



ECU SUSTAINABILITY TO HOST FINAL FILM SCREENING TOMORROW Turn to A6

The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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From left: Joe Webster and Pierce Williams rehearse on stage for ECU's upcoming production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

CASTING A SPELL 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to debut Thursday

Jenna Price
TEC STAFF

Magic, love and chaos are just a few words that describe the events of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by William Shakespeare. This play will be given a new vision through East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance, led by assistant professor Jennifer Scott Mobley. Mobley will make her directorial debut with ECU in her production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" starting Thursday. There will be performances on the Messick main stage beginning Thursday and continuing until Monday.

Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for the public, and can be purchased online at ECU Arts. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is the story of four Athenian lovers, Hermia, Demetrius, Lysander and Helena, who are dealing with the problems of law and love. When Hermia's father refuses to let her marry her beloved Lysander, the pair decide to escape into the forest. However, Hermia is betrothed to Demetrius and he follows them into the woods. Helena, who loves Demetrius, follows suit, hoping that she will be able to win the affection of Demetrius. In the woods, the lovers are subjected to the tricks of the fairy king,

queen and their servants. Aubrey Celene Moya-Mendez said she has spent a lot of time preparing for her role as Peaseblossom, a fairy for Queen Titania. In ECU's version of this play, Mobley has chosen to incorporate the four elements — earth, water, air and fire — as part of the nature of the fairies. Moya-Mendez's element is water, and she says she has spent a great deal of time creating fluid-like movements. "We've spent a lot of time focusing on how the fairies move," Moya-Mendez

> DREAM page A6

>> WHERE THERE'S SMOKE THERE'S FIRE

Evaluation enters its second stage

Matthew Prensky
TEC STAFF

What started as group meetings between Greenville Fire/Rescue firefighters and Developmental Associates has now progressed into the second stage of the firm's evaluation. During this stage of GFR's evaluation, Developmental Associates will conduct an anonymous survey of current and former GFR firefighters. The survey will be distributed to firefighters starting this week, according to Heather Lee, senior partner at Developmental Associates.

In an emailed statement, Lee said Developmental Associates met with approximately 90 percent of GFR's current firefighters and will use their feedback to create the survey. It will then be sent to firefighters currently at GFR, in its fire academy or firefighters who voluntarily left within the last few years, Lee said.



Heather Lee

"We are encouraging all GFRD employees to take advantage of the opportunity to share their perspective," Lee said.

Lee said current or former firefighters should use the firm's email, greenvillefrd@developmentalassociates.com, to "send comments and feedback and, for former employees, to confirm (their) desired emails and addresses to receive information about surveys."

However, some former GFR firefighters say there is some confusion among them about the survey. The confusion, they said, comes from rumors being spread that the survey had already been released.

> GFR page A2

ECU tennis closes season, sets new record

Austin Walker
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University men's and women's tennis teams both competed and won against American Athletic Conference opponents this weekend, with the men accomplishing a 20-plus win season for the first time under men's tennis head coach Shawn Henchion.

The men (21-4) hosted the University of Connecticut (4-15) on Sunday, winning 5-2, and setting a program record with 21 wins on the season. Henchion said he was proud of the team's effort this season.

"We try to focus on the next match this season, so we didn't look too hard at the record," Henchion said, "But we have had a number of wins against teams that beat us last year, and I'm really proud of the guys for that. We've also had good results at the end of the year, which is a credit to the guys for staying focused."

The team started and finished strong, as it took the doubles point and four of the six singles matches behind wins from senior Freddie McGeehan (6-7(5), 4-6, 6-1), junior Ronny Georgi (6-0, 6-4), freshman Wisse Jonker (4-6, 6-3, 1-0(3)) and sophomore Javier Renones (6-1, 6-1).

After playing his last regular season match as a Pirate, senior Kasey Countee was glad he could finish his regular season career on a high note.

"We played alright, but we can always be better," Countee said, "We've had a great season and it feels good to cap it off with a win."

The Pirates will have a rematch on Thursday, as the seven-seeded Pirates face the 10-seed Huskies in the AAC Championship at 9 a.m. in Dallas, Texas.

ECU's women faced UConn as well, but had to travel to Storrs for its matches. The Pirates defeated UConn (10-10), 4-2, on Friday then the University of Cincinnati (11-9), 4-3, on Saturday, ending the season on a five-match win streak.

In the UConn match, the team started cold, losing the doubles point, but rallied back in the singles. Junior Celia Ruiz (6-4, 6-3), sophomore Lisa Hofbauer (6-1, 6-1), junior Annija Veinsteina (6-1, 6-3) and freshman Hsia Ho Chiao (7-5, 6-2) all won their singles matches in straight sets to clinch the match for the Pirates. Women's head coach Tom Morris likes the way his team played.

> TENNIS page A5



Sophomore Javier Renones sets up to return the ball. ECU's men's tennis team set a new record.

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ONLINE

» North Carolina-band The Mother Notes talk cosmic influences

» Riley's Army aims to provide support for families fighting cancer

SOCIAL MEDIA

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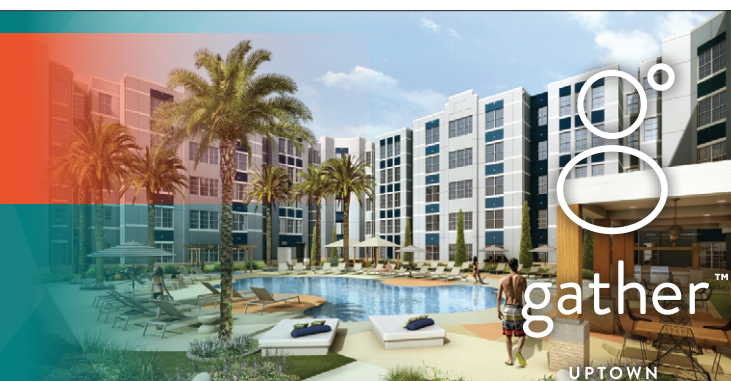
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BRIEFS

Leadership team application deadline extended

The last day for students to apply to be a member of the Pirate Peers Advocating for Learning and Success (P.A.L.S.) leadership team has been extended until tomorrow at 11:59 p.m.

P.A.L.S. is a service-based, mentorship program focused on school-aged youth in Pitt County. Student leaders are responsible for training volunteers on their responsibilities as a mentor, tutor, or reading buddy such as collecting and making notes of hours, meetings, community partners and the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement.

To apply and find out more information about the leadership team application, go to Pirate P.A.L.S.' OrgSync page.

Distinguished professor to give presentation

Professor Joseph Hellweg, the 2015 Whichard distinguished professor in the humanities, will give his final lecture tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. in the Faulkner Gallery of Joyner Library.

Called "Humanities Outside the Ivory Tower: Religious Studies and Public Health at ECU and Beyond," the event is free of cost and open for all to attend. Following the lecture, there will be a question-and-answer session.

To find out more information about this presentation, visit the ECU Harriot College Twitter page at @ecuhas.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

App provides job opportunities

Darby Hubbell
TEC STAFF

Two East Carolina University alumni are now working for a new app which links hospitality job seekers with future employers.

Mary Gage, director of Hire Scene, said the idea for the app originated when the company's founder Mike Youngblood was sitting in an Uber and thought, "Well, if we do this with cars, why can't we do this with jobs?"

Gage, a member of ECU's class of 2014, said the application has been in development for three years, and Hire Scene's headquarters is located within the technology incubator on North Carolina State University's centennial campus.

"It's a mobile app that's free for users and it's designed to instantly link app users to immediately available jobs in the hospitality industries," Gage said. "What happens when you become a part of the app (is that) you're able to see jobs in the area that match your skills and experience, and then you are able to decide if you want to work or not."

According to Gage, app users can create their own schedules to work as much or as little as they choose. Gage said it's generally event-based jobs, such as banquet servers, bartenders and concessions.

"It's a very similar concept to Uber, but instead of people driving cars, they are picking up jobs in the hospitality industry," Gage said.

Gage said the application launched in September in Raleigh and is now on track for a national roll out.

"It will be going national, not just in North Carolina," Gage said. "We're looking forward to being in more cities before the end of 2018."

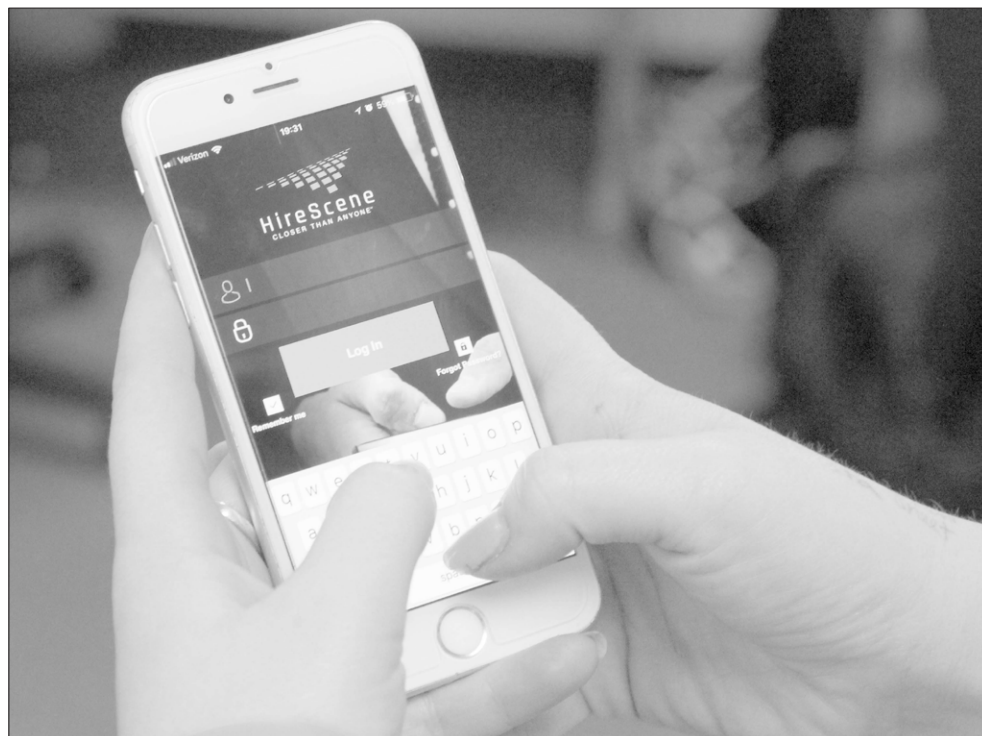
Chelsea Lucas, a recruiter for Hire Scene, said her role begins when people download the application or when events have a specific request for a hospitality-major user to send in their applications. Lucas, a member of ECU's



Chelsea Lucas

class of 2013, said she then gets in touch with the applicants and really takes a look at their background history and their work to see exactly what they are qualified for.

"I set up video interviews or virtual interviews, so we never have to have anyone come into the office for any kind of paperwork," Lucas said. "So, it's nice and easy for our new app members that are going to come on board because they are able to do everything from the comfort of their own home."



HANNAH ROBBINS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

An ECU student logs in on the Hire Scene application, which aims to help users find hospitality jobs.

Lucas said Hire Scene users can access the application on both their computers at the company's website, and their mobile devices through its app.

NC State alumna, Sandra Youngblood, the co-founder of Hire Scene, said she has played a large role in the company from the beginning. She said her role is to help identify the sources to find the "gig worker" and oversee everything from an operational standpoint.

Youngblood said from a global standpoint, there's a lot of opportunities and Hire Scene needs to decide what avenues it wants to take at this point.

"I certainly want to see us in some of the major cities in the country," Youngblood said. "We are actually talking with some groups down in South America who are very interested in partnering with us."

Gage said it is extremely important to Hire Scene to recruit students and post-grads with hospitality management backgrounds. She said both Lucas and herself both worked for Hyatt hotels prior to coming into the creation and management of Hire Scene. The two Hire Scene employees stressed that having that experience is important when it comes to the management of the application.

"So, we have actually lived and breathed to operation side of hospitality which makes Chelsea that much stronger from a recruiting standpoint, and then myself is over all the big picture of the on-demand division," Gage said.

Gage said the application is for all different types of employees, such as college students, single parents or full-time workers who need extra money.

Gage and Lucas said they were both hospitality management majors and highly involved students while enrolled at ECU, participating in the National Society for



Mary Gage

Minorities in Hospitality and being ECU tour guides. Both women kept a continuous link to ECU through staying connected with their professors even after graduation.

Gage said she received an outstanding graduate award from the School of Hospitality Leadership and now returns to ECU to guest speak in hospitality classes.

"I'm really glad to have graduated from East Carolina University and will always be open to supporting the University in talking to students in any way that I can," Gage said. "Get started as soon as you can, start gaining experiences as a freshman. Don't wait until your required internship junior year because the sooner you start and gain that work experience, the more competitive you're going to be when you graduate."

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

GFR

continued from A1

However, this rumor isn't accurate because according to Lee, the survey will be released this week.

Another issue confusing former firefighters was how Developmental Associates planned to send out the survey.

In the email, which Johnson shared with The East Carolinian, Lee told him the city of Greenville's Human Resources Department is providing the firm with ways to contact former firefighters.

"We will be sending out an anonymous survey to all employees who have voluntarily left GFRD since January of 2016," Lee said in the email. "We plan to

get a list of all employees who voluntarily left the city of Greenville from Human Resources and will either email or mail by postal service the survey link."

The East Carolinian contacted the city of Greenville's Public Information Officer Brock Letchworth and Greenville City Manager Ann Wall in order to learn more about the evaluation by Development Associates, and specifically to learn more about the survey.

In response, The East Carolinian was provided a copy of the evaluation proposal by Development Associates.

According to Developmental Associates' proposal, which was given to The East Carolinian by

Letchworth, the survey will be based upon the issues raised in group interviews with current GFR firefighters.

"The online and anonymous nature of the surveys allows for accessibility for all employees as well as confidentiality for those who may not be comfortable speaking out in public," according to the Developmental Associates' proposal.

Developmental Associates will combine its results and complete a written report by April 30 and will hold meetings with GFR to explain the results of its evaluation by May 15, according to the proposal.

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

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OUR VIEW

Baseball living up to hype gives hope

Last season, the East Carolina University baseball team began the season with a No. 13 ranking by Collegiate Baseball, and thus began the “road to Omaha” hype.

After a 32-28 record last year, ECU currently sits at a 26-9 overall with an early 5-4 record in the American Athletic Conference after closing out its third conference series this past weekend. While there are still several games ahead for the Pirates, we, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, support the baseball team considering an ECU team has finally lived up to the hype most fall flat on.

Last year’s trip to Omaha fell short after the team began conference play by being swept by the University of Connecticut. The season culminated in a 7-17 AAC record, good for last place come conference tournament time.

The Pirates still reached the AAC Championship despite having the toughest road, validating the preseason hype, but a lackluster regular season left ECU out during national tournament time. Much of the talk surrounding, and even inside the team, was about hosting a Super Regional before making the trip to the national championships.

This season has been a dramatic turnaround from last year. The Pirates did not enter the season ranked but since the season has begun, ECU has held tight to the goal “Be where your feet are,” not worrying about what’s down the road. With the team currently holding an 11th place ranking, it’s clear head coach Cliff Godwin’s mantra has changed, and so should the outlook of ECU’s community.

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

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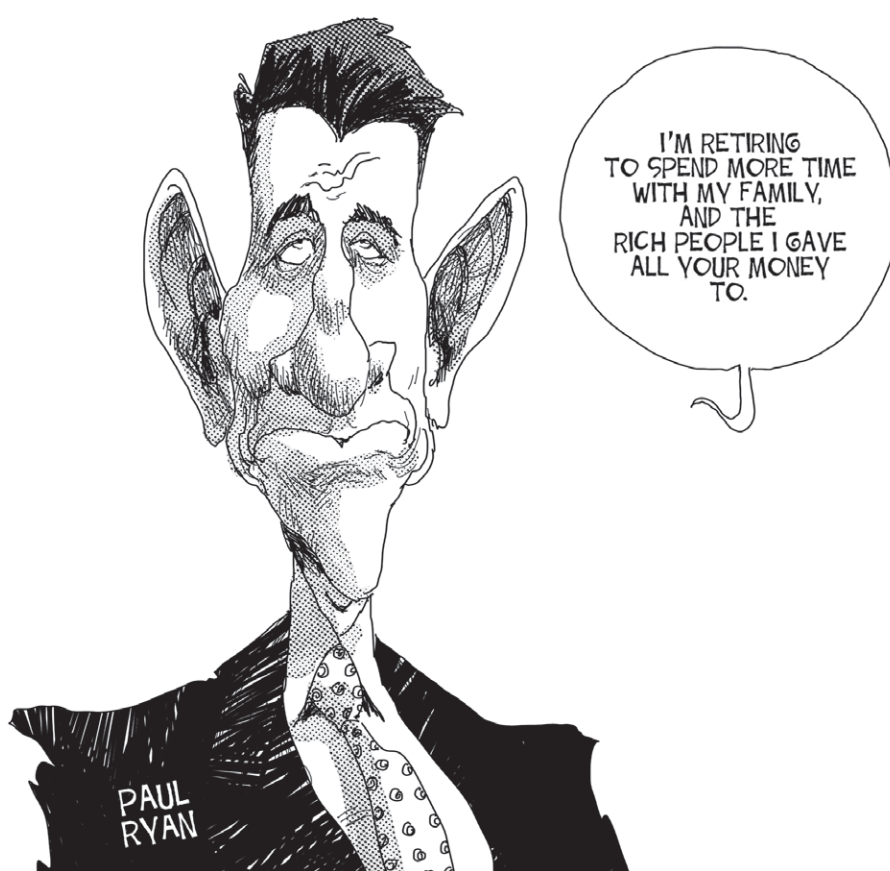
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>>SENIOR COLUMN

Fear cannot be an excuse

Problems need to be met head on, not avoided



Tyler Gavin
TEC STAFF

I’ve put off writing this long enough. I’m not ready to say goodbye to East Carolina University, and writing this column practically cements that my run here is almost over. So if that’s the case, there’s some things I need to get off my chest.

Four years ago I was a wrapping up high school in Bergen County, New Jersey, searching desperately for a college I’d have to travel to. I had never lived outside New Jersey and I knew I wanted to travel for school, so ECU seemed like a fit. It was scary, but what I’m realizing now is that the next step is always going to be scary.

That’s what I want to use this platform for. We need to realize avoiding our issues isn’t the same as solving them. I’ve been running from fear my entire life, thinking that if I don’t face it head on, it will just disappear. But we all know that’s not true at all. We’ve all been overwhelmed by a decision or task that lies in our path, and my biggest problem has been an inability to leapfrog whatever the obstacle is and prevailing. I’ve been crippled by my fear, and I’m sure a lot of other people have been too, but it’s time we start growing from it.

Two years ago, in my second semester of sophomore year, I realized I wasn’t destined to be an accountant like I had previously thought. I love business but I

dreaded going to my classes and I knew I couldn’t study something that didn’t interest me anymore. So I thought. I contemplated. And I finally realized that my love and knowledge for sports would work well in the field of journalism. I was always a pretty good writer and maybe a little too obsessed with sports (according to others; I think I’m just fine). But when I changed my major, I realized I had no experience, which seemed like the number one requirement in this field. That’s when I decided to try out for The East Carolinian. And the first time around, I failed.

Sitting back at my house, completely dejected, I was ready to change my major again. It felt destined that I wouldn’t be a journalist. It took the push of a much more optimistic person to get me back in the door, because without her I’d probably be an education major looking to play things safe. I was terrified to try out again. Thankfully, the second time around I was accepted. Being part of TEC has given me some of my greatest experiences at ECU, and just to think I could have let fear ruin my opportunity to meet someone such as Verne Lundquist really enlightened me.

We can’t let fear turn us away from our goals. Like Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the former president of Liberia, said, “If your dreams don’t scare you, they aren’t big enough.” It’s always going to be hard to push through whatever sits in front of us, but those things we find intimidating can also be used as motivation. I found out last semester that I

had actually been accepted to the candidate class the first time I tried out for TEC. Somehow I missed my name on the sheet of accepted writers, which, to anyone who knows me, is completely believable. But I’m actually thankful for that mistake now. Thinking I wasn’t good enough made me determined to be the best sports writer to work for TEC. If it hadn’t been for the route I took, I may have never been the baseball and football writer. I may not even be a journalist anymore.

So please, the next time there’s an issue that seems too overwhelming or insurmountable, don’t quit. Don’t run from it to figure out a safer option. Tackle it. Because without overcoming our issues, we’ll never get stronger. For any of my fellow seniors, we all know the future is vast and intimidating, but we’re going to become a great generation.

There’s no more excuses. Calling it a mental health issue isn’t cutting it anymore. It takes away from people who are actually sick. Let’s call it like it is, we’re all afraid of something, and a lot of us don’t have the strength to move through it. At least not yet. Start small and build yourself up toward something, because at the end of it all, we’re responsible for what we achieve and I won’t let fear cut that short any longer.

Tyler Gavin is a senior majoring in communication. He is the copy editor and joined TEC in the fall of 2016. TEC thanks him for his service.

>>SENIOR COLUMN

ECU has changed my life for the best



Aaron Jackson
TEC STAFF

After four years of schooling at East Carolina University, I can honestly say that the things I have seen and the things I have learned positively changed my life forever. Looking deep down within myself, I can say I’ve stayed true to myself while the University changed around me, which wasn’t always easy.

The time is August 2014, I’m preparing to leave home and go to college with me being more nervous than my parents to see me move on. Spending time away from my parents was something I didn’t do much, so I knew making new friends and being on my own would be a challenge. Luckily, I met the greatest group of friends my freshman year that are all still in my phone today.

Establishing a friend group was the first thing I needed to help me adjust to a new school, that and music. Most of my time in college was spent alone, and the only thing better than talking to myself was listening to music. Finding songs, or being given songs to listen to that almost accurately portrayed my life, made the day even better. In 2014, I found out other than having a great campus to learn at, ECU was also a great place to have a good time.

One of my favorite pre-party songs to listen to my freshman year was “DNF”

by Drake, Future and P. Reign. The song explained what I perceived college to be while I was still here. Halloween of 2014 was the first taste of “turning up” I got at ECU, but little did I know this “fun” wouldn’t last forever.

Throughout my sophomore year I was partying every weekend while balancing school, work, eating and sleeping, which was tough. Though I was the student able to spew out B+ material in an hour, even though I was given weeks prior to work on the project, procrastination was starting to kick my butt.

I came to the realization that in order to make things or get results the way I wanted them, I had to take control of the process in which they were done. One night I decided I would focus back on my career instead of partying, so I sought to rejoin the paper. I say rejoin because I didn’t mention during my freshman year there was a time where I was on top of my crap. I joined The East Carolinian in the fall of 2014, but after some petty reasons on my side, I decided not to come back in the spring semester of that year. I came back during the summer semester of 2017 and it was the perfect time to get me back on track.

I started off once again as a reporter covering ECU baseball and by the fall semester of my senior year, I was promoted to the sports chief for the paper. The taste of power was a blessing and a curse, for I didn’t know how much I signed up for.

Now, instead of being in the field getting the story, I was at the desk checking and assigning stories. With the position came a whole bunch of coworkers and bosses that I, an introverted person mind you, had to be around and talk to 24/7. At first, I would keep to myself and do my job while listening to music, but I realized I wasn’t making the most out of this opportunity.

Midway through the fall semester I decided that I wanted to be a bigger part of the TEC family, so I unplugged the head phones and started to pay attention to what went on in the office. To my surprise, I found out my coworkers were just like me, a group of introverts who cared about telling people useful information. This semester I became the head sports editor and developed a greater relationship with everybody in the office.

Reflecting back, it has been a long journey to get to the point where I’m about to graduate in May. I came from a young student, wet behind the ears and looking for the next party, into a seasoned student-writer looking for the next story and I don’t plan to stop here. I now hand the hypothetical baton to my friends still in school to finish the race to success and find themselves.

Aaron Jackson is a senior majoring in communication. He is the sports editor and joined TEC in the fall of 2014 and returned in the summer of 2017. TEC thanks him for his service.

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Discuss budget priorities with your partner. Follow your mom's advice, and win. Take advantage of a financial opportunity with long-term benefits. Visualize perfection.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Dream and make plans with your partner. Schedule steps, and follow the rules. Sort out your resources, and hold out for the best deal. Get persuasive.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Stick to practical objectives with your partner. Fantasies dissolve in the daylight. Hold off on travel for now. Manage basic priorities together.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Stretch and rest your muscles. Keep practicing your moves. Maintain routines while juggling the unexpected. Long-term benefit comes from small, regular actions.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Invent and share ideas with family for domestic upgrades that you'd like. Relatively small fixes can reap big improvements. Put love into your home.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Reach out. Long-distance communications strengthen and build a powerful connection. Use your persuasive arts and charms. Write, edit and revise for beautiful results.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Investments made now can gain long-term benefit. An income source can grow. Develop and build valuable connections and collaborations. Grab an opportunity.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Plan and develop your strategies for a personal project. Take action behind the scenes. Realize a long-term vision with small, persistent steps.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Make big-picture plans for the future. Dream and visualize your idea of perfection. Meditate on what you want for yourself and others.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Good news comes from far away. Reach out and connect with your community. Share traditions and ancient wisdom. Coordinate actions in teamwork.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- A professional prize beckons. Rely on strong infrastructure and foundations. Follow rules and plans. Collaborate with your team, and celebrate later.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Your explorations could lead to more distant destinations. Luck comes through thorough planning and coordination. Take advantage of previously made connections. Your friends inspire you.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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 - 25 ___ Yoelson, a.k.a. Al Jolson
 - 26 Shirley Temple movie
 - 28 Morning hrs.
 - 30 Neighbor of Miss.
 - 31 Pippen
 - 34 Gene Autry's sidekick Pat
 - 37 "I ___ Three Lives"
 - 41 Malcolm-___ Warner
 - 43 Actress Laurie
 - 44 Max of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
 - 45 Killer whale
 - 47 Gilbert of "Roseanne"
 - 48 Zada of "Dark Justice"
 - 49 Columnist Bombeck
 - 50 Actor Connery
 - 52 Comic Olsen

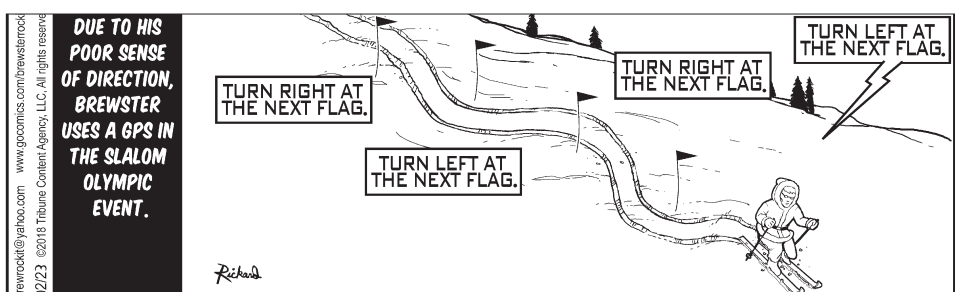
Solution from Thursday

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D	E	E	P		I	D	A		Z	A	D	A		
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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

Level:
1 2
3 4

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

Solution from Thursday

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

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>> COLUMN

ECU baseball dominant vs ranked teams



Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Following tough tests against ranked opponents both in and out of the American Athletic Conference, the No. 11 ranked East Carolina University baseball team has found a way to win all three series against ranked teams this season.

The ranked opponents ECU (26-9, 5-4 AAC) has taken on, and their rankings at the time of the series, include No. 7 ranked University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (24-12, 12-6 ACC), No. 18 Wichita State University (24-9, 4-5 AAC) and No. 20 ranked University of Central Florida (25-12, 6-6 AAC). The Pirates won each series 2-1, showing they could withstand losses to still win big series.

Looking at the losses ECU has suffered against the ranked opponents, it's been the pitching that has struggled. The Pirates gave up at least five runs and ten hits in each instance, a recipe for disaster when the offense isn't clicking.

The Tar Heels had no troubles in the second game of the series on Feb. 24, scoring three immediate runs off former weekend starter, sophomore Jake Agnos. The Pirates ended up losing 5-4 to UNC before claiming the series on Sunday.

Against the Knights on March 23, ECU suffered a devastating 9-1 loss to open the series. Sophomore pitcher Trey Benton suffered his second loss after surrendering five runs on six hits, while the team committed four errors.

Against the Shockers at home on March 29, the Pirates were handed their biggest upset of the year when they lost 14-3, giving up a season-high 20 hits for the first time since 2010.

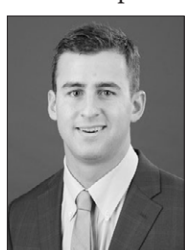
In the victories against the Tar Heels on Feb. 23 and 25, the Knights on March 24 and 25, and Shockers on March 30 and 31, the starting pitchers and the bullpen stepped up, which in turned helped the batters bounce back



Jake Agnos

from each loss to take the series.

Going on the road to take on UCF was a tough task for the Pirates, even though they were undefeated on the road at the time. After the 9-1



Chris Holba

loss in the opener, it was junior starter Chris Holba and sophomore starter Tyler Smith who stepped up. Despite not receiving the victories, which were credited to Agnos and junior relief pitcher Matt Bridges, it was the starters who propelled ECU to a 12-4 and 11-6 victory.

The Shockers proved to be another tough test for ECU despite it being their first taste of AAC play. Holba and Smith once again stepped up, figuring out what Wichita State's batters had to offer, and managed to only allow three runs total after the 14-3 blowout loss. The Pirates won the series behind a 7-3 win in game two and 5-0 win in game three.

ECU opened up the season unranked and faced nationally acclaimed UNC in just the second week of the season. Benton and Holba both performed very well on the mound in the Friday night game at ECU and the Sunday game at UNC to secure the first series win over a ranked team.

ECU will look to bounce back from its first series loss,



Trey Benton

facing another ranked opponents in No. 9 ranked Duke University (30-7, 12-5 ACC) today in Durham. The game is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

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LESLIE DZORVAKPOR / THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Senior left-handed relief pitcher Ryan Ross throws off the mound for the Pirates in a tough series matchup with the University of South Florida.

>> BASEBALL

Pirates lose first series

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

In a contentious conference series, where tempers flared between No. 11 East Carolina University and the University of South Florida, both teams played tug-of-war atop the American Athletic Conference with USF coming out victorious in Clark-LeClair Stadium.

USF (23-13, 7-5 ACC) bounced back from a 15-2 blowout in game one to win the final two games of the series 13-1, and 5-4, handing ECU (26-9, 5-4 AAC) its first series loss. The Bulls gave ECU's starting pitchers fits all weekend, and playing from behind may have helped slow the Pirates' offense in the final two games.

"We were short in all aspects in the last two games," head coach Cliff Godwin said. "It wasn't just the offense, it wasn't just the pitching, it was some of everything. Our guys fought out there, but we just didn't do enough out there to win."

The Pirates gave up runs

to start all three games after junior starter Chris Holba, and sophomore starters Trey Benton and Tyler Smith all struggled in the early innings against a strong AAC opponent.

Benton had struggled in his past three games entering the USF series, and game three was not much different. After both teams handed each other blowouts, Benton was tasked with closing the series after finding himself in a new role as the Sunday starter.

Benton ended his day after throwing just 3.1 innings, giving up four runs on four hits. ECU also committed four errors behind its starter. The bullpen came to the rescue by surrendering just one run to keep the Pirates' chances alive. Ultimately though, the Pirates could never scratch across the run they needed in the last six innings and fell, 5-4.

Saturday's game added fuel to the fire that is this ever-growing rivalry. Smith was moved into the Saturday role after a 5-0 start. However, Smith showed his

mortality against the Bulls after allowing three runs in the first inning. He slowed them down in the next two innings, limiting the damage to just the three runs. With all the momentum on USF's side, the Pirates never responded.

The Bulls bats kept recording hits, including Joe Genord's two-run homer in the seventh inning which started all the controversy this weekend. On his trip around the bases, Genord appeared to have a lot to say to the ECU fielders, much to the dismay of Pirate fans who greeted the first baseman to a chorus of boos his next time up. The Bull's finished with 13 runs on 16 hits in the game.

"If it was professional baseball he (Genord) would have got smoked on his next at bat," Godwin said. "I wouldn't let my players act like that but I'm not the head coach of South Florida. They do what they want to do, and we do what we do."

In game one, Holba allowed the first run of the game in the second inning, but kept the

Bulls scoreless until the sixth inning. He gave up only one run after the second inning in the six innings he was on the mound. The batters fed off that and scored 15 runs off 17 hits. Sophomore designated hitter Bryant Packard had two home runs in the game, and three other batters managed to get at least two hits in the 15-2 blowout.

"I feel like anybody who takes out the opposing team to start the series, we wanted to set the tone and the big thing that was preached coming in was responding," Holba said. "I gave my team a chance which was all I needed to do, and they bagged 15 runs because of that."

ECU will hit the road for a midweek matchup against No. 8 ranked Duke University (30-7, 12-5 ACC) tomorrow in Durham as it looks to put the series loss to USF behind them and get a road victory to improve to 11-2 in road games this year.

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>> TRACK AND FIELD

ECU takes first in Aggie Invitational

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University track and field team has gained momentum following its weekend in Greensboro, North Carolina, taking home first place in the Aggie Invitational while posting 11 first place finishes.

"This weekend's meet was, without question, the best overall meet that we have had up to this point, with both the men's and women's programs," head coach Curt Kraft said according to ecupirates.com.

In an interview with The East Carolinian yesterday, Kraft said his team's performance is where he wants it to be heading down the final stretch of the season.

"We've got a lot of momentum and enthusiasm right now," Kraft said. "I think we are where we want to be running, but our sport is dictated on good weather and that has to do a lot with our performance. When we perform well it takes care of itself."

Multiple universities from across the state and country joined in competition at this invitational hosted by North Carolina AT&T State University. In attendance were



Curt Kraft



Hunter Roberts

Senior Hunter Roberts stood out this weekend after posting a 13.45 time in the 100-meter hurdles for the third fastest time in program history and a personal best. ECU athletes such as freshman pole vaulter Sommer Knight, junior discus and hammer thrower Ryan Davis, junior javelin Dylan Kraft and sophomore steeplechaser Mikayla Stout placed multiple first place finishes in their respective categories over the season, including this weekend.

Senior Mohogany Baker produced the second-best mark by an AAC athlete in the discus throw this season. Baker finished first in the hammer throw with a throw of 53.19 meters. Senior Galissia Cause moved into third on the league performance shot put list and earned a Student Athlete of the Month Award in January. She finished first in the shot put with a throw of 15.7 meters. The two are now both individually ranked

Sandhills Community College, Winston-Salem State University, Wingate University, Shore Athletic Club, Hampton University, Campbell University, Occidental College and DC International School.

in the top-20 in the NCAA East Region. Junior Cedrina Singletary finished off the weekend by posting the sixth fastest time in school history in the outdoor 100-meter at 11.84 seconds.

"It (the talent) has really come from across the board," Kraft said. "From the sprints, relays, throwers, hurdlers and distance, it's been a team effort."

Kraft reminded the team to "stay focused, stay hungry and stay healthy" when finishing out this season. The Pirates will close the outdoor regular season this weekend at the Duke Invitational, which they compete in annually.

"We want to make sure that they (the team) are sharp and that their minds are right during the week, because you play like you practice," Kraft said. "We still have a lot to do, we got to keep putting one foot ahead of us at a time if we want to continue with our success."



Mohogany Baker

Aaron Jackson contributed to this story.

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TENNIS continued from A1

"The girls are hitting the ball really well right now," Morris said. "We've been focusing on the matches one at a time, and we've played well the last couple weeks. We are trying to prepare the best we can."

The Pirate women finished off their spring season on Saturday, beating Cincinnati to finish with a five-game improvement from last year.

The team took the doubles point behind wins from the doubles teams of freshman Alisa Dierksen and sophomore Lisa Hofbauer (6-2), and juniors Celia Ruiz

and Annija Veinsteina (6-4). The team went on to capture three of the six singles matches to secure the win.

The women begin the AAC Championship with a chance at revenge, as the eight-seed Pirates will play the nine-seed Tulane University (12-10, 1-3 AAC), who defeated the Pirates 4-3 in a thriller on

March 17.

With the final matches for both teams concluding with wins, the Pirates ended a strong spring season for ECU and should offer momentum heading into the conference tournaments this weekend.

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Film series to close out in hammocks

Anh Ha
TEC STAFF

Colorful hammocks will stretch across the West Patio at the Health Science Center as East Carolina University Sustainability gets ready to host its final film screening of the semester tomorrow at the hammock hangout.

This year, the organization has shown six monthly films and this last one will be outside to celebrate Earth Week. The event consists of a raffle at 7:30 p.m., followed by a screening of "Before the Flood" at 8 p.m. in front of Mendenhall.

"Before the Flood" is a National Geographic documentary that originally aired on television. The premise of this film is about raising awareness on climate change. It was co-produced by Leonardo DiCaprio.

There is no cost to attend and the event will count as a passport event as well. Since it will be an outside screening, the event will have to start when the sun sets. Due to the start time of the film, there will not be a discussion after the film as there has been in the past.

The idea for this event came two years ago from Chad Carwein, the ECU Sustainability manager. Carwein was inspired by UNC Greensboro's own film and discussion series. Since then, the series has made its way onto ECU's campus. These films are shown in hopes of raising awareness of the impact on the environment on campus.

"[We] work to reduce the environmental impact on the University," Carwein said. "Everything we do from energy, water, waste, transportation to food and dining."

Carwein mentioned that it is a big deal now for college campuses to have these initiatives because students are becoming more aware of their impact and will choose the university they attend based on what the school is doing to help the Earth.

"It's really important that ECU has established these positions and developed a program," Carwein said. "We just launched LimeBike on campus. That's a sustainability initiative."

This will be the second year ECU Sustainability has hosted a film and discussion series. Over the last two years, around 50-60 attendees have participated in the hammock hangout.

Carwein said he hopes to see a bigger crowd this year, around 100 or more. He added he believes this final film will be attractive to viewers.

"The thing is that environmental documentaries don't typically attract a well-known cast," Carwein said. "But this film features Leonardo DiCaprio. I think the reason why this film has received so much attention is because he brings a certain sex appeal to anything he does."

Carwein said the organization tends to show films that are eye opening. The intent is to provide the audience with a better understanding of the topic at hand. He said he personally hopes people will walk away from these screenings knowing more than they had when they arrived.

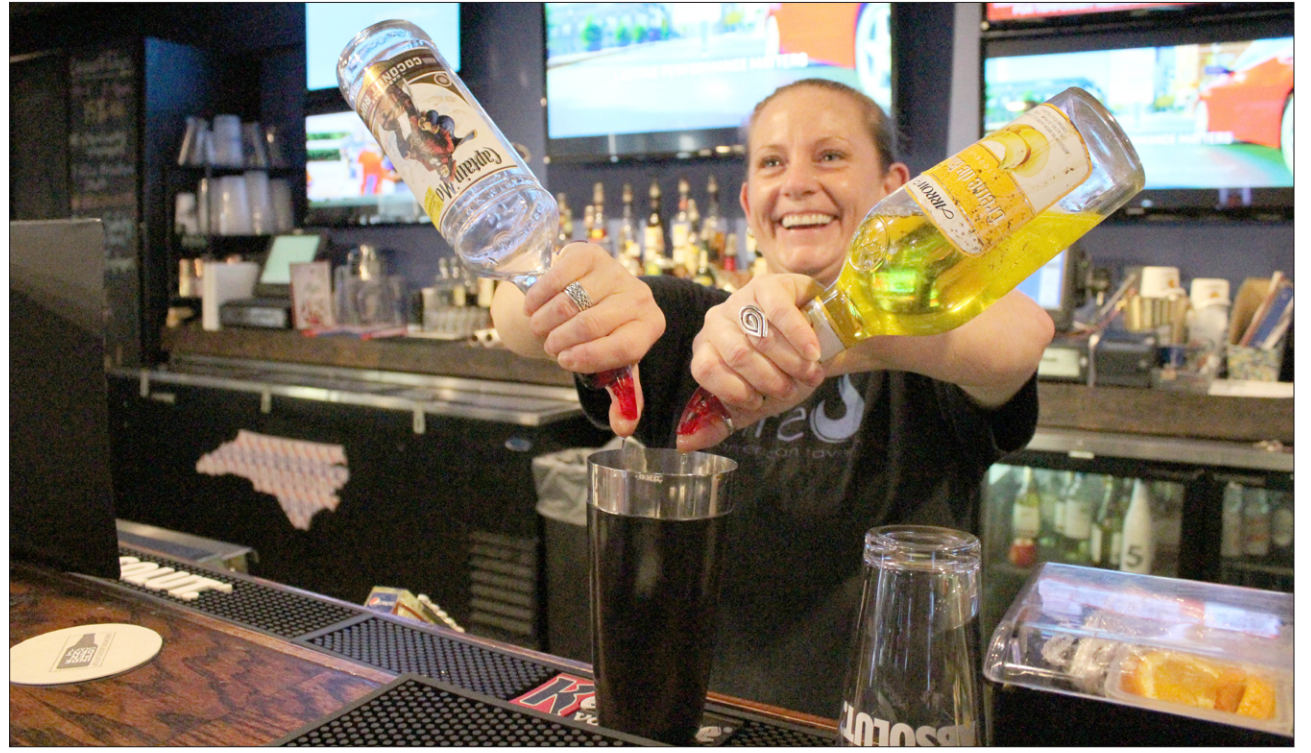
In its efforts to try to draw in a bigger audience, ECU Sustainability is relying on more than just DiCaprio. The group will give away prizes right before the show and the winner of the main raffle will receive an ENO hammock. Other prizes includes T-shirts, water bottles and reusable bags.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own hammocks, as there will be limited space. It is advised that students get there early to claim their spots. For those who do not have a hammock, ECU Sustainability is gathering blankets for seating spaces on the grass.

The Adventure Program is also providing stands for the hammocks in case there is no more space between the trees.

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>> MEET YOUR BARTENDERS



Fire American Tavern bartender Lynn Basnight pours coconut rum and banana liquor into a cup. Basnight has worked at Fire for one year.

Bartender returns to ECU

Fire bartenders take part in cocktail competition

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

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

Bar manager at Fire American Tavern, Lynn Basnight began bartending when she was 17 years old. Now, 26 years later, Basnight has poured hundreds of drinks.

"They call me the 'bar mom,'" Basnight said. "We work really well together. It's like we're one big, happy family. This is my home away from home; I think I spend more time here than I do at my own home."

Located at 113 E. 5th St., the establishment Basnight has now worked at for a year, is open from 11 a.m. to midnight Monday through Wednesday. Thursday through Saturday, the restaurant stays open later, going from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and closes out the week 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Margaret Warren, a bartender at Fire, said she started working at the tavern four months ago. She had just moved to the area and said everyone on staff has made moving an effortless transition.

"We're like a family, a team, however you want to put it, but it's definitely more than just coworkers," Warren said. "We're there for each other. That's been made clear to me just in my short time here."

Warren added she enjoys working alongside Basnight. She said her "bar mom" makes sure everything is handled and the employees are doing their jobs properly, but she's not like other managers; she tries to help in anyway she can.

"I enjoy teaching people, so I think it's cool that I can actually relay some of this experience that I've spent so many years doing," Basnight said.

Basnight said she used to bartend in downtown Greenville about 15 years ago, when she was originally at East Carolina University, at Pirate's Cove Underwater Jamaican Restaurant Bar, where Stilllife is now located.

Basnight then moved to Colorado



Lynn Basnight strains an orange concoction into a glass. Basnight is the Fire bar manager.

and worked at a couple places before returning to ECU to finish her third degree in geology with a minor in coastal science. With an Associates in Arts and a degree in marine science already, Basnight will graduate in May with her degree in geology as well.

As an Outer Banks native and lover of the beach, Basnight said working at Fire definitely feels like she is back in a college town. Basnight attempted to initiate a bartending competition downtown titled "Greenville Bar Wars." Unfortunately, due to busy schedules in the downtown area, the event had to be cancelled, but Basnight hopes to try it again in July.

"It's basically speed, style and taste. I invited all 22 bars that are downtown," Basnight said. "So, everybody has to pick a representative, like an ambassador, to represent their company, and whoever wins, their establishment has to host next year's bar wars."

Basnight has already placed second in a competition between bartenders at Fire, with her signature cocktail titled the "Razzle Dazzle." Priced at \$4, the "Razzle Dazzle" consists of house vodka, raspberry schnapps, cranberry and Sprite with lemon.

Basnight said the front of the house manager, Shawn Grazier, had the idea

for the bartenders at Fire to create their own drinks for customers.

"The Sex Panther" cocktail, with house vodka, blue curacao, cranberry and pineapple juice and grenadine, placed first for the last competition. Although the "Razzle Dazzle" and "The Sex Panther" are no longer available, Basnight said the new drinks should be out this week for the next competition round, which will last about 30 days.

Joe Cammarano, a junior political science major, said he has been going to Fire since he remembers it opened. He added he thinks Fire has some of the best food in town. Cammarano said some of his favorite foods at Fire are the bar pies, wings and fried pickles.

"I've seen a bunch of bartenders coming in and out," Cammarano said. "Their staff is awesome. They're all really really nice and if you ever need help with anything, they're more than willing to explain everything to you."



Joe Cammarano

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DREAM continued from A1

said. "They don't have a lot of lines, so their movement and the things they're doing is how we tell their stories. We've put a lot of time into focusing on how to incorporate our elements. Mine is water, and so a lot of movements are very fluid and sort of low. It's been a lot of trying new things in the mirror and just trying to figure out what works best."

Though this classic script is well known, actors will add different things to give the production new life, such as incorporating different uses of light and dance to portray the magic of the fairies.

William Brooks, the assistant production manager, prop artisan and stage director, said his role is to call things during the show, such as lighting cues, which is crucial to the show's success.

"I will be setting up for the night and making sure the space is ready for the actors, and take note of any changes that need to be made," Brooks said. "Then, during the show, I will be calling the show, which means I basically direct the sound and lighting guys to tell them when to make things go. I will be telling a crew backstage to change the set or pull a prop in, and things like that."

The show will have a total of five performances. The cast and crew are



Jessica Braun rehearses for the upcoming show.

comprised of members from ECU's School of Theatre and Dance faculty and students. Mobley is nervous about her directorial debut, but mostly she's looking forward for audiences to see all of the hard work.

"I think I'm excited for the audiences to enjoy the actors and their brave choices and their enthusiasm in the roles," Mobley said. "I also think they'll enjoy the design, it's truly beautiful. I truly hope people will be transported by what they see."

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