



HURRICANE FLORENCE



A roadway in Boiling Springs Lake, North Carolina was destroyed after Hurricane Florence dropped record amounts of rainfall.

CONTRIBUTED BY CALEIGH MCGUIRE

Florence devastates Carolinas

Staff Report

Hurricane Florence was on par to be one of North Carolina's worst storms to impact the state. But after running into some unfavorable conditions and a turn to the south, the storm's path changed course and its impact on the state.

"Once it became clear that the storm would target the Carolinas, Florence became better organized, restrengthening into a Category 4 monster with maximum sustained wind speeds peaking at 138 mph," according to a post-storm report from the North Carolina Climate Office. "If it maintained that intensity, Florence would have rivaled Hurricane Hazel as North Carolina's strongest landfalling storm on road."

Hurricane Florence maintained its path and soon the Carolinas along with Georgia and Virginia all became possible targets of the Category 4 storm.

As Florence neared the United States and North Carolina, according to the North Carolina Climate Office, the storm encountered high wind shear and dry air causing it to weaken to a Category 1 hurricane as it made landfall on Friday.

Officially, Hurricane Florence made landfall near Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina as a Category 1 hurricane on Friday at 7:15 a.m., according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

What made Florence different from most other hurricanes to impact North Carolina was the slow crawl it took through the Tar Heel state, according to the North Carolina Climate Office. The slow speed Florence took through the state was caused by high-pressure systems.

"Upper-level high pressure systems surrounded the storm on three sides, and with nothing in the atmosphere to steer the storm, it moved westward at a mere walking pace over the weekend," according to the climate office's report.

As a result of the storm's slow pace, Florence doused North Carolina in 8.04 trillion gallons of rain, according to the National Weather Service office in Raleigh. The rainfall left parts of the state with record amounts of rain and led to concerns of flash flooding.

All told, Greenville received 11.66 inches of rain, Washington 6.71, Kinston 18.88, New Bern 16.65 and Williamston 6.93 as a result of Hurricane Florence, according to the National Weather Service.

Hurricane Florence left the state with hundreds of thousands without power and hundreds of rescues, according to the North Carolina Department of Public

ECU stays afloat

Julie Estep
TEC STAFF

Hurricane Florence was originally predicted to come directly through East Carolina University and bring damage worse than what was seen in 2016 with Hurricane Matthew. The shift in direction relieved ECU from much of the damage, but university departments stayed busy during the week.

The National Weather Service Eastern Region reported Greenville received a total of 11.66 inches of rainfall. As of Monday, there were still 389,889 power outages and 2,600 rescues had been performed across the state.

President Donald Trump will travel to the Carolinas Wednesday to inspect the damage after Hurricane Florence, according to a report from the News & Observer. It is still unclear where in North or South Carolina the president plans to visit.



A boat was left resting against some trees and bushes in New Bern, North Carolina.

CONTRIBUTED BY DANIEL THOMAS

Lauren Mink, emergency planner for East Carolina University, said the University had been monitoring the storm since Friday and preparations began that day. Mink said the hurricane preparations increased "as the track zeroed in" on North and South Carolina.

"We stayed in constant contact with North Carolina Emergency Management, Pitt County Emergency Management and the National Weather Service," Mink said. "ECU has a Hazardous Weather

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Recovery efforts begin after storm

Staff Report

Recovery and relief efforts have begun across eastern North Carolina as Hurricane Florence moves out of the state. Both state and national organizations have stepped in to help those affected by the hurricane.

For those looking to help individuals affected by Hurricane Florence, here are a few of the many organizations coming in to help eastern North Carolina recover.

East Carolina University is working with students to try and identify their needs to help them recover from Hurricane Florence, according to the ECU Dean of Students Office. Students are asked to fill out an online form through the ECU Dean of Students Office. The form will allow ECU to assist them with their academic or personal needs in the wake of

Florence. Students can also call the office directly at 252-328-9297 or email at DOS@ecu.edu

ECU is also assisting in recovery efforts through its East Carolina Undaunted program. The program is part of the University's effort to help the region recover from Hurricane Florence, according to the program's website. The program allows students, businesses, faculty or staff to get involved and help.

As part of the East Carolina Undaunted program, the University will host a Hurricane Florence Food Drive through Sept. 29, according to the ECU Center for Civil Engagement and Leadership. Individuals can drop off canned foods, cereals, grains, hygiene products and much more at the Willis Building downtown.

The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina is looking for individuals who



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Crews begin repairing the damage left by Hurricane Florence in the Leland, North Carolina area.

can donate money or food to help support those affected by Florence. According to its website, the food bank is asking people to donate canned meats, canned foods, paper goods, diapers, hygiene products and much more.

Food donations will be accepted at the food banks locations in Durham, Raleigh, New Bern, Greenville, Sandhills/Southern Pines and Wilmington, according to the food banks' website. For those willing to make a financial donation, the food bank asks for checks to be

mailed to 1924 Capital Blvd. in Raleigh, North Carolina. Monetary donations can also be made at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina's website.

The American Red Cross is also coordinating relief efforts across the region in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence, according to its website. In the eastern North Carolina region, the Red Cross is

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ONLINE

» Photo Galleries: View the damage left by Hurricane Florence

» Video: Classes to resume after Hurricane Florence moves through

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Members of the North Carolina State Medical Assistance Team have gone into the Wilmington area to help residents recover from Hurricane Florence. The storm dropped record amounts of rain.

ECU helping students after storm

Staff Report

East Carolina University resumes its normal schedule today as classes restart for students after more than a week-long closure. For some students though, the effects of Hurricane Florence have been so great that returning to campus and classes may not be an option.

For the students who have suffered from Hurricane Florence, ECU will be working with them to try and establish their needs in the wake of this most recent natural disaster. The ECU Dean of Students Office has created an online resource for students who were affected by Florence.

Students are asked to complete the form so the University may assist them with their academic or personal needs, according to the Dean of Students' website.

"Students should also notify professors in advance if they expect to miss classes," according to an ECU News Services' Hurricane Florence information page. "The university is committed to supporting our students who cannot return by Wednesday for the start of classes. ECU is here and ready to help you on an individual basis to manage this difficult situation."

According to Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor of ECU's Division of Student Affairs, the University is using this online

form to establish what kind of resources ECU students will need in the wake of Florence.

Hardy said for individuals who fill out the online form, ECU will work with professors and direct students to outside resources which may be able to help them with their issues.

Hardy also said the University will be "very understanding" with students who can't return to campus.

In an email to ECU's faculty, Provost Ron Mitchelson asked professors and staff to be flexible with students as they may be recovering from Florence. Mitchelson said because of the damage done by Florence, faculty will need to be supportive and responsive to students and their needs.

"I know that they will issue the appropriate flexibility and accommodation needed for our affected students," Mitchelson said in the email. "That flexibility will undoubtedly take some planning and some extra effort and I express appreciation in advance for your willingness to assist our students."

The ECU Dean of Students Office encourages students to fill out the online form if they've been affected by Florence, according to the News Services website. Students can also call the dean of students office at 252-328-9297 or email at DOS@ecu.edu.

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THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The fishing pier at the Town Common is overcome with water. The Tar River isn't expected to flood.

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Response Team that is comprised of individuals from multi-disciplines and offices across campus"

Mink said the response team met every day from Sept. 10 through Sept. 12 and again on Saturday.

"This group makes recommendations on the operations of campus and sends the recommendation to the chancellor for approval," Mink said. She added Chancellor Staton attended both the Wednesday and Saturday meetings "to assist in discussions."

Mink said minimal damage was reported on campus and no building flooding was reported. Of the damage that was reported included "one large tree down, smaller branches down, some decorative building accents such as lanterns and security mirrors were damaged and silt deposits from Greens Mill run which spilled into roadways and parking lots. There were also some wind-driven rain intrusions in buildings, which Mink added often occurs with any storm with high rain rates.

According to Mink, all streets in Greenville reopened Sunday and the state of emergency for the city of Greenville also ended Sunday at 5 p.m.

"The Tar River never exceeded action level," Mink said. "It was forecast at one point to exceed minor flood stage (13'), but has since been lowered. We are not expecting flooding like Matthew (24.5') or Floyd (29.7)."

Chris Sutton, administrative lieutenant for the ECU Police Department, said operations are getting back to normal for the University. Sutton said there was not a lot of severe damage to ECU and only minimal flooding in some campus buildings, but nothing that would have prevented staff from returning and classes resuming.

"I know that there was some lab space over on the health science campus that had a little bit of a flooding issue, but overall the east campus, I don't think there was anything just beyond leaks through



Chris Sutton

"The officers that we had, they stayed pretty busy throughout the entire weekend."

-Chris Sutton

the roofs that was able to be caught by trash cans," Sutton said. "I don't think there was anything that was extremely significant where it would have caused a majority of the ceiling to collapse or anything like that."

According to Sutton, Greenville started seeing rain Thursday afternoon which picked up through the weekend with increasing wind speeds.

"Friday morning the rain was more consistent, we had spells where the rain was more of a downpour and it pretty consistently rained Friday and Saturday then Sunday the rain was just kind of intermittent," Sutton said.

The wind speeds Friday and Saturday were strong, according to Sutton, but never reached a sustained speed to the point where officers would have been pulled off patrolling the roads.

Sutton said ECU PD primarily wanted to monitor any potential flooding or damage around campus to be able to relay that information back to facilities staff. Sutton added they kept in contact with the grounds department, updating them on what to expect coming back.

"We did have some flooding in some of our parking lots and some of the roads on or adjacent to campus so we had to monitor that and close down roadways where there was flooding and also to monitor the flooding of Green Mill Run, which runs through campus, to have a better idea of how quickly the water was rising," Sutton said. "The officers that we had, they stayed pretty busy throughout the entire weekend."

While ECU was spared from tremendous damage, other universities in the state were not. Sutton said ECU

PD is glad they are able to help these areas by sending its resources where they are needed more.

"We have four (officers) that are at UNC Pembroke right now and currently we have four to five (officers) that are scheduled to go to UNC Wilmington over the weekend," Sutton said. "We are daily sending two (officers) every 12 hours shifts to New Bern to assist in those areas and since we were not significantly affected. This is just a way for us to assist other communities and also help these law enforcement agencies where some of these officers at Pembroke, New Bern and Wilmington have not even had the opportunity to get to their own homes."

Of the seven counties bordering Pitt County, three are still labeled as "disaster declared."

"We were really fortunate that we were able to assemble the amount of resources that we were able to collect across campus to include different vehicles, off campus housing because we probably had close to a dozen to fifteen officers and dispatchers that slept on campus through the storm," Sutton said.

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

FLORENCE continued from A1

Safety. As of Tuesday at 10 a.m., there were still 326,966 power outages across the state. Florence also caused 2,600 rescues across the state as of Monday at 12:45 p.m. Five hundred animals were rescued too as a result of Hurricane Florence.

As of Tuesday at noon, 25 counties across North Carolina still had some sort of evacuation order, according to NCDPS. Six of them, including Brunswick, Harnett, Onslow, Jones, Craven and Pamlico counties were still under a mandatory evacuation.

The number of hurricane-related deaths stands at 27 with the most (four) coming in Duplin

County, according to NCDPS.

Florence's death toll makes it one of the deadliest storms in state history, according to the state climate office.

"While Florence won't be widely remembered for its intensity, few of our worst storms are," according to the state climate office post-storm report. "Instead, it's hurricane like Floyd and Matthew, and even tropical storms like the one in July 1916, that have taken the biggest toll on our state, mainly due to relentless rains over already-wet ground and the flooding that ensued."

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RECOVERY continued from A1

providing shelters and meals to those affected by Florence.

The Red Cross is asking for donations on its website to help coordinate relief efforts across North/South Carolina and beyond, according to its website. Those who wish to donate can do so on the Red Cross' website.

Another organization working on providing relief is the Diaper Bank of North Carolina. The group is working to provide diapers, wipes and sanitary pads to the areas affected by Hurricane Florence, according to the group's website.

The group is asking people to make either financial donations to help those affected, according to its website. Those who are interested can make donations online or drop off supplies at the diaper bank's headquarters' at 1311 E. Club Blvd. in Durham, North Carolina.

The state of North Carolina is also offering a way for individuals to help those affected by the natural disaster. The North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund is accepting donations to help in Hurricane Florence relief, according to the governor's office website. Individuals can make monetary donations online or by mail.

The United Way is another

option for those interested in helping. According to the group's website, United Way is offering help to both those who want to donate and those affected by the storm.

For those looking to help, people are encouraged to donate to the United Way Hurricane Florence Recovery Fund to support individuals in need in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, according to the group's website. Information about donating or volunteering can be found on the United Way's website as well.

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Flo forces teams to cancel games

Dylan Johnson
TEC STAFF

Austin Walker
TEC STAFF



As Hurricane Florence came and hit Greenville over the weekend, several East Carolina University teams had to make adjustments as practices, tournaments and games were affected by the weather.

ECU football canceled its trip to Blacksburg, Virginia to play Virginia Tech last Saturday. Instead, the Pirates bused to Orlando, Florida last Wednesday and has stayed there since, practicing at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in preparation for its game at the University of South Florida on Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

Head coach Scottie Montgomery and the football staff recruit from the North Carolina area often, so many of the players' families were affected by Florence as well. Montgomery addressed Pirate Nation and eastern North Carolina Monday about Hurricane Florence.

"We're praying for you every day. As a team, we're praying for you at the beginning of practice and at the end of practice. You guys are heavily on our minds because you are our family, you are our support system," Montgomery said. "We're praying for you and we know that there's situations that will become better and there's situations that will take a lot of work to get back through."

While Hurricane Florence put a fork in the Pirates' plans, Montgomery noted the Pirates went through similar circumstances two seasons ago when Hurricane Matthew caused major flooding and damage around ECU, and other parts of eastern North Carolina.

"But we've been through things like this before. We saw it happen a few years ago. We returned stronger, I know we will return stronger now. We have to endure through times like this," Montgomery said. "Our team is playing with a lot of confidence right now, we're practicing with a lot of confidence right now. So, we're trying to go out and put together a great performance on the field for you guys. We love every part of eastern North Carolina."

One thing which has helped ECU players and staffs' families is the use of FaceTime on phones, according to Montgomery. Being able to physically see their families and know they are okay has helped greatly.

"It brings a greater sense of ease, I believe, just giving our guys a certain sense of ease. The overwhelming part of it, was that our parents were so relieved that their kids were in a safe place," Montgomery said.

Montgomery said ECU is trying



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Businesses along Dickinson Avenue boarded up their storefronts ahead of Hurricane Florence. Flo dropped more than 11 inches of rain as it moved through.

to make the week as normal as possible despite being in Florida. Montgomery said the Pirates will practice the same as they would in Greenville and will simulate things such as study hall.

Montgomery explained ECU's decision to relocate to Florida. He said ECU waited as long as it could, but the school announced Tuesday that teams wouldn't travel to any away games. He said they traveled a longer distance than they would have liked, but they were lucky enough to find a host and be safe.

"At the end of the day, it was all about making sure that our kids were safe and that's what we based it all around," Montgomery said.

The East Carolina University women's golf team was also left disappointed after Hurricane Florence forced the Pirates to cancel their home tournament, the Pirate Collegiate Classic, which was scheduled for Monday and Tuesday at the Greenville Country Club. The Pirates were coming off a strong performance last week in their first tournament this season at the Minnesota Invitational, where the team finished in fourth place.

Head coach Kevin Williams is disappointed that the team's home match was canceled, but will take advantage of the extra time off

to prepare for the Illini Women's Invitational on Oct. 8 and Oct. 9.

"We're obviously very disappointed that we had to cancel our home tournament," Williams said. "It's especially tough for our three seniors and the folks at Greenville Country Club. With that being said, we are turning our attention to the tournament at the University of Illinois over fall break."

Coach Williams will have his team take advantage of their time off to work on their game and prepare for their tournament next month. After a strong fourth place finish at the Minnesota Invitational, Hurricane Florence hit at an inopportune time in which the Pirates could have built on that success. Along with the cancellation of the tournament, the harsh conditions Hurricane Florence has brought across eastern North Carolina has made it difficult for the team to practice on the things that gave them trouble in Minnesota last week.

"A big thing I want to focus on is putting, since I thought that was one thing we struggled with on our last day in Minnesota," Williams said. "Hopefully we'll spend a little more time on the putting greens. Basically, we'll spend the next three weeks trying to hone in our game, and to get better handling these windy conditions."

Along with ECU women's golf having its home tournament canceled, the ECU volleyball and soccer teams faced cancellations of their own. ECU volleyball was

" We're praying for you and we know that there's situations that will become better and there's situations that will take a lot of work to get back through. "

-Scottie Montgomery

set to play in the second Colonial Classic hosted by the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia on Friday and Saturday, but was forced to cancel due to concerns of Hurricane Florence causing problems in southeastern Virginia.

Just as ECU women's golf, the cancellation came at an inopportune time for the ECU volleyball team. The Pirates, who are coming off the best season in the program's history, started the season strong yet again this year, and currently stand at 7-3. The Colonial Classic was going to serve as the Pirates final tune-up before entering its most important slate of games, their American Athletic Conference schedule.

ECU volleyball will now face opponent University of Cincinnati on Friday, which will be 14 days since the team last played at home in the Pirate Invitational. The team won in sweeps in the first two games of the invitational over Eastern Washington University and

Gardner-Webb University, and fell in three sets in the final game against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. ECU will hope the time between games will play little effect as they look to be one of the top teams in the conference this season.

The ECU soccer team has started strong under first year head coach Jason Hamilton, as they stand at 5-1-2 this year after going just 6-10-2 last season. Similar to ECU volleyball, the soccer team's final test before AAC play was canceled. The team was set to face off against UNC Wilmington on Thursday, as the Pirates were looking to get their third straight in-state win after defeating Campbell University and UNC Charlotte in its two previous games. The Pirates will now start a tough AAC schedule starting Thursday on the road against the University of Tulsa, and will look to improve on its poor 1-8 mark it reached last year in the conference.

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Local businesses feel financial impact

Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Danielle Schmid
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As the remnants of Florence push away from North Carolina, businesses in Uptown Greenville are starting to open its doors in hopes of going back to routine and leaving the storm behind them.

Typically open well into the night, Greenville hot dog joint Sup Dogs took precaution for the incoming hurricane by closing its doors at 9 p.m. last Thursday, which is six hours earlier than regular closing hours. The restaurant reopened its doors Sunday morning at 11.

In addition to closing its doors to customers, the staff at Sup Dogs stored seating such as chairs and stools in the rooftop kitchen and purchased sandbags to place outside of the rooftop kitchen's door.

"During the hurricane, all I did was monitor Sup Dogs' Instagram or Twitter to see when they would open up again," Amory Lawson, a junior political



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A store on Dickinson Avenue has the words "Go Home Flo" spray painted on its plywood storefront.

science major, said. "I feel for other businesses who may have been hit even harder, considering how much of an impact Florence had on Greenville."

Going a step further in precaution was Ford+Shep, a restaurant which specializes

in seasonal cuisine. Located at 718 Dickinson Ave., the restaurant decided to board up its windows and doors with wood. This safety measure, according to Ford+Shep's owner Brandon Qualls, was done to protect the restaurant's interior and greenhouse.

"We were closed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, so we lost revenue and in the days after the hurricane," Qualls said. "We were fortunate enough to not lose a lot of food. We were fortunate for not sustaining much damage, as other businesses

in Wilmington and further south may have."

Some local businesses did their part during the storm by feeding Greenville response teams.

Luna Pizza owner, Richard Williams, said Uptown Greenville and Uptown's President and CEO, Bianca Shoneman should get the credit for feeding the response units during this hurricane scare.

"The day before the storm, Uptown Greenville started reaching out to local businesses asking them to pay for or provide food for different response units," Williams said. "Once we agreed, we were assigned the police department, but we wanted to help out a little more, so we talked to Bianca about who else needed food."

Even though Luna Pizza was closed during the hurricane, Williams brought in two of his chefs and fed the emergency operation center for the city of Greenville and Greenville utility workers.

"A lot of people left thinking we were going to get destroyed here, but it really

wasn't that bad," Williams said. "I obviously wouldn't have brought in employees if I thought they were under any kind of threat."

After making the pizzas, Williams hand delivered them in his Jeep. He said everyone was very appreciative and some people have even been to the restaurant since to thank him.

Williams said Jay Bastardo, the owner of Villa Verde, has been the biggest help through this all. According to Williams, Bastardo has been offering free food to first responder workers since the day before Florence and has brought his food truck to Wilmington to feed anyone who needs it.

"He's (Bastardo) the real hero through this, he has a special way to get down to Wilmington," Williams said. "Jay's invited tons and tons of volunteers to go with him and it's just great what he's done for not only Greenville, but other communities as well."

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FLORENCE



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
The Burger King in New Bern, North Carolina was damaged.



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Left: A boat was washed up onto the shore in New Bern, North Carolina after Hurricane Florence. Right: the waters of the Trent and Neuse Rivers flooded into downtown New Bern, North Carolina.



PHOTOGRAPHER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The hashtag "New Bern Strong" was spray-painted onto a piece of plywood in front of storefront in New Bern, North Carolina. New Bern received more than 16 inches of rain from Florence.



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Top: A roadway was damaged by Hurricane Florence. Bottom: A structure in New Bern, North Carolina was destroyed.



PHOTOGRAPHER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A door was bent inward by Florence in New Bern, North Carolina.



Left: A large tree was knocked to the ground by Hurricane Florence in New Bern, North Carolina.



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Right: A truck in New Bern, North Carolina sucks up some of the flood water after Florence.

FLORENCE



Top: A road was damaged in Leland. Bottom: First Baptist was damaged in Leland.



Part of a large highway was flooded outside the Wilmington, North Carolina area.



Left: A tree was split in half in Wilmington, North Carolina by Hurricane Florence. A church steeple was knocked over by the winds of Hurricane Florence in the Leland, North Carolina area.



A boat washed up on shore by Hurricane Florence rests against a building in New Bern, North Carolina.



Right: A church steeple was knocked over by the winds of Hurricane Florence in the Leland, North Carolina area.



A roadway was washed away by Hurricane Florence in the Boiling Springs Lake, North Carolina area. Hurricane Florence brought record amounts of rain to parts of the state already soaked.

CONTRIBUTED BY CAELEIGH MOGUIRE

OUR VIEW

Generosity in demand after storm

As North and South Carolina continue to deal with the ravages of Hurricane Florence, several communities are still recovering from the storm. East Carolina University's campus was evacuated ahead of the storm and hundreds of people are still waiting for the waters to recede so they can return home.

According to AP News, although Florence weakened to a tropical storm Sunday morning, 17 people have been killed by the storm and more than 700,000 homes are without power in areas such as New Bern, Fayetteville and the campus of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, send our thoughts and prayers to the people along the coast, specifically UNCW, and encourage the ECU community to support recovery efforts in the region.

North Carolina has seen the devastating effects of a hurricane before in 2016 with Hurricane Matthew. Powerful winds and heavy rains can leave lasting damage to communities and as the communities affected assess the damage, we must continue to work with and support each other. It is important to remember before we are Pirates and Seahawks, we are people, and people have to come together and support each other when the storms come rolling in. Donate to support those affected at the American Red Cross' website to help jump start recovery in our state.



The Oval Office

Hurricane Florence Give back to areas damaged by Florence



Annah Schwartz
GUEST COLUMNIST

Two years ago during Hurricane Matthew, I watched anxiously as the first-floor units of my apartment building flooded and rising water outside engulfed cars in the parking lot.

I got a call from my dad that evening, urging me to evacuate Greenville before the Tar River had a chance to crest and things got worse. We'd be safer in New Bern, my hometown. I left Greenville the next day with my brother, roommate and my now fiance in tow. Due to the flooding around eastern North Carolina and in Greenville, we spent the week waiting things out in New Bern.

Two years later, things are different this hurricane season. Instead of evacuating to New Bern, I'm taking in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence's devastating effects on my beautiful hometown. A town where my family had weathered multiple hurricane seasons, with some flooding, but nothing to the likes of Florence.

As Florence took its hit on the city, I found myself watching anxiously again. Only this time, from afar by the phone, constantly refreshing for the latest updates on New Bern's status. My Facebook timeline filled with frantic requests for help from people all over New Bern seeking rescue — including my friends. In parts of my old neighborhood, residents had climbed into their attics to escape the rapid flooding. Boats from the marina crashed into homes. Our next door neighbors' home was even photographed behind a group of first responders and featured in a



CONTRIBUTED BY JORDAN JEFFRIES

A large boat rests on a house in New Bern, North Carolina after Hurricane Florence blew through.

“USA Today” article. When many realized they needed to leave, it was already too late to escape the flood waters without rescue.

The devastation Hurricane Florence wreaked is unreal. It's easy to forget you aren't invincible and to think that these things won't happen to you or your city. This hits too close to home, because it is home for me.

As an angsty teenager, I took my city for granted — I couldn't wait to get out of New Bern. Now, there's nothing more I want than to go back to the way things were. It won't be instant, but I know without a doubt that New Bern will rebuild and bounce back stronger than ever.

I've been fortunate through both major

storms to come out largely unscathed. For many others in North Carolina, this isn't the case — some have lost family members, they've lost their homes, their cars, precious items they'll never be able to get back and so much more. Many of you get to come back to dry homes and resume life as normal, but don't forget about what's going on just 45 minutes away and beyond. Give back in any way you can, not only to New Bern but other affected areas as well. These aren't just towns, these are your neighbors, Greenville.

Annah Schwartz graduated from East Carolina University in May, majoring in communication. She is also a former editor-in-chief of TEC.

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Pirate Nation will recover from Florence



Matthew Prensky
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Letter from the Editor

Servire. It means to serve. At East Carolina University, Pirate Nation serves its community. It's a beacon in this region, a leader in industries and an uniting force.

United, Pirate Nation serves eastern North Carolina and in return this region bleeds purple and gold.

Hurricane Florence has devastated parts of Pirate Nation. It came into our home as an uninvited guest, destroyed what we loved and ruined the lives of far too many people. For those who evacuated, the places they return to may never look the same.

However, I am here to say no hurricane will ever diminish the fire of Pirate Nation. No wind, wave or rain can sink Pirate Nation. We are a resilient and relentless group of Pirates, and we will rebuild. ECU may have faired well, but for those who didn't, Pirate Nation stands ready to help. We stand ready to serve.

“ Being a Pirate is more than just attending or graduating from ECU. It means being a part of a community. A community which helps one another and is always ready to serve. ”

In this time of great need, Pirate Nation will help one another to rebuild the parts of people's lives which were flooded away by Florence. Whether that means donating time, money or resources, no gesture is too little.

Eastern North Carolina has been a gracious host to ECU. It fills up Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Saturdays to cheer on the Pirates. This region is more than some towns, rivers and people.

When I came to eastern North Carolina four years ago, I was amazed by the hospitality. Strangers treated me as if I was family. That hospitality, that bond and unity to something larger is the reason I know eastern North Carolina will strive once again.

Eastern North Carolina has also been there for ECU and now we will return that favor to this beautiful region of North Carolina. Being a Pirate is more than just attending or graduating from ECU. It means being a part of a community. A community which helps one another and is always ready to serve.

As a university, a region and an unified force, we will rebuild. We sing “Purple Haze” at the top of our lungs together and together we will restore eastern North Carolina.

Matthew is a senior majoring in communication. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Collaborate for shared gain. New income is possible. Contribute for your family. Invest for the long term. Count your blessings and visualize perfection.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Use gentle pressure rather than force at home and with family. Make infrastructure repairs. Strengthen and build support. Your discipline wins satisfying results.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 5 -- Find a private hideaway for planning and review. Peace and quiet soothes sensitive emotions. Do the laundry. Wait for developments. Lay low.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Breakdowns or obstacles could cause delays with a partner. Work out irritation with physical activity. Consider consequences before acting. Sort out the best solution.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Study new developments, and share your views. Passions may be high; look before leaping. Avoid arguments by keeping your peace. Present your case tactfully.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Your friends are your inspiration. Meetings, gatherings and public events produce valuable connections. Stay flexible with the schedule. Prioritize beauty, creative collaboration and love.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Focus on a rhythm that you can maintain. Slow to avoid accidents during moments of greater chaos. Stick to basics to guard your health and wellness.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Keep producing valuable work. Resist the temptation to throw your money around. Compute expenses. Avoid financial arguments. Provide useful services and earn your silver.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- A professional opportunity merits attention. Compete for more responsibilities and benefits. A rise in status is possible. Keep your cool with surprises. Consider consequences.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Love can blossom over the next few days. Avoid impatience or anxiety. Stick to practical games and reliable methods. Gain insight from afar. Speak responsibly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Wear your confidence like a power cloak. Stay objective in a tense situation. Don't let a surprise dampen your enthusiasm. Enjoy a personal moment.

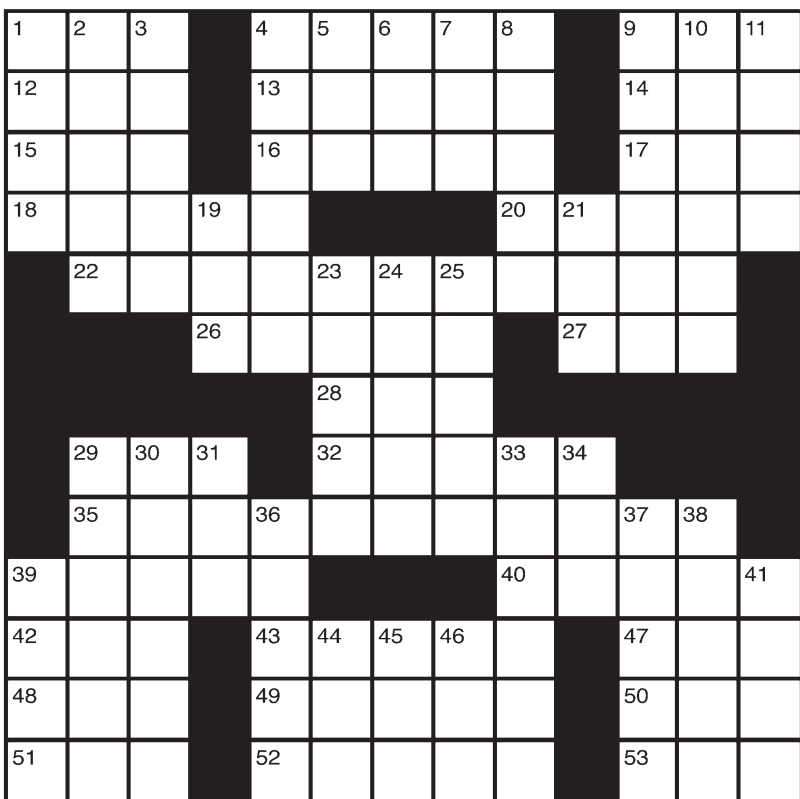
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Conditions look better for travel and exploration. Do your detective work. Research and sift through data. Adapt gracefully to shifting circumstances. Entirely new possibilities can arise.

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CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

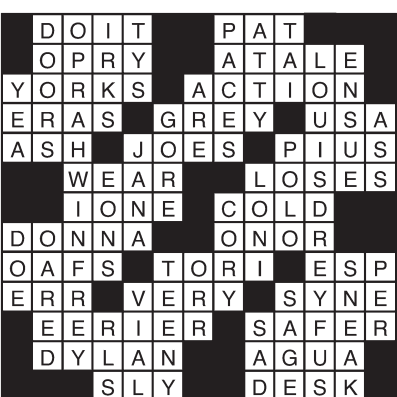
by Jacqueline E. Mathews



ACROSS

- 1 Conway or Allen
- 4 Actor Williams
- 9 "Mancuso, _"
- 12 "Not _ Stranger"; Frank Sinatra film
- 13 "_, Dolly!"
- 14 "Joan of _"; Ingrid Bergman movie
- 15 Underhanded
- 16 Actress Pompeo
- 17 Connect
- 18 Skewer roasting on a barbecue grill
- 20 " _ to Be You"
- 22 Actress on "Desperate Housewives"
- 26 " _ Pieces"; Peter & Gordon song
- 27 Calendar periods: abbr.
- 28 "The _ & Stimp Show"
- 29 Felix or Garfield
- 32 Right of final decision
- 35 "Deal or No Deal" host
- 39 Third-party presidential candidate of 1992

Solution from 9/06



- 40 Venomous viper
- 42 " _ Me Call You Sweetheart"
- 43 Taken _; surprised
- 47 Daniel _ Kim
- 48 Historical period
- 49 Singer Frankie
- 50 " _ Got a Secret"
- 51 Schmuck
- 52 Knitter's skeins
- 53 Snake-like fish

DOWN

- 1 Chore
- 2 Small piece of land
- 3 Perhaps
- 4 " _ Bang Theory"
- 5 Cath. or Episc.
- 6 Building wing
- 7 Pub order
- 8 Pick-me-up
- 9 " _ Knows Best"
- 10 Thorny plants
- 11 _ tea
- 19 Mr. Onassis
- 21 Your, biblically
- 23 Mister Ed, for one
- 24 "The _"; series for George Peppard
- 25 Skater Harding
- 29 Best Comedy Series Emmy winner of 1984
- 30 Primary blood vessels
- 31 "My _ Dads"
- 33 " _ on a Plane"; Samuel L. Jackson movie
- 34 "The _ Couple"
- 36 Sophia Loren's nation of birth
- 37 Dog on "Frasier"
- 38 " _ It to Beaver"
- 39 "Guilty" or "Not guilty"
- 41 Film holder
- 44 " _ Baa Black Sheep"
- 45 "The Fresh Prince of Bel- _"
- 46 Lou Dobbs' network

COMICS

ONE AND ONLY

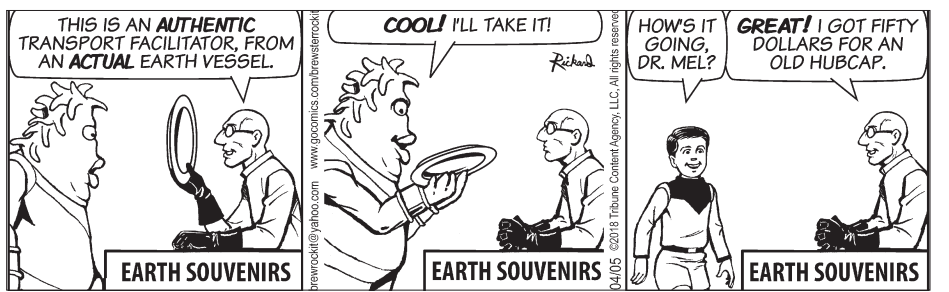


BRIAN JUDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

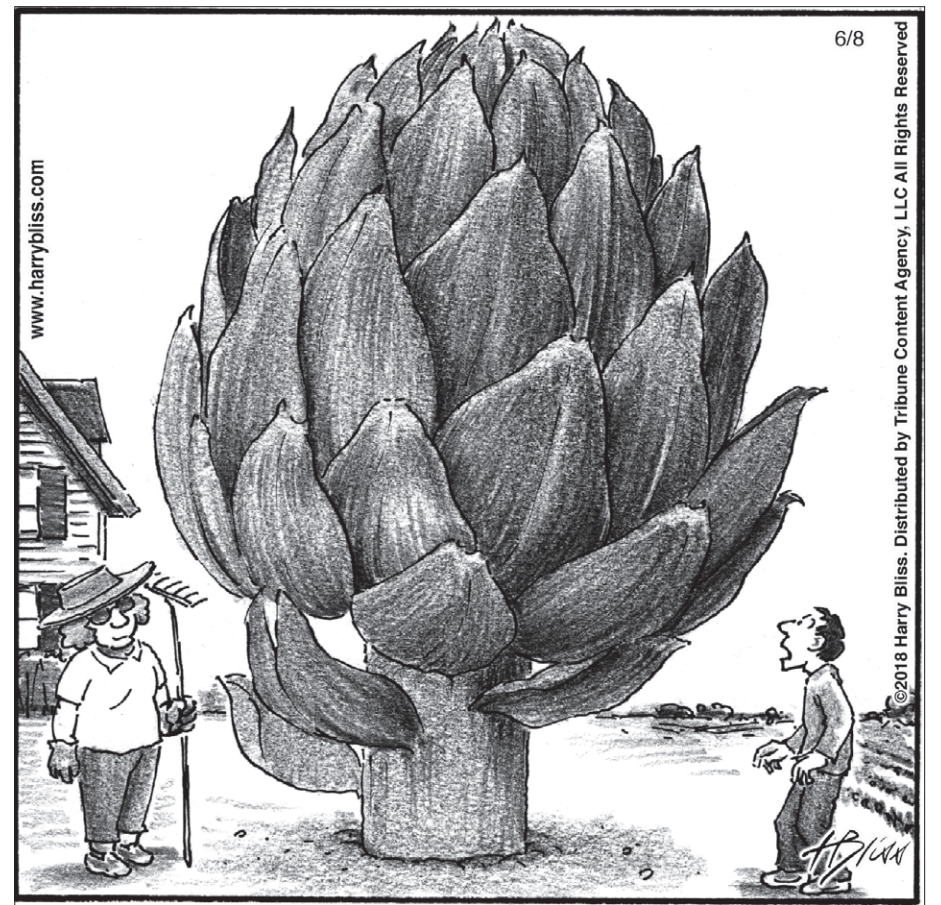
BEST IN SHOW



BREWSTER ROCKIT



BLISS



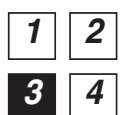
"Mother! How? Wait - where's Dad?!"

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

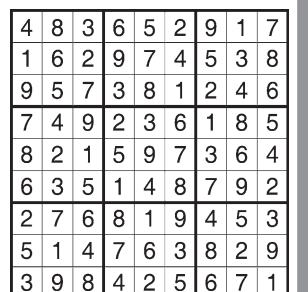
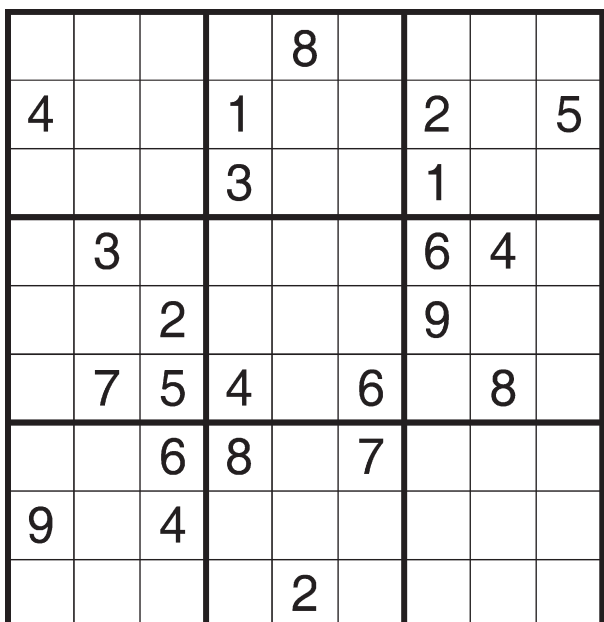
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level:



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 9/06

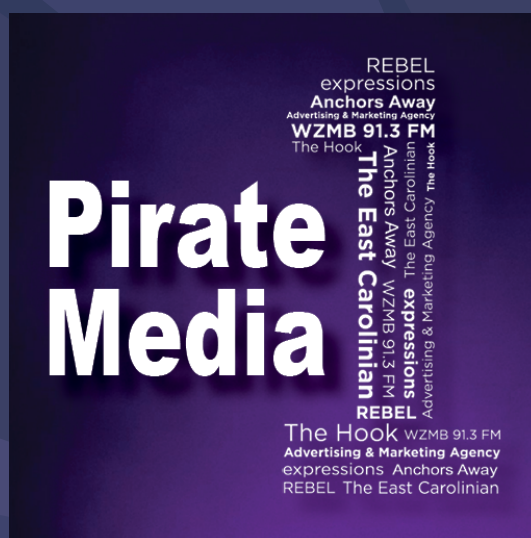


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We join with our community of advertisers and sponsors (see below) in expressing our gratitude to the heroes of Hurricane Florence – Greenville’s first responders, good Samaritans and ECU leaders and volunteers – who came up big when the chips were down.

And we salute the students of The East Carolinian, along with their media brethren in Greenville, for excellence in journalism as they risked their own safety to keep us informed.

**That’s real.
That’s news.
That’s ...**



33 East

AJ McMurphy’s

Alexander Paul

Bellamy Apartments

Big Vape Theory

Brody SOM

Buffalo Wild Wings

Campus Advantage

Chico’s Downtown

Copper Beech

Deep Curve Kennels & Stables

Dickinson Avenue Public House

Dowdy Student Stores

Duck Donuts

E Poke Bowl

ECU AFJROTC

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ECU Career Center

ECU College of Education

ECU Collegiate Recovery Comm

ECU Continuing Studies

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ECU Human Resources

ECU ITCS

ECU Joyner Library

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ECU Parking & Traffic

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ECU Student Activities

ECU Student Involvement

ECU Student Transitions

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Sustain ECU

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University Edge

University Park

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Wing Stop

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