

The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Monday, 1.7.19

VOLUME 93, ISSUE 26

ECU's new 'front door'

Pat Polomchak
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University will celebrate the opening of its new "front door" with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday at 1 p.m. The new Main Campus Student Center will serve as a state-of-the-art living space for the ECU community.

The new Main Campus Student Center, originally set to open in September, will open Monday while the restaurants featured in the

new building are now scheduled to open by the end of the month.

According to an ECU press release, the new student center will be the new face of the campus as a high-tech facility for students.

"The Main Campus Student Center is a 220,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility that will become the new front door to ECU's campus and serve as the living room for students, faculty, staff and alumni on ECU's main campus," according to the press release. The press release said in addition to

> **CENTER** page A3



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Members of the LGBTQ Resource Office meet in the new Dr. Jesse R. Peele LGBTQ center.



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Letters spelling "ECU" outside of the main entrance into the new Main Campus Student Center located on 10th Street in Greenville.



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Dining area in the student center set to open in late January.

Dowdy opens new location to public

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

Dowdy Student Stores' new two-story location opened on Friday morning in the new Main Campus Student Center, after moving from its former location in the Wright Building, where it was housed for more than 50 years.

Director of Dowdy Student Stores, Bryan Tuten said the new location is two stories and has 2,000 square feet of more retail space than its old location. Tuten said the new student store is conveniently located next to the new parking deck, making it more accessible to students.



Bryan Tuten

"Parking is better with the parking deck. A lot of students that aren't on the main campus had difficulty getting to the old store," Tuten said. "We now have more space. We have about 2,000 square feet of more sales space and two levels."

According to Tuten, the store's new location in the new student center is modern and a lot of vendors have been commenting

on how nice the store is.

"The biggest difference is the building. The old store was at least 50 years old and this is a brand new building. A big difference is how modern our store is," Tuten said. "It's the nicest and best-looking college store in the country. A lot of vendors come in and comment on how nice our store is."

According to employee Joanna Hinson, it took a week to move from Dowdy bookstore's former home in the Wright Building to the new student center.

Hinson said the most difficult part of moving to the new student center was adjusting to the new space and figuring out where all the merchandise should be placed.

"It took us about four days and everything was finalized within a week so we wouldn't have to come back over break," Hinson said. "(The most difficult part) was figuring out where everything should go and adjusting to the new space."

Amber Hasbun, senior English major, said it was easier to navigate the bookstore with the two-story layout. Hasbun said the textbooks being located on the first floor

> **DOWDY** page A3



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN
Merchandise in the Dowdy Student Stores' new location in the Main Campus Student Center.

ONLINE

» **NEWS:** Equestrian club teaches members valuable skills

» **NEWS:** City Council looks to fill vacant seat in District 1

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33

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BRIEFS

Graduate and Professional Student Senate to hold event

On Tuesday the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) will provide free coffee at the Health Science Student Center in the Starbucks beginning at 8 a.m. The event will serve as an opportunity for students to talk about their potential graduate school careers.

The event will last an hour, students interested should look for a GPSS representative holding a blue sign.

Campus to promote goal setting

Campus Recreation and Wellness (CRW) will host a goal-setting workshop on Wednesday at the Health Science Grand Room beginning at 12:05 p.m. The workshop will assist students in setting goals for the upcoming semester.

Students interested in attending are invited to bring their own lunch to enjoy during the presentation and fresh fruit will be provided.

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center to celebrate new location

On Wednesday, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center will celebrate moving into the new Main Campus Student Center and kick off the new Spring semester. The event will begin at 1 p.m. and last until 5 p.m.

The new facility is located in suite 100 in the new Main Campus Student Center.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Holidays increase adoptions

HSEC helps more than 500 animals find homes

Summer Tonizzo
TEC STAFF

The Humane Society of Eastern Carolina (HSEC) made an announcement on Wednesday to recognize the organization's achievement of adopting out 525 dogs and cats to their forever homes throughout the year of 2018.

The announcement was made on the HSEC's official public Facebook page where it received a decent amount of attention from the community. The post emphasized the amount of animal lives that were saved in 2018 by thanking everyone who had made the adoptions possible.

Between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, there were a total of 49 adoptions that took place at the HSEC, according to Assistant Shelter Director, Shelby Jolly. Typically, there can be an influx of adoptions during the holiday season since there is an ample amount of time with people on break or off from work, she said.

"The breaks between Thanksgiving and Christmas lets them (those who have recently adopted an animal) take the opportunity to devote the time to the animal it needs," Jolly said. "The influx of adoptions we see is likely due to people having more time to focus on their animal and get it settled before going back to their routinely, day-to-day life."

Jolly said the total number of holiday adoptions in 2017 ranked higher than what they saw in 2018. The number of adoptions depend on what people are looking for or if it's the right time for them to adopt, and it fluctuates based on those factors, she added.

Around the holiday season the HSEC hosts a number of events to promote the adoption of dogs and cats. One adoption event hosted in December was titled "A Forever Christmas."

"We hosted the event at Capital Subaru of Greenville from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m on Dec. 15," Jolly said. "We had two cats and a dog



CONTRIBUTED BY MOLLIE PITTMAN

Mollie Pittman and Nikolas Divilio celebrate the adoption their new dog, Terri, from the HSEC.

adopted out at the event."

Other events hosted by the HSEC this past holiday season included "Santa Paws!," "Bone Appetit at Famiglia!" and "HSEC's Holiday Gift Wrapping Fundraiser" at the Greenville Mall.

Adopting a pet during the holiday season can be a special decision to make, according to Jolly, but she feels adopting a pet around any time of the year is just as important.

The adoption process at the HSEC does not take too much time at all, Jolly said. The organization requires those looking to adopt to meet the animal prior to filling out an application. Once the application is filled out, an adoption counselor goes over

it before letting the applicant know if they have been approved or denied, she said.

"There is a lot of thought that should go into the process of deciding whether or not to adopt an animal. Make sure you have at least a couple year plan for you and the animal, know where you want to be, and make sure your schedule works for the animal," Jolly said.

Being prepared financially and realistically accounting for what someone will have to spend on a new pet is also an important factor when looking to adopt,

> PET page A3

Shop the NEW DOWDY STUDENT STORES

located behind the ECU letters of the NEW Main Campus Student Center on E. 10th Street



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- Sat, Jan 12: 9am-5pm
- Sun, Jan 13: 12 noon-5pm
- Mon, Jan 14 - Thurs, Jan 17: 7:30 am-8pm
- Fri, Jan 18: 7:30am-6pm
- Sat, Jan 19: 10am - 4pm



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CENTER continued from A1

being the new location of Dowdy Student Stores, many departments and organizations dedicated to students are moving to the student center as well, including the Student Government Association, Student Activities and Organizations, Greek Life and a new Women and Gender Office, among others.

While the new center will open its doors, the new dining options will not be available until at least the end of January.

“Six dining options will also be available in the student center by the end of January,” the release said. “While the facility will open Monday, more time is needed for construction, inspections and brand-specific training in the dining service areas.”

Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Involvement and Leadership, Erik Kneubuehl, said the six dining options will feature Panda Express, 1907 (a burger restaurant with sit-down service), a place selling sweets and others.



Erik Kneubuehl

Kneubuehl said the decision to build a new

building rather than renovate Mendenhall was made because it was easier and more cost-effective to build from scratch rather than to tear down the inside of an existing building. He said the new building is about double the size of Mendenhall, at 220,000 square feet as opposed to 100,000 square feet.

The press release also detailed some of the new features of the student center which were not included in Mendenhall.

“The student center also has amazing spaces such as a black box theater, a 14,000-square-foot ballroom, and a 24-by-42-foot outdoor Pirate Vision digital screen,” the press release said.

Kneubuehl said the new ballroom has the ability to be divided into three separate rooms, but when put together it can hold a capacity of 2,000 people. He said the new center also includes plenty of meeting spaces for student organizations.

Kneubuehl said the Pirate Vision screen will be used for a variety of events, such as factual data throughout the day, slideshow presentations, movie screenings, showing ECU sporting events and even potentially airing the Super Bowl in February.

Roman Bilan, a sophomore economics major, said the building looks cool from the outside, but what he is most looking forward to is the expanded dining options. Bilan



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A lounge area located overlooking the dining area in the new Main Campus Student Center.

added he hopes they show sports games on the large screen as well.

“It’s been a while building it, so hopefully it’s nice,” Bilan said.

Chancellor Cecil Staton will be in attendance for the ribbon cutting ceremony, along with Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Virginia Hardy. Kneubuehl said Kieran Shanahan, the chair of the Board of Trustees and Jordan Koonts, president of the Student Government Association will also attend.

Kneubuehl said the ceremony will take place by the “ECU” letters in front of the new student center. He said while the student center does not officially open until the ribbon is cut at 1 p.m., Dowdy Student Stores will continue to be open for students to purchase textbooks and school supplies.

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

DOWDY continued from A1

and merchandise being located on the second floor provides more organization in the new location.

“I like the separation between books and merchandise,” Hasbun said. “The store is more organized.”

According to David Hasbun, senior computer science major, it was much easier to check out and find textbooks in the new student store.

“The separation allows for an easier checkout,” Hasbun said. “You don’t have to fight through everyone trying to get pens and paper to get your textbooks.”

Dowdy Student Stores tech deck employee, Alexandria Whitted, said Dowdy Student Stores is an Apple authorized campus store capable of selling a wide variety of Apple products including MacBooks,

Apple watches and AirPods. She said students get a 10 percent educational discount on Apple products.

Whitted said Dowdy Student Stores sells calculators, accessories for electronic devices and watch bands with ECU logos for Apple Watches.



Alexandria Whitted

“We sell calculators, earbuds, Beats Pills, AirPods and custom watch bands for Apple Watches,” Whitted said.

“There is a 10 percent educational discount on Apple Products for students except on the Apple Watches.”

Dowdy Student Store is located at 501 E. 10th St behind the “ECU” letters facing 10th Street in the new Main Campus Student Center.

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

PETS continued from A2

Jolly said.

The HSEC utilizes a volunteer program for anyone looking to help take care of the animals in the shelter. Abigail Mckinney has been a volunteer with the Humane Society for around nine months.

Mckinney joined the volunteer program so she could give back to the community by taking care of the animals. She signed up for the volunteering position on the HSEC’s official webpage.

“(Being a volunteer) is good for the animals, yes, but it’s also good for me in a way. Getting to see all these dogs and cats getting taken care of and being adopted into good homes just makes your heart happy,” Mckinney said.

Mckinney has adopted both a dog and a cat from the HSEC,

“Getting to see all these dogs and cats getting taken care of and being adopted into good homes just makes your heart happy.”

-Abigail Mckinney

and believes people get a better deal by adopting pets rather than purchasing from a breeder.

When someone adopts from a shelter, they are going to be bringing an animal into their life which will have better manners, skills and will most likely know how to interact with people in a home setting, Mckinney said. In contrast, when a person buys from a breeder they will be spending the next year teaching the young animal how to properly behave

in their home, she said.

“The animals I work with at the shelter want some love in their lives. They want to be in a home where they can relax and be happy, comfortable, and secure,” Mckinney said. “Some of the animals may come off as scared, but once you spend the time to get to know them you realize they really just have a hole in their life that someone needs to come in and fill.”

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

• 2019 MLK CELEBRATION • Keynote Speaker Payton Head •

Where Do We Go From Here: CHAOS OR COMMUNITY

January 24, 2019

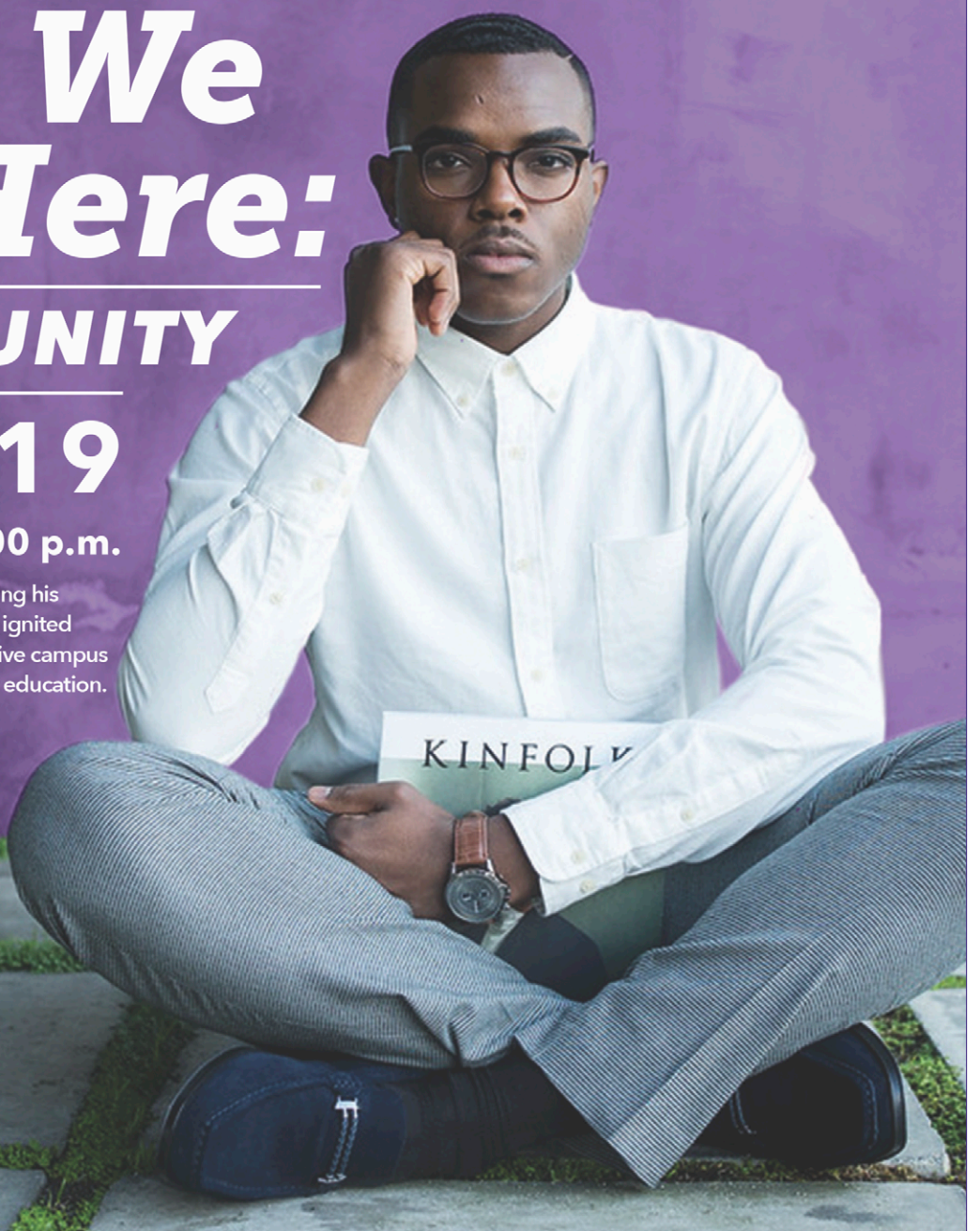
Main Campus Student Center Ballroom • 7:00 p.m.

Payton Head is a graduate of the University of Missouri, where he served as president of the student government. In the aftermath of Ferguson, he spearheaded conversations about improving race relations in Missouri.

Head’s viral Facebook post detailing his experience with racism at Mizzou ignited students to fight for a more inclusive campus and shook up the world of higher education.

– #IdeasToAction –

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.



This event is sponsored by ECU’s Ledonia Wright Cultural Center, Office for Equity and Diversity, and Student Activities and Organizations.

OUR VIEW

Students face lack of dining options

With the ribbon cutting ceremony set for Monday, the new East Carolina University Main Campus Student Center will open after a long time coming, but parts will still be under construction as food options are continuing to be built inside.

The Main Campus Student Center is 220,000 square feet and currently has a 724 space parking garage helping to solve the problem many students have had with the lack of parking available on campus. In addition to the parking, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Involvement and Leadership, Erik Kneubuehl has said the center will eventually have six restaurant options available.

We, the editorial staff at The East Carolinian, believe while the completion of the student center was a long time coming, it is extremely beneficial to the students at East Carolina University and is a good investment on the part of the university.

However, the lack of food options to begin the semester still has yet to be addressed with the opening of this center, Dining options have been a big problem for students since the closing of the restaurants in Mendenhall at the end of last Spring.

With Mendenhall reaching 45 years in age, it was the correct time to build a new center on campus for the students, but until the food options are built in the new student center, students will yet again have very limited dining options on campus.

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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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Contact Info

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

Email: editor@theeastcarolinian.com

Newsroom: (252) 328-9238

Ads: (252) 328-9245

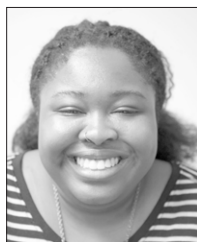
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SHENEMAN TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY



Diversity in Congress

Legislators now better reflect constituents' values



Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Bless the Press

It's been 62 days since the midterm elections. Thanks to more than 113 million voters, Nov. 6 will forever mark a national moment of reckoning. A

moment where the course of our country shifted for the greater good.

The American people voted 62 days ago, and change answered. That change became official last Thursday, with the swearing in ceremony of the 116th Congress.

Historically, this is the most diverse Congress in United States history. From gender to age and even in military service, the word "representative" is now weighted in more accuracy.

Now, female representatives and senators comprise almost a quarter of Congress, according to the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. For the first time in history, more than 100 women will serve in the House of Representatives, only to be led by Nancy Pelosi — the first and only woman to become speaker of the House and the first speaker to regain the gavel in more than 50 years.

Research shows the inclusion of women in office will translate to more female-related issues being considered into law. Female legislators are more likely to introduce bills important to women and families on issues such as child welfare and education, according to a 2005 political science study

conducted by Georgetown University.

"Women in Congress are just more likely to prioritize issues that have a direct connection to women — violence against women, family leave policy, those kind of things," Michele Swers, the political scientist who headed the 2005 Georgetown University study, said. "The more you can directly connect the consequence to women, the more you see female legislators getting involved."

This Congress brings historic firsts for many states when it comes to electing women, both white and more notably, women of color.

Somali refugee Ilhan Omar and

Rashida Tlaib are the first Muslim women to serve in Congress.

Lauren Underwood, a 32-year-old registered nurse, became the youngest black woman to serve in Congress.

Deb Haaland and Sharice Davids shared

an embrace-gone-viral last Thursday, after getting sworn in as the first Native American women elected to Congress.

People of color face a unique experience when living in America. When it comes to police brutality and the school-to-prison pipeline, people of color are disproportionately impacted by the failures of the systems put in place to protect us. As for one new legislator in Congress, the failures of our nation's criminal justice system comes way too close to home.

Lucy McBath, the first black woman



Lucy McBath

to represent Georgia's 6th Congressional district, made gun safety a central part of her campaign due to the loss of her 17-year-old son in 2012.

"The bullet that killed my son also tore a hole in my heart. But while I grieve Jordan every day, his death also gave my life a new purpose: advocating for gun violence prevention," McBath said in her statement of campaign promises on her official website. "As a member of Congress, I will introduce legislation to keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and other criminals."

The numbers of LGBTQ legislators also reached double digits for the first time in Congress' history last Thursday. One of those legislators, Kyrsten Sinema, hails from Arizona and is the nation's first bisexual senator in history. Sinema is also the first female senator in Arizona's history. Congress also elected its first lesbian mother, Representative Angie Craig, to represent Minnesota's 2nd Congressional district.

A new day has dawned in American government with the new freshman class of representatives. Diversity is the very fabric of what makes America the extraordinary land that it is and its virtues should be reflected in those in office.

Take pride in the difference you can cast upon this country with your ballot. Change starts with this Congress and by taking the initiative to vote in local elections on a regular basis, change will remain constant in our government once and for all.

Blessing Aghimien is a junior majoring in communication. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Subleasing issues need fixing



Rachel Beauchamp
GUEST COLUMNIST

Imagine not being able to work at your dream internship or job because you're stuck with the bill for your student apartment. Imagine driving two hours a day to Raleigh for your internship because

you can't find a sublesser. Imagine being stuck in your lease because you graduated in December and you can't get out of it for another six months.

For those who have doubt, go on Facebook, join the group East Carolina University (ECU) Housing, Sublets and Roommates and see how many students are looking for sublessees.

I have had a summer internship in a different city where I had to pay rent in that city and Greenville. I was not able to find a sublesser to take over my lease for an entire summer. Unfortunately, there is not enough demand during the year for sublessees. There are not enough opportunities in Greenville which attract students from other areas.

The abundance of new apartment complexes has caused problems for students who need to sublease. The majority of posts in the Facebook group East Carolina University (ECU) Housing, Sublets and Roommates are for students who need to sublease their room. There are hardly ever any people who are looking for an apartment

to sublease. The new student apartment complexes have solved the lack of housing for students. However, there is more supply than demand for housing.

Throughout the past couple years, the Greenville City Council has approved the plans to build numerous student housing complexes. In 2018, Gather Uptown, The Eastern on 10th and University Edge and Dickinson Lofts were opened for ECU students. The Proximity on 10th is currently under construction and there are plans to build another complex in the old Glen Arthur area. This leaves older complexes such as the Bellamy or Paramount 3800 with a large number of vacancies.

A high demand for housing can help the students who are looking to sublease their room. Not being able to sublease can prevent students from getting their dream internship,

job or other opportunities.

Students should be able to get out of their leases if they are graduating or have an internship out of town. There should be no financial obligation to stay if they're not going to be in the area.

If East Carolina University is going to be "America's Next Great University," then the student subleasing problem needs to be addressed by executive leadership. Pirates should never be held back when a housing lease is the anchor which weighs them down.

The Greenville City Council should be more aware that there is an abundance of student apartment complexes. Too many apartment complexes can give students a plethora of choices of where to lease. In addition to student apartment complexes, the city council failed to consider the variety of rental houses in areas such as the Grid.

There are simply too many landlords, too many rental properties and too many options. Having a high demand for housing alleviates the financial stress of a lease which can hold a student back. Before approving more housing, the Council must consider the consequences from a student's point of view. The Greenville City Council should consider consulting ECU students and student apartment complex representatives before approving student housing construction projects.

Rachel is a senior majoring in accounting. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Arrgh you interested in writing an Opinion column?

Contact Chase Carroll at opinion@theeastcarolinian.com for details.

EVENTS

TODAY

Back to the Grind
The Davis
9 a.m.

Daytime Painting & Drawing
Emerge Gallery and Art Center
1 p.m.

Board Game Night
Blue Ox Games
6:30 p.m.

Team Trivia
Pitt Street Brewing Company
7 p.m.

TOMORROW

World's Finest Chocolate Sale
Chicod School
2:30 p.m.

Sensory Friendly Movie - "BumbleBee"
AMC Firetower 12
7 p.m.

From runway to campus

ECU students bring new winter fashion to Greenville

Giana Williams
TEC STAFF

As East Carolina University students return to campus with some New Year's resolutions, some students will be walking across the Mall in the freshest and warmest winter fashion of 2019.

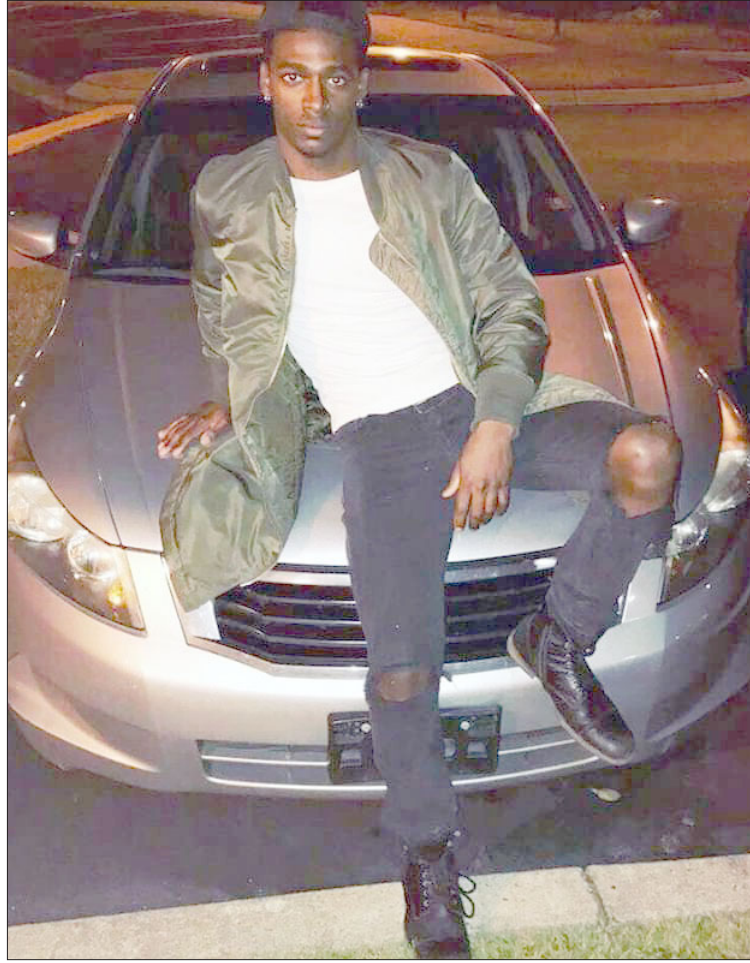
Winter is all about staying warm, so layering clothes with oversized or baggy garments is one of the biggest trends that's in fashion right now, according to Michelle Navarro, an ECU freshman biology major. Some days it may not be cold enough to wear a lot of layers, so a simple cardigan is great for the warmer days paired with some casual shoes to keep the winter look.

"I can slip on a cami dress over (a turtleneck) paired with a pair of heeled mid-calf boots," Navarro said. "I know it can get really cold this time of year, so for a cozier outfit I would wear an oversized trench coat over a turtleneck sweater with a pair of high waisted jeans."

Navarro said turtlenecks are a very popular clothing item.

It's versatile and great for layering underneath an oversized coat. Turtlenecks can fit longer as well and are easier to dress it up if needed.

Maurice Watson, senior business administration major and Vice President of F.A.M.E.



Maurice Watson poses on a car, wearing some of his go-to winter apparel.

Modeling Troupe, agreed with Navarro and described some of his classic winter looks.

"A button up with a cardigan and some straight leg dress pants," Watson said. "And for the shoes, some Chelsea boots or moccasins."

Athletic leisure clothing is also a growing market for people of all ages whom are looking for a more relaxed and comfortable look, but are still able to look casual and fashionable wherever they go.

"Mixing blazers with a pair

of cool jeans and some sneakers or a pants suit with a pair of Adidas sneakers is a fashionable trend that is in right now," said Angelica Martinez-Trejada, ECU fashion merchandising class of '18 alumna. Martinez-Trejada is known for her brand name StyleMeAnd, which she refers to as "just mixing and matching like the off-business casual with more of a athletic type of flare."

Martinez-Trejada said one of the biggest fashion trends that

is seen frequently right now on runways and over the internet are prints, most especially reptile prints such as snake print. She also said, because PETA is encouraging the public to not wear clothing made out of animals, faux fur and leather also has been very popular with the movements of PETA.

It's always a personal choice as to what colors to wear during particular seasons, but Watson says there are some styles that are complementary to the season, such as darker, warm toned items.

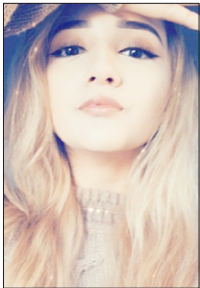
Although there are always new trends to try out, ECU fashion merchandise professor, Ginger Woodard said it's important to remember the difference between what is stylish and what is fashionable.

"Style is a characteristic of a garment, and it never changes. For example, sweaters have different styles— cardigans, pullovers, turtlenecks, crewnecks," Woodard said. "But the style of sweater that is in fashion might change. Fashion is the accepted style at any given point in time."

With the New Year officially here, Martinez Trejada said now is the best time to be bold and try new things in fashion.

"It's very easy to just gear towards what's inside the box and to go towards what is going to be easily accepted in society," Martinez-Trejada said. "But I think the best look and the best fashion forward people kind of just play around."

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



Michelle Navarro

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ECU senior honors late brother

Taylor Mumma
TEC STAFF

Set to receive her diploma in a matter of months, East Carolina University film and video production senior Hannah Robbins has decided to dedicate her upcoming film "Legend" to her late brother who unexpectedly died when she was 11 years old.

Brandon, who would have turned 35 in November, died in 2008 from a sudden aneurysm while going to visit some friends. According to Robbins, this film has helped her understand the legacy Brandon left behind in the hearts of everyone who knew him.

"I learned how he touched people's lives by getting to know all of his friends from college, which has led me to get to know my brother a little more," Robbins said.

Robbins was introduced to filmmaking when her father bought her a camera in elementary school. Robbins, who is also a freelance photographer for The East Carolinian, said after years of watching her mother film their most cherished memories on the family camcorder, she has been very interested in writing and telling stories through film.

"In fifth grade, I became YouTube famous and that following year was when my brother passed away, which made me stop creating for a really long time," Robbins said.

On her journey of learning more about her brother, Robbins said she will take her audience through this vlog-style short documentary about Brandon's life as a college student and an ECU graduate. She plans to interview her family and capture not only their personal experience



Hannah Robbins



CONTRIBUTED BY HANNAH ROBBINS

The cover of "Legend," the documentary Hannah Robbins is making as her thesis about her brother, Brandon, an ECU graduate, who passed away in 2008.

copied with Brandon's passing, but their acceptance and growth together as a family.

Ken Wyatt, an associate professor in ECU's film department, had the opportunity to get to know Robbins since she joined the program and has seen her grow into the filmmaker she is today. Wyatt said she is a fierce competitor and commends her for the risk she takes with her new project.

"It's a tough risk to be so vulnerable and be so open with the public on a topic like that," Wyatt said. "At the same time, I have faith that she has the experience and I'd only be wasting my time worrying about her succeeding because she always comes out on top."

As director and producer of the film, she is able to make sure that she honors her brother's legacy as well as get experience with hands-on professional experience, according to Robbins.

Michael Tierno, Robbins' film professor, said the department has tried their hardest to prepare its seniors, not only for this crucial last project, but the expectations of

a new filmmaker in the profession.

"Along with learning how to re-write, take notes and developing stories, we try to prepare them as best as we can in practicing the industry," Tierno said. "It is a tough business and we gear them towards learning how to hustle."

Robbins said she is excited to continue the story of her brother and pass on the hope she gained to her audience.

"The most important thing I want people to take away from this film is that you can go through the hardest thing in the whole world, and it is possible to get through what seems to be the most impossible situations with hope and love," Robbins said. "If my family and I can do it, then anyone can."

"Legend" is set to premiere in May 2019 at an event hosted by Robbins. Further information about the film can be found to her Indiegogo page or by contacting her at robbinsh14@students.ecu.edu.

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



CONTRIBUTED BY HANNAH ROBBINS

From left: Robbins and her crew interview Christy Moss and Terrance Biddix.

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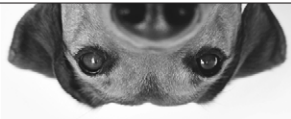
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Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Love and partnership flower. Romance unfurls and enchants you with beauty and laughter. Artistic and creative muses serenade you and inspire your playful connection.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Express your heart. You feel especially lucky and beloved this month, with Venus in your sign. Polish your presentation with a new look. You're irresistible.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Focus on professional deadlines. Review the numbers this month, with Venus in Sagittarius. Collaborate to save money and resources. Grow your shared assets together.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Practice your physical moves. You're more domestic this month, with Venus in Sagittarius. Focus on home and family. Beautify your space. Create your love nest.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Give thanks for a cash flow bump. Savor peaceful rituals and relaxation, with Venus in Sagittarius. You have sweeter dreams, and fantasies abound.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Studies and explorations pick up steam. Rely on a supportive partner. Collaboration thrives for the month, with Venus in Sagittarius. Compromise comes easier.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Articulate and express your creativity. Put your love into words, images and sound. Artistic and communication projects thrive, with Venus in Sagittarius. Share your heart.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- You're especially charismatic. Get out in public. You're especially popular, with Venus in Sagittarius this month. Get social and collaborate with your team for positive results.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Financial planning and paperwork provide results. There's more work and physical action over the next month, with Venus in Sagittarius. Express your heart through your performance.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Home and family have your attention, although financial opportunities tempt. It's easier to make money, with Venus in Sagittarius for the next month.

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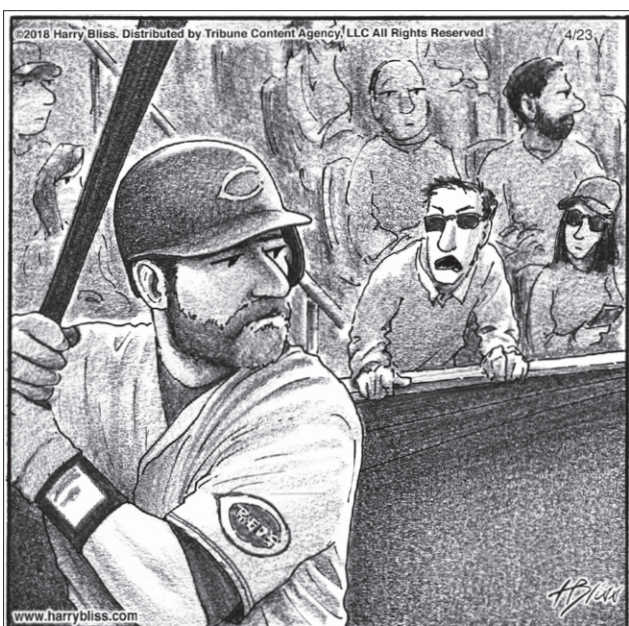
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COMICS

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BLISS



"You goon! You probably make your friends split the bill when they each had a glass of ginger ale and you ordered three glasses of Shirazi!"

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

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ACROSS

- 1 "___": NY"
- 4 Actor Jonathan
- 8 Role on "Cheers"
- 12 Yoko ___
- 13 Role on "Grey's Anatomy"
- 14 Woodwind instrument
- 15 Neat as a ___
- 16 "Gary ___"
- 18 Hard to climb
- 20 "Ripley's Believe It or ___"
- 21 Orange rind
- 24 Tear to bits
- 28 "___ Housewives"
- 32 ___ Lanka
- 33 Wallach and Marienthal
- 34 African antelope
- 35 "___ Wonderful Life"
- 36 "___ in the Family"
- 37 Adam of "CSI: Miami"
- 39 Actress Téa
- 41 "___ and Again"; Sela Ward series
- 42 Autumn month: abbr.
- 44 "___ party, and I'll cry if I..."
- 48 Goran Visnjic's role on "ER"
- 53 "___ Haw"

DOWN

- 1 "Bad Boys" theme song series
- 2 In a ___; miffed
- 3 Actress Skye
- 4 Hairpiece
- 5 "On Our ___"
- 6 Diamond or ruby
- 7 ___ even keel
- 8 "___ by Northwest"
- 9 Geisha's sash
- 10 Caviar source
- 11 "Presidio ___"
- 17 Gypsy ___ Lee
- 19 Actor Omar
- 22 Therefore
- 23 Joe ___ of "Dr. Quinn"
- 25 VW forerunners
- 26 Gaelic language
- 27 Actress Cameron
- 28 "Let's Make a ___"
- 29 Women's magazine
- 30 Cylindrical storage tower
- 31 Rotate
- 35 "By the Time ___ to Phoenix"
- 37 ___ Schroder
- 38 Frozen eave hanger
- 40 Beery and Wyle
- 43 Carry
- 45 Former leaders' title in Iran
- 46 Distribute
- 47 Calendar period
- 48 "___ Abner"
- 49 Family card game
- 50 Catholic men's group, for short
- 51 Actor Kilmer
- 52 Martino and Pacino

Solution from 12/03

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham 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 12/03

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>> SPORTS COLUMN

Athletics is ready for 2019

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Students and people all across social media have said 2019 will be their best year yet. For East Carolina University athletics, 2019 will be a big year for many reasons and circumstances it has dealt with and overcome.

ECU athletics has had to deal with coaching changes in football, along with men's and women's basketball, while trying to find a new athletic director.

The athletic department had been without an athletic director since March when it released former director Jeff Compher. On Dec. 3, the athletic department announced Jon Gilbert had been named the new athletic director of ECU athletics. Chief Operating Officer Lee Workman chose to retire officially on Dec. 31, after serving in the position since 1984.

The women's basketball team has seen the most change as three different head coaches have led the team's 14 games in to the season thus far. Former head coach Heather Macy was ready to lead the way for the Pirates, but she resigned



Jon Gilbert

due to an investigation led by the athletic department's office of compliance, and assistant coach Chad Killinger stepped up when needed. Killinger led the women to a strong and convincing 9-2 start.

After 11 games, Killinger



East Carolina University athletic director Jon Gilbert addressed reporters for the first time on Dec. 3 after being hired.

stepped down due to a non life-threatening illness and the athletic department chose to name Nicole Mealing as the acting head coach for the rest of the season. The women have played in three games under Mealing and are 0-3 in those games thus far.

Men's basketball head coach Joe Dooley has led the team to a 8-6 record so far and is now in his first stint competing in the American Athletic Conference. They are 1-1 in conference play winning against the 2018 AAC champions, the

University of Cincinnati Bearcats. Fans and spectators were curious to see how Dooley would compete in the AAC, and in two games he has already shown that this team can compete with one of the best in the conference.

The football team has had a problem with winning games for the past few seasons on a consistent level. Former head coach Scottie Montgomery led the program since 2016. He had two 3-9 seasons as head coach and was on the verge of a third straight

3-9 season before the athletic department decided to fire him and bring on board Mike Houston.



Mike Houston

44-18 record which resulted in

them hosting an NCAA regional in Clark-LeClair Stadium.

After a dominant season in 2018, ECU was picked as preseason favorites to win conference, according to ecupirates.com. The Pirates will throw their first pitch of 2019 on Feb. 15 against Radford University at home.

The tennis coaches, swim and dive coaching staff, lacrosse, track and field and the softball coaching staffs have remained the same, as all coaching changes have affected football and basketball only.

This year will be huge, as ECU athletics had been struggling building a winning organization for top recruits to sign and commit to since the department began to fall apart bit by bit. That in turn has caused some fans to not want to come out to any sporting event because they predicted the Pirates would lose in their games, especially in football or basketball.

Building a winning program and organization has been one of the goals at the forefront of ECU athletics for a while. Schools such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University and Duke University have not had problems with recruiting top prospects. The Pirates want to get to a point where they can compete with the state's best schools, and some of the best schools in the country.

With the basketball teams in conference play and the spring sports season right around the corner, fans and spectators now get to see if the athletic department will be on the verge of recovery in 2019.

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

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Women lose AAC opener

Mikey Carrillo
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University Women's Basketball team fell to Tulane University 68-57 in its American Athletic Conference opener on Saturday.

The game was played in Devlin Fieldhouse, in New Orleans, Louisiana and was ECU's fourth road game of the season. The Pirates (9-5, 0-1 AAC), who have lost three straight games after Saturday, have not performed well when being the visiting team. Four of their five losses so far this year have come on the road.

The first half was slow on both sides of the ball for ECU. The Pirates were down 8-0 before scoring their first points of the game thanks to sophomore guard Lashonda Monk. ECU trailed 15-4 in the first quarter and went into the second quarter down 18-9. The second quarter was not much better as the Pirates got outscored 23-12 in that period to be down 41-21 at the half.

The second half was better for ECU as it scored 15 points in the third and 21 points in the final 10 minutes of the game. The lead was too big for the Pirates to come back from and the strong rally in the fourth quarter came up short as the team would still fall in the end by double digits, 68-57.

ECU struggled offensively during the game, as the Pirates shot 30.4 percent from the field and 23.8 percent from the three-point line, with only nine assists. ECU had a poor offense during the first half, in which it shot 18.9 percent from the field.

On defense, the Pirates succeeded with 13 steals and five blocks, but did not do as well with rebounds, they were outrebounded 55 to 35, including 18 offensive rebounds by the Green Wave (11-3), which led to 20 second chance points for them.



Ariyana Williams

The Pirates were led by sophomore guard Ariyana Williams who finished with 15 points and all of the team's five three-pointers. Monk had a strong overall game in the loss on Saturday by scoring 11 points, grabbing 10 rebounds, dishing out seven assists and stealing the ball five times.

"Monk can impact the game in a lot of different ways, so even if she isn't shooting the ball as well as we would want her to, she still is so valuable to us because she is our best defender by far, and she just does a really good job on pushing the pace as well," Mealing said.

Shooting percentages and rebounding have been a struggle for ECU on the road this season, which coach Mealing said is something the team is looking to focus on moving forward.

"Rebounding is just about effort and I know our girls play hard, but I just think we just need to dial in and focus more on the rebounding aspect of the game," Mealing said.

Mealing said she hopes they shoot the ball a lot better and when that happens, it will help them on the defensive side of the ball. The team is focused on improving from their last game, and will start looking toward the Wichita State matchup on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Mealing expects strong support from ECU fans as the Pirates host their first home AAC game of the season on Wednesday night.

"Pirate Nation is always showing up and supporting women's basketball so I expect nothing different of coming up with this first conference game. They're always supporting us and we just love them and appreciate them for their support," Mealing said.

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



Nicole Mealing



Junior guard Raven Johnson dribbled the ball for ECU against Maryland of Eastern Shore on Nov. 6.

>> ANALYSIS

Pirates begin AAC conference play

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University women's basketball team started the 2018-2019 season on a high note with a five game win streak under previous interim head coach Chad Killinger. After a coaching switch to current acting head coach Nicole Mealing, the team has seemed to switch from winning games to losing games.

After a plethora of head coaches this season from Heather Macy, to Chad Killinger and now Nicole Mealing, the team has suffered with inconsistency in terms of their record. Macy resigned during the summer and Killinger was chosen as the interim head coach, but after suffering from non-life threatening health issues, Killinger stepped down and turned the reigns over to Mealing.

The beginning of the season started off with an 84-69 win over the University of Maryland Eastern Shore followed by several back to back wins over Monmouth University (73-67), Grand Canyon University (59-47), Kennesaw State University (68-56) and Wake Forest University (70-61). This start was the best the Pirates have seen since their 2015-2016 season.

Killinger coached the first 11 games of the season leading the Pirates to a 9-2 record. Under his reign, the team had focused on taking it day by day and game to game and his methods seemed to lead to success.

Since the switch to Mealing on Dec. 26, the team has been on a losing streak, falling to Duke University (83-66), University of North Carolina at Wilmington (71-68) and Tulane University (68-57). These losses can also be attributed to the holiday season, winter break and the players from going home, to coming back to Greenville.

The Pirates have averaged 63.9 points per game, including a total of 170 steals compared to their opponents who have an average total of 95 steals for the season. ECU seems to fall to its opponents in other categories such as rebounds, assists and three point field goals made and attempted.

This season junior guard Raven Johnson

lead the team offensively in multiple games, but specifically stood out in their win against Kennesaw. Johnson made 2-of-3 shots from the field, hit four free throws in the period and scored eight points to start off the game.

This season Johnson has already had a season high of 24 points against Wake Forest and has had a season high when she grabbed 14 rebounds against William & Mary University. She has proven her abilities and has become a key player for the Pirates going into the rest of conference play.

Another player who has led the team is senior forward Destiny Campbell with a .503 shooting percentage from the field which had her ranked 12th in the American Athletic Conference (AAC) last year. She has grabbed double-digit rebounds against the University of South Carolina Upstate (11). Campbell has brought that successful energy over into this season and will lead the Pirates to future wins in conference.

The team ended the 2017-2018 season with a conference record of 7-9, a record of 2-14 during 2016-2017 and a record of 6-12 during 2015-2016. After losing their first conference game against Tulane on Saturday, the Pirates still have hope for a great conference record after a strong regular season record of 9-5 so far.

ECU has to get out of its coaching slump in order to break its three loss streak and propel forward into the rest of conference play. The team's drive to win and play well is still there, but focus might be lost among all of the inconsistency going on around them. Their next conference game is Wednesday at 7 p.m. against Wichita State University in Mingos Coliseum.

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



Raven Johnson



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Sophomore pole vaulter Sommer Knight broke the women's pole vault record for East Carolina University in the American Athletic Conference Championship during the 2018 season.

Track and Field to kick off year

Staff Report

The East Carolina University men's and women's track and field teams look to have a strong start to the 2019 season after their 2018 season saw one individual American Athletic Conference win, as well as seven all-conference honors.

In the (AAC) Indoor Championships, junior Stefano Migliorati won the 800m title with a time of 1:50.25, beating out Cameron Laverty of the University of Houston by one hundredth of a second. Migliorati is now the current holder of both the indoor and outdoor AAC 800m championships.

The women's team finished strong in fourth place with a point total of 72.83 while the men's team finished last in eighth place with

only a score of 35.5. Both teams are looking to improve on their conference finishes.

Throughout the season there was some strong performances for the Pirates. At the Sykes and Sabocks Challenge Cup, ECU faced off against the No. 8 ranked Pennsylvania State University. The men's team finished second to Penn State and the women's team finished third behind Cornell University. At the Liberty Elite Invitational, the Pirates won seven events, including the Keydet



Stefano Migliorati

Invitational title.

The 2018 season brought about seven new school records for the Pirates. Junior Grace Sullivan broke the record for the 3k steeplechase with a time of 10:26:02, and junior Ryan Davis set the 12-pound shot put record at 15.47 meters before that record was broken by junior Evan McCracken with a mark of 16.56 meters. Senior Galissia Cause set the 4kg shot put record at 16.72 meters. Sophomore Neil Blanken had the 1.6kg discus record with a distance of 46.96 meters before that was broken by Ryan Davis with a distance of 48.48 meters. Freshman Sommer Knight broke the women's pole vault record with a height of 4.20 meters, and fellow freshman Brooke Stith set the women's triple jump record with a distance of 12.59 meters.

Going into this year the men's roster will consist of five freshman, three sophomores, six juniors and six seniors. The women's team has 14 freshman, 12 sophomores, 11 juniors and 10 seniors.



Galissia Cause

ECU will have plenty of chances to establish its dominance against in state rivals this season. The Pirates will compete against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, North Carolina State University, Duke University and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State

University. They will also have a chance to redeem themselves against Penn State this year.

The Indoor Conference Championships will occur right in the middle of their season on Feb. 22-23 and the NCAA Indoor Championships will occur on Mar. 8-9.

ECU's first meet of the season will be at the University of North Carolina for the Dick Taylor Carolina Cup on Saturday January 21, 2019. The team was able to win five events at this meet last season and will be looking to build off that as they look to start off the year with a bang.

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



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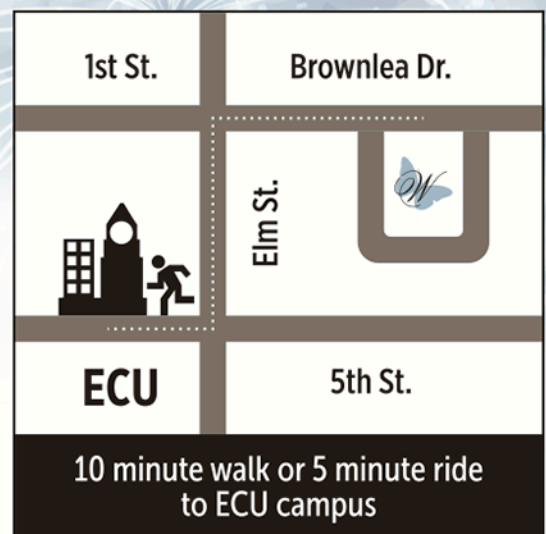
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Call or visit our website for more info, or stop by our office for a quick tour! #NewYearNewApartment

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Did you receive a four-legged friend over the holidays? Wesley South is a pet-friendly community!



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