



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Tuesday, 2.26.19



A seating area located in the food court inside of the Main Campus Student Center where there have been fire safety system issues since opening.

BSU makes strides for more unity

Zoë Lukas
TEC STAFF

It has been 20 years since East Carolina University's Black Student Union (BSU) began making strides on campus. Today, they continue to make strides by reaching out around the community, celebrating their efforts and growing their organization.

BSU Vice President Nia Davis, a senior psychology major, said BSU serves as a larger intellectual organization on campus that involves itself in a little bit of everything.

Davis said BSU networks and collaborates with several black student organizations as well as other organizations, which are not predominantly black, to share ideas, come together to benefit the quality of life for students on campus and to grow leaders within the organization.



Nia Davis

According to Davis, BSU encourages positive relationships between members and provides leadership opportunities by having BSU Ambassadors, member appreciation events, executive board positions, socials and a big/little program.

"With BSU, a lot of it is doing things that may not make you feel the most comfortable," Davis said. "BSU really provides you with really going outside your comfort zone but also having that strong

False alarms continue

Construction, cooking cause multiple evacuations

Jennifer Flippin
TEC STAFF

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF



Since the opening of the Main Campus Student Center, there have been several incidents where fire alarms have gone off and left several students confused. New insight suggests this may be due to the sensitivity of the alarms and the continued construction taking place.

In an emailed statement to The East Carolinian, Director of Student Centers for Student Involvement and Leadership, Dean Smith, said the fire alarms have been activated by smoke and dust.

"In two instances, smoke from one the grills set off the fire alarm. In the last instance (Feb. 19), it was dust from work the contractor was doing," Smith said.

Smith said the sensitivity of the fire alarms in the Main Campus Student Center is being assessed.

"There was an intentionality in erring, in the beginning, on the side of caution by making the fire alarms highly sensitive. With each instance, we learn where and how we need to make adjustments," Smith said.



Dean Smith

Freshman sociology major Suhaima Sharif and sophomore elementary education major Zoei Kelley were in the Main Campus Student Center on Feb. 19 when the fire alarms went off. Sharif and Kelley said they were not given a reason as to why the fire alarms went off.

Sharif said this was her first time in the Main Campus Student Center when fire alarms were going off. According to Sharif, there was confusion as to why the fire alarms were going off and they decided to leave.

Kelley said this was the second time a fire

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> BSU page A2

Sup Dogs concert announced

Staff Report

Greenville's Sup Dogs has let the dogs out. The uptown restaurant has finally announced the headliners for its annual music event, Doggie Jams, set to perform on April 6.

Located at 213 E. Fifth St., Sup Dogs announced on its Twitter yesterday that DJ Esco would headline the event, alongside DJ MADDs and Just The Tip. Tickets are now on sale for \$30.

Following the announcement, several social media users criticized the headliners for being not widely known. Several other users responded with GIFs to express their disappointment in the musical acts.



Bret Oliverio

lot in 2010, and has grown ever since.

"The event has transitioned into to a mainstream music event," Oliverio said to The East Carolinian in 2018. "Doggie Jams is always the best day of the year."

For more information, go to Sup Dogs' Twitter or Instagram.

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

Air Force pulls off upset

The Falcons defeated the No. 14 ranked Pirates Monday

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Coming off its second loss of the season, the No. 14 ranked East Carolina University baseball team, according to NCAA.com, found itself on the losing end of another mid-week match up, this time against the Air Force Academy on Monday.

ECU (5-2) came in off a 8-5 loss to Monmouth University in its series finale on Sunday looking to bounce back at home against Air Force (4-3). The Falcons on the other hand won their past two games against Navy to have a little momentum coming to Greenville on Monday.

Junior left fielder Bryant Packard returned to the lineup for ECU after missing the previous five games with a swollen palm. Junior first baseman Spencer Brickhouse was still out for the Pirates with a torso injury he suffered in the 7-6 loss to Campbell University on Wednesday.

"That was the first time I picked up a bat since I had the injury," Packard said. "The athletic trainers did a good job with giving me treatments twice a day. I had something big wrapped on my bat that made it very squishy so I could hold the bat. I felt good today."

Both teams were scoreless in the first inning to start the game. ECU struck first after a sac bunt by senior second baseman Brady Lloyd brought senior shortstop Turner Brown home to give the Pirates the 1-0 lead early in the game.

Air Force responded in the fourth



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Sophomore right fielder/first baseman Alec Burluson got two hits in the 3-2 loss to Air Force.

inning to make it a ball game for ECU. Sophomore pitcher Jake Kuchmaner gave up a homer to Falcon senior center fielder Drew Swiss that tied the game at 1-1. Air Force junior right fielder Ashton Easley was able to hit a huge triple right after that, which gave the Falcons the opportunity to

take the lead. A sac ground ball from Air Force senior first baseman Gabe Martinez brought Easley home and gave the Falcons the 2-1 in the fourth inning.

> BASEBALL page A6

ONLINE

» SPORTS: ECU Baseball splits four-game weekend at home

» ARTS: Activist, artist to speak on gender-related violence

SOCIAL MEDIA



BRIEFS

Student Safety Committee to host night walk

The Student Safety Committee is hosting a night walk with the East Carolina University Police today in front of Gateway on College Hill from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Students can come walk with an ECU police officer and a facilities services representative to observe where more lighting is needed on campus and look for other safety concerns.

Students interested can RSVP on Orgsync and are asked to meet in front of Gateway.

History department to hold interest meeting

The ECU Department of History is inviting students to attend its interest meeting today from 2 to 3 p.m. in Brewster Building, room D201. Students will learn about history as a major, minor or concentration, and pizza will be provided.

Great Decisions Speaker to focus on foreign policies

ECU will host speaker Alethia Cook as a part of the Great Decisions Speaker Series in Rivers Building, room 102. Students who attend today can listen to the speaker as well as participate in discussions regarding foreign policy issues and nuclear negotiations in a Q&A session from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Admission is free and no registration is required.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

#MyPirateBody week begins

Summer Tonizzo
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University will continue to host #MyPirateBody Week, providing numerous events dedicated to raising eating disorder awareness, inspiring students to embrace their bodies and promoting body positivity.

#MyPirateBody Week began on Monday and is scheduled to continue until Friday. There will be events taking place throughout the week at various locations.

Today, a resource fair will take place between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in front of the Women and Gender Office (WGO) on the first floor of the Main Campus Student Center. Associate Director of the WGO, Ashley Cleland, was a member of the planning committee who organized the event.

"This event is for students, faculty and staff (and) for the ECU community," Cleland said. "It (the topic) does apply to everyone on a broad scale, but it's for the ECU community to tackle these topics, to create a more body positive environment which will create a healthier, more welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone."

Cleland said the resource fair is a joint venture between the WGO, Student Health Services (SHS) and the Center for Counseling and Student Development (CCSD).

"I hope that students really take away the message that everybody has value and importance. It's deeper than skin, it's deeper than appearance and we need to cherish and take care of these bodies," Cleland said. "It's so important to embrace the body you have and to treat it like something and someone you love because that will be with you your entire life."

Cleland said the purpose of the fair is to allow students, faculty and staff to have the opportunity to become more aware of resources



JORDIN WILLIAMS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU student smashes a weight scale for an event held during 2018 events.

available to them on campus in connection to maintaining a positive body image, wellness and mental health. She would like students to be able to navigate through how expectations may impact those perceptions.

Samantha Strawser, a staff counselor within the CCSD, was an additional planning committee member who organized the fair. She said ECU has dedicated a week to the cause for the past several years, but 2019 is the first time it has taken place under the name "#MyPirateBody."

"This event and every event all week, really, is hoping to promote that celebration and appreciation

and acceptance of our bodies no matter what they look like, no matter what state of change we're in with them or where we want to go or where we're at now," Strawser said.

In many ways, #MyPirateBody week emphasizes for students to accept and embrace their bodies as they currently are, Strawser said. She refers to #MyPirateBody week as a positive approach to handling the ways in which individuals may view themselves rather than focusing on self-criticism.

"I think as a whole, it really speaks to helping the ECU community to normalize that everyone has struggles in life and everyone has hard times and hard

things they're going through and that can unify us to some extent," Strawser said. "It's just good for the health of the community in bringing that awareness (to campus)."

ECU provides multiple resources and opportunities for students struggling with an eating disorder or body image perception. Strawser said the CCSD, SHS and Campus Recreation and Wellness Center are three resources students can utilize.

Luc LaBonte, a clinical dietician and nutrition coordinator within SHS, worked closely with Cleland and Strawser to organize the resource fair. He said renaming the program to #MyPirateBody was an important aspect of this year's events.

"In the past we have had the name 'National Eating Disorder Awareness Week,'" LaBonte said. "We went more toward #MyPirateBody week because there's a very strong stigma against eating disorders and then this year we want to try to be more inclusive, try to get more attention of all students."

There is a strong influence in the media that can indicate standards of what people should or should not look like and the concept of health. LaBonte said college students are in a transitional period in their life, and during this time they are sculpting a long-term lifestyle.

LaBonte said the best way to maintain a healthy body image is to be a critical receiver of social media.

"(It's important to) always have love and admiration for your body above all else, and to keep that goal in mind whenever you pursue lifestyle or health change," LaBonte said. "We want to pursue these changes for improvements in our health and happiness not necessarily for aesthetics."

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

FIRE continued from A1

alarm has gone off while she was in the Main Campus Student Center. Kelley said she was at the student center in January when another fire alarm went off.

"I heard there was another last week too. So I feel like they happen a lot, but it's new. So, they probably just have to work out with the restaurants downstairs and steam and smoke coming off things," Kelley said.

Samantha Creech, a freshman criminal justice major, said she has witnessed four different occurrences of alleged fire alarm mishaps in the student center.

According to Creech, the first time she was in the building during a fire alarm was when she was in line at Raising Cane's. Creech said the fire alarms keep going off at "random" times when she's been in the building.

Creech said the aftermath of the fire alarm created a "madhouse" when trying to get back in line for food at Raising Cane's.

Phil Lewis, the assistant director for Environmental Health and Safety at ECU, said since the opening of the Main Campus Student Center, the alarms have gone off nine times, four of those times were during the same day.

"On Jan. 21, we had four alarms on the same day, and they were all related to the same issue which was a steam issue in a mechanical area because aside from smoke, other things can set off the alarm system like steam, dust, that sort of thing," Lewis said.

According to Lewis, the other five alarms were associated with contractor activities, smoking grease and steam or smoke generated from cooking appliances.

"In fact, things like aerosol spray could actually activate it and many of the residence halls a lot of the alarms there are caused by people using hairspray, by the

" On Jan. 21, we had four alarms on the same day, and they were all related to the same issue which was a steam issue in a mechanical area because aside from smoke, other things can set off the alarm system like steam, dust, that sort of thing. "

- Phil Lewis

e-vape cigarettes can actually activate it as well, so there's a number of things other than smoke that can actually send the system into alarm," Lewis said.

Lewis said the fire alarm system is fully operational and has all devices working properly as it was designed to. According to Lewis, dining staff are becoming more familiar with the system and are taking classes to review the grill cleaning process to prevent activating the alarm, alongside the proposed construction hoping to subside as tasks are being completed.

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



CONTRIBUTED BY NIA DAVIS

Members of the Black Student Union pose for a group picture for one of the BSU events.

BSU continued from A1

support behind you to push you to be the best person that you can be."

Specifically in recognition of Black History Month, Davis said BSU collaborated with other black organizations to create a calendar of events for students to attend and participate in during the month of February.

Davis said BSU will partner with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Xi Nu chapter of fraternity Phi Beta Sigma to host Don't Turn a Blind Eye, which is the next scheduled event for Black History Month. She said the event will discuss the concept of holding each other accountable within the Black community.

Davis said the event will be held on Tuesday at 7:14 p.m. in the Main Campus Student Center, room 249.

BSU President Mariah Rhodes, a senior psychology major, said the purpose of BSU is to serve as an outlet and safe place for minority students on campus as well as to give them conversations, opportunities and friends to help them feel "unapologetically black."

Throughout the year, Rhodes said the organization hosts open body meetings, on Wednesdays for members and the general student body to come and discuss trending topics. Rhodes said past topics have included religion, sexuality, school and postgraduate life.

"Our meetings are open to the general

public," Rhodes said. "In order to become a member of the Black Student Union you have to pay a \$10 due. In addition to the money requirement, there is also a volunteer hour requirement."

Rhodes said the organization stays active and involved within the community by volunteering at places such as the Ronald McDonald House, MacGregor Downs Health and Rehabilitation Center and the Boys and Girls Club, as well as participating in bake sales and fundraisers to raise money for upcoming BSU projects.

Rhodes said the four pillars of unity, scholarship, leadership and service for the organization are prioritized and pushed to the members.

"Unity actually happens to be the theme of my presidency," Rhodes said. "We really wanted to make sure that we united organizations on campus because in the past we've seen that there's a disconnection between organizations on campus. We wanted to enforce the importance of support because that's how we can all be great."

BSU Treasurer Arielle Jeffers, junior family and consumer science major, said this year marks BSU's 20th year on ECU campus. She said to celebrate, the organization held its anniversary celebration on Saturday at Harvey Hall in the Murphy Center.

"(The) Black Student Union is a great organization, I've met a lot of friends throughout the organization," Jeffers said. "I've learned a lot more about what is going on throughout the world and society."

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

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OUR VIEW

Blackface highlight existing divisions

The recent uncovering of photos of former East Carolina University students displaying racist acts of blackface in the 1962, 1980 and 1985 editions of ECU's student yearbook, the *Buccaneer*, as well as the pictures of multiple racist acts including students in Ku Klux Klan hoods in the 1985 edition are extremely disappointing, yet not surprising. ECU Chancellor Cecil Stoton said these racist photographs are not representative of the institution ECU is in 2019. While these acts occurred a long time ago, Stoton wanted it to be known this is not how the university represents itself now, as opposed to when those editions of the yearbook were published.

We, the editorial staff of *The East Carolinian*, believe that while ECU may not as a whole still have these racist views, these photos bring to light a problem of just how recent this school was embedded in racism, and that we must all do our part to change the racism that appears on campus, and in the state of North Carolina as a whole.

Many African American students are likely not surprised by the recent uncovering of these photos, as many experience some sort of racism throughout their college career. We as students of ECU must learn from these photos, and do better as a whole to end the racism that appears on campus, in Greenville, in the state of North Carolina and in the United States as a whole.

OUR STAFF

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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

Fax: (252) 328-9143



Smollett's betrayal

False claims undermine real victims of hate crimes



Andy CandidLi

Andy Li
TEC STAFF

Well, they got us, gals. "Empire" actor Jussie Smollett was arrested Thursday morning for filing a false report that he had been attacked by two men who hurled homophobic

and racist slurs at him, according to AP News. Smollett reported on Jan. 29 that while he was walking home, two masked men beat him, made derogatory comments and yelled "This is MAGA country" before fleeing.

Smollett maintains his innocence, while Chicago's police superintendent vehemently criticized Smollett.

"He took advantage of the pain and anger of racism to promote his career," Johnson told reporters at a news conference. "This publicity stunt was a scar that Chicago didn't earn and certainly didn't deserve."

So, this sucks. Like, royally. Smollett's case gained national attention and the actor garnered support from major celebrities— including President Donald Trump, who called the attacks "horrible. Doesn't get worse than that." And now, Smollett is being charged with a felony.

It would be unfair if I didn't mention that Smollett is sticking to his story, that nothing has been proven and the investigation and subsequent trial will have to be watched closely for a resolution. It would also be unfair if I didn't say, as a gay man, this deeply upsets me.

Smollett's alleged actions are not only



"Empire" actor Jussie Smollett led to jail. Smollett claims to be a victim of a hate crime. COURTESY OF THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

obviously illegal, but they undermine the tentative visibility that the LGBT community has in the mainstream view. If the Chicago police are right, and Smollett falsified this report, my community will lose any legitimacy in conservative and mainstream eyes. The next time a gay man or trans woman is attacked, who will care? Who will believe them?

Homophobia is real. Transphobia is real. Racism is real. And we exist in a reality where victims of these crimes and others are under constant of hateful vitriol. From the survivors of school shootings to victims of sexual assault, a quick search on Twitter will show the most vile threats made toward these people whose only crime was to speak out against injustice.

If Smollett is lying, it is a betrayal that will set back this community in immeasurable ways, and I do not feel guilty or uncomfortable verbalizing my

rage toward him. If Smollett is telling the truth, well then, I am part of the problem, and if he wants an apology, he'll have one.

But do not let this single incident convince you reports of homophobia or racism are false. Do not let this convince you police treat these cases with the same kind of dignity and seriousness as they do other cases. For instance, two black men have been found mysteriously dead in the home Democratic donor Ed Buck, and West Hollywood's government has been under fire for its inaction and callousness toward the victims.

These crimes are real and they're happening, whether or not Smollett's case is true. And their victims deserve respect.

Li is a senior majoring in communication and political science. To submit a guest column, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

Letter to the Editor

Residence halls leave concerns with alumni

This is not the campus I knew as an undergraduate. It's more diverse, inclusive, welcoming. Thank you, administration, for departments like the LGBTQ Center. Club Joyner offers what I never could have imagined in a library twenty years ago.

Thank you, administration, for comfy furniture, study rooms, and an on-site Starbucks. There's more to participate in. Thank you, administration, for the 500+ campus organizations. The New Student Center lives up to its "living room" status. Thank you, administration, for proving wrong my "Mendenhall is enough" mentality.

Despite that being said, I can't dismiss what I've heard, can't deny what I've read in *The East Carolinian* about the residence halls. Some might say I have no business reacting. I don't live or have



Fletcher Residence Hall on West End at ECU. COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM

a child living in a campus neighborhood. In wanting students have the best college experience possible, though, I can't help but speak up. I express frustration over broken elevators leaving them trapped. I

express concern about mold and mildew on AC units making them sick.

Administration, you're doing an excellent job making ECU a welcoming, entertaining, and enlightening place and space. You're doing a great job giving the opportunity to have a rewarding, challenging, and fun college experience. You're doing a wonderful job providing a center that's the living room indeed. It's time, though, to step up where the residence halls are concerned. Don't these students deserve to have a high quality of life in every "room" of their on-campus house.

-Joanna Rohrbaugh

Rohrbaugh is an ECU alum. To submit a letter to the editor, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

Students organize concert

Devin Raines
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University's School of Music will showcase the student-led Frequencies NewMusic Ensemble tonight at 7:30.

According to the ECU School of Music website, Frequencies is an ensemble group directed and organized entirely by students. The School of Music students make decisions on the program such as which instruments are played, who is going to be playing and what pieces are going to be performed. The performance is free and will be held at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall.

Christopher Ulfers, director of ECU's School of Music, said the Frequencies Ensemble allows students a certain kind of freedom within the department. He said attending this performance may just be a requirement for a class to other students, but those who do attend will be in for a real treat seeing their fellow colleagues display their amazing skills.

"It allows them to be imaginative and it allows them to really make it their own," Ulfers said. "I think the students that are involved need to know that we are really proud of them, and the students that are coming need to know that this is entirely student led, and all of the decisions are left up to the students, and it's both undergraduate and graduate students."

According to Ulfers, it is helpful to the School of Music students to have a project like



ECU student Davis Martin performing. Martin is the organizer of Frequencies.

this that does not necessarily have a grade attached. It gives students a safe place to experience the responsibilities professional musicians face in the real world.

The NewMusic Initiative is a program that performs music primarily from the last 50 years, showcasing music that would not

normally be heard. It tries to foster in a new age of music, Ulfers said.

Davis Martin, first year graduate student and organizer of this year's Frequencies program, said this ensemble helps to give students a taste of what the real world is like in a way that allows them free reign, while still having support from

professors when needed.

"It's more than just one ensemble, though," Martin said. "Really, it's any student in the School of Music that wants to do a piece of NewMusic, so anything from the twentieth to twenty-first centuries. We try to go for newer rather than older."

Martin said this year, Frequencies is showcasing a varied program with at least one piece from every instrument family. Within the performance, there will be a flute piece, a solo cello piece, an improv piece and vocal music which usually is not performed. The goal is to display as many facets of new music as possible.

Jordan Cartrette, mezzo soprano vocalist within the UnCaged Improv ensemble, said she hopes to broaden her mind through this experience.

Cartrette said music students have all been trained in western classical music, but she wants to get into the NewMusic scene in order to move forward with different fields of music, rather than the music on the radio and the western classical.

"It's important to keep an open mind so that we're not stuck there forever, you know, and so we can eventually make new music which is like the whole point of NewMusic," Cartrette said.

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

EVENTS

TODAY

Dining to Donate
Muscle Maker Grill
5 p.m.

BatGirl
Kickback Jack's
5:30 p.m.

The Fitness Marshall
Main Campus Student Center Ballroom
6 p.m.

TOMORROW

Girl Scout Badge Program
Pop Art Heart Plate
The Painted Peacock
6:30 p.m.

Spazz Presents Hello Shark
Trollingwood Taproom and Brewery
7 p.m.

Market to promote entrepreneurs

Giana Williams
TEC STAFF

What used to be an old, tiny abandoned building on Dickinson Avenue has transformed into a place where local businesses and entrepreneurs can sell their goods and promote their business to the Greenville community.

The Farmers and Makers Market is a year round market that will be open six days a week, where local businesses or farmers within 50 miles can sell their products or art, according to Ryan Webb, the owner of Farmers and Makers Market. The market is located at 716 Dickinson Ave. in uptown Greenville.

"The idea is to give (an) opportunity for entrepreneurs to find a way to test out their product without having to go on a full investment of buying property," Webb said. "In here you can get as few as one square foot for \$15 a month."

The items that are sold in the market are either handcrafted or grown locally and can range from produce, plants, art, furniture, sauces, salsas and many more items that are found in a traditional market, according to Webb.

Webb said he intended for Farmers and Makers to open up sometime in January, but because the building is 100 years old, extensive renovations needed to be done. Now, Webb



The storefront of Farmers and Makers Market, located at 716 Dickinson Ave. in uptown Greenville.

said he is planning to open up the market on Friday during the First Friday Art Walk.

Jenni Farrow, owner of local small business Jenni's Ugly Chocolates, is planning on selling her chocolates at the market. She said markets are the grassroots of many small businesses during the fragile stage of their career.

"I think that's why the market community is so supportive, we all understand that this

support is essential for us all to persevere past the small business growing pains," Farrow said. "I know that Ryan understands this. This market will be a safe space for me, and other artisans to try new things and see what works."

Zachary Running is the creator and artist behind Running Design, a local company that does custom woodwork. He said he has been promoting his business through social media

but is excited about being able to showcase his artwork at the market and having the public view his work in person.

"I think it will help to have it where people can walk up to it, look at it, touch it, you know," Running said.

Running said keeping everything local is important for small businesses to participate in markets. People can find these items on Amazon, but being able to purchase from someone who works hard to live their life and build their dreams is very important to him.

"It is all locally involved and to get people to see what other people are doing. My only thing to say is support local businesses really," Running said.

Webb hopes to bring more retail back into uptown Greenville with the market and for people to enjoy other activities besides going to restaurants and breweries.

"When downtown started to go down, that's when all the retail left and went to the malls and to the strip centers, so it's actually good to actually see stores in here again," Webb said.

To learn more about Farmers and Makers Market and how to become a vendor, go to its website or Facebook page.

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

NYC artist to share theatrics

Macie Tano
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Greenville will host an experimental performance artist this week for a night of theatrics, festive costumes and laughter.

New York City performance artist Jennifer Vanilla will perform at the Whirligig Stage tomorrow from 7 to 10 p.m. with Home Body, a band based out of Greenfield, Massachusetts.

The event is will be hosted by Spazz Presents and Rave Wave. Whirligig Stage is located at 628 S. Pitt St. Admission is free.

Jennifer Vanilla is the stage name of Becca Kauffman. Kauffman said she has been singing and playing guitar and keys in the band Ava Luna for the past 10 years, as well as working on her own projects in more recent years. She describes her style as "music-based performance art."

"It's kind of about fantasy building. Jennifer Vanilla is my alter ego. She's sort of a super heroic version of myself. It gives me a lot of permission to go big or go home," Kauffman said.

Home Body, a duo consisting of Eric Hnatow and Haley Morgan, has been performing since 2011. They

describe their music as "experimental electronic pop music."

"We try to make music that moves people emotionally and physically," Morgan said. "Making music lets us connect with each other, ourselves and the audiences."

While Kauffman has been working on creating original music for her new project, alongside producer See Other, she said she also likes to put her own twist on 90s and house music instrumentals.



Jeff Blinder

"The idea is to be a sort of performance DJ. The whole ethos of Jennifer Vanilla and my approach to a live performance is absolute truth and reality in the room," Kauffman said. "It's very social, and it's about communication and acknowledging the fact that we're all in this space together."

This will be the first time both Jennifer Vanilla and Home Body have performed in Greenville. Hnatow said he

and Morgan are very excited to come to Greenville and work with Jennifer Vanilla, who they are big fans of.

Kauffman said she hopes people come out and participate in her show, which places a lot of value on audience members.

"I provide the spectacle, and the spectacle can only exist with spectators," Kauffman said. "There's a lot of festive costumes, costume changes and choreography. It's always a fun, sort of flying by the seat of your pants, wild ride."

Jeff Blinder, the founder of Spazz Presents, has worked with Kauffman in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and said her performance is "a unique and fun time."

"She creates unique theatrical music. She embodies character and stays in character the whole time. The reason we're doing it at Whirligig is because we think it will bring out a lot of the theatrics," Blinder said. "It's the perfect spot for it."

For more information, check out the event's Facebook page, Jennifer Vanilla's website, Home Body's website.

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



Jennifer Vanilla is the stage name of artist Becca Kauffman.

CLASSIFIEDS

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LOST CAT Jenny GREY TABBIE with white paws. Lived near 12th and Cotanche; Last scene Grid near Christy's. Call/text with info or sightings. 919-903-2515.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19)
-- Today is a 6
-- Things may not go as planned. Avoid travel. A hidden danger could arise. Transportation and action could get tangled. Explore locally. Study your own backyard.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
-- Today is a 7
-- A sense of humor lightens a romantic misunderstanding. Remember what's really important. Take a walk to cool down if needed. Let go of the small stuff.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
-- Today is an 8
-- Illusions and mirages could distort the view. Things may not go as planned. Wait for better conditions. Keep a flexible outlook and a sense of humor.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
-- Today is a 7
-- You can see what wasn't working with shared finances. Work with someone who sees your blind spot. Don't get sidetracked. Collaborate for common gain.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
-- Today is an 8
-- Mistakes or misunderstandings can arise at home. Abandon expectations, and you may win better results than originally planned. Keep an open mind and heart.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
-- Today is a 5
-- Rest, and consider what's ahead. Refine plans for new circumstances. Discover crucial holes, and repair them. Find a quiet space to review.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
-- Today is a 7
-- Have patience with a partner. Breakdowns or obstacles could arise. Avoid silly arguments over miscommunications. Travel frustrations would make things worse. Handle practical priorities.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
-- Today is a 7
-- Communication and action could clash. Make sure everyone knows what's going on. Avoid provoking jealousies or upsets. Provide stability, reliability and a calm presence.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
-- Today is a 7
-- Friends can get through where you're stuck. Miscommunications could make things worse; take the time to unravel tangles as soon as they occur.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
-- Today is a 7
-- Slow to avoid accidents. Use gentle pressure rather than force. Hidden obstacles lie out of view. Stick to practical goals. Take care of your health.

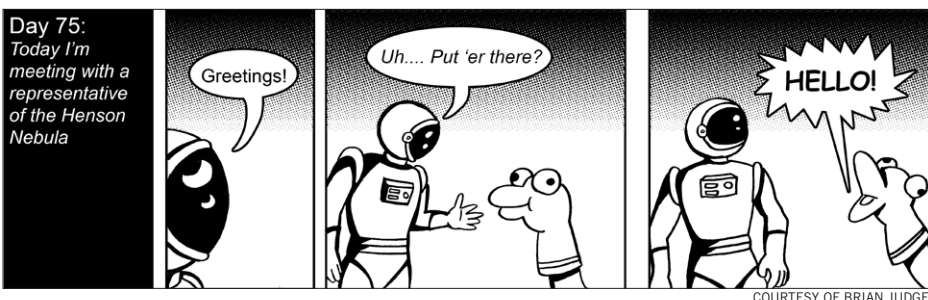
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
-- Today is an 8
-- You won't need to defer gratification forever. Stay frugal until financial obstacles or obligations are past. Prioritize practicalities. You're gaining. Keep showing up.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
-- Today is an 8
-- Discover a hidden mess at work. An illusion could get shattered. Allow extra time to clean things up and resolve misunderstandings. You've got this.

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COMICS

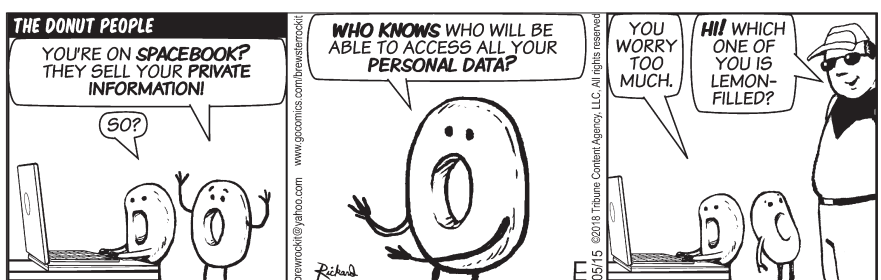
ONE AND ONLY



BEST IN SHOW



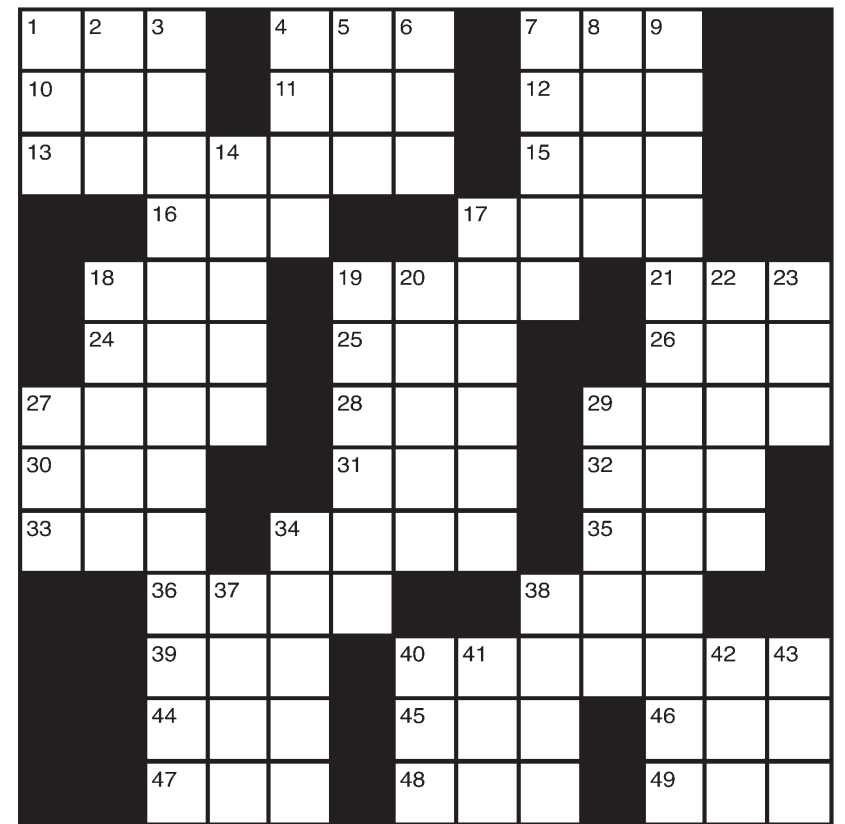
BREWSTER ROCKIT



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



ACROSS

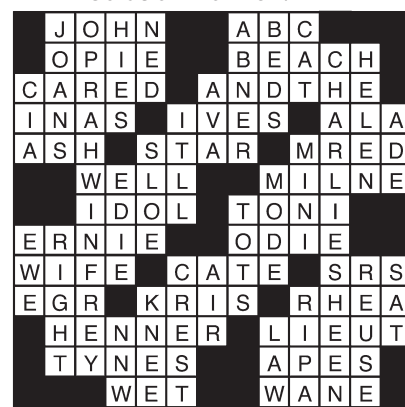
- 1 "American ___!"
- 4 "My Mother the ___"; Jerry Van Dyke series
- 7 Jim Anderson, to Bud, on "Father Knows Best"
- 10 Actress ___ Mendes
- 11 Put two and two together
- 12 Historical period
- 13 Ben and Fred
- 15 Fraternity letter
- 16 "___ Got a Secret"
- 17 Catherine of "JAG"
- 18 Vaccine-approving agcy.
- 19 Max ___, Jr., of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 21 Winehouse or Grant
- 24 Nixon's monogram
- 25 "___ Dogs Go to Heaven"
- 26 Billy ___ Williams
- 27 Religious splinter group
- 28 Actress Larter
- 29 Stein and Affleck
- 30 Abbr. on a computer key that's used to quit a program
- 31 When doubled, farewell to Birdie

- 32 Monogram for author Stevenson
- 33 Cry of discovery
- 34 Part of The Mamas & the Papas
- 35 "Love ___ Many Splendored Thing"
- 36 Dr. Zhivago's love
- 38 Crawling bug
- 39 Hawaii's Mauna ___
- 40 "The ___ Loser"
- 44 Prefix for cycle or form
- 45 "___ to Billy Joe"
- 46 "___ Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs"
- 47 Actress ___ Ryan
- 48 Diddley and Derek
- 49 Actress Peeples

DOWN

- 1 ___ Moines, Iowa
- 2 Actress Gardner
- 3 Actor on "NCIS"
- 4 Nicolas ___
- 5 Lemon squeezer's drink
- 6 Rocky and Yellow Brick: abbr.
- 7 Graves or O'Toole
- 8 Televangelist ___ Roberts
- 9 Actor on "Private Practice"
- 14 ___-garde
- 17 Misrepresents
- 18 "The ___ Prince of Bel-Air"
- 19 "___ Black Sheep"; Robert Conrad series
- 20 Actress Sheedy and others
- 22 High-IQ group
- 23 "___, Dear"
- 27 "20,000 Leagues Under the ___"
- 29 "You Don't ___ Me Flowers"; Neil Diamond/Barbra Streisand song
- 34 ___ T. Nelson
- 37 Top-notch rating
- 38 Grows gray
- 40 Hope or Barker
- 41 "What'll ___"; Irving Berlin song
- 42 The ___-Fi Channel; Syfy, once
- 43 Actress Leoni

Solution from 02/21



SUDOKU

SUDOKU

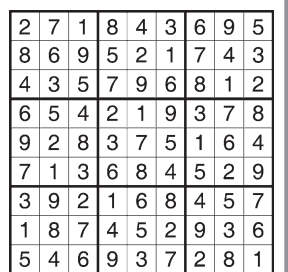
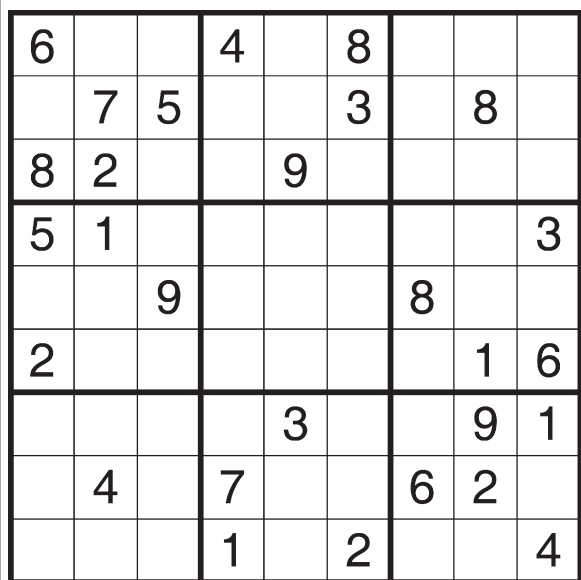
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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 02/21



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Track finishes indoor season

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University track and field team traveled to Birmingham, Alabama last weekend for the American Athletic Conference Indoor Championships. The men's team placed last out of eight teams and the women's team took seventh place out of the 12 teams.

The men earned a total of 17 points, putting them in eighth, compared to first place University of Houston with 159.5 points, as they were above second place by 52.5 points. The women earned a total of 43 points compared to first place Houston with 98 points. The results for ECU were not spectacular, but the athletes individually performed well.

The men's team managed to pull out some great performances from senior Nick Ciaccia in the 5k meter run, where he ran a 14:36.67 time and placed fifth. Senior Hakim Horton placed fourth in the men's long jump, jumping 7.32 meters and senior Evan McCracken placed fifth in the shot put posting 17.31 meters. Ciaccia, Horton and McCracken made up 13 of the teams 17 points alone.

"Your individual success leads to team success. Everybody has got to do their own thing in their

own individual event. Worry about yourself and if you take care of your own business then it's going to contribute to that team leaderboard," head coach Curt Kraft said.

The women's team managed to remain in the middle of the pack and pulled out several placements throughout the meet. Sophomore Brooke Stith placed fifth in both the 60 meter hurdles with a time of 8.53 and the triple jump with 12.1 meters. Older sister, junior Bria Stith made it to the podium finishing third in the 60 meter hurdles and the shot put.

Junior Nuria Tillo-Prats placed fourth in the mile, running 4:51. Senior Grace Sullivan placed sixth in the one mile run with a time of 4:54.93 and the 3k meter run with a time of 9:46.13. Freshman Anna Bristle placed sixth in the 5k meter run with a time of 17:00.22.

"We had two people on the podium. Kenzie Whitaker did outstanding in the long jump. She was second place," Kraft said. "The other big highlight was the 4x4 ladies were third and they got on the podium. Which was Cedrina Singletary, D'Nia Freeman, Shellbi Chapman, and Courtney Warner. They ran an outstanding time, it was their best time of the year, a 340.79."

Although there was success from both teams, the other competition beat out the Pirates in many categories. Both teams had less athletes to contribute to each event which in turn lowered the possibility of earning points for ECU.



Senior Courtney Warner passes off the baton to junior Shellbi Chapman during the 4x4 at the AAC Indoor Championships

"There was a lot of good things throughout the meet. As a coach you're never satisfied. Regardless of what you do it's not good enough. Even when you win the championship, then you are focused on how you can get better," Kraft said.

Although the meet was an overall success, the Pirates will not be sending any of their athletes to the NCAA Championships in a couple weeks. The team will continue with practice everyday over spring break to get ready for the

start of the spring outdoor season.

"The kids enjoy the outdoor season a lot more than they do the indoor season," Kraft said. "Track was made for outdoor. You get these events that, we are pretty good in. We gain the javelin. We gain the hammer. We get the discus. We get the 400 hurdles. We get the steeplechase. A lot of these events that we don't get indoor we are pretty good at in the outdoor."

During the indoor season individuals broke personal records and school records. The Pirates

look to start the season during the weekend of March 14-16, at the 49er Classic in Charlotte, North Carolina. The rest of the season will be packed with the Raleigh Relays, Bill Carson Invitational, Aggie Invitational and the Duke Invitational before the AAC Outdoor Conference Championships.

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



Curt Kraft

ECU swims to AAC championship

Mikey Carrillo
TEC STAFF

The first place American Athletic Conference East Carolina University Swim and Dive team will compete in the AAC Championship from Wednesday to Saturday in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Pirates (4-2 Mens, 4-3 Womens) have been on a long break since they were last seen in action. Their last regular season meeting was on Jan. 19 against the University of Maryland Baltimore County in Minges Natatorium.

The men's team had a strong regular season. It started off with a 3-1 record falling to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill at home on Oct. 5. It managed to bounce back with three straight wins, all being on the road. The Pirates beat William and Mary University, University of North Carolina at Wilmington and Lenoir-Rhyne University in a span of three weeks, from Oct. 13 to Nov. 3.

The team then came back for the spring part of the season and went on the road to Columbia, South Carolina where it lost to the University of South Carolina, but came back a week later and won against UMBC for its last meet of the regular season.

On the other hand, the women's team had an up and down season, as it also lost against UNC when it opened up the season,



Freshman swimmer Marek Osina will compete in the AAC Championship meet on Thursday.

but managed to get two straight wins after that as both meets were on the road, against William and Mary and UNCW. The team then had a mixed season after that for the final four competitions, as it would lose to Campbell University, beat Lenoir-Rhyne, then the same order of events happened against South Carolina and UMBC.

Besides the regular season meetings, both teams participated in a total of four events. They hosted the ECU Diving Invitational, and

competed in the Georgia Tech Invitational, the Nike Cup Invitational and also made an appearance in AT&T Winter Nationals.

After not competing in regular season play for the last couple of weeks, the Pirates will come back to play for the 2019 American Athletic Conference Championships. The championships will have a total of six schools competing along with ECU. The other participants include the University of Cincinnati, University of Connecticut, the

University of Houston, Southern Methodist University and Tulane University.

The AAC Championship is set to take place over four straight days with events happening from 11 a.m. on Thursday with the last event on that day starting at 5 p.m. The first one being the Diving Prelims and the second one the Relay and Diving Finals.

On Thursday the meets will start during the morning at 10, and will consist of the Swimming and Diving Prelims, with the Finals set for 6 p.m. With the same time frames set for Friday's schedule, as the Swimming and Diving Prelims start at 10 a.m. with the finals occurring at 6 p.m. The fourth and final day, on Saturday, will have a swimming and diving meet with a 10 a.m. start time but the last Finals will begin at 5 p.m.

Head coach Matthew Jabs, who has been in charge of the program since July 2017, will look to help lead his team to an AAC championship and be able to finish the conference season on an extremely good note.

The Pirates will start their AAC Championship meetings on Thursday at 11 a.m. in Indiana University Natatorium in Indianapolis, Indiana.

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

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BASEBALL continued from A1

ECU's bats were not clicking through seven innings. The Pirates only had one hit that came from sophomore right fielder/first baseman Alec Burleson in the first inning. The Falcons on the other side of the spectrum had six hits in seven innings, but the ECU defense kept them from extending the 2-1 lead up to that point.

Freshman third baseman Ryder Giles got the Pirates into scoring position to tie the game in the eighth inning by hitting a double to left field. A single by Burleson in the eighth inning brought Giles home and tied the game at 2-2.

Martinez came through for Air Force in the top of the ninth inning to break the 2-2 tie. Martinez cracked a huge home run to left field that gave it the 3-2 lead. Senior pitcher Zach Barnes struck out the next two batters to give the Pirates a chance to either force extra innings or win the game in the bottom of the ninth inning.

Brown led off to start the bottom of

the ninth inning. He got out in his at-bat to put the Falcons two outs away from an upset against ECU. Sophomore catcher Seth Caddell and freshman center-fielder Lane Hoover both got out following Brown to give the Falcons the 3-2 upset win over the Pirates.

"We just need to do a better job of getting on top of the baseball at times," Burleson said. "We were able to hit well, there were situations that we needed to get hits in that we didn't, but that's how baseball is at times."

ECU will back in action on Wednesday when it will host Elon University at 4 p.m. looking to move past the back-to-back regular season losses the team has suffered for the first time since April 27-29, 2018.

"I can live with a loss like this because that's baseball," head coach Cliff Godwin said. "The season is a marathon, not a sprint and no we haven't played well the past two days but we will get better."



Cliff Godwin



Alec Burleson

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