



The East Carolinian

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ECU students dispute service

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

Former East Carolina University students say ECU's Disability Support Services didn't support them when they needed the office. One student claims DSS forced them out of a class and another says DSS didn't help them when they were trying to get excused for an important surgery.

Kayley Thorpe, a senior psychology major at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, attended ECU from 2013 to 2014. Thorpe said her experiences with DSS caused her to transfer schools.

Thorpe said she was living on campus and expecting to do all the activities a normal student does, but her first year did not end up going well.

Thorpe has Tourette's Syndrome and said she explained this to her professor before her chemistry class began, but the professor didn't understand her involuntary symptoms.

"I dropped some classes due to my own symptomatic issues and then there were some classes that I was essentially forced out of by disability services administration," Thorpe said.

According to Thorpe, if she would have been able to take the class in-person and with proper accommodations, she would have been able to succeed in the class.

Thorpe said her experience at UNC DSS is

different than that with ECU DSS. Thorpe said at UNC she had difficulty with one professor in one of her classes, but there was a meeting with Thorpe and the professor to come up with a solution.

According to Thorpe, ECU does not have the necessary level of communication or sensitivity about her medical issues which impacted her college career.

Thorpe said she felt unwelcome and as though she was an inconvenience while at ECU. Thorpe said DSS told her she had to take online courses which weren't offered for her psychology major.

"Essentially, ECU said they couldn't accommodate me and I just felt like I was treated like an inconvenience and not a scholar, not a human, it was very difficult," Thorpe said.

Whitney Kimble, ECU DSS Disability Support Specialist, said DSS wants to prepare students for their next "venture" in life because they will still have to interact with people in their workplace.

According to Kimble, students with conditions such as Tourettes or Aspergers may choose to take one in-person class and the rest online to ease their way in, but it would be up to the student and taking all online classes would never be forced on them.

"One of our missions is inclusion because that is a civil right, so we would never try to push a student away and just say 'just take all online classes,'" Kimble said.

ECU alumni Jess Stone said they used DSS

> DSS page A2

LGBTQ center celebrates Trans Day

Pat Polomchak
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University continues to support diversity by hosting a luncheon celebrating Transgender Day of Visibility. The luncheon will take place today at noon in the Main Campus Student Center.

Mark Rasdorf, director of the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center, said Trans Day of Visibility is a celebration of the transgender community. Rasdorf said it is in contrast with Trans Day of Remembrance, which is in November.



Mark Rasdorf

"We know November 20 is Trans Day of Remembrance, which is a very solemn day," Rasdorf said. "I think there was a movement to create a sort of counterpoint to Trans Day of Remembrance that wasn't quite so solemn, and was more of a celebration of trans identities."

Rasdorf said the date in November is about honoring members of the trans community who perish each year due to hate and transphobia. He said the day of visibility, meanwhile, can serve as an educational day for non-trans people who want to know more about the community.

> TRANS page A2

Students react to Barefoot headliner

Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's annual Barefoot on the Mall headliner is T-Pain, and students say they couldn't be more excited.

Under the canopy of neon lights, hundreds of students were present for the live announcement of this year's Barefoot on the Mall artist at Tuesday's "Rollerskates & Milkshakes" event.

ECU's Student Activities Board (SAB) revealed T-Pain as the headliner after playing a hip-hop mix of his discography. Students began singing along to the mix and applauding in excitement after DJ Born Finesser announced the date of the event.

"I almost dropped my milkshake when I heard Born Finesser make that announcement," Naomi Wright, a sophomore political science major, said. "T-Pain was quite the surprise, but he's the

> BAREFOOT page A4

Football to spring forward

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University football team is finishing up the first half of spring practice and is preparing to have its first scrimmage of the spring season on Saturday morning.

Head coach Mike Houston has been gearing up the team for the scrimmage in practice. After getting to know the team more as each day has passed, Houston believes that the team is a lot better than where it was at the beginning of spring practice.

"There is no doubt that we have improved as a team," Houston said. "It was after Saturday that we went in and watched film spending a lot of time with it. The thing is that when you sit back and you look at it verses that first Monday of contact, there is a drastic improvement and I would be disappointed because the way I feel coming off the field if we don't look at the film today and see an improvement for Saturday so this team is getting better."

A big emphasis going into spring practice was improving in physicality, technique and tackling, Houston said. Overall, the football team has been working to improve in those areas



COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM

The East Carolina University football team practices for upcoming spring game under head coach Mike Houston.

and looks to continue doing that moving forward.

"We are continuing to try and improve in those areas," Houston said. "Certainly we are starting to expand the offense, we are starting to expand the defense, we are putting more wrinkles in, but it still comes down to the same base fundamentals on a daily basis that we are trying to get consistently really good at."

One of the biggest emphasis' with working on the defense is how they will be able to be just as

aggressive on the defensive side of the ball with senior defensive end Nate Harvey graduating and declaring for the NFL draft. Houston and the defensive coordinators have been working on trying to figure out how to replace the impact Harvey brought to the team during the 2018 season when he finished third in the nation in sacks per game (1.21) and first in tackles for loss each game (2.1).

"Certainly Harvey was a great player for us last year and it's hard

to replace a guy of his caliber," Houston said. "The big thing is that we are going to have to do it together. I don't know just yet if we have one individual that will be that productive but I think that we can be very productive as a unit."

Houston went in with a gameplan of how to work with the team and get them going. Like every coach, Houston has his list of different criteria that

> FOOTBALL page A6

ONLINE

»Check out our website for stories, photo galleries and more

»ARTS: ECU Native Organization to host 27th annual powwow

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

Sigma Omicron Epsilon to host Womens Safety Seminar

The Sigma Omicron Epsilon sorority will host a Women's Safety Seminar in Bate 2020 from 6 to 8 p.m. today. Tina Locklear Knox from the Greenville Police Department will be teaching women how to keep themselves and others safe.

ECU to host 'R.B.G.' film screening and discussion

The CNN film, "RBG" will be played in the student center Blackbox Theatre today from 6 to 8 p.m., exploring the life of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Sponsored by the Women and Gender Office and the Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement providing snacks and drinks as well as a brief discussion later.

'On The Basis of Sex' in Hendrix Theatre

The recent 2018 film, "On The Basis of Sex," will be showing tonight in Hendrix theatre from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. This film highlights the early career of United States Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and her challenges pertaining to gender discrimination.

Make your own spring planter

Sponsored by Fresh Vibes, students can try a smoothie and create a planter in the West Porch of the Health Sciences Student Center today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

Students hang the art of Rae Senarighi, speaker for the event and the curator of the TRANSCEND series, inside of Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center.

TRANS continued from A1

Rasdorf said this year will be the second time the LGBTQ Center has hosted a luncheon for Trans Day of Visibility. He said at the luncheon there will be a keynote speaker.

"Last year we did it at the Croatan, and Dr. Kelley Haven, who is a Greenville native, a Brody alum, and now a practicing physician with ECU Physicians, was our keynote speaker," Rasdorf said.

Rasdorf said this year's keynote speaker is Rae Senarighi, a transgender, non-binary artist. He said the LGBTQ Center will be showcasing Senarighi's TRANSCEND series, which portrays transgender and non-binary people from cultures around the world in a vivid style.

Rasdorf said Trans Day of Remembrance is usually observed with a candlelight vigil in the Croatan to honor those that have died in the transgender community. He said they chose to have a luncheon for Trans Day of Visibility because having a daytime event can actually help with the goal of visibility.

"A luncheon hopefully allows more people to participate," Rasdorf said. "This year we're going to do it here, in the main campus student center downstairs in 125. We have plans to really create a very high level of visibility for trans pride."

Rasdorf said Trans Day of Visibility is important because of the conversations surrounding the transgender community both in the United States and the world. He said as

state legislations pass bills limiting the rights of transgender people, Trans Day of Visibility is an opportunity to raise awareness and work with people who support equality.

Eric Hickerson, a junior chemistry and anthropology major, has been the person organizing this event for the LGBTQ Center. Hickerson said he agreed with Rasdorf that the event was mainly a celebration.

"It's a celebration of trans folk, and an acknowledgement of discrimination that happens," Hickerson said. "Anybody can come."

Hickerson said they picked Senarighi as a keynote speaker largely because of the topic of the TRANSCEND series, but also because Senarighi is a member of the transgender community himself. He said the fact that Senarighi is transgender and non-binary is something that makes him unique.

Hickerson said students should care about Trans Day of Remembrance because it is an opportunity to celebrate a less popular part of the LGBTQ acronym.

"Usually when people think about the LGBT community they only celebrate the LGB," Hickerson said. "It's really important to celebrate the T as well, and this is a way to celebrate transgender people and students."

Hickerson said it is important for other students to learn about the transgender

community. He said the day presents an opportunity to help people who are not in the community be less afraid and more supportive of transgender people.

Hickerson said he agreed to help coordinate the event because he is in the transgender community himself.

"I think it is really important for a transgender person to lead this event," Hickerson said. "I also usually organize TDOR (Trans Day of Remembrance), which is in November."

El Perry, a sophomore social work major, is on a small committee for organizing the event and will help set up before the event. Perry said Trans Day of Visibility is a chance for people who have already come out as transgender to show others who haven't that being out is OK.

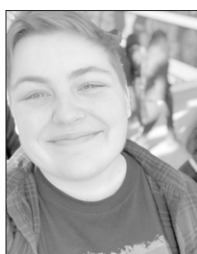
"It's such a flip side of Trans Day of Remembrance," Perry said. "You're taking that and being like, OK, but we can still keep going forwards. It is giving people a thing to look to."

Perry said for any students who are scared to come out as transgender, safety is the most important thing to keep in mind.

"You don't have to come out until you're ready," Perry said. "If you don't feel safe then definitely don't come out. The best way to become more safe is to find your community of people like you to support you, and that's kind of what this is."

Transgender Day of Visibility is on the Sunday after the event, March 31.

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



Eric Hickerson

DSS continued from A1

for about two years. Stone said in their junior year they got sick and was diagnosed with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) part way into the semester.

Stone said the cardiologist told them they needed a pacemaker to be implanted, which meant they would be out of school for a week.

Stone said they had been receiving services from DSS prior to their diagnosis with POTS and when they asked how to could get an excused absence, they were told they would have to speak to their professors and "figure it out."

"I could have gone to the Dean (of Students) and applied for absence but they just simply didn't provide that information, but I think they had a very small range of things they could do there and if they didn't fit into that box, they weren't gonna go out of their way to tell you where to go to get that help," Stone said.

Stone said this situation caused them to delay their surgery until the end of the semester. According to Stone, DSS never referred them to the Dean's office.

Stone said their only option was to speak individually with their professors and they were

allowed to take their finals a few days early so they could have the surgery before Christmas.

Kimble said DSS works closely with the Dean of Students Office, but DSS and the Dean of Students have a separate policy.

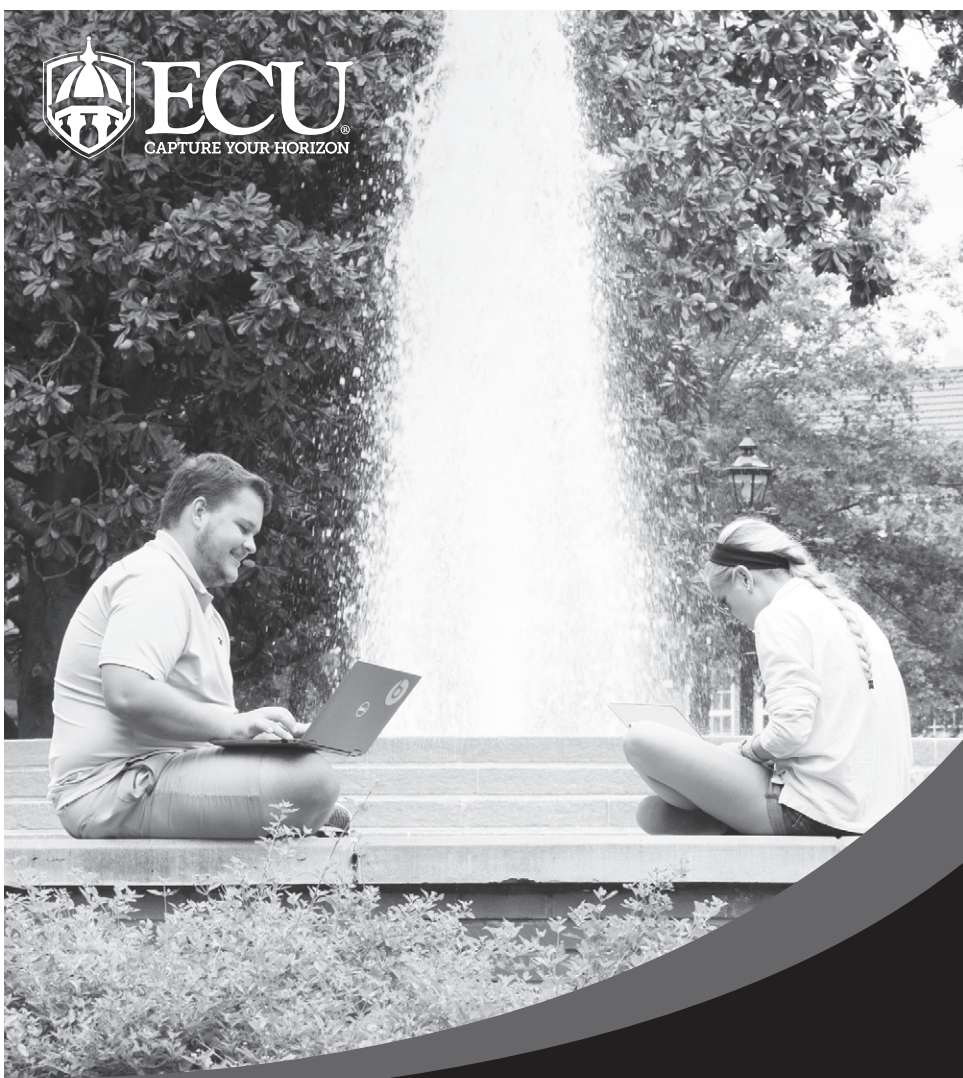
If a student is hospitalized, Kimble said DSS tells them to contact their professor as soon as possible and keep DSS in the emails.

Dean of Students Associate Vice Chancellor Lynn Roeder said the University Excused Absence Policy is "pretty strict" and was written by faculty, but the Dean of Students implements it.

Roeder said when John Stiller was the chair of Faculty Senate, they worked together to create more "wiggle room" for medical absences. Roeder said previously, excused absences were only given for representing the institution, death in the immediate family, subpoena and military duty or orders.

If a student knows they are in need of surgery, Roeder said they would need to tell the Dean of Students Office. Roeder said if a student needs surgery related to an injury they usually receive an email from the parents and the Dean of Students handles contacting faculty.

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



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Voyages of Discovery
SERIES
Presents
Dr. Lisa Randall
Harvard University Physicist

"Dark Matter and the Dinosaurs"
Thursday, April 4, 2019
7:00 p.m. | Wright Auditorium



For ticket information, visit www.ecu.edu/voyages.

This is an ECU Wellness Passport event. For more information, contact Dr. Jeffrey Johnson at 252-328-6378 or johnsonj@ecu.edu.



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.

C.S. 19-0143

OUR VIEW

Journalists must wait for all facts

After an in-depth investigation into President Donald Trump and the members of his campaign, it has been determined that the Trump campaign did not conspire with Russia in an effort to sway the 2016 presidential election.

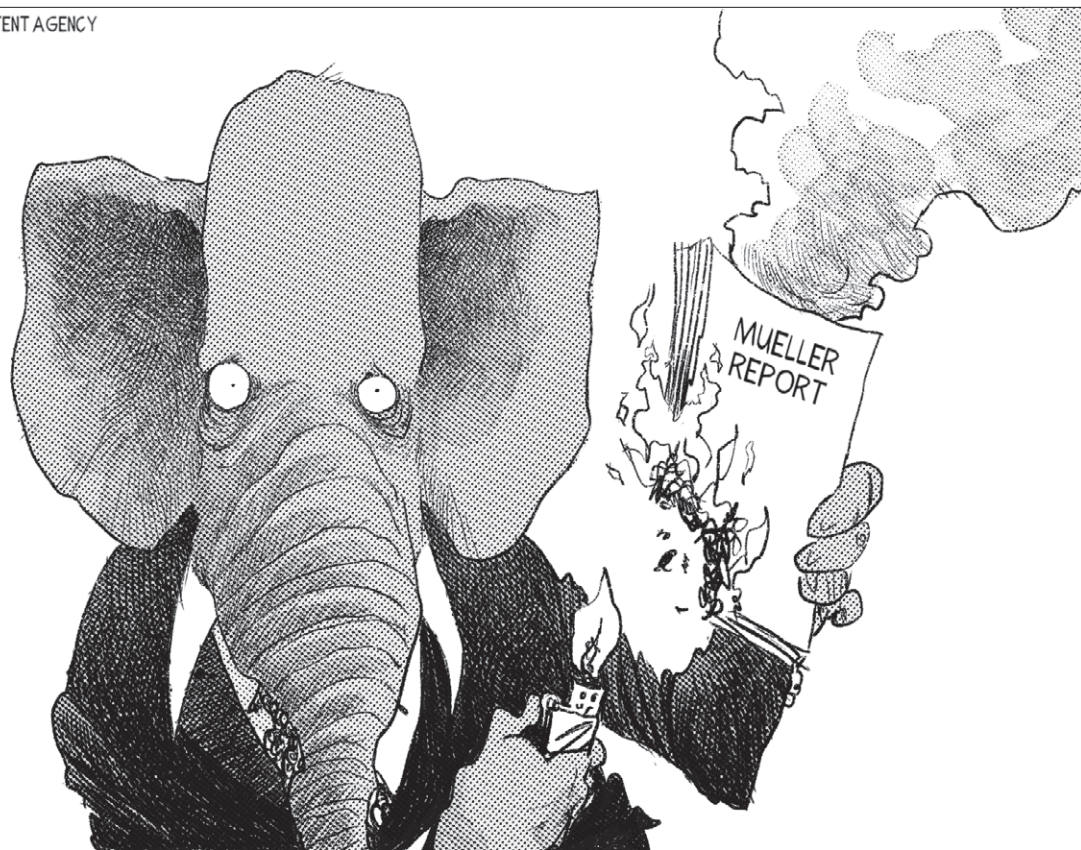
Since Attorney General William Barr summarized Special Counsel Robert Mueller's findings into a four page letter to Congress, there have been mixed reactions. However, the letter doesn't make it clear that Trump is completely innocent. Many cable news pundits, who have been extensively covering the investigation are still not satisfied with Mueller's findings so far.

We, the editorial staff of *The East Carolinian*, think cable TV journalists did a disservice to the news industry by jumping the gun without waiting for Muller's full report. News network pundits fed into Trump's idea of a "witch hunt." Without meaning to do so, these pundits have verified Trump's long criticism of many media outlets of having a partisan agenda against him.

From news network pundits like Rachel Maddow or Don Lemon, accusations of Trump's guilt were made swiftly and without a full understanding of all the evidence. Their actions put them at the center of the story, when journalists shouldn't be taking sides or inserting their opinions into it.

No matter how you feel about Trump, false reporting, or "fake news" is not good for anyone, and the spreading of accusations without proper evidence sets back America as a whole. In order to move forward as a society, correct and thorough reporting will be instrumental.

SHENEMAN TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY



"YOU DON'T NEED TO READ THE ACTUAL REPORT. I'LL READ IT TO YOU. IT SAYS THE PRESIDENT IS BRAVE AND STRONG AND NEVER, EVER COLLUDED WITH RUSSIA. HE'S ALSO HANDSOME AND GOOD AT GOLF. THE END."

Letter to the Editor

Women need representation in BOT, BOG

Women are under-represented on more of ECU's public-facing boards than its Board of Trustees, judging by their online membership lists.

Look at ECU's Board of Visitors. Its members serve basically as liaisons between the public and university leaders, its website says. Women on the board number 15. That's 22.4 percent, or about 2 in 10.

Nearly 3 in 10 members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors are women. They're 2.4 in 10 at the fundraising ECU Foundation, about 3 in 10 at the fundraising Medical and Health Sciences Board, and about 2 in 10 among the directors of the Pirates Club.

Women are at their fewest on the ECU Board of Trustees. There are two. They're 15.4 percent—1.5 in 10—on a panel that wields a lot of power over the entire university. The BOT has never had more than two female trustees since at least 2004, its rosters in the Internet Archive show. At times it had just one. Now look at ECU's students, all of them. Nearly 60 percent—6 in 10—are

women. Why can't ECU's public-facing boards be more inclusive of women? Surely, it's not that hard.

Other parts of ECU do it. Close to half of the university's administrators and executives are women, ECU's Analytics Portal says. Women are nearly 5.6 in 10 among faculty senators, and 5.1 in 10 among teachers in the academic faculty. Among staff senators and all support staff, women number a bit more than 7 in 10.

Student government is a curious exception. Women number about 4 in 10 among SGA executive officers and Assembly members. Under-representation isn't just about women. Anna Spangler Nelson of the UNC Board of Governors admitted at a meeting not long ago that "some" boards of trustees at the state's public universities also lack racial diversity.

What about sexual orientation, ideological and other kinds of diversity too? How do those boards of trustees look on those?

Don't despair, the BOG's Pearl

Burriss-Ford said at that meeting. Governors were inclusive this year, she said, increasing the representation of women on boards of trustees from 29 percent in 2017 to 31 percent now. That's a "big push," she added. Two-percentage-points in two years. A point a year. A "big" push?

BOG could set a far better example. Women account for 25 percent of the powerful panel that oversees all public universities in a state that's 51 percent female.

Better still, ECU—the leadership university—could take the lead by working now to include more women on all its public-facing boards. They should reflect the rich palette of diversity of the students, alumni, faculty and staff they serve. When they don't, it reflects poorly on us all.

Brian Massey

Massey is a professor at ECU. To submit a letter to the editor, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

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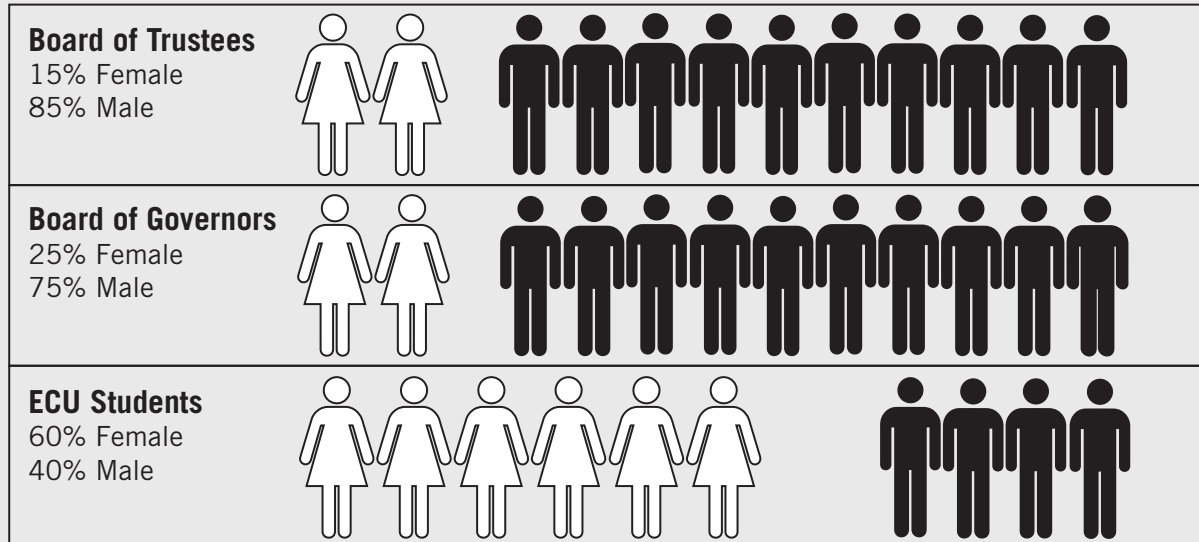
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MALIN FORSBERG | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This graphic depicts gender statistics for East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

Avoid confetti during celebration



Thomas Weybrecht
TEC STAFF

Viewfinder

East Carolina University is a school that prides itself on being an environmentally conscious institution, with its Smart Water refill stations, total ban on cigarettes and bright purple recycling bins placed prominently all over campus.

Not to mention the various steps that ECU Dining Services has taken to reduce its carbon footprint, including its removal of trays and use of recycled cooking oil in dining halls, its patronage of local farms and distributors and even by supplementing its menus with the installation of a shipping container farm that produces 50 thousand heads of lettuce annually.

So what if I told you ECU has a pointless and avoidable environmental awareness problem, and they're doing absolutely nothing to stop it?

I'm sure you've seen it. Both on social media and while walking past the fountain or the cupola on campus. Graduating students, usually women, blowing out handfuls of plastic glitter or confetti in hopes of getting that perfect freeze frame that makes their whole life look like a party.

But not anymore. I've already seen the damage. Every May and December, a thick and even layer of plastic ignorance lies in various photo hotspots around campus. These piles disappear eventually, but not soon enough. Believe it or not, I've seen bird and squirrel nests around these photo zones now flecked with the purple and gold confetti, which means that some of that plastic is undoubtedly staying in our beloved campus residents' bodies. So I present a number of challenges.

First, to ECU administration: how difficult would it be if, during every graduation fair through commencement itself, you placed small signs around each of these popular photo attractions warning

those celebrating that littering is not only dangerous for the environment, but also illegal? Perhaps you could follow through and take civil action against anyone who was caught in the act.

Second, to my fellow photographers: if a client wants to do a confetti shot, explain to them your moral obligation to keep your planet free of ecological disturbances and ask them to reconsider littering for a Facebook post. But I don't want you to lose money - photography is our living. So if a client insists, I implore you to consider bringing a thin drop cloth that covers the area you plan to blast plastic onto. I have one in my bag right now, and it's about the size of a wallet all folded up.

So far, I have about 20 graduation photo shoots lined up this spring. We will not be leaving anything behind but the school itself.

Weybrecht is a senior communication major. To contact this writer, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

ONLINE | FULL COLUMN

72 HOURS
MAP OUT YOUR WEEKEND

TODAY

Reckless Kelly
The State Theatre
7 p.m.

Jessica & Thorne
Kasturi Indian Cuisine
7 p.m.

Show Tune Karaoke Night
Whirligig Stage
8 p.m.

Open Mic Night ft. Caroline Dare
Pitt Street Brewing Company
10:30 p.m.

TOMORROW

Aura Photography and Soul Contract Reading
Sojourner Whole Earth Provisions
10:30 a.m.

William Seymour
Winslow's Deli
8 p.m.

The Office Trivia
Crossbones Tavern
8 p.m.

Cooper Greer Live
Buccaneer Music Hall
10 p.m.

SATURDAY

Jessica Hudson and Thorne Wings
Winslow's Deli
8 p.m.

XTALS Musical Performance
Trollingwood Taproom and Brewery
9 p.m.



Hard rock band Incident performing in Greensboro, North Carolina in January. Incident is among several bands coming together in support on Saturday.

Bands to support couple

Yakira Muhammad
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

A local skatepark is bringing Greenville's hardcore music scene together to raise money for a local woman fighting cancer.

Backdoor Skatepark, located at 108 River Bluff Road, will host a benefit concert on Saturday at 8 p.m. The benefit concert will include live performances from multiple bands such as Paid in Full, Acirema, Kong and numerous others. Tickets are \$8 and the proceeds will go to Angela Fowler.

Angela has terminal cancer and the benefit concert proceeds will go to her medical bills among other items, according to her husband, John Fowler. Fowler is a bass player for the band Paid in Full.

"The cause for this concert is to help out my wife, because she has terminal cancer. I'm her husband and caretaker," Fowler said. "Since I take of her, we both do not have jobs, which is hard on us."

Fowler said the hardcore music scene is a very close knit family, where people help each other out.

"My wife had a bucket list, which the proceeds would help with that. However, some of her items on her bucket list, she can not do, because of her condition," Fowler said. "The donations we receive will go more towards medical bills, transportation expenses and making her comfortable."

There have been multiple cancer benefits to help Angela. Ray King, Paid in Full band member and friend of the Fowlers, said he helped organized this event.

"Ray King is a great friend of mine. He wanted to do this benefit solely for my wife," Fowler said. "He said this benefit concert was solely for raising money for my wife, not just about the bands."

King said he knew the benefit would help the Fowlers and was excited to organize the concert, since Backdoor Upstairs is also a big part of the community.

"It was nice that we could use the skatepark for our concert. Backdoor Upstairs and the skateshop gives independent bands a chance to play their music," King said.

King said Paid in Full is a metallic-style band that is rooted in the punk scene with more socially and culturally conscious music.

Daris King, an employee for Backdoor Upstairs, said Backdoor is excited to give back to the Fowlers, who have done so much for the punk scene.

"We try to do benefits for the community, in case someone needs help. We try to give back to the community," King said.

Fowler said although Angela is on a lot

of medicine, she still tries to be active when she feels well enough to.

"A lot of our close friends donated to us, which the money from that and the benefit is mainly for treatment, but to make her feel comfortable," Fowler said.

To learn more about the cancer benefit concert and how to donate, visit the Fowlers' GoFundMe at <https://www.gofundme.com/angela-bjork-fowler>.

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



Angela and John Fowler share a kiss. Angela has terminal cancer and Saturday's benefit is for her.

ECU prepares classic opera

Macie Tano
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University Opera Theater will bring "The Coronation of Poppea" to life this Friday and Saturday as part of the Spring 2019 Opera Festival.

The performance is at Turnage Theatre, located at 150 W. Main St., in Washington, North Carolina. There will be one performance on Friday at 7 p.m., and two on Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. ECU students can purchase tickets on the theater's website for \$7 or in person for \$5. ECU faculty and staff can purchase tickets for \$17 online.

"The Coronation of Poppea" was originally written by the Italian composer, Claudio Monteverdi in 1643, according to Daniel Shirley, assistant professor of vocal studies and director of the ECU Opera Theater. The script will be translated from Italian to English for the performance.

The opera was originally set during the ancient Roman Empire, during the reign of the Emperor Nero, according to Evan Martschenko, a freshman music theory composition and piano performance double major. He will be playing the character of Seneca.

Martschenko said his character serves as Nero's mentor and advisor and that it's his role in the opera is to make it clear to Nero what he is



The cast of "The Coronation of Poppea" in rehearsals for their Friday show.

doing is wrong.

Jacob McCain, a sophomore who is playing the role of Otho, Poppea's fiance, said prevalent themes in the opera will be those of love, power, hatred and truth.

Shirley agreed with McCain and said the opera also serves as a cautionary tale against narcissism and abuses of power.

Along with the ECU Opera Theater cast, Martschenko said there will also be music by professional musicians, including John O'Brien as musical director

and several period musicians using historical instruments.

"I think that it is cool that we have professional lutenists coming to play with us," Martschenko said. "Usually for our operas, we have students from the School of Music playing the instruments, but for this one we will have professionals. It is going to be crazy to see all the 500-year-old instruments being played along with students in 2019."

Martschenko said he thinks this is one of the first great operas ever written, as the genre was brand new

when Monteverdi wrote this. He said the style of music is completely different than what most audiences would expect from an opera.

"There is so much talent to be seen from, not just the Opera Theater company, but also from these professional musicians coming in," Martschenko said. "Every singer in the performance is phenomenal, and the directing is amazing."

Shirley said he is most looking forward to hearing and seeing his students enjoying themselves while "living" in their characters. He said the cast has been working closely with the faculty in preparing for the production.

"The School of Music has excellent leadership which provides support and energy to the Opera Theater. The faculty members of vocal studies and keyboard studies have thoroughly supported the students involved in this production," Shirley said.

No matter if one is an opera student or totally new to the genre, Shirley encouraged everyone to come support the production.

"You don't have to dress up or understand foreign languages. All you have to bring is a willing spirit and open mind. You might find yourself thoroughly entertained, engaged and moved," Shirley said.

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

BAREFOOT
continued from A1

perfect choice for a Barefoot artist?" Barefoot on the Mall is an old ECU tradition, doubling as a concert and festival, according to SAB's website. This will be the 41st Barefoot, and will be held on April 23 at 3 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Rapper Faheem Najm, better known by his performing moniker T-Pain, is a Florida-native whose discography includes hit singles such as "I'm Sprung" and "Bartender (Shawty Snappin')." From pop to hip-

hop, T-Pain has also made a name for himself with his collaborative efforts, working with artists such as Bruno Mars and Kanye West.

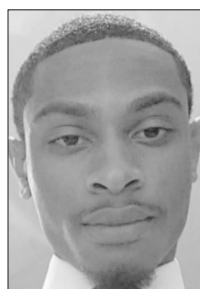
Throughout his singing career, T-Pain is best known for popularizing the creative use of the Auto-Tune, a pitch correction effect which utilizes extreme parameter settings in order to generate a distinctive, digitized sound. The rapper's unique sound has earned him numerous accolades, including two Grammys and one People's Choice Award.

"This will (be) a throwback concert that I think most students will appreciate for sure," Justin Kellenfield, a senior music education

and music therapy double major, said.

"With all the mainstream music we've gotten so accustomed to, it'll be nice to hear some jams that will take me back to middle school. I can't say I'm disappointed to have T-Pain perform at the last 'Barefoot' I'll attend."

More recently, T-Pain has made his way back to the mainstream for winning Season One of Fox's "The



Justin Kellenfield

Masked Singer," a televised singing competition where celebrities concealed their identities in elaborate costumes.

"Just to hear all the compliments and to hear everybody praising so much, it was pretty cool to hear that," T-Pain said in an interview with Entertainment Tonight earlier this month.

Darrius Barrow, the assistant director for Student Programming at ECU, attended the live Barefoot. Grinning from ear to ear at the event, Barrow cites the positive reactions received both on social media and at "Rollerskates & Milkshakes" as confirmation that

"SAB made the right decision picking him to headline this year's Barefoot on the Mall."

"Every year, we try to listen to the students and look at trends in the music industry and try to figure out what makes the most sense for the event," Barrow said. "When this year came around, we really saw that T-Pain was making a resurgence on the music scene. T-Pain is also an artist and a name with such a long list of songs that all of our current students know, love and have loved for a long time, so booking him this year was a real no brainer."

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

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SERVICES

Comic Book & Toy Show : G3ektacular. Sat, March 30. 10a-4p. Vendors! Special Guests! Raffles! American Legion. 403 St. Andrews Dr., Greenville. FB : g3ektacular.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Discipline with words and actions can help you realize a professional dream. It's easier to clear up misunderstandings, with Mercury in Pisces stationing direct. Communication barriers dissolve.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Learn from the competition. Practice your moves and stay light on your feet. Traffic flows better, with Mercury direct. It's easier to travel and launch projects.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Creative muses sing to you, with Mercury direct now. Articulate your feelings. Put love into your work and your cash flow velocity increases.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Long-distance travels or studies come together with diligent preparation. Make plans and strategies. Make notes, observations and reports. Learn through experience. Build a fun project.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Make promises with someone you love. Build a romantic vision together one step at a time. Money, invoices and payments flow freely, with Mercury direct.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- You can advance a personal dream. Express the future you want to create for your family. Share your visions. Communication channels open, with Mercury direct. Speak up.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- A collaborative effort generates income with steady efforts. Build a dream with your partner. Contribute your time and talents. Coordination comes naturally, with Mercury direct.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Domestic misunderstandings resolve easily. Lines of communication clear up, with Mercury direct. It's easier to persuade, compromise and reach consensus. Family conversations generate valuable ideas.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 6 -- Enjoy soothing routines and rituals. Peace and quiet behind closed doors invites productivity and restoration. It's easier to learn, with Mercury direct. Write, post and publish.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Share a dream with your partner. Realize it through teamwork. With Mercury direct now, it's easier to brainstorm, negotiate, collaborate and network.

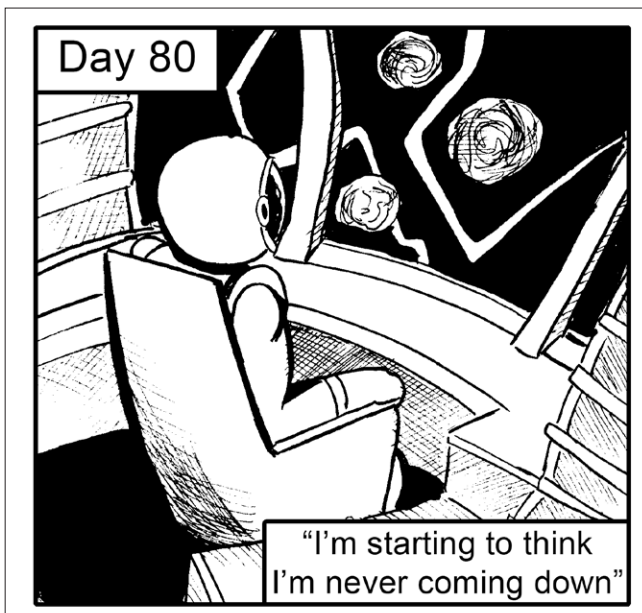
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- An obstacle or barrier evaporates. It's easier to concentrate and communicate, with Mercury direct for the next three months. Write and get your message out farther.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Contribute to a team project. Confusion diminishes noticeably, with Mercury direct. Discuss finances, budgets and logistics. You can work faster together. Raise the tempo.

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COMICS

ONE AND ONLY



BRIAN JUDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

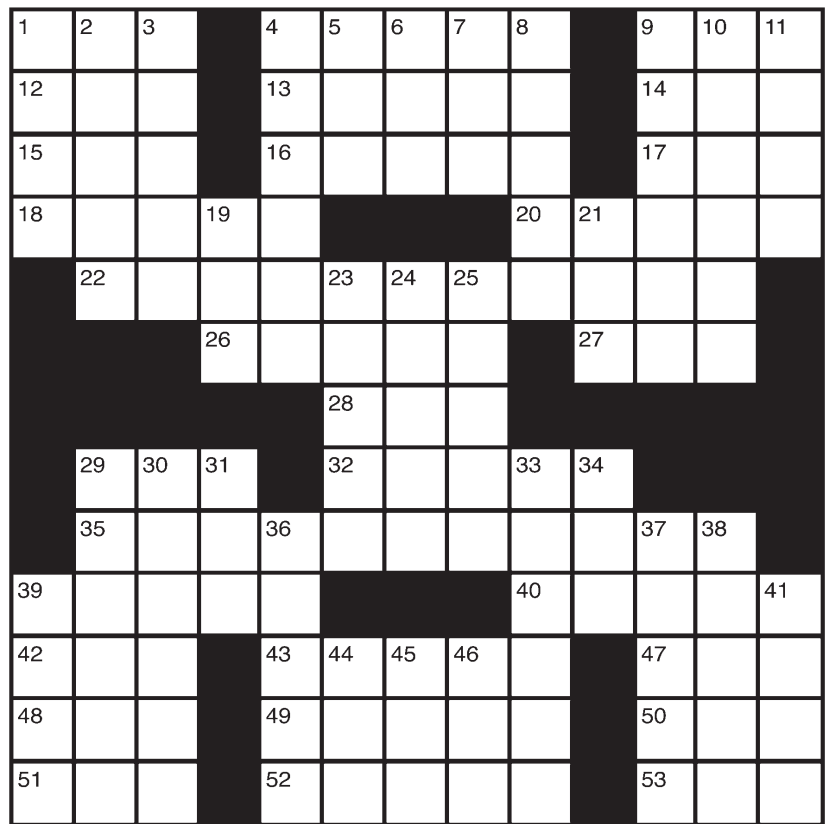
BEST IN SHOW



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



7/4/10

ACROSS

- 1 Pacino and Roker
- 4 ___ Parton
- 9 "___ About You"
- 12 Farrow or Kirshner
- 13 ___ ball; enjoy oneself
- 14 Commotion
- 15 Tel Aviv's nation: abbr.
- 16 "___ Called Wanda"; Kevin Kline movie
- 17 "___ & Kate Plus 8"
- 18 Ringo or Brenda
- 20 Smells
- 22 Actor on "Criminal Minds"
- 26 Donny Osmond's sister
- 27 Ending for host or count
- 28 Flavor enhancer, for short
- 29 "Murder, ___ Wrote"
- 32 Gives one's stamp of approval to
- 35 Actress on "Law & Order: Criminal Intent"
- 39 ___ Grace of HLN
- 40 Role on "Little House on the Prairie"
- 42 "If ___ Tuesday, This Must Be Belgium"

- 43 Lucy Ricardo's landlady
- 47 Siesta
- 48 Bruce or Spike
- 49 Innocent; unworldly
- 50 "___ : NY"
- 51 Language class for new immigrants, for short
- 52 Poisonous snake
- 53 "___ Haw"

DOWN

- 1 Actress Suzy ___
- 2 Shoppers' slips of paper
- 3 ___ Michelle Gellar
- 4 "___ & Greg"
- 5 Jethro Bodine, for one
- 6 56, in old Rome
- 7 "___ Miserables"
- 8 Huge provider of Internet services
- 9 Lee of "The Fall Guy"
- 10 Worships
- 11 Ameche and Knotts
- 19 Three-member rock band
- 21 Female deer
- 23 Knight's suit
- 24 "___ Business"; movie for Tom Cruise
- 25 Actress ___ Fox
- 29 Footwear for Michelle Kwan
- 30 "___ & Gretel"
- 31 And so forth: abbr.
- 33 "Old ___"; heartwarming Dorothy McGuire film about a dog
- 34 Mrs., south of the border
- 36 Occasional scavenger of the wild
- 37 "The Brady ___"
- 38 Clear the slate
- 39 World's longest river
- 41 "...four and twenty blackbirds baked in ___"
- 44 Small amount
- 45 Concealed
- 46 "All About ___"; Bette Davis movie

Solution from 03/25



SUDOKU

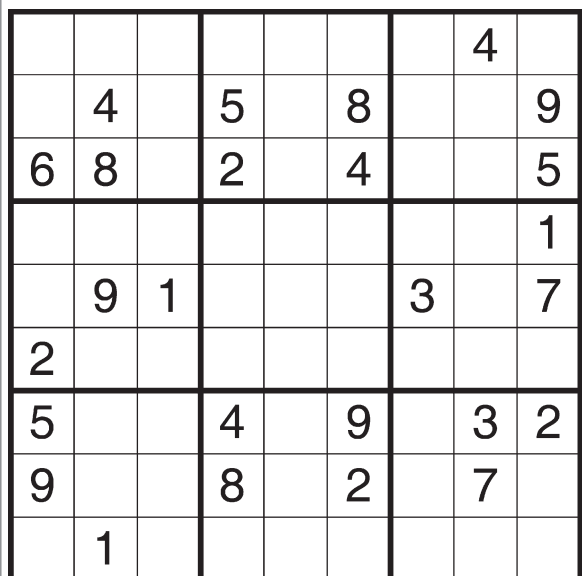
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

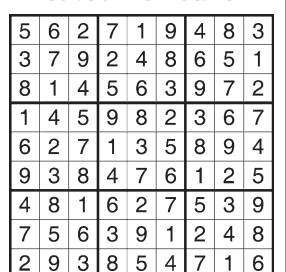
Level:



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 03/25

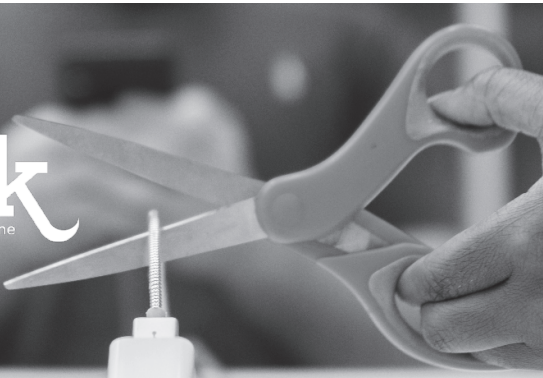


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Sports

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Thursday, 3.28.19

ECU gets shut out by Tar Heels

Daniel Shepard
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The East Carolina University softball team hosted the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on Wednesday at the ECU Softball Stadium and was defeated 5-0.

With the blue sky as a backdrop, ECU (19-14, 1-2 AAC) dueled UNC (17-12, 6-3 ACC) in what turned out to be a battle of the pitchers. In the circle for the Pirates was its ace, sophomore right-handed pitcher Erin Poepping.

Through the first four innings, Poepping held the Tar Heels to just one hit. That hit and came with one out in the second inning, was quickly negated with a ground out and fly out to end the frame.

In the third inning, Poepping retired the first two hitters she faced before hitting a Tar Heel and issuing her first walk of the contest. With two runners on base and two outs, however, Poepping was able to retire the side with a ground out to third base.

On the offensive side, the Pirates fared about the same as their counterparts. Just three days removed from scoring one run on one hit in their loss to the University of Memphis, the Pirates were able to muster only three base hits.

"You know Brittney Pickett is a really good pitcher, so you're not going to get too many pitches off of her. We have to capitalize on the moments that we do get runners on with nobody out. We tried sacing twice and we didn't get that down or we got it down and it was too hard and they were able to get the lead out," head coach Courtney Oliver said.

One of those hits came in the first inning when redshirt junior Rachel McCollum ripped



Senior Catcher Ashley Weingartz runs the bases for the Pirates during its contest against Chapel Hill.

a double into right field with two outs. That knock was followed by back-to-back walks by freshman right-handed pitcher Hannah George that loaded the bases and ended the UNC starter's day quickly.

Unfortunately, a ground out by senior catcher Ashley Weingartz resulted in the Pirates leaving three runners on base in the first inning.

The score remained tied into the fifth inning as the Tar Heels sent the bottom of their order to the plate. Back-to-back walks issued by Poepping greeted UNC as the bases would eventually be filled following a runner's interference call on a

ball hit to the left side of the infield.

With her third walk of the inning, Poepping loaded the bases for UNC and prompted a visit from the ECU coaching staff. At first, it appeared as if the visit worked with Poepping quickly getting two strikes on senior outfielder Kiani Ramsey.

Instead of finishing the strikeout, Poepping filled the count against Ramsey before the senior lined a ball into left field for a three-run double, propelling UNC ahead 3-0 in the fifth.

"I think she, you know, Erin lost her timing a little bit, but in that situation she's got a really

good drop-ball," Oliver said. "You know I think that we were really one pitch away the entire time. We just have to be a little bit better, we need to be tougher, we need to play tougher."

As the inning continued, UNC was able to notch its third hit with a single into left field, a knock that plated the Tar Heels' fourth run of the game making it 4-0. In what started as a solid outing for Poepping quickly turned into a rather rough showing for the sophomore. Her struggles with control in the fifth resulted in her finishing the game with five walks against just three hits allowed over five innings pitched.

Down multiple runs late, ECU was not able to recover, recording just three hits on Wednesday with none coming after the fourth inning. With the Pirates' offense unable to do much at all, the Tar Heels tacked on an additional run in the top half of the seventh, capping the scoring at 5-0 in favor of UNC.

Next on the schedule for ECU is an important weekend series with the University of Central Florida (23-9, 3-0 AAC) beginning on Friday at 6 p.m. at the ECU Softball Stadium.

"They're a good team, we're going to have to bring our A-game for that. I mean every game from here on out is going to be tough for us. We're going to have to capitalize on our opportunities and we're going to have to make sure that we play better defense," Oliver said.

At 19-14 on the season, coach Oliver knows each remaining game is important for her team, starting with UCF. The team is looking to get back into the winning column, starting this weekend.

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

FOOTBALL

continued from A1

the team has to meet on a daily basis.

Houston expressed how Wednesday was one of the best practices all year, but said that there are still things the team has to work on and get better at. Whenever individual players on

the team makes a mistake, Houston said his big thing is to hold them accountable and to do that the same for each of the players on the team.

"You just don't tolerate anything that doesn't meet that standard and that's the way you gotta do it but you got to be consistent with it. You can't treat one player one way, and another player a different way, you gotta treat them all the same and you got to hold all accountable. I do think

they are seeing that and I do think that they are responding positively to that," Houston said.

The first scrimmage is set to kick off on Saturday morning with no exact time set. Houston said he feels that not only has the team gotten better overall, but they have gotten to know each other better and that will show when the team will step onto the field to show what it has been working on throughout spring training.

"I think we are getting to know our team and our team is getting to know us," Houston said. "I would be really disappointed if we did not have a great weekend. If we can have a great practice on Friday, and a really sharp scrimmage on Saturday then I will be very pleased going into next week."

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

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