

# ECU TO KICK OFF THEIR HOME OPENER AGAINST MARSHALL

# The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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ABBY BREANNAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Staff of Supdogs pose outside of the establishment, a popular restaurant and hang out spot for the Greenville community and students to enjoy local dining, drinks, entertainment and overall fun.

## Annual Freeboot Friday series returns to Greenville

**Kristin Outland**  
TEC STAFF

Freeboot Friday, an annual family friendly event for Pirates and the Greenville community, will return on Sept. 8, with the first event of the series will be held at Five Points Plaza in Uptown Greenville from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Executive Director for Downtown Greenville, Kyle Parker, said Freeboot Friday is a small “pep rally” event to celebrate East Carolina University football season. This year’s event will mark the 23rd year of the annual series, he said.

“We’ve hosted them (Freeboot Friday Series), this will be the 23rd year we’ve hosted them, so we’ve been doing them since 2000,” Parker said. “But we bring everybody together at the Five Points Parking Lot in Downtown Greenville the night before home ECU football games.”

Parker said there will be live music, games, vendors and a beer garden at the event to stir up excitement among the crowd for the upcoming game. The Vegabonds will be performing this week, he said, and Sean Kingston is set to perform for the Homecoming Freeboot. Additionally, cover bands will also perform at the event series, he said.

The event will have a variety of vendors and sponsorship tents, Parker said, including University Book Exchange, Carolina Eagle and Pirate Radio. In addition, he said the staff is working to get larger musical artists to perform for the events to further excite individuals.

“We’ll just continue to start working and going forward to

just continue to make sure that the quality of entertainment will continue to grow,” Parker said. “So the excitement of the event grows with it.”

Director of Events of Downtown Greenville, Logan Bjornson, wrote in an email statement that students and community members can look forward to free activities for families such as bounce houses and face paintings.

Event attendees can also look forward to free live music events from various artists throughout the series, Bjornson wrote. Overall, she wrote the event will be exciting for younger audiences and adults as well.

“For individuals who have never attended before, I would describe the event as a pep rally for ECU football,” Bjornson wrote. “Filled with free activities, live music and refreshing beer and wine for those 21+.”

The event series this year will have four scheduled dates, on Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 20 and Nov. 3. Bjornson wrote, which will include a wide range of different food and dessert options for each event. She wrote there will be several new vendors as well, which Downtown Greenville is thrilled to bring to the event for community enjoyment.

Compared to past events, attendees can expect several differences in this year’s Freeboot Friday, Bjornson wrote. She wrote there was a large amount of effort into placing musical artists and partnerships with the community and in preparing event space.

“We also partnered with Jarvis Memorial United Methodist

Church to activate their lawn that is parallel to the Five Points parking lot,” Bjornson wrote. “The Jarvis lawn will be used as a family zone, hosting children’s bouncy tents and an area where the community can bring their lawn chairs and picnic baskets to enjoy the festivities!”

Meaghan Skelly, senior communication major, said she has never attended any of the Freeboot Friday events in the past, but plans on going to some of this year’s events.

According to what she has heard, Skelly said the event has always been described as a “fun” time. This year’s event will feature performances from some well known artists, she said.

“We have some big names coming from what I’ve heard, Sean Kingston is one of them,” Skelly said. “He’s coming the weekend of homecoming.”

Skelly said some of her friends who recently graduated used to attend the event series frequently in the past. They enjoyed the event each time and it looked cool, Skelly said.

The event can be a great opportunity for freshman students, she said, to explore events and similar events occurring in the community.

“I think it’s a big thing to get out off of campus and get into Uptown Greenville to see what they have,” Skelly said. “Because there’s a lot to offer that not necessarily a lot of people know about.”

This writer can be contacted at [news@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:news@theeastcarolinian.com).



COURTESY OF UPTOWN GREENVILLE

A crowd of East Carolina University students, Greenville residents, Greenville visitors and their families with their arms in the air for the Freeboot Friday event in 2021 in Greenville, North Carolina.

### ONLINE

» Travis Kelce injured while practicing

» Check out our website for stories, photo galleries and more.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

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**BRIEFS**

**Bike repair clinics to be held at MCSC**

Starting Sept. 12, a free bike repair clinic will be operating behind the Main Campus Student Center every Tuesday from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. of the 2023 Fall Semester.

**CRW to host ziplining event at NRC**

Campus Recreation & Wellness (CRW) will be hosting Zip Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 7. At the ECU North Recreational Complex, students are provided gear and training for an afternoon of ziplining. Registration is optional.

**On-campus pool party on Sept. 7**

At the Eakin Student Recreation Center outdoor pool, CRW will host Pool Side Vibes on Sept. 7. The event will include food and games, and music will be played by DJ High Demand. 1Cards are required for entry.

**National Recovery Month event to be held at MCSC**

At the Main Campus Student Center Blackbox Theater, the documentary "The Anonymous People" will be screened. On Sept. 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., students can experience the film which focuses on substance abuse and addiction in America.

**Employer in the Foyer to be held in Bate**

The Cunanan Center for Professional Success will be hosting local employers in the ground floor of the Bate building in ECU Main Campus. Each Wednesday morning beginning Sept. 6, students can learn about Greenville job opportunities directly from employers.

**CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS**

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



Sophomore biology major Michael Martin and sophomore biology major Caroline McCarthy hanging out on two beanbag chairs in Joyner Library.

**ECU Joyner Library's summer glow up**

**Kim Kassner**  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Joyner Library was freshened up with new furniture, technology equipment and special study rooms over the summer.

Assistant Director for Academic Library Services Mark Sanders said major upgrades for the Joyner Library on the university's main campus include new furnishings.

"The big thing we reconfigured is a lot of the furniture in the library," Sanders said. "To change them from what we had before. It had been five years since we had bought new furniture and put it out. We've kind of tried to solve what areas worked and what could maybe be done better."

Throughout the three floors, new furniture arrangements were installed, Sanders said. To give students more space to work at, he said, a number of workstation computers were reduced.

Sanders said to determine how many workstations were needed, data was taken from the library of when and how often computers were used. Since many students have access to their own laptops nowadays, he said, a lot of desktop computers are not as popular anymore.

"We had almost more than 200 of them (desktop workstations)," Sanders said. "And the data just showed that most weren't even being used daily. Based on that data we sort of decided that most of those stations had to go. There is also the fact that the computers had aged out. The decision to reduce some of the desktop workstations and add just individual seating was easy from there on."

Even though computer stations were reduced, new iMacs are now installed on the ground floor for students, faculty and staff to use. Those who don't have their own laptop, however, can still check out an Apple MacBook with their ECU 1Card at the vending machines in the front part of the library, he said.

Sanders said new furnishings include lower glass top tables and chairs near Starbucks, new bar stools next to the information desk, study cubes and additional seating areas on all floors.

"We made the furniture a little different in each area, so that it works better in a different location," Sanders said. "We did also open up the alternative group study rooms. We call them 'alternative' because they're a little different from traditional study

rooms. They don't have a table or task chairs. It's all been bean bagged in space with soft lighting. The rooms are painted with different colors as well. The rooms also have some fidgets and other things in there. It's really cool."

The people working on creating the alternative study rooms got their ideas from different atmospheres and environments one can study in, Sanders said. A total of six rooms were opened during the summer.



**Mark Sanders**

On top of that, he said, a family friendly study room was established as well. This room is dedicated for students, faculty or staff who are caregivers or have their own children. "With children, you may feel like you can't come into the library," Sanders said. "Well, now parents and caregivers can decide if they want to have their children come into the library with them. In that study space, kids can be entertained and occupied while the parent or caregiver studies or their assignments are done."

The family study room can be used by parents and caregivers however they want, Sanders said, although it is not a daycare or an outdoor playground. Parents and caregivers should keep in mind they are still in a library and should act accordingly.

Both new study rooms are located on the second floor of Joyner Library, he said. Reservations can be made beforehand on the library's website but are not always necessary depending on demand.

"Some new upgrades will continue to be made by fall, within the next six weeks," Sanders said. This includes 250 new office chairs for the first floor. We'll be switching out the old ones."

Head of Library Technology Christopher Hodges wrote in an email statement all furniture or technology replaced will be redeployed to other areas on campus where older computers or furnishings can still be used.

After every department has had their chance to claim pieces, Hodges wrote, the remaining items will be sent to the ECU Surplus warehouse.

"Some computers or furnishings are sold at auction, while others I believe are sent to other state agencies, or K-12 schools," Hodges wrote. "Any can be claimed by other

departments on campus before they are sent away, but they do so knowing that what they are receiving will be out of warranty and receive limited support when it comes to any hardware issues."

Hodges wrote there is not a specific person who notifies the departments of available items since most are aware of the process.

However, Hodges said there is typically a reminder sent out through an annual listserv announcement from the Joyner Library and the other departments of the university.

"As a matter of fact, most departments actually send out an email to campus departments offering up furniture and supplies before going through the Surplus process to increase efficiency," Hodges said. "It also reduces the burden on Materials Management."

The public may claim the remaining items during the Surplus Property Department's monthly sale, he wrote. More information can be found on their website.

Millane Smith, sophomore communication major, said she has enjoyed using the new features in the Joyner Library.

"I really like the alternative study room, as I can just chill on the bean bags while doing homework," Smith said. "It kind of feels like home where you can be really comfortable instead of having to sit on a stiff chair."

Apart from the alternative study room, she said, she hasn't taken advantage of the other updated places in the library. However, Smith said she wants to check out the study cubes.

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



Junior speech and hearing science double major in psychology Eli Guevara studying.

**Do the WRITE THING**

**Join Pirate Media 1's Print Division!**

Rolling tryouts for reporters are held in the Pirate Media 1 newsroom on the ground floor of Mendenhall. Bring a pen/pencil and a bluebook. One hour is allotted for tryouts.

**No experience needed! All majors welcome.**

**LAST CALL**  
**Sept. 7**

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. OR 2-4 p.m.

For more information, contact Cherie Speller at spellerch16@ecu.edu.

Freshmen may apply. Sophomores and Juniors must have a 2.25 GPA or higher to apply.



**Sustainability clubs promote environment on campus**

**Haley Williams**  
FOR THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As the 2023-2024 school year begins at East Carolina University, sustainability clubs on campus have begun to put on events for students to get involved with.

ReLeaf President Alexia Vachhani said across campus there are student-led sustainability clubs that have events for ECU students to be a part of. These events include trash clean ups, help in the Greenville Community Garden, Vachhani said, as well as other interactive events to get students to promote sustainability.

Vachhani said that these organizations are important because they share helpful information students are not likely to know prior to hearing it from these clubs.

"People know what to do to reduce their footprint," Vachhani said. "They can figure out what they are able to reuse, or switch to something that is reusable."

Reducing one's footprint is something that everyone can do to make a step towards a cleaner earth and a cleaner campus, Vachhani said. Some small steps ECU students can do to help improve their campus and earth on a daily basis, she said, are to be aware of the things that they are throwing away.

ECO-Pirates club President Owen Bergquist said a big part of the sustainability clubs on campus is the responsibility to keep Greenville clean and preserve the environment around it.

"ECO-Pirates serves as the hub for general sustainability initiatives on campus, and we are ECU's Sustainability and Environmental Health Club," Bergquist said. "We promote sustainability and environmental health."



**Dhvani Hada**

**ONLINE | FULL STORY**

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

## OUR VIEW

### Hurricane preparedness awareness

As the peak of hurricane season has approached, students within the community have begun to prepare for hurricane season. It is expected this season will be stronger.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe it is essential for all individuals to prioritize their safety and to create a plan for hurricane preparedness. It's important to have needed resources on hand and to have a plan of preparation in case of an emergency.

We extend our condolences to those impacted by Hurricane Idalia and others impacted.

The following tips below are a few things to keep in mind when developing an emergency plan.

- Have at least two weeks of emergency supply of non-perishable food, water and medicine prepared
- Prepare a plan of evacuation in advance and assure you have a reliable transportation source
- Store flashlights, candles and other sources of lights and make sure they are charged in preparation of a potential power outage
- Portable chargers, extra batteries and radios are recommended to prolong uses of cellular devices and other technology
- Be aware of flooding hazards, which can impact travel or ability to have access to needed resources or materials
- Set aside cash and store important documents in a safe place to avoid flood damages



Javier Limon, SGA President, and Matthew Blount, SGA Vice President, pose for a photo at East Carolina University's Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

## We are Here for the Students.



Javier Limon  
GUEST COLUMNIST

For as many times as I've met students excited about the Student Government Association (SGA) and what we can accomplish, I've met students who don't know who we are or don't believe we get anything done. Look, I get it. In my freshman year, I refused to even consider joining SGA and only voted in the election because my friends were on the ballot. And as far as the other candidates...well, I voted for who had the coolest name. A little embarrassing coming from the current Student Body President I know, but I truly believed SGA was more of a symbolic figurehead that couldn't get anything done without the administration's approval. How wrong I was.

There are a couple of key areas that make SGA successful – financial support of students, influential support for students and impactful change for our campus. SGA has a sizable annual operating budget with the primary purpose of giving back

to the students. Many of the student organizations on campus will come to us to receive funding for travel, supplies, events and more. During my first few months in office, SGA designated some of this money to purchase drink spiking testing kits, menstrual products, new library supplies and more. Additionally, back in May when the Treybrooke student living complex caught fire, my team was able to quickly act and allocate over \$12,000 to replace items students lost in the fire. SGA also provides financial support for major campus events such as Homecoming and Barefoot on the Mall. We are always working hard to make sure that your student fee dollars are working to create a memorable, safe and exciting campus experience!

SGA also has a considerable amount of influence on university leadership. In fact, the SGA is an active voting member of the ECU Board of Trustees and I meet with Chancellor Philip Rogers and Vice Chancellor Brandon Frye on a regular basis. For my high school SGA people, you all hear the word “no” from administrators when trying to accomplish an initiative for the betterment of the student body. And

while we don't always get a yes, I have found that our university leadership truly wants to work with us and I can see how much they care about the success and well-being of our students. For example, we launched our Swipe Out Hunger program where students can donate guest meals for other students facing food insecurity. In spring 2023 we were able to implement to-go meal options for students observing Ramadan since the dining halls weren't open before their fasts started (shoutout Campus Dining). For my fellow COVID-19 era students, the pass/fail option was another policy that SGA advocated in favor of and these are just some examples of the fantastic work that your representatives do each year.

We are always here for you, but we need your voice to be heard too! Consider joining SGA or just sharing your thoughts and experiences and how we can support students better. I invite all of you to stop by my office in the Student Center or send me an email at SGAPresident@ecu.edu.

Welcome back, Pirates!

Javier Limon is the president of Student Government Association. To contact the editor, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

## PIRATE RANTS

The East Carolinian does not endorse the statements made in Pirate Rants.

Why am I sitting at a standstill in the parking garage for over ten minutes? And that's just the standstill. Not accounting for the total time it will take me to get out of the garage. Who is holding up the line for ten plus minutes at a time?

Why did the amount of money we get for meal plans stay the same if the cost for items has gone way up? Specifically for bucks... shouldn't we have more bucks?

I'm so excited for game days. It's gonna be a great year, I can feel it!

I stood in the Starbucks line for 15 minutes just for them to say the card machine was broken.. I go to Joyner and the same thing happened there while I was in line, and they wouldn't accept credit cards. It was so frustrating! Good thing I had a gift card to use..

The weather is just too hot to walk to classes in. By the time I'm finished with classes for the day, I'm covered in sweat. It seriously sucks.

The distance to walk from the apartment bus drop off on campus is too far away from the gym. It's aggravating to walk ten minutes there and back, especially in the heat and the winter months.

Sad we didn't beat Michigan, but I'm remaining hopeful for the upcoming games!

Questions regarding Pirate Rants can be directed to Kiarra Crayton at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

Submit your Pirate Rants on our website under the opinion tab or scan the QR code.



## Politicians need an age limit



Nick Bailey  
TEC STAFF

A politicians position is more important than ever in todays complex and swiftly changing environment. They are entrusted with making judgments that affect millions of people's lives. While experience and wisdom are vital qualities for a political leader, I feel that politicians should be limited in their age.

The need to revitalize our political scene is one of the key reasons for age limitations in politics. Without age limits, politicians can serve for decades, holding on to power that can lead to entrenched leadership. Long-serving politicians may become averse to change or detached from the concerns of younger generations, which may hinder innovation and growth.

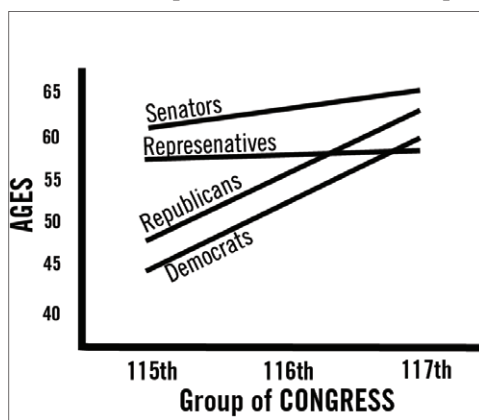
Age limits would ensure a healthy turnover of leaders, allowing for the emergence of new voices and viewpoints. This, in turn, would energize our political system and provide possibilities for new ideas to take center stage.

Innovation is crucial in addressing the ever-evolving challenges we face in our

society. While experience is undoubtedly valuable, it can sometimes lead to complacency or a reluctance to embrace new solutions. Age limits can help break the mold by introducing younger, more innovative politicians into the mix.

Younger leaders are more aware of new challenges like climate change, technology, and social justice. They are frequently more open to new concepts and willing to take chances in order to find solutions. We may tap into their originality and passion by promoting their participation in politics through age limits, producing a more unique and forward-thinking government.

The concept of entrenched leadership,



JUSTIN BELTRAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN  
Congress age continues to get older not younger.

in which politicians remain in power for extended periods of time, may weaken the principles of democracy. Politicians who have been in office for a long time may become less accountable to their voters. Age restrictions protect against this by prohibiting someone from controlling authority for an extended period of time.

Some believe that age restrictions ignore the importance of experience in politics. However, striking a balance between experience and new viewpoints is critical. Age limits do not have to be absolute; they can be tailored to allow politicians to serve a set number of terms before reaching retirement age.

This strategy ensures that experienced leaders can contribute while keeping them from becoming entrenched in power. It also allows younger leaders to learn from their predecessors while pushing new ideas into politics.

In the end, it is not about undervaluing experience, but rather about balancing it with new viewpoints, encouraging innovation and avoiding entrenched leadership.

Nick Bailey is a sophomore in communication. To contact the editor, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

## OUR STAFF

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

As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 500 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

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## EVENTS

### TODAY

#### Secrets of Digital Storytelling

Pitt Community College  
1986 Pitt Tech Rd.,  
Winterville, NC 28590  
6 to 8 p.m.  
(252) 493 - 7317

#### Fashion on Display Greenville Museum of Art

802 S. Evans St.,  
Greenville, NC  
5:30 to 8 p.m.  
(252) 758 - 1946

#### Trivia

5th St. Hardware  
Restaurant and Taproom  
120 W 5th St.,  
Greenville, NC 27858  
7 to 9 p.m.  
(252) 364 - 8921

### TOMORROW

#### Harvey Dalton Arnold Band

AJ McMurphy's  
1914 Turnbury Dr.,  
Greenville, NC 27858  
8 to 11 p.m.  
(252) 355 - 7956

#### TrapxCanvas

303 Greenville Blvd,  
Greenville, NC 27858  
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

#### Music and Movies in the Park

Winterville Recreation  
Park Amphitheater  
332 Sylvania St.,  
Winterville, NC 27858  
8 to 9 p.m.  
(252) 756 - 1487

### SATURDAY

#### The Connells

The State Theatre  
110 W 5th St.,  
Greenville, NC 27858  
8 to 11 p.m.

## Top anticipated movies of 2023



Eli Baine  
TEC STAFF

### Wonka - Dec. 15

This flick is an upcoming prequel to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory directed by Paul King. The iconic role of Willy Wonka has been given to Timothée Chalamet. The plot depicts how Wonka established his chocolate empire in his early years. The film will be in theaters this holiday season on Dec. 15 this year.

### The Eras Tour - Oct. 13

Pop star Taylor Swift's immensely popular world tour titled "The Eras Tour" has been edited into a feature-length movie to be shown in theaters starting Oct. 13. The movie is a great opportunity for Swifties who may not have been able to see the tour live. The Taylor concert series itself is expected to stretch into late 2024.



### The Nun II - Sept. 8

This horror sequel is releasing in theaters this weekend on Sept. 7. Bring your friends for a scare in this Michael Chaves period piece about a demonic nun out to terrorize 1950s France. Bonnie Aarons plays the role of the titular nun.

## Top released movies of 2023



### Barbie

Based on the iconic toy brand, Barbie is a remarkably successful live-action satirical comedy about the struggles of women in the modern day and the follies of patriarchy. This movie made Greta Gerwig the most successful female director of all time. At this time, it is still in theaters.

### Oppenheimer

This historical epic centers around the life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the inventor of the atomic bomb. Christopher Nolan crafted a thought-provoking experience that sparked conversation about the morality of America's use of the bombs in World War II. Due to its great success, Oppenheimer is also still showing in theaters.



### Blue beetle

This superhero movie was released earlier in August and received mostly good reviews. The main character Jaime Reyes, played by young actor Xolo Maridueña, discovers an ancient technological weapon called the Scarab which gave him superpowers and a high-powered energy suit. The movie was seen as a win for Hispanic representation in Hollywood comic book movies.

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

## Chick-fil-A reveals two new menu items for fall

Nancy Clanton  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Pumpkin spice season may be just around the corner, but Chick-fil-A thinks there are better ways to celebrate the fall.

The fast food restaurant is adding two new seasonal menu items starting Aug. 28, and the bold new flavors might just make you forget pumpkin spice all together.

#### Honey Pepper Pimento Chicken Sandwich

Chick-fil-A's culinary team is putting a seasonal spin on its original chicken sandwich — the first such experiment for the chain.

The restaurant describes its new creation as a combination of "classic Chick-fil-A flavors with a sweet and subtly spicy kick. Featuring an original Chick-fil-A filet, topped with custom-made creamy pimento cheese, mild pickled jalapeños and served on a warm, toasted bun drizzled with sweet honey."

"We wanted to create a standout sandwich that would deliver a unique spin for our guests, without losing the classic taste of the Original Chick-fil-A Chicken Sandwich. The Honey Pepper Pimento Chicken Sandwich uses ingredients and flavors our guests have never experienced at Chick-fil-A before, balancing savory, sweet and spicy elements using the highest quality ingredients," said Stuart Tracy, Chick-fil-A

chef and creator of the sandwich. "With our custom-made pimento cheese and specially sourced jalapeños, we hope to deliver a new and exciting sandwich our guests will love."

#### Caramel Crumble Milkshake

Made with butterscotch and caramel, the new Chick-fil-A Icedream also features blondie crumbles, whipped cream and a cherry on top. The new milkshake was created by company chef Christy Cook.

The flavor was inspired by the caramelized ingredients at the bottom of a blondie pan, according to Chick-fil-A.

"Innovation has been part of Chick-fil-A's history since 1964 when S. Truett Cathy created the Original Chick-fil-A Chicken Sandwich. Since then, we're always in tune with our customers' appetites and look to create menu items that satisfy their cravings and offer unique flavor combinations," Leslie Neslage, director of menu and packaging at Chick-fil-A, said on the company's website. "Combining new and surprising ingredients with classic Chick-fil-A flavors, we hope both these new menu items will deliver a delicious new spin for our guests to enjoy."

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Chick-fil-A's culinary team is putting its first seasonal spin on the original chicken sandwich.

DREAMTIME | TNS

# TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

## Nick Bailey

Sports Editor



### ECU vs. Marshall Score Prediction?

24-17 ECU  
**Why?** Mike Houston and Donnie Kirkpatrick should have the offense

figured out in this game, hopefully. Marshall is lined up to be a key bounceback game for ECU, as the Pirates aim to get to a .500 record. I believe the Pirates defense can put on a good performance again and keep the Herd's points low here in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

## Diego Lerma

The East Carolinian



### ECU vs. Marshall Score Prediction?

16-33 ECU  
**Why?** East Carolina will come back with a win after

last weekend's loss. It will be competitive for the first two quarters but the Pirates will take over in the second half of the game. History will repeat itself from the last game back in 2021.

## Trevon McGlone

The East Carolinian



### ECU vs. Score Prediction?

28-20 ECU  
**Why?** ECU bounces back from a tough game against Michigan, finds a

way to break down the Marshall defense via the run game. The second half should give the Pirates a chance to open up the play action after establishing the run, stacking on to an early first half lead.

## Justin Beltran

For The East Carolinian



### ECU vs. Score Prediction?

17-14 ECU  
**Why?** I expect ECU to come out hard and ready on both sides of the

ball. Seeing and hearing from both schools. Their offense is looking shaken so it is on the defense to see if we can keep up momentum and keep the defense ahead of their offense.



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Fans fill up Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum for basketball game on Feb. 25 where they loss 76-57 vs. the University of Houston.

# Basketball releases season tickets

Nick Bailey  
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University athletics announced on Aug. 31 that season ticket renewals and orders for the 2023-24 men's and women's basketball seasons would start being received beginning on Aug. 31.

Season tickets for men's basketball will start at \$125 for economy plans and Pirate Club Young Grad program members. Priority seating for Pirate Club members is \$250 (membership necessary for sections 201, 205-209 and 213-216) and the priority order deadline is on Sept. 25.

Those with a Bronze Sabre Level or higher will receive a maximum of six priority tickets, while those with a Golden Pirate to Scholarship Level will receive a limit of four priority tickets. Season tickets in the aforementioned sections are also available to ECU workers at a discounted rate of \$205.

Season tickets for women's basketball start at \$45 for general admission and \$60 for reserved seats. Tickets for courtside seating will start at \$100 (Pirate Club membership required). Staff members of ECU qualify for a \$35 discounted price on general admission season tickets.

Pirate fans of either the women or men's

team can be excited about the installation of new Lower Level Chairback seats, which will replace the bleachers on the team benches side of Minges Coliseum.

These seats are \$400 for men's games and \$60 for women's game and they can be purchased until Sept. 25 with Pirate Club priority order. Season ticket holders in sections 112, 113 and 114 will need to choose a new seat position for the following season.



Amiya Joyner

The women's team enters the season fresh off their third appearance in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament after winning the American Athletic Conference Tournament in March. Last season the team won 23 games, including a 13-3 record at home.

Each of the five starters return for the 2023-24 squad, which includes AAC Defensive Player of the Year graduate student guard Danae McNeal, AAC Freshman of the Year sophomore forward Amiya Joyner, and AAC Tournament Most Valuable Player senior guard Synia Johnson. Along with the strong

returning bunch, the squad will welcome an array of outstanding newcomers this season, including top-100 recruit freshman guard Khia Miller, according to ECU Pirates.

The Pirates will be able to celebrate their triumphs once more when they host the University of South Carolina Upstate on Nov. 9, as ECU will officially display their 2023 AAC Championship banner.

Other events to watch for are the team's annual Education Day on Nov. 29 versus Hampton University and the Diabetes Awareness Game on Dec. 2 against Coppin State University.

On the court, the Pirates have scheduled an impressive home schedule for 2023-24, including being at home for the whole month of December, capped off with a Dec. 30 game against the University of South Carolina, the 2022 NCAA Champions.

The Pirates will play 11 non-conference games and nine conference games at Minges Coliseum in Greenville, North Carolina. Non-conference games against the University of North Carolina Wilmington on Nov. 30 and South Carolina on Dec. 9 headline the home slate.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES

Sophomore forward Juliana Viera dribbles the ball up the field against the University of North Carolina Wilmington on Aug. 31.

# ECU aims to be 3-0 at home vs. Duke

Diego Lerma  
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University soccer team (4-1-1, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) is set to face off against Duke University (2-2, 0-0 Athletic Coast Conference) at Koskinen Stadium on Sept. 7 in Durham, North Carolina.

So far this season both teams hold a winning record. The Pirates are yet to win against Duke in soccer, as they are 0-2 all time against the Blue Devils.

The first soccer game between the Pirates and Blue Devils took place on Sept. 9, 2021. Duke hosted the game at Koskinen Stadium. The Pirates were 4-2 coming into the match, while having a three game win streak. Duke on the other hand, had yet to lose a match that season going against the Pirates with a 5-0 record.

The Pirates lost momentum after the Blue Devils started fast. They scored four goals in the first half and one more time in the second half. Each goal in the first half was scored in close succession.

The first goal was scored four minutes into the game, while the second followed almost two minutes later, at seven minutes. The final two goals of the half came at 40 and 42 minutes. The final goal came at the 87 minute, thus

ending the game. The Pirates were defeated 5-0 in the game.

The most recent match up against the Blue Devils was last season. The match took place in Greenville, N.C. at Johnson Stadium on Aug. 18, 2022. Going into this game, ECU had yet to win a match yet in the season. They lost their season opener and the second game of the season ended in a tie. This match was the first game of the season for Duke. They had two exhibition matches that ended in a win and loss.

Last time around the match was more competitive compared to the first match in 2021. The first and only goal of the match came from Duke at the five minute mark. Even though the Pirates lost they kept Duke University from scoring the rest of the match. The game ended 1-0 with Duke University coming away with another win.

The Pirates have played a total of six games so far this season with a record of 4-1-1 but are undefeated playing here at home. They started this season off on the wrong foot with a loss which came in the season opener along with a tie in the second match.

Since the rough start to the season the Pirates are now riding a four game win streak. The Pirates aim to make this their third

straight victory on the road.

The game against High Point took place on Sept. 3. At halftime, ECU was up 2-0, but both teams were able to score one last time before the end of the game. The Pirates took the game 3-1. Some of the stand out players of the game were sophomore defender Jazmin Ferguson, freshman defender Ella Steck and junior defender Lindsey Aiken. All three players contributed a goal each to get the win.

Duke has also started off the season similar to the Pirates with only one loss which came in the second game of the season against



Jazmin Ferguson

the University of Southern California (3-1, 0-0 Pacific-12 Conference). After the Pirates face off against the Blue Devils on Sept. 7, they will travel to Cullowhee, N.C. and play Western Carolina University (2-2-2, 0-0 Southern Conference) on Sept. 10 at 1 p.m. That game can be streamed on ESPN+. ECU will then return home for their Youth Sports Night on Sept. 14 and clash against Florida Atlantic University (2-2-2, 0-0 AAC) at 7 p.m.

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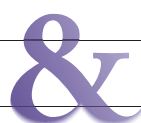


Sophomore quarterback Mason Garcia dives through the University of Michigan defense on Sept. 2 in a 30-3 loss against the Wolverines in Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Michigan. JAYLIN ROBERTS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

# ECU to kick off their home opener vs Marshall

**Trevon McGlone**  
TEC STAFF

**Nick Bailey**  
TEC STAFF



East Carolina University (0-1, 0-0, American Athletic Conference) hosts The University of Marshall (1-0, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) on Sept. 9 at 4 p.m. at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium, Greenville, North Carolina.

ECU gets a chance to add their first win of the season after a tough loss against the University of Michigan, (1-0, 0-0 Big Ten Conference) losing 30-3 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. After making a few defensive stops in the first quarter, the flood gates opened quickly.

Head Coach Mike Houston held his weekly press conference on Sept. 5 and he had comments about the loss to Michigan and about the upcoming matchup against the Herd.

The Pirates found themselves down 23-0 at halftime, and were unable to get much going offensively until the end of the game, when ECU sophomore kicker Andrew Conrad converted a 33-yard field goal attempt to avoid a shutout.

In the "Big House," ECU used a two-quarterback system with sophomore quarterback Mason Garcia and junior quarterback Alex Flinn, totaling only 132 passing yards while Michigan surpassed 280. The running game was about even on both sides, with the Pirates gaining 103 yards and Garcia leading the way with 36 yards.

"There's nothing like Dowdy-Ficklen stadium," Houston said. "I expect the stadium to be full Saturday. The kids are looking forward to The Pirate Walk at 1:30 and seeing the fans. They're looking forward to coming out of the tunnel to Purple Haze and the game day entrance and are looking forward to kickoff. When Dowdy-Ficklen is rocking, it is the best experience that there is, and our players are excited about it."

Marshall took down the University of Albany (1-0, 0-0 Colonial Athletic Association Conference) in their season opener 21-17. Albany held the lead going into the fourth quarter, 17-14 before Marshall answered with the game winning touchdown with over 10 minutes left in the fourth.

ECU and Marshall have played against each other 10 times in their program's histories. ECU has been the better team historically, winning seven of the 10 games played. ECU has also never lost a home game against Marshall, holding a 4-0 record when playing in Greenville.

The first matchup took place on Nov 19, 2005, in which the

Pirates won 34-29.

The latest matchup between the two occurred in 2021. Both sides lit up the field that day, combining for over 828 passing yards and over 1,210 total offensive yards. Former ECU quarterback Holton Alters completed 30 of his 48 pass attempts, while throwing for 368 passing yards and two passing touchdowns.

Former Marshall quarterback Grant Wells also put on a performance, completing 24 of his 39 pass attempts, throwing for over 433 passing yards and a touchdown. Wells also threw two interceptions.

From there, they went into halftime with a 24-21 lead. ECU would give up two touchdowns in the third quarter, expanding Marshall's lead, 38-21. With seven minutes left in the fourth, Alters kicked it into gear.

He punched in a five yard rushing touchdown to cut ECU's deficit to 10 after a 12-play drive. Marshall put together an impressive drive getting to ECU's red zone in only three minutes, but missed a field goal from 31 yards away.

ECU got the ball back with four minutes left. Alters helped orchestrate a eight play drive that resulted in his second touchdown pass of the night, making the score 35-38 with two minutes remaining on the clock.

Former ECU kicker Owen Daffer delivered an onside kick that ECU recovered to get the ball back. ECU junior running back Rahjai Harris would score the game winning touchdown for the Pirates, putting ECU 42-38 with 55 seconds left in the fourth.

The 1970 rendition of the ECU-Marshall series is remembered for the tragic circumstances that took place after the game for Marshall on Nov. 14, 1970. Members of the team and staff would board a plane from Kinston, North Carolina, that would touch down in Kenova, West Virginia.

Poor weather conditions and fog caused the plane to descend past the minimum descent altitude, hitting a hillside, fatally costing the lives of all 75 passengers and crew members on the plane, according to the Joyner Library website.

ECU has dedicated a memorial plaque for the members involved in the fatal crash.

Following the game against Marshall, ECU will head to Boone, NC to take on Appalachian State University, (1-0, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) on Sept. 16 at 3:30 p.m.

and can be viewed on ESPN+.

**"There's nothing like Dowdy-Ficklen stadium," Houston said. "I expect the stadium to be full Saturday. The kids are looking forward to The Pirate Walk at 1:30 and seeing the fans. They're looking forward to coming out of the tunnel to Purple Haze and the game day entrance and are looking forward to kickoff. When Dowdy-Ficklen is rocking, it is the best experience that there is, and our players are excited about it."**

*- Head Coach Mike Houston*

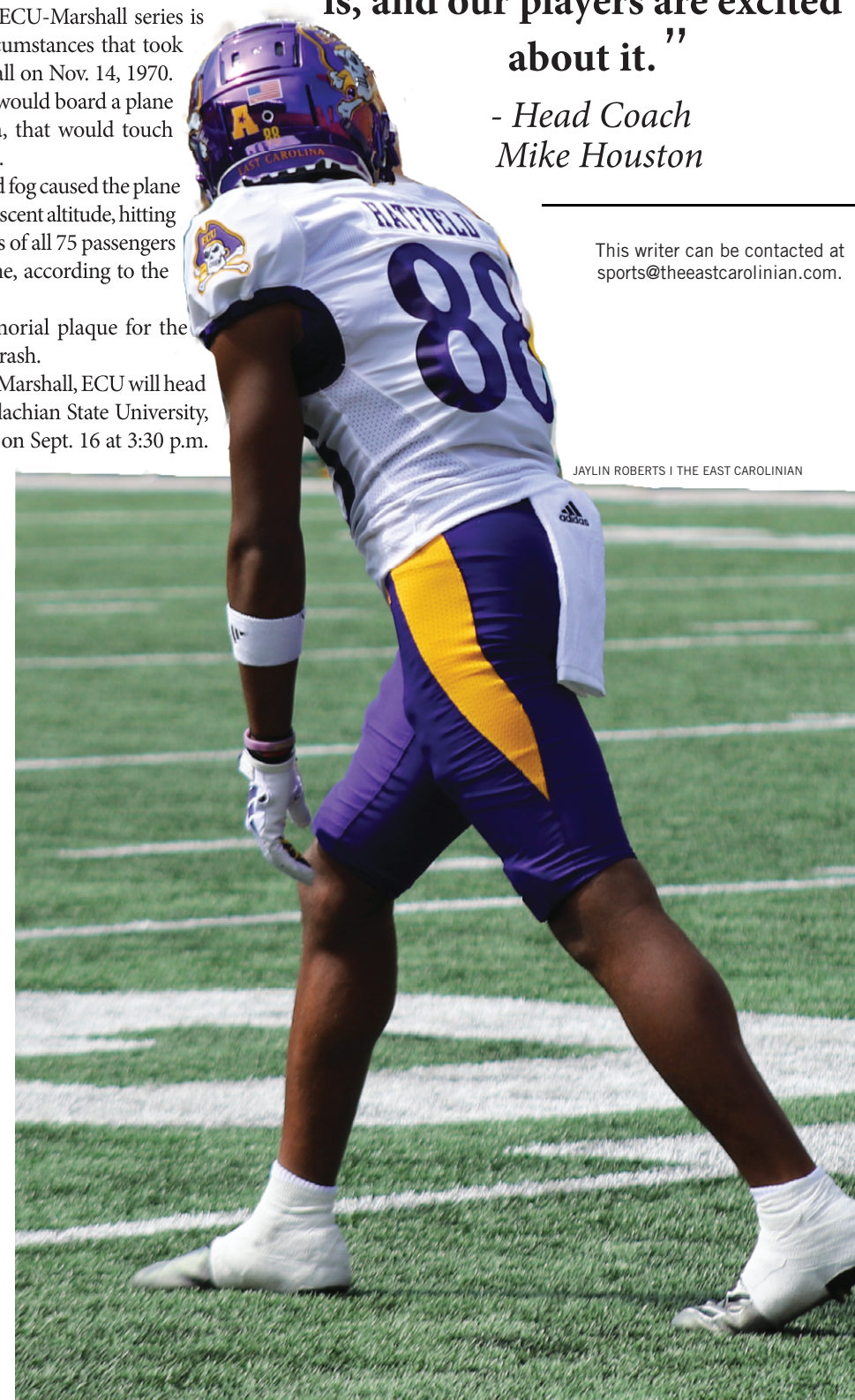
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**Mason Garcia**



**Rahjai Harris**



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