Greenville restaurants to provide Valentine's Day options

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

As Valentine's Day approaches and individuals begin making plans with their significant others, friends or themselves, Crave, Pitt Street Brewing Company and Uptown Brewing Company will all offer a variety of options for customers tomorrow night.



Renae Auer

Crave, located at 409 South Evans St., began taking reservations Friday. The restaurant and bar will serve dinner for two from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Renae Auer, the lead waitress at Crave, said Valentine's Day at the restaurant will be a great experience. The meal is preset and couples will receive a soup and a salad to share, a selection from one of four entrees, accompanied by a bottle of wine, followed by dessert. The four entree options will

>> PLAN TO GO

CRAVE - Dinner for two
6:30-9:30 p.m.

PITT STREET BREWING -
Cupid's Party
7-11 p.m.

UPTOWN BREWING -
Half-priced Wine & Live Music
for Noelle Smith
7-9 p.m.

be cheese ravioli, chicken alfredo, steak pizzaiola and tuscan shrimp and grits, with cheesecake and chocolate covered strawberries for dessert.

Auer said she thinks narrowing down the menu and setting it in advance helps the kitchen. She said in the end

this helps individuals have a quicker dining experience.

"Compared to (other places) if you wanted to sit down on Valentine's Day

> VALENTINE'S page A6

>> SGA ELECTIONS 2018

Presidential candidates to debate

Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Student Government Association will provide students with a presidential debate between the two presidential tickets on Thursday in the Science and Technology Building, room 209 at 6 p.m.

SGA Elections Committee Vice Chair Kaitlyn Pacitto said the debate will last about an hour. Pacitto, a senior hospitality management major, said the candidates will be introduced, then given an opportunity to speak.

"We usually start by letting them use an opening statement to state their platform," Pacitto said.

The debate, which will be moderated by The East Carolinian, is free for all students to attend.

The audience will be able to participate by tweeting their questions to the candidates. Pacitto explained that the elections committee will select which questions are administered during the debate to ensure they are appropriate and helpful in explaining each campaign.

"Students can tweet questions and then the committee will actually pick the appropriate questions to ask for the meeting," Pacitto said. "Things that are constructive that other people will want to hear."

Kaitlyn Paccito

These questions will aid students in attendance to decide which campaign will properly voice the concerns of the student body, according to Pacitto.

Since the questions are not written or rehearsed by the candidates in advance, Pacitto said the candidates will need to be ready to explain each aspect of their campaign.

"The questions we pick help to get to know the candidates. They also put the candidates on their toes to be knowledgeable about their campaign," Pacitto said.

Presidential candidate for Ticket 2, Harper Rhodes, said his main goal for the debate is to show the difference in his campaign compared to Ticket 1.

"We want to differentiate ourselves because the biggest thing is we have plans of action to achieve the goals in our platform," Rhodes said.

Rhodes, a sophomore business management major, said his committee will work to help provide a "better Pirate experience" for all students. This includes exposure to amenities on campus, improving relations between SGA and the student body and increasing mental health awareness on campus.

"We have plans to bring to the table," Rhodes said. "Our entire platform interconnects and weaves together."

Rhodes said it is important there be student attendance at

> SGA page A2

ECU officials urge caution for flu season

Taylor Nishimoto
TEC STAFF

With flu season in full swing, East Carolina University officials are urging students to educate themselves about the proper ways to stay healthy.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has reported 63 flu deaths, as of yesterday. Due to the state of the nation as it relates to the flu, ECU officials and staff members are encouraging students to take the proper precautions to avoid the national epidemic.

ECU Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Phyllis Horns said there are various methods students can use to prevent the flu.

"The number one thing they (students) can do is to get a flu shot," Horns said. "It is not too late, even though it is in February, so anyone who has not had one, that is the first thing they should do."

The Student Health Center is currently offering flu vaccines by appointment, according to Ellen Goldberg, the associate director for clinical operations at ECU.

"It's not 100 percent, but the strains that are circulating right now are genetically similar to what's in



Phyllis Horns

> FLU page A2



Freshman midfielder Megan Pallozi cradles the ball past a George Washington defender in ECU's inaugural game.

ECU falls in first-ever game

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

After the 18-7 loss at home in East Carolina University's first-ever lacrosse game in Johnson Stadium on Saturday, the Pirates have been able to reflect well on their historic game despite the outcome.

Through constant drizzle during most of the game, fans came out to support the players in their inaugural

match. All 584 fans cheered on freshman Casey Sullivan as she made the teams first-ever goal in the opening minutes of the game.

"I thought Casey played great. I thought Casey played with a lot of heart, hustle and determination. I also think she had a good fire," head coach Amanda Barnes said. "She was a good spark and fire continuously for us on our field."

However, before Sullivan scored George Washington's senior midfielder Brooke Sands and senior attackman Camaryn Kerns scored two goals right after the face off. Senior attackman Jocelyn Donohue scored the Colonials third goal of the game, unassisted, after

> LACROSSE page A8

ONLINE

» East Carolina swim and dive
nears season finale

» Former GFR firefighters
detail alleged vendetta

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU CRW to promote healthy relationships with trivia night

East Carolina University's Campus Recreation and Wellness will host a trivia night about healthy relationships today at 5 p.m. in Student Recreation Center, classroom 202. The first 40 students to show up will be able to partake in a trivia contest for a chance to win prizes.

Participants will be divided into teams and the team with the most points will win and receive prizes. Student must bring their 1Card for entry. The event will close at 6 p.m.

East Carolina University history professor to host discussion on Chinese geopolitics

History professor John A. Tucker, director of ECU's Asian Studies Program, will hold a discussion regarding China's growing geopolitical presence in relation to that of the United States today at 6 p.m in the Rivers West Auditorium in the Rivers Building.

The discussion will cover China's increasing military and economic power in Africa and Asia, its activities in the South China Sea and increasing tension with United States. The event will end at 7:45 p.m. and is free for all students to attend.

ECU's FAFSA priority deadline approaches for students

The priority deadline for East Carolina University students to apply for financial aid provided by The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is tomorrow.

The FAFSA must be completed in order to apply for grants, loans and some scholarships. The FAFSA is used to determine students' eligibility for university, state and federal aid programs. By meeting the priority deadline, students can be considered for the most aid.

Students can file their FAFSA for the 2018-19 school year at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

GFR trains for high angle rescues

Julie Estep

TEC STAFF

In order to better prepare itself for rescue operations that could occur on one of Greenville's many construction sites, Greenville Fire/Rescue performed a training exercise Friday morning using a crane.

The Taft-Ward development group, which is building the new student housing project, The Proximity on 10th Street and Charles,



Rebekah Thurston

allowed GFR to conduct the training using its on-site cranes.

Rebekah Thurston, the public information officer for GFR, said, "It's a training to prepare ourselves for any kind of emergency but specifically with a crane."

Three teams of five went up the crane to perform different scenarios that would involve someone working on the crane trapped and needing medical attention, according to Thurston.

Mervin Taylor, a firefighter involved in the first of three drills, said the particular crane Taft-Ward has on site goes up to 160 feet in the air, but they were at 125 feet for the drills.

"This is important because our landscape is changing, we're no longer a small rural community, we're growing," Taylor said. "The city was 56,000 people and that was 15 years ago. Now, we're at 96,000."

Greenville Fire Chief Eric Griffin said although Greenville has always had urban areas, the recent growth in the city has seen



Greenville Fire/Rescue firefighters perform a training exercise at a construction site on 10th Street.

THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

buildings built taller and with different construction materials.

Taylor said GFR has ladders available to use during high angle rescues, but the ladder wouldn't be able to get close enough to the crane.

"We have ladders but understanding that a ladder isn't the end all be all. A ladder is just a tool for a tool box," Taylor said.

According to Taylor, weather is the number one concern for those 125 feet high up on the crane.

"If it's extremely hot or extremely cold, what it feels like here, it's about 20 degrees colder up there," Taylor said.

Griffin expressed his gratitude toward the Taft-Ward development company for allowing GFR to use its equipment to better prepare the community for emergencies.

"When we have the opportunity to do a training such as this, we know that there are going to be other cranes, other high structures in our city that are coming in the future as we continue to grow, especially in the downtown/Uptown area. We want to make sure we're prepared," Griffin said.

Taylor said he and the other firefighters participating in the drills were excited to do this type of extra training that is outside their norm.

"This is an environment our folks have never operated before, so again, we are very fortunate to have a training evolution versus having a live rescue tomorrow and not ever seeing it before," Taylor said.

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

Sorority to host empowerment week

Trish Willis

TEC STAFF

With its goals of empowerment and inclusion in mind, the Lambda Mu chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated will host its annual 'Finer Womanhood Week' on East Carolina University's campus this week.

The program will feature six different events all centered around the chapter's goal of reaching out to students on campus, according to the sorority's Chapter President M'kyla Walker.

"'Finer Womanhood Week' is a chance for Lambda Mu to reach out to males and females and inform them about our organization and our involvement in the community," Walker, a senior psychology major, said. "We also inform others on events our society may question such as sexual health programs."

'Finer Womanhood Week' is a tradition that has been present on ECU's campus since the chapter was chartered in 1983. The program is recognized on any week of February through March, according to Amber Sturdivant, a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated.



Amber Sturdivant

Sturdivant said a unique aspect of 'Finer Womanhood Week' is that every chapter across the nation hosts its own week to promote the organization's ideals.

"These programs are meant to better the campus and community, that's why our programs include sexual health, black history jeopardy, etc," Sturdivant, a junior political science and ethnic studies double major, said. "I would definitely encourage students to come out because there is sure to be



Members of the Lambda Mu chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority sit on the steps of ECU's Joyner Library.

CONTRIBUTED BY M'KYLA WALKER

at least one program that will peak their interest."

Sturdivant said she went to almost every program during 'Finer Womanhood Week' before she joined Zeta Phi Beta.

The programs include: 'Praise and Pearlz' Sunday service at noon on Feb. 18, 'Girlfriendz: Meet the Zetas' on Feb. 19, 'Love the Skin You're In: Natural Skincare' on Feb. 20, 'What the Textbooks Don't Tell You: Jeopardy' on Feb. 21, 'Pillow Talk: Sexual Health with the Stigmas' on Feb. 22, and 'Girl Meets World: Professional Development with Alpha Kappa Psi' on Feb. 23.

While many think the programs are specifically for women, Walker said everyone is welcome to attend.

"'Finer Womanhood Week' is for everyone — faculty, males, females and any race or ethnicity. We try to make our programs diverse enough for all members of ECU," Walker said. "We teach things that can uplift you as a person, inform you

on issues we may face as students and the impact that Zetas make in the community."

Mia Graves, a member of Zeta Phi Beta, said her favorite event is 'Girl Meets World' because it prepares students for the corporate world.

"This program is designed to teach people how to dress business casual/professional, how to create a resume and other things that are essential to obtaining their desired job in the future," Graves, a junior political science major, said.

Graves also said she loves how 'Girl Meets World' collaborates with Alpha Kappa Psi, a business fraternity on campus, because "it's empowering to see two organizations, especially Greek ones, come together to achieve a common goal."

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

FLU continued from A1

the vaccine," Goldberg said. "We are seeing patients that, even if they do get the flu and have had the flu shot, their course of illness is much less severe than someone who hasn't had it."

Horns said besides the flu shot, students and staff should wash their hands regularly, particularly before eating, to help stop the spread of the virus.

The dining halls also have a system in

which healthy students are able to pick up food for a student with the flu and bring it back for them, so the individual does not have to go to the dining hall, according to Goldberg. However, she said the best thing the school can do right now is promote awareness and educate students, when it comes to prevention and how to deal with the flu properly.

Rakym Winstead, a sophomore construction major, said he got the flu about two weeks ago. After dealing with his symptoms for two days, he decided to go to

the SHC for treatment.

Although Winstead felt he was treated quickly and effectively, he said he didn't feel prepared before going in.

"As far as like education on it, before I got there, I really didn't know too much about what to do and stuff," Winstead said in a phone interview. "So I feel like they could do better on that part, but as far as like, once I got down there with the appointment and everything, it got better."

Although the flu is a serious illness, the university does not count it as a university excused absence, according to the ECU website.

"Communication with their (the students') professors is important," Goldberg said. "We do recommend that students that have flu symptoms avoid contact with

other people to help avoid spreading it, but we understand that students have a lot of pressure to attend classes. So, the best thing to do is to communicate with professors."

Horns said because this year's flu season has been much worse than previous years, with many serious cases and several deaths, students should take the flu seriously.

"Even though most of our students are young, energetic and think that these kinds of things might not happen to them, it does happen to them," Horns said. "We've seen many situations where young people, healthy people, have succumb to the flu this year. So taking it seriously is part of the message we want to convey to students."

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

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SGA continued from A1

the debate, especially for newer students.

"We want to make sure freshman and transfer students are involved because that starts them off early and maintains involvement," Rhodes said.

Lillie Rhodes, the vice presidential candidate of Ticket 1, said there was not a high participation rate at last year's debate but the live tweeting helped students engage away from the event.

"They're definitely important to go to,"

Lillie, a junior majoring in political science and minoring in communication, said. "I worked on the campaign last year and no one went to the presidential debate."

Since there is no telling what questions will be asked and answers given, Lilliebelieves this is an important event for students to attend on campus.

"We didn't have high participation, but it's important because it's such a candid event," Lillie said.

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

OUR VIEW

Sup Dog’s story sets precedence for students, alum

Construction of the second rooftop bar in Uptown Greenville began on Feb. 4 at Sup Dogs, which Greenville locals can expect to see at the corner of E 5th Street and Reade Street come early summer.

Prior to the decision to expand the Sup Dogs in Greenville, owner Bret Oliverio said he contemplated adding a third location near NC State or the UNC Wilmington, but ultimately decided to reinvest in Greenville, since it is where the first Sup Dogs was built.

Not only will this addition to Sup Dogs bring more business to Uptown Greenville, it is also proof that one person can invest in the future of a city if they have the desire. Greenville officials continuously say they want the city to grow and have said this starts with people staying in Greenville and giving back to the town.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, think Oliverio’s decision to give back to this local spot in Greenville is a step in the right direction for the city and echoes exactly what the city has been asking of its younger generation.

Following the passing of Derek Oliverio, the original Sup Dogs founder and East Carolina University graduate, Oliverio took over the business for his younger brother and has continued to help the restaurant grow even more since then.

While Oliverio did not graduate from ECU, he gave back to a city that gave something to his brother, and he carried on his legacy. This is also something that is important for other students to remember. Whether you decide to stay in the town you graduate from or you decide to move away, don’t forget your roots and the places that made you who you are. Giving back is the best way to do that.

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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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Discover self love in solitude



Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

Valentine’s Day is tomorrow and whether you’re scrambling eggs for your lover, scrambling for a last-minute date, or like me, just plain scrambling, you should not place your future romantic happiness on one day.

My personal finance professor told everyone in our class that he is getting his wife the same valentine’s gift that he has gotten her every year— nothing. Stunned and awed, the class listened to him defend his claim. He said if his relationship crumbles, because she didn’t feel loved on one particular day, then she wasn’t loved at all. This struck me as somewhat of a revelation. I see that love is not about gifts, but rather about being cared for in a special way. However, what I could not understand is this special way of being loved.

It’s been roughly two years since I ended a relationship with someone who I still believe to be the most special person I’ve ever been involved with. At the time I took her love for granted. Words couldn’t describe the pain and regret I felt after

losing her, but it wasn’t until she moved on and I was nothing but a melancholy shell of agony that I knew what it meant to love someone. This feeling of losing meant I had someone who was not meant to be lost.

After struggling to pick up the pieces, I’ve gone out and tried to meet somebody, I’ve tried messaging through social media and even my friends have set me up. Truthfully, it’s all been bad. It was unfathomable that I had once been cared for by the most special person on the planet and was now hopelessly lost in a sea of torrential loneliness. What could be the problem?

I decided to take an elective sociology course about courtship and marriage, where I’m currently learning about different types of relationships. We talk about everything from traditional marriages to asexual relationships, and in each discussion I apply myself to the situation. What about a partner makes me feel safe, strong and, most importantly, loved? But it all came back to that broken feeling of not being able to be loved.

I’d very much like to say there was a significant turning point, a moment in space and time when the stars were aligned

and I figured it all out. But it was a much more phenomenal epiphany that came to me when I was alone. I can love myself.

Disregarding anything sexual, nothing was keeping me from doing things I enjoy such as going to the movies, the gym or someplace new and exquisite to eat. Being in a relationship didn’t make me start writing, singing or anything else I love to do, so I will not allow being single to perpetuate a mindset of incompleteness. I can enjoy myself and feel loved because my happiness is a choice.

Now all of this may seem like I’m just rejecting date culture before I get rejected, but I don’t feel that way at all. I still talk and build relationships with people, but truly I’m providing for myself all the things I need. As for the extra something special for Valentine’s Day, I may take myself to some very nice restaurant and enjoy dinner while fantasizing about writing a novel called “Table For One,” but the best part about a relationship with myself is that I’ll never be late again.

Austin Kinlaw is a junior majoring in communication and is a TEC staff member. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Valentine’s Day should meet personal needs



Glenesha Berryman
GUEST COLUMNIST

Valentine’s Day. One of the most dreaded holidays of the year. For 364 days, we go on in our respective singleness, situationships and bonafide relationships without much fanfare. But once Feb. 14 rolls around, we’re faced with gigantic bears, heart-shaped chocolates, ostentatious displays of affection and the overwhelming need to critically analyze the state of our love lives. And what’s supposed to be a holiday for celebrating love quickly turns into a pity party.

But Valentine’s Day doesn’t (and shouldn’t) have to be bad. The key to having a successful Valentine’s Day is making the holiday work for you.

Growing up, my parents never made a big deal about their relationship for Valentine’s Day. Instead, they made me and my siblings’ baskets filled with our favorite candy and iTunes gift cards. In my family, Valentine’s Day was about celebrating each other.

As I got older and began to embrace my perpetual singleness and valentine-lessness, Valentine’s Day became a time to celebrate myself and the people I love. It also became a time to serve others. In high school, I organized a candy gram sale to help raise money for prom. In college, I’ve written valentine cards for senior citizens.

These days, my favorite tradition on this holiday is the annual valentines dinner I have with my roommate. Every year, we take advantage of Papa John’s Valentine’s Day special and order its heart-shaped pizza and dessert. Then, we spend the night eating pizza, gossiping, reminiscing and laughing until our stomachs hurt.

Instead of stressing over whether or not we have valentines, we look forward to continuing our yearly tradition. And what could be a depressing day for both of us becomes one of our favorite days of the year. I mean who doesn’t love a good excuse for friends and heart-shaped pizza?

Don’t get me wrong. Valentine’s Day can be problematic. It perpetuates heteronormativity. It forces us to identify ourselves in a romantic

context. It’s one of the many ways capitalism artificially produces desire.

But the beauty of the holiday is that you can spend it however you want it.

If you have a significant other, celebrate. If you don’t, still celebrate. There’s plenty of ways to make Valentine’s Day your own. Have a Galentine’s Day brunch. Check out the LGBT Resource Office’s ‘Love is Love’ table in Mendenhall Student Center. Walk through the mall and take advantage of the student organizations passing out free candy and flowers. Dedicate the day to practicing radical self love. In other words, “treat yo self.”

And don’t forget that heart-shaped pizza is a great way to cap off the day.

Regardless of your situation on Feb. 14, choose to celebrate life and the people you love. Above all else, to paraphrase the words of the soul-stirring Jamila Woods, wake up on Valentine’s Day with your mind set on loving you.

Glenesha Berryman is a junior majoring in English education and a guest columnist. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

The ECU Student Media Board welcomes membership applications

Day Student Representative

The board is seeking a full-time student interested in serving as the day student representative on the Student Media Board, the 13-person board that governs Student Media (WZMB, Rebel, The East Carolinian, Expressions, Buccaneer, Hook, and The Agency.)

For applications, Contact:

Cherie Speller,
Board Secretary
252.328.9238
spellerch16@ecu.edu

To qualify, you must be a student living off campus who is not a member of a sorority or fraternity. You will be expected to attend a late afternoon meeting monthly.

Jacquees, Friends to perform

R&B singer to headline Valentine's Day concert at convention center

Danielle Schmid
TEC STAFF

Popular R&B singer, Jacquees, will return to Greenville for "A Valentine's Night of Love-With Jacquees and Friends."

The concert will take place at the Greenville Convention Center tomorrow night. Doors open at 5 p.m. and Jacquees will hit the stage at 8 p.m.

Last time the "At the Club" and "B.E.D" singer performed in Greenville, it was at the 2016 East Carolina Homecoming concert which was headlined by "Swang" and "Black Beatles" singers, Rae Sremmurd.

The Valentine's Day event, hosted by NU Planet Entertainment out of Roanoke Rapids, will include a pre-show party from 6 to 8 p.m. The pre-show party lineup will include host Big Mike Saunders and supporting acts such as Lloyd, Tigo B, DJ Cleve, The Kiss 102 Crew, Power 95.5's DTrain and more.

Saunders, the official DJ of the Marine Corp, said he has worked with Lloyd, the "Get It Shawty" singer and pre-show party performer, in past years. He's also worked with world famous artists

such as Cardi B, Braxton and B.o.B.

"We got Lloyd coming which is cool because you're mixing in the old with the new," Saunders said. "We got a good mix of R&B and hip hop too which makes the show appealing to all ages."

Saunders, who also DJs for Fresh 97.9 in Greenville and Coast 97.3 in Wilmington, believes the show tomorrow night will be very successful, and added, "the ladies love Jacquees."

Tickets are still available at Precise Barber Shop, located on South Memorial Drive and online at eventbright.com when searching "A Valentine's Night of Love - With Jacquees and Friends." Ticket prices range from \$60 for general admission to \$125 for VIP seating and a meet and greet with Jacquees.

The owner's right-hand man at NU Planet entertainment, Dot Jones, said, "I don't know if the event will sell out completely but there will be a large crowd."

Ray Ramsey, owner and creator

of NU Planet Entertainment, has brought artists to North Carolina for years now Jones said. He's brought artists such as Floyd Mayweather and Doug E. Fresh to the Greenville area and has also brought Trey Songz and Jagged Edge to Raleigh.

"A lot of people are just having normal parties, but we try to give the people something special," Jones said.

NU Planet has been a growing company for about 20 years now, according to Jones. The company is known for throwing some of the biggest hip-hop parties in North Carolina.

"He [Ramsey] does a lot of shows from Greenville to Fayetteville to Kingston. We have a great working relationship," Saunders, a face familiar to NU Planet Entertainment, said.

The convention center will have security at the Valentine's Day event for the spectators safety and to barricade the stage, according to Greenville Convention Center's Operations and Event Manager Josh Hanes.

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



Popular R&B singer Jacquees performs in Atlanta, Georgia in front of thousands of fans. The artist will headline tomorrow night as part of "A Valentine's Night of Love-With Jacquees and Friends."

EVENTS

TODAY

Fat Tuesday
Christy's Europub
5 p.m.

Team Trivia
Fire American
Tavern
8 p.m.

TOMORROW

Dinner for Two
Crave
6:30 p.m.

Have-Priced Wine
Wednesday
Uptown Brewing
Company
7 p.m.

Valentine's Movie
Night
Trollingwood
Taproom & Brewery
7 p.m.

Cupid's Party
Pitt Street Brewing
Company
7 p.m.

Trivia Night
Crossbones Tavern
8 p.m.

Karaoke
Fire American
Tavern
9:30 p.m.



Greenville locals fill the auditorium at the Drew Steele Center for last year's Valentine's Day dance. The center will host a dance again this year for everyone.

Steele center to host dance

'Special population' to gather for Valentine's Day

Angel De Jesus
TEC STAFF

Trajan Warren
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Love is in the air as women and men across Greenville are preparing for their Valentine's Day dinners and date nights.

While some are going out with love interests and friends, others such as Pirates for Down Syndrome Awareness President, Allison LoBue, are volunteering at the Drew Steele Center for its annual Valentine's Day dance.

Greenville Parks and Recreation will host the dance tomorrow at the center from 6 to 8 p.m and guests who plan on attending will pay a small fee of \$3 to enjoy the ambiance, treats and activities provided.

"I think it's so important that these events happen for the special population because not only does it bring awareness about special needs, but it gives the participants a night to dress up, get their hair done and dance the night away," LoBue said.

Located at 1058 South Elm St., the Drew Steele Center acts as Greenville's headquarters for those with special needs. PDSA Executive member Danielle Gibbs said while Greenville can improve on its activities and inclusivity, this dance is always a hit with the special needs



Allison LoBue

“ ... it gives the participants a night to dress up, get their hair done and dance the night away. ”

-Allison LoBue

population and their families.

"It's especially important for eastern North Carolina because there are not many resources in our community (for special needs)," Gibbs said. "So having these opportunities is a step towards normalcy and feeling included."

According to Drew Steele Center's Specialized Recreation Assistant, Brent Harpe, the organizer for the event, the dance will start off with dinner, then transition into a night filled with delicious snacks and dancing. The center will also have a DJ mixing tunes all evening, getting the crowd into a lively spirit.

Harpe said he believes an all-inclusive environment is necessary for the community, and sends an important message to other leaders looking to start events. He also said the center loves receiving help from ECU recreational therapy students and PDSA students who volunteer their Valentine's Day and said the



Brent Harpe

center couldn't do it without them.

"Many of (the attendees) have so much fun at these events and always look forward to the next one," LoBue said. "Also the volunteers love to be able to help out and see how happy all of them are to participate. PDSA will have about 15 volunteers at the dance this year."

The Drew Steele Center has held other similar events in the past, such as holiday parties and even Special Olympic events. People of all ages are welcome to come celebrate Valentine's Day in the center while also giving back and making someone's night.

Although this is an annual event, it holds a special place in Harpe's heart every year since he has a close family member with a disability and personally understands the struggle for the disabled to feel included and active outside of the home.

"My aunt who has a disability is a big reason why I'm a recreational therapist and involved (outside of my job)," Harpe said. "It's important



From left: Jessica Rogers, Drew Wells, Austin Mejia, Matt Donahue, Megan Piggott and Micah Simmons rehearse their scenes for the musical "Hands on a Hardbody" which will debut Thursday at 8 p.m.

'Hands on a Hardbody' set to debut

Jenna Price
TEC STAFF

Madison Lawson
TEC STAFF

Driving into Wright Auditorium in a fire-engine red pick up truck, upcoming musical “Hands on a Hardbody” is set to take the stage, mesmerizing the audience with its catchy country-rock songs and intriguing character backstories.

East Carolina University’s School of Theater and Dance cast and crew will bring the 1997 documentary to life starting Thursday evening at 8 and will continue through Sunday. Tickets for ECU students and youth are set at \$10 and \$17.50 for the public. The show begins at 8 every night, except for Sunday which will offer a matinee at 2 p.m in addition to the evening performance.

Set at a Nissan Dealership in Longview, Texas, in the midst of the hot summer sun, “Hands on a Hardbody” follows an annual competition, where a group of contestants keep their hands on a truck for as long as possible and whoever can do so wins it. Throughout the musical, the lives of not only the contestants, but also the news crew covering the event and the car dealer are all explored, leaving the

audience with a range of emotions.

Michael Tahaney, director of the musical, said he is making his directing debut for the mainstage at ECU with this production. He said he found this play a few years ago by accident and enjoyed the authenticity of the story and its characters. The audience will get to see the characters and the real reasons why they want to win the truck.

“There’s no real plot, so what becomes interesting is you get to see inside of these characters heads,” Tahaney said. “You know it’s almost as if you’re almost a fly on the wall. It kind of takes you inside this kind of personal circle of characters that don’t really know each other at all and it lets you follow the relationships and adversarial relationships that develop through the story.”

“Hands on a Hardbody” is special for many reasons, but one of the most unique features of the play is the entire story takes place in one setting. This provides a unique experience for both the audience and the actors. This production presents

many challenges, but one of the biggest is the presence of a truck on the stage. It sets up a distinct dynamic, and the truck itself becomes a character in the show.

The show’s lighting designer, Dusty Rumans, spends a great deal of time researching what sort of mood and environment is appropriate for each scene to help the audience feel more connected to the characters’ situation. He also works closely with the set designers, costume designers and the production team to determine the best lighting setup to create a believable story and scenario set in the late 90s.

“The thing about this show is we wanted moments to feel very rooted in reality. We really wanted it to feel like it’s hot and they’re standing on this truck in Texas for days on end,” Rumans said. “We have this really sort of realistic lighting happening, and then we get into these more internal



Dusty Rumans

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Richard Williams speaks to customers at Luna Pizza. The pizzeria opened Jan. 2 in Uptown Greenville.

From teaching at ECU to tossing pizza at Luna

From handing back graded assignments to hand-tossing gooey cheese pizzas, Richard Williams, a retired East Carolina University professor traded in his comfortable, established life for something more exciting—the creation of Dickinson Avenue’s newest business, Luna Pizza.

In taking a risk in starting his own business, Williams landed himself a feature in Forbes Magazine, a media outlet known for its leading business news and reliable financial information, according to Forbes’ website. The article, which was in the works for months, was finally published on Feb. 2, leaving Williams and his supportive restaurant staff ecstatic.

“We are honored to have his skillset in district, this city and—as an added bonus—recognized by a global media company,” Bianca Shoneman, director of Uptown Greenville said. “We’d love to see more people take the leap and invest in this city.”

Chris Farrell, a freelance writer for Forbes, specializes in writing about those who make dramatic career changes, according to Williams. With Williams’ undeniable passion for cooking and desire to change his career path at 50, he made for

the perfect candidate.

“It definitely was a risk, I was so nervous about quitting this bulletproof profession to start up a restaurant,” Williams said. “It sounds crazy, but I had a lot of things lined up, it all made sense.”

Before starting his own business, Williams spent the past 17 years at ECU teaching classes related to recreational therapy. It wasn’t until a trip to Florence, Italy in the summer of 2016 where the aspiring entrepreneur realized it was time to make a change.

As he climbed the stairs to the top of the Duomo, the famous Italian cathedral, Williams said he saw a work of art, graffiti, inscribed on the wall.

“It said, ‘give more than you get and be blessed,’” Williams said. “I had an awakening that day in Florence. I have the saying tattooed on my forearm and it’s the slogan for the restaurant. Something happens when you hit 50, more and more of my energy went into cooking and I knew it was the right time.”

Learning his dough making skills from Pizzeria Zero Zero, a fine dining restaurant in Italy, Williams said he brought everything back to Greenville, and a little more than a year later, opened Luna Pizza.

> LUNA page A6

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VALENTINE'S

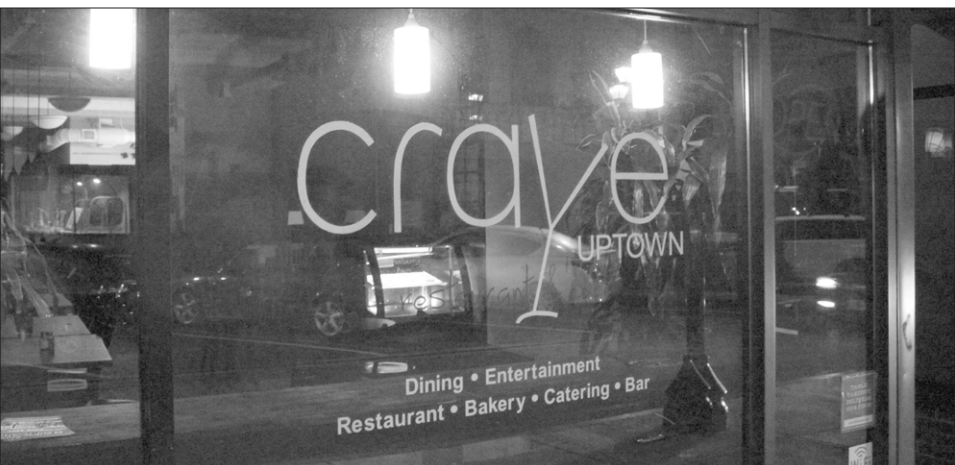
continued from A1

and it might take you two hours,” Auer said. “Whereas here, because of the set menu, it might only take you 45 minutes to finish your meal and everything and then you can go out, if they wanted to go see a movie or whatever they wanted to do.”



Nick Harmer

Pitt Street Brewing Company, located at 630 South Pitt St., planned its Cupid’s Party for both singles and couples. From 7 to 11 p.m., customers can enjoy live music from DJ Eddy, as well as a giant game of Twister and a special beer release. The taproom manager at Pitt Street Brewing Company, Rachel Thompson, said the Valentine’s Day beer will be a Blonde Ale with cocoa nibs and rose hips. Thompson said there won’t be any food trucks, but customers can bring in any food they want. “We wanted to have an event, a Valentine’s



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The front of Crave Uptown Restaurant and Bar. Crave will host a dinner for two this Valentine's Day.

Day party that wasn’t just geared around couples,” Thompson said. Another local business, Uptown Brewing Company, located at 418 Evans St., has half-priced wine Wednesday every week, and it just so happens Valentine’s Day falls on a Wednesday. Nick Harmer, the bartender manager at Uptown Brewing Company, said this is the second Valentine’s Day the brewery has been open, and the first Valentine’s Day it will offer

live music, as well as fall on a half-priced wine Wednesday. Musician Noelle Smith is set to perform live from 7 to 9 p.m with no cover charge. “Personally I’m looking forward to it this year because people actually know about Uptown now so they know it’s a great place to come relax and hang on the couch and have glass of wine or play some board games and relax,” Harmer said. Donald Dunn, Uptown Brewing’s general

manager said, “You know, you can be romantic for cheap, what’s more romantic than free music and wine?” Even with all of the venue’s planned events, some people are spending the holiday more casually, such as going to watch a movie. ECU sophomore Keelie Bass, said she plans to spend the holiday with her friends. “I’m going to the movies with my girls to see ‘Fifty Shade Freed,’” Bass said. “I can’t think of anything better to do on Valentine’s Day with your girlfriends. Especially if you’re single, it’s just kind of a day to hangout and be with your friends who care about you.” Whether students are dressing to the nines in heels and ties or keeping it casual with sweatpants and fuzzy socks, Valentine’s Day is sure to be a “great night,” according to Harmer. “Obviously Valentine’s night is a great night that people love to crack open a bottle of wine and celebrate a romantic evening, and of course there’s no better place to do that than here at Uptown because all of our bottles are half off and we are completely stocked on our wine,” Harmer said. This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

DREW STEELE

continued from A4

for us to have programs for everyone.” PDSA will next host its second annual fashion show this March on World Down Syndrome Day to spread awareness, promote confidence and offer a platform for these particular students and adults to shine. Other organizations such as the ECU Ambassadors have used the Steele Center for similar events such as the Special Populations



Tristan Hunter

Prom, which is another event that serves as a welcoming place for disabled individuals yearning for a fun night out. Organizer for the Special Populations Prom, Tristan Hunter, an ECU Ambassador, said he believes all events are important because special populations often get ignored and pushed to the side. The event helps encourage self-love and gives those particular individuals the respect they deserve. “The beauty of these events is that it shows people with special needs that we do care about them and that they deserve to have the same experiences as everyone else,” Hunter said. This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

HANDS

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moments. The world starts to shift and we’re pulled into that character’s psyche and the lighting will shift to represent that.” When Tahaney was casting for the musical he said he really looked for actors that “captured the essence” of the characters in the musical, giving them a leg up when it came to learning and rehearsing lines. Jane Kiley Simmons, an acting major at ECU, is playing the part of Heather Stovall, a flirtatious southern blonde who is kind of a troublemaker. The musical has been a learning curve

for Simmons, but she said the director, choreographer and cast have helped her accomodate to the challenging role. “It’s difficult because you don’t get to go off stage at all,” Simmons said. “So during most musicals, you’d be able to run off stage and get some water or fix your makeup, but with remaining on stage the whole time it requires leaning on your other cast members a lot. The truck itself is a whole other challenge. Our director and choreographer have been incredible helping us block and figure out our movement on stage.” This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

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LUNA

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The shop, which is known for its fine dining experience and upscale atmosphere brings something different to Greenville’s ‘on-the-go’ college scene. Williams said the goal of Luna Pizza is to provide guests with an experience they can’t get anywhere else. “We’re really selling the experience more than we’re selling pizza sometimes,” Williams said. “It’s a sophisticated environment, nice upbeat music, a really cool look to it, an amazing staff; we really try to provide a six star experience to everyone that walks in. The goal is to walk in and not believe you’re in Greenville and I hear that from people all the time.” Customers craving a slice of the unique neapolitan style pizza have a variety of options to choose from, including shitake mushroom and sausage for \$15, margarita for \$12 and a build your own option starting with tomatoes and mozzarella for \$10, according to Williams. The oven, which the owner and his staff call “Bruno,” is what the restaurant thrives on, as it pumps out hundreds of pizzas weekly. “Bruno” heats up to about 1,100 degrees, simmering the cheese and smoking the fresh prosciutto on top to a perfect temperature in just two minutes. Guests that fill the industrial seating space can smell the pizza from the kitchen, chatting calmly as they listen to

Richard Williams

The instrumental music playing in the background. The restaurant is open seven days a week from 5 to 10 p.m., and according to Williams makes for the perfect date spot for young couples. Before the pizzeria starts getting busy for dinner rush, servers, food preps and cooks all gather for a group meeting to chat about the night, discuss goals and of course, eat. Bartender Stephanie Fagan and prep cook Victoria Blaylock gather at a table after the meeting and enjoy a bowl of fresh matzo ball soup. “It’s just so easy, everyone gets along here,” Fagan said. “They make sure we’re fed before our shifts and they give us a chance to know what’s going on in the restaurant, what to prepare for and what our goals are. It’s like a Luna family.” Employees are hired based on their personalities rather than their restaurant experience, according to Williams and his staff. Fagan and Blaylock said it’s helped the atmosphere tremendously since everyone gets along. Williams, proud of his staff, said he wants customers to feel the genuine happiness generating from the employees. Having staff dinners and briefs before opening helps keep a pleasant environment, he said. As 5 p.m. approaches employees begin preparing tabletops, while general manager John Jefferson talks to a customer on the phone about making reservations for Valentine’s Day. Williams, amongst his employees, looks around the restaurant almost in a humble way and said, “I had a lot of angels on my side.” This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

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ECU’s Macy deserves recognition



Robert Romero
TEC STAFF

When thinking about women’s basketball in the American Athletic Conference, head coach Geno Auriemma and his undefeated, 11-time NCAA championship team at the University of Connecticut always comes to mind, but Auriemma is not the only exceptional head coach in the AAC.

It’s time to recognize Heather Macy, head coach at East Carolina University, as one of the elite coaches in the AAC.

Unfortunately, there is no actual Coach-of-the-Year award in AAC basketball. Whether there should be or not is a debate for another time but since there isn’t, it’s important to recognize how phenomenal Macy has been this year with the Pirates.

ECU now has a record of 13-11, 5-6 AAC, and are in sixth place in the conference with the help of a three straight AAC victories for the first time since the 2014-15 season. It could be argued that she is the sole reason for the Pirates success this season, but she will never take any of the credit. Macy will always give thanks and praise to players that she says she’s had the privilege of coaching, just like she did when she became the all-time wins leader in program history.

This is one of the many qualities that makes Macy an exceptional head coach. It’s also worth considering the adjustment period she went through between last year and this year. Last season was the worst year of Macy’s ECU tenure according to record books as the team finished with a 11-19, (2-14 AAC) record, and on top of that, the Pirates graduated six upperclassman who happened to be the top six scorers on the team.

As a result, the Pirates were left with just five returning players and nine newcomers, which included four freshmen. It was up to Macy to figure how they would mesh together. It was a struggle early in the season when ECU started 1-4 and looked as if the team would take a lot of time for the young players to develop together.

But Macy, being the wizard she is, cast her wand and brought this team together while also getting the best out of her players. An example is freshman guard Ariyana Williams, who was inserted into the starting lineup after the Pirates’ poor start and is now leading the team in scoring with 9.7 points-per-game. She had a stretch earlier this season where she scored in double figures in 10 straight games while averaging 15.3 points-per-game. Her most notable game included a 34 point explosion against Savannah State University which earned her AAC Freshman-of-the-Week honors.

Meanwhile, freshman guard Lashonda Monk recently had the best two games of her young career. In games against Wichita State and Southern Methodist University last week, she averaged 19.5 points, 7.0 steals and 6.5 assists on 55 percent shooting from the field (15-for-27) in ECU’s two victories, helping her also receive an AAC Freshman-of-the-Week honors.

Although these two freshmen have arguably been the standout players of the season, many other players have shined for coach Macy despite challenging factors they’ve had to overcome. Take for example senior center Thais Oliveira, who entered the season after a year off due to a foot injury, or junior point guard Alex Frazier, who entered the year as the longest tenured Pirate on the roster and asserted herself as the team captain and leader.

But it seems because of her coaching abilities, Macy has made the freshmen look like experienced veterans and put the pieces together to make the process she’s talked about all season work like a well-oiled machine.

No matter what the score is, whether ECU is down 30 in the fourth quarter or up by 50 at the end of the game, Macy is still coaching her butt off, calling out plays and getting on players for not being in the right spots on the court. She showcases her intensity and winning attitude on the sideline every minute during the game, and the best part is that it rubs off on her players.

ECU is still an underdeveloped team as it struggles on the offensive end of the court in terms of shooting percentage. The Pirates are 10th in the AAC in field goal percentage at 37.9 percent and are dead last in three point percentage (25 percent) and free throw percentage (59.2 percent). But on the defensive end, they are third in the AAC in blocked shots with 4.3 and second in steals with 11.3, which is telling of the effort the Pirates’ play with every night.

However, what’s probably the best quality of Macy is how well she connects with her players on a personal level. According to senior forward Mickayla Sanders, Macy helped her get through a difficult time in her life, and expressed how much it meant to her with how understanding Macy was to her situation.

“Coach Macy really cares about us as people and

> MACY page A8



Senior guard B.J. Tyson drives past half court down the sideline in an American Athletic Conference game against UCF on Dec. 31.

COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Tyson nears accolade
Senior guard approaches all-time scoring list

Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

With only six games remaining in his senior season, the time for reflection is upon senior guard B.J. Tyson, someone who most people around the program consider to be one of East Carolina University’s greatest basketball players.

Four years ago, Tyson joined ECU’s men’s basketball team and immediately started contributing. Now he’s wrapping up his career and admits he has started reminiscing already.

“I’ve been reflecting for a minute but it’s starting to hit me a lot more now,” Tyson said. “I just take every day as my last. I try and bring what I didn’t have in and leave behind being that leader and that big brother, especially to those younger guys, so that I can leave some sort of legacy behind.”

Tyson started building that legacy in his very first collegiate game, back on Nov. 14, 2014, against North Carolina Wesleyan College. In 21 minutes of action, Tyson

scored a game-high 22 points and added five steals, still his career-high. By the end of his freshman season, the Wadesboro, North Carolina native finished the season with 413 points to lead the team in scoring.

His contribution as a freshman spanned far beyond just what he did on the court. During the 2014-15 offseason, the Pirates recruited a 6-foot-5-inch recruit out of Durham who has now become synonymous with ECU, Kentrell Barkley. Barkley was graduating high school at Northern Durham after being named the District IV player of the year by the N.C. Basketball Coaches Association and had his eyes set on big goals in college. That’s when he heard of Tyson and knew where he wanted to spend his next four years.

“He’s done a lot. He’s made history. I think he really picked this program up and brought my attention to this program after all he did,” Barkley said. “ECU gave him an opportunity where he didn’t have one anywhere else.”

That opportunity helped Tyson flourish into what will inevitably be a top-five scorer in ECU basketball history. Currently sitting just 57 points away,

Tyson has to average less than 10 points per game to eclipse Darrius Morrow’s 1,506 career points. He will also finish in the top-10 in career steals, with 106 steals and counting.

While the statistics and numbers are great, his leadership will be the reason number 21 is remembered. Tyson was recruited by former head coach Jeff Lebo, and before Lebo’s resignation, the two formed a close bond. While Lebo is now out, interim head coach Michael Perry has been part of ECU’s staff for 11 seasons and has seen his shooting guard develop over the last four years.

“As a coach, it’s a treasure to have a young man you don’t have to worry about on or off the floor,” Perry said. “He’s going to bring you an honest days work in practice and in games, he’s consistent. You look at his career, he’s been a consistent scorer, and as a coach you like to be able to have guys like that.”

So with only six games remaining in his ECU career, Tyson is trying to help the 9-13 Pirates find their groove just weeks before the American Athletic

> MBB page A8

Track and field dominates
Pirates capture seven first-place finishes in Virginia

Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University track and field team concluded the regular season this past weekend after it won seven events at the Liberty Elite Invitational and six athletes set new personal records.

“Overall the meet was a good meet, the team prepared for the AAC conference championships,” track and field head coach Curt Kraft said. “This gives us a lot of confidence going into the indoor championships in a few weeks.”

The Pirates ended the indoor season in the right fashion with two athletes cracking the top-10 list in the weekend’s meet against Liberty University, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte,



Nick Ciaccia

Sophomore Nick Ciaccia landed at No. 8 on the All-Time mark in the men’s mile for ECU, while sophomore Nuria Tillo-Prats secured fifth on the All-Time list in the women’s 800-meter.

The Pirates also secured multiple first place finishes



Junior thrower Ryan Davis competes in the shot put field event for the ECU track and field team.

COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

at the invitational. Junior Courtney Warner set a meet record in the 60-meter with a time of 7.46 seconds for ECU, claiming first with her finish. Ciaccia earned two first place finishes in the mile run (4:15.15) and was a part of the 4x400 (3:17.75) relay team. Sophomore Naomi Whitaker said the meet wasn’t the team’s best performance but it was a good wake-up call.

“I believe this weekend challenged us to learn how to keep positive momentum going forward, despite things not going our way,” Whitaker said. “That will be crucial for championships.”

ECU also performed well in the field events, balancing

out the success over the weekend. In the long jump, freshman Jada Terrell placed first with a jump of 5.65 meters. Sophomore Jonte Leaston recorded a high jump of 2.03 meters, setting a meet record of his own. Senior Galissia Cause also set a meet, facility and school record with a 16.09 meter toss in the shot put. Junior Ryan Davis rounded out the first place finishes by setting a meet and facility record of 20.87



Galissia Cause

meters in the weight throw.

Following the Liberty Elite Invitational, Davis and Cause were recognized for their performances for the month of January as they were named the Student-Athletes-of-the-Month over the weekend. After setting three records in the meet, Cause remains undefeated in the shot put event. Davis also recorded the third longest weight throw in ECU program history, capping off the weekend. According to Kraft, Davis and Cause excell week in and week out.

“Anytime you’re winning

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LACROSSE continued from A1

Sullivan's first goal.

Seven minutes later, freshman attackman Nicole Legar scored the Pirates' second goal, with the assist coming from Sullivan. After freshman attackman Ally Stanton scored the third goal for the Pirates 15 minutes into the game, back-to-back goals were made by GW, increasing the margin to a 9-3 deficit heading into the half. According to Barnes, defense was a weak spot for her team against the Colonials.

"I just think that George Washington, to their credit, exploited one of our weaknesses," Barnes said. "I think you know, once you have something going and the defense doesn't adjust that's what's going to happen."

After allowing nine goals on 11 shots on net, the Pirates looked to come out of the half stronger in both aspects of the game.

Determined for the Pirates, Sullivan came out scoring the fourth goal for ECU, making the game 9-4. Stanton then scored ECU's fifth goal followed up by Sullivan scoring the sixth. As the clock wound down, the Colonials scored five goals in a row making the score 15-6 midway through the second half, practically eliminating any hopes of catching up for ECU.

ECU's seventh and final goal was scored with two minutes left in the game by Legar, assisted by freshman attackman Lily Avazis. An additional three goals made by Sands, sophomore attackman Caitlin Concannon and freshman midfielder Cescily-Jo Wheeler kept the Colonials lead, and ended the game 18-7 with a loss for the Pirates.

"A lot was going through my mind. I just wanted to keep my head up because I know my defenders depend on me to stop the goal no matter what," freshman goalie Christina White said. "Today I learned I need to work on some things, but definitely I learned that our team works really well together and we just need to keep practicing and putting in effort and we'll definitely get it."

Barnes believes the team needs to work on value and possession. Since it was the first game of the season, and the first game ever, more practice will go into adjustments on the field and making sure the team learns from these mistakes.

After telling herself to go with the flow, Sullivan said she ended the game proud of her team and proud to be out on the field competing in its first game.

"I believe in the underdog story, where as long as you have heart and hustle you can beat any opponent and determination is key," Sullivan said. "We came out here for our first game and whether we won or not, the fact that we were out here together completing was something to be proud about."

The Pirates will look to get over the lopsided loss to George Washington as they use this week to prepare for Winthrop University on Friday in Rock Hill, South Carolina as ECU moves forward in its inaugural season.

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

MBB continued from **A7**

Conference tournament starts on March 8. Recently there have been flashes of an ECU team that can compete with almost any team in the AAC, hanging tough with Tulane University in overtime but losing, then outlasting Memphis University in overtime in its next time out.

One of the biggest reasons of ECU's recent success is the emergence of freshman Shawn Williams, who wrapped up his third AAC Rookie-of-the-Week of the season after the Memphis game. Williams is a force from behind the arc

and hasn't shown any signs of reluctance despite being one of the youngest on the floor. A major reason for that is Tyson.

"He was the first person I met at ECU and now he's my big brother for real. He wants me to beat him in everything, beat all his records and stuff, and he's just guiding me in the right direction," Williams said.

Tyson will graduate from ECU, leaving the program in a better position than he found it because of the recruits the Pirates have been able to land since his arrival. Becoming a top-five scorer doesn't come to just any player, according to him, it takes someone who loves the team they play for. That's why Tyson has

achieved all these accomplishments, he bleeds purple and gold, and that shows on the floor.

"I love being here, I'm a die-hard Pirate forever," Tyson said. "I do everything I can for this school and I always did that. Blood, sweat and tears, it doesn't matter. I just come in, ready to play, and I'm thankful it's at ECU"

ECU's next game will be on Valentine's Day at Tulane. Tip-off for the game is scheduled for 8 p.m. The next opportunity for Pirate fans to watch Tyson at Minges Coliseum will be against the University of Connecticut on Sunday at 3 p.m.

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

TRACK

continued from A7

events and setting school records, you are doing good things," Kraft said. "Davis has had a tremendous indoor season up to this point. Every week you can count on him along with his counterpart Galissia Cause."

Both the men's and women's teams had great outings at the invitational that saw senior Caroline Reiser, sophomore Cara Gaudioso and freshman Josh Spare all set records in the 1-mile race. While Tillo-Prats (800-meter), freshman Joe Talbert (pole vault) and juniors Rebecca Fleischer (5,000-meter) and Davis (weight throw) all set personal records in their respective events.

According to Whitaker,

“ You have to be physically and mentally prepared to compete in this conference, and I like to preach mental toughness because it is a big part of this sport. ”

-Coach Kraft

the team must remain healthy if it wants to succeed in the American Athletic Championships coming up. One thing that Kraft has challenged his athletes to do is stay on top of their game and watch film.

"Compared to previous seasons I think we've done a better job staying intact as much as possible," Whitaker said. "Everyone is reviewing and analyzing previous races

to see if there are minor gaps that need to be fix in our events.”

After the dominant outing in Virginia, the Pirates will now prepare for the American Athletic Conference Indoor Championships, which start on Feb. 23 in Birmingham, Alabama.

"You have to be physically and mentally prepared to compete in this

conference, and I like to preach mental toughness because it is a big part of this sport," Kraft said. "Over the next week, we will obviously work on our conditioning and we will continue to be mentally ready to face these other schools in the conference."

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

MACY
continued from **A7**

she really pushes us to be the best,” Sanders said. “Her constantly believing in me and things like, asking about my family has really made a positive impact on me.”

Macy is the dream coach that

every program, organization and team would love to have, even though she doesn't have all the championships to show off like Auriemma does. But if anything's a guarantee, it's that Macy will get the best out of her players, create a no-nonsense environment and raise the bar with team goals and family values that are the essential

building blocks of establishing a winning culture.

Macy and the Pirates will get back to action tomorrow night at 7 when they face Memphis University at Minges Coliseum.

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries
(March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 --
-- Pass along what you're learning. Friends are a big help over the next few days. Share resources and information. Together you can move mountains.

Taurus
(April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 --
Review instructions, and discuss the plan. Career responsibilities have your focus, and there's an inspection or presentation ahead. Prepare to deliver.

Gemini
(May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 --
The next two days are good for travel. Avoid extravagant promises. Have fun without overspending. Adapt to the news. A little insight changes your thinking.

Cancer
(June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 --
Pay bills and manage money over the next few days. Financial changes necessitate budget revisions. Stick to basic objectives, and rearrange what you've got.

Leo
(July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 --
Conversations with your partner get results today and tomorrow. Don't waste time on gossip or idle chatter. Avoid misunderstandings, and it could get romantic.

Virgo
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 --
The next two days could get especially busy. Don't try a new trick now. Stick to practiced routines and techniques. Physical action is required.

Libra
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 --
Prioritize love and romance through tomorrow. Don't get casual about keeping your promises. Honest interactions inspire optimism and trust. Grow closer to someone special.

Scorpio
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 --
Consider long-term domestic plans for a few days. What changes would you like to make at home? Discuss possibilities and then commit to a vision.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 --
Craft your message and edit each word carefully. Communications go further over the next few days. Prepare and issue statements and information. Share your view.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 --
Dedicate efforts to increase cash flow over the next two days. Make an amazing discovery. New information threatens an assumption. Keep an open mind.

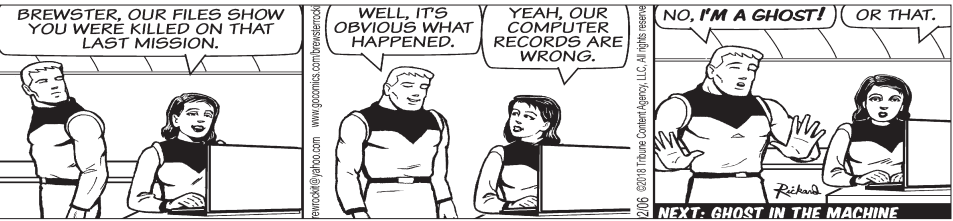
Aquarius
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 --
You're especially charming and brilliant today and tomorrow. Ruminates on a personal vision. You're closer to achieving it than you thought. Take small steps.

Pisces
(Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 5 --
Relax and meditate to decompress from pressure over deadlines. Get imaginative and speculate on what could be possible. An epiphany could reveal a hidden truth.

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COMICS

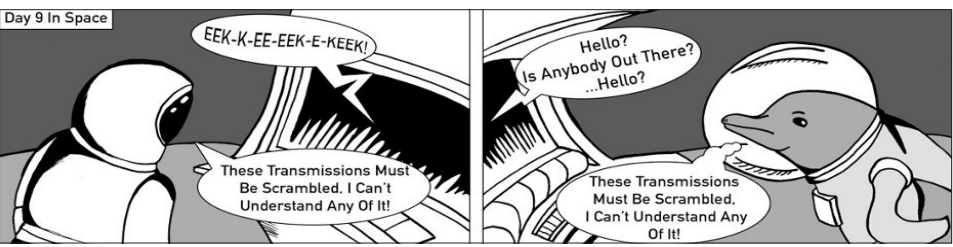
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BEST IN SHOW



ONE AND ONLY



SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

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Level:

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 Thursday

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

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19			20		21				
			22		23		24					
25	26	27				28				29	30	31
32					33				34			
35				36				37				
			38				39					
40	41	42				43		44		45	46	47
48					49		50			51		
52					53					54		
55					56					57		

ACROSS

- 1 Hosp. sections
4 Cugat's singer Lane
8 Claude Akins series
12 Dr. James Herriot, e.g.
13 Stephen of "NewsRadio"
14 Sitcom co-starring Clifton Davis
15 Lawyers' grp.
16 Johnny or Rosanne
17 Evans or Earnhardt
18 Chalke of "Scrubs"
20 Bernhard and Bullock
22 "Above the ____"
24 Digits: abbr.
25 Whoopi Goldberg movie
29 Mach+ jet
32 Vigoda and Fortas
33 Batman and Robin, e.g.
34 "Cape ____"
35 24-hr. information source
36 Robert Reed's sitcom role
38 Make lace
39 FDR's Blue Eagle
40 Dudley the Mountie
44 Ryan or Patrick
48 LaPlaca sitcom, "____ House"

- 49 Estrada of "CHiPs"
51 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
52 Merrill or Meyer
53 Signoret film, "Madame ____"
54 AAA suggestion
55 "Solid Gold" host Rick
56 Hank or Phoebe
57 Writing implement

DOWN

- 1 Gabor and Tanguay
2 "I Know How He Feels" singer McEntire
3 "A ____ Is Born"
4 "____ Bunker's Place"
5 Snakelike scarf
6 Danza series, "Who's the ____?"
7 Joel's " Fargo" co-producer
8 Cheryl and Alan
9 Barbra's "Funny Girl" co-star
10 Lugosi of "Dracula"
11 "The Defiant ____"
19 Part of A&E
21 Doris Day movie, "Do ____ Disturb"
23 Dagwood Bumstead's boss
25 W. Hemisphere defense grp.
26 Arabic Mac
27 D.C. VIP
28 Diving seabird
29 Lloyd Bridges series, "____ Hunt"
30 "The ____ Sack"
31 "____ a Little Tenderness"
34 "Kukla, ____, & Ollie"
36 Issue of a periodical, briefly
37 Former NBC anchor Tom
38 Turner and Brown
40 Mouseketeer Jimmie
41 Sheriff Taylor's kid
42 Russo of "Tin Cup"
43 Disney sci-fi film
45 Western series, "Wyatt ____"
46 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
47 Jennifer of "Star Trek: Voyager"
50 Equal: pref.

Solution from Thursday

I	D	L	E		A	M	O	S		A	R	E
S	E	A	N			N	I	N	E		S	O
T	E	D	D	A	N	S	O	N		T	O	N
				O	N	E	S			T	I	N
C	L	O	R	I	S			M	A	I	N	E
L	E	N	A	S		L	I	S	A			
R	O	T		T	R	E	A	T		D	O	S
				R	O	A	D		A	D	E	L
B	A	R	O	N	E		L	I	O	N	E	L
O	L	I	N			B	O	R	N			
W	I	L		S	T	E	V	E	N	S	O	N
E	V	E		G	O	N	E		A	I	D	A
R	E	Y		T	E	S		S	T	E	P	

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FEB. 20, 2018 6:00-9:00PM
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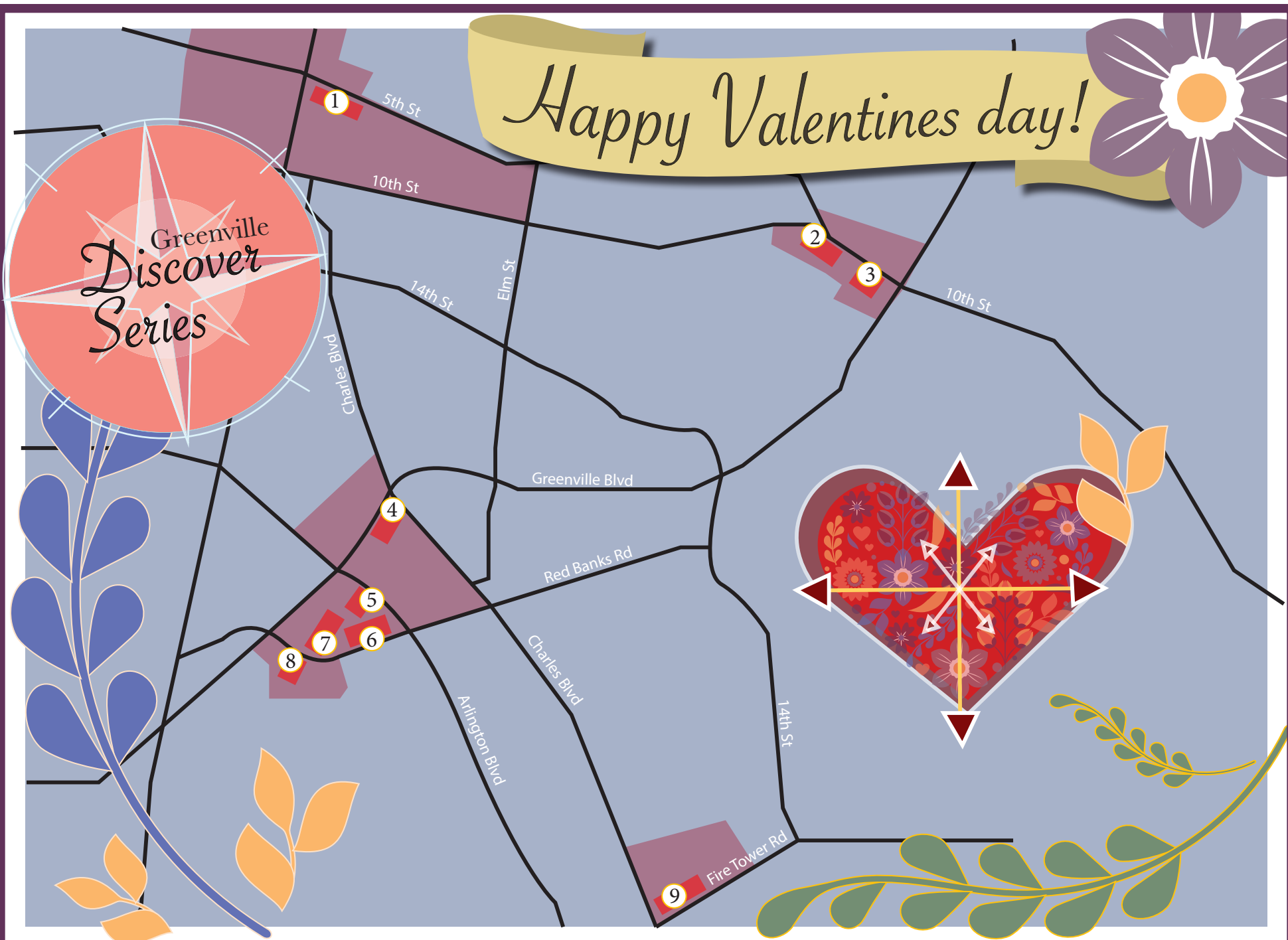
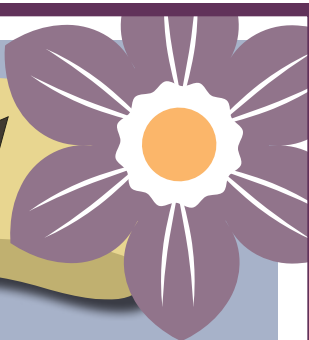
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