



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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Simply Natural Creamery will host an ice cream festival at its Ayden location. The store is located at 1265 Carson Edwards Rd. LESLIE DZORVAKPOR | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Simply Natural Creamery to host ice cream festival

Trajan Warren
TEC STAFF

With National Ice Cream Day occurring this Sunday, Pitt County locals and visitors can celebrate a day early with the second annual Simply Natural Ice Cream Festival.

The second annual Simply Natural Ice Cream Festival will take place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Simply Natural Creamery Ayden farm at 1265 Carson Edwards Rd. Although the festival ends at 7 p.m., the actual creamery will stay open until 9 p.m. so those who miss the festival can still enjoy the all natural ice cream.

According to Simply Natural

Creamery Marketing Director Michael Fulcher, the festival will include about 45 vendors ranging from food, wood carvings and jewelry. East Coast Wings, Rock Springs Food Truck and Get A Pizza are a few of the food vendors which will be at the festival.

Michael Fulcher

John Moore, WNCT radio host of "The Sock Hop," will be at the festival from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and will serve as the DJ.

Along with vendors and music,

the festival will have a car cruise-in, a video game truck, pony rides and a mini train for guests to tour the farm on, along with the normal wagon tour of the farm the creamery does every weekend. According to Fulcher, Simply Natural Creamery wanted to cater the event to everyone in the family so they could have a great time.

"We really tried to gear it toward the whole family," Fulcher said. "We're trying to have things that appeal to everybody in the family from little kids, to teenagers, to the adults. Just trying to

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>> CAMPUS

Greene undergoes renovations

Trajan Warren
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Greene Residence Hall is undergoing renovations in a single phase and will be offline until the projected completion in August of 2019.

The \$28.5 million renovations to Greene, which has served as an all-women's residence hall at ECU since its opening in 1969, will include comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and high-rise code compliance updates and remodeling of the ground floor lobby and common spaces. The renovations will also add more fire protection to structural steel, renovations to the bathrooms, study lounges, laundry room and corridors, according to a document from Facilities Engineering and Architectural Services of ECU.



Gina Shoemaker

Gina Shoemaker, project manager and assistant director of Facilities Engineering and Architectural Services at ECU, said due to the age of the building, Greene will undergo asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls abatement.

The renovations are not due to any major structural problems, but are more of an aesthetic upgrade to the almost 50-year-old building, Shoemaker said.

"The project scope is we rip off the skin of the building, put some fireproofing where fireproofing is missing on the existing steel, redo the bathrooms, put on a fresh

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University looks to change Greek life culture

Julie Estep
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Director of Greek Life John Mountz said recent shutdowns of specific sorority and fraternity chapters are not emblematic of the rest of Greek life, but ECU Greek life is still preparing to make positive changes in the fall.

Mountz said at a freshmen orientation session Monday night to an audience of parents of incoming freshmen that his department is very supportive of Greek life organizations, but works to hold them accountable as well.

"We talk about community, we talk about civic responsibility, student success and accountability," Mountz said. "I have a saying that I use to my students: 'You can do anything you want to in the world as long as you're willing to accept the consequences.'"

Mountz said this year ECU has started to look further

into Greek life and will create a sustainable culture change around the issues of hazing, alcohol and student safety.

Mountz addressed the recent suspension of the Panhellenic sorority Alpha Phi, of the Delta Alpha chapter, to the future ECU parents. He said Alpha Phi's suspension decision was made by Alpha Phi International, not the university.

According to Mountz, Alpha Phi is suspended from ECU until further notice, however he said it's not a final decision.

"I can tell you Alpha Phi will not be participating in formal recruitment this fall," Mountz said.

Mountz showed the chapter status list of fraternities and sororities currently on suspension to parents, but added he expects to see all of these groups return to ECU's campus at some point.

"Everybody's like 'Oh my god, you've closed five groups this year.' I'm like, 'I got 40 other



LESLIE DZORVAKPOR | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University chapter of Alpha Phi was suspended by its international organization last Saturday.

groups that are still doing great stuff," Mountz said.

Mountz also addressed the issue of hazing at ECU. He said hazing was a component in the rationale for national organizations to remove their

chapters in each of the groups which have left ECU.

According to Mountz, suspension is not an immediate reaction when violations are made and recognized by the university.

"Say a group has a run of

the mill violation. They have an event, there's some underage consumption, they didn't manage their party right, but nobody got

> GREEK page A3

ONLINE

» 'Of Good Nature' returns to Pitt Street Brewing for concert

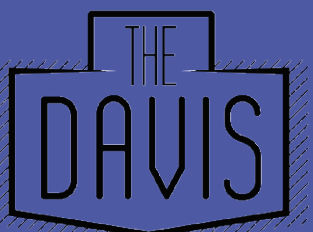
» ECU Men's Swim and Dive announces new 11 member class

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JULY

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BRIEFS

City of Greenville to host concert at Town Common

"Concert on the Common" kicks off its first show of the summer with The Band of Oz. Uptown Greenville, 107.9 WNCT and the city of Greenville are sponsoring the free event tonight at the Town Common from 5-8 p.m. No coolers or glass bottles are allowed, but food trucks, beer and wine will be available. For more information, contact (252) 561-8400.

Young Democrats of Pitt County to host social event

The Young Democrats of Pitt County will host a "pints and politics" event tomorrow night at Pitt Street Brewing Company. From 7-8 p.m., the organization invites residents to come discuss local, state and national politics. The group will also discuss its upcoming phone banking for new members. All ages and political views are welcomed to attend and participate in discussions. For more information, email pittyoungdems@gmail.com.

Stilllife to host rooftop yoga

Yogi Vibes Studio, JuiceVibes and Stilllife will host a yoga session tomorrow night on Stilllife's rooftop bar. Fresh juice cocktails provided by JuiceVibes will be available for purchase after finishing the session. Yogi Vibes instructor Jessica Albea will teach the class. People who want to participate should bring their own mat and sign up in advance on yogivibesstudio.com The class is from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$20.

Humane Society to bring back monthly dog washing event

The Humane Society of Eastern North Carolina will hosts its annual "Fluff and Puff" event series for washing and grooming dogs. The event will be this Saturday from 10-2 p.m. at RuckerJohns in Greenville. The Humane Society is now requiring dog owners bring proof of the dog's current rabies vaccination with the rabies certificate, not just tags. Services are \$15 for large dogs and \$10 for small dogs. Nail clipping and anal gland expression will also be available.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



A military vehicle drives through a flooded street days after Hurricane Matthew struck in 2016. Hurricane Matthew caused large amounts of flooding. ARCHIVED | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU discusses safety as hurricane lays off coast

Darby Hubbell
TEC STAFF

As Tropical Storm Chris evolved into a category one hurricane on Tuesday, East Carolina University has created an awareness plan for the Greenville community covering hurricane safety and preparedness.

Lauren Mink, continuity and emergency planner at ECU, said the university has been following Hurricane Chris since last Thursday.

"We work very closely with Pitt County Emergency Management and then the National (Weather) Service and communicating any threats to the area," Mink said. "We receive two emails a day whenever we have a tropical system out in the Atlantic that could affect us."

Mink said all of the models are taking Hurricane Chris offshore and have it resting where it is as the storm strengthens. She said a weather system which is coming through on Wednesday will take Hurricane Chris back out to sea.

"They are not anticipating any direct impact on eastern North Carolina or any of the other eastern seaboard," Mink said.

According to Mink, one of the things the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as North Carolina emergency management are pushing this

year is for Greenville residents and ECU students to know where their flood or evacuation zones are and familiarize themselves with safety protocol.

Mink said residents can locate what zone they are in by going online and visiting ECU's hurricane safety webpage. Located at the bottom of the page is a link which identifies whether an individual is located in a flood or evacuation zone.

Jason Sugg, deputy chief of the ECU Police Department, recommends students and residents in Greenville begin to form a plan of action for this hurricane season of "fairly basic things."

"Monitor the weather," Sugg said. "If there is an event out there, a tropical storm, a hurricane, absolutely, then of course, monitor the weather (with) regularly and daily."

Sugg said more specific preparation could be building your own hurricane preparedness kit. He said the kit doesn't have to be large, just something individuals can use.

According to Sugg, the items

residents may need to include in their kit can range from basic items to special preparations which need to be made weeks in advance from a storm.

"Things like extra batteries, flashlights, water, some dry goods, some food like canned foods that you can eat with little to no preparation involved," Sugg said.

Sugg recommended people follow three basic steps to prepare for this hurricane season. Those steps include going online, researching simple facts on hurricane awareness and preparedness, create a personalized checklist then finally, go out and collect a hurricane preparedness kit.

Sugg said the major impact hurricane season has on Greenville is not the direct impact of the storms, but the intense flooding which follows.

"You can find all kinds of information from the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, National Weather Service, all of these organizations provide a lot of information over the internet. All you have to do is give it a quick google search," Sugg said.

According to ECU's hurricane safety webpage, an average of 12 tropical storms, six of which usually evolve into hurricanes, form over the Atlantic Ocean,

Caribbean Sea or Gulf of Mexico during the hurricane season. The hurricane safety page states hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30 each year.

"ECU has strong, sturdy buildings and we believe it is safer for students to stay on campus than venture home, to areas of which may be closer to the coast and houses which may be less sturdy or (are) subject to flooding," according to the ECU hurricane safety webpage. "The University provides shelter, provisions and security for students on campus."

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the climate prediction center is forecasting a 75 percent chance that the 2018 Atlantic hurricane season will be "near or above normal."

"NOAA's forecasters predict a 70-percent likelihood of 10 to 16 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 5 to 9 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 1 to 4 major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5; with winds of 111 mph or higher)," the NOAA website said. "An average hurricane season produces 12 named storms, of which 6 become hurricanes, including 3 major hurricanes."

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ECU professors examine American society

Julie Estep
TEC STAFF

Researchers from East Carolina University's Center for Survey and Research who worked on "The Life, Liberty and Happiness Project" say life satisfaction and political views were some of the most interesting findings from the survey.

Peter Francia, chair of the center of survey and research and professor in the political science department, said he and the group of all ECU faculty created the project to evaluate the nation's founding principles and compare them to the beliefs Americans hold today.

Francia's group was comprised of Mark Bowler, department of psychology, Bob Edwards and Melinda Kane, department of sociology, Joseph Lee, department of health education and promotion, Jonathan Morris, department of political science and Ann Rafferty, department of public health.

"Perhaps the biggest focus of the initial report was the finding that such a large percentage of Americans were satisfied with their lives," Francia said. "Almost seven out of ten Americans said they were satisfied with their lives so that was refreshing to see."

Kane, a sociology professor, worked in the happiness section of the study, which she said primarily asked whether respondents were

satisfied with their lives and whether or not people felt they had gotten the important things in life.

"We wanted to see what percentage of people were satisfied and had gotten the important things in life so far, and then we also wanted to see if there were any differences across sub groups of Americans in their answers to those questions," Kane said.

Kane said for the happiness section, they looked at generations, including post-millennials (mid 1990s to mid 2000s), millennials (early 1980s to mid 1990s), Generation X (mid 1960s to early 1980s), baby boomers (mid 1940s to mid 1960s) and Silent and Greatest generation (early 1900s to early 1940s).

"What surprised me was that you didn't see exactly the same trend in the life satisfaction one," Kane said. "That it's actually not the post-millennials and the millennials that had the lowest satisfaction, it was the Gen X'ers."

Kane said one question stuck out to her, specifically about the topic of gun control. Kane added she found it fascinating because there was a surprising amount of agreement between political parties.

While most of the responses to the gun questions primarily reflected party lines, one question received support from people



Professors from around East Carolina University helped create the survey. ARCHIVED | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

of both major political parties. Specifically, respondents were asked if they agreed that denying gun sales to those convicted of domestic violence or those who failed mental health backgrounds would reduce mass shootings.

According to the survey

results, 85 percent of Democrats and around 83 percent of Republicans responded 'yes', that denying gun sales to people convicted of domestic violence or who failed a mental health background check would help.

"A couple of the policies that

people thought might reduce mass shootings, that there was actually some agreement, across party lines even," Kane said. "Those were things that people agreed upon, and agreed upon them across party lines."

Francia said one of the questions they asked people was if they approved of the job Donald Trump is doing as president.

"We found that it wasn't by a lot, but people who approved of the job Trump was doing were a little bit happier with their lives than the people who disapproved," Francia said.

Francia said he wouldn't have necessarily expected those results before completing the survey, as he said a common stereotype of the Trump supporter is often portrayed as being very angry.

"Again there are plenty of other items to look at, but at least on that one item on life satisfaction, we found that there was no evidence of those supporters being disproportionately angry," Francia said. "In fact we found quite the opposite."

Francia said the center has not yet begun developing plans building off this study, but he is already thinking of ways he personally can continue researching the same topics.

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

72 PLUS

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK

FRIDAY

Eric Sommer

Stilllife
9 p.m.

Chip Perry Band

Buccaneer Music Hall
10 p.m.

SATURDAY

Walk With A Doc

River Park North
9 a.m.

Vinyl Day

River Park North
2 p.m.

Hand Lettering Class

Simple & Sentimental
2 p.m.

Don Sauls

Uptown Brewing
8 p.m.

D-N-R band

Pitt Street Brewing
8 p.m.

Georgia Thunderbolts

Buccaneer Music Hall
10 p.m.

SUNDAY

Tan Sanders and Halen Sykes

Christy's Euro Pub
5 p.m.

Bradford Mueller

A.J. McMurphy's
5 p.m.

Sunday in the Park

Greenville Town
Common
7 p.m.

ICE CREAM

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make it a fun day for everybody.” With the many different activities for visitors to partake in, Fulcher knows what the thousands of people will really be coming for. “The main attraction is ice cream. We’re going to be selling ice cream from inside the store, our vending trailer will be set up and we’ll be selling ice cream out of our party room window,” Fulcher said. Natalie Aynes, manager of the Simply Natural Creamery location in Greenville said she will be at the Ayden farm for the festival and is excited about the opportunities the festival will provide to local businesses and vendors.

“It does a lot to help highlight smaller businesses and that’s one of the major reasons we do this festival. We want to make sure that any small business can

come to the festival and get their name out,” Aynes said. “It’s a way to encourage people in the Greenville area to help smaller businesses with their endeavors.”

Aynes said the uniqueness of the festival lies in Simply Natural Creamery sharing the day with other smaller businesses to help them get more recognition. Aynes is also excited about the enthusiasm of those who come to the festival.



Natalie Aynes

People are always happy to be there,” Aynes said. “Everyone has a good spirit on the day, so it’s neat just to see people having a good time with their family and spending time together.”

Fulcher said last year’s 7,000

“It’s a way to encourage people in the Greenville area to help smaller businesses with their endeavors.”

-Natalie Aynes

visitors exceeded his expectations, even though it was “probably the hottest day of the year with a chance of thunderstorms.” Fulcher believes this year will have the same amount of people at the farm.

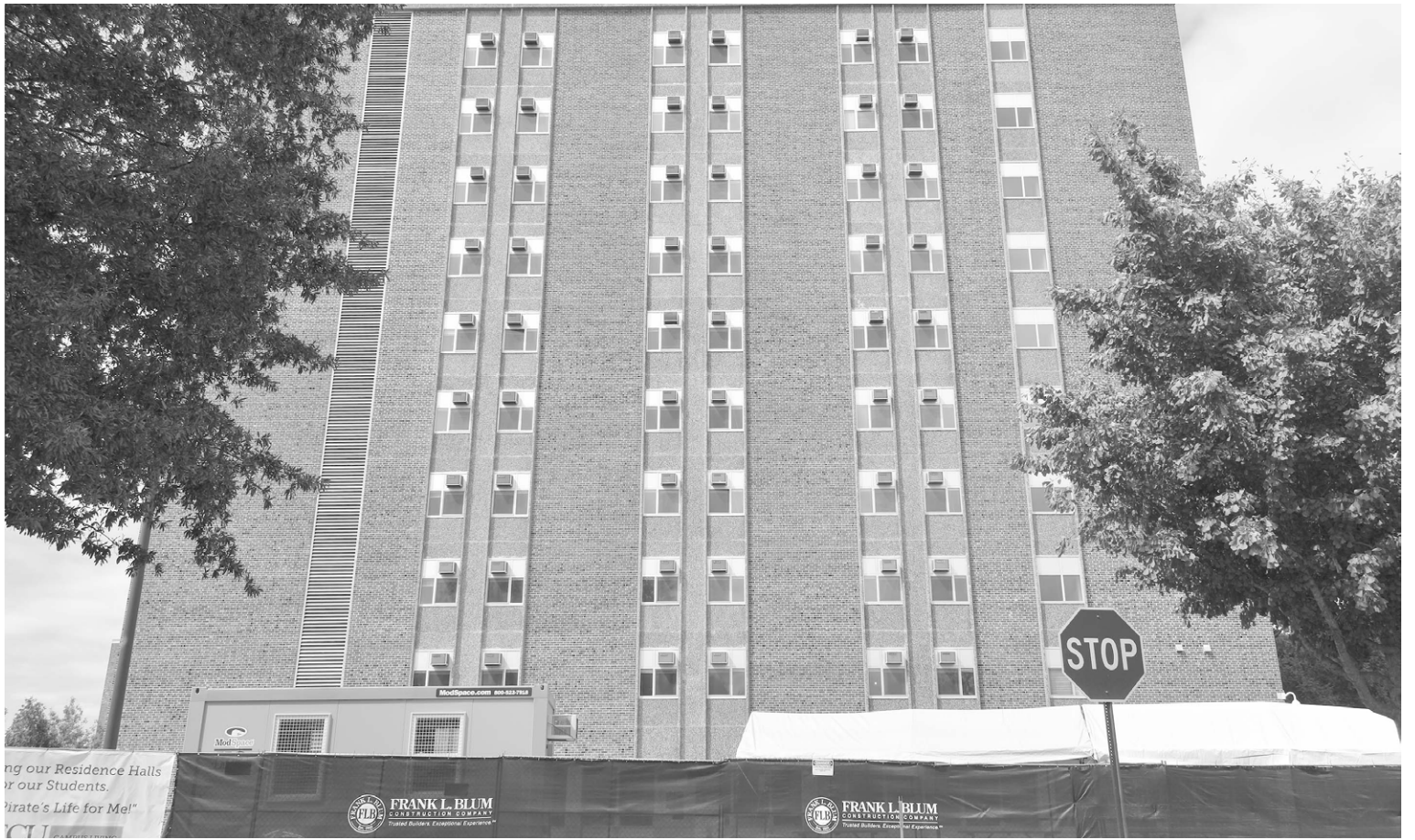
“I feel pretty confident that we’ll have 7,000 people, could be more. The weather looks like it’s going to be nice and it’s going to be a perfect day for it,” Fulcher said.

Fulcher hopes Simply Natural Creamery will gain more customers due to people who come to the creamery for the first time for the festival.

Fulcher also wants the festival to act as a way to spark interest in the people of eastern North Carolina on where their dairy products come from and for visitors to “see the process it takes” to get make their products.

“Since we’re the only local dairy in eastern North Carolina, we’re the only opportunity for people to actually see the cows and find out where their milk comes from,” Fulcher said. “It’s some education in it as well as entertainment.”

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



East Carolina University's Greene Residence Hall is closed for renovations. The \$28.5 million renovations will close the building until its reopening in 2019.

GREENE

continued from A1

coat of paint, new floors, new windows,” Shoemaker said. “It just gets a facelift on the inside of the building.”

According to Associate Vice Chancellor of Campus Living Bill McCartney, the code issues were discovered when the university began to renovate the coordinator apartment in Greene.

“What we realized when we opened the ceiling to do the work in Greene was that the steel structure of the building has to be coated with a fire protectant and we realized that coating did not exist,” McCartney said.

Because Greene Hall, White Hall and Clement Hall all have similar appearances and were built around the same time, McCartney said, they checked the other two halls to see if they had the same issues.

“We investigated all three

(buildings) and realized that we actually need to do major renovations to all three buildings to bring them up to fire safety,” McCartney said.

Despite the buildings having fire code issues, McCartney said the buildings themselves did not pose any harm to the students living in them.

“The buildings were old and were getting worn out, but they weren’t dangerous and there wasn’t a bad quality of life for the students,” McCartney said.

McCartney said he predicts the renovations will make Greene one of the more desirable places for ECU students to reside just as the renovations to White and Clement Halls have had.

“People really want to get into Clement and White and I think they will do the same with Greene once it is completed as well,” McCartney said. “We’ve done a complete restoration of the buildings so that they’re good to use for the next 50 years.”

During the renovations, Cotten Hall will replace Greene Hall as the all-women’s residence hall. After the renovations are completed, Cotten Hall will remain as an all-women’s dormitory, while Greene will become co-ed.

McCartney said ECU always considers how to make students most comfortable when deciding whether to renovate a residence hall or construct a new one.

“When campus living is



Bill McCartney

looking at all of the renovations that we’re doing to improve the quality of life for students, it’s really important for us that we make the residence hall experience a great one for all the students that come through at ECU,” McCartney said.

This is only the beginning

of ECU residence halls being renovated. According to McCartney, the bathrooms in Cotten Hall are currently being gutted and renovated. Next summer, the bathrooms and heating and air conditioning systems in Fleming will be renovated as well. McCartney also said Campus Living has a five-year plan for bathroom and exterior renovations to Legacy and Jones Residence Halls.

Although Greene Hall will be closed during the school year, McCartney said in the future, the plan is to not have renovations affect students while school is in.

“We had to close Greene because of the extensive nature of the renovation but the other buildings in our five-year plan are only closing in the summer and keeping them open during the school year,” McCartney said.

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

GREEK continued from A1

hurt, there were no injuries,” Mountz said. “More than likely what would happen was that they would end up on an educational enhancement plan.”

Mountz said the next step for an organization would be deferred suspension, which means the group has previously been in trouble and would no longer be eligible for the enhancement plan.

Mountz said if there is a second violation while a chapter is already on a deferred suspension, the chapter is held responsible as an organization and the only outcome then is suspension.

“It’s kind of like, you’re put on warning. If you screw up again, you will be suspended,” Mountz said.

According to Mountz, in the specific cases of a sorority or fraternity, their fate is usually decided by its national headquarters. He said it’s typically the national organization which suspends or shuts down a particular chapter before the university does.

“Language is different between the various organizations so our university terminology is if we suspend recognition, that means we’re no longer going to allow them to operate at the university,” Mountz said. “Now we’ve not done that. We’ve not,

as a university, suspended any groups.”

Mountz said in the years 2021 and 2022, the Greek life office will be busy with returning suspended fraternities such as Tau Kappa Epsilon and Epsilon Alpha Epsilon. Mountz said his department has not yet met with Delta Chi to determine its return to campus, and added Phi Kappa Tau also hasn’t been officially settled on, as it’s essentially been shut down.



John Mountz

of people off guard with Sig Ep, was there was not a single major incident but for them, it was a pattern of behavior over five to six years,” Mountz said.

Mountz said ECU Greek life had an external hazing consultant come in February to do a complete assessment to help them better understand what chapter perceptions are and what student perceptions are.

“Now we’re leaning toward ‘Ok, how do we provide direct programming for that?’ We took this past year to rethink some of our leadership training programs so we’ll be launching an emerging leaders program in the fall,” Mountz said.

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

the BIG VAPE THEORY

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VAPERGATE

OUR VIEW

Alumni successes deserve recognition

East Carolina University students and alumni have been in sports news recently. Alumnus men's golfer Harold Varner III and current ECU men's golfer Blake Taylor both competed in the Greenbrier Classic in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia this weekend. Varner III earned his second Top 10 finish in the Professional Golfers' Association this season, finishing tied for 5th place.

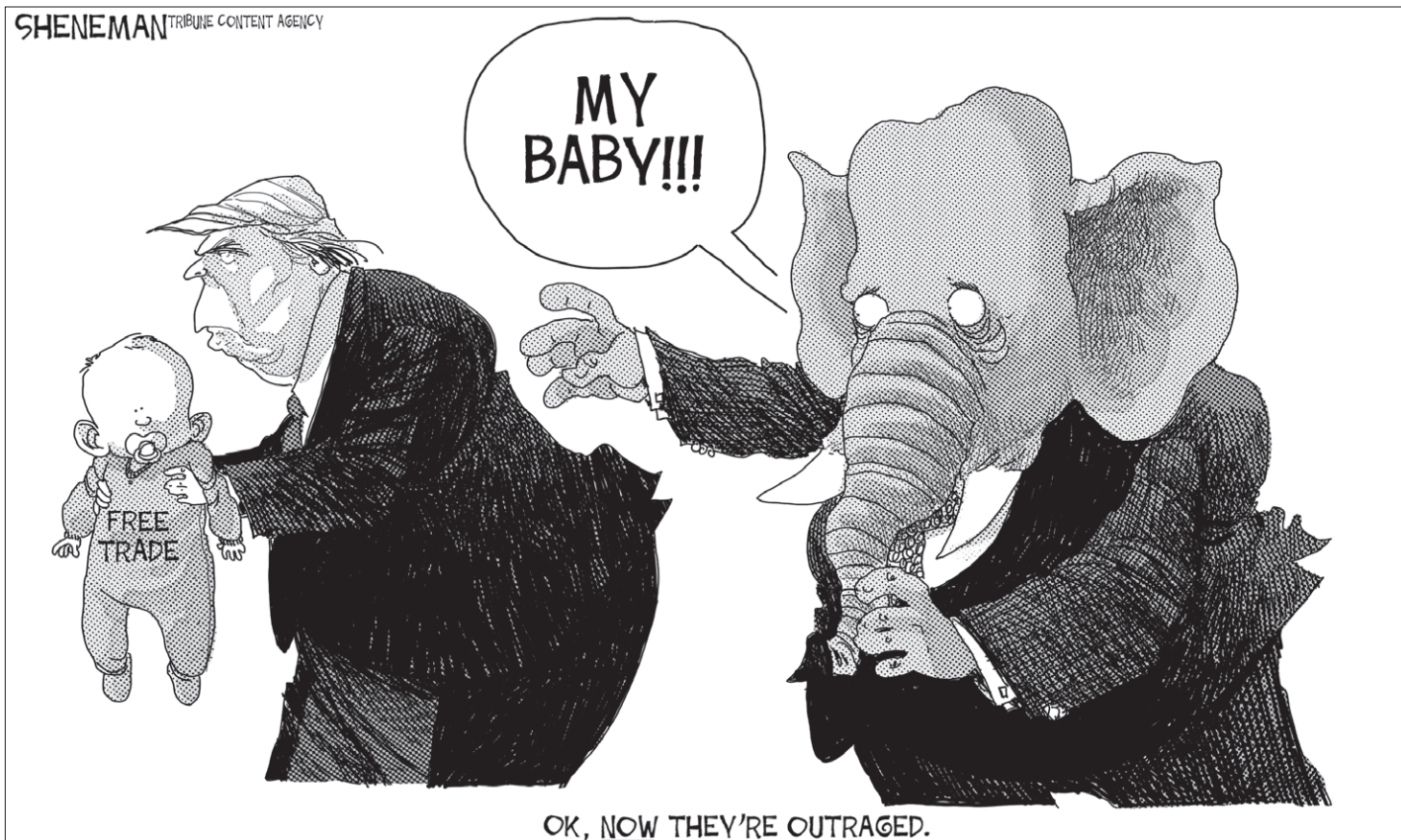
The Greenbrier Classic was the first ever PGA event for Taylor, and he narrowly missed the second round cut of -3 after shooting +1 in the first two rounds. Despite not making the cut, Taylor was able to finish above many notable professional golfers including John Daly and Geoff Ogilvy, and finished as the top amateur in the tournament.

Varner III finished at an impressive -12 on the weekend, helping secure his seventh career top 10 finish after finishing tied for fifth place, also tying the best finish in his career thus far. He also earned \$247,470 in prize money for his top-five finish.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe these Pirate golfers deserve recognition for their accomplishments, both this weekend and throughout their careers overall.

Each of them will likely have long prosperous careers ahead of them as Taylor is only heading into his junior year at ECU, and Varner III is just 27 years old. Taylor was named to the the American Athletic Conference men's golf All-Conference team last season as a sophomore, and appears he has a great chance to repeat that again this season as a junior after qualifying and competing in his first ever PGA Tour event.

While golf is not widely recognized as one of the most followed college sports. It is encouraging to see both former and current Pirates put ECU golf on the map, and could even possibly help with future recruitment down the line.



Miscast shows inequality



Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Bless The Press

"Black Panther." "Call Me By Your Name." "Get Out." "Love, Simon." "Girls Trip." This year alone, film after film have told stories through the eyes of minorities, and in turn have inspired aspiring minority actors yet to come.

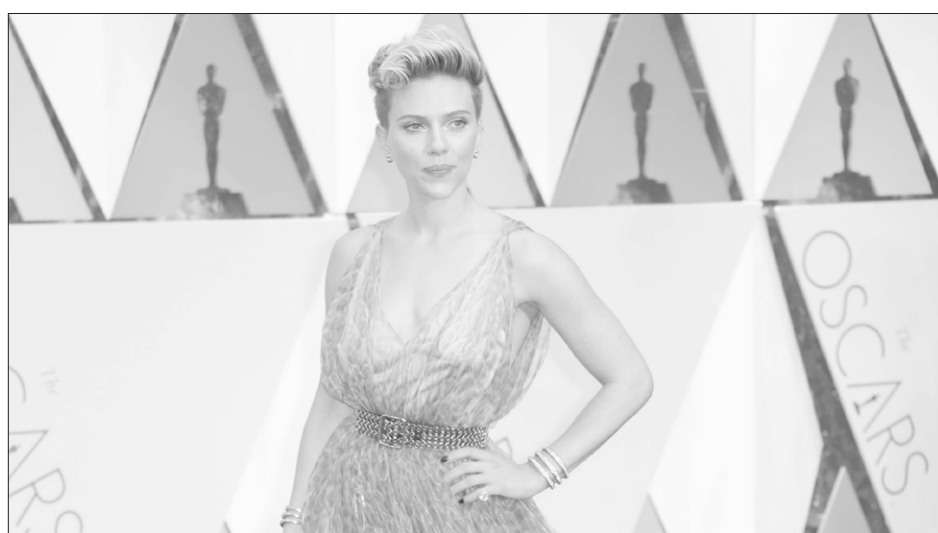
While there is so much work yet to do, the film industry has taken small steps in the right direction and more people of all identities and colors have come to terms with the progress in film representation. Or so we comfortably thought.

Unfortunately for those of us rooting for this small awakening to stick, "Ghost in the Shell" director Rupert Sanders and actress Scarlett Johansson have once again joined together to offend the film community and beyond — this time, with the role of a transgender man.

Social media erupted in backlash almost immediately after the news of Johansson's upcoming role in the biopic *Rub & Tug* broke. Johansson will star as Dante "Tex" Gill, a real-life figure who used a string of massage parlors as fronts for prostitution in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania during the 1970's and 1980's. Gill was born Jean Marie Gill, but identified as a man.

If Johansson's name and backlash sounds like *deja vu* to you, that's because it is. Just last year, Johansson (another one of Sanders' films) was subject to backlash for her role as Motoko Kusanagi in "Ghost in the Shell" — a cyber human character enhanced to be a perfect soldier programmed to fight the world's worst criminals. Based on an original Japanese manga series, the whitewashing of the cast warranted an adverse reaction before and after the film's release.

More than a year later, that backlash has now resurged, proving both Johansson and Sanders have a lot to learn when it comes to proper casting in Hollywood.



JAY L. CLENDENIN | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Actress Scarlett Johansson was recently cast as Dante "Tex" Gill, a historical transgender man.

By cisgender actors taking the roles which could easily go to transgender actors, we are reinforcing the past misconception that minorities aren't deserving of those roles in the first place. The miscasting of cisgender actors in transgender roles also tends to reinforce false implications of trans people — which is the absolute last thing one should want to do, especially when it comes to retelling the life story of someone else.

Just as the theatre and film rejected yellowface and blackface, Hollywood must now take on the task of upholding the miscasting of cisgender people in trans roles on the same scale. Being transgender is not a costume which one can simply put on once the cameras are rolling. Just as there are Asian actors to play Asian roles and Black actors who can play Black roles. There are and always have been transgender actors who can play trans roles.

Erasure casting in film has been happening since the beginning of theatre itself. From the whitewashed casts of "Avatar: The Last Airbender" and "Hellboy" to the yellowface in cult classics such as "Breakfast at Tiffany's," this stain of casting calamity has been embedded in our world's history. With that note, in 2018, Johansson has no business on that side of film's history.

To make matters worse, Johansson's

response also adds insult to injury. When word of the controversy reached Johansson, her rep responded to Bustle as follows — "Tell them that they can be directed to Jeffrey Tambor, Jared Leto, and Felicity Huffman's reps for comment." In other words, she seems to be saying, it was fine for them to play trans people — so it's okay for me, too.

It's true that Tambor, Leto and Huffman were rewarded in both critical acclaim and award accolades for playing trans characters. For one thing (and this may be a shock to both Johansson and her rep), there was harsh controversy around those roles. For a second thing, the Hollywood standards are constantly evolving. Choices which were considered more broadly acceptable then, are rightfully more contested now.

Once again, lessons need to be learned by Johansson, Sanders and all who are dismissive of the issues which run rampant with the casting of this film. If Johansson and Sanders aren't willing to wake up from their ignorant slumber, then history's course will leave them behind, in the form of boycott or blacklisting. Time will only tell.

Blessing Aghimien is a junior majoring in communication. She can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Prejudice against super seniors prevents success



Anh Ha
TEC STAFF

As someone who is taking more than the average of four years to get their college degree, the question, "What year are you?" always seems to create a mix of emotions for me when someone brings it up.

To this day, I still think of ways to diverge the conversation with strangers into something other than school just in the hopes that the question will be avoided altogether.

However, I have come to realize it is super normal to be a super senior. According to one Forbes article, around half of students stay in college for longer than the standard length. I can understand why this is such a large number and dare say that graduating later is even better than the traditional four years (if you can afford it).

As someone who plays video games on easy mode to enjoy the story and is picky about everything including the way my

books are arranged, it's no wonder that I had a tough time figuring out what I had wanted to do with my entire life. To add on, the pressure of getting out of school only made me dread the real world even more.

There are many reasons why a student would be postponing their graduation date, and for me personally, it was always about being sure that what I am doing is the right thing for my future. The definition of success to me is to be satisfied with my life. I had always mistaken living the American Dream as having the means to buy whatever I wanted. To live a life so comfortable that I was willing to sacrifice my happiness for it; but that's not the case.

So from there, I had to find exactly what would make me happy, and that's another problem on its own. Finding what you're interested in can be really tough, especially if it's not a major which will guarantee a stable job or good financial incomes.

It has taken me a tremendous amount of time to accept that I have wasted a year of my education on a major which brought me no joy. Another year to gather the strength to switch and tell my family (a traditional Asian immigrant household)

that I will be pursuing something other than accounting, law or medicine. At the end of this limbo of confusion and judgement though, is me.

I really am grateful to college because it had taught me something that you can't really buy in a book or lecture. College taught me self-introspection. I had learned something more valuable than any course had to offer and in return, I am now pursuing something which I am genuinely interested in. My degree will not only feel earned, but it will be immensely satisfying because it will represent exactly what I want my life to be.

So for all of those who are taking their time at university, for whatever reason, just keep going. Hold your head up because your reason for staying longer is valid. It shouldn't be demeaning. As long as you are pursuing whatever will bring you fulfillment, take as long as you need to get there. Success should never be a time crunch.

Anh Ha is a senior majoring in English. She can be contacted at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Household issues need attention now. Stick close to home, and get your chores done. Plan a project to beautify and improve your family's space.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- You can learn what you need today and tomorrow. Update your skills. Brief your team on a brilliant idea. Listen, and share options. Provide persuasion.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You can get the resources you need over the next few days. Invest in success. Allow an insider advantage. Follow an elder's advice.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- You're growing stronger. Personal matters take focus. Your experience makes you attractive. Imagine winning. Go for it, and keep your eyes on the prize.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Private contemplation reveals hidden opportunities. Slow down, and make plans. Review the situation from a philosophical view. Avoid provoking jealousies by staying sensitive to others.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Gather ideas and information from friends. Participate to fulfill community goals, wishes and dreams. Avoid snarky commentary. Keep a gracious public profile.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Take advantage of a few days in the professional spotlight. You're attracting the attention of someone influential. Show respect, and gain love. Stay on task.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- The next few days are good for expanding your territory. Keep your objective in mind. Plan your route to avoid delays and traffic. Get adventurous.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- A lack of funds would mess with your plans. Manage accounts and budgets. Stay in communication with interested parties. Contribute to support your family.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Negotiate with your partner to refine the plan. Talk things over to ensure that everyone gets heard. Compromise. Make a date for something special.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Focus on physical labors for a few days. Prioritize health and fitness. The pace is picking up. A change to the status quo is possible.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Reserve the next two days for fun. You're attractive and attracted. Give in to unexpected visits or spontaneous diversion. Fall in love again.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31			32		
33					34				35			
36				37				38				
39			40			41						
			42		43			44		45	46	47
48	49	50				51	52			53		
54					55					56		
57					58					59		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mantegna of "Criminal Minds"
 - 4 "Unhappily ___ After"
 - 8 "Worst ___"
 - 12 Mork's planet
 - 13 Ceremony
 - 14 Nastase of tennis
 - 15 "___ Haw"
 - 16 "___ to Jim"
 - 18 Features for Rudolph & Durante
 - 20 Jack ___ of "Barney Miller"
 - 21 Will of "The Waltons"
 - 24 Family of actress Loretta
 - 28 "Wheel ___"
 - 32 Felix or Stimpny
 - 33 Experts
 - 34 Refrain syllable
 - 35 Bartok or Lugosi
 - 36 Suffix for grump or lump
 - 37 Actor on "NCIS"
 - 39 Dog on "Frasier"
 - 41 Marvin and Majors
 - 42 Actor Hunter
 - 44 Gomez Addams' portrayer
 - 48 "Gary ___"
 - 53 Garden tool

- 54 Part of an orange
- 55 Folksinger Guthrie
- 56 "___ be in England..." (Browning)
- 57 Perry Mason or Matlock: abbr.
- 58 Young cow
- 59 "Ladies ___"

- DOWN**
- 1 Stossel of "20/20"
 - 2 Sandwich cookie
 - 3 ___ out a living; gets by
 - 4 Arnold Schwarzenegger movie
 - 5 ___ Damone
 - 6 List-shortening abbr.
 - 7 Old Oldsmobiles
 - 8 Black ___; poisonous spider
 - 9 Actor Wallach
 - 10 German article
 - 11 Large beer container
 - 17 Role on "The Golden Girls"
 - 19 Senses of self-esteem
 - 22 Ending for Paul or Jean
 - 23 Of the countryside
 - 25 Cake decorator
 - 26 Of great height
 - 27 Remain
 - 28 Mayberry kid
 - 29 Pebbles' dad
 - 30 Henry or Harrison
 - 31 "___ and Hayes"; Tommy Lee Jones movie
 - 35 Game show panelist Myerson
 - 37 "What Not to ___"
 - 38 "___ the Class"
 - 40 Sophia Loren's nation of birth
 - 43 Bric-a-___
 - 45 ___ Barry
 - 46 Tiny amount
 - 47 Marquee light
 - 48 "___ Lazy River"
 - 49 Hair covering
 - 50 "How I ___ Your Mother"
 - 51 Pankow's "Mad About You" role
 - 52 Building wing

Solution from 7/5

E	A	R	L	S	H	E	S	J	E	D		
R	I	C	A	T	A	L	E	O	D	E		
A	L	A	N	A	R	Y	E	A	I	M		
				C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	E
I	N	D	E	E	D	E	O	N				
T	E	A	R	O	N	C	R	E	E			
C	H	R	I	S	M	A	T	T	H	E	W	S
H	I	T	S	T	R	A	D	O	T			
			L	M	A	A	L	A	S	K	A	
			T	H	E	O	F	F	I	C	E	
M	I	A	T	I	L	T	I	D	E	A		
O	R	R	O	R	E	O	O	A	T	S		
M	E	T	R	E	A	R	U	N	A	S		

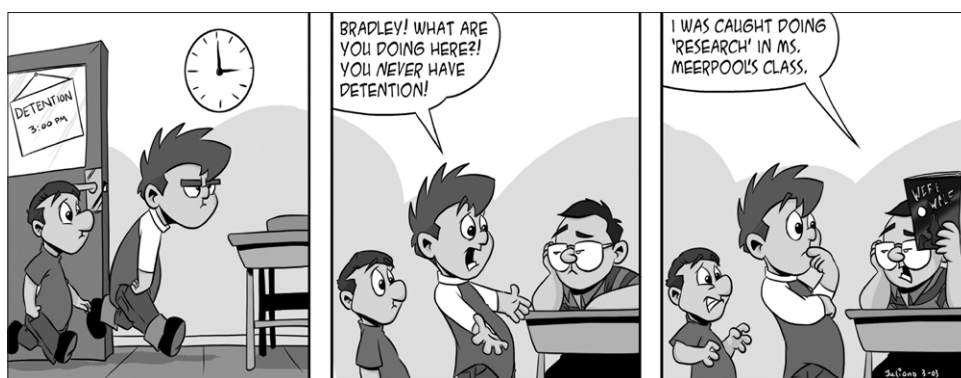
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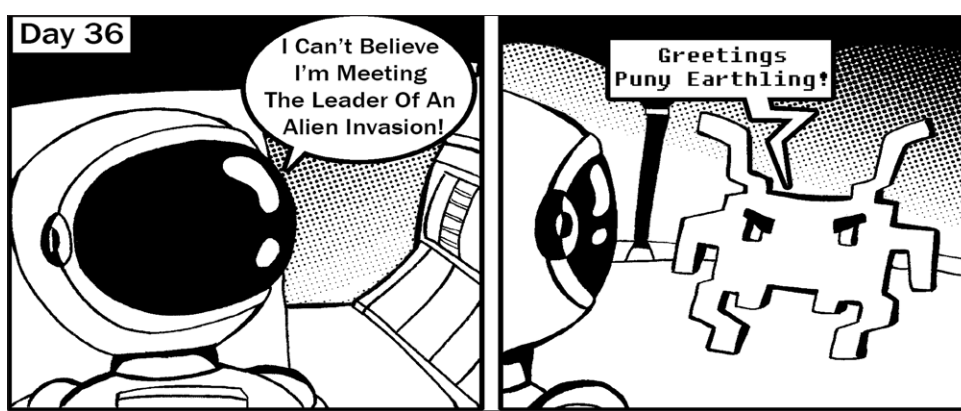
BREWSTER ROCKIT



BEST IN SHOW



ONE AND ONLY



SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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

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 7/5

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

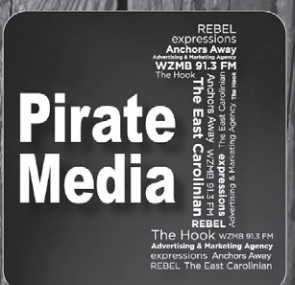
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Pirate football 2018 position preview

Dylan Johnson
TEC STAFF

With only 52 days until the East Carolina University football team kicks off its 2018 season at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium against North Carolina A&T on Sept. 1, the excitement is growing for Pirate football to return once again.

ECU had a down 2017 season in which it finished 3-9 and ranked at or near the bottom in the American Athletic Conference in most categories. Skill positions such as the quarterback, running backs and wide receivers are no exception. Let's take a look at where ECU was at each position a year ago and where it could be this upcoming season, starting with the most talked-about position on the field, quarterback.

With Gardner Minshew and Thomas Sirk splitting time at quarterback, ECU threw the ball more often than any other team in the AAC, often out of necessity due to being down big in games. This wasn't a good thing for the Pirates. The team recorded the second lowest combined quarterback rating in the league but threw 53 more passes than Memphis, the second closest team in the conference who also had the second best combined quarterback rating.

Perhaps fortunately for ECU, it will have a new face at quarterback this season. With Sirk having graduated, Minshew was set up to be the starter as a veteran with young players learning behind him. But, Minshew transferred

to Washington State University, leaving Reid Herring the likely one to be thrust up into the starting quarterback spot for the Pirates for week one. Herring could have a breakout season, but if not, there's still freshman Holton Ahlers, who you can count on seeing on the field at some point this season. Either way, ECU has room for better play at its quarterback position in 2018.

The running back spot was one which did not get nearly as much use in 2017 as the quarterback spot did. Again, this is due to the Pirates often being behind big in games. ECU finished last in the AAC in rush attempts, rushing yards, rushing touchdowns and yards per carry last season. Its 107.7 yards per game was last in the conference and near the bottom of the entire country. The position wasn't devoid of talent however, as Hussein Howe led the team with 419 rushing yards and was the featured back. Howe was 27th in the AAC in rushing attempts, but his 4.4 yards per carry ranked 17th in the conference.

A good thing for ECU is that it gets its running backs from last season back and then some. Howe and Darius Pinnix, the two leading rushers from last season, return to the fold again. Anthony Scott returns to the Pirates as a senior and redshirt freshman Trace Christian had a stellar performance at the Purple Gold Spring Game. If ECU's running backs can step up and create a productive running game for ECU this season, it will help a



Quarterback Reid Herring and running back Trace Christian are among the players who can help ECU improve this season. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES



Hussein Howe

lot, especially with easing a new quarterback into place.

The wide receiver position in 2017 for ECU was a deep one. Coming off losing the FBS all-time receptions leader, Zay Jones, the group was led by Trevon Brown, who

stepped up with a 1,069 receiving yard season on 60 catches. The group had three other receivers, Quay Johnson, Davon Grayson and Jimmy Williams, who all had more than 30 catches and went for

more than 400 yards.

For the 2018 version of the ECU wide receiver corps, figuring out new depth will be the issue. Trevon Brown returns to be the clear cut leader of the group again this season, and possibly the next ECU receiver to play in the NFL. But after Johnson, Grayson and Williams all graduated, the question now becomes who will be the other key contributors on the outside for Herring and the quarterback position.



Trevon Brown

Among those who could step up and take pressure off of the wide receiver spot are the tight ends at ECU. After losing Stephen Baggett, ECU is left with a group of three juniors, Anthony Watley, Jaray Simpson and Dalton Montgomery, to replace him.

Overall the offensive skill positions have room for improvement but seem to have the players to make the necessary improvements. Third-year Head Coach Scottie Montgomery will have plenty of options as he takes the field heading into a crucial 2018 season.

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

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