



# The East Carolinian

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## Former U.S. Marine visits university

Margaret McCollum  
TEC STAFF

United States Marine veteran, Megan Leavey, will come to East Carolina University today to share the inspiring story of her service with her military combat dog, Rex, and the unique bond they formed, which provided the basis for the movie, "Megan Leavey."

Leavey's presentation will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. in Mendenhall Student Center's Hendrix Theater.

Nicole Jablonski, associate director of Student Veteran Services, said ECU aired the film for students to see on Aug. 30. Jablonski said she spoke with Leavey about her visit to ECU. Leavey said the movie is based on her experiences and she expressed her excitement to tell students about the true events.

"She (Leavey) emphasized that it's (the movie) based on a true story," Jablonski said. "She's very interested in talking to students about what really happened and her true story."

Jablonski said she believes it is important for ECU students to understand the difference between the media portrayal of the events of Megan Leavey's experiences and the actual occurrences.

There will be about an hour dedicated to Leavey telling her story and around another hour for questions from students in the audience, according to Jablonski. She said students will learn about the relationship between service members and the hardships military working dogs face.

Trust is an aspect of most people's lives which they struggle with, Jablonski said, which is what makes Megan Leavey's story so special. She said the trust between Leavey and her dog was amazing and that they saved hundreds of lives searching for improvised explosive devices (IEDS) during their service.

"I think because it's a story that's based around a very powerful relationship, it's going to resonate with the student body," Jablonski said.

Jablonski said veterans who choose to attend the event will get the opportunity to discuss the media portrayal of military service, discuss any misrepresentations they notice and experiences of their own.

"They (veterans) will be very interested in hearing her

> VETERAN page A2

## ECU to face ODU Monarchs to host the Pirates in Virginia

Daniel Shepard  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University (2-2, 0-1 AAC) football team will look to begin its season 3-2 for the first time since 2015 when they face Old Dominion University (1-2, 0-0 C-USA) in Norfolk, Virginia on Saturday.

ODU is fresh off a 28-17 defeat at the hands of the nationally ranked University of Virginia, a game they led 17-0 early in the second quarter. Conversely, ECU evened its record last week, defeating the College of William & Mary by a score of 19-7 inside Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

"Great to be back in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium."

dium this past weekend," head coach Mike Houston said. "We just had a fantastic crowd, really energetic."

This week, however, the Pirates will be on the road, competing in Norfolk for the first time since facing Richmond University in the Oyster Bowl in 1978. Nevertheless, ECU touts a 2-0 all-time record against the Monarchs as both contests transpired in Greenville, North Carolina, the last of which took place in 2018.

This year's ODU team, however, is largely different than the one ECU faced last year. With a slew of transfers and redshirt players who are now eligible to play, the Monarch sport a total of 66 players who will take their first repetitions with the program in 2019.

"On film, when you look at them, they're a big, good-looking football team," Houston said. "There's athletes all over the place. They're playing better each week because you look at the progression of the scores and the performance

each week, they've performed better each week."

Of ODU's 12 returning starters from last season, there are four on the offensive side of the football, five on the defensive side and three are on special teams. Two returning members on offense are along the offensive line in redshirt senior Tony Barnett and redshirt junior Isaac Weaver.

Redshirt senior running back Kesian Strong is the only skill position player returning to the Monarchs' roster this season. Strong, along with fellow running back redshirt freshman Lala Davis, represent ODU's two-top rushers, racking up 116 and 158 yards respectively on the ground. That duo has also punched the ball into the endzone twice and have averaged nearly five yards per carry through the first four games.

> PIRATES page A4



Defensive back Ja'Quan McMillian covers a College of William & Mary player in ECU's 19-7 win on Saturday night in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

## Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival returns

Olan Bryant  
TEC STAFF

Emma Wilbur  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



The Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival will kick off its 20th season with an opening performance at A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall tonight at 7 and will feature multiple renowned chamber musicians.

Artistic director of The Four Season Chamber Music Festival and violinist, Ara Gregorian, started the project back nearly 19 years ago and the festival has evolved into an initiative to create the next generation of chamber musicians ever since.

"I certainly didn't imagine that Four Seasons would develop in all of the ways it has over the past 19 years when I first conceived of the idea," Gregorian said. "It is amazing that this festival, one that is like no other in the world, is in Greenville and a part of ECU."

Musicians from all over the world come to Greenville to perform and teach ECU music students in attendance, resulting in over 300 public concerts over two decades, according to Gregorian.

The support for the festival has grown to the point that a concert in Raleigh has been added to the itinerary. A winter workshop has also been added which will take place in the first week of January. Gregorian said the support of the community is what has offered events, such as these, here in Greenville.

"Four Seasons would not exist if it wasn't for the tremendous support of our community," Gregorian said. "We all owe a tremendous thank you to the countless people who have been so giving and generous in their support."

Managing director of the festival, John Holloway, explained that while other schools have similar events, what makes the Four Seasons unique is the amount of opportunities it offers



Ara Gregorian, Robert McDonald, Marcy Rosen and Daniel Phillips perform at the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival 2018.

to ECU students to learn from world class musicians. Just this season, more than 50 concerts will be presented, along with 75 master classes and open rehearsals, according to Holloway himself.

Holloway also emphasized the cultural importance of the festival and what it's done for the local community.

"The culture that the festival brings to eastern North Carolina, to Greenville and Raleigh and throughout the state, presents world class concerts that you typically have to go to New York to hear," Holloway said.

Renowned pianist and recurring guest of the festival, Thomas Sauer, will perform as part of the Opening Extravaganza tomorrow evening. The pianist expressed his optimism for what it has done for ECU's music program.

"It's not just a performance, there's a lot of education

involved as well. Ara sets a great tone and invites nice, good people down to play," Sauer explained.

On the future of the festival, Sauer noted that while he doesn't know where it could go, he did say that he believes it has a vast future ahead of it.

Natasha Brofsky, a recognized cellist who will also be performing for Four Seasons, said that it "is a wonderful testament" to ECU and Greenville who praise the support it has received.

More information on concert dates and locations for the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival can be found on their website at [www.fourseasons.ecu.edu/](http://www.fourseasons.ecu.edu/).

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### ONLINE

»ARTS: SOTD senior takes on a lead role in "The Wolves"

»Check out our website for stories, galleries and more

### SOCIAL MEDIA

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## BRIEFS

## SGA committee on marketing and communication to meet

Today from 4 to 5 p.m. the SGA Marketing and Communications Committee will meet. It is an event that will be open to the public. It will take place in Main Campus Student Center Room 222.

## World Environmental Health Day 2019 to take place

The Environmental Health Sciences Program will celebrate World Environmental Health Day today from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. There are two planned activities for the event, a poster display on the first floor of Belk and Environmental Health selfies with the hashtag #ECUEnvironmentalHealth.

## MYO: Chalkboard Art in MCSC

Tonight from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Main Campus Student Center Room 125 the will be make your own spa products. This event will teach you how to create beauty products so that you can save money and use the products in your own home.

## Tabling event talks Weaving our Diversity

There will be a tabling event in the Main Campus Student Center tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. that will discuss the intersectionality of identities at ECU, and how these different identities creates a "tapestry" on ECU's campus.

## CORRECTIONS &amp; CLARIFICATIONS

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



MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The City of Greenville recently purchased 163 acres along the Tar River which will be developed in several phases to offer recreational activities.

# City buys lot along river

## Purchased land expected to offer recreational opportunities

Margaret McCollum  
TEC STAFF

The City of Greenville purchased a large plot of land by the Tar River recently which will be used as a city park for residents to enjoy recreational activities and is expected to be developed further into the future.

Mayor of Greenville P.J. Connelly said the land is located just to the east of the U.S. 264 Bridge which crosses the Tar River. He said the land purchased by the city is 163 acres.

Connelly said the area will be developed in phases, the first phase will be geared towards outdoor recreational activities.

"There will be recreational opportunities like walking, biking, hiking, we'll probably have some locations for camping as well," Connelly said.

Connelly said there are plans for implementing a kayak and canoe launch spot on a lake in the area, which directly feeds into the Tar River, for residents to utilize.

Connelly said the land is located inside of a floodplain due to the area's proximity to the river. He said no construction will be taking place on the land in the first phase.

The city will close on the property within the next three months, according to Connelly, and then the land will be fully purchased.

"Shortly after that (the closing) we'll start doing some light improvements to the property such as creating those bike and walking trails around the lake itself," Connelly said.

Connelly said the long-term plan for the area is to connect the park to River Park North, another recreational park in Greenville.

According to the City of Greenville's website, River Park North is located at 1000 Mumford Road, near Pitt-Greenville Airport. The park is used for fishing, boating, hiking and many other recreational activities.

Connelly said there is no set plan yet for the remainder of the phases of the development for the rest of the land, but the city is eager to utilize the area to its full extent.

"It's a pretty exciting opportunity, it's a nice piece of land for the city of Greenville, I think there's a lot of possibilities in the future for development," Connelly said.

An ongoing goal of the city is to activate the Tar River, Connelly said, and this area will be another access point for residents to take advantage of.

Connelly said the property is under contract for \$400,000 and the appraised value was originally \$489,000.

Director of Recreation and Parks, Gary Fenton, said there is a concept plan for the land and ideas have been discussed but nothing is guaranteed yet and the area could potentially take several years to be fully finished.

"It's a special piece of property, it's not really going to be focused on organized sports like

baseball or soccer, moreover it's focusing on the natural aspects," Fenton said. "The river, the lake that's on the property, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, maybe paddleboarding, there could be some BMX facilities there, nothing is etched in stone yet."

Fenton said there are three building shells overlooking the lake on the land resembling picnic shelters built by the previous owner of the land, but never finished. He said the structures could make great boathouses, bunkhouses or picnic shelters.

Even if there is light construction on the land, the main idea is to keep the area natural and rustic, Fenton said. He said an idea he has is to potentially try to implement "canopy walks" above the land in addition to walking trails since the land is in a floodplain. These canopy walks would be elevated walkways in the trees, as opposed to on the ground.

Fenton said he hopes interest in the area will arise and public or private partnerships will develop with the city.

"Ultimately, I want to go around and talk to groups about the vision and see if we can't generate some support for some aspects of it," Fenton said.

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Gary Fenton



P.J. Connelly

# WGO takes Friday to discuss feminism

Madison Barnhill  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University's Women and Gender Office (WGO) will host a workshop tomorrow to discuss current events relating to September's topic, intersectional feminism.

The Feminist Friday discussion will be held in the WGO inside the Main Campus Student Center tomorrow at 2 p.m. Ashley Cleland, associate director of WGO, will be running the workshop.

"I think that this event for me, as a professional, represents the importance of dialogue," Cleland said. "There's a lot of information and resources that the WGO and me and



Ashley Cleland

my role as an associate director of Intercultural Affairs can provide the community, but I also want to make sure there are opportunities where students, faculty and staff have a chance to unpack and talk about things that matter to them while also learning something."

Cleland said feminism has a long history and the WGO chose this topic with the 100-year anniversary of the 19th Amendment coming up August 2020. She said with feminism on the rise

in recent years, it has become more relevant than ever since 1992, which was named the "Year of the Woman."

Cleland said she hopes to engage and teach students during the Feminist Friday event. She said she wants to clear up some common misconceptions about feminism.

A few topics which might be discussed during this event are that feminists are men haters, or they hate pink and have a specific appearance, Cleland said. The topics will be broadened during this discussion because of the way feminism can be perceived with the multitude of viewpoints across the board, she said.

Feminism is a topic for everyone to have their own take on and when approached by it everyone has their own meaning, according to Cleland.

"Feminism is recognizing barriers and stigma and anything getting in the way of everyone having equal opportunity in social, political and economic success," Cleland said.

Feminism, a topic for everyone to have their own take on and when approached by it everyone has their own meaning according to Cleland. "Feminism is recognizing barriers and stigma and anything getting in the way of everyone having equal opportunity in social, political, and economic success," Cleland said.



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Left to Right: Tierra Blevens, Leandre'a Scott, Mariah Cason, Alexis Vivien, and Victoria Goldson.

Dorian Simons, a freshman science education major and member of the WGO, said he started off not agreeing with feminism, but along the way, he found feminism was something used to help people. He said he started off not knowing much about feminism because it was a complicated subject that held a variety of meanings. He said the WGO has been a home for him.

"Feminism helped me find myself and was a complicated topic as a kid that I didn't know much about. I realized feminism was so much more and that I could use it to be an ally for people more marginalized than I am," Simons said.

Jhanna Means, program assistant for the WGO and senior intended nursing and child development double major, said this will be

her second semester being a part of the WGO. She said she has learned more about inclusive language, menstruation and how important the office truly is.

The word "feminism" has been viewed as an extreme when in reality, it's fair and just, according to Means. Women are just as equal as men and that they deserve the same privileges, Means said.

"Feminism isn't some fancy word that's thrown around by woke females. It's a way of life. It's advocating for women's rights and equality among the sexes politically, personally, economically and socially," Means said.

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



Megan Leavey kneels to pose with her combat dog, Rex. COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

## VETERAN continued from A1

tell her story and I know that they are interested in taking her out for dinner later and getting to know her better on a more personal level," Jablonski said.

Jablonski said veterans who cannot attend the event and want to discover resources through the Student Veterans Center or meet other veterans on campus, there is a veteran lounge in Mendenhall Student Center room 254 that she encourages them to use. She said there is also a Pirate Veterans Organization on campus that people can get involved with.

Another resource veterans can participate in and students can volunteer for is 'Green Training', which features a student veteran panel where they can learn more about veterans and higher education.

Jablonski said she thinks it is important for ECU to have events



Nicole Jablonski

that cater to veterans and hopes there are more people like Megan Leavey coming to speak. She said she hopes those attending who are not veterans will come to more events like this and get involved.

Lisa Brown, the coordinator of the event, said Leavey's appearance at ECU exposes an underlying message in media today and provides a learning experience for those who attend.

"Women veterans tend to be underrepresented in the media portrayal of veterans, so showing Megan Leavey and having her come to campus is a great opportunity to learn about women in the military and the situations they face while serving," Brown said.

Brian West, an Army veteran and senior at ECU, said he thinks these kinds of events are good opportunities for students to see and hear veteran's stories.

"I think it's great they're having a speaker like that who has such a unique story as a veteran," West said. "I hope ECU holds more events like this one."

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## OUR VIEW

# Attention brought to hazing

Greek Life is an organization for students to make life long friends and have people to turn to during a time of need. In the past, there have been reports that some sororities or fraternities on at ECU have been noted as participating in various hazing activities.

Since Sept. 10, there have been 12 Greek organizations that have been suspended or kicked off of campus due to hazing related activities, according to the Greek Life chapter status.

As of last week, ECU started its participation in National Hazing Prevention week and will continue its involvement in a variety of events to educate students of the dangers of hazing until Friday evening.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe the National Hazing Prevention Week will be beneficial to ECU students as hazing has been becoming a more prevalent issue on college campuses.

We believe that ECU's efforts to bring attention to hazing and the consequences that hazing can have on Greek life organizations are important.

Hazing is a serious problem that occurs at a national level, and it can cause physical and psychological harm to those involved in it.

Students that are already dealing with the stress of school and making friends within their organization and on campus should not have to go through this damaging process of being "accepted" into their chapter.

SHENEMAN TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY



# Sustainable changes are helpful

## Environmental achievements are needed on campus



**Chad Carwein**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Sustainability and efforts to "go green" have not only captured the attention of corporations and businesses around the world, it is also a pursuit of higher education institutions.

East Carolina University recognized the importance of sustainability and hired me, Chad Carwein, as the first University Sustainability Manager for ECU in March 2016. Since that time he has worked with students, staff, faculty and community members to improve campus sustainability and help "Keep the Green in Greenville."

Every day presents an opportunity to address a new challenge on our campus concerning environmental impacts and operational efficiency, including: energy and water conservation, waste reduction and recycling, alternative transportation, sustainable food and dining, campus grounds, wildlife habitats, and quite possibly the most important initiatives involve academics and research.

There will always be more room for improvement, but ECU has already received several awards and recognition for its campus sustainability efforts. ECU has been recognized as a Bicycle Friendly University at the Silver level since 2014. The University has completed numerous projects to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, most significantly, closing Founders Drive to through traffic was a major change to campus infrastructure.

We've also earned the designation of Tree Campus USA for the past three years running. For every tree removed by a construction project, the Grounds Services team plants three new ones or attempts to relocate trees whenever possible. In addition, we are close to unveiling a new ECU Tree Trail that highlights over 40 different species of trees and a new Campus

Arboretum in front of the Jenkins Fine Arts Building.

Most recently, ECU earned Bee Campus USA status which is similar to the Tree Campus USA program, but it is intended to help protect and promote the value of insect pollinators like bees. To earn both of these honors, we host annual events and sponsor student service-learning projects such as tree plantings and developing a list of pollinator-friendly, native plant species. ECU has been doing a lot over the past couple of years to establish more pollinator-friendly habitats on campus and we even installed two honeybee hives on Health Sciences Campus in May 2019.

ECU also received its first Bronze Rating in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) in February 2017. Established by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), STARS is a voluntary, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to gauge progress toward sustainability and be acknowledged for their leadership.

Created by the higher education community, STARS helps ECU set and meet our sustainability goals while promoting information-sharing among our campus community. We are in the process of collecting data to submit our next STARS report with a goal of moving up to a Silver Rating, but as Pirates you know we will not be satisfied until we get that Gold... ARGH!!!

ECU can highlight all of these campus sustainability achievements when connecting with potential new students and their parents to illustrate our commitment to environmental stewardship. The value of these achievements cannot be overstated, especially with regard to potential recruitment opportunities.

Since 2008, the Princeton Review's Annual Hopes and Worries Survey has found that over 60% of prospective students and their family's believed that an institu-

tion's commitment to environmental stewardship would contribute to their application and attendance decisions. By completing the STARS Report and submitting our data to other reporting frameworks, ECU is included in Sierra Club's Cool Schools list and the Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges.

Just in my first three and a half years on the job, we've accomplished so much. I say "we" because everything to do with sustainability is and must be a team effort. One person simply cannot make an entire campus sustainable on their own. Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and fostering a culture of sustainability at a large institution like ECU requires collaboration and I view my role as providing leadership and vision to these efforts.

Beyond campus, I have also worked with various community groups to build partnerships and improve environmental stewardship within the City of Greenville and surrounding areas of Pitt County and Eastern North Carolina. For example, each of the following organizations plays a role in "Keeping the Green in Greenville" and they are always looking to partner with ECU students and local youth: Tar River Beekeepers, Sierra Club Cypress Group, Sound Rivers, Re-Leaf, Unnatural Resources Institute, Keep Greenville Beautiful, Love A Sea Turtle (LAST), and Friends of Greenville Greenways (FROGGS).

If you would like to learn more about how you can get involved, connect on @SustainECU on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and come out to one of our upcoming events or volunteer opportunities.

Chad Carwein is the university sustainability manager at ECU and a guest columnist. To contact him, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

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As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 250 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

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# School shootings are a reality

*Living like Libby*



**Elizabeth Johnson**  
TEC STAFF

On Sept. 18 the Sandy Hook Promise released a "Back-To-School Essentials," an informational video about gun violence in schools, filmed as a back to school ad.

In the commercial the kids say things such as "thanks for the new skateboard" as the boy breaks the glass to escape his school and a little girl says "I finally got my own phone" as she texts her mom for what is presumably the last time.

This commercial isn't overdramatic, it is America's reality. We live in a country where we know we're not safe from gun violence in our schools, grocery stores, places of worship, music festivals, and clubs.

I had my first lockdown drill when I was in kindergarten. I wasn't raised in the same world as my parents or my legislators, where I didn't have to have a fear of going

**"We protest and we fight for change but it feels like our legislators still view us as kids when its our lives on the line."**

to school. I grew up in a world where I watched lawmakers decide that someone's right to own an assault rifle was more important than me and my classmates lives and I'm watching the cycle repeat itself.

A red flag law, NC HB 454, which would allow concerned citizens and law enforcement to petition a judge for an extreme risk protection orders to restrict someone's use of firearms, was filed in March of this year.

Although North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper filed an executive order in August for legislative action on HB 454 and HB 86, "the Gun Violence Prevention Act," which both have been referred to the House Judiciary Committee, neither have had hearings.

Our politicians aren't taking any action

and kids are dying. "Bad guys with guns" can be stopped with stricter gun laws.

According to Everytown for Gun Safety, there have been 69 incidents of gun fire on school grounds in 2019, 11 of which resulted in deaths and 42 injuries. We are nine months into 2019 and 11 students have died on school grounds. School is supposed to be a safe place for students. They shouldn't have a fear of dying in math class.

According to the Gun Violence Archive there have been 309 mass shootings in 2019 which is more than one mass shooting per day as it is only 269 day of the year.

Elizabeth Johnson is a senior majoring in English and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## TEC 'sports

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this weekend's football game

### Daniel Roberts

Copy Editor

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ECU 24-21. Why? The Pirates have matched up with the Monarchs in the past and have found ways to win at the end of the game. I feel like both teams will play both sides of the ball well throughout most of the game. While ODU may prove to be tough on defense thanks to it having former Pirate defensive coordinator David Blackwell, head coach Mike Houston has worked to change the Pirate offense. At the end of the day I think junior kicker Jake Verity will win it for ECU with a field goal at the end of the day and get its first road win of the season.

### Brendan Gillespie

Sports Editor

@gillguy14



ODU 21-13 Why? Throughout the first two away games this season, ECU has struggled to generate offense while playing on the road. So far in the first three games of the season, ODU is ranked No. 1 in rush defense in Conference USA and 21st in the entire FBS for rush defense. Unless ECU gets in the groove early, and capitalizes on a successful offensive drive, I don't believe they will come out with the win. Like last Saturday's game, Jake Verity may be the most consistent form of offense for the Pirates. Bold prediction? Jake Verity kicks at least two field goals during this Saturday's game.

### Daniel Shepard

Sports Chief

@cubsrazy17



ODU 21-14. Why? The Monarchs have one of the best defenses against the rush in the FBS. After holding No. 21 Virginia to less than 250 yards of offense, ODU will look to continue their solid work on the defensive side of the football against the Pirates. Holton Ahlers and the Pirates' offense has yet to fully click and ECU will once again be without Darius Pinnix Jr. as he is still nursing an injury. It will be a close game on Saturday, but in the end, ODU's defense will prevail.



Tynita Butts attempts to jump over the bar during the high jump event at a track and field meet, a discipline that she specializes in today.

## Alumnus makes IAAF Tynita Butts will participate in world championships

Brendan Gillespie  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University track and field alumnus Tynita Butts has qualified for the International Association of Athletics Federations World Championships. The Championship is set to be held in Doha, Qatar and will span from Sept. 27 to Oct. 7.

"All I can say God is amazing and it's been a long road," Butts said. "I could say the hardest thing about the time I graduated until now, was having to learn I wasn't going to have instant gratification."

At her time at ECU, Butts was a specialist in high jump and long jump events. During the 2010-2011 season, she became the first female to win multiple All-America designations in ECU

program history. Butts ended her career with a total of six designations for the award.

Along with that, she also won the C-USA Indoor Championships for the high jump with a 1.86 meter jump during the 2012-2013 season. Butts didn't stop there, as she won three additional first-place finishes for the same event.

In her final season at ECU, she won the Conference USA Women's Outdoor Field Athlete of the Year after finishing second in the NCAA Outdoor Championships, the highest placing for an athlete in ECU history.

"It was hard trying to get a step up to who I was back in college after my ACL tear in college. I tore it right after the NCAA Championships. After that I did want to

quit, but I had great support from good people that believed in my talents and never gave up on me," Butts said.



Tynita Butts

help of one of her biggest supporters in her life, husband Roderick D. Townsend, who is a two-time Olympic gold medalist.

"I've been training at the U of L with my husband who is a two-time gold medalist, Paralympic athlete and he's my biggest fan and my biggest supporter," Butts said. "Watching him compete at the highest level in Rio 2016

Olympics definitely inspired me to keep going."

More recently, Butts placed third in the 2019 United States Track and Field Championships which led to her placing on the roster.

"Next thing I know I get second at Indoor Championships then come Outdoor Championships, set a new outdoor personal record since 2013 and placing third and raising me to top-32 in the world, which qualified me for IAAF," Butts said.

Butts will be representing team USA in the championships for the very first time on Sept. 2, and her track experience are likely to benefit the United States once the championships are finished.

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

## ECU golf wins Pirate Collegiate Classic

Lydia Ryan  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University women's golf team celebrated its fourth-straight victory in the Pirate Collegiate Classic at Greenville Country Club on Tuesday. This was also the first career win for head coach C.C. Buford.

"The first coaching win is emotional," Buford said in a press release. "I think that experiencing wins as a player and as an assistant coach is a little different than getting the first as a coach. This is special because it is with this group."

The Pirates won the tournament 876 strokes (299-290-287), making it the fourth lowest team score in the 18-year history of the event. It is also the seventh time in program history they won the team title. All five players for ECU finished in the top-20 for individual scores, including first

and fourth place.

Senior golfer Dorthea Forbrigd won the tournament with a new tournament-low score of 210, 6-under-par. This was Forbrigd's third Pirate Collegiate Classic win. She also led the field in par-3 scoring (1-under), par-5 scoring (10-under) and total birdies (14).

"Dorthea is a rockstar," Buford said in a press release. "Coming in as the defending champion, she had high expectations in having a good tournament this week. She was very patient and laser focused throughout. The last week she changed something significant in her putting where she was able to integrate that into her game and to see a pair of 69's to end the tournament, is really special."

ECU freshman golfer Caroline Hermes (76-72-72) got her first top five finish, placing in fourth with 220 strokes, 4-over-par. Hermes finished with a total of eight birdies, 34 pars and tied for second in par-4 scoring (4.17). Senior Siranon Shoomee (78-



Dorthea Forbrigd tees off during the classic, where ECU was victorious

73-73) posted her second top-11 finish for this season, finishing the tournament with a combined score of 224, 8-over-par.

"Only having five players on the roster right now presents a challenge," Buford said in a press release. "But to see this team overcome that with such positivity and knowing that situation where everyone wants to see each other succeed, makes it special."

In team standings, second place went to University of Alabama at Birmingham with a combined score 890, 26-over-par.

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

## PIRATES continued from A1

Junior quarterback Stone Smartt is one of the Monarchs' new transfers and has accounted for ODU's four remaining rushing touchdowns, two of which came against Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. On the passing side of things, Smartt has been shaky in his first action at the FBS level.

Through three games, Smartt has a 62% completion percentage and 486 passing yards. Against Virginia, Smartt hooked up with redshirt sophomore running back Matt Geiger on a 47-yard touchdown, representing his first career touchdown and the longest offensive play for the Monarchs this season.

"They've had a couple of close losses the past few weeks, but losses where they've played

very, very well," Houston said. "But certainly, they are playing better and better each week. A tremendous challenge this week on the road. It will be their second game in their new facility up there and so I'm sure they'll be excited and ready to play."

While ODU is averaging just 19.3 points per contest thus far, it has been the play of their defense that has kept them in ball games. Against Virginia, the Monarchs yielded just 244 yards of total offense, 69 of which was on the ground.

In all, ODU has allowed only 269 rushing yards this season (89.7 yards per game), placing them 21st in the FBS in rush defense. At the same time, the Monarchs rank second in Conference USA in total defense allowed (305 yards per game) and have held opponents under 300 yards twice in three games.

At the helm of ODU's defense is David Blackwell, ECU's former defensive coordinator

and interim head coach.

"He was a great coach, we love him, still love him. Now he's on the other side though, it's going to be fun but we got to do it," redshirt freshman wide receiver Tyler Snead said. "It's similar (the defense) but, you know, always new players so we'll find out how they are. They're very athletic, they're a very good team, young and talented so we'll see that."

Redshirt junior linebacker Lawrence Garner and redshirt sophomore nickel-back Geronda Hall are two of the Monarchs' main play-makers on the defensive side of the ball, tying atop the team leaderboard with 25 tackles. Hall set a career-high with 10 tackles against Virginia while Garner is one of the five returners from last year's ODU squad.

Kickoff between the Pirates and Monarchs is scheduled for 6 p.m. inside S.B. Ballard Stadium.

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

ONLINE |  
FULL STORY



Mike Houston

## CLASSIFIEDS

### HELP WANTED:

Accepting applications for a leasing consultant position at a local apartment community. Must be available to work

some Saturdays and have reliable transportation. Email resumes to [eastbrookvillagegreen@gmail.com](mailto:eastbrookvillagegreen@gmail.com)



## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Trust a crazy hunch about your physical work or health. Watch for surprises or potential collisions. Take it easy, and handle priorities close to home.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Divert a trickle from positive cash flow toward savings. A steady stream of pennies adds up over time. Replenish reserves, and handle short-term priorities.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- A career opportunity takes quick action. Expect a test. Practice makes perfect. Words can be deceptive. Run reality checks and balances. Leave misconceptions behind.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Make no assumptions, especially regarding love and romance. If you want to know something, ask it directly. Symbols don't get through. Focus on short-term goals.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Expect energy surges, and balance activity with rest. A surprise requires personal attention. Grab a short-term opportunity, and find longer-lasting solutions later.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- You can learn without direct experience. Discover tricks, cultures and views through another's perspective. Avoid risk and expense. Read, watch and investigate. Explore nearby.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Take advantage of a bargain for your home. Find domestic solutions for free or secondhand. Handle immediate objectives, and resolve long-term solutions later.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Slow down, and reconsider your actions. Recent changes require adaptation. Invest in efficiency. Check suppositions against current data. Imagine possible scenarios. Rest and shift plans.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Strategize with a partner for financial gain. Collaborate to get necessary funding or support. Intuition guides you. Grab a temporary opportunity without expensive risk.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- A conversation could get uncomfortable. Focus talk and action toward urgent matters. Revisit this issue later; for now, listen and offer resources and connections.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- A team project requires a temporary fix. Solutions arise in conversation. Take immediate action to grab an opportunity. A window is closing. Upgrade later.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 7 -- A partner's view is important. Don't make an important decision until you've worked it out together. Consider logistics, practical details and emotional impact.

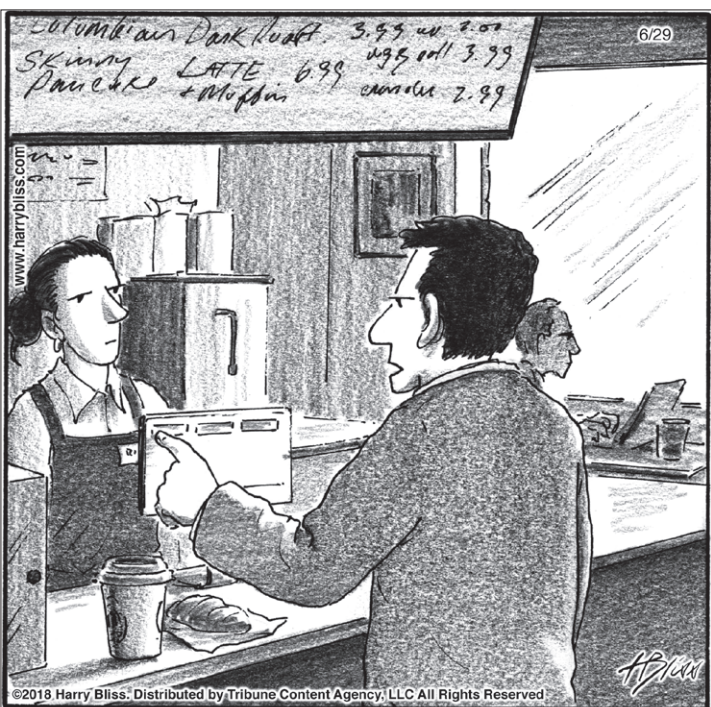
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## COMICS

### ONE AND ONLY



## BLISS

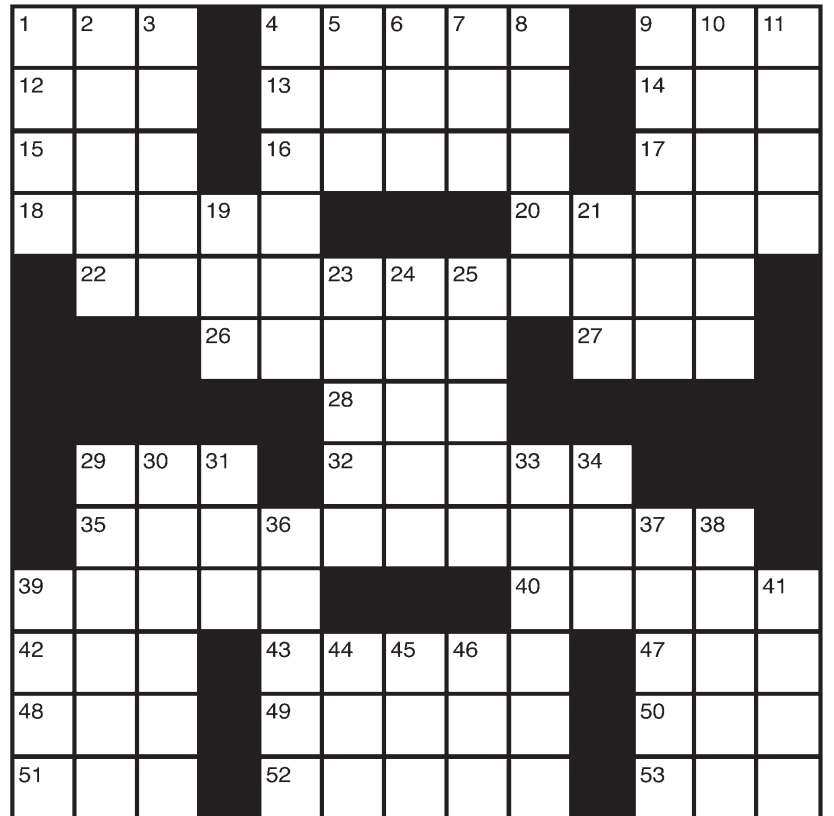


"Where's the option button that says, 'I despise these presumptuous tip suggestions'?"

## CROSSWORD

# THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

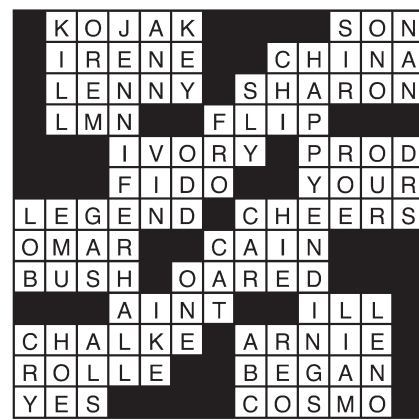
### ACROSS

- 1 Bernie \_\_
- 4 \_\_ Michelle Gellar
- 9 Hawaii's Mauna \_\_
- 12 "One Day \_\_ Time"
- 13 "\_\_ and Prejudice"
- 14 Keats' "Ode on a Grecian \_\_"
- 15 Suffix for sand or wind
- 16 Shawnee Smith's "Becker" role
- 17 "Peter \_\_"; movie about Neverland
- 18 Sasha Obama's sister
- 20 Actor Claude \_\_
- 22 "Last \_\_"
- 26 "Evening \_\_"
- 27 One of The Three Stooges
- 28 Crow's cry
- 29 Zsa Zsa's sister
- 32 Leg joints
- 35 Det. Lennie Briscoe's portrayer on "Law & Order"
- 39 Wilder and Hackman
- 40 Nation whose capital is Damascus
- 42 Fall month: abbr.
- 43 Vivian \_\_ of "I Love Lucy"

### DOWN

- 1 Injure
- 2 "The \_\_"; series for Mr. T
- 3 Role on "Cheers"
- 4 Tom Hanks/Daryl Hannah movie
- 5 Mr. Onassis, to friends
- 6 "The Adventures of \_\_ Tin Tin"
- 7 Put two and two together
- 8 "I \_\_ It Through the Grapevine"; Motown classic
- 9 Actress and director Ida \_\_
- 10 "The Real Housewives of \_\_ County"
- 11 Sothorn and Jillian
- 19 Shoo-\_\_; easy winners
- 21 Shoot carefully
- 23 In poor taste; cheap
- 24 "A Bell for \_\_"; Gene Tierney film
- 25 More modern
- 29 Jumps out in a parachute
- 30 Expressed one's pent-up frustration
- 31 "Car 54, Where \_\_ You?"
- 33 Actor Buddy and his family
- 34 "You Don't \_\_"; old game show
- 36 Invitation replies, for short
- 37 "Catherine \_\_ Live"; old Court TV series
- 38 "Beverly \_\_, 90210"
- 39 Hockey score
- 41 Dismounted
- 44 Apple pie \_\_ mode
- 45 Fabray, to friends
- 46 "El \_\_"; Charlton Heston movie

Solution from 9/24



## SUDOKU

# SUDOKU

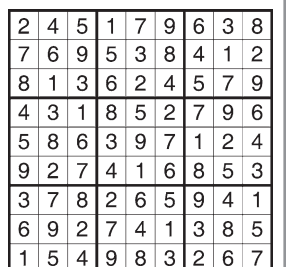
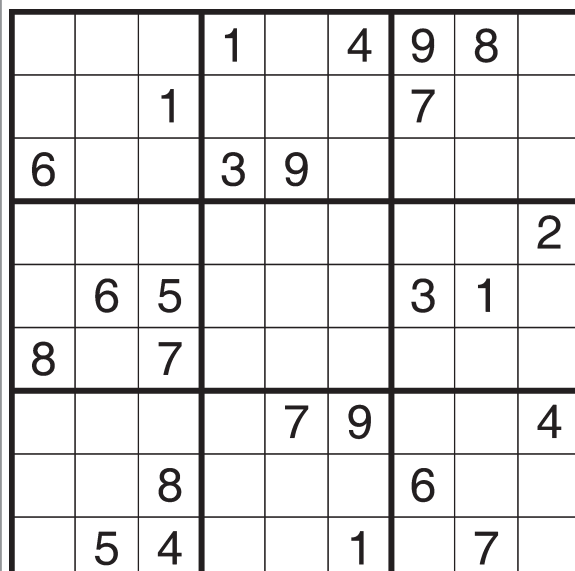
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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 9/24



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## Discover Pirate Media 1's Opportunities at Fall Open House!

Stop by our table on September 28th, 2019 between 8:30-11 a.m. in the Student Recreation Center and learn about all Pirate Media 1 has to offer.

For more information contact [smaa3@ecu.edu](mailto:smaa3@ecu.edu)

## EVENTS

### TODAY

**Call for Artists: Inktober**  
The Art Lab  
Noon

**Adult Spelling Bee**  
MPourium  
7 p.m.

**The Wolves**  
Burnette Studio Theatre  
7:30 p.m.

### TOMORROW

**Coffee + Paddle**  
Blackbeard Coffee  
Roasters  
7 a.m.

**Call to Artists: Holiday Artist Market**  
Emerge Gallery and Art Center  
10 a.m.

**Greenville, Then and Now**  
802 S Evans St.  
10 a.m.

### SATURDAY

**Pullin' for Pink Fundraiser**  
Greenville Fire/Rescue  
11:15 a.m.

**Anita's Taqueria Food Truck**  
MPourium  
6 p.m.

**The 90's Were Hard Tribute Fest**  
The State Theatre  
8 p.m.

### SUNDAY

**Pop Champagne!**  
Ford + Shep  
11:30 a.m.

**Brushes & Brews**  
Uptown Brewing Company  
3 p.m.



Story Book Theater members listed clockwise: Emma Myers, Alyssa Davis, Brooke Palmer, Haley Sanders and Danny Martinez in *The Many Adventures of Peter Rabbit*.

## Signing for a change

### ECU senior to bring ASL to theater program

**Hannah True**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

"The Magic of Winter around the World" will merge American Sign Language (ASL) into the East Carolina University Theater Department as one Senior took it upon herself to find the similarities and dedicate her last year at ECU to forming this one-of-a-kind play.

Students are encouraged to come see the show on Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. and on Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. at the Messick Theater Arts Center in room 201. Ticket prices for students and the general public will be announced closer to the performance date.

Senior, Brooke Palmer, dedicates her final year at East Carolina University to creating her this original play. "The Magic of Winter around the World" stemmed from Palmer's elongating love for both theater and ASL and will be adapted from playwrights "The Little Girl and the Winter Whirlwinds" by an unknown author, "The Wooden Shoes of Life" by François Coppée and "The Christmas Tree Forest" by Raymond Macdonald Alden. She

said she believes combining her two passions will accommodate a wider audience range here at ECU.

"I thought it was easiest to demonstrate the similarity through a play," Palmer said. "I also wanted to combine them to provide an evening of theater that is open to multiple communities, both the hearing and deaf communities."



**Brooke Palmer**

Palmer developed a passion for the theater arts in middle school, where she took her very first theater course. After performing in a talent show during her sophomore year of high school, she realized that she wanted to continue theater work for the rest of her life. Palmer said her mother initially introduced her to sign language.

"My mom took sign language when she was in high school and she had this sign language textbook just around the house when I was younger, and I always liked looking at it and making different signs,"

Palmer said. "When I got to ECU and saw there was a course in sign language, I knew I had to take it."

The playwright also expressed how much of a similarity there was between theater and sign language and said the two share more similarities than those come to realize.

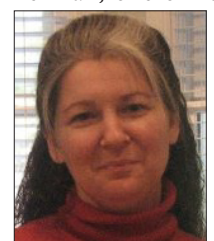
"They come with their different communities and backgrounds and histories, but they're both forms of communication that require expression, attention, focus and listening skills beyond simply hearing words," Palmer said.

Found and director of the StoryBook Theater at ECU, professor Patricia Clark, has spent her time on the School of Dance and Theater (SODT) faculty directing multiple performances, such as "James and the Giant Peach" and "Legend of Sleepy Hollow." Being one of Palmer's former professors, Clark now has taken on the role of her mentor for the project.

Clark said Palmer stands out among other students in the SODT because of her belief in the impact theatre can have among the audience members.

"(She) embraces the opportunity to create original theatre which will make a difference in the lives of her actors, the audience members, and the community at large," Clark said.

ECU Professor Nancy Ausherman, one of Palmer's former



**Nancy Ausherman**

ASL professors and now translator for the play, said she believes it was great that Palmer was using ASL

in the play to expose to the ECU campus. "It's great that she is using ASL in the play and exposing the campus community to this language. American Sign Language is a virtual, gestural, conceptually accurate language that is beautiful to watch in motion" said Ausherman.

More information on Palmer and her upcoming play can be found on the ECU Student Impact website.

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

## Folk singer to perform at Christy's

**Giana Williams**  
TEC STAFF

North Carolina native folk singer, Thomas Strayhorn, will perform live at Christy's Euro Pub this Saturday at 8 p.m. with zero charge for entrance.

Strayhorn started his musical journey during his time spent at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill when he began writing songs in

his former small nit band called Hudson & Haw. He then moved to Colorado for a year after graduation and did not perform much until he moved back to his native state of NC.

The artist began recording songs in 2017 and working with James Phillips from the band Bombadil based out of Durham, NC. Strayhorn said he has worked on an album with Phillips and is currently in the process of releasing another album next year.

"My music normally focuses mainly on North Carolina and the southeast, being away from it and interacting with it," Strayhorn said. "Some of it is also just pretty regular topics like I write about my sexuality."

Strayhorn writes about his sexuality because he noticed that many folk songs he has listened to in the past are not written in a gay perspective. He said he tries to write about his life and relationships from his perspective and hopes people reflect off his songs.

"By way of me not being straight, my songs turn out also not to be straight. I try to write about my life and my relationships," Strayhorn said.

Saturday will be Strayhorn's first time playing at Christy's Euro Pub. Strayhorn said he heard about Christy's through some friends who attended East Carolina University and told him the bar was a good place for him to perform.

Taylor Johnson, general manager for Christy's, said that after being contacted by Strayhorn himself about how the bar booked musicians, Johnson checked him out and thought the professionalism of his website and the originality of his music stood out.

"He emailed me (about) how I book most musicians and after checking out his



**Thomas Strayhorn performs at The Wicked Witch.**

website, I felt he would be a good acoustic fit for the pub," Johnson said. "I believe our regulars will enjoy his sound but also be a new voice that we haven't heard."



**Sam Bondurant**

horn has grown a lot as a musician over the years and his music shows a lot of pride in his home state of North Carolina.

"He's a true North Carolinian, he really loves his state and a lot of pieces about it," Bondurant said. "His voice and his passion really comes through when he sings."

This will be Strayhorn's last show in his September run and afterward he will take some time off to figure out release plans for his new music set to release in the late fall, according to Strayhorn.

"I think I will always make music and I would like to see where it goes," Strayhorn said. "I'm just enjoying myself and playing music and I would like to keep doing it in some form or another."

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

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