



The East Carolinian

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Students work on academic work inside of Joyner Library at East Carolina University as online instruction continues.

MICHELLE MAZZEI | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

COVID-19 affects ECU Greek Life

Emily Peek
TEC STAFF

Cayla Menges
TEC STAFF



Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, East Carolina University's Greek Life organizations will continue to adapt to new normals as the majority of sorority and fraternity events have remained virtual and measures continue to be taken to comply with university's and North Carolina's regulations.

Director of Student Engagement John Mountz, who oversees all undergraduate fraternities and sororities, said Greek Life at ECU will continue to operate with a blend of virtual and in-person events which adhere to COVID-19 guidelines.

"Just like everything else they (Greek Life organizations at ECU) had to learn how to adapt and do things differently because whereas you might traditionally choose to do something in person at 20, 30, 40 or even 100 people together, that just wasn't possible," Mountz said.

Like everything else at ECU, Greek Life had to learn how to do things differently, according to Mountz.

In regard to COVID-19, Mountz said his department, as well as the East Carolina University Police Department (ECU PD), have worked to make students and student leaders aware of the guidelines in place.

"The guidelines that the ECU Police put out essentially are the guidelines for the university," Mountz said. "Some of our chapters maintain houses off-campus, so they're subject to the governor's guidelines in addition there."



Madeline Holt

Junior public health major and Panhellenic Association (PA) President Madeline Holt said ECU sororities have received positive feedback from Greek Life members about the transition to virtual recruitment, which is one of the largest events for Greek Life at ECU.

Students have felt detached from social interactions and opportunities to engage on campus due the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Holt. She said as a result, many students showed interest to join Greek Life as a way to make up for interactions they can't otherwise receive.

Holt said for the spring 2021 recruitment, potential new members submitted videos of themselves for the first round of recruitment, which she believes helped relieve some of the pressure associated with first impressions.

"I think a lot of them really liked that opportunity because obviously a video you can be like 'I don't like what I said here, I don't like what I said there' and they can kind of make the first impression what they want it to be and really tailor that to themselves which I think was really cool," Holt said.

> GREEK page A2

Pass/fail discussed SGA advocates for grade accommodations

Emily Peek
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Student Government Association (SGA) will continue to advocate for students to receive a pass/fail option for the spring 2021 semester, as the option was accessible to students during both the spring and fall 2020 semesters.

SGA President and senior industrial distribution and logistics major Tucker Robbins said the pass/fail option is an emergency grading accommodation that ECU provided students with for relief from COVID-19.

"It's basically a cushion to, you know, make sure that students feel like they have sufficient resources and make sure that, you know, even despite the pandemic, they're still going to get through their academic career," Robbins said. "I've been very pro pass/fail ever since I've been in the role (of SGA president)."

Robbins said COVID-19 and the shift to online education has impacted students in various ways. He said he does not see how the spring 2021 semester is different from the spring 2020 and fall 2020 semesters when the pass/fail option was in place.

The continuation to uphold the integrity of a degree is one of the reasons

why some may be opposed to the pass/fail option, Robbins said. He said ECU faculty members may not want students to move on from a course when they're not ready, which could hinder their path to graduation.

"I truly don't think our students go into a semester, you know, banking on the pass/fail to help them get through," Robbins said. "At least an overwhelming majority of students that use pass/fail really need it because of extenuating circumstances, maybe at home or with their resources."

Robbins said the Admission and Retention Faculty Senate Committee looked into pass/fail as an option for the spring 2021 semester. He said the committee's recommendation was to not implement the pass/fail option, but to extend the withdrawal period for classes for the spring 2021 semester.

As the Faculty Senate's recommendation to not include pass/fail as an option to students, but to extend the withdrawal period for courses

was approved and confirmed, pass/fail does not currently exist for the spring 2021 semester, Robbins said. He said he has spoken one-on-one with the Chair of the Faculty Senate Purificación Martínez, Interim Provost Grant Hayes and Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson to discuss students' concerns about the absence of the option.

"I still feel good about it happening because it's not quite over. The academic council and the chancellor have the ultimate say-so as to if they want to reinstate it," Robbins said. "I plan on doing everything I can with whatever bit of influence I have to make that option available for students."

Robbins said it's important for students to show that they support and need the pass/fail option. He said thousands of students signed an online petition to advocate for the option, which now has 1,192 signatures as of March 2.

Martínez said the recommendation that came from the Faculty Senate considered students who used the pass/fail option to continue with their education, when they otherwise

> GRADES page A2

Art exhibit promotes transgender visibility

Yasmine Curmon-Ward
TEC STAFF

A virtual reception for the photography art exhibit "To Survive on this Shore," hosted by the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center and East Carolina Visual Arts Forum on March 1 gave students a chance to hear from creators of the exhibit, Jess Dugan and Vanessa Fabbre, in honor of Transgender Visibility Month.

The "To Survive on this Shore" art exhibit is located in the student gallery within the Main Campus Student Center (MCSC) premiered on Feb. 20 and will continue to be shown through March 31.

Senior Associate Director of Intercultural Affairs Mark Rasdorf said he attended a conference with Angela Wells, an ECU associate professor of photography, in New Mexico in the fall of 2019 in the art museum where they saw "To Survive on this Shore."

"It's a diverse collection of photographic images and stories of the folks in the photographs from around the United States. Jess Dugan, the photographer is an acclaimed photographer whose work is featured in

museums around the country, including the National Portrait Gallery," Rasdorf said.

Wells contacted Dugan to feature a version of the exhibit at ECU and they collaborated on the project, according to Rasdorf. He said the exhibit was supposed to go up in October 2020, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, the majority of students moved off-campus, so they decided to put the exhibit up when there were more students on campus.



Mark Rasdorf

The work that continues to be done in the LGBTQ center and in the LGBTQ communities around the world has begun to "amplify" transgender people's voices' in the past 10 years, according to Rasdorf. He said the LGBTQ center commemorated its first Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31, 2019.

"Often in popular culture those images and their stories are left out of the storytelling, so it's important to capture the full



HANNAH BOLICK | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

ECU student Kyrah Schenck views artwork in photography exhibit in the Main Campus Student Center.

diversity of our different intersectional communities' inclusion of ages," Rasdorf said.

Students can visit the exhibit and view a screening of "Become More Visible," a documentary that follows four transgender people in the United States, in-person in the Blackbox Theatre located in the MCSC or

virtually through Engage on March 15 at 6 p.m. to celebrate transgender visibility month, according to Rasdorf.

Students can attend a virtual lunch hour to celebrate Transgender Day of Visibility

> ART page A9

ONLINE

»SPORTS: Pirates return to action against UCF after COVID-19 pause

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

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

QTPOC to host series via virtual format

Today, the Dr. Jesse R. Peel LGBTQ Center and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center will host a QTPOC virtual event from 4 to 5 p.m. This event, which is for ECU students only, will provide students with opportunities to build relationships while they explore and discuss the various issues that impact students of different races, genders, sexuality and ethnicity. Students can RSVP and join the event via the Engage website.

SAB to host virtual writing workshop

Today, the Student Activities Board (SAB) will host a Poetry Writing Workshop with speaker and performer, FreeQuency, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This event will include a night of poetry, writing and performances from FreeQuency and individuals are able to learn the basics of poetry writing. Students must register for this virtual workshop via Engage in order to have the link to join.

G.O.L.D Series continues to discuss leadership

Tomorrow, the G.O.L.D Leader Series and Student Engagement along with Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) National Leadership Honor Society will host a leadership G.O.L.D series from 6 to 7 p.m. This online continuation of the series, which will discuss "The 3 L's of Leadership: Listen, Learn and Lead," will be presented by ECU Graduate and Circle Coordinator of ECU ODK, Brittney Harrell. Students can RSVP on Engage will have the opportunity to learn strategies to help enhance leadership styles and how to be an effective leader.

Virtual Diabetes Kahoot to be hosted virtually

On Friday, the College Diabetes Network (CDN) at ECU will host a virtual Diabetes Kahoot where participants are able to test their knowledge about diabetes from 8 to 8:45 p.m. Participants who are diabetic can form relationships with other diabetics who go to ECU to remind them they are not alone. Individuals will receive a GoogleMeets link once they sign up on the Engage website and are able to win 50% of the raised funds if they donate \$5.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Principles and Practices of Engineering (PE) exam is administered twice annually by the National Council of Examiners for Engineers.

Professors expand careers

PE exam brings new opportunities to engineering department

Sarah Porter
TEC STAFF

Three East Carolina University engineering professors have recently taken and passed the eight-hour Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam, which is administered twice a year by the National Council of Examiners for Engineers, and will bring them various new career opportunities.

Engineering assistant professor Natasha Bell said she decided to take the exam in October 2020 to further develop her career, and now that she has passed the PE exam, she can begin the PE licensure process. She said once she receives her PE licensure, she can officially sign off on engineering designs, which will aid her research at ECU.

Since she is the first woman in the College of Engineering to pass the PE exam, Bell said the accomplishment means a lot, and she is thankful to her family, loved ones and mentors for their support.

"As a first generation college graduate, the daughter of an immigrant and just being a woman in the engineering field, this is a big accomplishment for me personally," Bell said. "I also hope that it can inspire others who might be underrepresented in whatever their field of study is to pursue their passion."

Although her original exam time in April 2020 was canceled due to COVID-19, Bell said this gave her extra time to study. She said she was relieved to hear she passed, as that meant she would not have to retake the eight-hour exam.

One positive part of passing the exam, Bell said, is that she will be able to better prepare students in the College of Engineering to take the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam, which students usually take during their senior year.

"I think the more faculty who are able to get their PE licenses in the College of Engineering here, the better, because they can serve as an example and as a resource to students," Bell said. "We encourage our students all the time to take the FE and to start the process to one day becoming licensed."

Engineering assistant professor Shanyue Guan said he started to study and prepare for the PE exam this past summer. He said he took the exam in October 2020 in Greensboro, North Carolina, and there were various COVID-19 precautions in place such as limited room capacities, the use of face masks and screens for symptoms.

Guan said the PE license will allow him to legally practice design. He said since he passed the exam he will gain more opportunities through his work with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and hopes to practice design or conduct services in the future in the Greenville or Research Triangle Park area.

"(The National Council of Examiners for Engineers) sent me an email that said the results were published, and I had to go to the website, so I clicked on the link, logged into my account and saw I passed," Guan said. "That's a really big achievement for me and I notified my family right after I got it, so I was really happy about that."

Guan said the faculty in the College of Engineering have always supported and encouraged one another to get their PE licensure. He said he is grateful for his family's support and the many sacrifices they made for him in order for him to take the exam.

The PE exam, Guan said, is open book and open note, so he could bring anything he wanted with him to take the test. With the help and support of his

colleagues, he said he brought two suitcases full of books his colleagues let him borrow.

"A lot of times when students are in college, they don't know what they want to become after they graduate, so they really want to get some experience from their professor," Guan said. "I think the PE license is a really good example to let them know when they graduate, (this) license is a really good achievement."

Engineering assistant professor Suranga Gunerathne took the exam in 2019 in order to stay connected to the engineering industry. He said the license makes one become more independent and responsible.

Gunerathne said he not only passed the PE exam in the state of North Carolina, but also in Texas. He said during the exam process in North Carolina, he always felt supported by the College of Engineering faculty members.

"The faculty would say 'you're good to go and I think you can do it,'" Gunerathne said. "The encouragement was always really helpful to me."

In order to prepare, Gunerathne said he studied about two to three hours per day for about a month. After he finished the exam, he said he felt he did well, and was even happier when he found out he passed.

Gunerathne said even though the eight-hour exam was a bit stressful, he believes the licensure will bring new opportunities for industrial collaborations through research and development.

"I think when I am teaching, students know I am a licensed engineer," Gunerathne said. "Normally, I share my experiences with students and they like that and it motivates them. At the same time, it gives good value

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Natasha Bell



Shanyue Guan



Suranga Gunerathne

GRADES continued from A1

shouldn't have advanced.

"We saw that there were a lot of students that, because of using the pass/fail option, actually had been able to advance academically and had been able to continue at the university," Martínez said. "If the pass/fail option had not been available, they would have not been able to continue because they would have been suspended or on probation."

Martínez said the final decision is up to the Chancellor, whether it be Mitchelson or Chancellor-Elect Philip Rogers, who will take position on March 15, as the Faculty Manual indicates that the Chancellor has 30 days after the Faculty Senate's recommendation to come to a decision.

Sophomore communication major Olivia Rose said the pass/fail option is important to keep in place as she has experienced difficulty with remote learning.

"It's become difficult for students to learn when their professors didn't do the training course for Canvas and they don't know how to effectively use it," Rose said. "When all they (professors) do is post lectures, not even videos of them that they prerecorded, they just put the PowerPoints up there, we're not getting effective learning."

Most students did not sign up for an online education, Rose said. Therefore, she said the help that the pass/fail option provides students should continue to be accessible.

Rose said she thinks one of the reasons why the pass/fail option is not being supported this semester is because of the stabilization and decrease of ECU's COVID-19 case

numbers. She said another reason why the option is no longer supported is because of fellow students.

"There are quite a few students who do ruin it for the student body. They see pass/fail as the easy way out," Rose said. "The pass/fail is to help those who are working hard but they just aren't getting the material. A lot of professors have noticed a rise in grades because of this (pass/fail)."

Junior political science and psychology double major Rebecca Anderson said the pass/fail option should be implemented until students have the full opportunity to be back on-campus for class.

Anderson said those who oppose the pass/fail option may think students are now fully accustomed to online education. However, she said online classes are not something students can control, which is why there should be the option in case it's needed.

"People have still not completely adjusted, I mean we have transfer students come in every semester, they don't know what to expect," Anderson said. "You can't expect with each class what you're getting into until you get into the class, so I think it (the option) is fair."

Anderson said while some students may not want to come back to campus, pass/fail should be accessible until students have the option to take classes in-person again.



Rebecca Anderson

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

GREEK continued from A1

The PA will choose between an in-person, hybrid and virtual style, Holtz said, as it aligns with the COVID-19 guidelines in place closer to the start of fall 2021 recruitment.

Holtz said events such as the Circle of Sisterhood Week and Philanthropy Week have been virtual alongside the change to percentage fundraiser nights, which have been organized with virtual businesses such as online retailers.

"I think that it (to join Greek Life) is a great opportunity at this time even though it doesn't look as it normally would," Holtz said. "There are chapters doing amazing things even virtually and if anyone is looking to get involved on campus or more in the university think it would be a great time and a great experience to do that."

Holtz said events such as end of the year formals and socials are chapter based decisions but the PA will continue to push for Greek Life chapters to follow the COVID-19 guidelines in place.

Interfraternity Council (IFC) President Michael Wright said Greek Life has set limitations to the number of people in attendance at in-person events. He said he is unaware of any decisions made by individual fraternal chapters about end of the year formals, as the decision to host those events are chapter-based.

"I know last spring everybody had to end up canceling their events for obvious reasons, and if I had to guess, it's all going to depend on how the country is looking at that moment in time," Wright said.

IFC saw an increase in its total number

of attendees for its spring 2021 recruitment, Wright said, as he believes it is attributed to Greek Life's successful adaptation to the COVID-19 pandemic. He said the execution of recruitment was IFC's largest obstacle, which was present in its decrease in potential new member numbers for fall 2020 recruitment.

"We actually had an increase in the number of total signees for the spring compared to previous springs," Wright said. "So I think that we've adapted pretty well and I'm pretty proud of us."

Wright said he believes fall 2021 recruitment will be a success, not only for Greek Life but for all organizations on-campus as many students will be ready to find their place on-campus and increase their engagement. He said IFC will continue to adapt to the

changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and continuous guidelines set in place.

"I just think that we're trying to keep our moral as high as possible and obviously our main thing right now is making sure everybody abides by the guidelines that have been outlined by ECU and those are the same guidelines that every student organization on-campus has had," Wright said.

As of the day of publication, Junior President of Kappa Alpha Order Chandler Ward did not respond to emails from a reporter with The East Carolinian requesting an interview.



Michael Wright

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OUR VIEW

Phase 3 was right move for NC

North Carolina entered Phase 3 of Governor Roy Cooper's state COVID-19 vaccination plan on Feb. 24, and the new phase is set to target essential workers which are at high risk for contracting the virus.

Due to the limited availability of the vaccine, Phase 3 prioritizes K-12 teachers as well as those who work in childcare at first. On March 10, Phase 3 will open up to include East Carolina University faculty and staff.

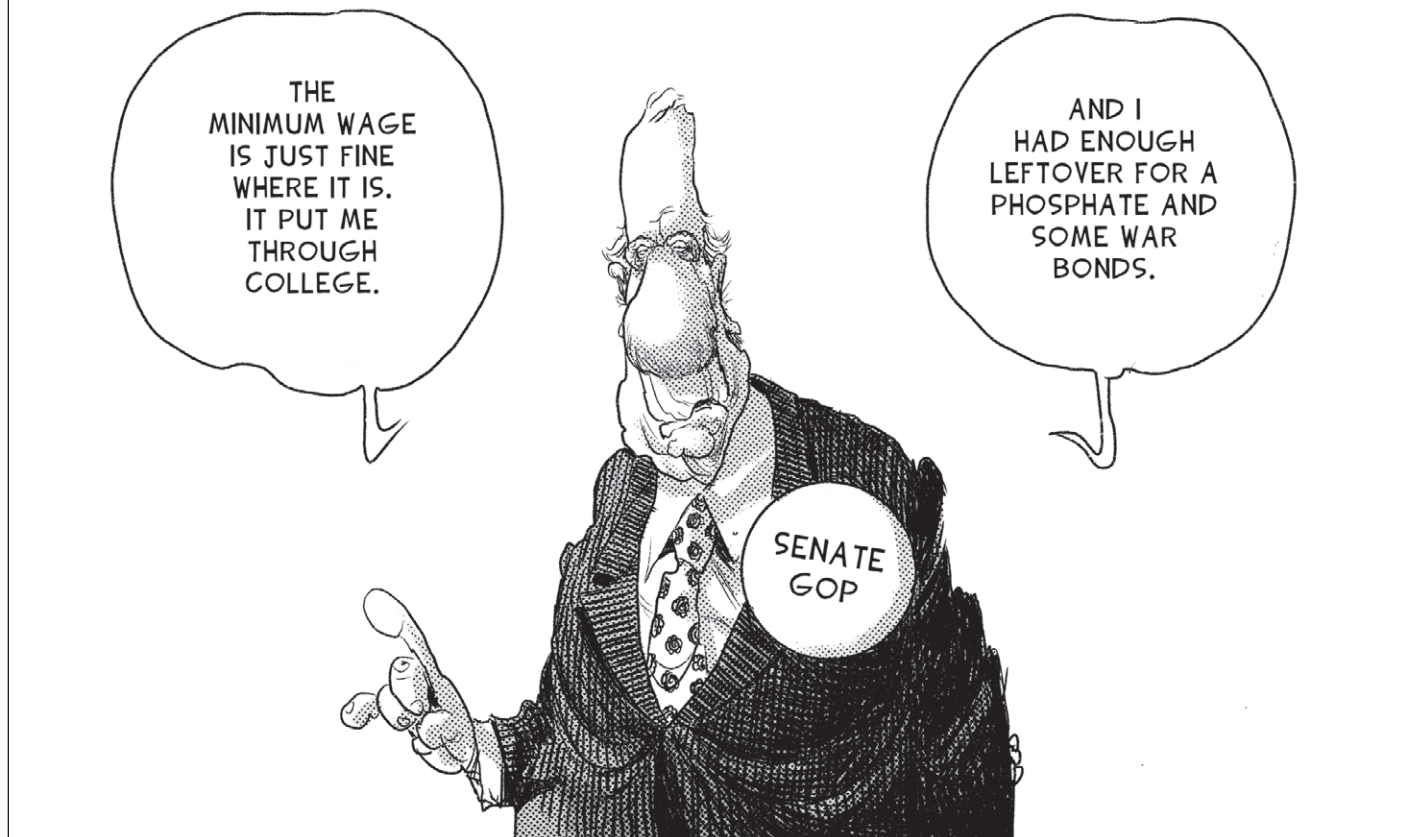
Cooper additionally put Executive Order No. 195 into effect on Feb. 26. This order lifted the statewide 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew and increased the indoor gathering limit from 10 to 25 people, after the state showed a decline in positive COVID-19 case numbers as vaccinations continued.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe that prioritizing frontline workers such as the ones included in Phase 3 was a smart move by Cooper. It is important that K-12 teachers and ECU faculty and staff get priority to receive the vaccine, as this group is in more danger of contracting COVID-19 than many others.

However, we believe that it is too soon to start lifting restrictions en masse. With the way the virus has spread over the course of the last year, increasing gathering limits could lead to another spike of positive cases, especially before the vaccine is available to the general public.

People within the Greenville, North Carolina, community, as well as across the country, need to remain vigilant and continue to practice social distancing. The virus has not yet subsided, and there is still work to be done to return to some degree of normal life.

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



Professors need to be flexible

ECU faculty members must adjust their standards for students



Kate Francis
TEC COLUMNIST

Some faculty have embraced online learning with open arms, encouraging their students to do their best due to the circumstances, being flexible with deadlines, understanding personal or family emergencies and even keeping

their notes and lectures available after the class ends for students to review. Some professors changed their whole dynamic when COVID-19 hit, going from strict to flexible and understanding in a week's time. Others, however, have done little to nothing in that regard.

Since March 2020, professors and students alike have been working to adjust to the new COVID-19 protocols and safety procedures both East Carolina University and the government have instated. To begin, we were in the midst of a transition from Blackboard to Canvas, so some students and professors were having to use both platforms. Simultaneously, students were forced to move off-campus and adjust to life as an online student.

In the fall, the semester was shortened for some, but there were only a couple of days we actually had no work due from professors, so we didn't get much of a break. Some students were even required to take upper-level chemistry and math courses in eight weeks. Luckily, there are some professors who understand this is an extremely difficult feat for everyone involved, but the apparent lack of effort from other professors is leaving students mentally, emotionally and physically exhausted, behind academically and contemplating leaving university altogether.

Not only are these professors leaving students high and dry in their classes, they're



HALIE MILLER | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Some ECU students believe their professors need to be more flexible amid virtual instruction.

discouraging them from signing up for courses in the future. Some students have begun to feel ignored and hopeless because they feel like their professors don't care about them. These are the same professors that believe that their class is more important than any other activity, class or job(s) that students have to fit into their already-packed schedules. However, professors are not the only people to blame for students' increased failing mental and physical health.

ECU's Board of Trustees helps make the decisions in regards to pass/fail, days off, and semester lengths, and they have done nothing to help students this semester in those regards. Other University of North Carolina System schools have initiated wellness days into their schedules to encourage students and faculty to take a break. ECU gave us two days during the fall semester (Labor Day and "Fall Festival") and President's Day and "Spring Festival" off for the spring semester.

The board also hasn't announced whether or not classes are going to be pass/fail for this semester yet, and they are the people who decide whether to have 15-week courses or 8-week courses. Students who are living

on-campus are required to live alone and dorms are having a few small social events, causing some students to develop cabin-fever and being deprived of social interaction which can be devastating for mental and emotional health.

While some professors, staff and faculty are nightmares to work with, not all of them are. Some have been helpful, understanding and flexible when it comes to their classes and students. Some professors have uploaded content to Canvas that benefits all of their students and their learning abilities. Others have encouraged students to buy the book so they could physically hold their learning material. Some professors even have a wellness check to make sure their students are doing physically, financially, emotionally, mentally and academically well.

If you are one of these professors, your students thank you.

Kate Francis is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Greek Life should be cautious

Tea with Tonizzo



Summer Tonizzo
TEC COLUMNIST

A Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) student who was in the process of pledging Delta Chi fraternity was found dead on Feb. 27 and speculation surrounding events which took place on the night of

Feb. 26 quickly arose. While Richmond, Virginia's, VCU is 168 miles away from our beloved East Carolina University campus in Greenville, North Carolina, this incident should be made known to all young adults attending college.

Adam Oakes was only 19-years-old. While the Richmond Police Department and VCU have not confirmed whether the incident was related to Greek Life, Oakes' family has publicly expressed that they believe it was related to hazing.

VCU and Delta Chi's national chapter have taken action to suspend the university's chapter of the fraternity, as the investigation remains ongoing, which should raise general concern over the origins of the incident.

This tragic loss amid suspicions of heavy alcohol consumption, hazing and misconduct should be a call to all greek life members across the country to proceed with caution and remember why

"ECU Greek Life leaders and members, I urge you to uphold the images of your fraternity and sorority chapters and take caution to ensure that a tragedy like this doesn't happen to a fellow Pirate."

-Summer Tonizzo

their organizations exist in the first place.

In 2021 tragedies such as this should not occur, and now, especially during a global pandemic, is not the time to be hosting such gatherings where an incident such as this can even happen. While I understand it is traditional to hold some events, may I raise the question: Why do greek life organizations feel as though they are above the restrictions imposed during such an unprecedented time in our lives?

This tragic event is not the first and will not be the last incident to arise from hazing within national chapters of greek life, but it should be a reckoning for all those who are in or aspire to be part of greek life at any university.

At ECU, we are fortunate to not have had a reported incident of this nature in recent years, however, that does not excuse events that may continue to take place within our organizations.

ECU Greek Life leaders and members, I urge you to uphold the images of your fraternity and sorority chapters and take caution to ensure that a tragedy like this doesn't happen to a fellow Pirate. Do what is morally right. Don't fall prey to stereotypical greek life practices or traditions that could inevitably temporarily suspend or permanently remove your chapter from

ECU, or more dangerously, cost someone their life.

Hazing is not a "right of passage" a student should have to endure for the sake of being a part of a fraternity or sorority. All members of greek life need to be aware of the implications of hazing practices, and understand that even though it may seem comical or give you a (false) sense of superiority, it has serious consequences.

Summer Tonizzo is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

CLASSIFIEDS

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Looking for a roommate or a sublease?
Got something for sale?
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Contact smaa@ecu.edu for more information.



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Collaboration gets lucrative. Dig into the whole story over six weeks, with Mars in Gemini. You're spurred into communication. You can learn what's needed.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Work together for unexpected gain. Creative efforts pay. Make profitable moves, with Mars in Gemini over six weeks. Avoid reckless spending. Follow the budget.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Practice your moves. You're strong and confident, with Mars in your sign for six weeks. You're spurred into action. Advance personal dreams, interests and development.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Prioritize what you love. Guard time for peaceful introspection, with Mars in Gemini over six weeks. Clean closets, garages and attics. Rest and recharge.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Domestic comforts soothe and satisfy. Teamwork flowers over the next six weeks, with Mars in Gemini. Together, anything's possible. Coordinate and play your part.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Advance professionally, with Mars in Gemini. Move forward boldly over the next six weeks. Pour energy into your career for a rise in status.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Discover hidden opportunities with short deadlines. You can make it with a push. Teamwork goes the distance. Aim for the moon. Pull together.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Advance boldly. Build savings, with Mars in Gemini. Revise the family budget for current circumstances. Grow shared income, assets and fortunes during this phase.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 9 — Plan and strategize. Let your partner take the lead. Collaborate as a well-oiled team, with Mars in Gemini. You can get much farther together.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — Teamwork leads to victory. Mars in Gemini energizes your work and health. Balance physical action with extra rest and good food. Practice for excellent performance.

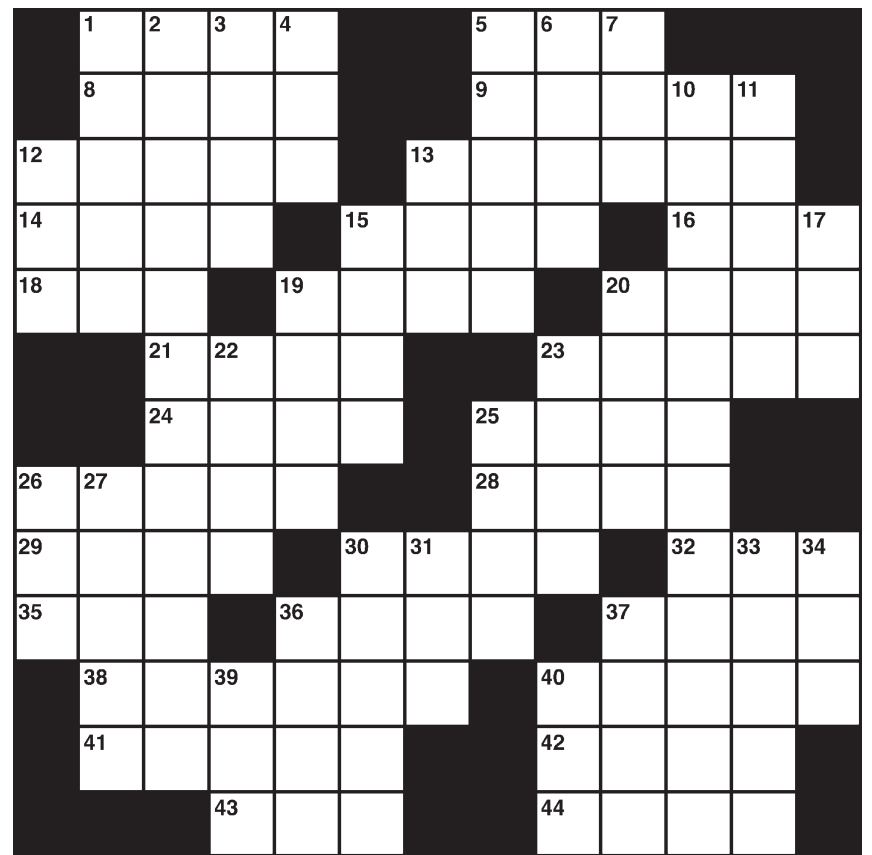
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Take action for love. Passions bloom naturally over six weeks, with Mars in Gemini. Romance flowers with a little water. Savor this fun phase.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Study options and possibilities. Get into domestic renovation and family projects. Physical action for home improvement produces satisfying results, with Mars in Gemini.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

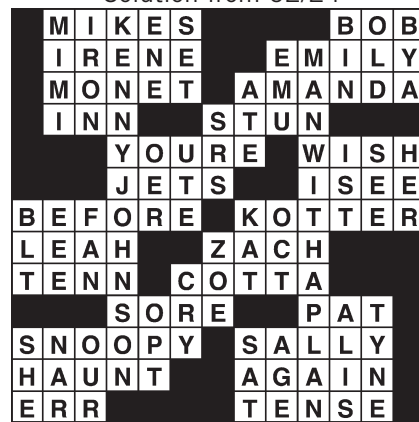
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Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The ___ Are Alright"
 - 5 Actress Dennings
 - 8 Asian nation
 - 9 "Teenage Mutant ___ Turtles"
 - 12 Ecru
 - 13 Joe ___ of "Scandal"
 - 14 ___, zwei, drei...
 - 15 "___ Make a Deal"
 - 16 "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's ___"; Johnny Depp film
 - 18 Actress Ortiz
 - 19 New York team
 - 20 One of the Great Lakes
 - 21 ___ Perlman
 - 23 "___ Acres"
 - 24 Sitcom for Harry Morgan
 - 25 Prison afloat
 - 26 Actress Ekberg
 - 28 Actress Turner
 - 29 "Swing ___"; Kevin Costner movie
 - 30 Potter's need
 - 32 Boy
 - 35 "I ___ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit
- DOWN**
- 1 Bill ___ of "The Little Couple"
 - 2 Actor on "Young Sheldon"
 - 3 Odie and Ren
 - 4 180 degrees from NNW
 - 5 "___ Landing"; "Dallas" spin-off
 - 6 Haughtiness
 - 7 Explosive letters
 - 10 Actor on "Murphy Brown"
 - 11 Actress Potts
 - 12 ___ Arthur
 - 13 "How I ___ Your Mother"
 - 15 Kevin's "The King of Queens" costar
 - 17 Lion's lair
 - 19 City in Arizona
 - 20 One of John-Boy's sisters
 - 22 "10 Things I ___ About You"
 - 23 Matthew ___ Gubler of "Criminal Minds"
 - 25 Boring
 - 26 Actress Gardner
 - 27 Wanderer
 - 30 Actress ___ Lee Crosby
 - 31 Columbo & others: abbr.
 - 33 Steve or Tim
 - 34 Susan of "L.A. Law"
 - 36 "___ bigger and better things!"
 - 37 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
 - 39 "Please Don't ___ the Daisies"
 - 40 Israel's ___ Aviv

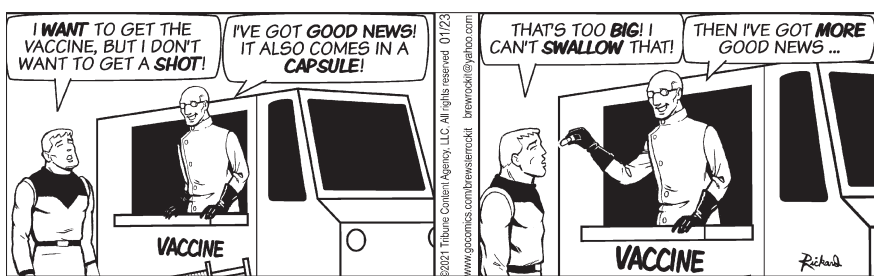
Solution from 02/24



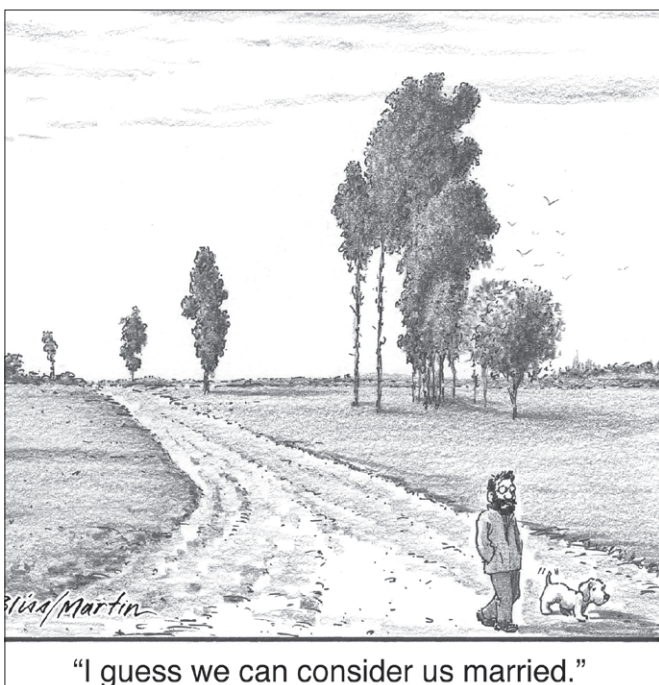
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BLISS

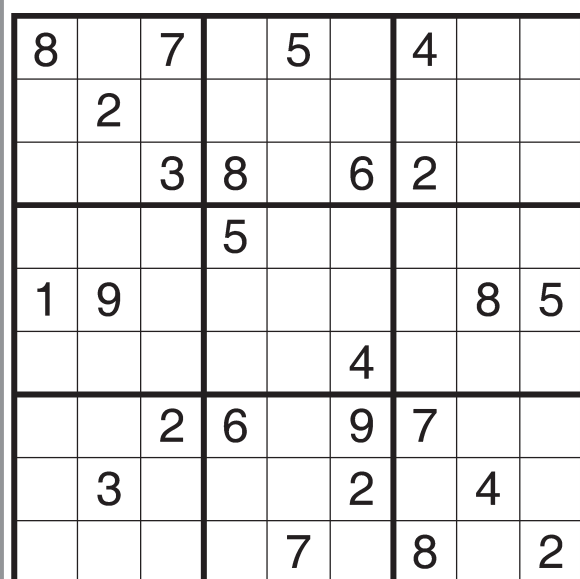


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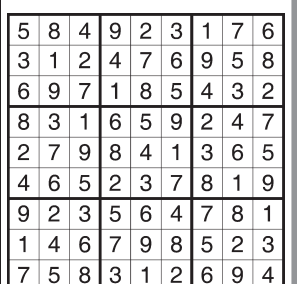
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level



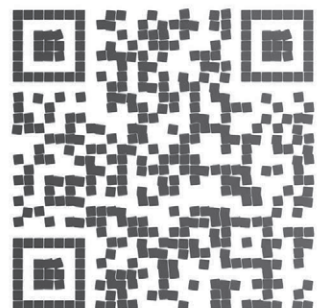
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, please visit sudoku.org.uk

Solution from 02/24



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001

PIRATE PICKS

WED

This special section was created by the agency division of Pirate Media 1

LETTER FROM THE AGENCY

Dear ECU Students, In this first-ever edition of "Pirate Picks," you'll find all of your top picks for our local Greenville, NC businesses from fun activities to do in your free time to your favorite eats.

We've covered more than 20 topics that students have voted as the best in Greenville! Use Pirate Picks as a guide to help you explore what your fellow Pirates have been gathering their bounty about and take advantage of all the Greenville and ECU community has to offer. We hope you enjoy reading through the first-ever Pirate Picks.

Krystal Hoy, Marketing Manager



PHOTO BY FLORIAN KLAUER ON UNSPLASH

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FOR MORE PICTURES

HYPEST GRADUATING CLASS- ECU '21

Coming to you with the hyppest energy, we have our Pirate Picks student nominated class— ECU '21. Sadly they will graduate under COVID-19, but that makes them no less of THE HYPEST graduating class. Congratulations Class of ECU '21!

01

B'S BARBECUE

BEST BARBECUE IN TOWN

HOURS	TUES-SAT 9 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$
ADDRESS 751 STATE ROAD 1204, GREENVILLE, NC 27858			

Coming in first as the Best BBQ in the Greenville community, we have B's Barbecue.

B's Barbecue is legendary across eastern North Carolina for its simplicity as much as it is for its succulent pork. B's Barbecue is an unpretentious BBQ counter-serve joint dishing out wood-smoked chicken, pork and classic side dishes.

They serve Greenville locals, students and tourists for years, B's Barbecue has made a name for themselves.



PHOTO BY TY HUFF, PIRATE MEDIA 1

PIRATE PICKS | A6 & A7 | 3.3.2021

02 HOOK AND REEL BEST SEA FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SUN 11:30 A.M. TO 10 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$-\$\$\$
ADDRESS	500 GREENVILLE BLVD SW, GREENVILLE, NC 27834		

Steamed, seasoned and served up to patrons' preference, Hook and Reel is best known for its seafood boils, earning it the top spot in our students' hearts for seafood.

While the establishment's boils do take center stage, it also offers a variety of other seafood-themed dishes including po boys, pasta and a raw oyster bar.

The experience is easy going but can get a little messy, so customers should be prepared to wear restaurant-supplied bibs and gloves just in case.



PHOTO BY IMANI MCCRAY , PIRATE MEDIA 1

03 RJ'S BEST SOUL FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - THURS 10:30 A.M. TO 6 P.M.	FRI - SUN 10:30 A.M. TO 7 P.M.
ADDRESS	2518 S MEMORIAL DRIVE, GREENVILLE, NC 27834	
PRICE RANGE	\$\$	

ECU students' top soul food pick in the Greenville community is none other than RJ's.

RJ's is a no-frills, counter-serve joint featuring BBQ ribs, chicken, fried fish and other southern eats. The restaurant has been serving up buffet and plate-style comfort food to locals, college students, and tourists for years.

04 RUN A BOAT BEST CARIBBEAN FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - FRI 11 A.M. TO 8 P.M.	SAT 12 P.M. TO 8 P.M.	SUN 12 P.M. TO 6 P.M.
ADDRESS	4052 S MEMORIAL DR, WINTERVILLE, NC 28590		
PRICE RANGE	\$		

Run-A-Boat is a Jamaican vernacular for its cultured food, ranking number one on our list for Best Jamaican/Caribbean meals. Known for their ox tails, rice and beans, cabbage and quality prices, Run-A-Boat promotes authenticity and boldly spiced cuisine.

05 SIMPLY NATURAL CREAMERY

BEST FORZEN TREAT IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SAT 11 A.M. TO 10 P.M.	SUN 1:30 P.M. TO 10 P.M.
ADDRESS	317 E ARLINGTON BLVD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858	
PRICE RANGE	\$	

With some of the most delicious and natural creamy flavors, Simply Natural Creamery was nominated by students as having the best ice cream treats in Greenville.

They have more than 20 flavors represented that are just simply natural. The creamery is a family business with homemade recipes. They sell products anywhere from ice cream, milk, and butter.

What makes them different is their milk is processed the same day that it is milked from their cows, resulting in the notable treats we've come to love.

06 THE SCULLERY BEST BREAKFAST IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - FRI 7 A.M. TO 2 P.M.	SAT 8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
ADDRESS	431 EVANS ST, GREENVILLE, NC 27858	
PRICE RANGE	\$\$	

Known as the hottest breakfast spot in Greenville we have The Scullery placing first for best breakfast. The Scullery is a hub of local art and features a menu of seasonal breakfast and lunch dishes, plus a coffee bar and homemade ice cream.

They're best known for their elegant homemade meals and milkshakes.

07 ZOË'S KITCHEN BEST VEGAN PLACE IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SUN 11 A.M. TO 8 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$-\$\$
ADDRESS	3120 EVANS ST STE 101 & 103, GREENVILLE, NC 27834		

Zoë's Kitchen is a casual restaurant serving a flavorful menu of made-from-scratch, Mediterranean meals. Grilling is the main method of cooking and their cuisine features a variety of fresh fruits and veggies, herbs and lean meats.

The freshness and simplicity creates a balanced and healthy menu, making it the Pirate pick for best vegan/fresh food.

08 TROPICAL SMOOTHIE BEST SMOOTHIE IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - FRI 7:30 A.M. TO 8 P.M.	SAT 10 P.M. TO 9 P.M.	SUN 11 A.M. TO 8 P.M.
ADDRESS	1856 WEST ARLINGTON BLVD, GREENVILLE, NC 27834		
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$		

Tropical Smoothie Cafe, sometimes referred to as Tropical Smoothie or TSC, is a restaurant franchise in the United States. Earning the student vote for best smoothies, this location is also good for a lunch meeting or a lunch date. In addition to smoothies, the cafe offers sandwiches, wraps, salads, flat breads, and food bowls.

09 LA RANCHERITA BEST MEXICAN FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	SUN - THURS 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	FRI - SAT 11 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M.
ADDRESS	3130 EVANS ST #101, GREENVILLE, NC 27834	
PRICE RANGE	\$\$	

La Rancherita is a full-service Mexican restaurant featuring tacos, many different tequila selections and other Mexican eats. The establishment specializes in lunch, dinner and solo dining.

Serving up both group and plate-style Mexican foods, La Rancherita earned the student vote as number one for Mexican.



PHOTO BY HALIE MILLER , PIRATE MEDIA 1

10 JAPAN INN BEST SUSHI IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - THURS 11 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M.	FRI - SAT 11 P.M. TO 10:30 P.M.	SUN 12 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M.
ADDRESS	739 RED BANKS RD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		
PRICE RANGE	\$\$		

Known as a low-key spot, Japan Inn earned the student vote for best sushi and is a Japanese cuisine-style restaurant with booth seating and an all-you-can-eat buffet serving sushi and other Japanese dishes. Japan Inn is known for their wide range of sushi and is family-oriented serving up great hospitality and even better food.

11 LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE BEST STEAK IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SUN 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$\$
ADDRESS	520 GREENVILLE BLVD SE, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		

Having the best steak in the Greenville community per students, LongHorn Steakhouse prides themselves in fresh and boldly seasoned grilled steaks.

They also serve up fresh seafood, juicy chicken and fall-off-the-bone ribs, making it a great dinner date or lunch meeting destination. LongHorn aims to be the best steakhouse in everything they do. One visit and you'll experience the grill master's legendary steaks and prime rib.

12 MICHAELANGELO'S BEST PIZZA IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - THURS 10 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	FRI - SAT 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M.	SUN 11 A.M. TO 8:30 P.M.
ADDRESS	950 CRISWELL DR., STE 117, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$		

Michelangelo's Pizza and Subs has served as a charming franchise of Italian served food for the last 20 years. Regularly frequented by locals, this family-run restaurant is a sure bet for an excellent flavorful meal. Michelangelo's Pizza and Subs offers an enticing and creative menu consisting of a Pirate's favorite pizza, fresh homemade pasta, among other delicious dishes from Southern and Northern Italy.

13 ATAVOLA! MARKET CAFÉ BEST ITALIAN FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - THURS 11 A.M. TO 10 P.M.	FRI - SAT 11 A.M. TO 11 P.M.	SUN 11:30 A.M. TO 9 P.M.
ADDRESS	620 RED BANKS RD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858-5813		
PRICE RANGE	\$\$-\$\$\$		

aTavola! means "come and eat!" or joy at the dinner table. aTavola! has diverse menu selections, casual lunches and family meals ready to go. They specialize in utilizing fresh ingredients, featuring seasonal menu selections and getting creative in the kitchen! With a 4.5 rating and the #1 pick for Best Italian in Greenville, we believe it is safe to say you should go give them a try.

14 STILLIFE BEST CLUB IN TOWN

HOURS	THUR - SAT 10 P.M. TO 2 A.M.
ADDRESS	511 COTANCHE ST., GREENVILLE, NC 27858

If you are looking for something to do in the evening and you want to hit the town, Stillife has topped our survey as number one for clubs. Thursday nights feature unique themed parties and half-priced drinks. The blue fish bowl is recommended as one of their most popular drinks.

If you are 25 and up and you're looking for something a little more exclusive, the club is also home to The Loft by Stillife which is open Tuesday-Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on Saturdays from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

15 MCALISTER'S DELI BEST SANDWICH IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SUN 11:30 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$-\$\$
ADDRESS	740 SW GREENVILLE BLVD, SUITE 600, GRENVILLE, NC, 27858		

Find a new favorite at the student-selected sandwiches/sub winner, McAlister's Deli. Their famous tea, mile-high sandwiches, various salads, soups and giant baked potatoes are full of fresh and flavorful ingredients. With more than 400 restaurants in 28 states, McAlister's has made a name for themselves as being dedicated to serving great food with genuine hospitality.

16 BAD DADDY'S BURGER BAR

BEST BURGER IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SUN 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$
ADDRESS	709 GREENVILLE BLVD SE STE 100, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		

And of course for our best burger we have none other than Bad Daddy's Burger Bar. Bad Daddy's is a simple foods restaurant featuring quintessential American dishes. Bad Daddy's has been steadily building its reputation as a unique player in the burger world.

Bad Daddy's has consistently garnered press and praise from all corners of the culinary world. From regional press and accolades from publications like Denver's Dining Out "25 Things We Love" and Charlotte Magazine's "Best of the Best" to national coverage in Nation's Restaurant News.

It is safe to say if you haven't tried this Burger place, where have you been?



PHOTO BY IMANI MCCRAY , PIRATE MEDIA 1

WEDNESDAY | 001 | PM 1

16 HIBACHI JAPAN

BEST HIBACHI IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - FRI & SUN 11 A.M. TO 9:40 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$
ADDRESS	110 E 10TH ST, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		

Known for its quick bite food Hibachi Japan is a Japanese cuisine-style restaurant serving up soups, sushi rolls and many other Japanese dishes.

Hibachi Japan is known for its wide variety of available sushi rolls and hand rolls. Having a 4.7 star review on Google and winning the nomination for best hibachi, you may have to go try them out!

17 CHINA KING

BEST CHINESE FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS (TUES CLOSED)	SUN - THURS 11 A.M. TO 11 P.M.	FRI - SAT 11 A.M. TO 11:30 P.M.
ADDRESS	3130 EVANS ST #101, GREENVILLE	
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$	

China King is a simple, cultured eatery offering a broad selection of traditional Chinese favorites & vegetarian options. Known for its low prices, speedy delivery, and amazing variety from rolls to lunch specials. China King is raved about by the Greenville Community as the best Chinese in town.

18 CINNAMON

BEST BUFFET & INDIAN FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - FRI 11 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M. 5 P.M. TO 10 P.M.	FRI - SAT 11:30 P.M. TO 3 P.M. 5 P.M. TO 10 P.M.	SUN 12 P.M. TO 2:45 P.M. 5 P.M. TO 9 P.M.
ADDRESS	31 RED BANKS RD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$		

Known as both the best Indian food and buffet for the ECU Pirate Picks we have Cinnamon! Cinnamon has been serving up quality, nutritious, traditional breakfast and lunch fare with a distinct Indian twist.

Although typically thought of as a buffet brunch restaurant, the establishment has a fully-stocked lunch and dinner menu as well.

Cinnamon's buffet closes a little after 2 p.m. daily and it is suggested that you arrive before 1 p.m. to ensure you are able to get a table, particularly on the weekends! If you haven't already, time to check them out.

19 YABA

BEST MEDITERRANEAN FOOD IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SAT 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	SUN 11 A.M. TO 8 P.M.
ADDRESS	1201 CHARLES BLVD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858	
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$	

Serving up some of the most flavorful Mediterranean and earning the top spot for it in Pirate Picks, Yaba brings authentic shawarma among other popular Mediterranean dishes and sides to customers in a location that is close and convenient to campus.

20 COOK OUT

BEST LATE NIGHT EATS IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - THURS 10:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.	FRI - SAT 10:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.
ADDRESS	711 S MEMORIAL DR GREENVILLE NC 27834	
PRICE RANGE	\$	

Cook Out is a North Carolina-based, fast-food chain serving up burgers, barbecue and milkshakes. Cook Out is known for its low prices and high quality late night food. If you don't live in one of the few states the food chain restaurant is located in, you might have never heard of it.

If that is the case we would challenge you to go see what all the hype is about. You can never go wrong with a Cook Out tray and one of many milkshake selections. Don't worry if it's late, they are almost always open!

21 AMF BOWLING

BEST PASTIME PLACE IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - WED 6 P.M. TO 10 P.M.	THURS - FRI 5 P.M. TO 10 P.M.	SAT 12 P.M. TO 10 P.M.	SUN 2 P.M. TO 10 P.M.
ADDRESS	700 RED BANKS RD, GREENVILLE, NC 27858			
PRICE RANGE	\$\$			

Earning the vote as the best Pirate pastime is AMF Bowling. AMF Bowling is a long-standing chain of bowling alleys featuring casual grub and pitchers, leagues and party events, as well as a variety of arcade games and prizes.

As a bonus for students, AMF offers College Night specials on Tuesdays.

22 U.B.E

BEST PLACE TO GET ECU GEAR

HOURS	MON - FRI 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M.	SAT 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
ADDRESS	516 COTANCHE ST, GREENVILLE, NC 27858	
PRICE RANGE	\$-\$\$\$	

Representing the student vote as the #1 place to get ECU gear, we have University Book Exchange, best known as U.B.E., U.B.E. is the largest retailer of ECU gifts and apparel. Officially licensed by East Carolina University, U.B.E. provides services for all student majors, from books to student supplies. U.B.E. aims to be a Pirates one stop shop.

23 SKIN GRAFIX

BEST BEST TATTOO PLACE IN TOWN

HOURS	MON - SAT 12 A.M. TO 9 P.M.	PRICE RANGE	\$\$-\$\$\$
ADDRESS	110 E 10TH ST, GREENVILLE, NC 27858		

Skin Grafix, since its inception, has wanted to differentiate itself from other tattoo studios. Shining through as a Pirate favorite, Skin Grafix focuses on providing customers with artistic tattooing, whether it is a custom designed piece, freehand artwork or traditional wall flash.

Skin Grafix has four different locations, two of which are located in Pitt County with the closest campus location being located in Downtown Greenville.

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EST. 2007

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EVENTS

TODAY

Open Mic Night

The Blackened Kraken
123 E. 5th Street
8:30 to 11 p.m.
252-215-8822

Karaoke Night

Pitt Street Brewing Company
630 S. Pitt Street
8 to 10 p.m.
252-227-4151

Open Mic with JT Ackerman

Molly's Community Cafe
300 S. Evans St.
6 to 9 p.m.
252-227-4449

TOMORROW

Tapas and Jazz

Starlight Cafe
104 W. Fifth Street
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 at Stumpy's

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

FRIDAY

First Friday Artwalk Virtual

Uptown Greenville Facebook Page
5 to 8 p.m.
252-561-8400

Anita's Taqueria Food Truck

Pitt Street Brewing Company
630 S. Pitt Street
6 to 9 p.m.
252-227-4151

McKenzie Shelton Live

Jarvis Street Bottle Shop
211-106 S. Jarvis Street
5 to 8 p.m.
252-364-2840

Chuck Phillips

The Loft at Stilllife
511 Cotanche St.
8 to 11 p.m.
877-590-5478

SATURDAY

Wake The Truck Up Food Truck

Pitt Street Brewing Company
630 S. Pitt Street
6 to 9 p.m.
252-227-4151

Garden and Orchard Workday

Greenville Community Garden
209 Stancill Drive
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
252-744-4190

The Monterio Experience

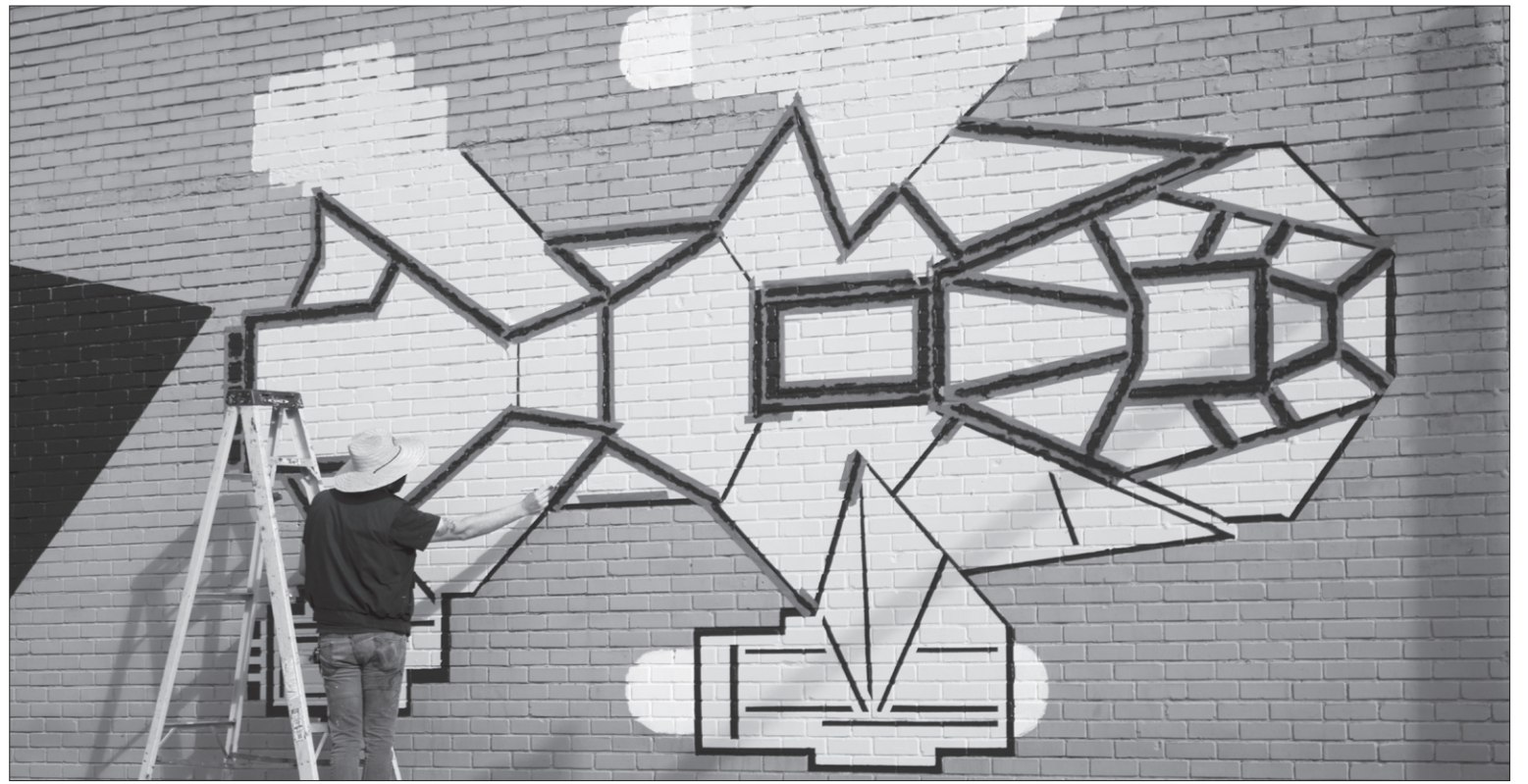
AJ McMurphy's
1914 Turnbury Drive
8 to 10 p.m.
252-355-7956

Intro to Blacksmithing

Makerspace of Greenville
102 Staton Court
9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
252-565-8178

Chuck Phillips Band

Buccaneer Music Hall
2120 E. Fire Tower Road
8 to 11 p.m.
252-756-5505



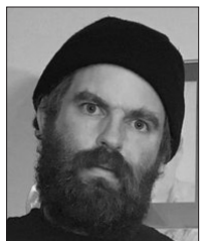
East Carolina University School of Art and Design alumnus Tyler Wolf continues to work on his new uptown mural, which depicts a large starship.

King's Deli welcomes mural

Wilmington-based artist to complete project by early March

Sarah Hooper
TEC STAFF

Greenville, North Carolina, businesses continue to witness changes within the local art scene in the uptown area with the creation progress of multiple murals, such as one by East Carolina University alumnus Tyler Wolf on the wall of new Greenville business Kings Deli, located at 201 E. 5th St.



Tyler Wolf

Wolf said he is the artist behind the new unnamed mural and an alumnus of the ECU School of Art and Design circa 2001. As a student at ECU, Wolf said he worked at Backdoor Skateshop, another Uptown Green-

ville business close to King's Deli. "My friends Kelly and Toby Boutilier own King's Deli and they invited me to paint the mural on Contache Street. I've had my paintings on their walls of the deli since it opened in the fall," Wolf said.

After he graduated from ECU in 2001, Wolf said he moved to Wilmington, North Carolina, where he now lives with his wife and two children.

The mural will depict a starship, which Wolf said runs on positive energy. He said because "a little bit of positivity goes a long way," he hopes those who walk by will smile when they see his mural.

"It's a great idea that more murals are being created throughout the city. I believe the power of art and music can break down the walls that divide us. The energy of

art can bring smiles to people from all walks of life," Wolf said.

Owner of King's Deli Tobias Boutilier said he commissioned the mural for his new business through a contract with Wolf. Boutilier said the mural will be a permanent part of Uptown Greenville's landscape.

Boutilier said the location of King's Deli was the location of the original Greenville Museum of Art, so he had always wanted to keep art as a theme at his deli.

"We love the initiative to place murals throughout Greenville. It definitely helps bring more foot traffic downtown and more exposure to the local businesses," Boutilier said.

Matt Sterling, owner of Blackbeard Coffee Roasters, located at 203 E. 5th St., a coffee shop and roasting company which neighbors King's Deli, said the mural initiative

Greenville has developed is a great way to create a "unique" character for Uptown Greenville.

"I think some of the most memorable places in cities are the artwork and architecture. As more murals are installed it gives Greenville a unique feel, and I think over time as more images are shared we'll have landmarks that uptown is remembered by," Sterling said.

Unique experiences will always increase foot traffic, which will bring more people to uptown businesses, according to Sterling.

Wolf said his mural is expected to be finished by early March and it will take him a total of two months to complete the mural.

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

Concerts offer peace to patients

Hannah Bolick
TEC STAFF

Four Seasons Music Festival and Vidant Medical Center have teamed up to bring a little music to the lives of those who will receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the large-scale vaccine clinic by holding live concerts nearly every day at the clinic beginning on Feb. 10 in the Greenville Convention Center.

According to a press release from Vidant, the aim for the concerts is to "bring an atmosphere of beauty" to individuals receiving the COVID-19 vaccine through classical music. The release said this is not the first time Vidant and Four Seasons have partnered to bring music to those within the healthcare system.

Vidant Chief Experience Officer Dr. Julie Kennedy Oehlert said in the release that music therapy is a science that shows how music can soothe people.

"The beautiful, healing music gratefully provided by Four Seasons will forever be a part of the memories of those that receive their vaccine. This collaboration is yet another demonstration of how our community comes together to support each other during this



Ara Gregorian and Thomas Sauer perform at the Vidant large-scale vaccine clinic.

pandemic and other times of need," Oehlert said in the press release.

John Holloway, managing director of the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival said in an email statement in addition to the concerts in the vaccination clinic, the entire fall 2020 season is available on-demand throughout Vidant Medical Center.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, many East Carolina University alumni musicians have found it

difficult to find paid performance opportunities, Holloway said.

"This is one of my favorite projects we've ever done at Four Seasons. We always talk about being part of the community - and there isn't a better way to make an impact than performing concerts at a mass vaccine clinic," Holloway said.

The concerts take place in the observation room and musicians are properly distanced from patients, Holloway said.

Maria Lambros, violist and chamber music faculty member at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Maryland, will play in the upcoming concerts at Vidant

today and tomorrow.

"Often, people have gone to great lengths to get the vaccine appointment and there can be uncertainty and fear surrounding possible side effects, so to bring some art and beauty during that experience might give people a little bit of comfort," Lambros said.

Amelia Deitrich is a Greenville native and ECU alumna and is also a graduate of the Colburn School in LA and The Juilliard School. She said she has participated in a Four Seasons Winter Workshop before.

The concerts at the clinic mean a lot to the audience and the musicians, Deitrich said in an email statement.

"This experience not only gives us the opportunity to touch a wider community and create beauty during an

emotional time, but it also gives the musicians an opportunity to get back to what we love doing. It is a glimpse into the future and happier times ahead," Deitrich said.

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ART continued from A1

on March 31, Rasdorf said. He said students can stop by the LGBTQ center located in the MCSC in Suite 209 to pick up stickers, transgender pride flags, bracelets and pens to express support.

"I think there is a variety of learning that can happen through interaction with an exhibit such as this, to really understand the diversity of transgender and non-binary people across the United States; their stories, their journeys and a full realization of who they are," Rasdorf said.

Dugan and Fabbre joined the

partners responsible for the exhibit, including the ECU Department of Sociology, the LGBTQ center and the Visual Art Form for the virtual opening reception, according to Rasdorf. He said faculty and staff members and community members were in attendance as well.

Rasdorf said he and LGBTQ center Assistant Director Jessica Melowski moderated the reception and read questions from students in the chat for Dugan and Fabbre. Angela Wells said the exhibit can help educate the public to be more open minded and to understand and celebrate people

who may be different from them.

"Anytime we have an exhibition regardless of the content, we hope that people take a moment to pause and think outside of their own life. With a show like this, it is very much about understanding a community you may not identify with but you may know people who do," Wells said.

It is important to recognize what transgender and non-binary people have been through and to learn from their experiences, according to Wells.

Wells said it is important to learn the history of older trans-

gender and non-binary people so it does not repeat itself. She said there has been progression in transgender and non-binary people awareness.

"Our culture and society has shifted and has become more aware and open and accepting of differences across the board in the last 20 years and for a lot of these individuals who were brave enough to share their stories, we can learn from the challenges they overcame, Wells said.

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ONLINE | FULL STORY

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CONTRIBUTED BY TRAVIS ALFORD

Percussionist Mark Sharrock, saxophonist Philipp A. Stäuldin, pianist Keith Kirchoff and guitarist Dan VanHassel are the four members of the Boston, Massachusetts-based Hinge Ensemble.

SoM students work with Hinge Ensemble

Quartet supports East Carolina University musicians, will play students' pieces

Yasmine Curmon-Ward
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University School of Music students continue to work with Hinge Ensemble, which will perform a free virtual concert on livemusic.ecu.edu or on the North Carolina New Music Initiative Facebook page on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Artistic Director and electric guitar player of Hinge Ensemble Dan VanHassel said its music is a mix of contemporary, classical and experimental music. He said the group was happy to be a part of the North Carolina New Music Initiative program to work with students and perform.

"A big part of our mission as a group is not to only play concerts and commission music, but to also work with students and young composers. So we're working with four composition students in the music department there (East Carolina University) of the residency. It's a workshop, we work with performers and masterclasses, so it basically fits our mission," VanHassel said.

Hinge Ensemble works with student composers and performers on original pieces the students have written for the group to play, according to VanHassel. He said Hinge gives the students feedback on their compositions and will record a demo of the students' compositions in their homes because they are not able to meet in person due to COVID-19.

VanHassel said the group also works with performers in a masterclass where the students play and the group evaluates them. The group additionally conducts a round table discussion for the students on how to build a

career as a musician.

"There's not a ton of money to be made in contemporary classical or experimental music. Obviously, it's more of a calling rather than a career per se. That said, there's different things that people can do. You can be a performer or a composer, also there are lots of jobs in arts administration and teaching," VanHassel said.

The group hopes they can help students to learn how to work better with professional musicians and to be able to prepare professional scores and to perfect them, VanHassel said. He said the group wants students to know how they can build a career in contemporary music.

Since Hinge Ensemble is not able to meet in person, VanHassel said it will play a few pieces they've done as a quartet and solo and duo pieces. He said they normally would not do this but were "forced to be creative."

"We're really grateful to be invited to perform and also really grateful even in these times when we can't do a traditional residency, we are still able to continue in some form. We're grateful to everyone at the (North Carolina) New Music Initiative to make this possible," VanHassel said.

Shawn Johnson, an ECU graduate music theory and composition student, said he is grateful for the opportunities and growth as an artist he has gained from his experience with the North Carolina New Music Initiative.

He said student composers have the opportunity to hear their music played which helps to improve their work.

During his time at ECU, Johnson said he has written for composition and recording sessions for multiple guest artists such as pianist Molly Morkoski and cellist Jason Calloway. He said his work with Hinge Ensemble has challenged him and helped him to bring new ideas to his music.

"From working with Hinge, I feel I have learned a great deal about writing for the instruments of each performer. Also, from this experience I have learned a lot about score preparation and working with other artists," Johnson said in an email statement.

The members of Hinge Ensemble are "great performers," according to Johnson, and the group has great chemistry and their individual personalities are evident in recordings.

Johnson said he has enjoyed the workshops with Hinge Ensemble because they demonstrate each concept they discuss with their instruments. He said individual members of the group sent demonstration videos to students who had questions, which is helpful.

"These opportunities would not be possible without them and the composition professors at ECU. Thank you, Dr. (Edward) Jacobs, Dr. (Travis) Alford, Dr. (Mark) Richardson, and Dr. (Mark) Taggart, for making these opportunities possible through the New Music Initiative," Johnson said.

Adam Schreiber, a senior ECU music composition major, said it's been a great experience to work with Hinge Ensemble so far. Schreiber said under normal circumstances,

a guest artist would come and sight read students' pieces in front of the entire class and give their feedback. Students would be able to ask questions and the session is recorded. Due to COVID-19, Hinge Ensemble currently holds the workshops virtually.

"They each individually had Zoom sessions where they talked about what they do and more importantly how to write for their instruments, for us composers and they answer a lot of questions and they demonstrate on their instruments which is super helpful," Schreiber said.

Hinge Ensemble gave their feedback to the students on their pieces before they recorded them, according to Schreiber. He said they will record a multitrack recording of the students' pieces so they can listen to their compositions.

Schreiber said he wrote a three minute piece titled "Upset Television" for Hinge Ensemble that he will get back this week, and he got their permission to play the recording of his piece for his senior recital concert.

"I started writing the piece right at the beginning of the pandemic for different instruments. I was kind of upset with the world, and I wanted to write a piece that was fun to play and upbeat. 'Upset Television' It's a fun little piece, it's very groovy. It's not super serious. There is no narrative," Schreiber said.



Adam Schreiber

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GMoA reveals new sculpture installation

'The Ball on the Red Staircase' debuted by UNC Pembroke professor

Sarah Hooper
TEC STAFF

Reyna Crooms
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



The Greenville Museum of Art welcomed a new sculpture titled "The Ball on the Red Staircase," created by Adam Walls, a professor of sculpture at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Pembroke on Feb. 19 and has announced the art piece



will welcome gallery goers in front of the museum through 2022. Walls has taught sculpture at UNC Pembroke for 14 years, but has only been a professor at the university for 10 years. He said the inspiration for his sculpture came from his everyday routine and walk to his office at UNC Pembroke.

"On my way to my office every day going to work, I passed by a sign for the stairwell as I'm going up the stairs, and that little zig-zag line kind of interested me. You know, the little zig-zag stairwell or staircase sign that they put by stairs and other signs

around the building, just little simple signs have sparked my imagination," Walls said.

The sculpture at GMoA includes a stainless steel sphere with a mirror finish, so those who view the piece can see themselves at the top of the staircase, Walls said. The top of the piece looks like a staircase, but the first step is eight feet from the ground, he said.

According to Walls, the first step is always the most difficult when trying to meet a goal, and one needs to convince themselves that they can do it despite the fact that it may seem impossible.

"If you can envision yourself at the top and achieving your goal, then you're on your way," Walls said.

Trista Reis Porter, the executive director of GMoA, said in an email statement that the sculpture rental is a part of the DownEast

Trista Reis Porter

Sculpture Exhibition, which is organized by the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge.

"They sent us a list of the

sculptures available this year and we selected our top choices and this year it was Adam (Walls). Emerge organizes all the details including drop off," Porter said.

As GMoA is off of Evans Street, Porter said the museum is driven by often, so they wanted a piece that could be seen more clearly from driver as they pass by. The simplicity and strong color choices are a nice statement for the museum, according to Porter.

Holly Garriott

Holly Garriott is the Civic Arts Facilitator for the DownEast Sculpture Exhibition and said in an email statement she helped to install the sculpture with Walls. DownEast Sculpture Exhibition assisted in placing Wall's sculpture in front of GMoA according to Garriott.

"I love the implied motion of the sculpture. When you are looking at it, you can just imagine the ball rolling down. That is what great art does - gently encourages you to see something in a very simple way," Garriott said.

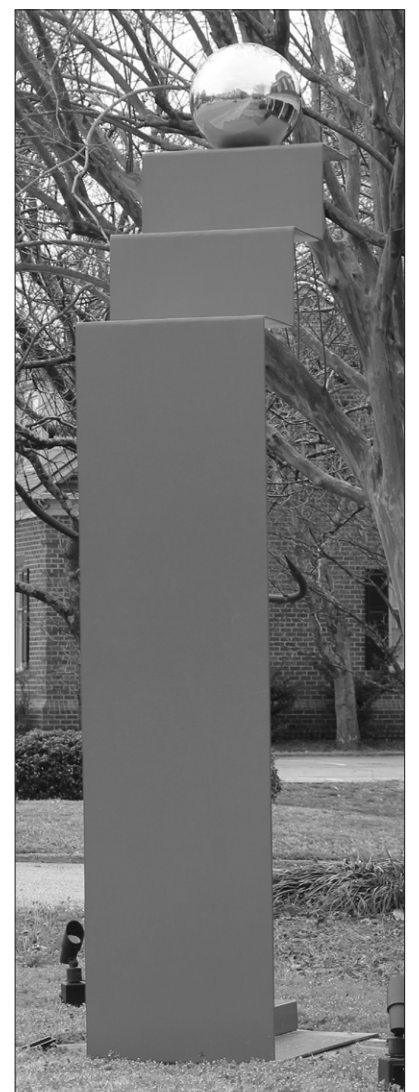
Emerge Gallery has helped plan the DownEast National Sculpture Exhibition for 16 years, with the initial locations including the corner of Reade Street in front of Chico's Mexican Restaurant and on the East Carolina University campus, according to Garriott. She said the exhibition now has 17 locations, with many in Greenville.

Wall's sculpture "The Ball on the Red Staircase" will be on display into 2022 at the GMoA. Porter said it was delightful to work with Walls on this exhibition.

"Emerge coordinates everything from the application process (we had nearly 100 entries from all over the country just for the outdoor exhibition), to installation, marketing, working with all of the entities housing the sculptures, and in one year, the removal of all of the work," Garriott said.

More of Walls' works of art can be found on his website, along with his contact information at www.adamwallssculpture.com.

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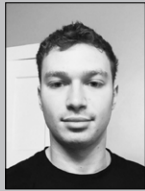
"The Ball on the Red Staircase" by Adam Walls.

TEC 'sports

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's athletic contests

Jess Sabin

Baseball reporter
@Jess_Sabin



Baseball vs. Old Dominion University on March 3
Who wins? ECU wins 10-6

Why? ECU has averaged seven runs a game so far while ODU has averaged 10.5 runs a game. However, ODU has not faced an opponent comparable to ECU in skill while ECU was able to get a five point victory over nationally ranked Duke.

Cade Carlson

Women's basketball reporter



ECU Lacrosse vs. Jacksonville University on March 6
Who wins? ECU wins 15 - 9

Why? The Pirates have had the experience of playing two Power Five schools thus far. Simply put, the Pirates' experience will help them win.

Stephen Babich

Track and field reporter
@stephenbabich1



ECU Volleyball vs. the University of Central Florida on March 5 and March 6
Who wins? ECU wins on March 5 and UCF wins on March 6

Why? The UCF Knights suffered a 3-2 loss against Florida State University on Feb. 26. Meanwhile, the Pirates come off a 3-0 win on Feb. 28 against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. ECU will have momentum and will win the first game against UCF. However, the Knights will make adjustments and take the second game.

Brendan Cavazos

Sports Chief
@bcvaz_xi



ECU men's basketball vs. UCF on March 3
Who wins? UCF wins 78-69

Why? ECU has gone a little over two weeks without a game due to COVID-19 safety postponements, while UCF has continued to play. The Knights are on a two-game win streak, while the Pirates have struggled in AAC play.

Pat Polomchak

Sports Editor
@pattywhaKK



Men's basketball vs. the University of Cincinnati on March 7
Who wins? ECU earns a 70-67 win

Why? ECU has not played a game since Feb. 8, a 71-56 loss to SMU. The team will knock off the rust against UCF and come away with a win in the season finale.

» ANALYSIS

ECU must beat USC football



Pat Polomchak
TEC STAFF

The American Athletic Conference (AAC) announced its 2021 football schedule on Feb. 18, and the East Carolina University football team (3-6, 3-5 AAC) has one game in particular, against the University of South Carolina (2-8, 2-8 Southeastern Conference) on Sept. 11, which will serve as a benchmark for how far the Pirates can go in the 2021 season.

The Sept. 11 game will serve as a reschedule for the game last season between ECU and USC that was originally scheduled for Sept. 12, 2020, but was indefinitely postponed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

This game will mark the fourth time overall USC has played in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, and the team's first visit since the 1997 season. The matchup history favors ECU's opponents, as the Pirates are 5-14 against the Gamecocks all-time.

The Gamecocks come off a disappointing 2020 season, despite playing in the ultra-competitive SEC. USC compiled a record of 2-8 for the year, and all of those games were in-conference.

While the Pirates' 2020 mark of 3-6 overall isn't much better, ECU stands a shot at taking down the Gamecocks. Not only do the Pirates hold home field advantage, but they could still ride



Fans pack the home side of Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium before the COVID-19 pandemic.

momentum from the end of last season.

ECU faced Southern Methodist University (7-3, 4-3 AAC) in the 2020 season finale on Nov. 28. SMU came into the game ranked as a middle-of-the-pack team in the AAC, while ECU only had two wins on the ledger.

Despite this, ECU looked like a different team than the one the program had fielded for most of the season. The Pirates rolled up to a 45-7 lead by halftime, on the strength of six consecutive drives that ended in touchdowns.

The second half featured a spirited comeback attempt by SMU, but it was ultimately foiled by strong defensive

play. Sophomore defensive back Ja'Quan McMillian made interceptions on back-to-back Mustang drives late in the contest.

Head coach Mike Houston is viewed by many as a coach who is capable of taking ECU back to a bowl game. A game against an SEC foe early in the year should give fans a good idea of what to expect come bowl season.

If ECU can knock off USC at home on Sept. 11, it stands to reason ECU will have a good shot at finally making it back to a bowl game.

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ONLINE | FULL STORY

Softball vs. Camels postponed

Stephen Babich
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University Athletics announced on March 2 that the ECU softball team's (8-2, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) March 3 game against the Campbell University Camels at Amanda Littlejohn Stadium (4-4, 0-0) has been rescheduled due to inclement weather in the area and will now be played on March 31 at 5 p.m.

The Pirates come off a 3-0 sweep against the Ohio University Bobcats (0-5, 0-0 Mid American Conference) on Feb. 27 and Feb. 28 in the Pirate Invitational at Max R. Joyner stadium in Greenville, North Carolina. Meanwhile, Campbell comes off a loss against the Eastern Kentucky University Colonels (7-3, 0-0 Ohio Valley Conference) on Feb. 28.

In the first game for ECU against the Bobcats on Feb. 27, junior pitcher Kama

Woodall gave up one run on six hits and recorded eight strikeouts for ECU, a career high. For the Bobcats, freshman pitcher Madi McCrady recorded a loss after she gave up two earned runs on two hits, allowed two walks, and had zero strikeouts.



Logyn Estes

Meanwhile in the second game, freshman pitcher Logyn Estes went 3-4, and scored three runs for the Pirates. The Bobcats had gotten off to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first, but the Pirates were able to take a 5-3 lead in the bottom of the second. The Pirates scored six more runs and won the game 10-4.

In the third and final game on Feb. 28, the Pirates shutout the Bobcats 7-0. The Pirates outit the Bobcats 12-5, and they scored five of

their seven runs in the bottom of the second. For the Pirates, senior outfielder Olivia Narron currently leads the team in batting with a .471 average. Narron also leads the team in hits with 16 and runs with 15.

Meanwhile for the Camels, sophomore outfielder Claudia Ware leads the team in hitting with an average of .375. Ware also has nine hits and six runs, which leads the team in both categories.

The Pirates will return to action in the Liberty Softball Invitational on March 5 through March 7 at Liberty University (9-5, 0-0 Independents) in Lynchburg, Virginia.

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ONLINE | FULL STORY

Pirates to play Monarchs

Jess Sabin
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University baseball team (6-1, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) is set to play Old Dominion University (5-2, 0-0 Conference USA) on March 3, with a start time of 4 p.m., as it looks to continue its win streak early in the season.

Both teams opened the season 4-0 as ODU swept Norfolk State University (0-4, 0-0 Mideastern Athletic Conference) in a four-game series which started on Feb. 20 and ended on Feb. 24. ECU swept the University of Rhode Island (0-3, 0-0 Atlantic 10 Conference) in a three-game series from Feb.19 to Feb. 21 and then beat No. 25 Duke University (2-2, 0-0 Atlantic Coast conference) on Feb.23.

Both teams suffered their first loss in their second series of the season. ECU played Georgia Southern University (2-5, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) and won the overall series 2-1 but lost the second game of the series 10-7. Despite losing a game in the series, ECU has moved up the National Division 1 rankings to be No. 17 in the country.

ODU played Rhode Island and lost the overall series 2-1 as they fell in the first two games. ODU lost 6-4 in the first game and then lost 6-5 in the second game, which went into extra innings, before dominating Rhode Island 16-3 in the final game of the series.

Both teams have had strong offensive starts to the season. ECU has outscored its opponents 50-24 in its seven games, while ODU has outscored its opponents 75-23, which includes multiple games in which they scored at least 12 points.

ECU has been led by sophomore infielder Connor Norby this season offensively. Norby



Freshman left-handed pitcher C.J. Mayhue winds up a pitch during ECU's win over Duke.

is the only Pirate to have double digit hits with 14 in his 29 at bats. Norby has had one home run and six RBIs and has scored seven runs himself. His success has resulted in him having a team high .483 batting average.

Junior outfielder Bryson Worrell leads ECU in at bats with 32. He is the only batter so far to hit the 30 at bats mark for the Pirates. In his 32 at bats, he has amassed just five hits, four RBIs and has scored three runs. He has a batting average of just .156 so far this season.

Sophomore infielder Thomas Francisco is tied with Norby for the second most at bats so far this season for the Pirates with 29. Francisco is tied for a team high seven RBIs and is third on the team in hits with eight. He is also tied for second in runs with seven and is fourth in batting average of the seven batters with at least 20 at bats with a .276.

This season, ODU is led by sophomore outfielder Andy Garriola. Garriola is the only Monarch to reach at least 30 at bats. In his 32 at bats he has gotten 11 hits and 14 RBIs both of which are team highs. He is also tied for the most doubles on the team with five and has scored five runs as well. His .344 batting average is sixth of the seven batters with at least 20 at bats.

After ODU, the Pirates will host the LeClair Classic against Appalachian State University (5-2, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) on March 5 through March 7.

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



Thomas Francisco

ONLINE | FULL STORY

the **BIG VAPE** THEORY

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