



# The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Wednesday, 6.03.20

VOLUME 94, ISSUE 45



A crowd of protesters gather in Raleigh, North Carolina to support the Black Lives Matter movement on Saturday, May 30.

## Pirates attend Raleigh protest

### ECU alumna and students share their BLM experience

Jennifer Sieg  
TEC STAFF

Following an influx of nationwide protests in response to the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a protest took place in Raleigh, North Carolina on Saturday in which an East Carolina University student and recent alumna attended.

ECU Alumna Jade, who asks her last name remains anonymous, attended the protest in Raleigh Saturday evening. She said her father is black and has witnessed her family, friends and siblings live in fear their whole lives.

Jade said she and a friend arrived at the protest around 4:30 p.m. and there were about 300 people there, but the number continued to grow. She said everyone chanted and spoke the names of the people who

lost their lives.

"It was really inspiring, because you see every walk of life, every different kind of person there, together, fighting for something that's important to them," Jade said. "It gives me chills honestly just talking about it."

Jade said as people spoke and chanted, things remained peaceful. She said they began to march through the streets and she did not witness any acts of violence, but she remained vigilant.

Once the march passed the police station, people started to move up a parking garage ramp, according to Jade. She said after she lifted her mask to take a breath, she saw people run and that's when she realized tear gas was in the air.

"I think that moment right there, when the police dropped tear gas on

a peaceful protest, is what set people off," Jade said.

Jade said she stands with everyone who was there, but violence is never her answer and she left after the tear gas hit.

Senior political science and economics major, Hunter Whittington, also attended the protest in Raleigh Saturday evening. He said he attended the protest because he felt helpless by just posting on social media in recent days.

Whittington said he expected to enter a completely peaceful protest and exercise his constitutional rights to raise awareness.

"I've seen coverage on the news



Hunter Whittington

## Campus prepares for fall 2020

Cayla Menges  
TEC STAFF

In recent weeks, East Carolina University has announced many changes to the upcoming fall semester with preparations in the works to welcome students back. The COVID-19 pandemic altered the university's academic calendar with the new official start date being Aug. 10.

ECU Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson said the university will cut intramural sports for the fall semester along with study abroad programs. He said ECU developed eight teams to help facilitate the decision making for ECU's public health plan.

The teams focus on coronavirus testing, tracking and control of potential spread pertaining to on-campus instruction and every day activities, according to Mitchelson. He said he hopes students and faculty participate in a culture of compliance with regulations on distancing and mask requirements.



Ron Mitchelson

"I really think we have to do a great job over the next six weeks or so communicating the culture that we want when we return. I'm trying to make sure we do this because it's the right thing to do for us and the individuals we want to share this campus with," Mitchelson said.

Mitchelson said the basic expectations of distancing must take place in the academic buildings with less dense classrooms and signage in the hallways. He said the university will continue to look into specific pathways to designate traffic on campus.

On-campus residence halls are a topic of conversation over providing the safest living environment while considering the first-year student requirement to live on campus, according to Mitchelson. He said there will be spaces with two students in a room but private rooms are available to students who need special accommodations.

Mitchelson said students who would like to request special housing accommodations can do so through Campus Living.

"It will be very important for those pairs to understand their obligation. They'll be a lot of self-disclosure," Mitchelson said.

ECU's College of Health and Human Performance will continue to prepare a new course for its undergraduate public health major for the fall semester that focuses on

> RALEIGH page A2

> PREP page A2

## Art gallery stands with movement

Macie Tano  
TEC STAFF

During the Uptown Greenville protest on Sunday, a few local businesses faced destruction to their storefronts, including Emerge Gallery and Art Center located at 404 Evans St.

These protests came after the death of George Floyd, who died in police custody on May 25 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Protests have continued to take place in many cities around the nation as well as in North Carolina.

Sarah Lazure, the marketing and finance coordinator at Emerge, spoke on the damage to Emerge's storefront, which included broken windows and doors.

"I think we all share the consensus that a broken window or a damaged door is nothing in comparison to a human life, and we can repair the material items, but our community members and their safety and their livelihood and just being together is most important," Lazure said.

> EMERGE page A3



Junior, left-handed pitcher Alec Burleson throws a pitch from the mound during a previous game in his career at East Carolina.

## Two pirate All-Americans

### Burleson and Davis earn honors in respective sports

Brendan Cavazos  
TEC STAFF

Two East Carolina University athletes, Alec Burleson and Ryan Davis were given All-American honors on May 26 in their respective sports.

Junior Alec Burleson representing the ECU baseball team and redshirt senior Ryan Davis representing ECU track and field are the only ECU athletes to receive this honor for the spring sports season.

Burleson has been named First-Team All-American by Collegiate Baseball for the second year in a row with his efforts on the field and now holds a total of six All-American selections over the course of his collegiate career.

"Alec is one of the best players in the country," head coach Cliff Godwin said. "He has done a lot of things only a few people have done. We've only had three guys play Team USA, the collegiate national team: Jake Agnos, Bryant

Packard, and then Alec Burleson."

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 season was cut short. However, Burleson was noted as one of the best two-way players in the country, according to ECUPirates. He holds a batting average of .375 along with three home runs and 12 RBI during the shortened season, all while being one of the few players to start all 17 games that were played.

Adding to his accolades, Burleson earned his fourth American Athletic

> ALL-AMERICAN page A6

### ONLINE

» Visit our website for photos, web galleries, and more at PirateMedia1.com

» OPINION: Press freedom is more important now than ever

### SOCIAL MEDIA

@theeastcarolinian

Facebook.com/theeastcarolinian

@TEC\_Newspaper

## BRIEFS

## City of Greenville lifts curfew

Today, the City of Greenville will lift the curfew order at 6 a.m. that was placed on the city for the second night in a row after the protests on Sunday night. The curfew began at 8 p.m. Tuesday and was placed by Mayor P.J. Connelly. More information on the curfew is located on the city website and Greenville Police Department's Twitter page.

## ECU withdrawal deadline approaches

On June 5, the deadline for both undergraduate and graduate students to withdraw from East Carolina University term-length courses or withdraw from school without grades will be at 5 p.m. Block courses may be dropped only during the first 60% of their regularly scheduled class meetings. More information on how to drop courses is located on ECU's website or by calling the office of the Registrar.

## City Council to host first meeting of June

On June 8, Greenville City Council will have its first City Council meeting of the month at 6 p.m. This meeting will be held virtually and streamed live on Greenville's website. For information on speaking at the public hearings and watching the live feed visit the city website.

## Summer session reaches withdrawal date

June 9 will be the final day for East Carolina University undergraduate and graduate students to withdraw from term-length courses or withdraw from school without grades, by 5 p.m. Block courses may be dropped only during the first 60% of their regularly scheduled class meetings.

## CORRECTIONS &amp; CLARIFICATIONS

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



KATE FRANCIS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Shave on Fifth located at 212 E 5th St. is now open to the public with additional guidelines included in the Phase 2 requirements for North Carolina.

# Local businesses open in Phase 2

## Greenville establishments adjust to keep their customers healthy

Jennifer Sieg  
TEC STAFF

After North Carolina entered safer-at-home Phase 2 on May 22, which allowed certain businesses to re-open under reduced capacity and social distancing measures, some Greenville restaurants, beauty salons and tattoo parlors have begun to take strict precautions in order to comply.

Bret Oliverio, owner of Sup Dogs in downtown Greenville, said the restaurant re-opened for dine-in customers on May 23. He said it has been busy from the minute the doors opened, and he is thankful to see customers come back.

Oliverio said it will take time to adjust to any new hours people may want, but right now the restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. He said if people want Sup Dogs to be open until 3 a.m. then the restaurant will adjust accordingly.

"We're right now doing a 100% outdoor, open-air dining. I think that makes everyone feel a little safer including our staff and customers," Oliverio said.

In addition to outdoor dining, strict social distancing measures are practiced, according to Oliverio. He said all tables are at least six feet apart and an additional outdoor tent in the parking lot is set up to allow more seating.

Oliverio said the entire staff is required to wear masks and gloves, all condiments are single-use and all menus are disposable. He said pens and other non-disposable items are sanitized after every use.

The waiting area is designed for strict social distancing and hand sanitizing stations are available as well, according to Oliverio.

"For me as a business owner, I want to make

sure our customers feel safe coming back, but I also want to make sure our staff feel safe working," Oliverio said.

Sup Dogs had over 800 customers on the day of its re-opening, so it is important to make sure everyone is safe, according to Oliverio.

It's important to set an example and let other businesses know it is possible to re-open safely and things can get back to normal, Oliverio said.

"I sort of thought it was our responsibility too, as being a big part of the ECU college experience and a big part of downtown Greenville, was to make sure we opened up 100% safely and in an organized fashion," Oliverio said. "But at the same time keeping the same energy that Sup Dogs always has."



Bret Oliverio

Tattoo artist Bethany Weberg works at Skin Grafix Tattoo Studios on Evans Street which reopened on the afternoon of May 22. She said the shop operates under normal hours Monday through Saturday from noon to 9 p.m. and everyone is required to come alone to their appointments.

Weberg said in addition to required masks, temperatures are screened upon entrance and the waiting area is arranged to allow six feet distances between clients.

"We can schedule things accordingly so we can kind of stagger people coming inside. And then there's only three tattooers and one piercer here so if each of us has one client here at a time than that's no more than like four additional people," Weberg said.

Skin Grafix implements strict sanitation guidelines and the workers used protective equipment before the pandemic, so these extra precautions now help limit any possible exposure, according to Weberg.

Hairdresser Alyse Hardy works at The Hair Cafe and said the salon re-opened the morning of May 23. She said she had a large list of clients who reached out to her for appointments and spent the first week of the reopening giving those clients first priority.

The Hair Cafe operates on a booth-renting basis, so the hours will vary depending on who needs an appointment, according to Hardy. She said she works long hours to make sure she can assist everyone who reached out for an appointment and has been following necessary precautions.

"We're wearing masks and we've even re-positioned our stations at work to allow a little bit more for the social distancing," Hardy said.

Clients are required to wait in their cars and call when they arrive so they can be informed when everything is sanitized and ready for their appointment, according to Hardy.

Hardy said masks are worn throughout each shift, tools are being sanitized after each use and the hairdressers will continue to do everything they can to make sure each individual booth is safe for clients.

"Each of us feel like we're trying to play by the rules. We want to do what it's going to take to keep us open and to keep everybody safe," Hardy said. "Knowing that I'm responsible for who's in my chair is something that we take very seriously."

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



Demonstrators standoff with police at protest on Saturday.

## RALEIGH continued from A1

of like the police using tear gas, pepper spray or firing rubber bullets but I never thought it would happen in Raleigh," Whittington said.

When he arrived around 6 p.m., Whittington said, protesters were peaceful and chanting slogans and names. He said he didn't know tear gas was being released until he witnessed people running away.

There were hundreds of people and the majority of them were protesting peacefully, according to Whittington. He said when people aren't acknowledged for protesting the way they're expected to protest, and tear gas is fired, that's when people become angry.

"I mean there were kids in that crowd, there were babies in strollers, and that was the part that was so alarming to me," Whittington said.

Following the Raleigh protest, protesters in Greenville gathered to support the Black Lives Matter movement on Sunday. After several hours of peaceful protest, some of the attendees escalated to damaging business and vehicles in the uptown area.

The protests are still ongoing and more information can be found about Sunday's protests and updates on the current events on PirateMedia1.com.

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

## PREP continued from A1

students learning how to trace infectious diseases, according to Mitchelson. He said the students will work with ECU's tracing team to help provide proficient traces of COVID-19.

Mitchelson said the tracing team identifies the contacts an individual has seen during the day in case they became infected to combat further exposure.

The team takes on the help of student health, public health professionals and physicians through the health science campus, according to Mitchelson.

"I feel very fortunate that we have this plan developing for tracing our campus. It will be a great experience for our public health students," Mitchelson said.

ECU's foreign language department will change its ways of instruction to follow the addition of block scheduling to the fall semester, according to Teaching Assistant Professor of French Larkin Murphy.

Murphy said the course loads will change and occur in a much smaller time frame. He said the face-to-face instruction is a crucial part to accelerating in the French level courses and is more intensive now.

Murphy and other professors in the foreign language department are discussing the forward challenges of adjusting these programs, according to Murphy.

"Those programs are daunting, challenging and they are somewhat unforgiving. Students have to be on top of it and committed to the process. I will say if students are committed and they are motivated to succeed the results can be pretty impressive," Murphy said.

Murphy is the faculty director of the ECU in La Rochelle study abroad program, and he said study abroad has taken a hit with cancellations to all programs for the fall semester. He said the ECU in La Rochelle is a five-week



KATE FRANCIS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU has assembled a team for preparing the campus to reopen for students in the fall.

intensive language immersion program in France.

Murphy said preparations for each program start about a year in advance looking at hotels, vendors, courses and host families.

ECU Global Affairs cancelled the 2020 summer ECU in La Rochelle program along with all others when the COVID-19 pandemic traveled across the world, according to Murphy. He said, as far as he knew, anyone who had paid into the program received a refund.

"Every other day there was more news that made you wonder if it was going to happen or not. They held out hope as long as they could until they realized everything was going to be shut down and the decision was made," Murphy said.

Global affairs is online soliciting proposals for next year but Murphy said he wonders what's on the horizon for 2021.

With study abroad programs out of the question for the fall semester, amenities on-campus for students are not

operating like they used to, according to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Virginia Hardy.

Hardy said the Main Campus Student Center's (MCSC) capacity will be lowered per distancing guidelines with further specifics to come.

"Where people hang out in the commons is a beautiful sight to see. I love walking through there. We won't be able to do that mass of people. Will people be there? Yes. But not that large of a group of people," Hardy said.

Joyner Library, the Student Recreation Center and dining halls are opening but will be affected as well, according to Hardy.

Freshman orientation for the 2020-2021 academic school year starts June 8 and is accessible virtually this year, according to Hardy. She said the orientation's modules provide students and their families with the necessary information they need to be able to start in the fall semester.

Hardy said she is hoping in the next two to three weeks information is released to all students and faculty in detail on how the fall semester will operate.

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



## RESTAURANTS OPEN FOR DINE-IN DURING PHASE 2

### Mi Cabana Mexican Restaurant 1

333 East Arlington Blvd.  
Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Open Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.  
Open Sunday 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
252-931-9555

### Smashed Waffles

718 Dickinson Ave.  
Open Monday through Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
252-364-2872

### La Fiesta

4420 E. 10th St. #126  
Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Open Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Open Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
252-321-2435

### Bagelman

1904 E Fire Tower Rd.  
Open Monday through Sunday 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
252-689-6000

### La Ribera

658 E. Arlington Blvd.  
Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Open Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Closed Sunday  
252-565-8945

### Bateeni Mediterranean Grill

1868 Arlington Blvd  
Open Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Open Sunday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
252-689-6222

### Abrams BBQ & Chicken

1001 South Memorial Dr.  
Open Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Open Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
252-695-6592

### Texas Roadhouse

720 SW Greenville Blvd.  
Open Monday through Thursday 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Open Friday 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Open Saturday & Sunday noon to 9 p.m.  
252-353-7427



CONTRIBUTED BY ROBIN ASHLEY

The Umbrella Market, which happens every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at Five Points Plaza, will continue to follow new safety precautions amid the pandemic.

# Umbrella Market re-opens

## Vendors adjust to precautions amid COVID-19 pandemic

Yasmine Curmon-Ward  
TEC STAFF

The Uptown Greenville Umbrella Market opened for the season on May 20, and will continue to take new precautions to keep vendors and guests safe amid COVID-19 at its third event this evening from 5 to 8 p.m. at Five Points Plaza.

Robin Ashley, market manager for the Uptown Greenville Umbrella Market, said both events on May 20 and 27 were shortened due to rain. Ashley said about 150 people came out to the event on May 27.

Ashley said, during Phase 2, the Umbrella Market set up the vendors' tents about eight feet apart from each other with marks on the ground to help customers line up six feet apart from each other.

Market vendors have decreased from the usual 50 to 60 vendors from past years to 15 vendors, Ashley said. The vendors are limited to farmers, bakers and makers of household essentials.

The Umbrella Market plans to add additional vendors to a limit of 20 to 25 to keep the required

distance between vendors, according to Ashley. She said they hope to add music, a food truck and beer back to the events when restrictions on gatherings have eased.

Ashley said vendors have offered pre-order options for its customers to make visits to the market shorter. An order website is available for vendors who are not able to set up at the market yet to sell their products. The Umbrella Market has a full list of safety measures being taken listed on its website.

Crystal Shackelford, owner and baker of Cotton Blossom Baking Company, attended the market on May 27 and plans to attend every upcoming Wednesday. Cotton Blossom Baking Company sells baked goods which include gourmet cupcakes, eclairs, gallettes and macaroons she describes as "down home southern sweets like hand pies and cinnamon rolls."

Shackelford said she enjoyed the atmosphere at the event despite the weather and believes it was organized well by Ashley.

"Well the weather was horribly uncooperative, but my experience was awesome. The other vendors were friendly and helpful. It is organized and Robin, the manager, does a phenomenal job of coordinating the event. I look forward to being a part of the market from now on," Shackelford said.

During Phase 2 of reopening businesses, Shackelford said her business sells its products at the Umbrella Market on Wednesdays and the Lenoir County Farmers' Markets while taking special orders on its Facebook Page.

Philip Guy, owner and winemaker of Seven Pines Vineyard & Winery, said he plans to sell his wine at the Umbrella Market and other events this summer. He said he will continue to work with area wine retailers that stock his wine.

"I enjoy selling our wine at Umbrella Market. We sell locally made wine. We are the first and only commercial vineyard and winery in Pitt County," Guy said.

Jason Hall, owner of Washington Crab & Seafood Co., said he enjoys the market this year with his market manager, Michael Taylor, at the booth with his team selling North Carolina seafood.

While he tries to be reliable with his products week after week, Hall said he notices sales grow as a result. He said his farmers markets, retail store and restaurant are going strong and he hopes to become a core vendor and develop a customer base for the summer at the Umbrella Market.

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



Robin Ashley

# Breweries operate under Phase 2

Macie Tano  
TEC STAFF

North Carolina breweries opened back up for business last week after Governor Roy Cooper announced the updated Phase 2 order, which allowed breweries to re-open to the public and will operate at 50% capacity.

After the updated order was put into place at 5 p.m. on May 22, Greenville brewery owners prepared to open their establishments to the public.

During the first phase of the order, some breweries provided curbside pickup for customers. Pitt Street Brewing Company, located at 630 S Pitt St., just sold products to its customers during Phase 1.

Brianna Long, the general manager at Pitt Street Brewing Company, said that the brewery still operated during Phase 1 through take out and delivery services.

"During Phase 1 under the stay-at-home order we have been doing driveway to-go beer pickups and delivery. We were fortunate enough to receive a PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) Loan and able to bring back our employees to work during this time," Long said.

The brewery opened on May 24 after Cooper updated Phase 2 on May 22, according to Long. The brewery is open to the public from 2 to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Originally, Pitt Street Brewing Company planned to re-open on May 20, but breweries were not included in the original Phase 2 plan. Long said the North Carolina Brewery Guild fought against this prior decision.

"It was a tense 48 hours from being told we

couldn't reopen on Wednesday, May 20 to then being told we could reopen on Friday, May 22. We are so appreciative of the North Carolina Brewers Guild. I don't think we would be reopened without their hard work," Long said.

Pitt Street will continue to take special precautions to ensure the safety of its customers and staff members during this time, according to Long. She said the brewery performs health screenings on its employees as well as sanitizes and cleans all surfaces in the brewery.

Long said she looks forward to the community returning to Pitt Street Brewing Company and is thankful for the support it had received during Phase 1.

"Our goal is to continue to cultivate the community through the atmosphere of the taproom, brew exceptional beer for our community and maintain

a safe and inclusive working environment," Long said. "We are excited to get back to a slice of normalcy with the Taproom being open and thank you to everyone who has picked up to-go beer, gotten a delivery or purchased our beer at a grocery store or bottle shop. We truly have the best customers."

Drew Cheshire, head brewer and assistant manager at Uptown Brewing Company, located at 418 Evans St., said Uptown Brewing Company assisted Mpourium during Phase 1 in providing them with crowlers. Cheshire said he started to hear rumors that breweries would be allowed to open for Phase 2 and began brewing several new beers as well as preparing

his staff for the re-open.

Uptown Brewing Company opened to the public on May 26 and is open from 2 to 10 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 2 p.m. to midnight Thursday through Saturday and 1 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Cheshire said.

Uptown Brewing Company follows Phase 2's rules and regulations and operates at 50% capacity while also practicing social distancing in the establishment, Cheshire said.

"We're only allowed to operate at 50% capacity, but with that 50%, you also have to keep everybody spaced out, so it bumps the number of people we can hold down. We still didn't expect a lot of people to come out, but we had a small group on Tuesday. We're not expecting a lot, but we have already had most of our regulars come back," Cheshire said.

According to Cheshire, he was pleased to hear that breweries would be allowed to open in Phase 2 and has appreciated the support Uptown Brewing Company has received from the public. He said he hopes that the business will pick up soon.

"We want to do as much as we can and as much as they'll let us. As soon as they start easing restrictions, we'll be right there. We want to keep our employees and customers safe, but at the same time, we have bills to pay too. We're trying to get back to business and stay as busy as we can," Cheshire said.

More information on Pitt Street Brewing Company and Uptown Brewing Company can be found on their Facebook and Instagram pages.

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

## EMERGE continued from A1

Plywood was put up temporarily to protect the inside of the gallery from the elements while the windows get repaired, according to Lazure.

Lazure said while the plywood is up, the Emerge staff will invite artists around Greenville to come forward with ideas for a mural to paint on the wood.

"We are going to be asking local artists to share their ideas for a mural we can paint over them (the plywood), and paint uplifting messages, but also messages of truth and pain and hurt," Lazure said. "These blank pieces of plywood that we're using to cover our windows for the time being can be a place for the community to share their thoughts and have another way to express their voices."

Lazure said it is important that artists and

creative individuals around Greenville use their voice to express how they feel now, whether it be through visual art, music or performances.

The gallery has been busy supporting the community before Sunday night's protests, Lazure said. One way they have been doing so is with the Arts Relief Fund, which was started to help local artists during the pandemic.

"Before these events, we had started the Arts Relief Fund in order to help local Pitt County artists survive the COVID-19 pandemic. We were trying to figure out a way to keep their lights on, and because so many of them work these exhibitions or performances or events, that's their livelihood," Lazure said. "So, we put in a lot of effort to arrange as much money as we could to keep them safe and fed and healthy."

The gallery looks forward to re-opening to



KATE FRANCIS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Emerge's storefront after Sunday night's protests.

the public where they can continue to share art education with the public, as well as provide art resources and opportunities to underprivileged children and community members, according to Lazure.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

## OUR VIEW

# Meaning of protests outweighs damages

A group of protestors marched around the Uptown Greenville area on Sunday to show their support for the Black Lives Matter movement in response to the death of George Floyd, a black man who was murdered by white policeman Derek Chauvin on May 25. The protest remained peaceful then later was escalated by a few protesters, which resulted in 31 local businesses and 13 police vehicles damaged.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe that even though we do not agree with the actions and property damages that were exhibited at Sunday's protest, we should not let it overlook the initial meaning and reasoning behind the Black Lives Matter movement itself. We encourage the public to focus on the good moments of the peaceful protest rather than the riot that was caused by only a small percentage of the protesters.

The protest did begin peacefully, according to Greenville Police Department Chief of Police Mark Holtzman during the press conference on Monday. While policing the protest, Holtzman stated he was surrounded by a group of agitated protesters, but a crowd of peaceful protesters stood between him and the agitated crowd to help protect him. The protest did not turn violent until police cars were damaged.

A volunteer-based community clean-up was issued on Monday to help clean up the remains of the damage by the protest. In the end, we do offer our support to the Black Lives Matter movement and those affected by it and encourage the public to focus on the meaning behind the protests rather than the riots, looting and damages which resulted from it.

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



# America needs to step up now

## Support the BLM movement by speaking against racism

### Letter to the Editor



**Tory Rose Harris**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

I've struggled with how to start this off because my experience at the Raleigh riots on Saturday is my own, meaning they come from someone with white privilege, that can never in good conscious tell the stories of black Americans without talking over them. So these are my opinions, these are my experiences, but remember, this is coming from someone who will never know what it's like to be black in America.

I've been to my fair share of protests before, locally for gun control and other issues, and had a huge hand in organizing the first annual Women's March on ECU's campus earlier this year, as well as attending the big Women's March in Washington, D.C.

But this was not a protest like those. We did not have tear gas thrown at us and police chasing after us at these more white and American-ly accepted protests. It's quite horrifying really, how different groups of people are treated at these protests.

Saturday night, I remember someone saying that whites should go to the front because they are less likely to shoot. How sick is that? Is that really what we have come to? But it's true. As terrible as it is, it's true and it's necessary. White Americans need to step up. White Americans need to use our privilege and speak up and show out to these Black Lives Matters protests.

During the Freedom Summer of 1964, when Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Chaney went missing and were killed by the Ku Klux Klan, that likely would have been the last anyone heard about the case—if Schwerner and Goodman hadn't been white northern university students. And that's why we, as privileged, good and passionate white allies, need to be putting ourselves out there. As terrible as it may be, the media will sympathize and pick up more on our deaths than those of black Americans.

Now did being white stop me from getting tear-gassed three times, stepping in glass through my shoe, having to run from the police, nearly getting hit in the head with a flying garbage can and some of the people in my group I was with from getting maced in the face? No. But I, personally, was never once worried that I was going to be shot dead that night. When the SWAT team rolled in, I was admittedly unnerved, but what human wouldn't be? And that is why I had to be there, and why more white Americans need to step it up and go beyond their performative activism on social media.

Now, you can view me as you want, an angry Bernie Bro, an unhinged anarchist—but I am so much more than your assumptions of me. I am a triple-major and minor in the honors college with high extracurricular involvement on-campus at ECU. I work for a nonprofit and two campaign internships. I enjoy writing, singing, and theatre.

Every single person at that protest had their own story. Artists, lawyers, students, and I just wonder what goes through the minds of police officers when they fire tear gas into a peaceful crowd, because yes, it was peaceful; until the police, unprovoked, started firing tear gas from the rooftops and ambushing and



A group of Black Lives Matter protesters stand outside the Wake County Courthouse in Raleigh on Saturday. CONTRIBUTED BY HUNTER WHITTINGTON

trapping protestors by deploying tear gas on all sides of us.

Do they not see their own cruelty? When they go to bed at night, do they not think about the countless pains they have caused people, people that could be the same age as their children, in the same classes at them or that they unknowingly could bump into at the grocery store one day?

When we are not protestors, we are people, and isn't the police supposed to protect the people—or only certain groups of people? It would keep me up; it does, the pain I have caused others unintentionally on more minor scales, but again, we are all human, we have all experienced pain, pain is universal, and it causes me pain to know that I likely have unintentionally afflicted it. Doesn't it hurt them, the pain they cause? Don't they feel it too?

I did not attend this protest because I hate the police, hate does not fuel my actions; I've never found hate productive, love does. The love I have for black Americans, the firm knowledge that what is happening is wrong, and a lust for change. Now, I am not the perfect ally, but I recognize that and am working on being better, as we all should be.

In actuality, this article should have been written by a black American, because I can never truly tell their stories, as empathetic and passionate as I may be, it is not my story to tell. But I do hope to make my audience think: the white Americans that are being silent on this. Your silence is deafening, we can't help not to hear it. In times of injustice, if you do not make your side known, your side will be picked for you.

You have to fight, you have to speak out, for George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, and the literal hundreds of unneeded deaths at the hands of police brutality. If we do not speak out, we are complicit. The blood is on our hands, too, each and every day we turn a blind eye to the millions of black Americans that can't walk the streets at night for fear of getting shot. This can't continue; fight not with hate and anger in your heart, but with love and a desire for change.

I am a woman of many words, but if I did not practice what I preach, then my words would be meaningless. I am working to be a better ally, and invite any feedback or criticism from black Americans on how to be better and not speak over your stories, rather, help and lift you up; I am working to be a better person,

I am far from perfect, but I am following my heart and doing what I can. Because that is all any of us can do.

Because we are all human, with our own complex lives and stories, and that should be enough to be worthy of love, life, and equality. Simply being human should be enough. We must overcome tribalism and in-group/out-group bias; we are all from the same group, the group of human beings and are all worthy of equal treatment and opportunity in life.

So I will continue to do whatever it takes to use my white privilege and all other resources at my disposal to keep fighting the good fight until we all see each other as simply human. This fight has been going on since the dawn of civilization, and I get fatigued and distraught too, wondering if I'm actually making a difference. But the way I see it, if we each thought that way, if we each gave in to our feelings of powerlessness that our sole activism is meaningless, then nothing would ever get done. No one would ever show up or speak out. Because alone, we are, indeed, only one, but together, we are strong, an army with a megaphone, and we will not back down.

So this is my call to action to you: fight, speak out. When you see the wrong in the world, shine a spotlight on it. Speak up and show out. This fight will likely last longer than my lifespan, but while I am here, I am devoted to it, and going to give it my all. I don't know if I am doing it perfectly, but as someone very important that I look up to recently said, "keep being you"—so clearly, I am doing something right, and so for now, I will keep doing that.

My final plea for anyone reading this is to think—put yourself in other's shoes, and fight with love and kindness, not anger and hate. That goes for police officers, too. Stop and think about the people you are tear gassing, the real people with jobs, families, and lives behind the protestor. Just as many criticize cops for all being bad, you generalize us all into the same box as violent hooligans. So think. Go against the grain. Be the true good cop that we are waiting for. Follow your heart.

Some may refer to me as a Radical, but I prefer the term Radical Empath. Keep caring, keep thinking, keep learning to be better. It doesn't happen overnight.

Harris is a senior majoring in political science, theatre arts and psychology and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email [opinion@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:opinion@theeastcarolinian.com).

## OUR STAFF

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Chloe Easton</b>      | Editor-in-Chief    |
| <b>Summer Tonizzo</b>    | Managing Editor    |
| <b>Pat Polomchak</b>     | Copy Editor        |
| <b>Lydia Ryan</b>        | News Editor        |
| <b>Macie Tano</b>        | A&E Editor         |
| <b>Dylan Woolard</b>     | Sports Editor      |
| <b>Brendan Gillespie</b> | Multimedia Manager |
| <b>Kate Francis</b>      | Visual Arts Editor |
| <b>Rose Bogue</b>        | Production Manager |

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

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

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

## Contact Info

The East Carolinian  
Mendenhall Main Floor,  
Greenville, NC, 28889-4353

**Email:** [editor@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:editor@theeastcarolinian.com)

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

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

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

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Did someone say FREE?

Looking for a roommate or a sublease?  
Got something for sale?  
ECU students can submit a classified for **FREE!**  
Contact [smaa@ecu.edu](mailto:smaa@ecu.edu) for more information.



## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Review reserves and accounts. Find ways to restore balance wherever it's missing. Dreams seem within reach. Group efforts bear fruit. Pull in the harvest.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Pour creativity and imagination into your home and garden. Play great music while you clean house. Prepare home-cooked delights. Consider color, lighting and ambience.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — Rest and recharge in your peaceful sanctuary. Lose yourself in a creative project. Imagine and dream. Reconnect with the natural world. Beauty energizes you.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Make romantic plans to share something special and fun. Collaborate for a shared dream. Together you're a powerful force. Charm and be charmed.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Develop a creative project. Consider your message, mission or goal. Build and strengthen basic infrastructure and then edit and polish. Illustrate and embellish.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — Create new possibilities with old friends. Share creative ideas and collaborate to develop the most interesting. Keep a collective dream alive. Discover opportunities and connections.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Pursue the realization of a personal dream. Actions get results. Practice for strength, endurance and skills. Get farther than expected, one step at a time.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 9 — Focus energies for lucrative reward. You can get what you need. Avoid lies. Find profitable opportunities. Keep the faith and keep showing up.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Imagine a professional dream realized. What would have had to happen? Lay foundations to build the design of your perfect situation. Plot your course.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Prioritize fun, romance and connection. Explore a mutual attraction or shared passion. Enjoy creature comforts, delicious treats and the company of someone special.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — You're especially strong and creative. Take advantage to advance a personal passion project. Use your persuasive charms. Determine what's needed. Ask and receive.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — An adventure exploration. Make plans and dreams. Imagine the possibilities. Engage in investigation, research and study. Discover valuable tools and techniques. Indulge your curiosity.

(c)2017 BY NANCY BLACK. DISTRIBUTED BY TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

## COMICS

### BREWSTER ROCKET



### BLISS

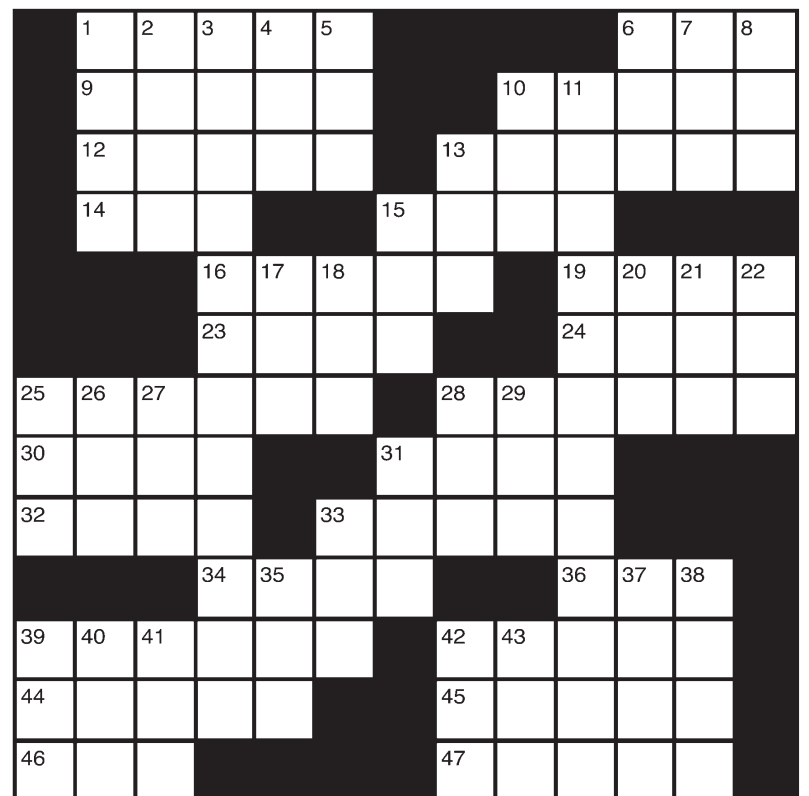


"See this shiny part? That's bling."

## CROSSWORD

### THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

#### ACROSS

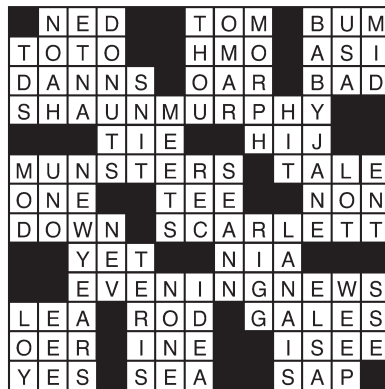
- 1 Annie of "Young Sheldon"
- 6 "Say \_\_\_ to the Dress"
- 9 "Let's Make \_\_\_"
- 10 Actress Hilary
- 12 "The Life of \_\_\_"; William Bendix series
- 13 Caesar's "\_\_\_ saw, I conquered!"
- 14 Israel's \_\_\_ Aviv
- 15 Bucket
- 16 "Wagon \_\_\_"; western of old
- 19 Actor Neeson
- 23 Actress Helen \_\_\_
- 24 Dog on "The Thin Man"
- 25 Heckart or Brennan
- 28 "The Good \_\_\_"
- 30 One of the Maverick brothers
- 31 "Days of \_\_\_ and Roses"; movie for Jack Lemmon
- 32 Jethro Bodine's portrayer
- 33 Pulsate; beat
- 34 "\_\_\_ Betty"
- 36 Ending for pay or Motor
- 39 "\_\_\_ River"; movie for Sean Penn and Kevin Bacon
- 42 "\_\_\_ Secretary"

- 44 "\_\_\_ Is Enough"
- 45 Fred Astaire's dancing sister
- 46 Isn't \_\_\_ to; probably won't
- 47 Mr. O'Brien

#### DOWN

- 1 Go separate ways
- 2 Cartoon dog
- 3 "To \_\_\_"; Anthony Anderson show
- 4 Edison's monogram
- 5 Devious
- 6 Orange edible
- 7 180 degrees from WSW
- 8 Zoom down snowy slopes
- 10 \_\_\_-fi; film genre
- 11 Role on "Chicago Fire"
- 13 Actor McKellen
- 15 "The \_\_\_ and the Pendulum"; film based on a Poe short story
- 17 McClanahan of "The Golden Girls"
- 18 Actress \_\_\_ B. Davis
- 20 Suffix for cartoon or art
- 21 "\_\_\_ Z"; short-lived Ben Feldman series
- 22 Spoil; deface
- 25 Flow's opposite
- 26 Paul's cousin on "Mad About You"
- 27 Majors or Marvin
- 28 Hitchcock or Scorsese: abbr.
- 29 Wife of a Beatle
- 31 "\_\_\_ Do Fools Fall in Love"
- 33 "Sister Wives" network
- 35 "\_\_\_ Along, Little Dogies"
- 37 Refrain syllables
- 38 Series for Sherman Hemsley
- 39 "Cry \_\_\_ River"; song for Justin Timberlake & others before him
- 40 Short sharp bark
- 41 "\_\_\_ Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band"
- 42 "The Bernie \_\_\_ Show"
- 43 "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"

Solution from 5/27



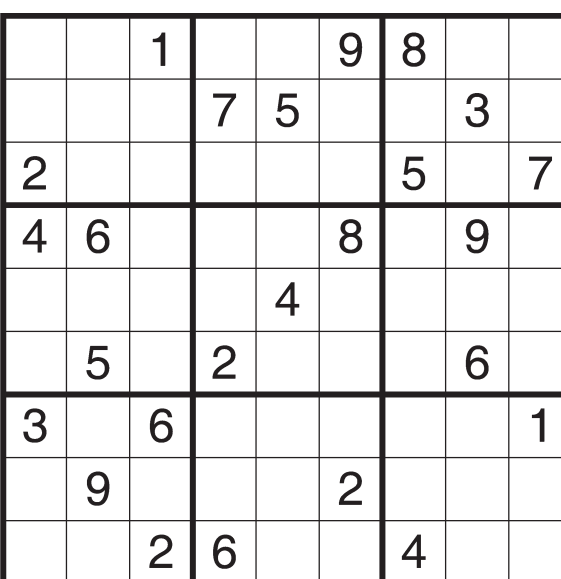
©2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

## 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, please visit [sudoku.org.uk](http://sudoku.org.uk)

Solution from 5/27

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 9 |
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 |
| 7 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 8 |

© 2019 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.



# TAP THE APP

GET YOUR FILL OF NEWS, SPORTS, MUSIC AND EVENTS ON THE PIRATE MEDIA 1 APP

Available in the App Store and Google Play




# Baseball, football get creative

## How ECU sports are handling NCAA's extended recruiting dead period

Dylan Woolard  
TEC STAFF

The NCAA's Division I Communications and Coordination Committee announced last Wednesday that the recruiting dead period for all sports will extend through July 31.

The dead period had been instituted by the committee as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and was previously extended to just June 30.

"During a dead period a college coach may not have face-to-face contact with college-bound student-athletes or their parents, and may not watch student-athletes compete or visit their high schools. Coaches may write and telephone student-athletes or their parents during a dead period," the NCAA website said.

The current state of recruiting has forced East Carolina University coaches and programs to travel down more creative avenues as it relates to the recruitment of future Pirates, ECU baseball associate head coach and recruiting coordinator Jeff Palumbo said.

The Pirate baseball program's 3-D virtual facilities tour was originally intended for another purpose altogether, but as a result of COVID-19, the tour has become a powerful recruiting tool for the Pirates, according to Palumbo.

"I was excited about the tool and as a staff we were excited about it going in just because of some of the rules that restrict us with players that are young," Palumbo said. "It was really initially a way to educate parents and players on what we have at East Carolina and all the great things we can provide for them as a student athlete. That was the initial intent."



Jeff Palumbo



NCAA logo pictured behind empty March Madness seats at the 2017 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament at Vivint Smart Home Arena on March 16, 2017. COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Since ECU baseball's partnership with 5 Star Virtual to construct the virtual reality tour on March 3, 2020, the NCAA announced the cancellation of the remaining spring sports seasons and has placed various restrictions on recruiting.

"You couldn't have dreamed up a better scenario where you can get the families some information at a time like this," Palumbo said. "Obviously nobody wants to be stuck indoors right now and not being able to get out and play ball, but we are fortunate that we were able to get that up and running and it was certainly timely for us for sure."

While the dead period is currently set to go through July 31, Athletic Director and Council Chair M. Grace Calhoun said via the NCAA that the dead period could be reviewed again in late June or early July.

Early on, Palumbo said himself and the rest of the Pirate staff were unsure

about just how long the dead period could actually last.

"Really we're just taking it day to day. You know, because at first you're talking about 'well this could be two to four weeks,' then it's continued to push back and you're at the point where you're making arrangements and you're making plans and then you're quickly finding out that was a waste of time," Palumbo said.

While face-to-face contact was lost during this dead period and social distancing practices, coaches are also aware of ways that they can take advantage of this time. ECU football's director of player personnel and recruiting J.P. Gunter called the time at hand "an opportunity to continue to build relationships."

Beyond phone calls and sending emails, another way that ECU football has built relationships with recruits is through presence on social media. ECU football's twitter page has been dedicat-

ing a portion of it's time to congratulate all the incoming freshman recruits that have been graduating from high school over the past week in groups of four or individually.

"I'll tell you what, we look at that as a big resource for us," Gunter said. "Not only is it a great communication tool with these prospects, but our social media presence allows us to put our best foot forward in introducing and showing these young men and their families what ECU football is about."

No matter the restrictions, Pirate football and Pirate athletics will keep on "trucking along," according to Gunter.



J.P. Gunter

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

# ECU football '09 C-USA victory lives on

Joshua Nelms  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University Athletics gave fans access to the 2009 Conference USA championship game as a part of the Classic Rewind which began as an effort to keep ECU Sports in the homes of Pirate fans.

The conference title game played between ECU and the University of Houston was played out in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium on Dec. 5, 2009. Houston entered the game No. 21 in the nation and were led by future NFL quarterback Case Keenum.

"Well one thing I remember vividly is that it was never about Case Keenum and Houston. It was always about us, we knew we were a great team," former ECU defensive end C.J. Wilson said. "Great coach, great coaching staff. We had a great system, offense, defense and special teams and we knew Case Keenum was a great quarterback. I know he's done great things, but one thing we knew, we knew we were a better team."

ECU entered the game unranked with a record of 8-4 and was led by senior quarterback Patrick Pinkney. Pinkney was a two-year starter for the Pirates.

"Patrick Pinkney did a great job of leading us," Wilson said.

The Cougars scored first with Keenum throwing a 57 yard touchdown to junior receiver James Cleveland in the first quarter. Four minutes later the Pirates answered with a one yard rush up the middle by senior running back Dominique Lindsay.



2009 Pirate football celebrates second conference championship victory with win over Houston Cougars. COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

In the second quarter Keenum and Cleveland connected for a second touchdown pass, and gave Houston the lead. After a failed extra point attempt, the score remained 13-7. With 7:31 left in the first half the Pirates defense forced an interception, putting the ball back into the hands of the offense.

The Pirates offense responded and drove down the field and to score a touchdown with a rush by junior running back Giovanni Ruffin. With a successful point after try, ECU took the lead 14-13 with four minutes to go in the half.

The first half ended in Greenville with the Pirates trailing the Cougars 19-14. ECU would start the second half strong, scoring 17 unanswered points to take a 31-19 lead. Houston narrowed the gap with a touchdown in the fourth quarter to give them 26 and cut

ECU's lead down to only five points.

With five minutes to go in the game, the Pirates answered back with a touchdown of their own, giving them 38 points. Keenum and the Cougars would score again, however their late game push would not be enough to overcome the Pirates.



C.J. Wilson

The Pirates' victory over Houston made them the first team to win back-to-back C-USA championships.

"Oh man, I think about those guys all the time. We had a great team and we were brothers. More than teammates we were brothers," Wilson said.

After his time with ECU, Wilson went on to play in the NFL and won a championship

with the Green Bay Packers as a rookie in Super Bowl '45 against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Wilson compared his superbowl victory to being a two time C-USA champion and while admitting how special a superbowl victory was with the Packers, the culmination of his hard work as a Pirate meant something more.

"Winning the Super Bowl is every football player's dream, but I think it meant more to me to win the conference championship with my brothers. I knew a lot of those guys for four years before I won the championship with my brothers," Wilson said.

The 2009 ECU football team was one with talent like Wilson's across the board. Former ECU defensive tackle Linval Joseph was drafted by the New York Giants in the second round of the 2010 draft and similarly to Wilson, Joseph won a Super Bowl with the Giants in the 2011 season.

To further the talent that the Pirates displayed during the 2009 season, Dwayne Harris, a wide receiver for the Pirates during the 2009 season, was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in the sixth round of the 2011 NFL draft.

A handful of draft picks, a second straight C-USA championship for the 2009 Pirate football team, but a team whose legacy and successes are still recognized today thanks to ECU Athletics and the Classic Rewind service.

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

## ALL-AMERICANS continued from A1

earned his fourth American Athletic Conference Player-of-the-Week award of his career on March 9. The award winning outing was a 4-0 weekend against the University of North Carolina Charlotte during which Burleson batted .667, including a home run, four RBI, and scored a total of seven times according to ECU-Pirates.

Burleson appeared in four games as a starting pitcher during the 2020 season. Against Georgia Southern University in an early season series, Burleson threw a total of seven strikeouts in that game and held the opponent to eight scoreless frames (career-high), according to ECUPirates. He also led the team in strikeouts as a pitcher with 22 in total.

He finished the season second on the team in batting average among all starters, having struck out three times. His efficiency at the plate ranked him as the 11th toughest to strike out in the nation according to ECUPirates. Burleson led the team in runs with 17 and

had seven multi-hit games and three multi-RBI games.

As for the Pirate track and field team, Davis was named a United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-American for the first time in his career. Since the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Indoor Track & Field Championships were cancelled, there is no "first team," "second team" or "honorable mentions," according to ECUPirates. This year, everyone selected is an All-American athlete.

Davis is the first ECU track and field athlete to be selected as an All-American since Avion Jones received the honor in 2016 for high jump. The redshirt senior is now the 34 male to receive the honor as an ECU athlete.

Davis broke the school record in the weight throw with a mark of 22.2 meters during the Carolina Challenge on Feb. 1, according to ECUPirates. This feat earned him conference recognition after being named the AAC Male Field Athlete of the Week.

"Our program is very excited to hear the announcement about Ryan Davis being an All-American," Director of Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross

Country Curt Kraft said according to ECUPirates. "Ryan is very deserving of this prestigious award. He has done an excellent job over the last many years of representing our program in a very positive manner."



Curt Kraft

Davis was ranked ninth before the national meet according to ECUPirates, which was earned by his performance in the AAC Indoor Championships. At the event, he threw a meet record of 21.75 meters, giving him first place in the weight throw for the second time in his career.

With numbers like Davis has been putting up, Kraft is certainly excited to be having him back for another season.

"It's also very exciting to know that Ryan will be with us next year competing for the Pirates once again," Kraft said.

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