



SUP DOGS BARTENDER TALKS LIFE BEHIND THE BAR Turn to A6



The East Carolinian

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Zachary Elliott plays "Grand Theft Auto V." "Grand Theft Auto V" contains violent themes and has sold 90 million copies worldwide.

Gaming vs. gun violence

Community members weigh in on ongoing debate

Angel De Jesus
TEC STAFF

With the recent remarks of President Donald Trump and others about how violence in video games is to blame for influencing young Americans to commit horrendous acts, such as mass shootings, this brings up an old argument that has become common with mass shootings since the late 1990s.

Violence in video games is nothing new. With popular games such as the "Call of Duty" franchise, "Grand Theft Auto" and many others selling millions of copies, the demand for games with explicit violence is not going away. According to Paul Tassi of Forbes, "Grand Theft Auto V," a game that lets players commit various violent crimes, has sold 90 million copies world wide.

Players of these popular games, such as East Carolina University computer sci-

ence alumnus and gamer Zach Thomas said these games are just entertainment and it is ridiculous for others to think playing a game makes people want to commit violent acts.

"Many people play games as an escape. It's just entertainment like movies, music and all of that," Thomas said.

"Most people don't do what they see in movies or what they listen to in music, and the same goes for games. But if you do, that is a problem with yourself that you had way before you were introduced to games."

Thomas said he competes in small tournaments in the military first-person shooting game, "Call of Duty." He said in these tournaments, it is highly competitive but everyone playing gets along for the most part and are there to have fun.

Thomas added he believes games can be a bonding experience and feels, at times,

they are a social scapegoat for lawmakers when they cannot come up with solutions to serve the public.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

"I feel like games and media that the younger generation is into, is sometimes used to blame for the shortcomings of those in charge," Thomas said. "I can understand why games are not some people's thing, but to put blame on it as a main cause of someone who does something terrible and that needs help in other ways? That stuff is just mad to me"

According to ECU assistant professor of psychiatry Dr. Michael Baker, there has been meta analysis in regards to playing violent games and aggressive behavior. Although these studies have shown playing violent video games can cause increases in violent behavior, there is no evidence

> VIDEO GAMES page A6

>> WHERE THERE'S SMOKE THERE'S FIRE

Outside firm continues interviews

Matthew Prensley
TEC STAFF

As an outside firm continues its evaluation of Greenville Fire/Rescue, firefighters say they feel positive about the meetings. One current firefighter who went through one of the group interviews said the meeting was very productive.

"I was not expecting our group of guys to speak up and say much and I was quite surprised that we did. I'm glad we did," said the current GFR firefighter, who spoke to The East Carolinian on the condition of anonymity.

The current GFR firefighter said Developmental Associates' member Greg Grayson, Jim Albright and Joe Durham were at the meeting. He added the group was very professional and made the meeting comfortable for firefighters.

Developmental Associates began meeting with firefighters in group sessions last week and will continue this week. Greenville City Manager Ann Wall announced on March 16 the city hired Developmental Associates to evaluate GFR after meeting with more than a dozen current and former firefighters.

The current GFR firefighter said he was concerned others wouldn't speak up out of fear of being retaliated against for bad-mouthing GFR's management. However, in his opinion, it seems as if Developmental Associates knew about the concern because it reminded firefighters they could email the firm with their concerns.

"In my opinion, we were blatantly honest, and I can't speak for other stations, but I feel if every one of the meetings went as well as ours did yesterday (Wednesday), then I feel like the potential is there to start making some changes," said the current GFR firefighter.

The current GFR firefighter said his group identified retention, training, staffing levels, sleep, the use of the squad trucks and morale as the main topics of concern for GFR.

Developmental Associates' team of Heather Lee along with Grayson, Albright and Durham will continue to meet



Ann Wall

> GFR page A2

Rogers, Smith reflect on 2017-18 SGA tenure

Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

With East Carolina University's Student Government Association's President La'Quon Rogers and Vice President Ryan Smith passing their responsibilities on to their replacements on April 28, the two colleagues look back fondly on their journey of leading the student body.

Rogers said when they first campaigned, he and Smith came to the student body with commitments rather than promises. Rogers said he and his administration aimed to be a voice for every student on campus.

"We wanted to make commitments SMART — that stands for specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time bound," Rogers said.

Rogers dedicated some of his term to serving ECU students by representing the university at the state level. He served as chair of the Council of Student Body Presidents, which is the first official representation ECU has had at the state level in years, according to Rogers.

"There's obligation there to the Board of Governors, other meetings and also the city of Greenville," Rogers said.

Smith said he remembered when he would receive messages late in the evening for things that needed to be done by the next morning. Smith said his dedication to service motivated him to sacrifice time in order to achieve the goals set by the assembly.

"There were plenty of weekends in the office spent preparing stuff for committees," Smith said.

SGA Speaker Troy Nance played a huge role in the cohesiveness of the assembly, according to Rogers. Nance said the focus of this year's assembly was to become more structured.

"You can't fix everything in one year and obviously we knew that," Nance said. "But, the little things we did seem to make a huge impact"

As far as key moments throughout their term, Smith doesn't point to any sole moment as being the most significant, but rather the change in conduct between the executive council and student body. He said the student body has become more apt to expressing its



Troy Nance



From left: Ryan Smith and La'Quon Rogers currently serve as vice president and president of SGA.

concerns with SGA.

Rogers said an itemized list was placed on their social media and SGA's website for the student body to keep track of which goals were fulfilled by the assembly.

Although Rogers and Smith have accomplished most of their goals during their terms both are excited to graduate. Rogers will

join a management team at a firm that provides non-acute transportation services. Smith will pursue a career in the field of either financial or data analytics.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

ONLINE

» ECU Parking and Transportation is optimistic about LimeBike issues

» Former quarterback Gardner Minshew transfers to Washington

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BRIEFS

ECU counselor to speak at feminist organization

East Carolina University's chapter of She's The First will host an ECU counselor at its general body meeting today at 6:30 p.m. in Bate 1015.

Maya Pittman works at the ECU Counseling Center, where her clinical interests include anxiety, depression, body image, grief and relationship issues. She's The First is a nonprofit organization that supports gender equality in terms of education, and works toward raising funds for young girls to get an education in countries across the globe.

For more information on this event, visit the ECU chapter of She's The First's Twitter page at @stf_ecu.

Marketing Association to celebrate Holi

East Carolina University's chapter of the American Marketing Association will host its annual campus Holi Festival of Colors tomorrow from 5 to 7 p.m.

Taking place at the bottom of College Hill, the event is in collaboration with ECU's Indian Student Association, ECU's Delta Phi Omega sorority and ECU's Iota Nu Delta fraternity. The Holi Festival of Colors will have free food, shirt design stations and cultural performances.

For more information on this event, visit the ECU AMA chapter's Twitter page at @AMA_ECU.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

ECU praised for LGBT openness

Taylor Nishimoto
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University recently received a four and a half out of five stars from a nonprofit organization for its welcomeness toward LGBT individuals on campus.

"We received a four and a half campus pride index as well as the premier status. We are the only school in the state with premier status," Jon Cockerham, a member of the committee put together to tackle this mission, said.



Jon Cockerham

Campus Pride is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to create a safe college environment for LGBT students, according to the organization's website. It provides resources and helps develops programs and services for LGBT students, including its



The LGBT Resource Office in Brewster offers services to LGBT students.

review of campus welcomeness.

Cockerham said the process is lengthy and thorough. He added the committee was put together over a year ago, although ECU just recently received its rating.

"It was this committee that worked to go through the eight categories that Campus Pride index assess, fill out or reports,

and then Kathy Hill was the one who put it together and submit it to Campus Pride," Mark Rasdorf, associate director for the LGBT Resource Office, said.

Cockerham said Campus Pride sent ECU a form to fill out, asking specific questions about the school's policies and campus life. Campus Pride then contacts the university

for any clarification needed.

Cockerham said he thinks ECU is one of the leaders in LGBT friendliness within the state, specifically with faculty and student affairs.

"From a policy standpoint, they are very open," Cockerham said. "I mean, you can go to the Student Health Center if you're trans and (they) will actually help you out and put your hormones in."

One way Cockerham could see ECU improving when it comes to LGBT friendliness is by having better living situations for those within the community such as a LGBT living learning community.

However, Cockerham said the friendliness toward LGBT students was one of the contributing factors to his decision in coming to ECU. With this rating, ECU can be more appealing to high school seniors looking for a welcoming campus toward all students.

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

GFR continued from A1

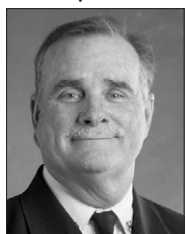
with firefighters tomorrow and Thursday, according to a letter detailing the evaluation from Lee.

The letter was sent to firefighters before the evaluation began last week. It was given to The East Carolinian by former GFR firefighter Brian Oliver, who resigned from the department in 2013 with four years of service.

Tim Bradley, executive director of the North Carolina State Firefighters Association, said these types of evaluations aren't uncommon for municipalities to commission. Bradley added the evaluations give citizens and elected officials

an unbiased opinion on a issue.

"It would be like finding a news network that wasn't Republican or Democrat," Bradley said.



Tim Bradley

hometown fire department in Mebane, North Carolina.

If he was the chief of a department being evaluated, Bradley said he would welcome it because it would reaffirm his decision-making.

However, Bradley added, "Unless I wasn't confident in what I was doing, then I might

not welcome it."

Bradley said cities use outside firms all the time to provide them with unbiased opinions on everything from police policies to engineering projects.

The current GFR firefighter said in his years at GFR, this isn't the first time the city has had GFR evaluated.

In September of 2014, GFR was evaluated by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The East Carolinian obtained a copy of the ICMA study through a public records request.

According to the study's executive summary, the city commissioned the study in order to get a "thorough and unbiased review of emergency services provided by the Greenville Fire/

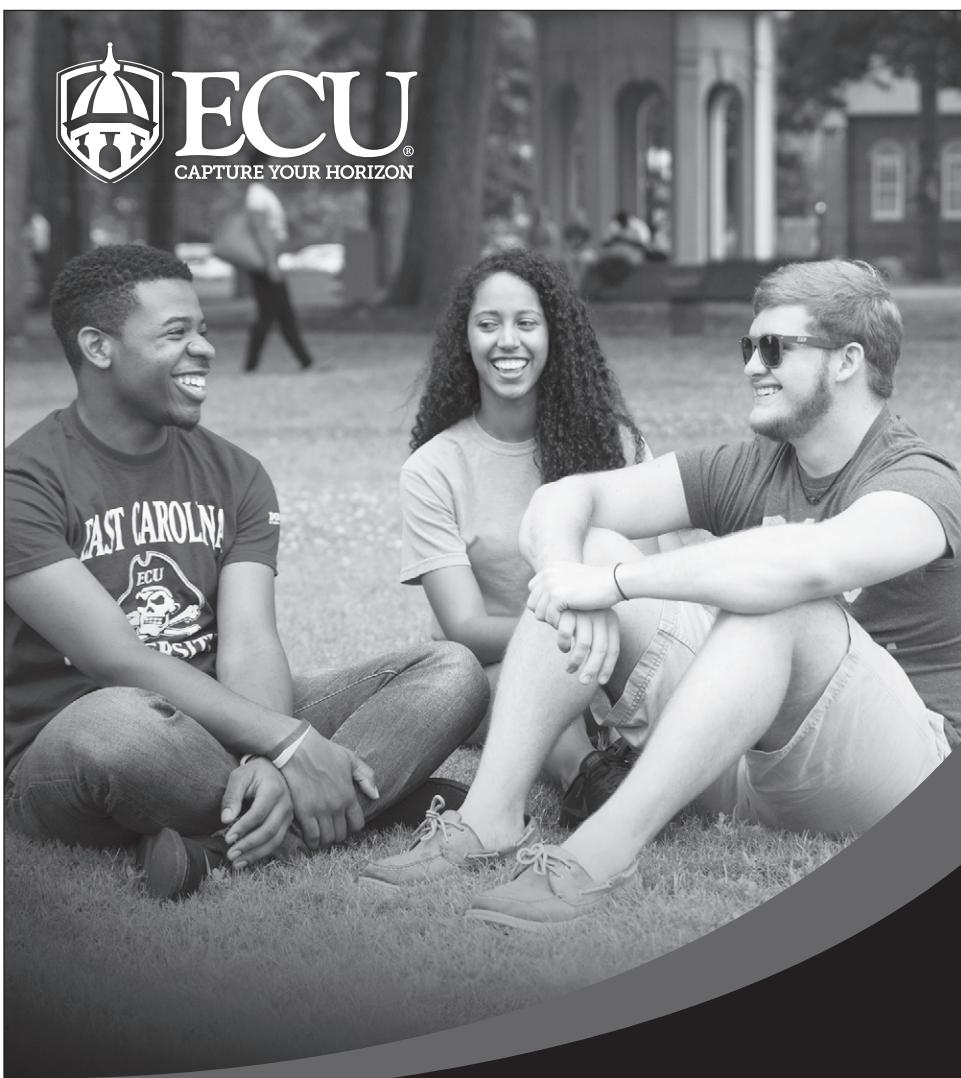
Rescue Department."

However, unlike the current evaluation, the ICMA didn't use a protected email address or anonymous survey to gather information from firefighters about their concerns.

The East Carolinian attempted to contact Wall and the city's Public Information Officer Brock Letchworth to see how the city would use the findings of the evaluation, whether or not the results would be publicly available and if the decision to commission an evaluation of GFR meant firefighters' concerns were credible.

However, after multiple to get any comment from Wall or Letchworth, no emails were returned to The East Carolinian.

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



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OUR VIEW

Women's teams deserve more support

With the strong play of the East Carolina University baseball team currently on the minds of the fans of Pirate athletics, the success of the women's sporting teams has been largely overlooked this season. Despite this, many of ECU's women's sports have made large strides in becoming top teams in the American Athletic Conference.

We, the editorial staff at The East Carolinian, believe Pirate Nation should recognize the improvements and show greater support for the women's athletics teams at ECU.

ECU volleyball entered this year ranked 11 out of 12 in the AAC coaching polls, but finished with the best record in ECU history at 22-11, including 13-7 in the AAC, placing fourth in the conference. Along with volleyball, the women's basketball team made strides of its own, securing it's first season above .500 since the 2014-15 season.

While the softball team's record is not eye-popping at 15-18, it has rattled off nine wins in its last 12 games, including two wins over James Madison University, a team ranked No. 23 in the nation at the time of the Pirates' first victory. The women's golf team has also placed second in two separate tournaments this spring, and is currently ranked 37th in the nation.

Along with these teams, other women's programs such as the swim and dive and tennis teams have shown huge improvements in their respective sports.

With these women's teams showing steady improvement, attendance from fans needs to follow the trend, creating a supportive home field advantage.

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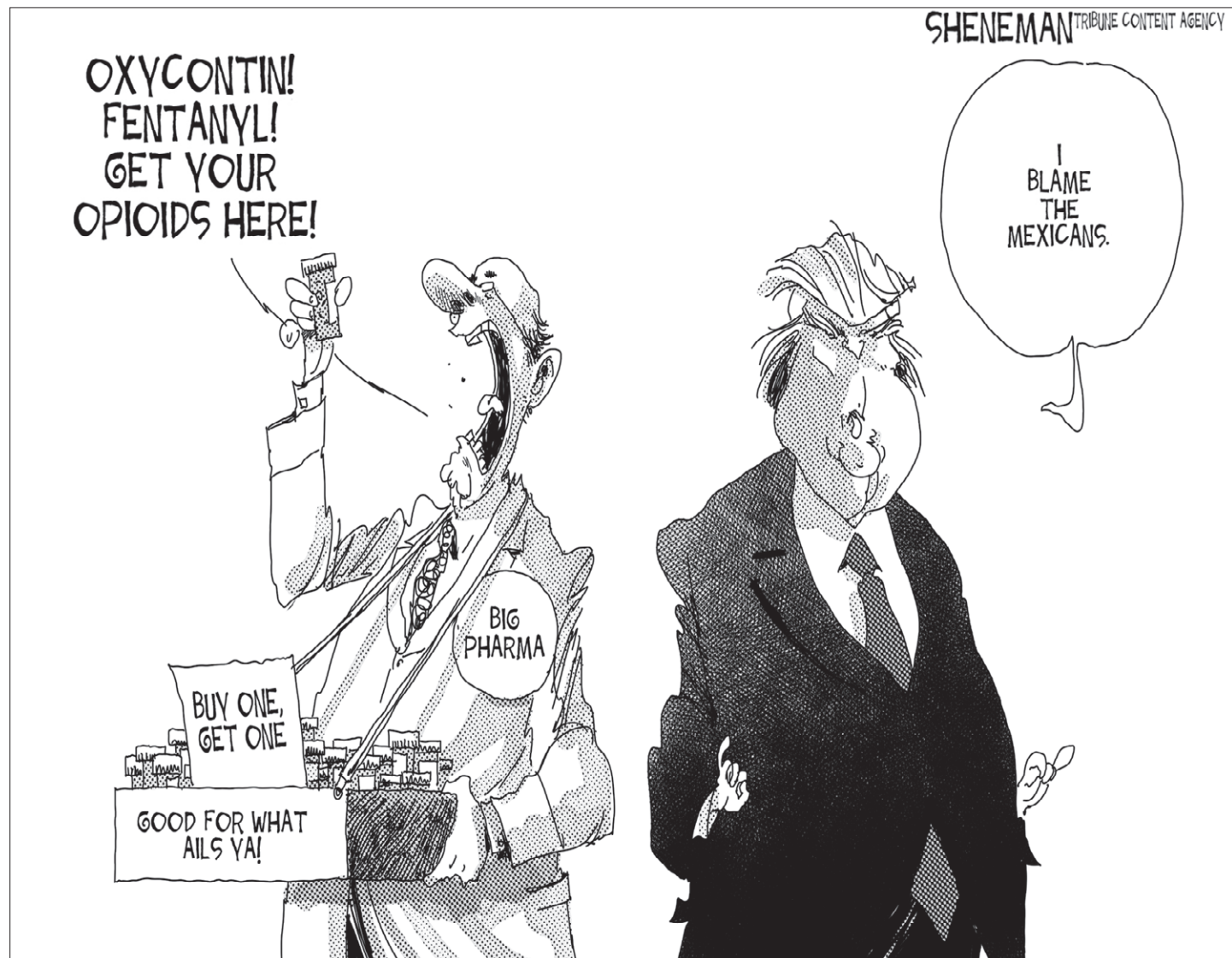
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Media needs more diverse voices

Mass violence coverage lacks minority representation



Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF

Over the last few weeks, several tragedies have captured our nation's headlines. The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting on Feb. 14, in Parkland, Florida and most recently,

the multiple bombings that took place in Austin, Texas, have led to much needed conversations. While both events have received national attention in the media, there's one glaring similarity in the coverage of these events — a lack of minority representation.

In a recent interview with Axios, Marjory Stoneman Douglas survivor David Hogg said the biggest mistake the media made in its coverage of the shooting was not giving black survivors the same level of attention or voice as the white students. When I first heard that, I wasn't completely surprised. What did surprise me, however, was what he said next — black students make up about 25 percent of Marjory Stoneman Douglas' student body. Does the media's coverage reflect that? Absolutely not. If you look at the coverage of the Parkland shooting over the last month, the prominent voices being interviewed and featured have been almost entirely white students. So much so, in fact, most people have no idea the school has a fairly large minority student population.

Just a few weeks after the Parkland shooting, bombs started going off in the city of Austin. For 19 days, these mysterious bombs terrorized the city, leaving minority communities in the area on high alert.

The two victims that were killed were African American and a third victim who was seriously injured was Hispanic. The locations of the first three bombs were all in east Austin, a largely black and Hispanic populated-area. Perhaps it was because of this very reason these bombings didn't receive as much attention in the mainstream media.

Fast forward to last week, when after being hunted by the authorities, the bomber blew himself up. His identity was released — a 23-year-old white, Christian male — and almost immediately the narrative became one of humanizing a murderer. If the suspect is white, his or her treatment in the media is worlds apart from suspects of color. Both in broadcast and print, headlines and social media posts from news companies such as The New York Times described the Austin bomber as "a quiet, 'nerdy' young man." At a press conference, the Austin police chief referred to the suspect as "a very challenged young man," which the mainstream media reported.

Now, this isn't a new trend. It's a trend we see occurring over and over again — the stark contrast between how white suspects are treated versus how minority victims are. If the last few weeks have been any indication, minority victims just aren't given the same level of attention as white victims, or even white suspects who terrorize entire cities with multiple bombs. Imagine, just for a second, if this bomber had been Muslim, black or Hispanic? I know exactly how that would have played out in the media because we see it happen all too often. Black, Muslim, Arab, Pakistani, Hispanic suspects just

aren't offered that same presumption of innocence as white suspects.

In a recent interview with PBS, Koritha Mitchell, an associate professor at Ohio State University said "...the way that we can talk about people determines how we can treat them. Because we are determined to treat white men as citizens no matter what, to treat them as people who belong in the fold no matter what. That is the reason we will not use words like 'terrorist.'"

As a minority in media, someone who one day hopes to work in news media, it's disheartening to see. I love journalism and media. It's what I want to do, what I am passionate about. Ask anyone that knows me — I am a journalism nerd. With that said though, our media is far from perfect. It's frustrating to see how most media companies cover minority communities, regardless of whether we are talking about victims or suspects.

The burden of covering minority communities justly, and giving those voices the same level of importance and coverage, shouldn't fall just on minority journalists. It shouldn't take minority journalists to call out the racial bias in mainstream news media. Whitewashing tragedies that affect all races only creates more problems. How can we, as journalists and purveyors of the truth, present an accurate news story when minority representation is continuously lacking from the narrative? The answer is: we can't. As consumers of news media, and those of us who are actually going into the world of media, we need to do better. We must do better.

Javeria Salman is a senior majoring in communication. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com

Campus parking is pathetic joke



Robbie's Rumbles

Parking at East Carolina University has been a problem in the majority of students' eyes for years, and it certainly isn't getting any better.

A recent survey sent out by ECU's Parking and Transportation asked for participants to select the option they prefer for the new parking garage being built. There were three options available: paying one dollar an hour, parking in the garage after 5:30 p.m. for \$300 a year or making it where you park in the Minges lot or the C lot and moving into the garage after 5:30 p.m. for \$400 a year. These three options are a slap in the face to students.

The students pay thousands of dollars to obtain a degree in the field of their choice and many live off-campus. With living off-campus comes the problem

of getting to campus, and while there are buses from apartments, sometimes the schedule doesn't coincide with the student's schedule and they end up having to drive to campus.

The parking system now is in different tiers. Yes, the tiers make sense, but they also cut into the parking availability for students. While any student can buy a parking pass, once you buy it there are restricted, designated parking zones that sometimes force the driver into undesired locations. If a driver is in a rush to get somewhere in the heart of campus and has a C lot pass, the parking system doesn't allow for a student to get there in a timely manner because they have to park near Minges Coliseum, then wait on a bus. Yes, the buses are helpful at times, but as soon as there is a backup at a light it slows the whole system down.

The best way for the parking system to be fixed is to create one pass for every student and employee to buy. One pass to park anywhere on campus. This would be a fair way to ensure everyone has access

to all parts of campus without having to worry about getting a ticket for running into the library for a 10-minute printing operation. Yes, I understand that would require ECU to create more parking, but I feel it would be more beneficial to the university as a whole.

With the current parking system, too many students find themselves getting fined because, instead of wanting to go through the whole process of parking in a designated area then catching a bus to a stop near their destination, they park close for a short mission. The school makes thousands of dollars on parking passes, so it isn't unreasonable to think an all-access parking pass would appease everyone.

In the end, the solution to the parking crisis is to make it more accessible to everyone that has a solid role on the campus whether it be teaching, learning, or working in other capacities

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

>> COLUMN

Lacrosse struggles in first season



Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University lacrosse team has had a difficult time getting on its feet. The Pirates have a record of 2-10, just recently snapping an eight-game losing streak against Delaware

State University on Saturday, 16-2.

Having a youthful team hurts the lacrosse team, but this is a problem with no solution beyond more playing time and recruiting in its first off-season. Most of the team is comprised of freshmen with the exception of two sophomores, one junior and one senior out of the total 27 girls. Obviously freshmen don't start from day one in collegiate programs, but that isn't an option for ECU.

The Pirates have constantly been outscored by opponents, trailing by a combined 71 points in their losses, an average of 8.2 goals per game. Their biggest loss was on March 17 against Columbia University, falling by 12 goals (18-6).

I believe the defense needs to be reevaluated for ECU since it hasn't proven an ability to execute. On several occasions throughout the season, the Pirates' defense has sat back and waited for opposing offenses to attack, when it should actually be hustling after them to try and gain possession or make blocks when possible.

Continuing the list of necessary improvements for this young team is its shooting ability, or lack thereof. Even though the team is starting to attempt more shots, they are still failing to put the ball in the net, possibly because of poor angles or inconsistent shots. It is great for them to get there, but finishing will obviously lead to more Pirates' wins.

The last area of improvement is in net at goalie. In ECU's second game against Winthrop, 17 of the Eagle's 28 shots were goals, a 60 percent conversion rate. In total, if the Pirates continue to let up goals at such an alarming rate, they will never give themselves a chance to win down the stretch. But when the defense is actually up to the task, it's clear ECU does have some fire power on its team.

In their most recent game against DSU, the Pirates came out victorious in a crushing 16-2 game. The team won more draw controls, committed less turnovers and put more shots on goal than the Hornets, a recipe for success. The Pirates need to keep this kind of play to keep up the winning.

Looking to start its first winning streak on Friday, ECU will take on Drexel University at noon at Johnson Stadium.

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



East Carolina University sophomore left handed pitcher Jake Agnos throws the ball in the two-game series against the College of Charleston March 7.

>> BASEBALL

ECU handles UCF 2-1

Robert Romero
TEC STAFF

The No. 16 ranked East Carolina University baseball team went to Orlando, Florida, this weekend and put the entire American Athletic Conference on notice with its 2-1 series win over the previously ranked University of Central Florida.

"This was a great series win for us, going on the road and playing a really good team," head coach Cliff Godwin said.

Entering the series, ECU (18-5, 2-1 AAC) looked like a team on a mission through its first 20 games, going 16-4 behind superb performances from the offense, defense and pitching. Godwin has engraved his pitch-by-pitch mindset in the heads of his players, and it's been the key to their success all season.

But with the former No. 23 UCF (18-8, 1-2 AAC) being their first AAC opponent, it's hard to imagine the Pirates didn't circle this series on their calendar at the beginning of the year. The Knights pose a huge threat atop the AAC, entering the series with a 17-6 record that included wins over No. 2 University of Florida and No. 22 University of Virginia, making this weekend an opportunity for ECU to show what it's really made of.

Not only did the Pirates prove to themselves that they're the real deal, but they showed the rest of the teams in the AAC that they need to bring their A-game if they want to



Tyler Smith

have a chance of beating ECU. In game three of this weekend's series, the Knights attacked ECU's Tyler Smith early by jumping out to a 4-1 lead in the first three innings, hoping it would be enough for UCF's pitching to shut the door

the rest of the way.

ECU faced a talented pitching staff of J.J. Montgomery, Luis Ferrer, Cre Finrock and Eric Hepple, who entered the game with combined ERA under 2.00. But the Pirates' discipline at the plate ultimately came through in the end, putting together a string of good at-bats that resulted in ECU outscoring UCF 10-2 the rest of the way, securing the 11-6 victory.

"We didn't pitch well, but offensively we hung in there and got to their bullpen," Godwin said. "It was good to see Gavin (Williams) get back out there, and he, along with (Zach) Barnes, really shut the door over the final three innings."

The saying goes, pitching wins championships, and ECU's pitching staff has been the drive for its success all season. The Pirates lead the AAC in total ERA at 2.47, and allow the fewest home runs (five) and walks (59) in the conference. But even though their pitching wasn't at their best, the

Pirates still gave UCF its first series loss of the year because the offense took advantage of opportunities the Knights presented.

This was also key in game two when redshirt sophomore catcher Jake Washer lead-off the eighth inning with a game tying solo homer that seemed to rattle the UCF defense. The Knights went on to commit three errors in the inning which lead to eight more ECU runs to put the game out of reach.

When all parts of the cylinder are clicking, ECU has a dangerous combination of talent that's a threat to anyone in the NCAA, let alone the AAC. Although the Pirates are looking at the other top teams in the conference (University of Houston (16-8, 3-0 AAC), Wichita State University (17-4, 0-0 AAC) and University of South Florida (18-57, 2-1 AAC) as the team to beat, as they should, those teams are all looking back at ECU as one of the biggest threats in the conference for good reason.

Those top teams may have some areas where they are stronger than ECU, but their weaknesses aren't nearly as explicit as the Pirates', who hardly showed any at this point of the season.

Wichita State will do its best to defeat ECU when it comes to Greenville on Thursday to start the three-game series with Pirates at 6:30 p.m.

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

>> FOOTBALL

Gold team wins annual Purple-Gold game

Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

Dylan Johnson
TEC STAFF



In the annual Purple-Gold scrimmage on Saturday, the East Carolina University football team concluded its final instalment of spring practices when the Gold team earned the scrimmage victory, 21-14, at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

With 22 seconds left in the game, redshirt freshman running back Trace Christian scored the game-winning touchdown with a 22-yard scamper for the Gold team. Christian led both teams in touchdowns (3) and yards

(97), accounting for all his team's touchdowns on the day. Overall, both teams played well according to head coach Scottie Montgomery.

"It was all around a great day. The competition between the Purple and the Gold was good to see," Montgomery said. "I can't really talk much about what is going to happen between the Gold and the Purple, but let's just say it was a big deal that the Gold won and the Purple lost."

The Purple team was led by big plays in the passing game. Redshirt freshman quarterback Holton Ahlers completed 12 passes on 18 attempts for 205 yards and looked comfortable doing so. Senior receiver Trevon Brown caught nine passes for 169 yards. The D.H. Conley connection was working in the air as well, as redshirt freshman wide receiver Duce Fuller caught five passes for 114 yards from his former high school quarterback Ahlers.

Some of the 2017-18 recruiting class, such as Ahlers, redshirt freshman running back Jeff Onyegbule, Christian, Fuller and freshman defensive back Myles Berry competed on a college field for their first time. Ahlers led all the quarterbacks with a solid day for the Purple team. Berry played an active role for Purple, making two tackles, one tackle for loss, a sack, one pass deflection and recovered a fumble.

Quarterback Reid Herring had a solid day as well, completing 12 passes on 20 attempts for 191 yards, and most importantly, led his team to victory. After the game, Herring spoke with reporters about the atmosphere for the team.

"Winning was definitely fun. (We) had a little smack-talk going on," Herring said.

The Gold team outgained the Purple team 352-314 yards in the game, gaining most of it (156) on the ground due to Gold team's poor run game. The passing offense worked well for the Purple team, having two receivers in Brown (169) and Fuller (114) have 100-yard days. Montgomery was proud of the team's progress.

"Overall we did a good job and a lot of energy despite a lot of things that were going on," Montgomery said. "It's really really good to see our guys come in here and compete at such a high level."

On the defensive side of the ball, the



ECU running back Trace Christian runs the ball.

Pirates looked good and Montgomery praised both teams for their energy in the scrimmage. Sophomore defensive lineman Raequan Purvis (Purple) and defensive back Colby Gore (Gold) each had six tackles for their teams. Saturday also featured a spring awards show at halftime where Montgomery gave out awards for the teams work throughout the spring, including offensive MVP, defensive MVP and offensive newcomer of the year. Gore earned the Defensive MVP and Special Teams MVP awards. The Most Improved Defensive Player award went to sophomore linebacker Bruce Bivens, who had five total tackles for the Gold squad.

After the scrimmage, the quarterback competition appeared to lean toward Herring after his solid day passing the ball, which wasn't lost on the sophomore.

"I still got two guys behind me who are working their butts off the get the job so I can't let up at all," Herring said.

The Pirates will continue to prepare for the 2018-19 season opener against North Carolina A&T at Dowdy-Ficklen on Sept. 1.

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

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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			
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			46					47				
48	49	50				51	52			53		
54						55				56		
57						58				59		

ACROSS

- 1 "___ Masterson"
- 4 Mayberry boy
- 8 "The Four Seasons" star Alan
- 12 Wallach of "Baby Doll"
- 13 "Let's ___ a Deal"
- 14 Andy Williams song, "___ River"
- 15 Berenger or Bosley
- 16 Randolph Mantooth TV series
- 18 Bara of silent movies
- 20 Actor McKellen
- 21 Peter Fonda movie
- 24 Charles S. Dutton sitcom
- 27 Superman's Lois
- 28 Comic Poundstone
- 30 Ferrell or Banks
- 33 Ripken of the Orioles
- 35 Will of "The Waltons"
- 36 Pat or Debby
- 38 "Just Shoot Me!" character
- 40 "The ___ Also Rises"
- 41 Eagles classic
- 46 Santa ___ winds
- 47 "Touched by an ___"
- 48 "The High ___"

- 54 Michael of "Houston Knights"
- 55 Claude Akins TV series
- 56 Simpson trial judge
- 57 "The Bold ___"
- 58 "East of ___"
- 59 Fabray, familiarly

DOWN

- 1 Midler sitcom
- 2 1981 series, "___ Paradise"
- 3 "Good ___"
- 4 Mark of golf
- 5 Dawber of "Mork & Mindy"
- 6 Eisenhower
- 7 Spooky
- 8 Sitcom co-starring Clifton Davis
- 9 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"
- 10 Severinsen of "The Tonight Show"
- 11 "___ Number Can Play"
- 17 "The World According to ___"
- 19 "Like a Rolling Stone" singer
- 22 "Models ___"
- 23 James and Dizzy
- 24 "The Murders in the ___ Morgue"
- 25 Grand ___ Opry
- 26 "My Mother the ___"
- 29 Storch role on "F Troop"
- 30 TV superstation
- 31 "Mad About ___"
- 32 Howard of "Happy Days"
- 34 Old game show, "___ Service"
- 37 "So Big" writer Ferber
- 39 Kevin of "SNL"
- 42 "Guitar Town" singer Steve
- 43 "Time and ___"
- 44 Actress Burke
- 45 Nancy of "Pollyanna"
- 46 "Planet of the ___"
- 48 Rickles sitcom, "___ Sharkey"
- 49 "Star Wars" character
- 50 "Bells ___ Ringing"
- 51 Serling of "The Twilight Zone"
- 52 Vigoda of "Fish"

Solution from Thursday

M	I	S	S		B	A	B	E		A	T	F
B	O	A	T		O	M	A	R		S	R	I
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A	N	E			N	E	D	S		A	L	E

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Spend time with someone attractive. Things may not go as planned. Don't fall for a trick. Avoid a pitfall, and stick to relaxing pursuits. Learn from children.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Domestic issues have your focus. Provide stable support for a loved one. Work together to handle chores. Lower expenses with simple home-cooked ingredients.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Harness your creativity and write. You're learning new tricks. Reinforce basics and support structures. Clarify facts and distill data down to golden nuggets.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Compile budgets and estimates. Additional income is available. Schedule actions to optimal deadlines. Don't rely on luck. Have a backup plan.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Take care of personal business. Secure your online personal data. Protect your identity and information. Make a valuable connection to save time and money. Minimize risk.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- An answer may appear in a dream. Check your internal gauges before making important decisions. Rest and care for yourself to maintain a positive attitude.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Schedule meetings, gatherings and parties. Friends spark new network connections and opportunities. Lend a helping hand, and your efforts return multiplied.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Professional options and decisions take focus. There's more work, and your attention is in demand. Resist impulsive or shaky moves. Stand strong. Smile and wave.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Get into an educational discussion. Study or travel and discover bold new worlds. Postpone partying, and hit the books. An exploration draws you in.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- You can find the resources you need. Review profits, loss and balance accounts. Handle paperwork and logistics. Make payments and send invoices.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Collaborate with your partner. Use your charm and inspire another to action. Share responsibilities for a common goal. Strategize and follow through.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Work could interfere with playtime. Speed up the tempo to finish faster. Physical action makes a satisfying difference. Steady practice is required.

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COMICS

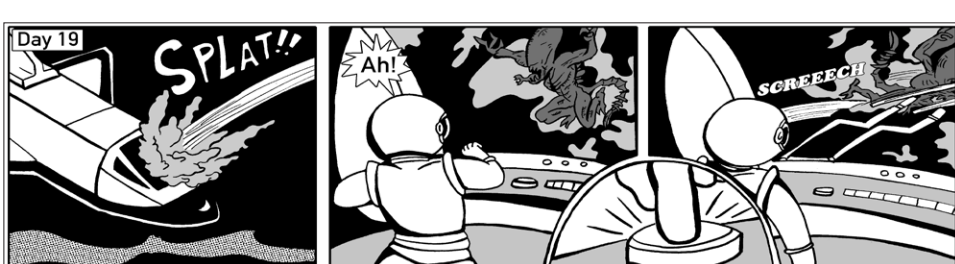
BREWSTER ROCKIT



BEST IN SHOW



ONE AND ONLY



BRIAN JUDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

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Solution from Thursday

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

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>> MEET YOUR BARTENDERS

Sup Dogs bartender shares experience

ECU senior Madi Beeson pours specialty drinks, serves savory hot dogs

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

Editor's note: This is part one in a five-part Tuesday series titled, "Meet Your Bartenders."

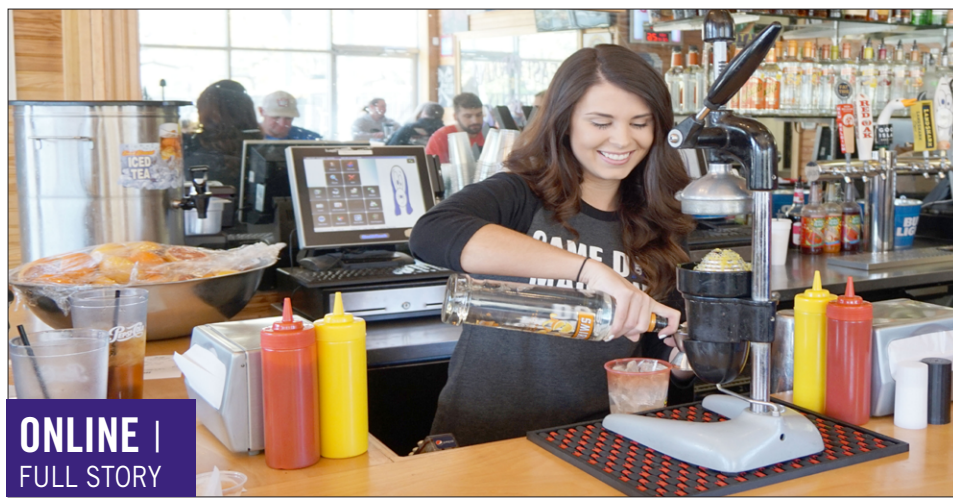
Sup Dogs was filled with music and chatter as Madi Beeson grabbed vodka, triple sec, sierra mist and an orange to make one of the establishment's premium cocktails: the Orange Sup Crush.

Beeson, a Sup Dogs' server and bartender, and a senior marketing major at East Carolina University, quickly making the drink which she said "is just natural to make" at this point, while working behind the counter at Sup Dogs, located at 213 E. 5th St.

"Anybody can sell a hotdog. Anybody can sell a beer. So, what it comes down to is people, and the staff is what makes Sup Dogs great," Bret Oliverio, owner of the establishment, said. "Finding the combination of personality, work ethic — it's just tough to find, and as a business owner, when you find those types of people, you just really appreciate them. Nothing is more important than the people that work here."

Beeson said she began working at Sup Dogs her sophomore year as a host and food runner, eventually moving to the position of server and bartender. Though she will graduate in May and head home to a job in Thomasville, North Carolina, she said she would have been an employee of the establishment for three years in October, if she were staying.

She started at 19 years old and, now at 22, said if she were in Greenville next year, she would



ONLINE | FULL STORY

DANIELLE SCHMID | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Sup Dogs' bartender Madi Beeson pours vodka over freshly squeezed orange juice for a Sup Crush.

definitely continue working at the restaurant and bar, adding Sup Dogs is "so cooperative and understanding" of the staff's schedules.

"I had some family things happen last semester and he (Oliverio) gave me a whole month off. It's like a family here for sure. It can get hectic sometimes if I have too much on my plate, but we have great girls here that cover each other's backs," Beeson said.

Oliverio said there are few businesses in college towns that are able to retain employees, but Sup Dogs has had many servers and bartenders for six or seven years. It comes down to the staff enjoying what they're doing and making good money, according to Oliverio.

Beeson said she typically works about two

to three shifts a week, which is equivalent to approximately 20 hours, on top of the seven classes she's currently enrolled in.

Though Beeson said the Orange Sup Crush and Sup Swirl are probably the most popular drinks, she loves making Long Island Iced Teas. She said Oliverio taught her how to make her first one.

Sitting at the bar drinking a Corona Extra with lime, senior biology major Kaelly Churchill said he gets the buffalo chicken strip sandwich every time. He added the service is always quick, despite the amount of customers.

"They're always really nice to me and always look professional. It's a great time every time I come here," Churchill said.

If she isn't working, Beeson said she, as well as other Sup Dogs bartenders and servers, will go to the restaurant to watch games or have a few drinks together.

"We do a bunch of staff stuff together, so normally if the staff is all getting together, we'll all meet at Sups and have a couple drinks and then we'll go out or go downtown. It's like having another family here," Beeson said. "Our GroupMe is actually called 'Sisterhood of the Traveling Sups'... There's girls that have worked five, six years ago that are still in it and are like, 'I miss you guys.'"

Beeson said many individuals look at the Sup Dogs environment and how busy it is, but she said the atmosphere is "so laid back" and the staff members genuinely care about one another.

While game days are "insane," according to Beeson, she and the staff love working them and interacting with students and their parents.

"The one particular that's sticking out to me is parents' weekend last year," Beeson said. "I worked the four to 10 (p.m.) shift and it was about eight o'clock and all these families start rolling in from the tailgating and I have moms and dads singing the songs that were on."

Beeson said she will miss the friends she's made at Sup Dogs the most when she moves after graduation.

"It's so cool walking into Sups and knowing everybody. It's awesome," Beeson said. "I think the family aspect I'll miss the most."

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

VIDEO GAMES

continued from A1

to suggest that playing violent games can lead a youth to commit a crime such as a mass shooting.

Baker also said there has been some evidence that suggests those who have committed mass shootings

have played violent video games, but again, there is no clear cause-and-effect relationship based on the evidence.

"In a laboratory setting, the evidence suggests that playing violent games can lead to increases in violent behavior," Baker said. "But it is not really clear whether laboratory findings correlate to real world incidences

of gun violence."

Thomas believes the arguments blaming video games for violence is similar to when older generations criticized their children for the risqué music lyrics they listened to and other cultural trends.

Gun owner and Vietnam Marine veteran John Westbrook said he understands the appeal of video

games but does think modern pop culture as a whole is to blame for many of today's social issues.

Westbrook said he believes there is a correlation between violence in video games and influencing youth.

"Music, movies, porn. All of that and more are corrupting us nowadays," Westbrook said. "I understand that gun control argument, and as

an owner of guns, believe it or not, I honestly believe something needs to be done with that aspect of things. But, there is absolutely no question that these violent games and movies are influencing people nowadays to act reckless."

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

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