



The East Carolinian

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Students walk on the main campus of East Carolina University prior to the move undergraduate instruction online as of Aug. 23.

Rush Week goes virtual for fall 2020

Michelle Mazzei
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Greek Life events from the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Association (PA), the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) will face changes to follow COVID-19 precautions as each group goes into additional Rush Week events.

Director of Greek Life John Mountz said due to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state mandated orders, large gatherings are prohibited which means sororities and fraternities had to schedule recruitment, bid days, future chapter meetings and events virtually for the remainder of the fall semester.

"They've (Greek Life) all had to rethink what they're going to do or how they're doing things like recruitment, membership intake, new member education and educational programming," Mountz said. "Trying to shift all these things that we have traditionally done in person to a virtual world has taken a lot of effort both at the undergraduate level but also at the national organizations."

IFC, PA, MGC and the NPHC used Zoom to connect to students interested in Greek Life during the summer and the first few weeks of school while they catered to different chapters potential new members were interested in. Those chapters would then virtually connect with new members once they receive their bids, according to Mountz.

MGC's Cultural Invitational event is Sept. 10, Mountz said, and NPHC's Meet the Greeks will be Sept. 13. He said there will not be large in-person celebrations for chapter bid days this year in hopes of flattening the COVID-19 curve.

"(ECU is) not the first campus to go through virtual recruitment this year so we're getting some good tips and ideas from other campuses about ways chapters better engage new members," Mountz said.

There have been COVID-19 clusters in some of the ECU Greek Life houses since students live in a communal environment, but Mountz said there have been numerous emails sent out to all Greek Life students about guidelines, safety precautions and how to get tested with Student Health Services.

Mountz said the numbers for registration were less than they were last year, but students continue to show



John Mountz

ECU garners substantial debt

University owes \$19 million after online transition

Chloe Easton
TEC STAFF

Jennifer Sieg
TEC STAFF



After East Carolina University began to adapt to COVID-19 safety guidelines and transitioned to remote instruction in March to protect its community, it faced an increase in debt which has now more than doubled this fall from \$9 million to \$19 million given the recent switch to remote instruction for the remainder of the semester.

Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Sarah Thorndike said in an email statement on Aug. 31 that in March, ECU distributed over \$9 million in refunds from housing and dining to students after the transition to remote instruction, which struck as the first hit from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"ECU refunded housing and dining of over \$9 million to students. Our physician and dental practice plans also experienced revenue losses.

We also lost revenue when we couldn't hold events on campus," Thorndike said.

Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson announced on June 11 that the university would face potential temporary furloughs for institutional



Sarah Thorndike

auxiliary and receipt-supported enterprises, according to an email statement sent out to the ECU community. Thorndike said the amount of money that was saved from the furloughs announced on June 11 by Mitchelson was approximately \$900 thousand as of Aug. 31. She said the university estimates losses of around \$19 million due to the recent transition to remote instruction for the remainder of the fall semester.

Within the estimated \$19 million, \$14 million came from housing and dining refunds, \$3 million resulted

from loss of student fees and \$1 million was lost in tuition and parking, according to Thorndike.

Communication Professor Mary Tucker-McLaughlin said she was not impacted personally by the previous furloughs, and she doesn't believe she will be impacted by any potential future furloughs.

Tucker-McLaughlin said whenever there is a deficit, there will be a budget cut which usually affects employees. She said unfilled positions within departments are given up and the larger effect for some employees is an increased workload.

"What happens is we don't have enough people, we can't offer as many classes, you know, the students can't take them, therefore they don't graduate on time," Tucker-McLaughlin said. "So it all kind of trickles down."

Acting Provost Grant Hayes, who is also senior vice chancellor of academic affairs, said after he put forth a

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Student opens online jewelry boutique

Bodacious Behavior provides eclectic offerings at affordable prices during pandemic

Harold Bloomfield
TEC STAFF

An East Carolina University student and her cousin recently created a website for their online jewelry boutique, Bodacious Behavior, which aims to provide affordable unique jewelry to the community.

Brooke Edes, senior communication major, is one of the co-owners of Bodacious Behavior. She said she and her cousin, Brittini Malone, have had the idea for a jewelry boutique for a while. During quarantine, she said they realized they had the time to put the idea together.

Edes said she has always looked for different types of styles and that she isn't a "trendy" person. She said whenever she shops, she studies how other boutiques price their items and the types of items others may sell.

"We definitely wanted to have flexible

prices and have something affordable for everyone," Edes said.

Bodacious Behavior would soon like to be able to sell clothing, according to Edes. She said it is in the "testing" stages now and they are excited to show their customers.

Edes said at the start it was a struggle because of the money that had to be put in. She said a lot of people that start a business put in more money than they may get out at the start but they wanted to keep "pushing, growing and expanding."

"Our goal is to not appeal to one group but to have a little something anyone would enjoy," Edes said.

Brittani Malone is the co-owner of Bodacious Behavior along with Edes. Malone said she has history working at boutiques and describes herself as the "shopaholic" of the pair.

Malone said she wants to have different styles and have something that fits everyone. She said she may only get a limited quantity of a particular item instead of buying a lot of



COURTESY OF AMANDA BRENDEL

Bodacious Behavior displays some of its handmade and wholesale jewelry products.

one item, especially if the pair does not know how well the item will do.

"A lot of pieces we have been skeptical about bringing out because they are more for going out and being flashy, and since COVID-19 is still going on right now, we

are debating on when to release these pieces," Malone said.

The pair was worried about whether their items would sell as much because of COVID-19, according to Malone. She said the pair has

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

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ONLINE

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BRIEFS

CitizenU to host leadership panel

Today, CitizenU will host a virtual panel available to East Carolina University students on the topic of leadership journeys. The panel is expected to have three to five community leaders who will share information about their journeys. The event will be held virtually from 4 to 5 p.m. on Microsoft Teams.

G.O.L.D series to speak on servant leadership

Today, the G.O.L.D series will speak to ECU students about what it takes to become a selfless servant leader. The event will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. on Microsoft Teams.

ECU SAB to host grocery bingo

Today, ECU SAB will host a virtual grocery bingo for students to win a chance to stock their pantry for free. Students must RSVP by 4 p.m. today on the Engage event page to receive their bingo cards. Bingo will be held from 6 to 7 p.m.

Student Rec Center to open rock wall

Today, the ECU SRC will open the rock wall each Wednesday. Those who attend are required to wear a mask throughout their time there and use hand sanitizer before and after climbing. The climbing period will be held from 4 to 8 p.m.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

Greenville Police form partnership

Mental healthcare professionals will be called to assist officers

Jennifer Sieg
TEC STAFF

Greenville Police Department (GPD) has taken on a new initiative and partnered with Integrated Family Services to allow mental health experts to be immediately notified and called to a scene when needed.

GPD Chief Mark Holtzman said the partnership between GPD and Integrated Family Services allows mental health experts to join police officers in the field for mental health related issues.

Holtzman said this partnership and GPD's goal is to address a local issue based on a national issue, which is how police respond to mental health calls for service and mental health crises.

"We're committed to call them for mental health related calls and attempted suicide calls," Holtzman said. "So they can come out in the field with us and begin to give care at the scene with the officers."

Holtzman said the partnership is indefinite. He said the goal over the next few months is to develop a co-responder model, which will be new to Eastern Carolina.

This model will ultimately dispatch both the police officer and the mental health worker to the scene at the same time, according to Holtzman. He said currently, an on-call model is in place to call the mental health workers, talk to them and then bring them to the scene.

"We're working towards the co-responder model where they'll just come directly to the scene, be there within the first five (or) 10 minutes when it's really critical and begin to help the officers navigate through a crisis situation," Holtzman said.

The Greenville community can call the mobile crisis directly on their hotline, Holtzman said. He said GPD asks the community to use the hotline and call to speak with a local crisis counselor before it becomes an emergency situation.

Holtzman said the mobile crisis hotline can assist with more than just mental health services. He said it also can help with substance abuse and assistance with other family matters.



Mark Holtzman



ECU Police Officer Dan Cintron gets into his police car on the main campus of East Carolina University in 2018.

"It's really a great resource for anybody in the community," Holtzman said. "I would highly recommend the community call the hotline if they're having trouble. If they're in an emergency situation, you dial 911 and the police can come and we'll bring mobile crisis with us."

Mobile Crisis services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for Pitt County and surrounding areas. More information can be found on the Integrated Family Services website.

East Carolina University Police Department (PD) Deputy Chief Jason Sugg said ECU PD is aware and involved with the new mental health partnership between GPD and Integrated Family Services, though it is mostly geared toward off-campus residents.

The relationship ECU PD has with the Center for Counseling and Student Development (CCSD) at ECU complements the new mobile crisis program well, according to Sugg. He said counselors usually help over the phone, but will go to the scene if needed.

"If it requires something a little more in-depth, the counselor will come out and work with that student or staff member, whoever it may be, who's kind of going through that moment of crisis," Sugg said.

The end goal is to make sure there is a quick and accessible mental health resource for the community whether it's on or off campus, Sugg said. He said the partnership will make it easier for the resources to be where they need to be in a timely manner.

Sugg said this benefits students by providing access to an additional resource for those who live off campus. He said the partnership may also benefit the relationship between the community and the police department by providing better interactions in certain situations.

"Hopefully, we'll see, you know, increased instances of really positive interaction with the police because that resource is there," Sugg said.

There are several campus resources to research and take advantage of, Sugg said. More information on mental health services at ECU can be found on the CCSD website.



Jason Sugg

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large effort to develop the "Return of Pirate Nation" this summer he believed ECU would be able to complete the fall semester without a complete shift to online instruction or damage to its financial situation.

"Our faculty, staff and administration put a great deal of work into developing plans and procedures in the hope and expectation that we would be able to complete the fall semester with as much in-person instruction as possible," Hayes said. "However, with the increase of COVID-19 cases on campus, it became apparent that the move to online instruction was the right decision for the health and safety of our campus community."

Although the transition has caused an increase in debt for the university, Hayes said he believes the overall health of students, faculty and staff remains more important to help prevent further COVID-19 outbreaks on campus.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Virginia Hardy said to recover from this large amount of debt the university will now continue to face there will be a lot to discuss among university officials, University of North Carolina Board of Governors (BOG) and the University of North Carolina System (UNC System).

Even though most decisions have not been made yet as to how the university will recover, Hardy said the BOG voted to not raise tuition or student fees for the rest of the 2020 academic school year as a result of the impact caused by the pandemic. She said the BOG has not decided if there will be an increase in tuition or fees for the 2020 to 2021 academic school year.

"There is going to be a lot of things put on the table, as we talk through how we bounce back. I do know the board of governors, they voted that we will not increase tuition or fees for 2021... I'm not sure what happens after 2021 and so for the 2020 to 2021 academic year they haven't decided yet, but I do know. I do believe that everything is going to be put on the table to help us think through how we rebound from this," Hardy said.

There will be a lot of specifics implemented to help recover from the increase of debt due to the transition to online instruc-

tion in fall 2020, however, those specifics have not yet been discussed among university officials fully, according to Hardy.

With a large hit to the financial status of the university, Hardy said to rebound from this damage ECU will have to come together as the BOG and UNC System offers assistance. She said it is most important for the community to remember as we take the next steps toward recovery, this debt was not the fault of anyone.

"I think it's important for people to know it wasn't that anybody did anything wrong, it's the pandemic and this is where we are and again when you think about the businesses out in our community that are struggling and, you know, it's the same thing for higher education as well," Hardy said.

In 2018, an audit of the ECU Athletic Department revealed a \$2.3 million deficit. In May of 2020, ECU Athletics announced that women's and men's tennis programs as well as the swimming and diving programs would be cut, according to ECU News Services. ECU News Services said this decision was made to consolidate the university's growing debt.

"The action is being taken as part of the University's overall budget restructuring efforts and is part of a detailed analysis of ECU's athletics financial position during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic," ECU News Services said on its website.

The removal of these four sports programs will save ECU an estimated \$4.9 million, which will go toward the reduction of the current deficit owed by the university, according to ECU News Services.

According to a statement from former Chancellor Cecil Staton, former ECU Athletics Director Jeff Compher resigned in March of 2018 with a butout agreement of over \$1 million that the university would pay out over five years. According to the agreement, Compher's payments are made 24 times per year.

The \$60 million Towne Bank Tower in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium is also projected to lose \$6 million over the next 29 years, according to a fiscal sustainability audit in 2020 which was funded by the university's athletic department. The previous administration believed it would net the university \$42 million.

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RUSH continued from A1

interest in Greek Life and want to connect and build strong relationships with other students.

"It's well documented in higher education research that if we can help particularly first-year students and transfer students get connected with the university and do something with a group or an organization, they're going to be more successful," Mountz said. "One of the things we want to make sure that we're able to do is continue to operate in a way that is safe while the students can still get connected."

Senior recreational and park management major and NPHC President Marius Morrison, who is also President of the Xi Nu Chapter at ECU, said the NPHC council elected its new members two weeks ago and they will continue to finish up its plans for Meet the Greeks. After this virtual event, the NPHC will have a more concrete list of events.

NPHC and Xi Nu have found innovative and different ways to reach out to students and the community as it plans on to volunteer on Friday for the Sept. 11 Day of Service, Morrison said, and the chapter will continue to look for more service opportunities such as mentorship, garbage pickup or volunteer hours at a community garden.

"(COVID-19) made it a lot harder to know the interests of students who want to be in a fraternity or sorority, and it's been much harder since we can't really meet with them in person," Morrison said. "Previously before COVID-19 you could go meet up

with students at the student center or in the library and you really get to know people on a one-on-one basis. Now everything is virtual."

Once students are accepted into a sorority or fraternity, they will attend virtual information meetings and Greek Life training sessions, according to Morrison.

PA President Lindsey Stogner, who is also a senior elementary education major, said bid day for sororities was Sept. 7 and the IFC fraternities' bid days are scheduled for Sept. 11.

On Sept. 7, Panhellenic sororities welcomed 366 women into their community, according to Stogner.

"We are so excited to see them being their journey in their chapter. Chapters did



CONTRIBUTED BY CAROLINE DAUB

Alpha Omicron Pi hosted Bid Day on Sept. 7.

host virtual events to welcome their new members into their chapters, and I know our new members (are) so excited to be a part of an amazing sisterhood," Stogner said.

Some technical difficulties did arise during the recruitment process, but the Panhellenic community came together to efficiently work together and resolve those issues, Stogner said, and they were able to give the Potential New Members (PNMs) the best experience possible.

Sophomore hospitality management major Cheyenne Kober is in the Panhellenic Association sorority Alpha Omicron Pi and said she lives in her sorority house. She said she and her sisters have done mock recruitment over the summer with other Alpha Omicron Pi members from different campuses in North Carolina to help prepare them for actual recruitment.

"We've done a lot of networking on Instagram to reach out to students and Panhellenic will usually post something about Greek Life and tag and share us or sometimes they'll make a promo-video advertising our sorority," Kober said.

Alpha Omicron Pi members practice social distancing and make sure they wear their face masks when in common areas of their house, Kober said. She said there are hand sanitizer stations located throughout the house and individuals wipe surfaces down with disinfectant wipes, along with disinfectant spray.

Alpha Omicron Pi's orientation was Sept. 2 and its first round of Meet the Greeks was Sept. 3., Kober said. She said bid day on Monday went amazing and it was very heart-warming to see the previous PNMs "run home" to Alpha Omicron Pi.

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OUR VIEW

Furloughs unfortunate, yet inevitable

East Carolina University Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson announced on Aug. 30 that refunds for housing, dining and parking would begin to be processed which would take approximately three to five weeks. The refunds would be based on the residence hall and neighborhood the students resided in and how many days the students lived in them.

The announcement came after ECU officials announced that undergraduate classes would be moved online for the remainder of the fall semester on Aug. 23 due to the rising cases of COVID-19 on campus. Students who lived in residence halls were told they would be moved out during the following week. Concerns from students and families begin to rise about whether students would receive refunds for housing, dining and parking.

ECU Campus Living released a statement on Aug. 25, announcing that students who purchased meal plans will receive a prorated refund of their plans through Nov. 29. Unspent Purple Bucks will be credited to the student's account and Gold Bucks can either be additionally added to their account or refunded at the student's request. ECU officials announced that with these refunds, there would also be the possibility of staff furloughs and pay cuts.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, are pleased to see that students who were moved out of the residence halls will receive refunds for living, dining and parking. However, we believe it is unfortunate that there may be staff furloughs and pay cuts in the process.

The potential furloughs wouldn't affect all faculty members, as associate professors are paid out-of-state appropriation, while other professors are under contract and can't be furloughed during the current school year. Pay cuts are still a possibility if the conditions continue to worsen, and fixed-term faculty members may be laid off. A hiring freeze is also a possibility.

While these changes are necessary as ECU works to prevent further spread of COVID-19, we are displeased to hear that ECU may be letting go of faculty members or cutting their pay. We believe it is important for the Pirate Nation to stick together and support one another now more than ever during these changing times.



9/11 remembrance is necessary USA must reunite, remain strong as we memorialize Patriot Day

Williams' World



Giana Williams
TEC COLUMN

Friday marks the 19th anniversary of the day the United States was brought to a halt. The day that shocked the whole world as Americans feared for their lives as they sat in front of their TV's or close by the radio to

hear the traumatic incident that happened in Manhattan, New York and Arlington, Virginia.

I was only a month shy from my first birthday when 9/11 occurred, but growing up in school and learning about the terrorist attack and the pain that Americans felt that day resonated with me and it continues to do now. I remember my mom telling me how tears poured out of her eyes while she was holding me tightly because her father and other close relatives lived around the Manhattan area where the attack occurred. She feared that any one of the victims inside or near one of the World Trade Center could've been one of her own. She also feared for her husband, my father, who often delivered packages to the Pentagon on a daily basis and wondered what if he had gone to deliver those packages at 9:37 a.m.

Sept. 11, 2001, was the day that many "what if's" may have floated around Americans' heads. What if that was them inside the Twin Towers? What if they were inside one of those planes? What if any one of



COURTESY OF DREW ANGERER

The Tribute in Light located in New York City lit up in remembrance of the fallen Twin Towers from the 9/11 attacks.

those victims were their family members or loved ones? The aftermath of the terrorist attack put fear in many Americans because they didn't know how to recover or feel after something this traumatizing had to happen to their home country. But that day was also the day almost every American united to overcome this event.

The Sept. 11 attacks were more than just a day that will never be forgotten. It was also the day that the USA came together as one to recover the events that took place. We had to do something to commemorate the 2,977 lives that were lost in such horrific ways. We had to honor them anyway we could. As the anniversary of 9/11 rolls around in two days, we must remember those who were impacted during that day. I cannot say

from experience on the emotions that were felt that very day but if there's one thing I realized is that every American understood each other and the emotions that were felt on 9/11 and the weeks after.

Even though the country seems divided than ever due to various political disagreements, we are all still part of one country. Even when we are broken and brought to our knees, it's our neighbors and fellow Americans that can help rebuild and get stronger together. In order for us to be united again, we must understand each other's emotions once again.

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

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Spiritual practices should not be forced



Quinton Butler
GUEST COLUMN

Throughout history, humans have searched for explanations for that which was beyond their comprehension. Things such as natural disasters, changing of the seasons, animals and the celestial bodies have been explained by supernatural theories, shared in the form of stories about gods, goddesses, spirits and the like.

These stories evolved and migrated across the world, carved in the walls and caves and bound into books. These stories have even made it to government bodies of monarchs and other modern civilizations, shaping the way people lived and viewed the world they lived in. Conflicts arose between nations and cultures, arguing whose story was right. Countless lives lost over speculation and myth. These stories have been named religion, and their conflicts deemed holy and righteous.

Why is it that there has not been one religion deemed worthy to be accepted by the entirety of the human race? One would think, after centuries of war and countless atrocities made in the name of their beliefs, one religion would rise victorious and spread throughout. This is not the case, however. From Christianity to Islam, Buddhism to Paganism, our planet is filled with different spiritual paths.

Now I must stress, not every spiritual

" No matter your ethnicity, nationality, childhood or traditions, one's path is their own. So long as those paths cause no harm either to themselves or someone else, no one has the right to deny or ridicule someone else's beliefs. "

-Quinton Butler

path has been the cause of murder. Not all religions attempted to conquer the world in the name of their god. However, the existence of such periods in history cannot be ignored for this conversation to take place. No religion or spirituality is intrinsically evil, it is the actions and beliefs of those that distort the covenants of their practice that make these actions evil.

With that said, here is what I have discovered along my journey, I believe every path leads to the same place. Every religion has a similar story, or piece of said story, flavored with the culture and myths of the area from which it was born. If one were to research every major religion in our world today, they would see the striking similarities between them.

I believe in the spiritual. I have had experiences that cannot be explained without warranting side glances and concerned inquiries from someone who does not share similar experiences. Despite this, I cannot in good conscious claim my path to be the one true way. Just because my beliefs and practices

work for me, does not mean everyone should follow in my footsteps. No matter your ethnicity, nationality, childhood or traditions, one's path is their own. So long as those paths cause no harm either to themselves or someone else, no one has the right to deny or ridicule someone else's beliefs.

We are all human, and faulty in our ability to fully comprehend all that exists in this world, or beyond it. We do not pay the price for being wrong humans, we pay the price for being bad humans. Love your neighbor, love yourself, love this world and be on a never-ending mission to learn and grow in any way you see fit. Do not let the biased idolatries and dogma of our past stop you from being the powerful and beautiful being you were meant to be.

Butler is a senior majoring in finance and a guest columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

» ANALYSIS

ECU football adds to 2021 class

Pirates see several high-ranking players in high school recruits



Stryker Stubbs
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University recently picked up a big football commitment for the 2021 recruiting class when Theodore Lockley committed on Sept. 1. With the 2020 season on the horizon, the Pirates continue to add to the 2021 class.

Lockley is a three-star ranked athlete who played high school football in Daytona Beach, Florida, according to 247sports.com. He committed to ECU after he additionally received offers from the University of Illinois and Appalachian State University.

Lockley had first committed to Illinois in mid-June of this year, but only kept his commitment for just over a month. He then proceeded to receive offers from the University of Cincinnati and the University of Utah, but would officially commit to the Pirates earlier this month.

The Pirates' 2021 recruiting class already has some depth and some intriguing players beyond just Lockley.

The 2021 class now has 11 hard commits, with nine of them being ranked as three star recruits out of highschool. The highest ranked recruit thus far is versatile athlete Jacob Coleman, according to hoistthecolours.com.

Coleman has great collegiate size, standing six-feet four-inches tall and weighing 215 pounds. He is a Chesterfield, Virginia native, where he played highschool ball at Matoaca High School, according to statistics in the article.



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Sophomore quarterback Holton Ahlers runs with the football in a previous game in 2019.

The Pirates have a big wide receiver presence in this 2021 recruiting class, likely in anticipation of replacing it's still young, but very talented existing core at the position. Out of the 11 commitments, five could potentially play wide receiver for ECU over the next

two seasons.

ECU football has seemed to target more athletic and versatile players for the 2021 class. Along with Coleman and Lockley, the Pirates also have a commitment in dual-threat quarterback Walter Simmons III.

Simmons is another example of a great athlete who can challenge teams with his versatile skill set. Simmons is going to have to work to get some playing time coming into an already gifted quarterback room, but the Pirates could potentially use him in the future.

Another player who could potentially have a lot of success at the collegiate level is offensive guard commit Canaan Clark. Clark has great size standing at six-feet six-inches tall. He weighs 310 pounds, making him the ideal size for an offensive lineman at the college level, as reported by 247sports.com. The Cummins, Georgia native could potentially be a great addition for the Pirates in the future as he'll walk onto campus with plenty of size to start early.

The Pirates 2021 class is currently ranked No. 8 in the American Athletic Conference (AAC), which is a step backward from last year. In the 2020 recruiting class, ECU was ranked No. 6 of 11 in the AAC.

Feb. 3 is National Signing Day for the 2021 season, which means the Pirates still have several months to add to the recruiting class. Expect to see at least a couple more quality players come up before this class is all wrapped up early next year.

With plenty of time still remaining for the Pirates to add more talent, the 2021 recruiting class for ECU could use some work, but more numbers could be very beneficial to the East Carolina football program.

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The ECU women's soccer team listens to the National Anthem before a match during the 2019 season.

Teams see fall delays

Maceo Donald
TEC STAFF

Stryker Stubbs
TEC STAFF

The American Athletic Conference (AAC) announced on Aug. 25 that it will postpone all competitions and conference championships in men's and women's soccer, as well as volleyball until the spring of 2021.

The decision to move soccer and volleyball to the spring followed the approval from the NCAA Division I Board of Directors to have NCAA Division I fall championships in the spring.

The East Carolina University women's soccer team was one of the programs affected by this. The Pirates were scheduled to face-off in their first match against Duke University on Sept. 1. Although the season has been postponed, the Pirates were not caught off guard by this decision.

"I do not think anyone was shocked," Jason Hamilton soccer head coach Jason Hamilton said. "30 conferences had already made the decision to move to the spring before the American (AAC) did. Once the NCAA moved the championships to the spring, we thought it was pretty inevitable that it would happen."

The Pirates are led by a large group of seniors who've had an impact on the team as a whole. They have a total of 10 seniors on the roster, two of which were named to AAC-All Conference teams last season, in Melanie Stiles and Kim Sanford.

Although the team is aware that it will be losing some of those important

players, they will continue with business as usual and continue to practice and train daily.

"We have some members of our team who will not continue with us in the spring because they will be graduating and moving on." Hamilton said. "Those are very impactful players, and we hate to see them go without a last season to compete as a Pirate."

ECU soccer had eight AAC matchups scheduled for this fall including University of Cincinnati and University of Houston, which were scheduled to be home games in Greenville.

ECU volleyball is additionally faced with several hardships due to the schedule change. Newly hired head coach Adler Augustin will compete in his first season with ECU in the spring.

As of Aug. 28 ECU Athletics is not available for comment regarding the volleyball team.

In 2019, the Pirate's volleyball team finished with 19 wins and 11 losses, but only six of those wins were within the AAC. One of those 19 wins included a road victory at in-state rival North Carolina State University with a score of 3-2.

The Pirates volleyball team welcomed two transfer students to the team this past offseason. One of the transfers is senior Camryn Allen, who came to ECU from Towson University. The other transfer is senior Alisi Motu'apuaka, who came to the Pirates from Bryant University.

With the new season, be prepared to watch American Athletic Conference volleyball and soccer in the spring of 2021.

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

Athletes host march

Brendan Cavazos
TEC STAFF

In light of all the current social injustice and racial issues in society, a united front of student-athletes and coaches showed support for the Black Lives Matter movement on Aug. 31 at East Carolina University as they marched for social justice.

The march started that afternoon by Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. Student-athletes and coaches representing the football team, women's basketball team, track & field team and others came together to march in unity all the way to the Cupola at the heart of main campus.

With everyone gathered at the Cupola, teams stood together as several student-athletes and coaches shared their words in support for the Black Lives Matter movement. Several athletes representing the ECU football team spoke out, and head coach Mike Houston shared his thoughts of the event in a press conference on Sept. 1.

"To see the way that our young men have handled themselves through a lot of the stuff that's going on nationally, to stand there and listen to Xavier Smith and Justin Chase and so many of those other guys that were standing up there talking from their heart...that's the one thing I hope people saw," Houston said. "I was very proud of them."

While the athletic department joined together for a peaceful march through campus, according to Houston, not everyone was united for the cause. He said there was someone there verbally abusing and yelling at the group. However, it was to no effect and Houston said he was proud of the team for their lack of reactions.

While the group stood in front of the Cupola, Houston spoke about the people who were watching their march. In a video posted on Twitter by 94.3 The Game, he points out that people will support the student-athletes in their movement, but there are also people who will be against them.

Many athletes held signs during the march. Some read "Black Lives Matter" and "No Justice, No Peace" in response to several instances of racial injustice that have been brought to light throughout the country. One of the most recent examples being the shooting of 29-year-old Jacob

Blake at the hands of Kenosha, Wisconsin police.

Blake was shot seven times after turning his back to the police. The paralyzed victim of police brutality was then handcuffed to his hospital bed during his recovery, according to CNN.

Several athletes and coaches spoke at the Cupola, using their voice as a peaceful weapon against social injustice. Women's basketball head coach Kim McNeill was among the coaches who spoke in front of the Cupola. She spoke on unity and change, starting with the Greenville community.

"Bottom line is we all just want to be treated equally. We want unity," McNeill said. "We just want violence to stop for any color, and for people not to be judged by the color of their skin."

In a video on the ECU women's basketball twitter page, McNeill urged student-athletes to go out and vote. She commended them for being so brave in their stand for justice, but in order to make a change, McNeill said people need to go out and vote.

Speakers at the march all want change in the justice and law enforcement systems. The call requires people to go out and register to vote. In a video posted on the women's basketball Twitter, sophomore forward Xianna Josephs focused on getting the community to go out and vote for change.

"It's bigger than a march. It's bigger than a post," Josephs said in the video posted on Twitter. "It's much more than that, and it's very important that us as athletics, us as people go out and vote for someone who is going to perpetuate this message to the rest of the world."

Several photos capture the moments throughout the day, ending with every student-athlete and coach kneeling together in a moment of silence for the people who have fallen victim to social and racial injustice.

Unfortunately, junior quarterback Holton Ahlers felt under the weather and was unable to speak at the event. However, he tweeted out a video to show his support for the movement.

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




Mike Houston



Xianna Josephs

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 for more information.



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7 — Over 10 weeks, with Mars retrograde in your sign, revise personal goals. Complete current projects before getting into new ones. Practice patience. Make plans.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — With Mars stationing retrograde until November, reduce risk and trouble. Do the homework. Keep equipment repaired. Initiate new travels or studies after Mars goes direct.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Make romantic plans this winter. Gentleness wins over aggression. Begin a fight to lose it, with Mars retrograde. Score extra points for compassion and helpfulness.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — Lay the groundwork for the future. Put down roots, with Mars retrograde. Make plans and implement after Mars goes direct in about 10 weeks.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Check the math, with Mars retrograde for 10 weeks. Review financial statements for errors. Monitor budgets. Build up your emergency fund. Break-downs could cause delays.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Expect traffic delays. Edit words already written, with Mars stationing retrograde for ten weeks. Refine and polish your message before launching new communications projects.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Revisions are necessary with group projects over 10 weeks, with Mars retrograde. Follow through on what you said. Find ways to simplify. Tweak and polish.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — Stay in communication. Review and reinvent your collaboration over the next 10 weeks, with Mars retrograde. Resolve what wasn't working. Postpone launches. Adapt to new circumstances.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — Prepare for a household project between now and December. Plan improvements in detail. Research materials and budget for supplies. Launch after Mars stations direct.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Keep professional promises. Put finishing touches on projects and clear space for what's next. Launch new work after Mars goes direct this winter.

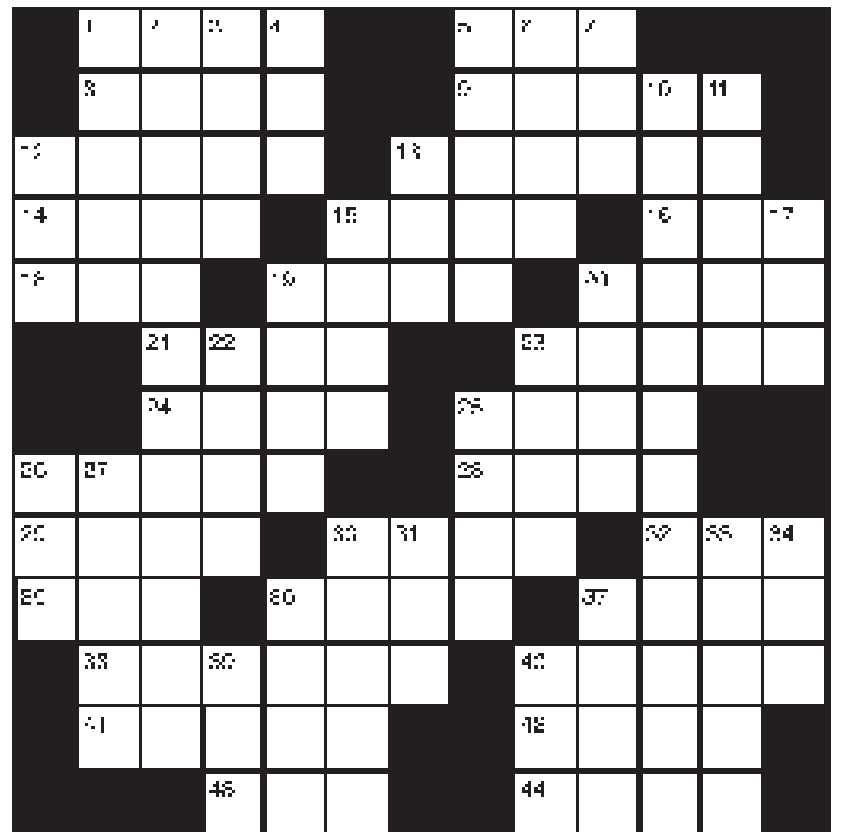
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — Stick to reliable routines, with Mars retrograde. Restore supplies and recharge. Allow extra time for deliveries, and repair equipment. Rest and nurture health and energy.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Review budgets and statements, with Mars retrograde. Keep accounts current. Postpone big purchases for after Mars goes direct on Nov. 13. Research for best value.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Matthews



Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

ACROSS
 1 "___ Belly"
 5 "How I ___ Your Mother"
 8 "Flax or Domes"
 9 "Beverly and Snowflake"
 12 "Helen's ___"
 13 "___ P.I."
 14 "Mudman case"
 15 Actor "Motel"
 16 "Scottish cap"
 18 "Night for 'Grey's Anatomy'"; abbr.
 19 "Singer Home"
 20 Actor "Katz"
 21 "See ___ Furr"; David Arquette film
 23 "___ Landed"; prime-time soap opera
 24 Actress ___ Marie Hupp
 25 ___ "Rabbit"; Joel Osteen's Harkness preacher
 26 "FBI"
 28 "___ of the Planet of the Apes"; James Franco film
 29 "___ the Great"; Brito Miller movie
 30 "___ the night before Christmas..."
 32 "Hil ___"

DOWN
 1 Actor Robert
 2 2016 game show
 3 "Give to a borrower"
 4 Linear measure; abbr.
 5 Actress Anne ___
 6 Therefore
 7 "Get on a Hot ___ Roof"
 10 Jack ___; star of "Deception"
 11 "Get ___"
 12 "My Big ___ Greek Wedding"
 13 "___ in Trees"
 15 Catherine ___ Jones
 17 "Freak for peace or print"
 18 "The ___ Fanger"
 20 "The Crazy ___"; Robin Williams series
 22 "X-Men: Days of Future ___"; Hugh Jackman film
 23 Actor Kristoffer
 24 "Fit or Gamet"
 25 Joint nearest the waist
 27 "Date"
 28 "Uppit"
 31 "___ with Winder"
 32 "VP ___"
 34 "Gobbled up"
 36 Film ___; role on "The Nanny"
 37 "Bring ___"; Kristen Bell movie
 38 "___ You Hear About the Morgans?"; Hugh Grant film
 40 "___ in Madrid"

Solution from 9/02

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55

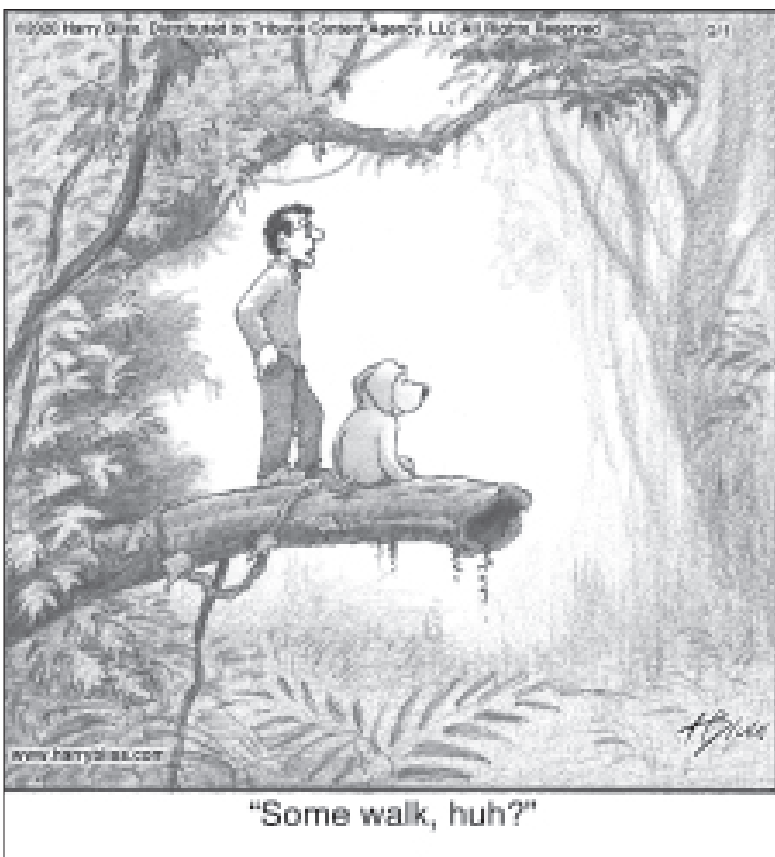
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BLISS



SUDOKU

SUDOKU
 THE SACRAL OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 3 4

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

Solution from 9/02

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

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Pirate Media
 The East Carolinian - WZMB 91.3 - Anchor's Away
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EVENTS

TODAY

Intro to Wheel Throwing Class
Emerge Gallery and Art Center
 404 Evans St.
 6 to 8:30 p.m.
 252-551-6947

Open Mic Night
The Blackened Kraken
 123 E 5th St.
 8 to 11:30 p.m.
 252-215-8822

TOMORROW

Evening Metalsmithing Class
Emerge Gallery and Art Center
 404 Evans St.
 6 to 8:30 p.m.
 252-551-6947

Tapas and Jazz
Starlight Cafe
 104 W 5th St.
 5:30 to 10 p.m.
 252-707-9033

Comic Book Club
Smashed Waffles
 718 Dickinson Ave.
 7 to 9 p.m.
 252-364-2872

College Night
Stumpy's Hatchet House
 816 Dickinson Ave.
 5 to 8 p.m.
 252-751-0300

FRIDAY

African American Music Series featuring Bill Myers
Emerge Gallery and Art Center
 404 Evans St.
 7 to 8 p.m.
 252-551-6947

Arts festival moves online

16th annual community event switches to virtual format

Hannah Bolick
 TEC STAFF

Yasmine Curmon-Ward
 FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



The 16th Annual Youth Arts Festival, which was originally scheduled for Oct. 24, was announced on Aug. 11 to move to a virtual format this year in the form of a series of posts on the Youth Arts Festival and participating art centers' Instagram and Facebook pages from Oct. 19 through Oct. 24.

This year's virtual festival will feature artwork from over 50 artists, according to the Youth Arts Festival's Facebook page. There will be virtual performance based activities such as puppet making, storytelling, music and theatre interactive activities, according to the festival's website.

While this year's festival will be online due to COVID-19, the Youth Arts Festival partners hope to be able to have the festival in person again next year at Town Common, the festival's website said. Emerge Gallery and Arts Center published a press release on Aug. 11, notifying the public of the festival's switch to a virtual format.

"Photos of artists and their artworks will be shared alongside demonstrations and performances. Prior Youth Arts Festival footage will be shared as a shared memory," according to a press release from Emerge Gallery and Arts Center.

Virtual presentations of artists and demonstrations will be shared on the social media pages of the Youth Arts Festival, Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge and Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts the week of Oct. 19 through Oct. 24.

Sara Caropreso, recreation supervisor at Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts, said the Youth Arts Festival is a partnership between the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge and Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts. Other partners include East Carolina University, The Celebration of Youth Expression and the Arts Education programs of Pitt County schools.

"We did not make this decision lightly and spent a long time discussing all our options," Caropreso said in an email statement. "We reviewed and followed public health guidance from local and state agencies and believe cancelling the in-person event was the best way to ensure the health and safety of our participants, staff, instructors and performers."



CONTRIBUTED BY JOHN DIXON
Kids hang up their art at the 2017 Youth Arts Festival.

Caropreso said the online festival is open and free to the public. The target audience for the festival is elementary, middle and high school ages. The purpose of the festival is to motivate children and teens to get involved in the arts.

Various theatrical, musical and dance groups were featured in last year's festival from local to surrounding states, according to Caropreso. She said children had the opportunity to see artists demonstrate wheel thrown ceramics, weaving, felting, papermaking, traditional watercolor painting and portraiture. Children were also able to work with professional artists and art students to make their own artwork, Caropreso said.



Sarah Caropreso

"In years past, the festival brought over 100 visual and performing artists who shared their creative talents with children from the community,"

Caropreso said.

ECU alumnus Éva Nolan said she was president of the Art Education and Art History Guilds last year. She said the Art Education Guild had a booth at the Youth Arts Festival.

Nolan said they had supplies at their booth for children to complete "make-and-take" art projects and, based on her experience with the festival, she thinks the transition to a virtual format will be hard to complete while still giving children the experience of making art.

"I know for a lot of communities in Greenville, this is a really cool event for them to participate in the arts because it's free and accessible," Nolan said. "I wonder for a lot of families that might not have the financial security to be able to go out and purchase a bunch of art supplies to make those projects, how they would do that virtually?"

Nolan said she thinks it could have been possible to host the festival face-to-face because the booths are already spread out on a normal festival weekend. She said with the additional steps of proper sanitation and minimal shared materials between people, perhaps the event could have remained face-to-face.

Although Nolan said she thinks the festival could have happened in person, she said she is sure that those who continue to organize the event have a plan in place for how they want the virtual festival to work. She said she hopes the organizers will show care while they decide on virtual contributors because this event is important to the Greenville community.

"I know even with the university being involved, it definitely brings people together. So I hope that, you know, they don't cancel it entirely and that they would do it virtual and make it as authentic as possible," Nolan said. "I just hope that they do continue to do it because I think it's a great thing for college students to get involved with and for the kids in the community to be able to participate in."

More information on Jaycee Park Arts & Crafts and the Youth Arts Festival is located on the Youth Arts Festival Facebook page, Jaycee Park Arts and Crafts Instagram page, Emerge's website and Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts website.

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

EXPRESSIONS LEGACY

SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

DUE 9/21

Expressions is ECU's literary arts publication that exists as an outlet to address the **experiences, concerns, and perspectives of minority students.** We are seeking student **writing, photography, and illustrations.**

All submissions should tell the story of the people or events that have guided your life, and/or the **legacy** you would like to leave for future generations.

Email your submission to expressions@ecu.edu by **September 21** to be considered. Please include your name and the title of your work. Anonymous entries are accepted.



In Living Color: Journalism in the Age of Black Lives Matter

A virtual panel with those watching and reporting from the front lines

What is the role of the media in the time of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Jacob Blake? Join us as we explore the relationship between the media and marginalized communities. Exploring both the coverage and experiences of people of color, this discussion will examine, from both a personal and professional lens of media insiders, the relationship between the press and social activism.

Thursday, Sept. 24
 3 p.m.

Connect via Webex

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Pirate Media 1



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