

PITT STREET BREWING TO HOST CHRISTMAS IN JULY MARKET to A3

The East Carolinian

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Planning team concludes, fall guidelines set

Michelle Mazzei
TEC STAFF

After the conclusion of the East Carolina University fall 2021 planning team on June 25, university administration issued COVID-19 guidelines for the university effective July 1 for the fall semester to keep its community safe.

A student announcement from Chancellor Philip Rogers on July 1 stated, effective immediately, the university community is required to wear face masks in all indoor settings on campus throughout the fall 2021 semester. Rogers said the decision for the face mask guidelines came from the planning team's meetings, discussions and analysis.



Philip Rogers

"I have received and accepted the recommendations of the fall 2021 planning committee, chaired by (Special Assistant to the Chancellor) Ron Mitchelson and (Associate Provost for Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research) Ying Zhou, and the COVID Coordination Committee, chaired by Bill Koch and Sara Lilley," Rogers said in the statement.

Face masks are required in any indoor environment where social distancing of at least three feet cannot be maintained and other spaces identified, Rogers said. These guidelines are in place and modeled after North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper's recent executive order.

On ECU's campus, while outdoors, face masks are not required for the fall of 2021, Rogers said. This face-covering restriction will be re-evaluated on or previous to Sept. 15, 2021.

The fall 2021 planning team's final reports are available on the Return of Pirate Nation website, which, Rogers said, will be finished throughout the month of July.

"ECU needs to take precautions in the fall of 2021 to protect Pirates and minimize disruptions. I know working together we can do this," Rogers said in the email statement.

Associate Provost for Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research Ying Zhou said the fall 2021 planning team was divided into four subgroups. Those subgroups include Public Health and Safety, Instruction and Research, Student Activities and Support and Human Resources and Risk Management.

Zhou said the subgroups, which consisted of almost 60

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ROSE BOGUE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

East Carolina University's Parking and Transportation will implement new technology to enforce parking by permit only on campus.

ECU parking to see changes Enforcement will utilize license recognition software

Michelle Mazzei
TEC STAFF

Chris Young
TEC STAFF



East Carolina University Parking and Transportation (P&T) will implement new license plate recognition (LPR) software for the 2021-2022 academic year on its enforcement vehicles to scan license plates to determine if vehicles have valid permits to park in university lots.

ECU Parking and Transportation (P&T) Enforcement Supervisor Joshua Puckett said the cameras which are on the vehicles parked in university lots cannot scan license plates if a student's car is backed in or pulled through. He said P&T has worked on a way to create a separate space for students and faculty to back in or pull through.



Joshua Puckett

"For now the traditional method of

leaving a citation on the windshield of a vehicle is the only notification students will receive that they have violated a parking rule," Puckett said. "P&T is exploring an option called E-ticket where customers will receive an email version of the citation along with a physical copy on their vehicles."

Puckett said LPR has numerous benefits for faculty, staff, students and the university. He said the implementation of LPR on parking enforcement vehicles will save the university over \$85,000 annually by replacing traditional parking decals with an entirely virtual format.

"LPR is instantaneous, meaning everything the system does is in real time and this process is called forecasting," Puckett said. "Forecasting allows us to identify parking trends on campus, both positive and negative."

Puckett said one of the goals of parking enforcement is to ensure the ECU campus has adequate parking for students, faculty, staff as well as visitors. He said he is hopeful the student body

will be receptive to the LPR software.

ECU is one of the last schools in the University of North Carolina School System to implement LPR on campus, according to Puckett. He said the technology is very beneficial for everyone at ECU and now it is accessible to campus.

"Really the only change that students will be affected by is the lack of a physical decal on their windshield," Puckett said. "In turn, your license plate actually becomes your permit in the (parking enforcement) system."

Puckett said the specific goals of the LPR have been to save on operating costs, improve parking and collect data on changes P&T may need to make. He said P&T has installed LPR cameras on three department vehicles.

The vans which scan the plates will then patrol every lot across both the east and west campuses to collect data and alert Parking Officers if violations are detected, Puckett said. He said if any violations are detected, the violations

University begins SABRE program

Stephen Babich
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University athletics and the Miller School of Entrepreneurship launched the Student Athlete Brand Resource Education (SABRE) program on June 22, which will teach students how to maximize their potential after the National Collegiate Athletic Association approved the name, image and likeness (NIL) proposal.



Jon Gilbert

SABRE was created by members of the ECU Athletics administration including compliance, student-athlete development, marketing, media relations and Pirate Club staff. The NIL proposal, passed on June 30, now allows college athletes to get paid for their likeness.

According to ECUPirates.com, the purpose of SABRE is to inform students on financial literacy, personal branding, entrepreneurship, content management, social media strategies, media training, taxes and compliance. SABRE will have mentorship from former student athletes and professionals who can provide networking opportunities for students. Director of Athletics Jon Gilbert said he is excited for the program and its future.

"We are excited about the establishment of the SABRE program which is a comprehensive approach to how we can educate and provide the necessary resources to help our student-athletes maximize their brand," Gilbert said. "The partnership with the Miller School of Entrepreneurship gives us a unique opportunity for our student-athletes to increase their individual value on social media and understand the process of becoming their own business."

> SABRE page A6



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE

Greenville, North Carolina, community members and the band Brice Street at Sunday in the Park on Aug. 5, 2018.

Sunday in the Park to return

Michelle Mazzei
TEC STAFF

Yasmine Curmon-Ward
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN



Sunday in the Park, a free concert series that features jazz, rock, rhythm and blues music groups, hosted by the City of Greenville Recreation and Parks will make its return to the city's Town Common on Sunday and end Aug. 29 of this year.

City of Greenville Recreation and Parks Supervisor Ronnie Harris said Sunday in the Park started in 1973, which makes this year the 48th year for the concert series. He said the concerts were canceled last year due to COVID-19 so he is joyful that the Sunday in the Park series is being brought back in a safe way for Greenville, North Carolina, residents.

Harris said a lot of Greenville members enjoy the music, dance and have picnics on the lawn while they

listen to the concerts. He said this summer there will be diverse music groups that will perform such as The Monitors, William McBride group, The British Invaders, East Coast Rhythm and Blues, Spare Change, David Lee Jones and more. Food for the event will be provided by William Food Truck each Sunday.

"It's a Greenville tradition where you kinda end each week during the summer," Harris said. "It's been a trying time to get the series back up and running but with a lot of community support, hopefully we'll have a great turnout."

Harris said the concerts were planned before North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper's new outdoor safety guidelines and wanted to keep the crowds at a smaller capacity than how they were previously.

Greenville resident Roseline Blackwell said she's attended Sunday in the Park since the concert series

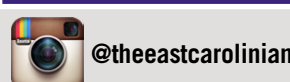
> SUNDAY page A3

ONLINE

»Check out our poll on the Christmas in July Market online

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

SOCIAL MEDIA



BRIEFS

SGA Open House to be hosted for students

Today, the East Carolina University Student Government Association (SGA) Shipmates will host an Open House for ECU members from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the SGA office in the Main Campus Student Center. Participants of the Open House will have the opportunity to tour the SGA office, meet university representatives, as well as get free gifts. The next Open House will be held on July 12.

'Body Blast Boot Camp' to begin

Today through Friday, East Carolina University Student Affairs, Campus Recreation and Wellness as well as the departments of Personal Training and Fitness will continue registration for "Body Blast Boot Camp Session 2" at noon at the Outdoor Pool Lawn of the Eakin Student Recreation Center. The program will start today and run through July 28. Participants will engage in various workouts throughout the sessions.

'Dishing Up Data Workshop' to give participants insight

Tomorrow, the East Carolina University Office for Faculty Excellence will host a "Dishing Up Data Workshop" from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. virtually. Those who participate in the event, will learn about the Institution Research department at ECU, how they have created reports and data useful for university grant proposals, and how the college departments at ECU plan for student's success. Once participants register on the ECU Events Calendar website, they will be able to receive information with the link to attend the seminar.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



Senior public health major Raymond Tunoa-Scanlan, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, works inside East Carolina University's Department of Student Engagement.

Greek Life rebrands department

Fraternity and Sorority Life comes to Student Engagement Office

Cayla Menges
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Fraternity and Sorority Life, the new name of the department previously known as Greek Life, and the Student Organization Center will share an integrated space within the Department of Student Engagement.

Director of Student Engagement John Mountz said in an email statement the decision to change the previous name Department of Greek Life to Fraternity and Sorority Life came after the department name was adopted by several universities in the University of North Carolina (UNC) School System. He said ECU was the last institution within the UNC system to use Greek Life as a name.

"Essentially, the industry standard recommended by our professional associations and national umbrella councils is to use 'fraternity and sorority' in place of Greek Life," Mountz said. "We felt it was past time to retire that name."



John Mountz

Mountz said the term Greek Life can be unknown to some, in particular first generation students and their families, but the term Fraternity and Sorority is recognized by most. He said although this is not an issue on ECU's campus, some fraternities and sororities do not use Greek letters as their official name, so the department wanted to create a term to apply for those who do not use Greek letters in their name.

The department of Greek Life had to be merged and transformed with another center on campus because of staff vacancies within

the department and budget setbacks due to the pandemic, Mountz said. The Department of Student Engagement is located in the Main Campus Student Center, located at Room 107. He said fraternity and sorority advising was combined with student organization support to create the new Department of Student Engagement.

"We did some shifting around so we took my team in Greek Life and we took some staff in Student Activities and Organizations and we combined them," Mountz said.

Mountz said with the change in departments he now serves as the director of Student Engagement, as he was the previous director of Greek Life. He said the integration of fraternity and sorority advising is not common for institutions as large as ECU.

Most universities the size of ECU have an individual offices for fraternities and sororities, Mountz said.

"We figured this was the best way to not only maintain the support and services for all groups but maybe find some unique ways to do some things better," Mountz said.

The department of Student Engagement has the responsibility to work with all student organizations on campus as well as fraternities and sororities, Mountz said. He said although the name has been changed, the advisors within Fraternity and Sorority Life will continue to work with the chapters on campus.

Senior marketing major Kel Amede, who is also a member of Sigma Pi Fraternity, said he believes the name change from Department of Greek Life to Fraternity and Sorority Life was a good decision as it gives a clear definition of what the organizations are. He said fraternities and sororities stand for brotherhood and sis-

terhood, which is what students will take part in when they join the organizations.



Kel Amede

terhood, which is what students will take part in when they join the organizations.

"That really gives the definition of what each organization is," Amede said. "That's what these people are when you join the organization. They are your brothers and your sisters and you're supposed to make connections and lifelong friends. That's why you join."

Amede said with the term Greek Life, individuals who may not have a personal background with the fraternity and sorority organizations could be confused about what is offered to those who join. He said he thinks many people have stereotypes of what they think fraternities and sororities are like based off of the name "Greek Life."

Fraternities and sororities on campus have changed for the better in recent years, Amede said, and the name change will reflect the transitions the organizations have gone through. He said the changes, which include an increased GPA for members and stricter guidelines for chapters, will bring people to the organizations for the purpose to grow and connect with others.

"It's really a close knit community so you know if you don't have any family members or family and friends who participated in Greek Life or have someone that participated sometimes their view of it is a little skewed," Amede said.

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

LICENSE continued from A1

will be handled more efficiently with the new system.

"LPR will help ECU streamline services to the campus community in a positive manner," Puckett said. "Our main goal for utilizing LPR is data collection and forecasting, everything else that accompanies the system in my opinion is a bonus."

The parking lots which will have the LPR software are all university lots on campus and off campus such as A, B, C and D Lots. Puckett said P&T will use vans equipped with LPR software to scan license plates in the lots to determine whether or not the space is validated.

For the students' first violation, P&T will issue warning tickets for people who violate the rule of backing into spots, Puckett said. He said after a certain grace period, P&T will begin issuing fine bearing citations to customers that continue to back in or pull through.

"P&T is exploring an option called E-ticket where customers will receive an email version of the citation along with a physical copy on their vehicles," Puckett said. "Really the two changes that LPR will bring is the elimination of a physical decal and the no backing in or pulling through without a university issued vanity plate or sticker."

Junior business major Sean Shields said while the new technology will make things easier for P&T, there could be complications with people who park on campus. He said problems with backing into spots and being falsely flagged for violations are definitely possible.

"I don't think much will change for students and staff who park on campus," Shields said. "The problem is enforcing the regulations with just a few vans. Even if the vans call campus police and other people to fix the violations."

Shields said he believed there is only so much P&T can do to prevent these violations but he is hopeful that students and staff will be



Sean Shields

able to park on campus without the need for physical permits. He said the LPR is a step in the right direction but may take some time.

Katelyn Usher, a junior elementary education major, said she has had to park at the Main Campus Student Center (MCSC) throughout her time at ECU. Usher said she has had to pay for parking the majority of the time while she has parked at the MCSC parking deck.

Usher said it would be beneficial to the ECU community, the P&T as a whole as well as the university to implement LPR as she can park and have ECU recognize that her vehicle is actually hers.

"There really are little to no places to park on campus, so I think the addition to the License Plate Recognition will be beneficial to the East Carolina community," Usher said. "Maybe now, we (the ECU community) can have more, additional, available parking due to the fact the university now has and knows our license plates."

Usher said as P&T will monitor the vehicles parked on campus throughout the fall 2021 semester, she feels safer knowing unknown individuals will have more limited places to park on campus. The P&T, she said, will know who has their license plate registered and who does not.

ECU continues to help benefit the university community, Usher said, and the LPR will further benefit ECU as a whole since students, faculty, staff and visitors will now have their license plates associated with their vehicle as well as within ECU and the P&T.

Usher said the department of P&T wished the LPR software could've been implemented earlier on enforcement vehicles, but is grateful the department is able to receive the new technology to use in the 2021-2022 academic year.

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Katelyn Usher

TEAM continued from A1

ECU community members, have met every week since April 14. She said she thinks the fall 2021 planning team as well as ECU is prepared and confident for the upcoming semester.

"I am honored to serve with so many talented and dedicated individuals. The meetings have been well-organized, productive, open, and inclusive," Zhou said. "Because we identified planning topics, priorities and reporting timelines at the very beginning, we have been able to make steady progress throughout the summer."

Zhou said the planning has been in constant review of Cooper's as well as the University of North Carolina System's COVID-19 orders alongside other university institutions across the state of North Carolina. She said the conclusions from the fall 2021 planning team are comprehensive for the ECU community in terms of the fall semester.

"As the pandemic is still evolving and new variants may cause disruptions, we will remain agile and nimble as we proceed. The Fall 2021 Plan will undoubtedly need adjustments as we carefully monitor important public health metrics," Zhou said.

The planning team, Zhou said, have implemented the COVID-19 matrix, which outlines the campus' adjustments and describes campus procedures with or without COVID-19 present.

Zhou said she is excited for the ECU community to return to a face-to-face format. She said she has no doubts for the fall and the term will be successful.

"In the fall, my team will continue to perform our duties in the areas of institutional research, assessment, academic planning, space planning and accreditation," Zhou said. "We will continue to leverage the technical skills and electronic processes we have developed during the pandemic to maximize efficiency."

Dean of the ECU Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Allison Danell, also a member of the fall 2021 planning team, said she looks forward to the upcoming fall 2021 semester. She said although she will not teach throughout the fall, she has started and will

continue to initiate a set schedule for all the ECU academic courses in the Thomas Harriot College.

Danell said she has taken the time alongside the professors in this college to make sure students, especially freshmen, are able to get a full education while also being able to remain safe as the COVID-19 pandemic nears its end.

"There are 16 departments in our college," Danell said. "We've talked to each department about the plan for employee flexibility and plans for returning to campus."

Danell said if an outbreak of COVID-19 clusters happens within the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences during the fall semester, the university can work with them to ensure all students are safe, but also still receive the proper education. She said she and the entirety of the department, as well as the university is prepared for whatever happens throughout the fall 2021 semester.

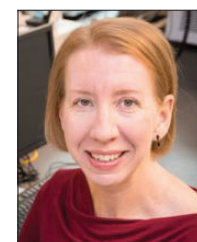
Danell said she and the department are able to deliver their face-to-face courses via an online format.

The fall 2021 planning team, Danell said, has been beneficial for the ECU community thus far and will continue to be throughout the fall semester. The meetings in which she participated in gave the university's administration time to carefully consider the COVID-19 pandemic and the regulations that will be needed in the fall to keep the ECU population safe.

"I'm really excited about our faculty being able to engage our students in person," Danell said. "There's so much they (faculty) have to offer. I think there will be a lot of excitement about our ability to get together in person."

Danell said she encourages all students as well as the ECU community to get their COVID-19 vaccines. She said in order to return to a face-to-face and "more normal" university, ECU should get vaccinated and continue to be mindful and precautionous throughout the fall.

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



Allison Danell

EVENTS

TODAY

Umbrella Market

Five Points Plaza
Evans Street
5 to 8 p.m.
252-561-8400

TOMORROW

Concert on The Common
Chairmen of the Board

Town Common
105 E. 1st St.
5 to 9 p.m.
252-329-4200

SATURDAY

Paddleboarding on the Tar

Town Common
100 E. 1st St.
10 a.m. to noon
252-215-0878

2021 Summer
Movies on the Lawn

East Carolina University
Main Campus Student Center
Lawn
501 E. 10th St.
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
252-328-6131

SUNDAY

Pride Drag Brunch

The Scullery
431 Evans St.
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
252-321-1550



Peter Ramirez, an employee of Pitt Street Brewing Company in Uptown Greenville, North Carolina, works to fill beers for customers from the company's tap.

Christmas in July Market to arrive

Local vendors to feature themed products at Pitt Street Brewing Company

Kyle Arnoe
TEC STAFF

Pitt Street Brewing Company's second annual Christmas in July Market, which will be held on Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. at 630 S. Pitt St., will feature eight Greenville, North Carolina, vendors who will supply various holiday-themed goods to the community.

Brianna Long, general manager of Pitt Street Brewing Company, said the second annual market comes after the success of the first Christmas in July Market, which was held on the same date in 2020.

Long said the holiday-themed market will feature eight vendors who will sell a range of goods in the back room of the brewery. Local vendors include metalsmithing and pottery by Aiteall Designs, jewelry from the Purely Clay Company, aromatherapy products from Classy Hippie, clothing from Black Crown Boutique and beauty products from Yellow Flow Boutique.

"We had a great response and turnout from our community at that first event, and

we wanted to continue supporting small, local businesses, throughout the year," Long said in the email statement. "The Christmas in July Market is a special holiday-themed, cheery event."

Gabrielle Freeman, a teaching assistant professor at East Carolina University, said she plans to sell small paintings, earrings and figures at the market.

Freeman was featured as an artist at Pitt Street Brewing Company in the past and said she looks forward to the chance to sell her work.

"I just hope everybody comes out, and everybody brings some money to buy from the artists, so they can keep making their art, you know, that's important," Freeman said. "We do have a nice, burgeoning art presence here in Greenville, so let's keep it here, you know, I encourage people to come out and check everybody out."

For the Christmas in July Market, Freeman said she plans to sell figurines inspired by Studio Ghibli films such as "Spirited Away," alongside tentacle earrings and a few tree ornaments to stay on theme.

"For the Christmas in July theme, I might bring some Christmas ornaments. I do all kinds

of different things," Freeman said.

William Brown of Southland Design, a vendor who will be at the Christmas in July Market, said his woodwork business emerged from a hobby he developed in quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic. Brown said the Christmas in July Market will be his and his wife's first market as a vendor, but the pair has been to Pitt Street's markets in the past as customers.

Brown said Southland Designs will sell an assortment of goods from woodcuttings to ornaments which follow the Christmas in July theme. Brown said he and his wife have yet to choose a direction for their business and will use the Christmas in July Market as an opportunity to test their ideas.

"There's always, whether it's the Pitt Street market, or any market around here, but you know, there's always unique things you aren't going to find anywhere else," Brown said. "That's why we love to go because you can see things that if you don't get it that day, you're not going to see anything like it again."

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

ENC Alliance, local artists encourage art in city

Michelle Mazzei
TEC STAFF

Chris Young
TEC STAFF



With the latest additions of the "A Great Day To Be Outside" mural and the Emerald Loop to the City of Greenville, North Carolina, the Eastern North Carolina (ENC) Alliance offers its insight on why artwork is essential for the local community and the area's economic growth.

President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greenville ENC Alliance Steve Weathers said community art in Greenville is beneficial to the East Carolina University community and the entirety of eastern North Carolina. "Placemaking" is what Weathers said he and the ENC Alliance calls the process of building up the community in an aesthetic way.

"Placemaking really is the economic development part of making your community, your area, a wonderful place to live, so in doing that, that has to do with nice roads," Weathers said. "It has to do with beautiful buildings, flowers, the community public art."

When the City of Greenville is attractive and appealing to the eye, Weathers said it will make more individuals want to move and work in the community, which further benefits companies such as the ENC Alliance.

"People don't think about art as an economic impact, but it financially has an impact, because you pay for those certain pieces of art that are in restaurants or in other businesses in the community," Weathers said.

Artwork in the Greenville community, as well as other cities and towns in the Eastern North Carolina region, does not get the attention it deserves, Weathers said. He said individuals don't realize public art does have an impact on every single person and business in the area.

Weathers said he looks forward to the addition of future murals and local community artwork done by artists in Greenville.

"It's not really our (ENC Alliance's) mission, but I'd love to see Holly Garriott (Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge Executive Director) and the others and get with partners like



Steve Weathers



The Emerald Loop, located at the Evans Street and Reade Circle intersection in Greenville, North Carolina, was completed on June 29.

us and say 'hey how do we really promote art,'" Weathers said. "To maybe have some kind of, I don't know, art gallery, like the Umbrella Market every Wednesday in the parking market. Maybe like an artist market where it's all artists. There are people who sell art and it's people that make art."

Emerge Gallery & Art Center Marketing Coordinator Sarah Lazure said when artists complete art projects and have them showcased, it is beneficial for the artists themselves, Greenville as well as ECU. She said artwork displayed throughout Greenville helps economic businesses in the area.

Lazure said the local community should support all Greenville artists' work and accomplishments. Artwork tells someone's story, she said, and it is important the work be recognized.

"Artwork from local artists is something personal to not just one person," Lazure said. "It can also, you know, strike a cord, strike with another person. It's really about connection and wanting to support local artists. It's a really great feeling for artists, overall, as well as community members."

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FULL STORY

Lazure said she would be happy to work with the ENC Alliance in order to expand the artwork in the community. The city having a showcase of art, she said, would be loved by Emerge employees as well as the community at-large.

Local Greenville artist Jordan Parah said she has always tried to leave her abstract sculptures such as "Eclipse" or "Red Hot" open to interpretation. She said she uses abstract ideas to bring the artwork to life.

Public art is accessible to everyone and it allows messages to be spread, Parah said. She said it is a way for anyone who isn't an artist to escape reality for a moment and embrace what is around their everyday lives.

"More people are being exposed to art in Greenville," Parah said. "The more you spend time with art, looking at it, the more you begin to appreciate (the art) and the message it's trying to get across."

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SUNDAY continued from A1

started when she was younger. She said she is happy that the concert series is back for the summer of 2021 and hopes Greenville community members will take the proper safety precautions, so everyone can enjoy the concert.

Blackwell said she believes Sunday in the Park is a great event for family and friends to enjoy time together and enjoy nice weather and hear good music. She said the concerts have improved throughout the years and she looks forward to the opportunity to go outside with family and friends to enjoy the concerts on the Town Common this summer.

"It's a family event I've taken my son and my friends out there (Sunday in the Park) with their kids and grandkids," Blackwell said. "It is definitely a fun event. They (Greenville Recs and Parks) should keep it going."

Another Greenville resident, Jonathan Owens said he has attended previous Sunday in the Park events at the

Town Common in Greenville for many years. He said he was discouraged when the Sunday in the Park events were canceled throughout the year of 2020 due to the pandemic, but is excited for the return.

Owens said he will attend the July 11 event where he will see the band "The Monitors." He said the best part of the Sunday of the Park events are the music as well as the bands who perform.

"The music is always so good and uplifting," Owens said. "Everyone who attends these events is always bouncing to the beat of the music. It's a really fun and joyful event that really gets everyone in the (Greenville) community together and connected."

Owens said he will more than likely attend each Sunday in the Park event with his family and friends until the conclusion on Aug. 29. He said he always used to go to the weekly concerts with his friends and family members before COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to many Greenville events, according to Owens. He said East Carolina University should come out to participate in Sunday in the Park as it is a great way to meet and connect with other students as well as residents from the City of Greenville. He said he is close with numerous ECU students who he will also attend the Sunday in the Park events with.

Owens said ECU students should not be hesitant to attend the Sunday in the Park series.

"All the people, the music, the food, just the togetherness just brings happiness to everyone involved," Owens said. "If you don't have anything to do on a Sunday or if you want to place to be and meet new people, Sunday in the Park is the place to be. I always leave the event feeling bubbly and warm inside, so I guarantee you will also feel that way."

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OUR VIEW

Co-op space provides useful opportunities

The City of Greenville's Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) has recently opened a Small Business Co-op space for business owners in the Greenville, North Carolina area, which provides space to rent to help small businesses grow.

Financial services manager for the City of Greenville Denisha Harris said the MWBE provides business owners the ability to rent out space and pay \$200 a month.

Harris said the Small Business Co-op space will help with special needs along with financial needs as well. MWBE will have loan amounts ranging from \$3,000 to \$25,000 and also provide help with payroll, bookkeeping and tax preparations. Harris also said that the MWBE will help push small business owners toward success with business counseling and mentorship support.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe this is a positive opportunity from the MWBE which will help both women and minorities open up businesses that need some support. This opportunity will be beneficial to people who are looking to start a new business or to current small business owners.

With the growing number of small businesses being introduced in the Greenville area, it's important for up-and-coming business owners to be provided a space to jump start their business surrounded by other supportive business owners. The co-op space will also be useful for East Carolina University graduates who have an interest in starting a business to utilize the space and be able to learn from longtime business owners about the ins and outs of the business industry.

We are glad to see more opportunities are being done in Uptown Greenville to help local business owners establish their careers and to also create a name for themselves locally.



Vaccine should be mandatory

COVID vaccination could prevent possible campus closure



Randall Martoccia
GUEST COLUMNIST

In a recent social-media post, East Carolina University College Republicans criticized ECU's decision to use various incentives to encourage students to get vaccinated. Doing so, according to its open letter, "effectively moved to separate students into two classes, those who are vaccinated and those who chose not to get a COVID-19 vaccine." These incentives are un-spectacular—football tickets, parking passes—so the complaint from the ECU Republicans seems pretty trivial, the outrage contrived. The stakes could be greater, and I wish they were. The University of North Carolina Board of Governors should mandate vaccinations for students, staff and faculty. The BOG will likely not do so, so ECU is stuck with these minor attempts.

"Let students make their own healthcare choices," ECU College Republicans posted on social media.

That the ECU College Republicans and other students express little fear of the virus is understandable. Students are typically in an age group that is less likely to have serious symptoms. This lack of concern is reflected in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 Data Tracker, which shows the 18-to 24-years-old age group's vaccination rate to be the lowest among adult age groups. This group's low rate is one reason the country did not reach President Joe Biden's goal of 70% vaccina-

ONLINE | FULL STORY



COURTESY OF MARISOL BENITEZ | UNSPLASH

Greenville, North Carolina, offers multiple locations where individuals can receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

tion by July 4.

Around 2,400 Americans aged 18-to 29-years-old have died from COVID-19, and no one can count on natural immunity. Also, students come into contact with housing and dining staff, faculty, advisors, coaches—some of whom might be more susceptible to COVID-19 and some of whom might not be able to receive the vaccine. Mandated vaccination is simply the best way to both protect the ECU community and remove any possibility of us repeating fall 2020's campus closure.

Requiring vaccinations is legal and not particularly controversial in most cases. Students are already required to prove immunization to polio, rubella, measles, mumps, tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. If any of these vaccinations ever evoked cries of "personal freedom," they certainly don't now.

In its statement, ECU College Republicans referred to the "non-FDA approved"

vaccine. The vaccines were fast-tracked in former President Donald Trump's Operation Warp Speed, and I get the distrust. I tend to distrust any program related to that chronically dishonest president. The report of myocarditis among young recipients of the vaccine has fed the vaccination fears, but these fears are overblown. This heart inflammation is usually treated with over-the-counter medicine, according to Atlantic's Katherine J. Woo. Also, the heart inflammation associated with the actual virus is much more severe than those cases related to a vaccine.

If the ECU community does not take the threat of the virus seriously, we risk the health of students, staff, and faculty. I urge ECU's College Republicans to resist following the lead of national party members by politicizing basic health promotions.

Martoccia is a English teaching instructor and a guest columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Cooking courses should be required



Cayla Menges
TEC COLUMNIST

While away at college, students at every university learn tools to be successful in their professional careers, but there are many valuable skill sets a college education doesn't require that students could benefit from.

Many students graduate without the knowledge of how to file their taxes, apply for loans and buy a house; all tasks of which most will complete throughout their life. One of the most basic skill sets college students should learn is how to cook. Most universities offer courses in nutrition, cooking and meal preparation for students enrolled in a specific major and offer a few of these courses as electives to other majors. Universities should implement a general education requirement for students to take two levels of a course designed to teach the fundamentals of cooking.

If implemented as a general education requirement, students would receive the opportunity to learn the basics of cooking, like food safety and nutrition, proper use of various kitchen equipment and how to read and create recipes. In high school, I was required to take two levels of a family and consumer science course, of which included a course on food and nutrition. Although a tremendous opportunity, I was too young to appreciate the value of the information I received from the food

" If implemented as a general education requirement, students would receive the opportunity to learn the basics of cooking, like food safety and nutrition, proper use of various kitchen tools and how to read and create recipes. "

-Cayla Menges

preparation course.

I lacked the basic understanding of how to make measurement conversions, properly store meats, create dishes with nutritional value and more. It wasn't until I lived off campus my sophomore year that I realized I would have to teach myself the skills I needed to be successful in the kitchen. I found myself scouring the internet almost daily for the answers to cooking questions.

As a college freshman living in a dorm, surviving off a meal plan from the university's dining hall, the thought of preparing a meal in the kitchen is nonexistent to most. But what happens when it's time to live off-campus in an apartment with a fully-equipped kitchen and no meal plan?

Those who know how to cook are in luck, but for others who have had no interest or never learned, could find themselves in a predicament. Sure, there's takeout but survival on a college budget could eliminate that option real quick.

Cooking can be an autonomous experience for college students who live on their own for the first time as they can begin

to explore the way around their kitchen and develop their own cooking style. A college student with no experience in the kitchen could be intimidated when they first start to create meals and would benefit from a chance to learn their way around the kitchen.

Food plays the most important role in our lives as it sustains us and provides the nutrients our bodies need to survive. A required cooking course can teach students about the role every food we eat plays into how we can maintain good health. Students can learn what ways every food benefits them and how they can prepare meals filled with nutrient-packed foods.

Universities should consider the integration of more life skills courses into their general education requirements, as some students may not be given the chance to explore skill sets such as cooking beyond what is required for their degree.

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

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Contact smaa@ecu.edu for more information.



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Study and write. Stand up for what's important. Begin by learning the facts. Articulate a persuasive case and share it far and wide.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — Profits tempt yet could seem elusive. Keep strengthening support structures. Current obstacles fade later. Prepare and polish marketing materials and presentations. Get ready.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Carve out some special alone time. Revive your spirit with a natural connection. Set aside doubts. Pursue personal passions and diversions. Nurture yourself.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Contemplate deep questions. Consider possibilities. Private inquiries lead to interesting opportunities. Listen to considerations. Choose freely. Make plans and preparations. Make a spiritual connection.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Collaborate to reinforce team structures. Listen to considerations and align on actions. Find a way around obstacles. Together, you have a wider view.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Handle professional responsibilities before going out to play. Resolve a breakdown or make corrections. Keep your stakeholders satisfied. And then you can cut loose.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Watch where you're going, to avoid a bad step. Monitor conditions carefully before beginning. Consider potential consequences. Study the situation and share your discoveries.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7 — Review the numbers with your partner. Adjust the budget to the circumstances. Get creative, to meet your goals. Find a way around a temporary challenge.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Collaboration can get through where individuals get stalled. Work with your partner to resolve a puzzle. Focus on practical priorities. Strengthen basics and foundations.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — Nurture your work, health and fitness around a challenge. Strengthen basic elements first. Build from there. Practice physical moves. Gentleness works better than force.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Love finds a way. Don't get distracted by doubts or fears. Reconnect with someone special over shared passions. Give in to fun and relaxation.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — You can resolve a domestic puzzle. Come up with a workable solution. Listening can impact more than speaking. Let someone know they've been heard.

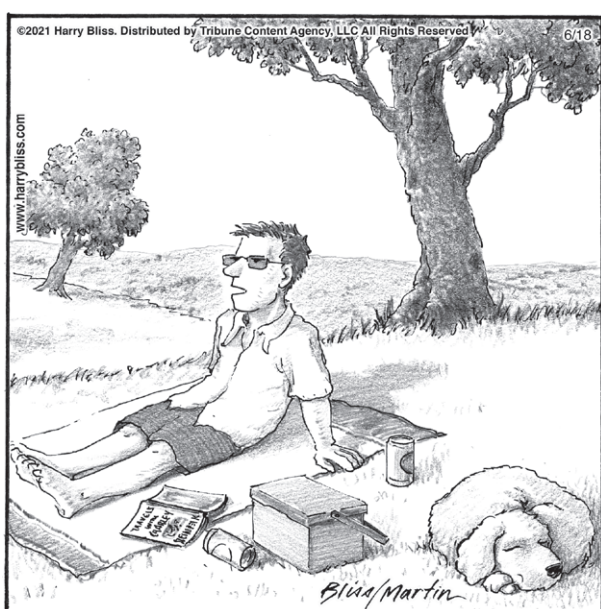
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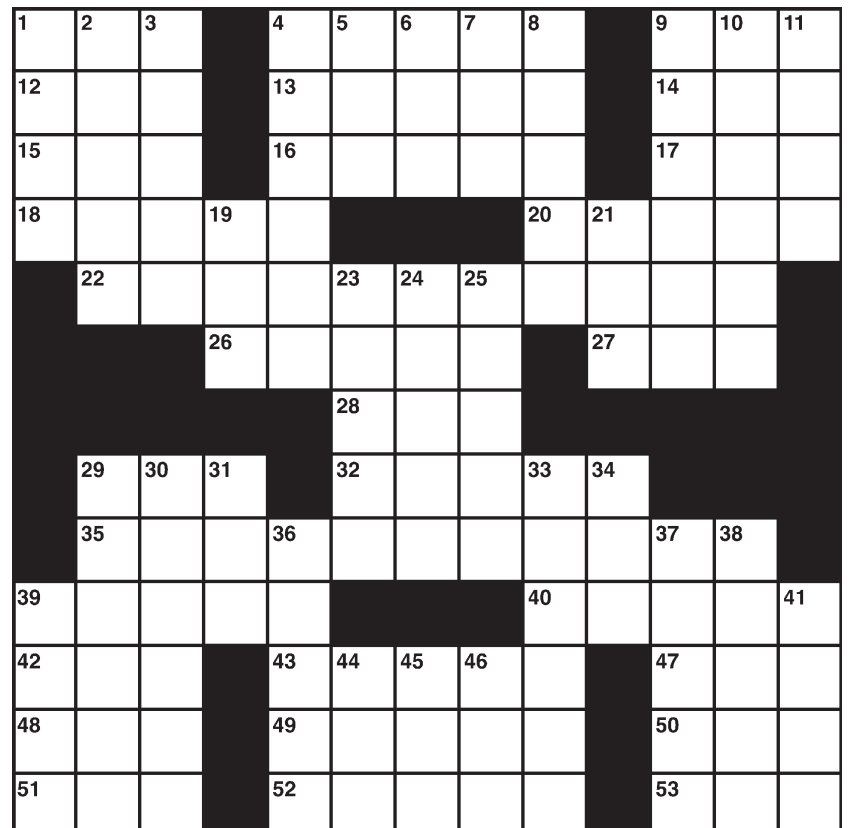


"It's days like this that make me long for days like this."

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 "The Bernie ___ Show"
- 4 Monty & Arsenio
- 9 "___ Man Answers"; Sandra Dee/Bobby Darin film
- 12 Hardwood tree
- 13 Former New York Governor ___ Spitzer
- 14 "For Me and My ___"; Judy Garland movie
- 15 Ms. Lupino
- 16 Synagogue leader
- 17 Writer Alcott's initials
- 18 Bart's mom
- 20 Sing like Bing
- 22 "Who Do ___ Are?"
- 26 "What Did ___ in the War, Daddy?"; 1966 film
- 27 Curvy letter
- 28 "___ Abner"
- 29 Defunct airline
- 32 Lily pad
- 35 "The Late Show ___ Colbert"
- 39 Drink served warm
- 40 Finch or Falk
- 42 Furniture wood

DOWN

- 1 Injure
- 2 As clear ___; obvious
- 3 "Cuchi-cuchi" flamenco guitarist
- 4 "From ___ Eternity"; Sinatra film
- 5 Montgomery's state: abbr.
- 6 Ad-___; speak off-the-cuff
- 7 Bowl clumsily
- 8 ___ out; jut
- 9 Dome-shaped homes
- 10 "Lifestyles of the Rich and ___"
- 11 Ladd or Alda
- 19 "Family ___"; animated series
- 21 Deli loaf
- 23 Ship frameworks
- 24 Nitwit
- 25 Actor Nick
- 29 "___ a Half Men"
- 30 The ___ Witch of the West; film villain
- 31 "___ Z"; short-lived Ben Feldman series
- 33 "The Back-___"; Jennifer Lopez film
- 34 "Murder, ___ Wrote"
- 36 Actress Berry
- 37 Singer James & others
- 38 Boldness; chutzpah
- 39 Unlike Wellesley & Morehouse
- 41 Tatum's dad
- 44 Battery size
- 45 "Every Which Way ___ Loose"; Eastwood film
- 46 Prior to

Solution from 06/30



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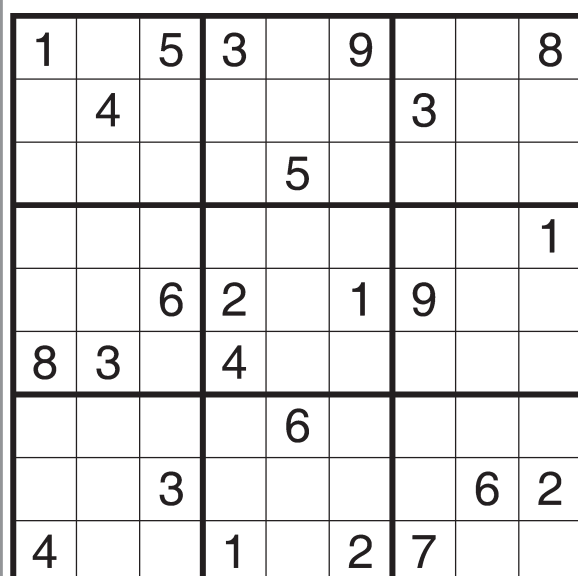
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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level

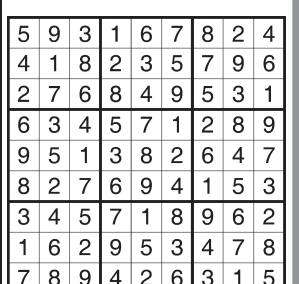
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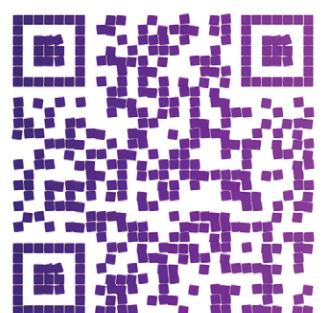
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Solution from 06/30



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COURTESY OF ROB GOLDBERG | ECU PIRATES

East Carolina Director of Athletics Jon Gilbert addresses the audience during a press conference. Gilbert released the update on June 30 and covered several areas in the athletics program.

Gilbert provides update on ECU sports

Director of Athletics looks forward to the upcoming 2021-2022 seasons

Markayla McInnis
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University Director of Athletics Jon Gilbert posted an update on June 30 on the current state of athletics at ECU in which he discussed topics from the previous spring season and future seasons to come.

Gilbert posted a detailed update on ECU Pirates to recap how last season's spring sports ended, reflect on awards ECU athletics has achieved recently, recall the addition of new staff members and much more.



Jon Gilbert

His intentions were to inform the community about the current state of athletics and events to come in the near future. Gilbert said he is "optimistic" about the upcoming fall and spring seasons.

One of the themes of the update was to thank and congratulate some of the staff involved in the athletic department. For one, Administrative Support Specialist Gloria Gorham will retire this season after her 18 years of service in the business office.

Another thank you was to all the coaches

who have continued to work hard during COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic, the athletic budget was cut and staff members were affected. The athletic department expected to have a \$20 million deficit, but with strategic expense reductions, the deficit was much smaller. Gilbert said he is grateful to the staff for their continued work.

"I hold our staff in the highest regard and appreciate all they have done to offset our financial losses," Gilbert said in his update. "Our department is beginning to feel normal again and that's a great sign as we head into the fall."

Also, two new head coaches joined Pirate Nation this offseason. Shane Winkler will join the Pirates from George Washington University and take over the softball team. Kevin Williams will also return to the Pirates as the head coach for the men's golf team. Williams will make his return to Greenville for his fourth coaching season. He helped to start the women's golf program in 2000, was head coach of the men's golf team from 1995 to 2005 and came back to the women's team from 2006 to 2019. Williams also graduated from ECU in 1985 after his seasons as a Pirate golf player.

As the fall approaches, the athletic department

expects events to be back to normal which will, in turn, help out budget-wise. ECU has already sold over 11,400 tickets for the football season, but Gilbert expects more to bring the full Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium experience back. This 2021-22 season is expected to be back in full effect with no capacity restrictions.

To get ready for the football season, Gilbert added that the Williams-Clark Club has also added new furniture for the area. The club member area should be available for members at the season opener. Two more events that will help to kick off the football season are the "Meet the Pirates" event on Aug. 21 at the stadium and a luncheon on Aug. 23.

These events are put together so fans can meet players and coaches and hear more about the upcoming season. More information on these two events and different tailgates will be posted as the date gets closer.

As spring sports recently ended, multiple Pirate players set school records, made it to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships and continued their journey to further their success.

Senior women's golf player Kathryn Carson qualified for the 2021 Women's Amateur in New York that will take place from Aug. 2 to

Aug. 8. Junior pole vaulter Sommer Knight earned All-American honors after her third-place finish in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship in Oregon where she attained a school record of a 4.35 meters. Senior hammer thrower Ryan Davis also competed in the NCAA Championship and made it to the USA Olympic Trials.

One team that took the purple and gold far this past season was the Pirate baseball team. The team ended with a 44-17 record. After Clark-LeClair was a host site for the baseball Greenville Regionals and the Pirates advanced, the team then went to the Super Regionals where it was taken out by Vanderbilt University in game two.



Cliff Godwin

As seasons begin Gilbert said he wants us to continue to work together and keep the university special.

"Have a great summer, Go Pirates!" Gilbert said in his update.

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

CRW offers summer activities, plans future events

Markayla McInnis
TEC STAFF

With some students still on campus, the East Carolina University Eakin Student Recreation Center (ESRC) has remained open with limited services so students can still partake in physical activities.

The Campus Recreation and Wellness (CRW) Assistant Director of communications and promotions Jenny Gregory, gave insight into what life is currently like on campus during the summer and what Pirates can expect from the center in months to come.



Jenny Gregory

The ESRC has the ability to keep students active by offering sports and trips. The center has outdoor adventures, group classes, club sports and anything a student may want to do while on campus. The mission for the CRW is to engage the Pirate Community in diverse recreations and wellness experiences by providing exceptional facilities, programs and services.

Since it is the summertime and many students are not in Greenville, North Carolina, the center does not have any "structured planned" activities on the calendar but the center is open for students to visit in their own time. When at the ESRC, face masks are still required per the university rules, but as COVID-19 protocols are lessening the center hopes to be back in full effect by the fall semester, according to Gregory. As time goes on, the center will bring back more activities to return to normalcy.

"There's not enough students around for us to do structured things, we just weren't getting enough participation," Gregory said. "But we just started letting five on five basketball happen again and we are offering group fitness classes on a limited basis."

Gregory said along with the return of different organized sports and limited classes, all of the outdoor spaces at the ESRC are open. These outdoor spaces are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The North Recreation Complex, located on Highway 264 East, is one of the open spaces from CRW, which is an ECU activity site about

10 minutes outside of campus. This center has been promoted throughout the pandemic as most of the activities are outside and students are still able to socially distance. The center is a site for activities such as lacrosse and boating in the six acres of water there.

The ECU transit system does have bus services to this complex which is open to students Friday through Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m.

"We are trying to push our North Rec complex also known as the boathouse," Gregory said. "We are offering students to go out there at their leisure."

As students begin to return for the fall semester, ECU Esports and Gaming Club will make its return as well as the intramural sports and club sports. The club sport coaches will soon look to begin recruiting again so they can be back in full effect for the next season.

Along with the return of club sports, on June 30, the ECU Club Sports program was awarded the 2021 Charlotte Hornets "For the Love of the Game" award. This award states that ECU has created a rule that allows students to play on a team with the gender they

identify with. Students will be able to play on the sports team of their choice no matter if they are in their transition from one gender to another or if they have already transitioned.

One event that the CRW is currently planning is "Raid the Rec." This has become an annual event at ECU and it is where students can come out and take part in activities, learn about local businesses in Greenville, win free items, eat and have a good time, according to Gregory. It will take place on Aug. 20, the first week of the fall 2021 semester, with more details to be released as the event approaches.

Gregory stated that she wanted to make sure that sophomores made it a point to come to this event, as it will be their first normal semester at ECU after COVID-19. All Pirates are invited to the event as it is a "welcome back" to all students.

"We're excited to be having that welcome to and welcome back for our students," Gregory said.

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

Watch for the Teco Echo newsletter coming this summer!

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TECO ECHO

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SABRE continued from A1

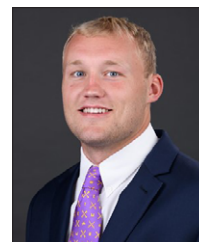
Director of the Miller School of Entrepreneurship Michael Harris said that the program will help student athletes in any entrepreneurial opportunities they may face.

"The Miller School of Entrepreneurship is the entrepreneurial hub for students across our campus, and we are excited to work closely with the Department of Athletics to help students learn more about the entrepreneurial process," Harris said, according to ECU Pirates.com.

TowneBank will provide money management resources for students during in-person sessions, as part of the SABRE program, according to ECU Pirates.com. TowneBank also gave ECU a gift which allowed them to have the naming rights to the Southside Renovation Project at Dowdy Ficklen stadium.

In 2019, the renovation was added to Dowdy Ficklen Stadium which had the intention of enhancement for overall fan experience. The job cost \$60 million and gave the facility a few more additions.

According to ECU Pirates.com, senior quarterback Holton Ahlers said that he is excited about the SABRE program and the fact that the NCAA leaned toward allowing student athletes to be paid based on their likeness.



Holton Ahlers

"This is exciting for all student-athletes across the country," Ahlers said. "Our administration is going to put us in the best possible position for success with the SABRE program and give us the resources to enhance our personal brand. As a native of this (Greenville) community, I understand what being a Pirate means and the passion our fans have for the Purple and Gold. The NIL legislation will help all student-athletes now benefit from their personal brand and prepare for the next step in their journey with an education from a group of experts in their field."

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

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