



The East Carolinian

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HOMECOMING 2019



MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Pirates look to continue a drive against Gardner-Webb University. ECU won the game over the Runnin' Bulldogs 48-9.

Spirit week brings ECU together

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

Margaret McCollum
TEC STAFF



Homecoming events at East Carolina University began on Sunday and are continuing until Saturday, and students are participating in a variety of activities to celebrate their annual display of Pirate pride.

The theme for homecoming this year is "Cirque de Pirates" according to ECU's website. Activities on the agenda included a banner competition on Oct. 22, and will include a homecoming parade and float competition on Oct. 26 at 9 a.m. along Fifth Street with the ECU football game as well, where the homecoming king and queen will be announced, according to the website.

Chair of the Homecoming Committee and senior elementary education major Nina Chiha said there are new events this year. New events include the Amazing race, Cirque de Pirates, a blood drive and a game night, she said.



Nina Chiha

Non-Spirit cup events and Spirit cup events are planned for this year, Chiha said in an interview prior to Cannonball. On Sunday, Cannonball was hosted downtown which hadn't been done before. At Cannonball, JoJo and B.o.B performed and the homecoming court was announced, she said.

Chiha said it was important to focus on making homecoming week about more than just the spirit cup competition. She said she wanted to make the week inclusive so students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community would be able to get involved in homecoming.

"What I love about Cannonball is we're taking it out of campus and putting it in the community. So we're showing that our East Carolina pride is so strong not only campus but in this community," Chiha said. "And the fact that we're able to celebrate and showcase our Pirate Pride in the community and not just on campus, I think shows how strong the student body, staff, administration and alumni are and I'm super excited for that."

On Monday, the Student Activities Board (SAB) gave out homecoming t-shirts for students to tie-dye at a film screening of *The Greatest Showman*, she said in an interview prior to the screening.

On Tuesday, the Homecoming Committee along with SAB hosted the Amazing Race, where students searched for clues on campus and had the opportunity to win a \$100 gift card, Chiha said. Wednesday's event was the skit night which was an event that was part of the Spirit Cup, she said in an interview prior to

Pirates host Bulls

ECU welcomes USF to Dowdy-Ficklen

Daniel Shepard
TEC STAFF

Two very similar programs in record will matchup inside Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Saturday. The University of South Florida Bulls (3-4, 1-2 AAC) and the East Carolina University Pirates (3-4, 0-3 AAC) find themselves fourth and fifth in the east division of the American Athletic Conference respectively following a stretch of inconsistent offensive play.

ECU will enter Saturday's contest ranked 89th out of 130 FBS teams in total offense (380.6 yards per game) and 109th in scoring offense (21.7 points per game). USF, on the other hand, is ranked 112th in total offense (328.7 yards per game) and has barely cracked the top-100 in scoring offense with 23.4 points per contest.

Much of the Bulls' struggles on the offensive side of the football have revolved around the lack of consistency at the quarterback position. Senior quarterback Blake Barnett helmed USF's offense for the first two games of the 2019 season, but was replaced by redshirt freshman quarterback Jordan McCloud after a lackluster performance against Georgia Tech (2-5, 1-3 ACC).

McCloud, in his first collegiate start, racked up five touchdowns (three passing, two rushing) against South Carolina State University (4-2, 2-1 MEAC),

earning himself the starting nod in each of the four games since while Barnett recovers from ankle surgery.

While McCloud has established himself as a legitimate dual-threat quarterback, racking up 193 rushing yards and four touchdowns on 55 attempts, injuries to his throwing shoulder and wrist have limited his production through the air. After throwing for 217 yards against SC Upstate and 157 against the University of Connecticut (1-6, 0-4 AAC), McCloud was held to just 122 yards combined in his last two contests.



Mike Houston

"They've had a little bit of unrest at quarterback there with Barnett being out, but McCloud is a really impressive athlete," Pirate head coach Mike Houston said. "A dual-threat guy that runs really well and throws the ball with good accuracy and good arm strength. I know he's had some bumps and bruises, but I would expect him to start."

Despite just seven completed passes for 72 yards two games ago against Brigham Young University (3-4), USF walked away with a 27-23 victory, largely due to the strong play of senior running back Jordan Cronkrite. In that contest, Cronkrite rushed for 158 yards and two

touchdowns, his only rushing scores of the year.

That being said, however, Cronkrite has posted 459 yards on the ground in 2019, including 382 over his last three games. By far the Bulls' leading rusher, the senior has the benefit of an experienced offensive line. All five offensive linemen from USF's 2018 Gasparilla Bowl team are back this season, including senior right tackle Marcus Norman and senior right guard William Atterbury who have 75 combined collegiate starts under its belt.

"Offensively, big athletic front," Houston said of USF. "Their skill guys run really well. Cronkrite, I think everybody knows him. I think he had a pretty solid game against us last year and had a pretty solid start this year. He's coming off a streak of a couple of 100-yard games before last week where I think he had 90 yards."

With inconsistencies at the quarterback position, the Bulls' receiving corps has taken a hit. Their leading receiver, senior tight end Mitchell Wilcox, is setting on just 241 yards while sophomore wide receiver Bryce Miller paces the team with 14 receptions.

Coupled with USF's quarterback issues is the absence of sophomore wide

> PIRATES page A4

> SPIRIT page A2

Homecoming history through the decades

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

This year's Cirque de Pirates homecoming began on Sunday, bringing new events to East Carolina University's homecoming creating new traditions. The history of homecoming at ECU is a long one, with some less than favorable traditions.

The first homecoming at ECU took place in 1941, but due to World War II was not held again until 1946. The 1946 homecoming was a veterans' homecoming, held to welcome alumni veterans back to campus.

A Welcome Veterans section in *The Teco Echo*, East Carolina Teachers' College student newspaper, included letters from the Acting President, President of

the Veterans Club, Chairman of Committee and Editor of the *Teco Echo*.

Editor of *The Teco Echo* Joe Tew wrote a letter on behalf of the *Teco Echo* staff published in the newspaper, to welcome veterans to East Carolina Teachers' College.

"We are looking forward to your visit and want you to feel as much at home as you did during your years of study here. All of us on the staff will be available and happy to assist you in any way that we can. Would also like to say thanks for the letters and cards that you have sent. Keep them coming for we like to get them. Enjoy yourself and let us know if we can help," Tew wrote.

> HISTORY page A2



DANIEL THOMAS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The ECU Marching Pirates' Colorguard marching in the 2018 Homecoming Parade on Fifth Street.

ONLINE

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

Frights N' Heights
at the CRW

Tonight at 6 p.m. Campus Recreation and Wellness is having a zip-line costume contest at the North Recreational Complex. Students are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes. Prizes will be given for the best costume and the best scream.

Diversity seminar to talk
difficult dialogues

Today from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Office for Equity and Diversity is having a seminar in order to teach students how to have difficult conversations in a professional setting. It will be held in the Murphy Center in Harvey Hall.

Halloween safety lunch
and learn at SRC

Today from 12:05 to 12:50 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center, Campus Recreation and Wellness and the ECU Police Department are having a discussion about how to stay safe this Halloween, no matter what the activity may be.

CORRECTIONS &
CLARIFICATIONS

In an opinion article in Oct. 22 edition of *The East Carolinian* bouncers at 5th Street Distillery were mistakenly identified when it was actually patrons of the business.

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

HOMECOMING
SCHEDULE

Thursday

Blood Drive
Main Campus Student
Center room 125
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday

Canned Food Drive
Food Bank of Central and
Eastern North Carolina
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pep rally at Freeboot Friday
Five Points Plaza in
Uptown Greenville
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

NPHC Step Show
Main Campus Student
Center Ballrooms
7 p.m.

Saturday

**Parade and Float
Competition**
All along 5th Street
beginning at Hilltop Street
and ending at Evans
Street
9 a.m.

ECU football game vs. UCF
Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium
3:45 p.m.

**Homecoming King and
Queen Announcement**
Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium
Half-time of the football
game



KACEY COURTNEY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Cirque de Pirates Homecoming Banners were draped over the rails of the second floor track in the Student Recreation Center on Sunday night.

Cirque de Pirates reactions

Students express thoughts on this year's homecoming theme

Meghann Villarroel
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Student Activities Board (SAB) and the Student Government Association (SGA) have been met with mixed comments about this year's Homecoming week.

The theme, Cirque de Pirates, is supposed to emulate a circus. The week began with the Homecoming Cannonball, an uptown event with food, games and musical performances.

Junior art major Myiah Nueman said SAB members are split into multiple groups for the concert and homecoming events: those who set up, those who stay for snacks and activities and those who clean up after the event. The homecoming concert was thrown by the SAB entertainment committee.

"I like the fact that the event is open to the public, because it includes the rest of Greenville, it's sort of like the whole community is included in homecoming," Nueman said.

Prior to homecoming, the SAB members did not know much about the performance, including the performers or the venue, Nueman said.

"I'm not going to be going to the concert but I do want to go to the other homecoming events because I like the theme and I want to see 'The Greatest Showman,'" freshman political science major Janelle Wagler said.

Wagler said the Cirque de Pirates idea is creative and matches the fall season well. Wagler said she will attend the screening of "The Greatest Showman" Monday night from 3 to 6 p.m., with her friends. She will not be participating or volunteering in any other event during homecoming week.

Freshman communication major Emma Flowers and her friends also went to Sunday night's homecoming concert with JoJo and B.o.B, Friday's step show, and plan to attend today's the Blood Drive. The blood drive will be held today from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Main Campus Student Center room 125.

"I will use anything as an excuse to see 'The Greatest Showman' and so I'm really excited for that. Watching movies on the lawn with my friends is always fun," Flowers said.

Flowers said she enjoyed homecoming in high school and hopes to continue being active throughout college. Flowers said she will not be volunteering in any event.

Freshman exercise physiology major Reese Hawkins said he's excited for the football game against the University of South Florida (USF) on Oct. 26 at Dowdy-Ficklen stadium. He said he is not going to any of the other homecoming events.

"I like the theme because I think that somehow pirates and circuses actually work, even though you wouldn't think so, a circus theme just seems like it's appropriate. I think it's going to be cool," Hawkins said.

Hawkins said he will be tailgating before the game, but will not be participating in any other homecoming event due to his own schedule and he will not be volunteering at any events.

Freshman family and community service major Brooke Burrell said she plans on going to "The Greatest Showman" screening as well as the

homecoming game. She said she likes that the movie matches well with the theme.

"Homecoming is something that was really big in high school, and I actually didn't know that ECU did activities for a whole week, so I really like that. I think you can do a lot of things with a pirate theme, so I will hold my opinions until I see it," Burrell said.

Burrell said she did not have a lot of school spirit in high school, but college homecoming is something she looks forward to experiencing. Burrell will not be tailgating before the homecoming game.

Freshman Biology major Thomas Green said he does not plan on going to any of the homecoming events, but likes the idea of Cirque de Pirates.

"I don't think I have ever seen a circus theme during homecoming, not in any college or in high school, so I like it and I'm sure they can come up with a lot of circus-themed events or with the social media it's a catchy idea," Green said.

In addition to attending Sunday's concert and "The Greatest Showman" screening, freshman Hospitality Management major Jordan Luciano and his girlfriend plan on donating blood Thursday.

"I didn't know about homecoming from anyone or I didn't see anything on or around campus, but I think that the ECU Instagram does a good job promoting everything around homecoming. I like that the theme is circus, it's fun and I think a lot of people will enjoy it," Luciano said.

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



ARCHIVED | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Three members of ECU's Cheer Squad walking in the 2018 Homecoming Parade on Fifth Street.

SPIRIT continued from A1

the Amazing Race.

"Amazing Race is new, we've never done that before, Cirque de Pirates is a new event, blood drive is a new event, game night is a new event," Chiha said.

Today, the Blood Drive will be held in the Main Campus Student Center room 125 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students who donate blood can receive free Jimmy Johns and Smashed Waffles, Chiha said. There is also a canned food drive where students compete to collect the most amount of cans to donate, she said.

Tomorrow, Freeboot Friday will be held at Five Points Plaza at 5 p.m. and student game night will be hosted in Joyner Library from 6 to 10 p.m., Chiha said. On Saturday, organizations competing in the spirit cup will have their floats in the homecoming parade which will begin at Walcott

elementary school and go to Fifth Street to Reade Street in front of Sup Dogs, she said.

The homecoming football game will begin at 3:45 p.m. on Saturday, Chiha said.

ECU's Student Government Association (SGA) Vice President Taylor Chappell said any organizations were able to participate in the banner competition this year who wanted to, but there are certain organizations that normally have involvement in the competition every year.

"Typically, it's organizations within Greek Life or ECU Ambassadors or other big organizations on campus who have a presence, but it's open to anyone that wants to participate," Chappell said.

Participation in homecoming court was higher this year than normal, according to Chappell, excluding some organizations who are participating but did not nominate candidates.

"On homecoming court, I know as of right now, there were 18 male and female candidates I believe, that general amount, and typically there is

only maybe 12," Chappell said.

Hannah Jeffries, homecoming court nominee and Alpha Gamma Delta sorority member, said her inspiration for running for homecoming court came from her involvement in her sorority.

"I think I really just wanted to represent something that had been a part of my college career, my sorority obviously has played a huge role in that, so I really wanted to represent them as a person and all of the values that they stand for," Jeffries said.

Jeffries said her goal is to be a spokesperson for Alpha Gamma Delta and communicate its beliefs about how a member of their sorority should behave.

According to ECU's website, the Student Homecoming Committee awards a "spirit cup" and \$1,000 to the organization with the most points after homecoming. Points are awarded through the float competition, banner competition, skits and the canned food drive. There are also 100 points awarded to an organization for each finalist on the homecoming court and an additional 100 points for each winner of the king and queen competition.

Jeffries said the duties of the homecoming court include riding on their designated floats and accepting the crown at the football game on Saturday if they are awarded the title.

On the day of the homecoming football game, the homecoming candidates will attend the parade and ride on their floats, according to Jeffries. She said the top five candidates for king and queen will meet on the field during halftime to announce the winners.

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

HISTORY continued from A1

In 1961, ECU's homecoming theme was Down in Dixie, according to East Carolinian, the student newspaper for East Carolina College. A headline in East Carolinian from 1961 read "Blue Skies, Confederate Flags, Excited Crowds Typify East Carolina Homecoming."

At this homecoming, floats were decorated in cotton and Theta Chi's homecoming float was set on fire. People dressed as Ku Klux Klan members and feathered an "Elon tar bather," as the game was against Elon that year. The then Chancellor, Leo W. Jenkins dressed in

a confederate uniform for the homecoming parade.

There was student organization, East Carolina Gay Community (ECGC) at ECU in the late 70's and early 80's Grad Assistant in the University Archives, Zachary Dale said. The Newman Center provided the students shelter and the nuns at the Newman Center advised the organization.

Tau Kappa Epsilon did not like the ECGC being at the Newman Center, according to Dale. In 1981 TKE harassed students outside the Newman Center by yelling, throwing

items at students and creating a "hostile" environment.

"'82, '83, it was like an exact year later, it started again but this time the Tau Kappa Epsilon's tore off the paneling of the Newman Center's homecoming float and burned it in their front yard and when the nuns complained basically the TKE gave a half apology and nobody got in trouble despite that probably being considered a hate crime," Dale said.



Zachary Dale

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

OUR VIEW

Feminism event offers support for students

This past Tuesday, East Carolina University's Women and Gender Office (WGO) hosted the "This is What a Feminists Looks Like" event to provide ECU students with the ability to engage with members of the WGO and express what feminism means to them.

The goal of the event was to provide unity among students and relay the message that the WGO is a safe space for those looking to express themselves and to promote future events hosted by the organization.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe that the "This is What a Feminists Looks Like" event not only allowed students a supportive space to share their beliefs on the concept of feminism, but also brought students together to celebrate the power of the feminism movement.

The efforts supplied by the WGO to the campus are greatly appreciated and we hope ECU students understand that there are many organizations on campus that offer support and welcomes people of all genders and beliefs.

It is important that we support women and their accomplishments in today's society. Although there has been a greater appreciation of feminism in the past decade, there is always room for improvement, such as the acceptance of all women, including LGBTQ women and women of color.

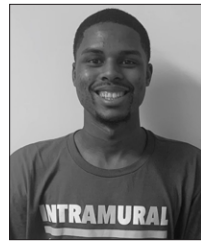
The WGO sets strong an example for other organizations on campus as to how the acceptance of student beliefs should be accepted.



SOON-TO-BE FORMER ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF MICK MULVANEY

Homecoming unites people Annual festivities brings the ECU community together

Doin' the Dan Thing



Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

Every year around Halloween time, people all over tend to come together to celebrate homecoming week. The city of Greenville is doing that now currently. After seeing the impact the tradition has had on not only Pirate Nation but on other cities around the country, I believe that the annual homecoming tradition benefits various communities and gives people something to cheer for before Halloween.

Homecoming has grown so much on people over the years that if the tradition was taken away, I think that the first half of the academic year will be completely dull and boring for all students and people in the community. Even though the celebration differs from school to school, the impact that homecoming brings is just the same despite what happens ultimately at the end of the period.

Taking a look at the various events that take place during homecoming week, they differ between schools not only with how each school will approach the occasion.

People in the community like seeing the annual homecoming parade, who will be named homecoming king and queen, as well as who will win the homecoming football game.

For East Carolina University and other colleges around the country the homecoming concert brings big name artists to their schools to perform during that week. Some schools have had bigger artists perform at their school and the impact the concert has had during the time whether it's kicking off the week, wrapping up the week, or just heating it up has stayed the same in my eyes despite attendance numbers at the end of it all.

The homecoming tradition increases circulation of people and visitors come through a town which in turn increases the amount of business different places get for the week. I think that really benefits the town because people will come to town but at the same time it ends up making different college towns and areas that are more crowded, especially during the weekend.

The thing that makes homecoming stick out to me is the way people come together every year for that special time period during the academic year. Being at ECU, and seeing so much of the Greenville

community come out for the homecoming parade early in the morning standing on the sides of the road admiring all of the different floats students and different organizations put together and design for the occasion.

On top of the parade, the amount of school colors that flood the community show how much school pride alumni, families, students and faculty have throughout the week makes such an occasion stand out.

While homecoming week is still going on to this moment at ECU, I believe that perhaps the best events are yet to come as the Pirates look to down the Bulls of the University of South Florida on Saturday afternoon inside Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. During the game on Saturday, fans and everyone in attendance will get to see who was named homecoming king and queen for 2019.

Homecoming every year will always take over the community during the fall season. The only thing I can say is do not be one who chooses to skip out on traditions because you will ultimately miss out on a great time.

Roberts is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Online classes should be considered



Macie Tano
TEC STAFF

Recently, I started thinking about distance education and online classes. Many students believe that physically attending a university is the only way to go, and few consider pursuing their degree via online school. There are benefits for both, and one program may work better than the other depending on the needs of the student. In this piece, I want to discuss the pros and cons of distance education.

As of right now, I am a full-time student enrolled in 17 credit hours, all of which are classes I attend on campus. I try to make it a habit to attend all my classes, but there are those days where I may miss one of them, whether I mean to or not. This can be especially difficult when I have a lot of assignments due that week, and not to mention my work schedule and extra curriculars.

With that being said, it is very frustrating when I may need to skip a class due to work for another class, work, etc., and I get points off my overall grade. I'm sure other students have felt this way before as well.

With distance education, physical attendance obviously isn't necessary. There may be some situations where the online instructor may want their students to be online at a certain time, but for the most part, the students can work on their coursework on their own time and make it fit in with their schedules.

Distance education students are also able to learn the material at their own pace. I know there are times in some of my classes where I feel as though I'm not fully understanding the concepts we

"I prefer physically being in class as I have been able to meet some great professors and classmates and have been able to get extra help when needed. However, someone with budget, time or distant constraints may find that online classes work best for them and their needs."

are learning, and before I have a chance to figure it out, the professor is moving on to the next concept and I ultimately fall behind. Online students can spend more time on certain topics they don't understand, without getting too behind on their work. There are also certain accelerated programs within the distance education program that allows for one to receive their degree quicker.

Another benefit of distance education, which is often a huge proponent in one's decision to take their classes online versus in person, is the cost. Distance education students have the luxury of being able to take their classes anywhere they want. They don't have to pay for on and off campus housing, or the transportation to get to and from campus. Their class materials may also be cheaper, as all the material needed is usually online.

A con of being a distant education student, however, could be having an instructor who is less accessible. When I am having a hard time understanding a concept or want to discuss a grade I received, I am usually able to meet face to face with my professors either after class or during their office hours. If an

online student needs to meet with their instructor, they usually are only able to contact them over email and wait for a response.

Another downfall of being an online student could be the lack of communication with classmates. One thing I have appreciated in my classes at East Carolina is being able to exchange contact information with other people in my classes so we can discuss, ask questions, and remind each other about assignments, quizzes and tests that we may have.

There are benefits to taking classes online and in-person classes. Personally, even though I don't always appreciate attendance policies, I prefer physically being in class as I have been able to meet some great professors and classmates and have been able to get extra help when needed. However, someone with budget, time or distant constraints may find that online classes work best for them and their needs.

Tano is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

TEC 'sports

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

Daniel Roberts

Copy Editor

@droberts1892



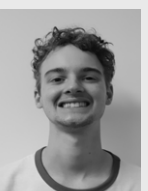
USF 21-17. ECU is capable of scoring at random points throughout the game. The Pirates have had a rough history with

the Bulls in recent years and I think that will continue to take place. Head coach Mike Houston has done a great job of turning this ECU football team around, but they are still in the stage of trying to finish games. I would love to see ECU win, but because I am still not convinced that it can finish games on both sides of the ball.

Brendan Gillespie

Sports Editor

@gillguy14



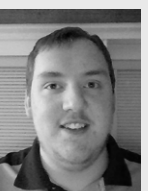
ECU 24-21. I think that ECU can put the ball in the endzone, especially at home, but the biggest thing

would be defense. If the Pirates show up on defense, then they will win the game. Bonus prediction: ECU will have at least one defensive turnover. Whether it is an interception, forced fumble or a play on special teams, the Pirates have proven they can make big plays against the toughest of opponents, including a blocked punt against a formerly ranked UCF squad.

Daniel Shepard

Sports Chief

@cubscrazy17



ECU 17-10. Both teams have struggled to move the football on offense this

season. With a banged up quarterback at the helm for an injured Blake Barnett, the Bulls have failed to crack 200 passing yards combined in the last two games. Couple that with a leaky defense against the rush and the Pirates should be able to scratch together enough points to walk away with a homecoming victory.

Jess Sabin

Football Reporter

@jess_sabin



ECU 24-13. ECU showed in the second half against UCF that they have what it takes to stay with the better

teams in the AAC. With this being homecoming, ECU will have a significant home field advantage. USF has struggled defensively all year, and with a backup starting under center the pieces for ECU to get their fourth win of the season and be back at a .500 record. Holton Ahlers needs to show up and lead the Pirates on Saturday.

Pirates 'Paint It Purple'

ECU football prepares for homecoming game

Daniel Shepard
TEC STAFF

It's that time of year again. All this week, leading up to Saturday's football game against the University of South Florida, homecoming activities have taken over East Carolina University's campus.

From parades to plays to colorful banners, homecoming is a time for students to engage with their institution and for alumni to revisit some fond college memories.

On the football field, however, is where most people, both young and old, culminate at the end of the week for what many may consider to be the greatest sport in the world, college football. For the Pirates, Saturday will be doubling as the "Paint It Purple" night inside Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, a fitting promotion for ECU's faithful.

"It's my favorite color," head football coach Mike Houston said. "We're excited about being back at home. I would expect a lot of purple here on Saturday. I expect a sea of purple when we get off the busses down here for the Pirate walk. It should be a real exciting week around the game."

While the Pirates are slated to be two point underdogs at home by ESPN, ECU officials are still



ECU's offensive line readies for a play earlier in the season against Gardner-Webb University in Greenville.

MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

projecting a crowd somewhere in the 34,000 range, with the possibility of that number rising with a strong student turnout. As usual, halftime of the football game will be used to crown homecoming king and queen as well as the winners of various other homecoming events staged throughout the week.

Homecoming, of course, goes deeper than just a football game. It is an opportunity for alumni and other figures of the community to come together and interact with the current students and faculty members at the university.

"Coming back home is a huge thing for our alumni base and it's always fun to have an event each year where you really go above and beyond trying to bring fans,"

Eric Ward, director of athletics marketing & fan engagement, said. "The opportunity for alumni who don't get to come back all the time, to come back this weekend is always fun."

With all the homecoming festivities this week and a Hall-of-Fame game and Military Appreciation Day next week, Ward indicated that there would be a strong number of former ECU athletes back in Greenville

for those activities.

For the football players on the field, however, emphasis has been placed on winning Saturday evening against USF. More so

to give the program its first conference win of the season, Houston recognizes the importance to the fans of winning on Saturday.

Kickoff between USF and ECU is slated for 3:45 p.m.

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



Eric Ward

ONLINE | FULL STORY

Soccer to face AAC challenges

Brendan Gillespie
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University (5-8-2, 2-3-1 AAC) soccer team will face the University of Central Florida (8-2-4, 3-1-2 AAC) tonight at 7 in Johnson Stadium. Afterwards, the team will face the University of South Florida (10-3, 5-1 AAC) again at home on Sunday at 1 p.m.

"This is a big weekend for us, we have two of the top teams in the conference coming to Johnson Stadium," head coach Jason Hamilton said.

ECU will be looking to recover from a 4-0 loss to Southern Methodist University (9-5-1, 2-4 AAC) on the road by returning to Greenville, North Carolina and will have two games on the team's home field in the next couple of days.

Although neither opponents are officially ranked, both received votes to be inserted into the NCAA's top-25 list, where USF received the second-highest amount of votes and are right outside of being ranked.

USF received 46 votes, and UCF also got votes with 19 in total.

That alone could signify that both teams may be tough



Defender Carsen Parker looks to score a goal in Johnson Stadium.

COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

opponents for ECU, regardless if the Pirates are facing both teams at home.

In all of the total matchups between UCF, the Pirates have a 3-11-1 record as well as a 1-4 record while facing them at home in Johnson Stadium.

"UCF is coming off of two scoreless draws where they created a lot of chances. We have to be ready to deal with their dynamic attack. I can guarantee they spend a lot of time in front of the goal this week and will want to be more opportunistic against us," Hamilton said.

Against the other team from Florida, ECU has only won one game out of the last eight

matchups between it and USF. The Bulls are ranked second among all teams in the AAC, and are only behind No. 11 nationally ranked University of Memphis (13-1-1, 5-0-1 AAC) in most of the positive statistical categories.

USF is currently leading the conference in shots per game, averaging about 20 during each matchup on the season thus far. If the defence can limit USF's shot count and ECU's redshirt junior goalkeeper Melanie Stiles can

keep those shots out of the back of the goal, the Pirates will have a greater chance to win.

Junior forward Tori Riggs and senior forward Jenna Dages are players that have been the primary scorers for the ECU offense. Riggs leads the Pirates with 10 points, four goals and two assists while Dages has three goals and two assists on the season.

If both forwards can jumpstart the offense during both matches, they will vastly improve ECU's chances of coming out victorious.

Although ECU is ranked fifth out of the 11 teams in the conference, the team will still be looking to advance in the ranks of the AAC, and become a contender for the conference tournament at the end of the season.

If ECU manages to defeat both UCF and USF, its could possibly jump UCF at the number three spot in the rankings, as the Pirates and the Knights are only a few games behind one another.

Tonight's match will begin at 7, while Sunday's match begins at 1 p.m.

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



Tori Riggs

PIRATES continued from A1

receiver Johnny Ford. Ford has missed the last three games due to a violation of team rules despite owning the Bulls' only 100-yard receiving game this season. That effort came against SC Upstate when he hauled in four catches for exactly 100 yards and one score.

Without Ford, the workload has fallen on a slew of pass-catchers, including sophomore wide receiver Randall St. Felix and junior tight end Jacob Mathis. All told, 15 different players have caught a pass for the Bulls this season, with Wilcox leading the way with a 34.4 yard-per-game average.

Struggles aplenty on the offensive side, USF's defensive unit is a solid group. Through seven games, the Bulls' defense has recovered 10 fumbles and booked an average of 9.1 tackles for loss per game. Both of those marks rank third in the FBS while their eight interceptions as a unit rank 21st in the nation.

"They're a big, good-looking bunch," Houston said. "They're going to look good getting off the bus. They've got a talented

roster. Defensively, I think that they're very sound with a big, physical, athletic front. The mike linebacker (senior Patrick) Macon is having a great year there. The defensive end, (senior Greg) Reaves is having a fantastic year."

Macon, as Houston mentions, is a very impactful player of USF's defense. Currently, he ranks sixth in the AAC with 7.9 tackles per game and has booked eight tackles for loss this season, placing him second on the roster in that category. First, with 8.5 tackles for loss, is fellow linebacker sophomore Dwayne Boyles Jr. who also finds himself fourth on the roster in tackles.

Collectively, the Bulls' defensive 11 rank third in the FBS in a statistic called defensive mayhem, having recorded either a tackle for loss, interception or fumble on 16.8% of plays from scrimmage this season.

"They've done a great job of pressuring the quarterback," Houston said of USF's defense. "They're done a great job of forcing turnovers this year. We're going to be challenged on offense this week."

ONLINE | FULL STORY



Holton Ahlers

Despite ranking second in the country with 18 turnovers gained this season, USF's defense finds itself 116th in rushing defense nationally, allowing an average of 213 yards per contest.

For the Pirates, a team that likes to run the football, that could be welcomed news this week. Led by freshman running back Demetrius in the absence of junior Darius Pinnix Jr, ECU's rushing attack has garnered 1,135 yards through seven games. That mark is the fourth most in program history since 2000 while the Pirates have executed 46 more run plays than pass plays thus far in 2019.

That, of course, has hampered the passing output of sophomore quarterback Holton Ahlers as he has broken 300 yards just once this season.

Ahlers' best effort through the air came last time out against the University of Central Florida (5-2, 2-1 AAC) when he passed for 313 yards and a touchdown.

Kickoff between the Bulls and Pirates on Saturday is slated for 3:45 p.m. inside Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

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

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HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Discipline and experience make an important difference with a physical goal. Teach from experience. Gamble? Not today. Choose stability over illusion. Exercise energizes you.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Disciplined efforts contribute to growing income. Maintain routines and provide consistent, reliable value. Money flows in. Manage expenses and accounts. Find a lucky break.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Let people know what you need. You can find the professional funding. Pursue projects that call to your heart. Leave misconceptions behind. You're gaining respect.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Long-term benefits arise when you follow your heart. Fantasies prove flimsy. Family comes first. Give in to a mutual attraction. Dress to impress someone sweet.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Visualize immense personal success. What fabulous life can you imagine? Some things previously idealized can lose their shine when realized. Practice self-discipline for long-term benefit.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Widen your perspective. Discover new views and flavors. Resist the temptation to buy stuff you don't need. Travel light for ease and freedom.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Invest in a practical domestic improvement with long-lasting materials. Infuse your home with love and beauty. Stick to basics. Discover the elegance of simplicity.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Slow down for organization and planning. Imagine rising love, beauty and joy. Envision accomplishing a long-term dream. Abandon a fantasy and take simple steps.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- Keep up the good work with shared financial endeavors. Contribute and participate. Support your partners. Adjust to changes. You're making progress step by step.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Welcome contributions from others. Network and collaborate to get your message out farther. Stick to reliable connections. You can solve an intellectual puzzle.

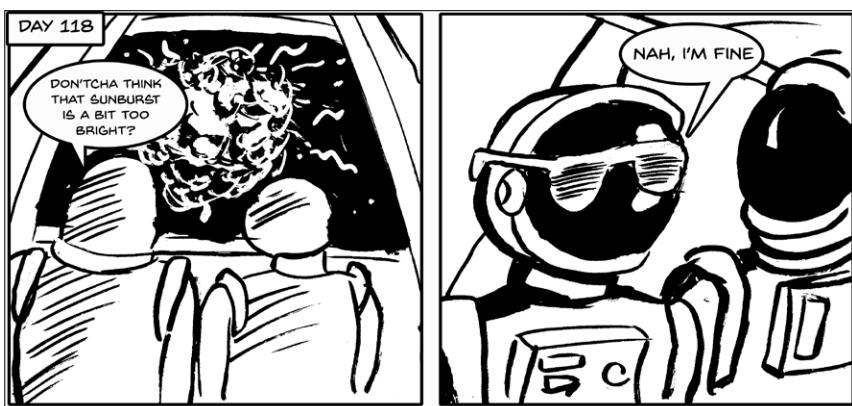
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Keep the tone respectful and friendly with a group project. Stick to common foundational elements. Keep your bargains and agreements. Do what you said.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Love provides the common infrastructure for you and your partner. Share your vision for possibility that inspires you. Provide motivation.

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COMICS

ONE AND ONLY



BLISS

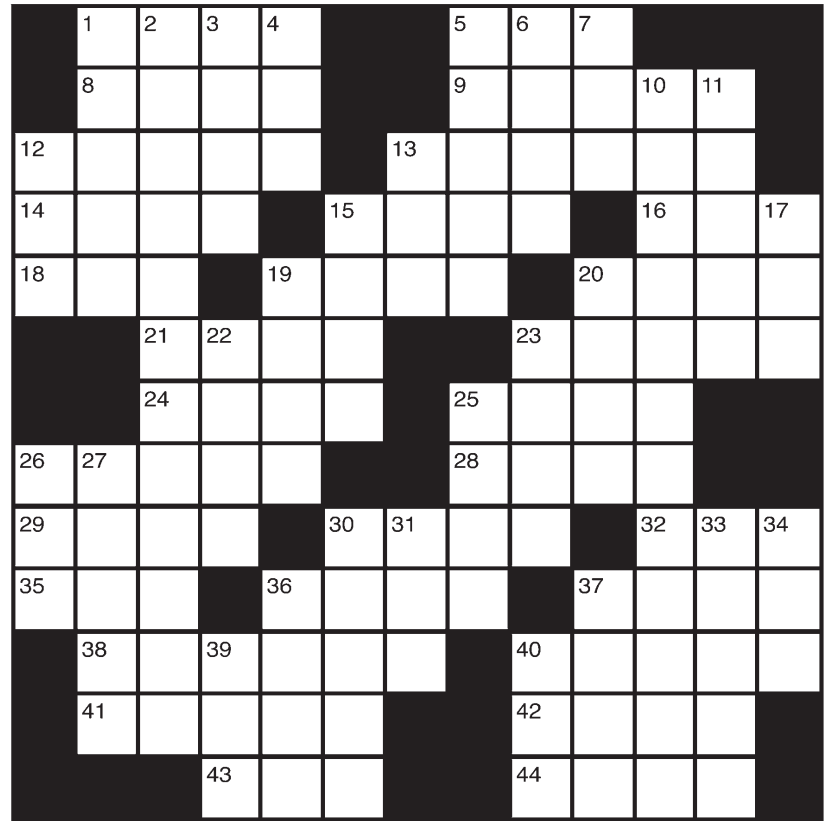


"... And the cold foam cascara nitro goes to Lazarus!"

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

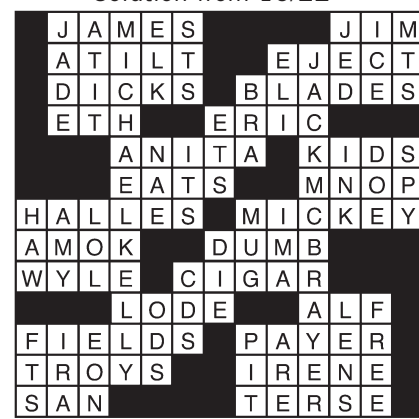
- "Rise of the Planet of the ___"; James Franco movie
- Martin Sheen's role on "The West Wing"
- Scottish hillside
- Actor Ballard of "Numb3rs"
- Tolerate
- Actor Wesley
- Holliday and Severinsen
- Miners' discoveries
- OPQ followers
- Sault __, Marie
- Difficult child
- "Family ___"
- Creative thought
- City fellows vacationing on a ranch
- Part of a window's frame
- Ricky Ricardo's portrayer
- "The ___ Burnett Show"
- "How ___ Your Mother"
- Actor Ken
- Stewart and Cryer
- "___ Jude"; Beatles song
- "The ___ Bang Theory"

- Scott ___ of "Joanie Loves Chachi"
- Villain
- Ladd or Ties
- Rue and Gilbert
- ___ Allen and the Green Mountain Boys; early American militia
- Obama's title: abbr.
- 180° from NNW
- "___ sow, so shall ye reap"

DOWN

- Monastery head
- "The ___"; Drew Carey's game show
- Actor George
- "___ Spot Run"; David Arquette film
- Joyce DeWitt's role on "Three's Company"
- Actor Wallach and others
- Short swim
- Role for Ellen Pompeo
- Magazine edition
- Commercials
- Mrs. in Madrid
- Televangelist Roberts
- Six-pointers, for short
- Catherine of "JAG"
- Combine
- Singer Celine
- Carter and Clinton: abbr.
- Pet dinosaur of the Flintstones
- Ear of corn
- Sitcom title role for Linda Lavin
- Mansfield or Meadows
- Jed Clampett's discovery
- Wipe away
- "___, Dear"
- Feminine undergarments
- Crew members
- Frequent utterances heard in "Fargo"
- Hot tub

Solution from 10/22



SUDOKU

SUDOKU

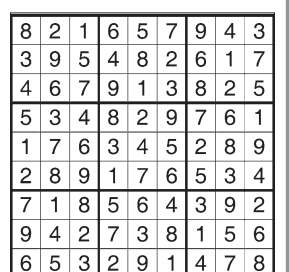
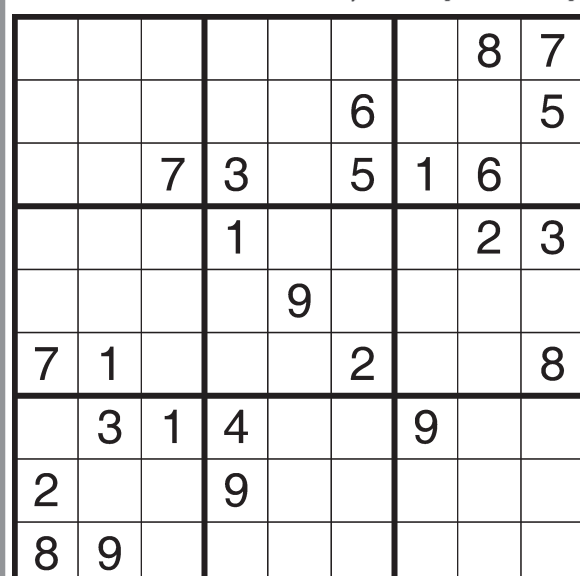
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution from 10/22



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EVENTS

TODAY

October Wine Tasting with Mutual Distributing
Dickinson Avenue Public House
5:30 p.m.

Alash Feat. Shodekeh
Wright Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

TOMORROW

Coffee & Paddle
Blackbeard Coffee Roasters
7 a.m.

Halloween Artini
Greenville Museum of Art
7 p.m.

Creatures of the Night
A Time For Science
5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Pints for Pints Blood Drive
Pitt Street Brewing Company
12 p.m.

Seriously Clowning Sketch Comedy Show
Whirligig Stage
8 p.m.

Seriously Clowning Sketch Comedy Show
Whirligig Stage
8 p.m.



East Carolina University featured twirler Kaylee Griffin leads the ECU Marching Pirates in the 2018 annual Homecoming parade down Fifth Street.

Homecoming parade returns

ECU community to celebrate before USF football game

Hannah Bolick
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Homecoming Parade and Float Competition will make its return as the precursor to the homecoming football game against University of South Florida Saturday at 9 a.m. located along Fifth Street from Hilltop Street to Evans Street.

The parade will include a variety of groups walking, riding in cars and in traditional floats, according to the homecoming parade lead with the Student Activities Board, Molly Roth. Those in the floats not only have the parade itself to worry about, but also the first round of judging for the float competition which occurs before the parade even begins.

“The judges will be there before the parade begins to judge the floats up-close and then during the parade they’ll judge them again as well as judge for like the spirit of the orgs,”

Roth said. “We didn’t always do that (the second judging), but sometimes orgs would come show up with only like two or three people and just walk down with that. We needed a way to entice them to get more people to come out and get excited.”

According to this year’s homecoming information packet, floats must incorporate this year’s theme, Cirque de Pirates, this year’s opponent for the homecoming game, USF, and of course ECU pride. The winners of the parade and the spirit cup will be announced at the Homecoming game, Roth said.

The Chi Omega sorority placed second in last year’s float competition but senior elementary education major and Chi Omega campus activities director, Taylor Collins, said that the competition is not the main motivator for their participation every year.

“There is really no motivation other than having to win that money for our philanthropy and getting to experience the bonding,” Collins said. “Because like I said a lot of the freshman girls participate and they have just gone through recruitment so not all of them know each other so this is a good time to get to know each other and bond with each other.”



Taylor Collins

However, the parade has more to offer than floats alone. Senior dance and English education major Lauren McKee is a member of the East Carolina Dance Association, which is a program comprised of ECU dance majors and combines dance with community outreach. She said she

loves how the parade brings all of the ECU community together.

“I know when we’ve done the parade in the past we see maybe like older, maybe previous ECU students with their kids who watch the parade, they always love the dance people. So I think it just kind of brings everyone together,” McKee said.

Roth said that she hopes that this community feeling reaches even outside of the university.

“I really want it to be more of a community event. That’s something that I’ve really been working toward, getting the City of Greenville involved more because the school is part of the heart of Greenville so it would be nice if we could get more community participation,” Roth said.

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



Sigma Gamma Rho performs in the 2018 National Pan-Hellenic Council’s Step Show in Wright Auditorium.

NPHC step show to highlight unity

Olan Bryant
TEC STAFF

A staple of East Carolina University’s homecoming celebrations, the National Pan-Hellenic Council’s (NPHC) step show, will be performed tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Main Campus Student Center’s Ballrooms.

Representatives from the nine different African American Greek life organizations governed by the NPHC will come together for a night of dancing and skits to showcase the skills of their fraternities and sororities.

The groups governed by the NPHC include active fraternities such as Phi Beta Sigma, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi and Iota Phi Theta as well as active sororities Alpha Kappa Alpha, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma Gamma Rho.

Deneice Russell, president of the Grad chapter of the NPHC, offered her opinion on the step show and how it has come to affect the organizations that participate in it.

“It’s been a part of ECU’s homecoming for over 20 years and it means a lot because we want to showcase the versatility of our organizations,” Russell said.

The show has usually been a sellout, marking it as the main Friday night event for ECU’s homecoming week. Russell also explained how the show helps strengthen the bond between the different groups of the NPHC through teamwork as well as friendly competition.

“Sisterhood and brotherhood are important to us and this is a way for us to have a little friendly competition,” Russell said. “There are seven organizations that will be competing, it’s always good for the NPHC groups to come together and compete.”

The step show has also been noted for bringing in students from the local high schools to participate and introduce them to college life. It serves as a reminder of each organization’s commitment to service around the Greenville community in teaching with their principles.

Jamira Simmons, president of Sigma Gamma Rho, explained what the show means to her and

why it is so enjoyable to many students.

“What makes the step show so enjoyable is the performance, seeing how so many have worked so hard to showcase their passion,” Simmons said.

Simmons also offered her own input on how teamwork affects the preparations for the show, and the amount of work it takes to put on a good performance.

She said that without teamwork, the performance couldn’t be made possible.

For the more experienced members of the NPHC groups, the show can be seen as business as usual. But for sophomore Ayeba Sopreye Eke-Spiff, a member of Phi Beta Sigma, the first time can create a sense of tension around the event.

“I have mixed feelings, I’m both excited and nervous. This is going to be my first homecoming as a brother and I get to see the older brothers and enjoy the festivities,” Eke-Spiff said. “This is also going to be my first homecoming step show, we have been working hard day and night to make sure we have a great show.”

Along with the preparation that has gone into the show, Eke-Spiff also made note of the competition between the organizations and how it drives them to want to succeed together.

“We compete to make each other better, but we all know we are under one organization, the NPHC, and regardless of competing, we know to be unified,” Eke-Spiff said.

Tickets for the NPHC Step Show can be purchased at the Main Campus Student Center Central Ticket Office and are \$12 for the public.

More information on the NPHC step show can be found on the ECU events calendar website. Information on additional homecoming events can be found on the SAB official website.

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

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