



The East Carolinian

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HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Ashley Cooke holds a sticker after participating in early voting.

Local election polls open today

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

General elections open today where Pitt County voters will be able to vote for city council and mayor in their respective municipality.

Deputy Director of Pitt County Board of Elections Tony McQueen said all 10 municipalities in Pitt County have seats open for town and city council during this election. The only difference between town and city council is the name, according to McQueen.

Greenville is the only council in Pitt County where people have to vote based on the district they live in within the city, McQueen said. Districts change every 10 years during the census, he said. Other municipalities have an open council where citizens vote for city council members and mayor, he said.

Early voting lasts for 17 days prior to the election, McQueen said. General voting opens today, he said. Voters can find their polling site on the State Board of Elections website. Voters can also call the Pitt County Board of Elections at (252)-902-3300 to find out their polling location.

Polling sites are based on which buildings in the precinct are willing to house the polling site, McQueen said. The site must be American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, he said. Many

> **VOTING** page A2

Beach band uplifts disabled

Olan Bryant
TEC STAFF

Carolina beach music group Band of Oz will perform its annual concert for the Disability Advocates and Resource Center (DARC) at the Greenville Rock Springs Center tomorrow night at 6:30.

Tomorrow night will be the tenth time the band has performed to raise funds for the DARC, which according to their website, is a non-profit agency serving Pitt, Wilson and Beaufort counties that provides aid to people with mental and physical disabilities. Funds raised from the concert will assist those with disabilities that are in emergency situations.

The group would change their name to Band of Oz in 1970 and have since gone through different lineups over the years, with many members from the Raleigh and Greenville areas. They have recorded numerous hits over five decades, including Ocean Boulevard, I Can't Think and Somewhere Over the Rainbow, according to its website.

Executive director for the DARC, Helen Pase, offered her comments on the fundraising concert and the support it has received in the past. Pase said the concert is known to have a good turn out and she expects great attendance this year as well.

"This will be our tenth anniversary of having the event with the Band of Oz. People are very supportive and we're happy to have them on our side," Pase said. "We will have anywhere from 200 to 250 people there."

Pase also said the concert is one of the most anticipated events on the DARC's calendar each year, generating over \$60,000 in the ten years since it began.

"The Band of Oz is probably the top beach band on the circuit right now, and people love them," Pase said. "Their entertainment is over the top, when the end of October rolls around, people start to ask, 'When are we having the Band of

> **BAND OF OZ** page A4

ECU pledges purple

Students take stand against sexual violence

Michelle Mazzei
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Pledge Purple is a yearlong initiative, focused on ending sexual violence, harassment, bullying and hazing. East Carolina University provides one week a year focusing on such goals in the fall, with this year's activities scheduled for Nov. 4 through 7.

Students will have the opportunity to sign a banner, learn the Purple Pledge and speak with Pledge Purple Ambassadors who work with the Women and Gender office.

Associate Director in Intercultural Affairs and Associate Director of the WGO, Ashley Cleland, oversees the department.

WGO partnered with faculty members and other campus and community partners, including ECU counseling, Victim Advocacy Services, Student Affairs, Greek Life, Dean of Students, Student Activities and Organizations, Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center, Gender Studies Program, Campus Recreation and Wellness and the College of Health and Student Performance, Cleland said.

One of the main weeks where the WGO really focuses on creating an environment where everyone is safe and supported is Pledge Purple Week, Cleland said.

"It was a collaborative effort that's really powerful because it shows that so many areas of our campus are dedicated to creating a college environment for our students, faculty and staff that is safe and free from bullying, hazing, sexual violence and harassment. They will speak up and take care of each other," Cleland said.

Pledge Purple was started in 2015 at ECU to address specific forms of harm that impacts the university. Pledge Purple week is an annual event and is dedicated to people learning about the organization and signing the pledge, Cleland said.

The Pledge is something that students, faculty and staff sign which essentially

says they won't harm others physically or verbally, they'll educate themselves about the forms of harm and safely intervene, if possible, with those who have been harmed on campus, Cleland said.

The pledge on the ECU united webpage and states, "I will not use my hands or words in acts of violence, bullying or sexual assault. I will educate myself about what violence, bullying and sexual assault looks like in the Pirate community. I will support my fellow Pirates and safely intervene as an active bystander if I witness scenarios of violence, bullying or sexual assault."

The WGO will have banner signings throughout the week for Pledge Purple Week, both on ECU's Main Campus and Health Science Campus, where people can sign the pledge. They can interact with the Pledge Purple ambassadors, which are student leaders and volunteers trained specifically in these topics, Cleland said.

The banner signing is for individuals who take the Purple Pledge and they will be held throughout the week both on main campus and the Health Sciences Campus (HSC). The signing on Main Campus will be on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The HSC will have its main signing Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cleland said the ambassadors are currently presenting to classes about what Pledge Purple means and why it's so important to campus and the surrounding community.

During the week, the ambassadors will be wearing purple shirts which say "Pledge Purple Ambassador" on them. They will be available to answer questions and are there to talk to and support participants, she said.

"We have tons of faculty and staff who are collaborating on this series, but the students seem to be hiding their passion. It's important to me to see the passion about creating a safe environment for everyone come alive," Cleland said.

The WGO will host a Green Dot Bystander Intervention training for faculty and staff on today at the MCSC in room 253 at 6 p.m., Cleland said.

The Bystander Intervention training is backed up by research and it relies on the premise that if everyone does their small part and

to individual responsibilities, the effect will be a safe, inclusive campus that is intolerant to power-based personal violence, Cleland said.

Green Dot specifically focuses on dating violence, sexual violence and stalking, whereas Pledge Purple is broader and focuses on harassment, sexual violence, bullying and hazing, Cleland said.

On Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., there is a resource fair on the MCSC Lawn. During the Resource Fair, participants can sign the banner and also speak with any of the resources. For participants signing the banner, they are able to get a free t-shirt.

Resources available and hosted at the Resource Fair include: The Center for Family Violence Prevention, Greenville Police Department, CLCE, Pirates Promoting Community Wellness, LGBTQ Center, SGA, Real Crisis Center, Student Activities Office, Office for Equity and Diversity, Victim Advocacy, and Dean of Students.

Also, on Wednesday, there will be a "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together" dinner, co-hosted with Greek Life, Center for Family Violence Prevention and Pledge Purple partners at 5:30 p.m. It will be a free 3-course experience, located at the Health Sciences Student Center Grand Ballroom, Cleland said.

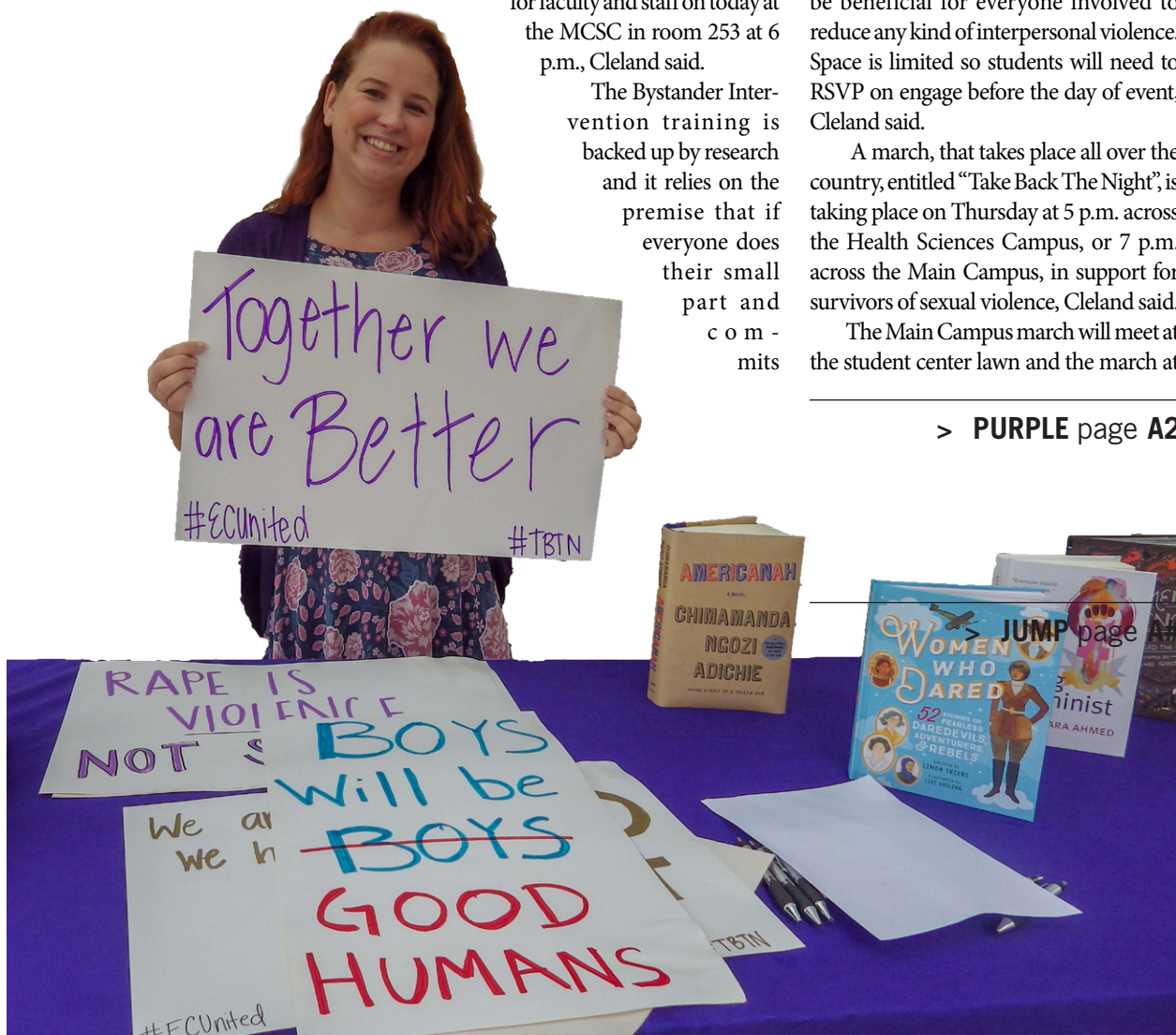
During the appetizers, they will have a discussion about how you know when it's time to break up with someone and to know when a relationship is not for you. During the entrée part they will discuss how to break up with someone in an ethical, kind way and how to leave someone the same or better than the way you found them, Cleland said.

During the dessert section they will be discussing self-care, self-compassion and how to have healthy boundaries after a breakup. Having a healthy breakup can be beneficial for everyone involved to reduce any kind of interpersonal violence. Space is limited so students will need to RSVP on engage before the day of event, Cleland said.

A march, that takes place all over the country, entitled "Take Back The Night", is taking place on Thursday at 5 p.m. across the Health Sciences Campus, or 7 p.m. across the Main Campus, in support for survivors of sexual violence, Cleland said.

The Main Campus march will meet at the student center lawn and the march at

> **PURPLE** page A2



MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Women and Gender Office's Director Ashley Cleland stands during a 2018 Pledge Purple tabling event holding a sign for the cause.

ONLINE

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BRIEFS

Dogs for Democracy, election cookout today

Today at the Main Campus Student Center from 5 to 6:30 p.m., the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement is having a cookout to celebrate Election Day 2019. There will be free food and drinks and students will learn about election outcomes.

What's the Tea returns for a discussion tonight

The Ledonia Wright Cultural Center is having a discussion from 5 to 6 p.m. tonight about hot topics. Students who come out are encouraged to talk and bring their unique perspective in a safe space.

Lecture on the modern politics to take place

Tonight from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Bate room 1032, there will be a lecture from Dr. Petr Kaniok. He will discuss current challenges that the EU and Czech Republic face in the modern political landscape.

Free body composition testing in SRC

Tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. in room 210 of the Student Recreation Center, there will be free body composition testing, done by Campus Recreation and Wellness. They will measure your body fat percentage as well as take circumference measurements.

Dinner to discuss healthy relationships to occur

Tomorrow from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Health Sciences Student Center Grand Ballroom, join the Women and Gender Office in order to discuss how to healthily end relationships with someone and healthy coping mechanisms.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



Greenville's downtown life is home to numerous bars and clubs, such as Fifth Street's The Way, where Alcohol Law Enforcement patrols on the weekends. MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Patrols finding less fake IDs

ALE more prominent downtown during holidays

Elizabeth Johnson
TEC STAFF

More law enforcement agencies now have the tools to address fake IDs which has led to more fake IDs being confiscated in downtown and has an eventual decrease in usage.

Special Agent in Charge for Northeastern North Carolina for Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE), Eric Swain, said the most frequent violations ALE finds in downtown Greenville are fake IDs and underage consumption of alcohol which goes "hand in hand."

Anytime there's a large number of people uptown, such as around holidays, the beginning of the semester and home football games, there are officers patrolling the downtown area. Swain said he has had as many as 12 officers patrolling for big events.

Over Halloween weekend from Thursday night to Saturday night, Swain said eight ALE agents were working and there was a total of 68 arrests and 111 charges, Swain said. These arrests were in Greenville and the Pitt County area where some people may have received multiple charges, he said.

There were 17 charges for possession of alcohol by 19 and 20 year olds, Swain said. There were seven charges of possession of alcohol by someone who was ages 16-18, he said. There were two charges of purchasing alcohol by a minor and two charges

of giving alcohol to a minor which is when an age person gives alcohol to someone who is underage or when someone uses a fake ID to purchase alcohol for someone else, he said.

Eleven people were charged with underage consumption of alcoholic beverages but they may have received multiple charges for underage possession of an alcoholic beverage or possession, Swain said.

There were four charges of possession of a fake ID over Halloween weekend, Swain said. There were three charges of use of a fake ID, which is seven fake ID charges total, he said. fake ID usage is decreasing, according to Swain.

"I will say the trending of, we're seeing a trend of fake ID use declining which is what we were after. We want to see the fake ID use decline, we're definitely seeing that now," Swain said. "Uptown because it's so busy and there's so much going on, it's really hard to gauge, to get a real truthful idea of what's going on, on that one holiday because it's so busy."

For big events, ALE usually has about four officers and Pitt County ABC will also have officers patrolling, Swain said. He said there are three Pitt County ABC officers and they spend more time downtown than ALE.

"We're making arrests in Greenville. Greenville PD is also. Where in the past they didn't have the fake ID app on their phones so now they've

got the same app we have and Pitt ABC has so they're able to work the fake ID issues too, so there's more officers with the tools and resources to work the fake ID issues than ever before," Swain said.

Fake IDs are giving those who are underage "a license to drink," Swain said. ALE is seeing problems with underage binge-drinking, people getting hurt, fights and sexual assaults due to intoxication and other public safety issues as a result of fake ID usage, he said.

Swain said ALE is trying to stop the use of fake IDs in downtown, and one method it is taking is by collaborating with East Carolina University.

Swain said he collaborated with the District Attorney's office to enhance the ability of someone who is found guilty of underage drinking to earn a prayer of judgment, deferred prosecution or dismissal.

First-time offenders will be given a deferred prosecution and their case will remain open for a year, Swain said. Having an open case could impact students when they are applying to other schools such as nursing or grad schools, he said.

Second-time offenders will have to complete community service and turn their driver's license into the clerk of court for 30 days, Swain said.

Rob Waldron, co-owner of Club 519 and Rafters, said he isn't against the policing. He said he just doesn't want to live in a world where there

are police on every corner because most of the people in downtown are good people.

"You don't necessarily have to be doing something illegal to want to avoid that many police, especially when you're already getting the feeling most of the police are begrudgingly working down there because they've been told to and don't necessarily want to be there on that particular detail, you pick up on that vibe," Waldron said.

ECU geology junior Jerhald Mercado said he has noticed an increase in the amount of cops and ALE downtown since the first weekends of class in the 2019 fall semester from what he's seen.

Mercado said he doesn't fear that he'll get in trouble because he is 21. He said he has seen cops break up fights downtown.

The police presence downtown doesn't prevent him from going downtown and make him feel safer, Mercado said.

"I see them more as a reminder for people not to get too hammered and I feel it works out pretty well," Mercado said.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

PURPLE continued from A1

the Health Campus will meet at the Health Science Student Center, Cleland said.

"Everyone who is a part of the ECU community is welcome to come. People in the local community are also invited to participate. Our main focus is we want students, faculty and staff to create and promote a culture of inclusivity and safety of us taking care of each other and looking out for one another," Cleland said.

By hosting the event, participants are given some of the community's responsibility to look out for each other. They are also given the tools and resources they need in order to keep a lookout, help and support each other, Cleland said.

"It's really important to do opportunities like this because it gives individuals the opportunity to get their power back. Without students being aware, change won't happen, and if we avoid the problem, it won't be solved. When everyone takes ownership for creating a safe environment, when everyone Pledges Purple, that's when things can be solved," Cleland said.

Georgia Sasser, a freshman double majoring in rehabilitation services and psychology, said she got an email about Pledge Purple, applied because she already involved in research of prevention of sexual assault. She is now a Pledge Purple Ambassador, she said.

College campuses, statistically, have reported a significant



MICHAELA EMORY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Students sign the Pledge Purple banner at during 2018's week.

number of sexual violence, Sasser said. A big part of Pledge Purple is being aware, helping prevent themselves and others from violence, and supporting others who have been a victim of violence. It's important to the ECU community to understand how big of an issue this is and what they can do to help, Sasser said.

She said she knows too many people who have been a victim of violence and it's not something she takes lightly. One in three women will experience some kind of sexual abuse in their lifetime.

Universities all over the U.S. are suffering from harassment, sexual violence, hazing and bullying, she said.

Sasser thinks the statistics can be reduced over time, but people have to get involved and get aware. It is important that people educate themselves so a difference can be made, Sasser said.

Sasser said she is most excited for "Take Back the Night." This won't be her first march and is excited to support people and rally alongside of them for a really important cause, she said.

Christia Lawton, a sophomore communication major, plans on attending some of the events during Pledge Purple week. She said she's most excited for taking the pledge and to support victims of sexual violence during "Take Back the Night" as well.

Lawton thinks this is an important to campus because she feel as if sexual violence and the forms of sexual violence are topics people should be informed about. If students don't acknowledge that these things happen on campuses, they will keep happening again and again, she said.

"If sexual violence is something a person has experienced, they are loved, and are supported. I hope they realize this isn't their fault and they aren't less valuable because of it. If sexual violence is something someone hasn't experienced, they can still support and empower others," Lawton said.

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

VOTING continued from A1

polling sites have stayed the same for years, McQueen said, but two sites were moved this year.

The polling site at the 1504A moved from the church next to Bojangles on the Tenth Street Connector, McQueen said. The site at the Eastern Pines Fire Department moved to the Sycamore Chapel Mission Baptist church across the street due to the construction, he said.

Assistant director for the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement Alex Dennis said if someone did not update their address or register to vote at a same-day registration at an early voting site, they will not be able to vote in this election, he said.

"Every single time they (the voter) move. Even if you move within the same apartment complex, if you move, anytime you move (you need to

re-register to vote)," Dennis said.

If a voter doesn't have their correct address listed on their voter registration card they would have to provide documentation about where they live in order to register to vote, Dennis said. You have to have lived in your municipality at least 30 days in order to vote in this election, he said.



Alex Dennis

Director of Local and State Affairs for Student Government Association and junior political science and economics double major, Hunter Whittington said everyone should vote because it is every American's right and they have the ability to make an impact with their vote.

If voters aren't vigilant over their right to vote, their vote can be taken away, Whittington said. In previous years the voting location at ECU

was in the Willis Building which was over a mile away from campus. He said it wasn't taken into consideration that this site was inaccessible to students to vote due to the distance and students' busy schedules.

"I think voting matters because its a group activity, right? Consequently, does your one vote matter in a pool of 320 million Americans, no, but in the idea of movements and people coming together as a collective to work on behalf of a candidate or advocate for some policy, that could make the vote very meaningful, but that only works if we all participate in the process," Whittington said.

Same-day voter registration for people who do not live on ECU's campus will have to show documents such as a utility bill, a paycheck from an employer or private bank statement, property tax, vehicle registration, government check, government invoice, public housing, public edu-

cational documents or government insurance, Whittington said.

"It's this list of things. Right, it seems inclusive on the surface but then you start to realize things like student's, a lot of them aren't employed



Hunter Whittington

because they're full-time students, a lot of them don't live in public housing, a private lease does not count as a document you can show to register same-day," Whittington said.

Whittington said rules like this make it difficult for students to be able to vote. College students are often full-time students that aren't employed, Whittington said.

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

OUR VIEW

Halloween safety is appreciated

Halloween festivities took place this past weekend. Many ECU students celebrated, dressing up in costumes Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

ECU has had a reputation of being a party school, especially around Halloween, mainly due to the riot that took place at the Riverwalk Townhomes apartment complex during Halloween of 2014. Since then, the Greenville Police Department (GPD) has been cracking down each Halloween and taking protective measures to ensure the safety of the students.

One of the measures they have taken in recent years is closing off the downtown area and having checkpoints, which were in place from 9 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. on Halloween. Those who wished to go into the clubs and bars had to pass through security checkpoints on the corner of Fifth Street and Reade Street, Fifth Street and Evans Street, and on Cotanche next to the parking deck.

While Halloween has seen less underage students downtown due to the increase of GPD officers and Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) in recent years, a handful of underage students have still been caught using their fake IDs downtown.

This past weekend, ALE charged seven individuals who attempted to use their fake IDs, a much smaller number than those charged in previous years. Along with fake ID charges, there was also a notable amount of house parties on the grid which were broken up by GPD.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, appreciate the efforts of the GPD and ALE to ensure the safety of students this past Halloween weekend, which seemed to have run more smoothly than in the past years due to the few reports received.

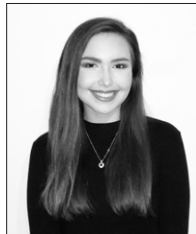
We appreciate the decrease of fake ID use, as it helps ECU get rid of their reputation of a party school.



Pledge Purple is important

Initiative brings attention to sexual violence, bullying

Tea with Tonizzo



Summer Tonizzo
TEC STAFF

As November marks East Carolina University's annual return of Pledge Purple Week, which represents a larger scale initiative that brings attention to sexual violence, harassment and bullying, it is important to remember that belittling someone's experiences do not help a situation.

Someone's situation whether it be a family or friendly relationship or with a significant other, cannot be generalized as merely "healthy" or "unhealthy" -- the world cannot be seen as just "black or white" so to say; there are always going to be gray areas.

As ECU brings attention each year to spreading awareness for sexual violence, harassment and bully, I think students should really take more time to become involved in truly understanding what it means to "Pledge Purple."

Purple awareness ribbons bring attention to a variety of diseases and disorders, but the color additionally represents domestic violence, eating disorders, amongst other things. Pledge Purple week has been successful in years past of bringing advocacy for these topics to campus.

ECU is home to roughly 30,000 students, many of whom are in relationships, have had traumatic pasts, have taken up counseling or some who have been told their experiences aren't really classifiable as

abuse, harassment or bullying.

"That's just how things are, you're in college," is something I'm sure more than your fair share of college students have been told at some point during their four years.

It's not remotely okay to belittle someone's experiences because you cannot understand them for yourself or you haven't been in the same situation, which is a message I'm hoping students take away as they learn more about sexual violence, harassment and bullying this week.

The issue of sexual and domestic violence, harassment and bullying is a very serious issue that runs rampant on college campuses today, that's no secret. But as students are coming to college hoping to find themselves or discover their passions in life, I am hoping that men and women are additionally taking a minute to think about protecting themselves from being put in situations which are toxic.

And sometimes, even if people don't wish to acknowledge it, they are the toxic ones. They are the ones expanding the tally on domestic or sexually violent situations. For this reason exactly, ECU is doing right to educate its students on the very real issues of sexual violence, harassment and bullying.

Education on the subject allows for students to prevent themselves from becoming the abuser and it can also help students recognize what the red flags are when it comes to any sort of relationship they may have, whether it be platonic or romantic involvement.

On the topic of experiences, everyone has a past, some that a lot of people are not comfortable with sharing. Do not pressure your peers or significant others into sharing more than they wish to put out in the open; by doing that you are becoming the toxic being.

The depth of a sexually or domestically violent situation is very real to people. The survivors know this more than anyone, and I cannot speak on their behalf, however, I can say that they are some of the strongest people I have ever seen as they learn to cope with or move on from what they experienced.

Students should take the time to read into what the Pledge Purple initiative is aiming to raise awareness for, and I believe everyone can benefit from becoming a little more educated on the topics of sexual or domestic violence, harassment and bullying.

No one in this world can make you as happy as you can make yourself, is something my mother always said to me. Living by these words has kept me from lingering in situations that are not right for my mind, body or soul.

Moving past situations to focus on making yourself be the happiest you can be is a pivotal learning experience.

Tonizzo is a sophomore majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opin@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Attention needed for trade schools

Down Pat



Pat Polomchak
TEC STAFF

In my last column for The East Carolinian, I talked about how the total credit requirements for general education are higher than they need to be at East Carolina University (and universities in general),

which causes students to stay in school longer and pay more money than they should.

While I still believe that to be true, a discussion in the Facebook comments on that article between myself and communication professor Glenn Hubbard reminded me of another related issue that needs to be discussed.

Hubbard pointed out that students who are not interested in being educated on a variety of subjects should not attend a university; rather, they should go to a trade school or simply enter the workforce.

I believe high schools need to do a better job of educating students on all opportunities available to them, not just the ones related to higher education.

Speaking from personal experience, the only post-high school plan that was really shared with us by administrators was attending college, preferably a four-

"Higher education is important in a modern society, and anyone who is able should absolutely attend a school."

year university. We were given a bevy of information on state colleges (and to be fair, North Carolina has a good lineup of schools). They also kept us informed of scholarship opportunities, a good thing to include.

However, that was pretty much where information stopped. They briefly mentioned community colleges, but that was primarily in an attempt to get the honors students to participate in a joint program with Vance-Granville Community College, which offered college courses for no cost and taught at the high school.

I had never really been given any kind of frame of reference for just what kind of trade schools are out there. In fact, the only reason I knew of their existence was due to a friend who planned on becoming a hairdresser after graduation.

I get the push for college at the high school level. A more educated society tends to be a better society, and many career paths now require degrees when they may not have 50 years ago.

But not all students can go to college. With how expensive college is nowadays, and with how difficult it can be to secure scholarships, not everyone is in a situation where they can both survive and go to school.

In addition, the rise of the internet and media in general has made it so one does not need to go to school to become educated on various subjects. It may not be as in-depth as a full degree, but the average person in the United States can easily learn about the world around them of their own accord.

Higher education is important in a modern society, and anyone who is able should absolutely attend a school. High schools simply need to do a better job of catering to all of their students, rather than just the college-bound ones, by ensuring everyone is aware of the paths in life that don't go through a university.

Polomchak is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opin@theeastcarolinian.com.

Honor students showcase talent

ECU Honors College hosted its first ever talent show Friday night

Hannah True
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

This past Friday, East Carolina University's Honors College hosted its first ever talent show in Whirligig Theatre to showcase a variety of talents its students had to offer.

The show was hosted by sophomore hospitality management major and member of the Honors College Student Council (HCSC), Hailee Austin, and sophomore political science and security studies Major and HCSC programming coordinator and recruitment student, Maggie Baile. The show consisted of 10 performers with a range of acts including magic, slam poetry,

dance and singing encompassed the show.

Sophomore communication major and the marketing chair of the HCSC, Ali White, explained that though this was the first year of the show, it has been in the works since last year. She said that the

Honors College's intentions with the show was to give its students a platform to show their creativity.

"One of the goals of the Honors College

Student Council is supporting students in the best way that we can and a talent showcase gives them an opportunity to be creative on a public platform and I am so pleased with all of the talent I've seen from my fellow students," White said.

Freshman biology and chemistry major, Amanda Poole, performed a singing duo with freshman speech and hearing sciences and Hispanic studies major Kathryn Fennie. The two sang a mashup piece by Sam Tsui between the songs "Let It Go" and "Let Her Go." Fennie explained that she and Poole have grown not only as friends, but also as singers because of the show.

"Over the short period of time that we've been practicing, I've already noticed that we've grown as singers," Fennie said. "She taught me how to sing with more power and strength, and we worked creatively to create a mashup that we enjoyed."

Poole commented on how they have bonded as friends and how she doesn't share that bond with anyone else. The singer said that the show has also helped her gain confidence as a performer.

"Before this I wasn't really confident in singing and playing the piano, working with her and having her say what sounds good and me telling her what sounds good, we built off each other and give each other more confidence," Poole said.

Some of the other acts included a rock band including students Stewart Walker, Cam Starrett, Grant Smith and Brody Wilhelmson, a comedic musical group with students Aaron Johnson, Pranaya Pakala and Ben Estorge and even a performance by Jessica Ruiz of "My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion.

Poole explained that there are so many different talented students in the Honors College and there are so many people that strived to create this show to showcase those talents. He said that Honors College student Noah Lee and members of the Honors College council McKenzie Shelton and Diane Majewski worked hard to make the show possible.

"There are so many talented students within the Honors College, whether that be academically, through research, with sports, artistically, or something else," Poole said. "Noah Lee, McKenzie Shelton, Diane Majewski and the HCSC programming committee have been hard at work."

White expressed that the HCSC plans to make this a recurring event within the Honors College.

"We'd like to get an established program for the Talent Showcase set up so that it can be a tradition within the Honors College" said White.

Any student wishing to know more about future events hosted by the Honors College can visit their Instagram, Twitter or website.

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



Students Aaron Johnson, Pranaya Pakala, and Ben Estorge perform in comedic musical.



Ali White



Kathryn Fennie

EVENTS

TODAY

Starlight Cafe's Dia de los Muertos Celebration
Starlight Cafe
6 p.m.

80s and 90s Pop Culture Trivia
Uptown Brewing Company
7 p.m.

TOMORROW

Jazz at Nino's
Nino's Cucina Italiana
7 p.m.

10th Annual Shagging for a Cause
Rock Springs Center/
The Jockey
6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Comic Book Club
Smashed Waffles
7 p.m.

Science at the Park
River Park North
6 p.m.

FRIDAY

McKenzie Shelton Live
Uptown Brewing Company
8 p.m.

High Plains Drifters (Beastie Boys Tribute)
State Theatre
8 p.m.



The Infamous Stringdusters Andy Falco, Jeremy Garret, Andy Hall Chris Pandolfi and Travis Books.

Bluegrass ensemble to play State Theatre

Hannah Bolick
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Bluegrass quintet, The Infamous Stringdusters, will perform for the first time in Greenville at 7 p.m. tomorrow at the State Theatre.

The group's banjo player, Chris Pandolfi, describes the group's sound as having its roots in bluegrass, but drawing influences from many other styles of music.

"We draw from jazz, and heavy metal, blues, electronic music, we love it all and we try and make those things sound good on the blue instruments and add all of that sonically to, hopefully, a meaningful collection of original music that we write," Pandolfi said.



Chris Pandolfi

It is often the instrument that opens people up to different styles of music, in the case of The Infamous Stringdusters, they were led to Bluegrass. Each player came to the genre in their own way, bringing their own style and experience together to create the band's unique sound, according to Pandolfi.

Pandolfi said that audience members will not only get a unique music and production experience from the show, but also a unique camaraderie with a community of fans.

"If they come with an open mind they'll probably leave with a lot of new friends and will hopefully be onboard for a lot of shows in the future to remain a part of that community and just be part of the party that we are throwing night after night, just be part of the fun," Pandolfi said.

Pandolfi is not the only one taking note of the tight-knit nature of the fan-base. Long-time

fan Cathy Marron agreed that the community surrounding the group is one of the things that she found so appealing about the Stringdusters.

"The band and the community of people who love them are like one big family. We travel all over the country to see them and to see each other," Marron said. "Some of us get together when the band isn't even playing. Their music has that effect on people. They bring people of every walk of life together by virtue of the love of music."

According to Marron, some of her friends and her husband they haven't seen for three years are coming all the way from California to see them and come to some of the North Carolina shows.

Pandolfi went on to say that the inclusive culture among the fans is a common and expected part of every Stringduster experience.

"The community that surrounds our band is really really awesome. And they're as much a part of the show as we are and they're just an awesome welcoming group that I feel lucky to be a part of and I know that when new fans discover the band they are always overwhelmed by the love and openness in the audience so that's a really central tenet of every show," Pandolfi said.

State Theatre General Manager Chris Malarkey said he hopes that Greenville will embrace the band's style just as much of North Carolina already does.

"Much like Raleigh, most of North Carolina is really into the high energy newgrass music that's going around right now. Stringdusters are one of my favorites because they're very progressive and kind of more on the rocky, jammier side of Bluegrass and that seems to be a big ticket seller here (Raleigh) and most other markets we book shows, so we're hoping that Greenville feels the same way," Malarkey said.

Pandolfi summed up the show by saying, "If you are a fan of live music, this is going to be one of the most unique and energizing and fun shows that you can see out there and it's just as much about the community as it is about the music."



Cathy Marron

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

BAND OF OZ continued from A1

Oz again," Pase said.

With beach music's popularity as a genre, the Band of Oz has managed to keep performing for the past five decades.

Manager David Hicks reflected on the band's history and the variety that it offers. Hicks said its known for an ability to cover music from multiple decades.

"We play a variety of things and we do stuff from the 70s and 80s, as well as Motown," Hicks said. "We've been in every major beach concert held in the South over the last 30 years."

Hicks also spoke on the DARC concert and what it means to receive such



David Hicks

support from the Greenville community.

"Helen hired us several years ago and every year we come back and do it. They're a good group of people and they always have a good crowd. We always look forward to doing the show, it's for a good cause," Hicks said.

Guitarist Keith Houston spoke on the pressures of being a full time musician and what it's been like to do it for so many years while also raising a family.

"It's been great but you miss a lot of things with your family, but to be able to do something you love and enjoy is an honor," Houston said. "The guys in the band are like part of the family."

Tickets for tomorrow's nights performance are \$25 for advanced purchases and \$35 at the door. Details on the fundraiser and ticket purchases can be found on the DARC Facebook page.

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

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Houses for rent 2020/2021: Walk to campus. Call 910-791-3107 for more information and showings.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Don't venture far. It could get dangerous. It's not a good time to travel. An uncomfortable situation could arise. Intense work on urgent priorities pays off.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Talk is cheap. Postpone a financial discussion ... misunderstandings could heat up. Things could get expensive fast. New developments change the situation. Stay patient.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Domestic misunderstandings could arise. Align plans before committing to make changes. Don't throw your money around or burn any bridges. Consider potential impact first.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- A group project could face a temporary setback. Don't gamble or risk money. Check public opinion. A controversy could disrupt the action. Diplomacy works.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Take advantage of an opportunity for partnership. Listen to your intuition and collaborate with a trusted ally. Let go of a preconception or limitation.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Old beliefs and values could be challenged. Don't forget to do something you promised. Adapt to surprises gracefully. Avoid spontaneous outbursts. Consider your response.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is an 8 -- A surprising development at work requires adaptation. You can handle this challenge. Keep costs down. Avoid distraction and controversy, and focus intently.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- New tricks don't always work at first. Slow down to avoid accidents. Keep or change your promises. Prioritize health and wellness. Don't push. Use gentle finesse.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Keep quietly generating positive results. Don't waste physical energy ... find ways to conserve resources. Avoid distractions. Expect communication delays. Seize a profitable opportunity.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Unplanned detours could deviate your trip. Check conditions carefully to avoid delays, breakdowns or accidents. Wait for optimal timing and be prepared to move quickly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Relax and play. Have fun and get rest. Enjoy the game without taking expensive risks. Listen to intuition. Share a sunset with someone sweet.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Personal insights abound. Don't take anything for granted. Proceed with caution; avoid impetuosity or impulsive urges. You're getting stronger. Pamper yourself with simple pleasures.

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COMICS

ONE AND ONLY



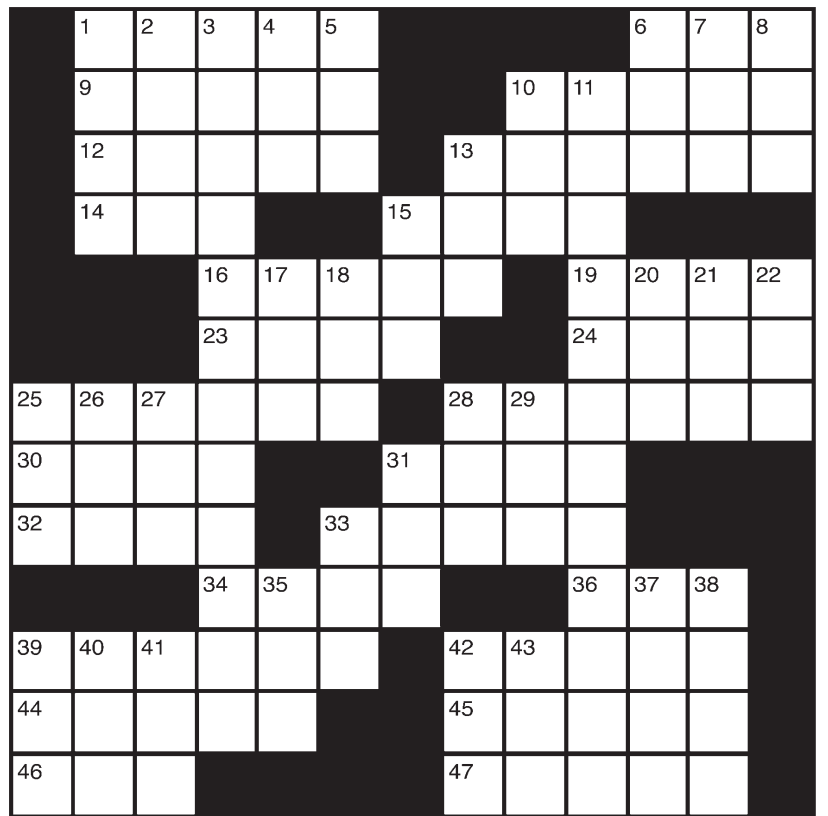
BLISS



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 "___ Days"
- 6 "Space ___"; Michael Jordan film
- 9 "___ Grows in Brooklyn"; movie for Dorothy McGuire
- 10 Kick out
- 12 Journeys
- 13 "Seven ___ for Seven Brothers"
- 14 Usually fluid-filled pouch
- 15 Role on "JAG"
- 16 Charlton Heston film about a Spanish hero
- 19 Male singing voice
- 23 Radio show host Don ___
- 24 Early Ron Howard role
- 25 "Alice ___ Live Here Anymore"
- 28 Duvall or Urich
- 30 House number and street: abbr.
- 31 "Promised ___"; Gerald McRaney drama series
- 32 ___ Arnaz
- 33 "Born on the ___"; Creedence Clearwater Revival hit
- 34 Actor Matthew ___ Gubler
- 36 President Ford's monogram
- 39 "How I Met Your ___"

- 42 "Touched by an ___"
- 44 "Well, you're a fine ___ talk!"
- 45 Ross or Rigg
- 46 "___ About You"
- 47 Scatter

DOWN

- 1 Bowlers and derbies
- 2 Gillette razor
- 3 "The ___"; Drew Carey's show
- 4 Energy
- 5 "Say ___ to the Dress"
- 6 Sheen's role on "The West Wing"
- 7 "___ of Cakes"; reality series
- 8 Rushmore and Whitney: abbr.
- 10 Make a boo-boo
- 11 Dad on "19 Kids and Counting"
- 13 "The ___ News Bears"
- 15 Belonging to that fellow
- 17 K's followers, in the alphabet
- 18 "The Final ___"; Robin Williams movie
- 20 King Kong, for one
- 21 "To ___ With Love"; Sidney Poitier film
- 22 All ___; prepared
- 25 "American ___!"
- 26 "___ to Billy Joe"
- 27 Sullivan and Bradley
- 28 Actor Romano
- 29 Yoko ___
- 31 "Now I ___ me down to sleep..."
- 33 Tavern
- 35 Vintage automobile
- 37 Actress Russo
- 38 Defect
- 39 "Teen ___"; reality series
- 40 "Snakes ___ Plane"; movie for Samuel L. Jackson
- 41 Role on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
- 42 Want ___; section of the newspaper for the unemployed
- 43 Word with wit or pick

Solution from 11/5

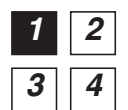


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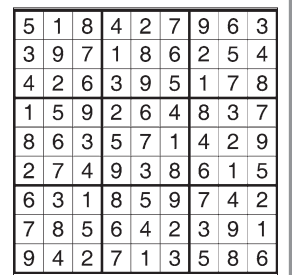
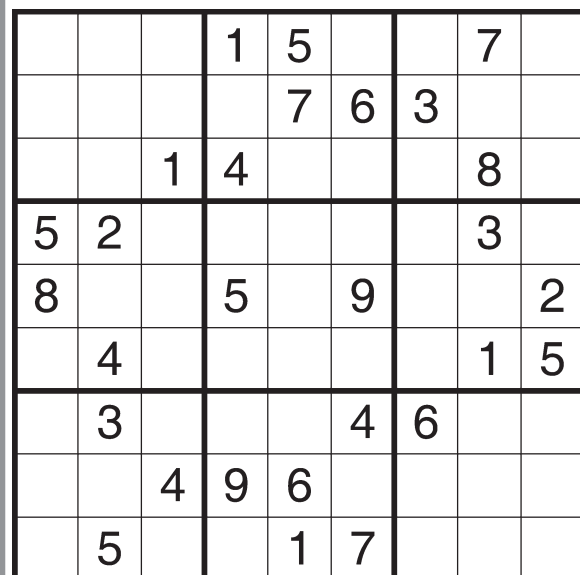
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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 11/5



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» ANALYSIS

The Conley Connection



Daniel Shepard
TEC STAFF

Records are made to be broken. When Trevon Brown set the record for most receiving yards by an East Carolina University (3-6, 0-5 AAC) wide receiver on Nov. 18, 2017, current freshman wide receiver C.J. Johnson was a junior in high-school on the cusp of posting another 1,500-plus campaign for D.H. Conley.

At the same time, sophomore quarterback Holton Ahlers was nearing graduation from Conley, but not before racking up over 3,700 passing yards and 61 touchdowns during his senior season with the football program. Roughly half of those scores went Johnson's way as the junior posted 31 receiving touchdowns to go along with his 119 yards per game average.

After a senior campaign in which he caught 77 balls for north of 1,700 yards and 23 touchdowns, Johnson ended his high-school career with nearly 5,200 total receiving yards (108.3 yards per game) and 79 touchdowns. For his efforts, Johnson landed at his hometown university, ECU, rejoining his former high-school



Holton Ahlers

teammate who was named the Pirates' starter before their season opener. "I can't tell you how many balls those two have thrown since C.J. got here last summer," head coach Mike Houston said.

That work, while it built off their chemistry from high-school, didn't immediately translate to game action. Through the first three weeks of the season, Johnson caught just five passes for 41 yards, with the longest reception coming on a 13-yarder against Gardner-Webb University (3-6, 1-3 Big South).

Just two weeks later, however, Johnson hauled in a career-best five receptions in the Pirates' victory over the College of William & Mary (3-6, 1-4 CAA). That mark didn't last for long as the Conley Connection finally kicked into full-gear during week six against Temple University (5-3, 2-2 AAC).

Having never even come close to a 100-yard game at the collegiate level, Johnson broke out in a big way on "Paint It Black" night against the Owls. Not only did the freshman pick-up his first touchdown as a Pirate, but he also caught eight balls for 100 yards in ECU's 27-17 loss to Temple.

On the surface, it looked like a breakout game for Johnson, but after repeat performances in the three games that have followed, it is starting to look like the freshman is made for big plays.

"He has really worked hard to develop himself," Houston said. "I mean the improvement that kid's made since the beginning of the year is pretty

impressive. Just the understanding of the offense, some of the nuances and some of the things we're doing."

With that development has come a drastic uptick in Johnson's production. Through his first five games at the collegiate level, Johnson averaged 21.6 yards on just over two catches per game, never cracking the 50-yard plateau. In the four games that have followed, the freshman has averaged 143.5 yards per game on over eight catches, including two 100-yard games and one 200-yard game.

As Houston mentions, as Johnson, and Ahlers for that matter, continue learning the offense, it will open more opportunities to achieve favorable matchups. On Saturday, tailed by University of Cincinnati junior cornerback Coby Bryant for much of the day, Johnson was subjected to man coverage.

"It's a dream for a receiver to ask for," Johnson said after Saturday's loss. "Man coverage, you got to win. I just do what my coaches tell me to do and come out on top."

Come out on top he did, regularly. Nearly two years to the day that Brown set the program record, Johnson bested it with 283 receiving yards on 12 catches. Against the same Cincinnati squad that Brown achieved his feat, Johnson found himself open time and time again.

On occasion, even when he was not open, Ahlers forced the ball to Johnson just to have the 6-2 receiver make a nifty catch to prolong drives.

At halftime, Johnson was already well over the 100-yard mark with 143, anchored by a 75-yard catch and run from Ahlers that opened the scoring for the Pirates' offense. Of his 12 receptions on the evening, all of them spanned at least 10 yards including catches of 29 and 17 yards on ECU's final offensive drive to move into field goal range.

"It means a lot but honestly, I can't do it without my team," Johnson said. "If we ain't got the offensive line protecting for him to throw me the ball, I can't get the ball. If we don't got other people running routes that take away defenders, then I wouldn't be open."



C.J. Johnson

Indeed, it took a complete effort on Saturday for the Pirates to nearly upset the Bearcats. In addition to Johnson setting an ECU and AAC single-game record as well as a program freshman record, Ahlers busted the Pirates' single-game mark with 535 passing yards. That included 316 yards at halftime representing a career-best for Ahlers, while his four first half passing touchdowns were the most by an ECU quarterback since Philip Nelson in 2016.

"I thought we saw a little bit of this coming

in the Central Florida game," Houston said. "We obviously did a much better job protecting him (Ahlers) tonight. I do think it's, all of a sudden, you're having other guys contributing, it makes a difference. You're getting all these other guys contributing in the passing game. He's continuing to evolve."

Despite junior right guard Sean Bailey and sophomore right tackle Matt Morgan missing Saturday's game with injuries, the Bearcats failed to sack Ahlers, instead forcing eight quarterback hurries that seemed to only have a minimal impact on his performance.

By Houston's own admission, Ahlers' play has been up-and-down at times this season. Entering play on Saturday, Ahlers had matched his seven passing touchdowns with seven interceptions while averaging just over 200 yards per contest. He had yet to throw for more than 313 yards in a game or toss more than two touchdowns and found himself setting on a 55.6% completion rate.

For some additional protection from a



Jake Verity prepares to kick a field goal during ECU's home game against Cincinnati.

banged up offensive line and a more liberal approach to the passing game by the coaching staff, Ahlers was able to piece together what was perhaps the best game of his football career.

ECU will return to action on Saturday when it travels to Dallas, Texas to face Southern Methodist University (8-1, 4-1 AAC). Kickoff between the Pirates and Mustangs is slated for 11 a.m. local time.

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

Men's basketball tips off season

Pirates begin 2019-2020 season tonight with matchup against VMI

Daniel Shepard
TEC STAFF

For the East Carolina University men's basketball team, the 2019-2020 season will be an opportunity to start fresh after a tough 2018-2019 campaign.

"It is a more spirited group. There's not a remembrance of how last year was for the most part, you've only got two guys back," head coach Joe Dooley said. "I think the rest of these guys are from winning programs, have been around winning. You can never take it for granted, it's not as easy as people think."

From last year's 10-21 season, only two returning lettermen will grace the roster when the Pirates tip-off against the Virginia Military Institute tonight. Redshirt senior forward Seth LeDay and sophomore forward Jayden Gardner will be joined by 11 newcomers on scholarship on a roster that includes seven junior college transfers and four true freshmen.

While not much experience will be returning to the roster this season, it's safe to say the Pirates are getting back one of their best players from last year.

With 16.3 points and 8.5 rebounds per game one season ago, Gardner was selected to The American All-Freshman Team by unanimous decision. From rookie standout to one of the most experienced Pirates on the roster, Gardner will be tasked with showing the newcomers how to play ECU basketball this season.

"You're putting a lot of pressure on a sophomore to be a leader which he can do because he essentially was the leader last year," Dooley said. "I think he's still in a learning phase. His game has jumped up like it should between a freshman and sophomore year.



Jayden Gardner

You also don't want to put too many expectations on him that you have to do everything or else we can't win. I think he's figuring that out that the more he helps facilitate for his teammates, the better we can be."

While there will be a delicate balance between too much and too little pressure on Gardner, additional size on the Pirates' roster will help that situation.



Jayden Gardner interacts with teammates during a preseason practice.

After not featuring a player even close to seven-feet in 2018-2019, the Pirates welcomed three seven-footers in this recruiting class. Junior center Ludgy Debaut, junior center/forward Edra Luster and freshman center/forward Charles Coleman help make-up the largest group of scholarship players in program history.

"Last year, even playing zone, people were able to throw over the top of us," Dooley said. "I've been places where we've trapped the post when you're big in order to try to turn people over. But last year, we were so small, even when we trapped it, people threw out of it."

Averaging 78.69 inches, the 13 scholarship players on Dooley's roster will go a long in rectifying an issue that often plagued the Pirates last year.

Void of size and largely without the ability to shoot (28.4% three-point field goal percentage in '18-'19), the Pirates finished 11th out of 12 teams in the American Athletic Conference. Their 67.4 points per game and 0.9 assist to turnover margin both ranked

11th in the AAC while the Pirates' 12.3 assists per contest was dead last in the league.

Keeping that in mind, ECU will return just 39.6% of its total points from last season, 1.2% of its made three-point field goals and only 26.6% of its minutes played. That's because at the conclusion of last season, seven underclassmen entered the transfer portal, leaving Dooley the task of rebuilding his roster.

"I think we've made a lot of progress," Dooley said. "I do think the guys will be excited to get out there and play. I think we've got a little different team this year."

Ranked as the 10th-best recruiting class by The Hoop Scoop, ECU's crop of new **Joe Dooley** players will look to post the first winning season for the Pirates since the 2012-2013 campaign.

With so much of his roster brand new, chemistry between players will be an early season story-line. Aside from Gardner and LeDay, none of the players have experience playing with each other, heaping more importance on preseason practices and scrimmages.

"I think the big thing is the offensive chemistry. I think the defense is always usually a little bit ahead of the offense because it's a little simpler," Dooley said. "It's not as much feel as it is technique and positioning whereas offense it's: where does a guy like the ball? How do we get him there? What happens if A, B or C happens?"

One of the players tasked with distributing the ball will be sophomore guard Tremont Robinson-White. A transfer from Garden City Community College, Robinson-White has been sidelined with an injury during the preseason and will miss the Pirates' season opener, according to Dooley.

Just how much chemistry the Pirates have created will be tested, beginning with a matchup against VMI for their home opener tonight at 7 in Minges Coliseum.

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