

# The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Tuesday, 4.2.19

VOLUME 93, ISSUE 49



Left to right: Ticket 1 Taylor Chappell and Colin Johnson and Ticket 2 Shelby Hudson and AJ Modlin pose in photos used for their campaigns.

## Internal investigation

### SGA attorney general reviews election appeal

Trajan Warren  
TEC STAFF

The Student Government Association launched an internal investigation last month into the election of Colin Johnson and Taylor Chappell as student body president and vice president.

The ballot which lost the election, Ticket 2 (Shelby Hudson and AJ Modlin) claimed the winning ticket “committed several punishable” violations. Ticket 2 requested there be “a formal and thorough investigation into Ticket 1’s conduct during the campaign as well as sufficient review of the Elections Commission.”

An initial appeal to the election results was filed by Ticket 2 on Feb. 28, less than 48 hours after the results were finalized. The investigation began on March 1 and was

concluded on March 26 with no findings of a fraudulent campaign, according to SGA Attorney General Noah Shuler, who conducted the investigation alone.

“As the attorney general, I executed this internal investigation independently. I did not inform any of the people who I was investigating that an investigation was going on,” Shuler said. “I kept this entirely confidential to protect the integrity of this investigation.”

According to the 22 page special investigation final report, Ticket 2 claimed that Ticket 1 (Johnson and Chappell) and the Elections Commission operated unfairly.

The six allegations against the winning ticket made by Ticket 2 were two counts of campaigning too early and four counts of campaigning in restricted areas.

The allegations of campaigning too early

were that Ticket 1 created a Facebook page on Feb. 3 and a campaigning website on Feb. 5, when campaigning was not to begin until 8 a.m. on Feb. 6.

The report concluded that the creation of a Facebook page and the purchase of a website prior to the start of campaigning does not constitute the creation of a campaign page or site. The Elections Commission found these allegations didn’t constitute an actual violation, so no hearing or sanctions occurred.

Along with the six allegations against the winning ticket itself, Hudson and Modlin filed four complaints against the Elections Commission which they felt displayed “incompetence and bias” which “unfairly”

> SGA page A2

## Students: ECU lacks compliance

Elizabeth Johnson  
TEC STAFF

Former East Carolina University students say ECU’s Disability Support Services never complied with their request to use assistive devices in the classroom.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill psychology major Kayley Thorpe was a student at ECU from 2013 to 2014. Thorpe’s parents had purchased a Contigo Assistive listening device and according to Thorpe, she had submitted a request to use the device.

Thorpe said DSS never complied with her request to use the assistive listening device even though she could supply it.

“I don’t feel like individually they worked out of malice, but it kind of functioned like institutional discrimination. The definition of it, ya know, when they tell a student who has a protected minority status of disability ‘Oh well we can’t really accommodate you.’ That’s eventually what it ended up being,” Thorpe said.



Jess Stone

Jess Stone, who graduated from ECU in 2018 with a degree in recreational therapy, said they have cognitive issues related to memory and were receiving services through DSS to use an Echo Pen. Stone’s prefers to use the pronouns they/their/ them when referring to themselves.

Stone said at the beginning of each semester they would go to DSS to fill out a letter for accommodations. Stone said their DSS advisor would tell them they didn’t think they needed accommodations. Whenever Stone would apply for the

> DSS page A2

## Alumnus recommits to life of music

Dawson Tisdale  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Although he came to East Carolina University to crunch numbers, one alumnus is finding a new passion in making music.

Local musician Josh Branch went through ECU’s undergraduate and graduate programs with every intention to become a successful accountant in Virginia. Yet when he arrived at his new job, he said he found that he was miserable.

Branch said he had this preconceived notion that he was supposed to use his degrees and be a successful accountant. Yet Branch said he always knew his real passion for the majority of his life has been making and listening to music.

“Music is not just a gateway to happiness for me and it symbolizes everything in my life. Music reminds me of my family and friends, it’s always been there my whole life. Music means everything to me,” Branch said.

Branch’s next performance in Greenville is on Saturday starting at 8 p.m. at Winslow’s Tavern, located at 120 W. Fifth St.

Branch, before starting his new job, had five months of time where



COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM

ECU accounting alumnus Josh Branch performing with his band, After April. Branch will perform Saturday at Winslow’s.

he had no obligations. He said he took this time to test if he could really live like a normal person, just from making music and writing songs.

Branch played booked shows and played at bars until it was time for him to head to Virginia. By the end of this time, he realized he could make a living and live like a normal person through his music.

“I needed to see if I could live

and survive off of making music, and in five months I was able to book up my weekends, live, save money, pay for groceries and rent and carry on as a normal human being,” Branch said.

He took this knowledge and got together with his friends from Greenville, including Thorne Wiggs, ECU alumnus, and became the lead singer for their band, After

April, according to Branch. This is when he started his career as a full-time musician.

“Josh is a great dude and friend, and musically he can do country, has the voice for that 90s stuff and can write pretty great songs. He does all of that brilliantly,” Wiggs said.

Branch has a diverse range of music that him and his band play. It ranges from country, rock-pop,

to 90s rock classics. Branch said he enjoys playing this music because it is what he grew up on and what he relates to the most.

Besides playing and covering songs, Branch also writes many songs that he and his band play. Wiggs said they enjoy writing songs that have personal connections to their lives and that the crowd can relate to.

“Our music is just a big artistic expression and we write songs about the human experience. They focus on life situations through an honest perspective and connect to people through our songs,” Wiggs said.

Branch said he is trying his best to make it in the music industry and be a successful musician for as long as he can. His plan is to evaluate his performance and place as a musician in five years.

“My goal would have to be either a touring musician or a writer that has great songs, whether I’m singing them or other bands or individuals are singing them. I want to make it in the real world and be able to do and have all things that are necessary,” Branch said.

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

### ONLINE

»SPORTS: Baseball sweeps weekend against USF for a nine game win streak

»ARTS: Author, ECU English visiting professor reads from her latest novel

### SOCIAL MEDIA



@theeastcarolinian



Facebook.com/theeastcarolinian



@TEC\_Newsletter

**BRIEFS**

**Student Recreation Center hosts bowling event**

The Student Recreation and Wellness Center will host a bowling event today from 3 to 5 p.m. at Outer Limitz Bowling in Mendenhall. The event is free to all students.

Students interested will need to bring a valid ECU OneCard.

**Adventure Program teaches how to paddle board**

The ECU Adventure Program will host a clinic on how to paddle board today from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center. They will meet by the rock climb wall.

Students interested will need to come in clothes that can get wet.

**ECU Adventure Program hosts knot tying clinic**

The ECU Adventure Program will host a clinic on how to tie basic knots. It will be held tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the back of the Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

**Ledonia cultural center to host Get CultureED**

The Ledonia Wright Cultural Center will host a Get CultureED: Korea event tomorrow beginning at 6 p.m. The event will provide an opportunity for students to learn more about Korean culture.

The event will last until 8 p.m. and is open to all students.

**CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS**

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

# ECU discusses policies

**Summer Tonizzo**  
TEC STAFF

In the wake of a national admissions scandal, East Carolina University officials say there are steps and processes in place that make sure the university's admissions process has integrity.

On March 12, 50 individuals were charged for allegedly bribing or cheating tests to get their children into universities, according to the *Associated Press*.

ECU Provost Ron Mitchelson said the circumstances of the scandal are a reflection of an "overblown sense of elitism," something which he said the university is distant from. Mitchelson said he finds it disturbing people would violate trust and the law in order to gain admission to an elite school.

Instances of bribery in admissions offices on college campuses nationwide "tarnishes" the entire process, according to Mitchelson. In light of the scandal, Mitchelson said he is confident the act of bribery in admissions will be corrected and the law will prevail.

"It's very disturbing to me and in general, we (ECU) really are distant from that kind of issue being more like an access university," Mitchelson said. "As a university professional, I find it very very disturbing and disheartening that the individuals would sink so low and that schools don't have the right controls in place to make sure it doesn't happen."

Mitchelson said an access university, such as ECU, prides itself in providing opportunities to a broadly defined group of students and is less selective during the admissions process. He added, the quality of access



ECU Pirate Navigator gives a tour to potential students in front of Joyner.

schools, ECU in particular, is no less than other universities.

"ECU is far less selective than some of the other schools even at our UNC system. This year we will



**Ron Mitchelson**

admit about 80 percent of those who applied and so as that number would suggest we are trying to provide access to great opportunities," Mitchelson said.

Mitchelson said a university is a place of truth and anything less is counter to the goals ECU would

like to achieve. He added, when elitism is overvalued situations such as bribery and scandals occur.

Interim Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Heidi Puckett, oversees all of the admissions processes at ECU. Puckett said all admissions applications must go through the office, and following its review is the only way an individual's status can be changed.

"We do a really good job of doing (a) holistic review, just like any of the other UNC schools. There's minimum requirements that we have to look for as far as GPA and test scores that the system requires," Puckett said.

Puckett said there have been

no instances of bribery in the ECU Office of Undergraduate Admissions, nor have there been investigations into the department.

"We do a good job of keeping everything up above board and following all the rules and policies," Puckett said.

Margaret Turner, Director of Admissions and Recruiting for the Honors College, oversees the application, review and selection process.

Each year 200 spots are available to be filled by prospective students, and in 2018 the Honors College received 1,300 completed applications, according to Turner. A committee consisting of around 70 faculty from different ECU departments were given the job of reviewing the applications, she said.

"The way our system is worked, the people reviewing our applications don't know a whole lot about the student other than the honors college application," Turner said. "They don't have a way with making an association of who that person (the applicant) is, nor do I for that matter."

Turner said she is confident in the integrity of the ECU Honors College admissions process, and there is "absolutely no way" bribery could occur. She said, to her knowledge, there have not been investigations into the admissions process.

"I know that there's a big scandal going on at some of the big Ivy League colleges with the admissions process, which quite honestly horrifies me," Turner said. "There's absolutely no way that they (admissions committee members) can do that."

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

**DSS continued from A1**

letter, their advisor would comment on how good their grades were.

"One point he was like, 'I'm trying to figure out what to do because you're doing really good,' and I was like, 'Yeah well maybe that's because I'm getting the accommodations I need. Like do you want me to fail?'" Stone said.

According to Stone, their DSS advisor was very "degrudging" about approving the Echo Pen. Stone said they got tired of having to "argue" for approval of the device every semester.

DSS Disability Support Specialist Whitney Kimble said if a student is in need of an assistive device, then DSS meets with the student, reviews supporting documentation and sometimes has the student fill out a request for accommodation.

Kimble said if a student has a device such as a smart pen, like the Echo Pen, students can come into the office if they need help with their device or if the it needs updating.

According to Kimble, in some instances an instructor might cause a delay in the student receiving

a device because they may have a no recording devices policy. Instructors are supposed to allow the device after they receive a note from DSS, Kimble said.

All devices have a notice saying the device is intellectual property and the student cannot share this information with other students or online, according to Kimble.

If there is no correlation with the disability to validate a students reason to use an assistive device they can be denied an assistive device, Kimble said.

"That's really the only issue we have, typically I haven't seen that issue. It'd have to be something very far reaching and we just can't justify it because we always want to be able to justify the accommodation," Kimble said.

Attorney Ken Gray with Ward and Smith, P.A. said if a students request for an assistive device is denied, they should get something

in writing and ask for a grievance policy so they can appeal the denial.

According to Gray, a device can be denied if the supporting documentation does not support the students disability. Information may be insufficient if the person recommending the device is not a qualified professional such as a psychologist, psychiatrist or medical doctor, Gray said.

Gray said if a student is no longer suffering the effects of a disability, such as if they've grown out of their condition, they no longer qualify as having a disability. Another reason a student could be denied a device is if a student was in a car accident and were wheelchair bound but recovered and no longer need a wheelchair, according to Gray.

Once a person's condition has improved, they no longer need a disability accommodation and no longer qualify under the law as having a disability, Gray said.

"Now the school always has a right to say 'Well you had this accommodation last year but we don't believe that's any longer necessary' and the student would then need to go back to their professional and get the opinion



**Whitney Kimble**



A student uses an Echo Pen to take notes. The pen records as the user writes.

that it still is necessary," Gray said.

Recording devices such as smart pens are usually approved if someone has a disability with their arms, sight issues, hearing issues, ADHD or cognitive issues, according to Gray.

A comment was requested from

the Title IX office at ECU about the rights of students to use assistive devices, but the office has yet to respond to a request for an interview.

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

**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](http://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.

**ECU THOMAS HARRIOT COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

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

**SGA continued from A1**

benefitted Ticket 1.

The four complaints against the Elections Commission were the improper handling of reported violation, the lack of knowledge of bylaws, unfair bias toward candidates and the incorrect replacement of Elections Commission members.

Hank Bowen, SGA advisor, said at no point was the Election Commission allowed to make any impact on the outcome of the election without supervision.

Bowen said the process of electing a student body president is done consistently and the SGA constitution calls for the attorney general and the Rules and Judiciary Committee to conduct any kind of investigation if necessary.

"I would just say that at no point was the commission doing anything that impacted or influenced the outcome of the election and at no point were they unsupervised," Bowen said. "I don't have any doubts in the ability of our system to do impartial investigations."

Bowen said he believes the student body has a strong student government and constitution in place which prevents an individual from implying bias and swaying any election process.

"While it's unfortunate that it wasn't a perfect process and not everybody saw it play out the way that it always should look, the student body had their voice and I'm glad that the whole process took place and we got it done," Bowen said.

AJ Modlin, the vice presidential candidate for Ticket 2, said things he and Hudson were told they wouldn't be able to do were things which they actually could do.

Modlin said he believes that Shuler conducted a fair investigation, but thinks that further measures should've been taken to have an outside, uninvolved party involved in the process.

"I trust the attorney general by all means with the complaints," Modlin said. "I noticed that from what I could see from an outside view that he was kind of neutral to everything, but I do think a committee would've been beneficial."

However, Modlin understands that finding a separate committee in such short notice would've been logistically difficult.

Modlin said he is done with the entire appeal process and has "come to peace" with the decision of Shuler's report. He hopes this process will be a learning process for SGA and the committees involved.

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

**ONLINE | FULL STORY**

## OUR VIEW

### ECU DSS should give more help to students

Former East Carolina University students say ECU's Disability Support Services didn't support them. One student says they didn't receive help getting excused from class for an important surgery, and another says DSS forced them out of a class due to their disability.

Kayley Thorpe, a senior psychology major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, attended ECU from 2013 to 2014, and said her experiences with DSS caused her to transfer schools. Thorpe, who has Tourette's Syndrome, said she explained her condition to her professors before her class, but the professor didn't understand her involuntary symptoms. Thorpe said she was eventually forced into an online class.

Thorpe said UNC's DSS has helped her with accessibility on campus much more than ECU's DSS did. ECU alumni Jess Stone said they used ECU DSS for two years after they were diagnosed with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome, and DSS didn't help her with getting excused from class when they needed surgery.

We, the editorial staff of *The East Carolinian*, believe that ECU DSS must improve to help make the lives of those with disabilities easier while going to school at ECU. Most importantly, communication between ECU DSS should improve with students that are already facing adversity, and more help should be given to these students. They already face enough challenges as it is, they deserve all the help they can get.

## OUR STAFF

- Matthew Prenskey** Editor-in-Chief
- Julie Estep** Managing Editor
- Chase Carroll** Copy Editor/Opinion Editor
- Jenna Price** News Editor
- Trajan Warren** News Chief
- Andy Li** A&E Editor
- Lauren Bright** A&E Chief
- Daniel Roberts** Sports Editor
- Samantha Walsh** Sports Chief
- Blessing Aghimien** Multimedia Manager
- Thomas Weybrecht** Visual Arts Editor
- Jordin Williams** Visual Arts Chief
- Malin Forsberg** Design Chief

Serving ECU since 1925, The East Carolinian is an independent, student-run publication distributed Tuesdays and Thursdays during the academic year and Wednesdays during the summer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers, columnists and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration at East Carolina University or the Student Media Board. Columns and reviews are the opinions of the writers; "Our View" is the opinion of The East Carolinian Board of Opinions.

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.

One copy of The East Carolinian is free. Each additional copy is \$1. Unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under North Carolina law. Violators will be prosecuted.

### Contact Info

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

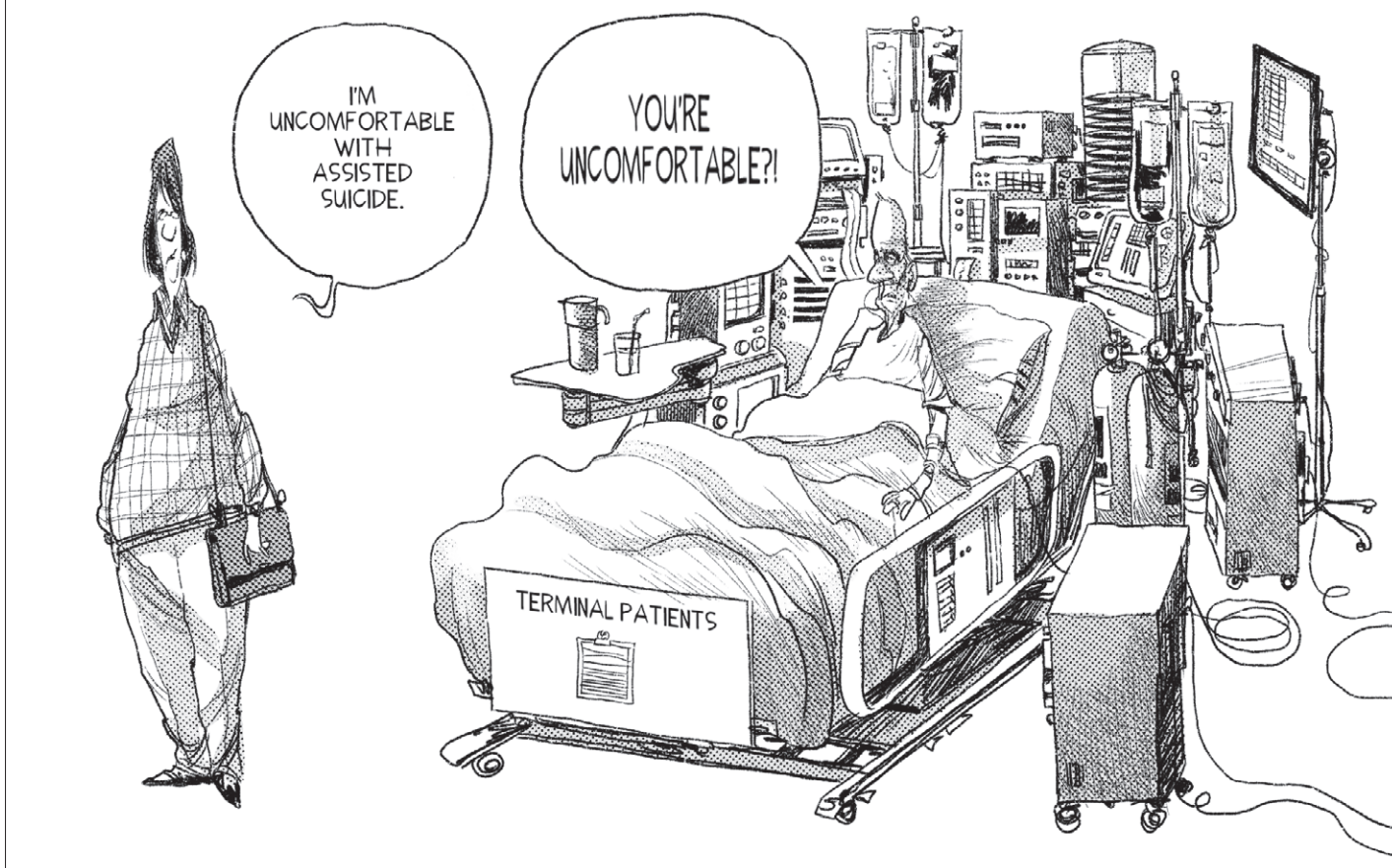
**Email:** editor@theeastcarolinian.com

**Newsroom:** (252) 328-9238

**Ads:** (252) 328-9245

**Fax:** (252) 328-9143

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



## Letter to the Editor | SGA President gives his farewell to East Carolina

ECU student body,

Thank you. Words cannot express how grateful that I am, not only for this past year, but for four unbelievable years as a Pirate. When I was elected to serve as your Student Body President, I committed myself to a path of service and I hope that I have accomplished that goal. This past year has not always been smooth waters but nevertheless, we sail on (forgive me for the pirate references, I promise that I won't overuse them).

I end this term much as I started it, amazed at our student body. ECU has 29,000 of the most resilient, informed, and caring people that I have ever witnessed. I have seen you all speak out against injustices and fight for one another in ways that I could have only imagined.

Our students are leaders, servants, change-makers, but most importantly, they are passionate. You all fight for what you know is right and you hold our leaders accountable. I am glad when students send me emails, even if they disagree with something that I did or said, because it shows that they care enough to be involved.

During one of my first encounters with Dave Hart, he said to me "give me the passion, it's apathy that worries me." This statement rings true across the board, but especially here at ECU. The reality of life is that you will never make everyone happy, but as long as people are engaged and involved in their dedication to impact positive change, then society is heading in the right direction. But as soon as people stop caring enough to voice their concerns, then things start to fall apart.



Koonts at the 2018 ECU fall commencement. COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

So, readers of this piece, never stop caring. Obviously we will not all agree on everything with those around us, but choose the path of activism rather than that of apathy.

Here at ECU we are fortunate to have a world-class faculty, staff, and administrators who genuinely care for their students' wellbeing. I encourage you all to utilize these outlets for positive change. Hold those who serve you accountable and engage them and others in productive conversations that can propel our great university further still.

ECU's history is one of overcoming adversity and naysayers and we pride ourselves in that. People will always try and diminish and put down your accomplishments but instead, wear them with pride and shout them to the world.

You go to the university that puts more doctors, dentists and nurses in to rural and underserved communities than

any other medical school in the nation, more teachers and public servants in to impoverished areas that are often neglected by our politicians, and countless leaders that go out and change the nation. You go to ECU.

And while pride can begin with cheering on our teams, it transcends any game results and is something we should all have. Whenever anyone tells you "no" or "you're not good enough," laugh at them as you prove them wrong.

I am proud to call ECU home and I am even prouder to be a fellow Pirate alongside you all.

It has been my distinct privilege and honor to serve you all this past year and I thank you all immensely. Thank you for putting your faith and trust in me and the other members of your Student Government Association.

If there is one thing that I can say to you all as I leave both office and campus, it is to stay informed, stay involved, and never lose your passion.

ECU has built itself on proving others wrong and showing the world what Pirates are capable of. So hoist the colors and continue our tradition as we move beyond this place.

Thank you and best wishes to you all.

Loyal and Bold,

Jordan A. Koonts  
2018-2019 Student Body President  
ECU Class of 2019

To submit a letter to the editor, email editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

## Stars don't deserve pass

### #SurvivingCardiB is a convo that needs mention



Chase Carroll  
TEC STAFF

#### Chase'n the Truth

After the recent resurfacing of a clip from rapper and entertainer Cardi B's Instagram Live recording from three years ago, where the rapper admitted to drugging men and robbing them from their hotel rooms, social media has responded with mostly heavy backlash.

The hashtag #SurvivingCardiB was started on social media, referencing the R. Kelly documentary "Surviving R. Kelly."

In her Instagram Live video, Cardi B claims that she did what she had to do to become successful, including saying she "had to strip," take men to hotels, "drug them up" and rob them.

She also went on to say, "I made the choices that I did at the time because I had very limited options."

While I never grew up in nearly as

poor conditions as Cardi B did, I hardly believe there are any conditions that make drugging men until they are unconscious and stealing their property defensible. Cardi B has had defenders stating it was her old life, and that she shouldn't receive consequences for her actions.

After many accusations of actor Bill Cosby came out, saying he drugged many women's drinks and sexually assaulted them, deserved consequences were handed down, giving him 3-10 years in prison (which is not long enough). While it is unclear whether or not Cardi B also sexually took advantage of these men, and her actions likely weren't as disgusting as Cosby's, I believe Cardi B should at least receive minor consequences, slightly less than Cosby's for her actions.

All because Cardi B and R. Kelly are viewed by some as musically talented, it doesn't give them the right to have their actions pushed to the side and forgotten. People need to start having the same

energy toward famous people who commit these gross crimes and stop supporting their music, or whatever they promote. People also need to stop victim blaming, in both the cases for men and women. I've seen on Twitter too many times that "the men were toxic enough to bring Cardi B home from the strip club," which is ultimately victim blaming, which should be no different in a case against men.

Men certainly aren't oppressed individuals, and I'm not claiming they are. Men are far from oppressed in just about every aspect. All I'm asking is for the same treatment be given when women commit crimes of this nature, and for them to not be brushed aside as if they never happened. We need to hold everyone accountable, even if they are rich and famous with a large fanbase.

ONLINE | FULL COLUMN

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

## EVENTS

### TODAY

**Film Screening: An Improbable Leader**  
East Carolina Heart Institute  
5:30 p.m.

**Ki to Life**  
Town Common  
6 p.m.

**30 Second Rocks**  
Tiebreakers Sports Bar and Grill  
7 p.m.

**Mean Girls Trivia**  
Uptown Brewing Company  
7 p.m.

**April Fool's Day Concert**  
Fletcher Music Center  
7:30 p.m.

### TOMORROW

**Kick the Keg Live**  
Tapped650  
6 p.m.

**Karaoke Night**  
Pitt Street Brewing Company  
7 p.m.

**Team Trivia**  
Jack Brown's Beer & Burger Joint  
8 p.m.



From left: East Carolina University students Nas Archie, Taylor Derespinis and Stevie Dupree in a project by photographer Patti Clark and artist Carly Judd.

## From behind the lens

Chloe Easton  
TEC STAFF

With the shutter of a camera lens, East Carolina University alumni and local photographer Patti Clark says she wants to change the value of photography, idolizing the human body and exposing the true beauty of the world.

Clark graduated from ECU in 2018, earning her degree in Health and Wellness. While she didn't add a photography element to her major, Clark said photography was something she used as a way to escape the stress of being a full-time student.

"It was pretty much my therapy, holding a camera in my hands—it's like I know what I'm doing and at ECU, it was my outlet," Clark said.

Upon graduating, Clark continued her work in the health field and now works in substance abuse and mental health in Pitt County. Clark said she still aims to make photography a significant aspect of her life and works on it aside from the demands of her job.

"I keep photography as my side thing because work can be stressful, but being able to create art and create magic with these wonderful people it's like a hype, it's a thing for me," Clark said.

Inspiration for Clark came from the support she received from the people around her. ECU alumna Kenya Shakir is the one who convinced Clark to get into photography by asking her for a few photos of her own. Shakir said Clark's style of work is what she believes sets her apart from most photographers in Greenville.



Patti Clark

**“I keep photography as my side thing because work can be stressful, but being able to create art and create magic with these wonderful people it's like a hype, it's a thing for me.”**

-Patti Clarke

"She is very very creative and dedicated to her work, and she is a lifelong learner in the sense that she is always looking at how to get better as opposed to some other photographers who really just think of it as a hobby," Shakir said.

Since kicking off her photography business, Clark has worked on multiple projects including wedding and graduation photos, skin sessions and a body paint photography collection called "Blossom" in collaboration with local artist and ECU senior, Carly Judd.

Judd said she wanted to present her art in a way that would highlight both her creativity and the value of photography.

"I could paint their body and take pictures of it myself, but it would have not of looked good, and I really wanted it to be an art project where the photography was just as important or more so than what I was doing," Judd said.

Aiming to encourage body positivity, Clark tends to focus more on nude and skin sessions with her work. Clark said she hopes to encourage women to love their body with her work, idolizing

it in whatever stage of life they may be in.

"I do a lot of skin sessions just to make women feel super positive about their body or whatever state their body is in, it's all beautiful to me," Clark said.

Clark said she has worked with multiple women who have worked with other local photographers who have done nude sessions, who feel as they have been sexualized and not looked at as art.

"At the end of the day I want to see your body as art," Clark said. "I don't visualize you as a sexual object, this is for my personal gallery and for you to love on you and how I see you and how you see you and it's all beautiful."

If interested in being a part of Clark's collections or having her capture a special event, she encourages those to visit her website which can be found on her Instagram page @bloommama\_.

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

## Women for Women to host actress

Macie Tano  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Women For Women Association of Pitt County will host Broadway star Sandra Joseph at its 14th annual Power of the Purse event.

The event will be on Wednesday at the Greenville Convention Center, starting at 5:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres, as well as food stations available until 7 p.m.

"Anyone can come to the event. It is \$100 for a reservation, and that will include theatre seating. Raffle tickets are \$25 a piece or five tickets for \$100. The raffle will feature three different jewelry pieces from Baileys," Allyson Daugherty, the vice president of the Women for Women organization, said.

Alma Hobbs, the president of the Women for Women, said they are thrilled to host Joseph, who holds the title for the longest running star in the longest running Broadway show, "The Phantom of the Opera," where she played the character of Christine Daaé.

Joseph published her book, "Unmasking What Matters: 10 Life Lessons" last January, which talks about her experiences as an actress, according to Daugherty.

"We are hoping that she will also be able to perform for us," Daugherty said. "She is also a well-known keynote speaker. So she will be talking about her experience being a Broadway star as well as a best-selling author."

Daugherty said The Power of the Purse is The Women for Women's annual event to raise money for grants that will be provided to local organizations.

"This year, there (are) 13 organizations we will provide funds for. They offer critical support, opportunities, encouragement or knowledge to the women in Greenville and Pitt County," Daugherty said. "One of the organizations is the Pitt County Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program, who we help fund. They choose several women who they provide meals to over the course of a year with our funding."



Sandra Joseph as Christine Daaé and her husband, Ron Bohmer, as the Phantom of the Opera.

The Meals on Wheels program provides meals to elderly individuals in Pitt County who are not able to leave their home, Rich Zeck, the executive director of the Council on Aging, said.

Zeck said the organization serves roughly 310 people a day, with roughly 90 percent of those people living at or below the poverty line and 70 percent of those being women.

"The grant that we get from Women for Women feeds 10 women for a year for only \$1,500," Zeck said. "Another thing that Meals on Wheels does, which may be even more important than providing meals, is it ensures that someone is checking

up on these people each week. So, that's really what we're doing, and that is why Women for Women are so important to us."

Another grant that will receive funds is the ECU Brody School of Medicine Pediatrics Department, which provides counseling for young girls from abusive family situations, Daugherty said.

Daugherty said Women for Women also provides funds for the J.H. Rose High School Cinch Sack Project, which provides different products for girls, so they don't miss school due to their periods. She said it's important for them to give money to local organizations.

Hobbs said the grants derived from the Power of the Purse raffle sales and donations will be distributed to the organizations in the fall.

"We carefully review all grant applications to ensure the funds will be wisely used for its intended purpose and desired impact," Hobbs said.

Daugherty said the Power of the Purse event has grown in popularity since it first started in 2005, when only a few dozen people attended. In recent years, Daugherty said as many as 1,000 participants will come.

"There is (are) a few hundred that have signed up so far for this year's event. We have been able to give out over \$750,000 over the last 14 years," Daugherty said. "We have had all kinds of different speakers over the years, and they all have something different that they're talking about, and they all talk about the philanthropy that is important to them."

The mission has lasting impact, Zeck said, and this event and Women for Women is important to the women of Pitt County.

"I've been to the last four Power of the Purse events. I believe it is an important thing, because some women on a global perspective and in the United States have an unfair playing ground, but especially for older women," Zeck said. "It becomes very discriminatory."

Although this is the 14th year for the Power of the Purse event, this year's event will be set up differently than it has been before, Daugherty said.

"Usually it's a luncheon, but this year we are doing an evening event. This will be more like a cocktail hour with theatre seating afterwards. So, I'm looking forward to a different style of the event and having an entertaining speaker," Daugherty said. "This is one of the organizations that primarily funds programs in the county. Everyone is welcome, and I hope people come out."

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

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR RENT

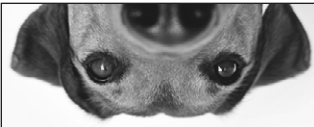
ECU STUDENTS! Now renting 3 and 4 bedroom houses within walking distance to campus and athletic facilities! Pet Friendly! Available fall 2019. Please contact us at 252-702-2324."

### HELP WANTED

Energetic staff needed to work with individuals with developmental disabilities one-on-one in the community. Flexible schedules and great

pay. Apply online or in person at [www.pinnhomecare.com](http://www.pinnhomecare.com) or 903 E Arlington Blvd. Greenville, NC 27858

Now Hiring: Lifeguard Windsor Subdivision Pool in Winterville, NC, is seeking summer lifeguards. Lifeguard, CPR, AED and First Aid Certification required. Must be 18 years or older by May 1st. Job dates: May 18th - September 3rd. \$9.50 hourly rate of pay. Minimum of 15-20 hours per week.\* **Interested Candidates \*Please reapply to the corrected email - dhsingleton1@gmail.com**



### Wanna run a classifieds ad?

Contact [teclassifieds@ecu.edu](mailto:teclassifieds@ecu.edu) for pricing and information.

## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 5 -- News could astonish. Hide somewhere peaceful and quiet. All is not as it appears. Avoid rumors. Verify accusations from a second source. Wait for developments.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Keep your long-term community vision in mind. Be hopeful; not foolish. Don't fund a fantasy. Do your research, and focus efforts toward simple targeted actions.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Keep taking action to forward your professional dreams and visions. Consider outrageous ideas. List what you want to be, do, have and contribute.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Make reservations in advance. Don't depend on a fantasy. Send applications, and confirm your itinerary. Costs may be higher than expected. Research for best options.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Collaborate for shared gain. Reaffirm a commitment with your partner. Listen to all considerations before making a financial decision. Come up with a win-win scenario.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Words grease the wheels with your partner. Discuss your dreams. Indulge in wild speculation, illusions and fantasy. Create new practical possibilities from the exercise.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Take a refreshing pause to consider your goals, objectives and dreams for your physical labors, health and fitness. Indulge a fantasy. Get clever ideas onto paper.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Romance grows in conversation with someone sweet. Allow for contingencies. The rules may change mid-game. Listen to your intuition. Share your dreams. Talk about love.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Imagine domestic dreams realized. Talk with family and housemates about your home improvement visions. Get imaginative. Indulge wild suggestions. Pursue one idea you all love.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Brilliant ideas abound today. Creative expression flowers. Dig down for authenticity and truth. Write your dreams, visions and desires. Describe perfection.

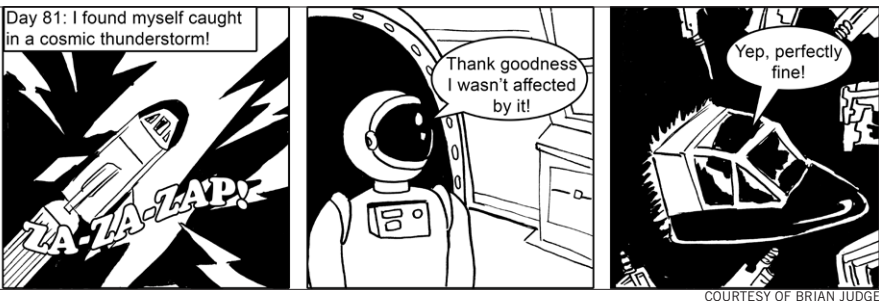
**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Profit through communications. Express your dreams. Ask for what you want, no matter how impossible it may seem. Connect with a sense of spirit.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Consider the consequences of a personal decision. Discover something new about yourself. Write down your future dreams, hopes and visions. Accept divine inspiration.

©2017 BY NANCY BLACK. DISTRIBUTED BY TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

## COMICS

### ONE AND ONLY



### BEST IN SHOW



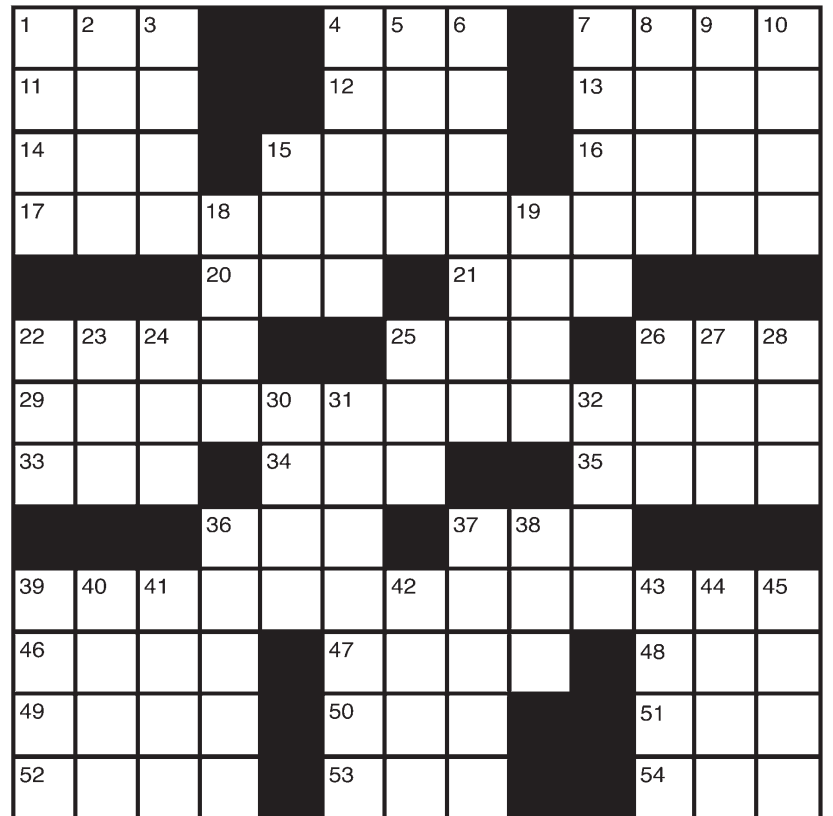
### BREWSTER ROCKIT



## CROSSWORD

# THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



### ACROSS

- 1 Mr. DeLuise
- 4 "According to \_\_\_"
- 7 Astin or Cusack
- 11 "\_\_\_ Big Girl Now"
- 12 "Snakes \_\_\_ Plane"
- 13 Early Ron Howard role
- 14 Actors' org.
- 15 Leslie Caron film that won the Best Picture Oscar
- 16 Cozy hideaways
- 17 Series for Thomas Gibson
- 20 Yankovic and Gore
- 21 Ms. West
- 22 Actor Sandler
- 25 "\_\_\_ Masterson"; western series
- 26 "Car 54, Where \_\_\_ You?"
- 29 "The \_\_\_ of Old Christine"
- 33 John of "Touched by an Angel"
- 34 "Old MacDonald" refrain opening
- 35 "\_\_\_! In the Name of Love"; hit song for the Supremes
- 36 Actress Jillian
- 37 One of the Three Stooges
- 39 Long-running daytime serial
- 46 Betty of old cartoons

- 47 At \_\_\_; relaxed
- 48 "Judging \_\_\_"
- 49 Actor Jannings
- 50 Tiny insect
- 51 Mischief maker
- 52 In one's right mind
- 53 Attempt
- 54 "American \_\_\_!"

### DOWN

- 1 \_\_\_ jockey; radio host
- 2 Sharif or Epps
- 3 O. Henry's "The Gift of the \_\_\_"
- 4 Ties together
- 5 Swenson of "Benson"
- 6 Cliff Clavin's profession
- 7 Ms. Foster
- 8 "\_\_\_ Season"; Debra Messing film
- 9 Female red deer
- 10 Loch \_\_\_ monster
- 15 \_\_\_ Grissom; recent role on "CSI"
- 18 "I Remember \_\_\_"; Irene Dunne movie
- 19 Mr. Lauer
- 22 "My Wife \_\_\_ Kids"
- 23 Actress Susan of "L.A. Law"
- 24 Reverent wonder
- 25 Sheriff Andy Taylor's aunt
- 26 Mr. Linkletter
- 27 Old Olds
- 28 Intuition, for short
- 30 Declare untrue
- 31 Mr. Price
- 32 "\_\_\_ People"; Jessica Tandy film
- 36 More than enough
- 37 "Play \_\_\_ for Me"; Eastwood film
- 38 "Grand \_\_\_ Opry"
- 39 Lincoln and Vigoda
- 40 CA's \_\_\_ Linda University
- 41 Cut of pork
- 42 Long-running Broadway musical
- 43 Bug spray brand
- 44 Actress Samms
- 45 "\_\_\_ Blue"

Solution from 03/28

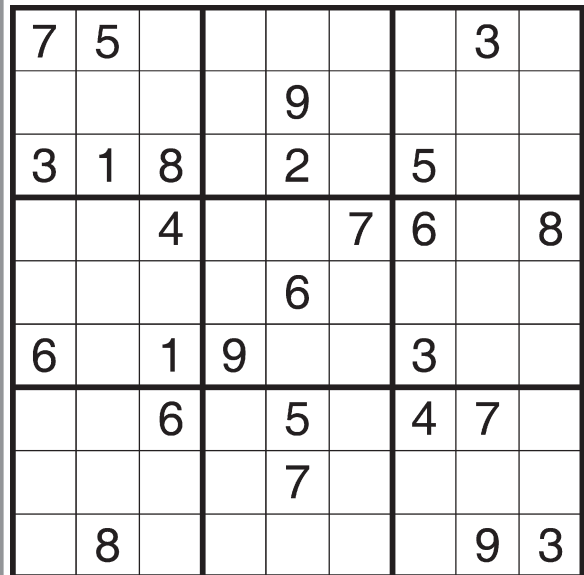


## SUDOKU

# SUDOKU

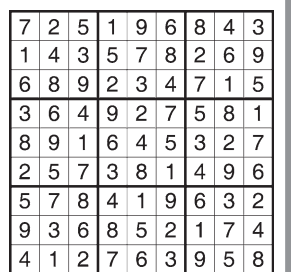
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

Solution from 03/28



© 2017 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

CUT THE DIGITAL CORD AND PLUG-IN TO SOME ANALOG GOODNESS

THE **Hook**  
ECU's Student Interest Magazine

Get the latest buzz on where to go, what to do, and what everyone's talking about in *The Hook*. Created for students by students, *The Hook* is ECU's official student interest magazine.

COMING TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND  
Pick up your copy from *The East Carolinian* news stands all over campus.

# Sports

theeastcarolinian.com

Tuesday, 4.2.19

## Gilbert: ECU scores with hire

### McNeill becomes Pirates 10th women's basketball coach

Daniel Roberts  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University women's basketball team dealt with many coaching changes last season that led to some instability with the program.

ECU Athletic Director Jon Gilbert and the department hired Kim McNeill making her the 10th head coach in school history for the women's basketball team.

McNeill is coming to Pirate nation off of a three year tenure at the University of Hartford. When McNeill arrived at Hartford during the 2015-2016 season, the team was a below .500 team and finished 11-19 that year. McNeill then took the team to three consecutive winning seasons.

In the 2016-2017 year, Hartford finished 17-14 overall, and 7-9 in the America East Conference. The next year, McNeill brought the Hawks to another level by finishing 19-13 overall with a 9-7 record in conference play during the 2017-2018 season. In her last year with Hartford, McNeill took the team to its best season record wise under her tenure when it finished 23-11 overall while posting a 14-2 record in conference play.

"For three years, they immediately bought in to the change and to the process," McNeill said. "We wrote a new record book and took Hartford basketball to the top of the America East. But more importantly, we developed relationships for life. I want them to know that just because I'm not there every day, I will always be there for them."

Before becoming the head coach at Hartford, McNeill spent five years at the University of Virginia serving as an assistant coach before becoming associate head coach in 2013. The team went to three WNIT tournaments including back-to-back appearances from 2015-2016.

McNeill served as an assistant coach at James Madison University from 2000-2001 and from 2002-2004. She served



Athletic Director Jon Gilbert introduced new head coach Kim McNeill to ECU Friday afternoon.

as an assistant coach at the University of Richmond for one year (2004-2005) and went to the University of California for two years (2005-2007).

"I have helped build programs on three things, family, academics and basketball," McNeill said. "Understanding that every day won't be peaches and cream, but there will be far more good days than bad. On those bad days, you will have your family here to support you."

McNeill agreed to contract terms on Thursday and was introduced to ECU on Friday afternoon. When it came to

accepting the position, McNeill had her list of things that she was looking for. McNeill found those things when she stepped on campus in Greenville.

"There were key things that I was looking for," McNeill said. "First and foremost, the family atmosphere. I was looking for the passion, the drive to take this women's basketball program to the next level. Gilbert was very aggressive, and very proactive and I liked that. From the first conversation I had with Jon, I knew that he was going to be behind me to do what we need to do to get this program to where it needs to be. I've been

in college towns. I know how good it feels to have the community behind you and what you can do when you have that support. So, I was looking forward to being back to that."

When it came to the recruitment process and finding the next head coach, Gilbert had a list of criteria that he was looking for when it came to finding the right person for the job. Gilbert in turn talked to people nationally both coaches and others within the women's basketball community. McNeill's name kept coming up more times than not, and Gilbert felt that he found someone that could help the Pirates become more than just an above .500 team.

"I wanted someone that understood our footprint and knew what it would take to be successful at this level," Gilbert said. "I knew as I did research that was really positive when you hear other coaches talk about McNeill in that regard, I knew that it was the direction I needed to go in."

The Pirates came off a season where they finished 16-15 overall and 6-10 in American Athletic Conference play. They lost in the quarterfinal match of the conference tournament to the No. 2 ranked University of Connecticut 65-92 on March 9. McNeill is ready to prep the team for next year looking to make ECU women's basketball exciting to watch.

"My goal here will be to create a positive student-athlete experience that will be built around family," McNeill said. "I'm going to challenge these young ladies every day to be the best version of themselves that they can possibly be. They will represent themselves, their families and this university in a first-class manner, and will be very visible in the community. We will have an identity and understand who we are and how we will win games. We will be a blue-collar team that will not be outworked."

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



**#piratefestnc**

Along Evans Street  
from Five Points Plaza  
to the Town Common

presented by



uptown GREENVILLE



**PirateFest**  
GREENVILLE, NC  
April 12-13

## Art. Food. Music. Pirates!

FREE CONCERTS • TOWN COMMON

**FRI** 5 PM  
Country  
Music Star  
**Jimmie Allen**  
piratefestnc.com

**SAT** 4 PM  
'90s  
Hip-hop  
throwback  
**Tone Loc**  
**Biz Markie**

