



TEC'SPERTS PREDICT SPRING BREAK GAMES Turn to A6



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TRASH TO TREASURE



Local artist Jonathan S. Bowling turns recycled materials into art

Angel De Jesus
TEC STAFF

Uptown Greenville is not only a place filled with character, fun nights and good grub, but it's a home to numerous farm animals as well—made out of metal, of course.

The pigs, cats and other lifelike creatures sprinkled throughout the Uptown area, in all of their metallic glory, are the creations of sculptor and collector Jonathan S. Bowling. Seeing animal sculptures such as horses and various other

creatures made from scraps and rusted metal around Uptown Greenville is common. Bowling's passion for creating art using these recycled materials has given the already walkable city an artsy touch. Bowling said his unique work has been in the area for more than 10 years.

To dive deeper into his work and how it is beneficial to Greenville, Bowling is to be featured tomorrow at 5 p.m. with A Time For Science, a non-profit organization that helps communities understand the importance

> ART page A4

Jonathan S. Bowling's sculptures of alligators sit on the side of Dickinson Avenue. Bowling's sculptures can be found all over Greenville.

DANIELLE SCHMID | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

>> SGA

Rogers stands by LGBT comments

Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

Blessing Aghmijen
TEC STAFF



A video was sent in anonymously to The East Carolinian on Sunday which featured Student Government Association President LaQuon Rogers making comments regarding the LGBT community at a church in 2016.

A shortened segment of a much longer video, the footage shows Rogers preaching about the "way God made him" and how he's answering a call to "a much higher purpose." However, in the next few seconds of the video, he begins to talk about people doing "the wrong thing rather than the right thing," in the eyes of God.

"Here in North Carolina, we're arguing about who can use what bathroom," Rogers says in the video footage. "The Bible says He created male and female."

As the video continues, Rogers says homosexuality is the devil's attempt to confuse young people in order to make them subject to his will.

"This spirit of homosexuality that is running rampant. Number one, we can understand it is a spirit of confusion,"

> ROGERS page A2

ECU reflects on shooter policy, future legislation

Julie Estep
TEC STAFF

With this month's school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida which saw 17 people killed on Feb. 14, along with the arrest of a teacher in northern Georgia for firing a firearm in his classroom yesterday, East Carolina University is reflecting on its preparedness for shooter situations.

"An active shooter on any educational property, any school, anywhere is one of the most serious scenarios I think we could face," Jason Sugg, the deputy chief of the ECU Police Department, said.

Sugg said it is hard to fully prepare for an active shooter situation but the department has been conducting a variety of exercises in emergency response training going back 20 years.

According to Sugg, the state law in North Carolina currently allows for handguns on educational property under certain circumstances. Sugg said the firearm must be locked inside a box or container in a vehicle, such as a glove box.

Sugg added it could present challenges in the future if legislation changed to allow for more firearms on campus. According to Sugg, if citizens or even students tried to respond to an emergency situation before the police did, it could cause problems.

"Let's say we had a situation on campus somewhere

> SHOOTER page A2



East Carolina University students help to build a living shoreline at Trinity Center at Pine Knoll Shores during spring break of 2017.

COURTESY OF ECU.EDU

Departments to offer alternative breaks

Taylor Nishimoto
TEC STAFF

This spring break, East Carolina University will provide students with the opportunity to engage in service learning trips in various locations with hopes to educate and broaden students horizons for their future.

The Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement will host six different alternative spring breaks trips, while the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, the LGBT Resource Office, as well as the Honors College will all host one. This makes a total of nine alternative spring break opportunities, according to Nichelle Shuck, the associate director

for ECU's CLCE.

Shuck said alternative spring breaks offer a more educational use for students' free time, a statement echoed by Rachel Potter, a service and leadership assistant for the alternative break program who has attended three alternative break trips.

"Going on these trips really changed my life because it made me realize that other places do matter as well," Potter said. "It can really teach you something that just going to Florida can't teach you."

Shuck also said students can use alternative breaks to focus on social justice causes and how they address certain issues they may face through service, learning and leadership.

"We encourage our students to participate in alternative breaks and any service opportunity, because we really want our students to be themselves as active citizens, which means participating in their community," Shuck said. "Regardless of where they land beyond ECU, we want them to be aware of different social issues that different communities face."

One trip in particular, hosted by ECU's Honors College, School of Communication and the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement, will give students the opportunity to travel to Northern Ireland

> BREAK page A2

ONLINE

» Lacrosse set to host winless Kennesaw State at home tonight

» Political science professors to discuss political humor

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

ECU Joyner Library to host workshop

East Carolina University Joyner Library librarians will host a workshop to provide an overview of the library's 3D printing technologies today from 6 to 7 p.m. in Joyner Library, room 1020.

The workshop will introduce basic 3D modeling repositories and participants will design a small part in Tinkercad, a beginner level 3D modeling software. No experience is necessary, but the workshop is limited to 20 participants. Those interested in partaking in the 3D workshop can register beforehand at the link provided on the ECU event calendar.

For more information, those interested can contact Daniel Zuberbier at 252-328-0406 or zuberbier14@ecu.edu.

ECU School of Theatre to hold auditions

ECU School of Theatre and Dance will hold auditions for students pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in theatre arts, with concentrations in professional acting and theatre for youth, tomorrow at Messick Theatre Arts Center, room 201.

Students who have passed THEA1010 and have passed or are currently enrolled in THEA1020 and THEA2015 are eligible to audition. Audition times must be discussed with Natalie Stewart in Messick, room 208, who will also provide a monologue to prepare. It is recommended to read "Sanford Meisner on Acting" before hand.

The auditions will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, students can contact Natalie Stewart by phone at 252-328-2110 or by email at stewardn@ecu.edu.

Railroad Passenger's Association offers \$10,000 scholarship

The Railroad Passenger's Association (RPA) is offering a \$10,000 scholarship for the 2018-19 school year. The deadline for the scholarship is April 26.

Students must be currently enrolled in a university, a legal resident of the United States and at least 18 years old. There is a \$20 entrance fee in order to be considered for the scholarship.

The student who wins, in addition to the scholarship, will receive discounts from brands associated with RPA, such as Amtrack, Travelpro Luggage and Avis car rentals. To enter, students may go to <https://www.crowdrise.com/rpascholarship>.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Professor announces campaign

English professor to retire, begin bid for Pitt County Commissioners

Darby Hubbell
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University associate professor in the English department Alex Albright announced his retirement and filed plans of running as the Democratic candidate for the Pitt County Commissioners, representing the District 4 seat, on Feb. 21.

Albright has been teaching at ECU since 1981, and after 37 years of teaching, he said it seemed "about time" to retire and move on toward something else. He said he decided to retire before deciding to run for commissioner.



Alex Albright

"Had I not decided the first, I wouldn't have decided the second," Albright said. "The whole culture has changed. It's (teaching is) not quite as much fun as it used to be."

Albright said he lives in a rural area of western Pitt County in Fountain, North Carolina, where he is currently serving his third term on the Town of Fountain Board of Commissioners. He said his platform extends out toward looking at other rural communities and finding out more about the specific needs and wants of the county.

"I know from Fountain that our needs include recreation and public transportation, and access to food. We are in a food desert so it's difficult if you are living in an area like that without a car to get basic health and medical recreation services," Albright said.

Albright said Pitt County already does a good job with its professional people running the departments, so he is not trying to change anything, but to simply extend its reach.

After working and even living for a short

time in Greenville, Albright said he knows Greenville is the economic center of the county and hopes its resources can be spread more evenly to more rural areas.

ECU's Harriot College of Arts and Sciences professor Margaret Bauer said Albright is known for starting projects and finishing them very well. She said he always "does his homework" so there won't be any kinds of cracks or holes.

"He's fearless. If he feels strongly about something and he believes in it, he's not going to be afraid to speak out for it. He's not going to be afraid to ask questions (and) he's not going to be afraid to stand up for it against powerful people. He's got our back," Bauer said.

Amber Thomas, an English assistant professor at ECU, said Albright played a very important part in her consideration to take a teaching position at ECU six years ago. She said it was because of Albright and his amazing character and legacy he will leave at ECU.

"I was really nervous about moving to the South from the West Coast and I wasn't sure if I would feel comfortable out here. Alex is one of those reasons of why I did feel comfortable," Thomas said.

Thomas said Albright's involvement within the Pitt County community such as the General Store that Albright founded in 2004, located in Fountain, that offers live music and Eastern North Carolina culture, made her feel at home.

Bauer said Albright is a great candidate

because of his dedication to the projects he commits to. According to Bauer, Albright was asked to start a literary magazine in 1992 by the late Dean of THCAS Keats Sparrow.

"Alex is a person who when he starts something, it's going to be stellar," Bauer said. "The only reason that he began NCLR (North Carolina Literary Review) is because the dean then came back to ECU with this idea of starting this important state literary magazine. He gave it to Alex because he knew it would be done and it would be done right."

Albright said currently no one is registered to run against him on the democratic side in the Primary election. However, there is a Republican candidate registered to also run for District 4, Benji Holloman, who also has served as a former Fountain town commissioner. As of the production of this paper, Holloman has not responded to a request for comment.

"If it gets to that point and no one decides to run against us then we would become opponents by default, but the first election isn't until May and that's when it sort of formalizes the Democrat versus the Republican," Albright said.

For more details on the primary and general election information, look to www.pittcountync.gov. The date of the election is set for May 8 of this year.

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

SHOOTER

continued from A1

that required an emergency response," Sugg said. "At least initially, we might perceive them as a threat because we don't have all the information because of everything going on when we're trying to process things and end up confronting the wrong person."

In the wake of the Stoneman Douglas shooting, President Donald Trump has made several public statements which propose allowing teachers to bring firearms to school in order to protect their students. Although Sugg said this is currently not possible due to state law, Giovanni Triana, founder of the National Rifle Association chapter at ECU, said he would be open to the idea.

"If we were to allow our students and faculty over 21 years old who have taken the concealed carry

"People call it 'gunbrella,' and looking back on it, (the name) makes light of it a little bit."

- Jason Sugg

class, I would be very comfortable letting them carry on campus," Triana said.

Triana said he understands the notable concerns that would go along with Trump's proposal to arm teachers, including the potential of being mistaken as a threat.

Sugg said ECU had a lockdown in 2012 after several different people called in about a man walking toward campus, appearing to have a rifle slung on his shoulder. It was later discovered the 'rifle' was actually an umbrella.

"People call it 'gunbrella,' and looking back on it, (the name)

makes light of it a little bit," Sugg said. "In that situation, with something as serious as that, when you're being told that there could be a man walking around toward your campus with 28,000 or 29,000 students on it, an additionally 3,000 faculty and staff, you have to take that information very seriously."

Sugg said ECU PD sent resources out to multiple locations trying to find the person. Although the situation turned out not to be a shooter, Sugg said ECU PD will always take reports such as this seriously in order to protect the ECU community.

ECU PD also assisted Greenville PD in responding to the threat of an active shooter at the AMC movie theater in Greenville on Friday.

Sugg said the priority was getting resources to the theater because they knew if the situation was real, there was a threat of a lot of people potentially getting hurt.

"One of the first things that you think about is the location," Sugg said. "Just about anywhere these things have happened in the past, the Aurora theater shooting several years ago, all of these places...are going to be highly populated areas. There's going to be a lot of people at movie theaters, a lot of people at schools."

According to Sugg, the next steps after dissolving a threat is scene security, making sure anyone injured gets the help they need, then trying to find any leads about the people who may have been involved.

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

BREAK

continued from A1



Rebecca Dumlao

for a service-learning trip.

Rebecca Dumlao, a communication professor, said "it's a win-win for everyone" because the opportunity gives students a chance to learn things they couldn't necessarily learn in the classroom.

The trip will

encourage students to participate in community engagement, regarding the youth specifically, but also teach students about conflict and communication. It is open to all students and will award academic credit to those participating in the Honors Seminar, "Communication, Conflict and Community Engagement." Students not involved with the course are welcome to attend, however, will not receive credit.

Dumlao said service learning is the best way to go because of all the relationships students can build from it, as well as becoming more familiar with the culture in that specific area.

"When you do service learning well, you

meet people, you work side by side with people, and you build relationships that will hopefully last long after that experience," Dumlao said. "Furthermore, you get to know the culture and what matters to people. It's much more in depth."

Dumlao said students who choose to go on this trip will be able to broaden their horizons while at the same time gain knowledge that will prepare them when entering the real world.

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

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ROGERS

continued from A1

Rogers says in the video footage.

In an interview on Monday night, Rogers was very candid about his religious faith and did not feel exposed or victimized by the video's resurfacing. He said he was thankful the video appeared because he stands by his words.

"For the person that came forth, I want to thank them because certainly spreading the gospel is something I enjoy doing," Rogers said.

Rogers confirmed his beliefs have not changed since this video was taken or since coming to East Carolina University. While the video footage is from before Rogers was a student at ECU he said "let me make no mistake that I still believe the same thing."

Expanding on his beliefs, Rogers says he is firm in his faith and explained that just as others are free to be themselves, he is comfortable in his opinions.

"America was founded on freedom of religion," Rogers said. "That means we have the right to believe what we believe, in who we believe or believe in nothing if we that's what we so desire."

ECU College Democrats' Events Coordinator Caleb Burroughs, who uses

they/them pronouns, said they respected and agreed with Rogers' first amendment right to the freedom of religion. However, Burroughs said the comments were "clearly hateful."

"I'm very disappointed that these comments were made," Burroughs said. "I give credit to his faith and he's entitled to his beliefs. But I also think that the Almighty God would want us to be inclusive and to love our neighbor as thyself."

As for why the video was sent to the media, Rogers thinks there was a comparison with his belief and his ability to serve as student body president. However, Rogers said he has not used his position as president to spread his religion.

Rogers said his message was not one of hate toward the LGBT community, but rather letting everybody know that unrighteousness is "sin" within his religion.

To the LGBT community, Rogers said his message remains the same as what was preached in the video, but he also recognizes the humanity within everyone since God created everyone in His own image.

Associate Director for the LGBT Resource Office Mark Rasdorf declined to comment on Rogers' statements.

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

OUR VIEW

Whitehurst needs to take career elsewhere

The East Carolina University police officer involved in the St. Patrick's Day assault in 2016 won his appeal for unlawful termination on Feb. 6, earning him the right to reinstatement.

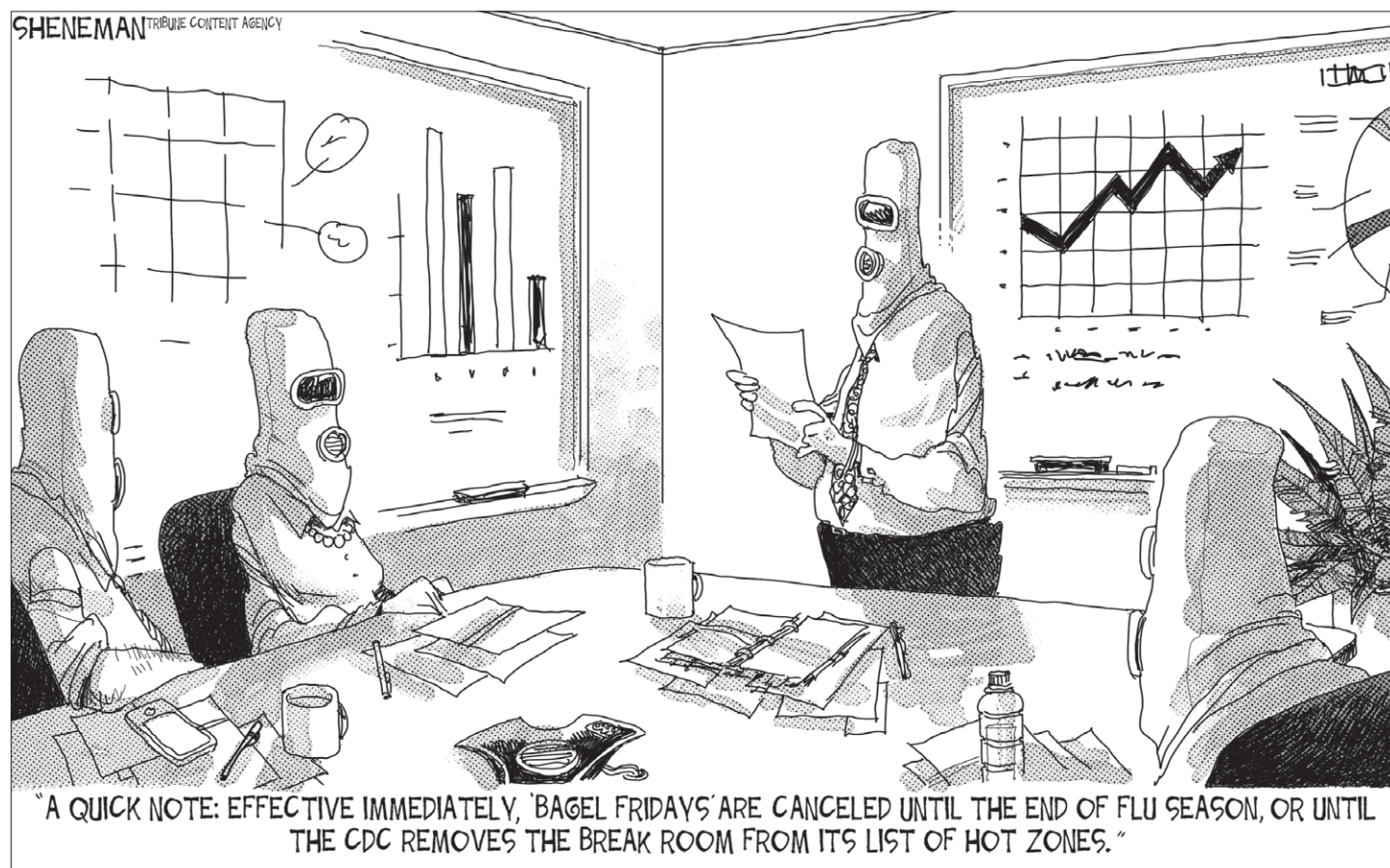
With the new decision from the state Court of Appeals, Ralph Whitehurst can be reinstated, but due to the appeal, he will receive a demotion from his previous position as sergeant. Whitehurst will go from an authoritative position to most likely a desk job, according to current East Carolina University Police Department Chief Jon Barnwell. His possible reinstatement could take anywhere from a few weeks to a few months.

Now with an opportunity to return as an ECU police officer, Whitehurst has a list of options where he could take his career. But, of his options, returning to ECU should not be on the list.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe Whitehurst should consider parting ways from ECU's police department due to the controversial nature of the St. Patrick's Day assault incident. He also simply would not have anything to gain by returning to the force at ECU.

Along with these reasons there is an ongoing spotlight in our nation on police brutality and misconduct. To bring that issue so close to campus would lead to even more pain than the incident itself.

This reinstatement may give the university some backlash, reopening the wound of a college student being assaulted on campus. Though Whitehurst will have the ultimate decision, we must remind the university to consider its students before its future employees.



Shock inhibits reactions



Annah Schwartz
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I was putting the finishing touches on my makeup when a loud bang seemingly ripped through my apartment's living room.

Being a cat owner, I half-heartedly brushed off the noise — despite its alarmingly intense nature. I was in a bit of a rush and figured whatever had been knocked down could wait until I was done getting ready. Upon walking into my living room though, I noticed nothing was out of place, making the loud bang all the more mysterious.

Outside my apartment, I heard heavy footsteps and indistinct yelling on the breezeway. As I headed out for the evening, a girl who had been in my neighbor's apartment stopped outside my door nearly in tears. As she spoke, I could only make out the word "shot." She hurried down the breezeway and I looked down to see what looked like someone being carried.

More confused than anything at that point, I made my way to the first floor where groups of fellow residents had come together to see what was going on.

They'd heard the loud bang too and, as an ambulance arrived, we filled in the blanks enough to realize that someone had been shot. To what degree was the victim injured or why they'd been shot in the first place, we didn't know.

Around this time of speculation and worrying, Greenville Police Department's Emergency Response Team arrived and asked that everyone return to their apartments. Officers began covering nearly every inch of University Park's apartment complex and lining up the stairwell of my apartment building up to the second floor.

An officer asked that I return to my apartment, but I told him I lived on the third floor and was actually headed to my car. While it was evident they would've preferred me to take shelter in my apartment, I was allowed to sit in my car and an officer was stationed right outside. At this time, a friend called me to let me know that she was outside the complex, as people weren't allowed in or out at the time, and that the shooter was quite possibly still on the property.

The word "shooter" hit me. I hadn't yet thought about the person's motive or even their location. A series of "what ifs" began to fill my mind as I realized the severity of the situation and my chest tightened. I was only shielded by the windows of my car, and while I was thankful for the officer standing outside to protect me, I worried about his safety as well.

What if the gunman was barricaded in an apartment on the second floor and a shootout began? What if a stray bullet shot through my windshield and hit me or the officer stationed outside my car?

I began to shake uncontrollably as the possibilities of the situation built in my head. I pushed my seat back and ducked under the steering wheel with tears running down my face, trying to prepare myself for whatever was about to happen outside.

As it eventually turned out, a firearm had been discharged in the apartment below my neighbor's, and the bullet went through their ceiling, then out through my neighbor's living room floor. Those responsible had left the property before GPD even arrived. While this took place in April of 2016, and the victim thankfully survived the incident with non-life threatening injuries, the memories of this evening stick out in my mind every time someone says, "If I was ever in a shooting situation I would..."

I recognize this incident at my apartment complex is nowhere near the magnitude of a mass shooting, but the point of my anecdote is to express that in times where shock sets in, we're not in complete control of how we react.

I wasn't even face to face with the shooter. I was protected by an armed officer, and yet emotions of confusion and panic over-ridden my system, rendering me nearly non-functional in that moment. I wanted to remain calm, but it just wasn't in me.

Behind the shield of our computer screens, too many people tout what they would've done if they were there during a shooting, such as the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting that took place on Feb. 14. We're so used to seeing these mass shootings now that our brains have begun to shut out the shock factor of it all, according to Jeff Temple, a professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch.

It is evident in these comments, we've lost touch with just how much shock can affect a human's ability to react, especially if they've not been formally trained in high-combat situations. There are heroes among us, but in a mass shooting situation, there's no guarantee you'll be in the mindset to rise up and be that hero.

We, as a society, need to stop painting these mass shootings in the portrait of "what I would've done" because until you've experienced something of that capacity, you have no idea how your mind and body will respond. Survivors of mass shootings should have your undivided attention when they speak about what we, as a country, can do to move forward in regards to gun violence.

Annah Schwartz is a senior majoring in communication and is the Editor-in-Chief. To contact this writer, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

OUR STAFF

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Contact Info

The East Carolinian
Self Help Building,
Greenville, NC, 28889-4353

Email: editor@theeastcarolinian.com

Newsroom: (252) 328-9238

Ads: (252) 328-9245

Fax: (252) 328-9143

Irony behind NCAA scandal shown



Chase Carroll
TEC STAFF

With the recent FBI investigation of the University of Arizona's head basketball coach Sean Miller, now is the time to discuss some things. While Miller's phone call discussing the payment of

\$100,000 to top Arizona prospect Deandre Ayton is obviously a blatant form of cheating, and disgusting to the sport of college basketball, it helps bring another issue to light.

The irony the NCAA displays is ridiculous to put lightly. While payment to players via coaches and boosters is clearly not the way to go about things, it's time to talk about the NCAA paying players from our top Division I programs with the "non-profit" revenue they receive.

The NCAA made more than one billion dollars alone from the NCAA March Madness college basketball tournament, and how much of that one billion went to the players that made the event possible? None.

While many argue that players receive scholarships, these players who make it to the tournament deserve at least a small portion of that one billion dollar revenue

that goes directly to the NCAA. Players should only earn money based off of the tournament revenue, meaning if your team doesn't make the tournament, the players should not make any money.

In the past I had taken a separate stance on this issue, thinking a scholarship for top players is enough. However, with the NCAA partnering with CBS Sports and Turner Broadcasting on a 14-year \$10.8 billion contract, it's simply ridiculous these players performing for the NCAA on national television are not given a single cent.

With the NBA forcing players to be at least one year removed from high school, it forces the top recruits to make a decision. They must choose to either play a year overseas in a foreign country for a contract, or play a year with a college program while not making any money off their likeness. Some of these top high school recruits come from very rough backgrounds too, making the need for money to help their families a necessity.

With college basketball coaches making millions of dollars, including Miller who earns \$2.9 million per year, it's no surprise coach Miller was willing to discuss a payment plan of up to \$100,000 to land one of the top players in the country for his program. While it is likely

boosters offer the money and not Miller, he has the financial security to take a risk such as this. With that being said, I don't believe Miller is the only coach in the NCAA to pay top recruits; I believe he is just the first of many who will be caught very soon. The NCAA must do something about this development starting to tarnish college basketball, and that starts with the payment of the players in a legal, respectable way.

With the coaches of these players earning multi-million dollars per year, and the NCAA earning upwards of a billion dollars per year off these players, it's beyond ridiculous that in 2018, the top players of one of the most profitable organizations in sports still do not earn a single cent of the revenue.

Until the NBA makes the correct decision and allows high school players to go straight to the league, again rather than wasting time going to school for just one year, the problem the NCAA faces in their investigation of illegal benefits will continue at a high rate. It's time to pay our athletes their share, and it's all on the NCAA to do it.

Chase Carroll is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

72

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

TODAY

Team Feud

Tiebreakers Sports Bar & Grill
7 p.m.

Ladies Climb Night

ECU Recreation and Wellness Center, Rock Wall
9 p.m.

TOMORROW

GROW Latte Art Throwdown and Coffee Gathering

Coastal Fog
6 p.m.

TGIF

Painted Peacock
6 p.m.

Trap N Paint

Holiday Inn
8 p.m.

Bryan Quintard Live!

Trollingwood Taproom & Brewery
8 p.m.

Jerry & Daniel!

AJ McMurphy's
8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Pop Up Market

Artisans Decorative Accessories & Fine Gifts
10 a.m.

Shiloh Hill Live

Pitt Street Brewing Company
8 p.m.

Spare Change

Tiebreakers Sports Bar & Grill
10 p.m.

The Plain White T's to play annual PirateFest concert

Trajan Warren
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Every year, PirateFest brings featured artists such as Rusted Root and Smash Mouth and this April will be no different. On Feb. 22, Uptown Greenville announced the Plain White T's will headline this year's festival.

"The Plain White T's appeal to the college-aged student, also the families as well," Meredith Hawke, events and branding director for Uptown Greenville, said. "I feel they will have more name recognition and bring out a comparable crowd."

PirateFest 2018 will take place April 13 and 14. The gathering has been a signature, 12-year long tradition in the Greenville area, open to all community members and interested visitors. The event has been described as "piratical tomfoolery," with hundreds of people posing as pirates, more than 150 food and art vendors and two stages for live music.

Uptown Greenville and Emerge, who co-host the event, along with East Carolina University students from the Student Government Association and Student Activities Board, worked through various talent agents and wanted to get a more nationally recognized name



From left: Tim Lopez, Mike Retondo, Tom Higgenson, Dave Tirio and De'Mar Hamilton, band members of the Plain White T's, will perform at PirateFest.

to headline the event.

The Plain White T's reached their peak during the mid-2000s, a time many young professionals of today were just old enough to remember. One of those

professionals is Carrie Brickhouse, an ECU graduate who has been to PirateFest in the past, and feels the band's headlining performance will catch the attention of people in her demographic.

"The most recent PirateFest I went to with a friend, I watched the marching band. I saw the dance team and the cheerleaders, and I remember listening to music but I didn't really pay attention to who it was (performing)," Brickhouse said. "I think that a decent amount of people would recognize the Plain White T's are coming and would actually be excited."

The excitement around PirateFest has been rising in recent years. The event has grown every year that Uptown Greenville has hosted, and with a known band such as the Plain White T's headlining, the event is expected to gain even more spectators.

Joe Cammarano, a junior majoring in political science, will be one of the additional spectators who is excited about the Plain White T's, as they remind him of the "good old days."

"Plain White T's are just one of those bands from your childhood that you're going to be excited for," Cammarano said. "I feel there will be a good amount of college students because that's around our generation, we grew up on that kind of music."

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

A Capella group prepares for spring concert

Lauren Bright
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The sopranos and the altos of East Carolina University's Magnolia Belles come together to perfect their dynamics as their voices echo off the St. James Methodist Church walls.

As the only all-female A Capella group at ECU, the women are preparing vigorously for their spring concert in April. With more than 30 auditioning members this year, the group hopes to continue, expanding the A Capella program to more than one group.

"I want us to be phenomenal. We are great, but I want us to be 'Pitch Perfect' great," said president of the group, senior Kayla Daughtry. "To perform at an actual competition at a state or national level like the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) would be a dream come true."

The Belles are ready to take their skills to the next level. As the only school in the state with just one all-female A Capella group, their goal is to compete with other universities who have had their groups for years, such as North Carolina State University's Ladies in Red.

Founded in 2006, The Magnolia Belles' name honors the memory of three sisters who came to the East Carolina Teachers College from Magnolia, North Carolina.

The Belles have events or performances once a week or once every two weeks, both on ECU's campus and throughout the Greenville community. They perform for alumni, at Greek



East Carolina University's Spring 2018 Magnolia Belles. The A Capella group will hold their spring concert in April.

Life award banquets and nursing homes, along with the national anthem at basketball games and their annual spring concert.

Vice President of the Belles Skylar Coley said the group is singing a variety of genres this year, ranging from pop and indie to classical and holiday music.

In December, the Dean of the College of Business Stanley Eakins asked the Belles to perform at its end of the year Christmas-themed awards recognition celebration. Karen Kus, the executive director of the Center for Student Success, said she fell in love with the girls' voices and gave the Belles gift bags for "a job well-done."

"It put me in the holiday spirit. You can't have a bad day when listening to music like that. I closed

my eyes and heard a beautiful blend of voices," Kus said.

Although a majority of the Belles are not majoring in music, most of the group said their passion for the art runs deep and they have been singing their entire lives. The Belles Music Director Elizabeth Allen said she found her inspiration to sing from her father.

"We grew up karaokeing together at weddings and sang all of the time, so when he passed away, music was my way to carry on his legacy and keep giving him a voice," Allen said.

Balancing a college workload and social life proves to be difficult for many students, however, the Belles said their group is a getaway from the stressors in their lives.

"We're like a family, this group is an escape from school and we are

all united by the one thing we love, music," Jefferies said.

Coley, a sophomore and social work major, said the Belles not only help her stay stress free, but significantly improve her self-image as well.

Similar to Coley, Daughtry said she found her niche when she found the Magnolia Belles. Now as the president of the organization, the young singer said she's excited to see what the future holds for the Belles and A Capella.

"I've been a singer forever. Music is really important to me and a big stress reliever," Daughtry said. "This group has really grown me. I've made lifelong friends that I can always count on."

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

ART continued from A1

of environmental protection, at 729 Dickinson Ave. Bowling is a part of the "Under the Microscope" series for this month and will discuss his work with locals.

"I started in the early 90s while in Kentucky doing 3D work," Bowling said. "I then got into welding largely because, back then anyway, it was an affordable medium to work in and I like to work on a larger scale."

Bowling started making abstract sculptures of fish and sold them all along the East Coast. One day when a client requested a pelican sculpture, he began focusing more on bird sculptures, then transitioned to making other animals.

Being known for making animal sculptures was not Bowling's goal. At first, he thought being known as an animal sculptor was a bad thing because he believes his art is more than that. However, Bowling said he has learned to embrace it and tries to incorporate his passion for abstract art within his work.

"Abstract work is not for everyone," Bowling said. "I hope to balance abstract looks in my sculptures without it just being a horse statue."

Samantha Eubanks, the environmental educator at A Time for Science, said "Under the Microscope" is a monthly lecture series for others in the community to learn about local individuals and ways to become environmental friendly.

While the series usually has

wine and appetizers served to guests, this event will have a much more casual feel, offering craft beers contributed by Pitt Street Brewery. Eubanks thinks this event is beneficial and informative for everyone who attends.

"I feel that people think that A Time for Science is just a place for kids," Eubanks said. "Adults can learn a lot from these events and with this one in particular being less of a lecture, people can talk to Bowling about his work and learn about ways to use recycled goods."

Those planning on attending this event, such as junior graphic design major Travis Boyd, is interested in going because although he has seen the various sculptures around town, he always wondered who was behind them.

"I've been here at ECU for two years now and I'm always around the Pitt Street area and see those animals all the time," Boyd said. "I always wondered who did those so it is cool to put a face to the work you know?"

With sculptures posted all around the Uptown area, with a large portion of them crawling around Dickinson Avenue, Bowling's work can be seen while walking to bars, shops and other local hot spots.

"I like to see Greenville as my gallery," Bowling said. "Not only can I share my work in the community, but it does provide a place to put my work while sharing it at the same time."

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

PLAN TO GO



What: "Under the Microscope" lecture
When: Tomorrow at 5 p.m.
Where: 729 Dickinson Ave.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

WALK TO CLASS - 1 BLOCK 2 bed/1.5 bath quadplex "buccaneer Village" 507 E. 11th St. save money no ECU parking fees to pay kitchen appliances and dishwasher \$600.00/month Pinnacle Mgmt 561-RENT (7369) PRELEASEING NOW for Fall 2018

3 bed 3 bath spacious condo @ 320 Brownlea Dr. PRE-LEASING NOW for Fall 2018 You choose your rent amount \$800.00/month includes H2O \$1300.00/month gets you W/D, cable, Internet, utilities and H2O on ECU bus route or walk to class, bring your own roommates, we do not match Pinnacle Mgmt 561-RENT (7369)

3 BR 1 Bth house. Student area. Blocks from ECU. Clean, cute hardwood throughout. W/D hookup. Central heat. Fenced backyard. Available JULY. \$375/tenant. 252-341-6410. 1211 CONTANCHE

ECU Student Duplexes on Bus Route or walk to class! Duplexes at Wyndham Circle, 2 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Newly Decorated, Cathedral Ceilings, Great Landlord, Great Price, Big Back Yard, Good Parking. Some pets OK. Patios for Grilling. Available May 1, June 1, July 1, August 1, 2018. \$620.00 per month \$310.00 per person. 252.756.3009 or text 252.341.9789.

PIRATEPLACES.COM It's time to pick your perfect house across the street from ECU. We have over 90 of the best and closest houses next to ECU. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** and pick your favorite home that is listed as AVAILABLE!!! The lease for each home MUST start on the date listed in the homes description. We can show and sign a lease now for a lease starting this summer. Last year all of our houses were rented by March find your house now so don't miss out. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** today.

FREE APARTMENT FOR THE RIGHT STUDENT!!! Are you

tired of dorm life but can't afford off-campus housing? If so, Life House of Greenville has an opportunity for you! We are currently seeking someone to serve as an evening attendant at Life House of Greenville. In exchange, we will provide a recently renovated studio apartment **AT NO CHARGE TO YOU** and provide utilities, cable, appliances, wi-fi, and on-site laundry facility. The person in this position must have a caring and compassionate personality and the ability to assist elderly and disabled residents. To apply, contact Susan Bailey at 252-329-4004 or via email at baileysg@ghanc.net

SERVICE ADS:

G3ektacular - Saturday, March 3. Your friendly neighborhood Comic Book & Toy Show hosted by G3eks. American Legion Post 39, St. Andrews Dr., Greenville. 10am - 5pm. Comic Books! Toys! Games! Collectibles! More! Info: 252.565.2352. FB: g3ektacular

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Practice your arts, skills and games. Creativity surges to wild heights. The pieces come together with sweet synchronicity. Share your enthusiasm. Discover fresh passion.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Domestic bliss sinks in. A windfall fills your basket. Blend feminine and masculine elements for a perfect balance. Enjoy the fruits of your labors.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- The more you dig, the more you understand. Resolve a puzzle by learning the back story. Observe others with experience. Express your artistic views.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- A lucky surprise places a golden opportunity at your feet. Push beyond old limits and grab it. Profit from the realization of a long-term dream.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- A breakthrough in your relationship with yourself allows for greater intimacy with others. Share dreams, especially the one within reach. Explore a hot attraction.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Envision your idea of perfection. Something you've long wanted seems newly attainable. Dream and speculate. Love, beauty and kindness feed your spirit.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Your team harmonizes. It's all for one and one for all. Each role contributes to a larger shared vision. Create beautiful music together.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- A professional prize falls into view. Make important decisions, and sign contracts. You can get whatever you need. Use what you've kept hidden.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Take your adventure to the next level. Study the inside perspective, and make an amazing discovery. Explore, and get farther than imagined.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Make a financial move with your partner. Consider your chess game, reviewing options, possibilities and long-term implications. An incredible opportunity pays fine dividends.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Your collaboration and communication flowers, providing satisfying rewards. You're especially charming (and charmed). It could get sweet. Contribute to a harmonious duet.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- You're in your physical high-performance zone. Dance with satisfying syncopation. Savor beautiful movements and graceful work.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
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54						55				56		
57						58				59		

ACROSS

1 "___": A Dog"
 4 Mas' mates
 7 "Mad ___ You"
 12 "___ in a Million"
 13 Sea eagle
 14 Mickey or Mighty
 15 Nutrition letters
 16 Sgt. or cpl., e.g.
 17 Former talk show host Allen
 18 "Like a Rolling Stone" singer
 20 "The Way We ___"
 22 Popeye's Olive
 24 Japanese movie monster
 28 '60s sitcom, "That ___"
 31 Cooke of "Masterpiece Theater"
 33 Auberjonois role on "Star Trek: DSN"
 34 "Cheers" barmaid Chambers
 35 "The Addams Family" cousin
 36 John Goodman's TV co-star
 38 Lupino and Tarbell
 39 "Seinfeld" character
 40 "A ___ Called Horse"
 42 Wheelchel of "The Facts of Life"
 44 Bart or Ringo

DOWN

48 Willie or Andrew
 51 Recording medium: abbr.
 53 Mayberry aunt
 54 Disney's Little Mermaid
 55 Onassis, to pals
 56 "The ___ of the Affair"
 57 Meg and Irene
 58 "Two and a Half ___"
 59 Down in the mouth

Solution from Tuesday

I	R	M	A		W	A	N	G		S	R	O	
D	E	A	D		I	G	O	R		T	I	N	
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BEST IN SHOW



ONE AND ONLY



BRIAN JUDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

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 Tuesday

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

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Wind down
To spring break

By listening to



TEC 'sports

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this weekend's baseball game

Aaron Jackson

Sports Editor

@aaronjthewriter



Who? ECU goes 3-0 in LeClair Classic, 4-1 over break Why? ECU showed it can compete with top teams, beating the No. 20 University of North Carolina. The Pirates should sweep through the LeClair Classic going 3-0. For games over break, ECU will go 4-1, losing one of the three games at UNC Charlotte.

Chase Carroll

Sports Chief

@ChaseCarroll_

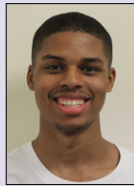


Who? ECU goes 3-0 in LeClair Classic, 4-1 over break Why? Following the Pirates new No. 18 national ranking, I expect ECU to build off this confidence, going 3-0 in the LeClair Classic. It will also split its two game series with the College of Charleston, then sweep the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Daniel Roberts

Baseball Reporter

@dantheman1892



Who? ECU goes 3-0 in LeClair Classic, 4-1 over break Why? Coming off its new No. 18 ranking, ECU will be confident entering the LeClair Classic. ECU should blow out the three teams participating. Over break ECU will win both games against Charleston, but Charlotte will be a test, taking one from ECU.

Robert Romero

Baseball Reporter

@RobertRomero97



Who? ECU goes 2-1 in LeClair Classic, 3-2 over break Why? These next five games will be trap games for the Pirates. With spring break coming up, ECU will play down to the level of competition, falling to Missouri State, then dropping one to both Charleston and UNC Charlotte.

Tyler Gavin

Copy Editor

@tygavin13



Who? ECU goes 3-0 in LeClair Classic, 5-0 over break Why? I expect ECU to overwhelm all five teams it'll face in the next two weeks. No one participating in the LeClair Classic has the offense to compete with ECU's pitching. Next, even though Charelston can hit, I expect the Pirates to win high-scoring games at home. Finally, I expect the 49ers' struggles to continue against ECU.

Tyson to play final home game

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF
Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF



After the 109-58 blowout the University of Houston handed East Carolina University on Sunday, the Pirates return home tonight to face the University of Tulsa on Senior Night.

The Pirates (10-17, 4-12 AAC) are on a three-game losing streak as they prepare for their final game at Minges Coliseum. The Golden Hurricane (17-11, 10-6 AAC) enter the game coming off an eight-point loss to the No. 11 University of Cincinnati, 82-74. In the last matchup between ECU and Tulsa, the Golden Hurricane prevailed 79-53 in both teams first conference game on Dec. 28.

Senior forward junior Etou killed the Pirates in the first meeting, recording a double-double with 20 points and 14 rebounds. Etou is averaging 15.6 points per game and is the Golden Hurricane's go-to scoring option. Two other Tulsa players are averaging double figures, junior guard Sterling Taplin (12.0) and junior forward DaQuan Jeffries (10.3). However, this doesn't bother ECU, as interim head coach Michael Perry says the team is in a good place.

"We do not have the same pressure on our shoulders like some of the other teams have," Perry said. "We can be loose and

play loose, and that is the way to go into the AAC tournament."

One of the biggest issues ECU will face is replacing junior forward Kentrell Barkley who was suspended indefinitely on Feb. 21. Since then, the Pirates



Micheal Perry

have failed to score more than 60 points in their matchups against Southern Methodist University (Feb. 21) and Houston (Feb. 25). Barkley was averaging 12 points and 7.3 rebounds per-game in his 25 appearances this season while also guarding the oppositions primary forward.

Fortunately for ECU, the Golden Wave are just 3-5 in conference games on the road. While the Pirates are just 2-6 in conference games at home, the possible electricity Senior Night could provide may help ECU snap the losing streak. More importantly, ECU must shoot better than its season average of 43.3 percent from the field and 30.1 percent from the three-point line.

With Barkley now absent, redshirt freshman guard Shawn Williams knows the team needs a boost to finish the season strong.

"We just really need to get back to playing the way we were,"



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Senior guard B.J. Tyson shoots over UCONN forward David Onuorah.

Williams said. "With Tulane and USF, we were actually playing better than before. We started shooting better and started clicking. When we played SMU, we got distracted."

ECU will look to win out as it has two more games before the American Athletic Conference tournament starts on March 8 in Orlando, Florida.

"Right now we are going to focus on Tulsa, they are a really good team," Tyson said. "That is a team that we can come out and probably beat, and we have to come with the mindset of playing like we are the underdog in the conference."

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



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Senior infielder Meredith Burroughs swings at a pitch for the Pirates in the ECU Softball Stadium. She leads the team with two homeruns on the year.

Softball team looks to bounce back

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University softball team will travel to Hawaii to participate in the Malihini Kipa Aloha Tournament from Friday through March 4, then the Hawai'i Spring Fling Tournament from March 7-9.

Old competitors and new competitors, from the East Coast to the West Coast will be taking on ECU. The teams making the trip include Longwood University, University of Hawai'i, University of California, James Madison University and the University of Texas at El Paso to participate in the Aloha Tournament. Longwood, Hawai'i and JMU will hang around for the Spring Fling Tournament along with the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and Brigham Young University.

Head coach Courtney Oliver has never participated in these tournaments during her time as head coach at ECU, but is ready for the opportunities it will bring. She has been reminding her girls that it is a business trip, not spring break, and says the teams know there are ball games to win.

"Experience is definitely what we need," Oliver said. "Experience with our young

pitching staff and learning to bounce back and play seven innings."

Freshman outfielder Tyler King is from California and says she is looking forward to playing California and Hawai'i because she will face some girls she played softball both with and against in her youth. Although the Pirates have faced highs and lows already this season, including a six-game losing streak, the team is hoping to come out with more knowledge and experience before conference play begins on Mar. 23.

After a five-game hitting streak, King hopes to continue her hot play in Hawaii. She just moved into the lead-off role in the lineup, meaning her ability to get on base will usually set the tone for the rest of the lineup. Even if King doesn't get on base, putting the ball in play can move runners into scoring position, which is also a success at bat.

"I will be having successful at bats either by putting the ball in play hard or working the count and taking good swings," King said. "I always have great hitters coming up behind me. If I don't get the job done, I trust the rest of my teammates to do it."

Freshmen pitchers Erin Poepping and

Whitney Sanford have a combined 52 strikeouts in 94.2 innings, which motivates Sanford going into these tournaments. She is ready to play against great softball programs as she has gotten rid of all of her collegiate nerves after the past few games. Being a freshman and getting this opportunity to play in Hawaii is a great learning experience, according to Sanford.

"This tournament will gain so much knowledge for me through pitching and even just the game of softball itself," Sanford said. "All of the teams we play are very good and with this competition, it will help me going into conference knowing that I have already faced such good competition."

Longwood lost three of five games last weekend and is 6-4, while Hawai'i is 6-6 after dropping four of five games last weekend. Looking at the rest of the competition, California is ranked No.15 in this week's USA Today and National Fastpitch Coaches Association poll with a record of 15-1. JMU (9-2) and UTEP (9-7) both swept its competition last weekend as well.

ECU will start off the Malihini Kipa Aloha Tournament with a doubleheader against Longwood on Friday at 9 p.m. then Hawai'i at 11:30. The Hawai'i Spring Fling tournament starts March 7 with a rematch between ECU and Hawai'i at 11 p.m.

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

ONLINE

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