



The East Carolinian



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Proud ECU football fans traveled to Kidd Brewer Stadium on Saturday to watch the Pirates lose 43-28.

ECU prepares for Family Weekend

Haley Williams
TEC STAFF

The parents and families of East Carolina University's students will come to Greenville, North Carolina, Friday through Sunday, to spend some time with their Pirates in the heart of Pirate Nation and also watch the Pirate football team play on Saturday.

Every year, ECU opens the town of Greenville for Pirate families to come and get a glimpse of what being an East Carolina student is all about. There are many things for families to do this weekend, such as Freeboot Friday, Beach Fest After Dark, Family Weekend Tailgate and the football game.

This weekend is a way for the parents and families of students to see that their children are in good hands at ECU, as well as to get a feel for the community here in Greenville, said the 2022 ECU Family of the Year, sophomore Blake Solomonson and his family.

"I am so overwhelmed by the community there at the university," Rebecca Belthoff, Solomonson's mother, said. "Everybody was so caring and so nice and we just met so many people."

"It's just a real community feeling there," Belthoff said about East Carolina after coming to visit for the

weekend last year. Coming to ECU for the weekend, as a mother of a student allowed her to feel confident to send her child back to Greenville year after year.

Solomonson's stepfather and ECU alumni himself, Richard Belthoff, enjoys being able to come back and see the changes to his alma mater, as well as get to come back to feel like a Pirate himself again.

As an alumni it is always a cool experience to come back to see the way ECU and Greenville has changed, Belthoff said. With many improvements and additions being done around campus and the city, there is always something new to see each time there is another visit.

"It's neat to come back and see what's changed and to see what hasn't changed," Belthoff said. "Some of the stuff has changed and some of it is still there," as the dorms he lived in have changed over the years.

"It was good to see the game last year, we'll probably end up going every year," Belthoff said about being able to go back to a Pirate football game as a parent, rather than a student.

The football game and the tailgate was Solomon's favorite part of the weekend, as they got to see the Pirates play and enjoy family time

at the tailgate. The tailgate gave the family a way to meet fellow Pirates and the community.

Associate Athletics Director Greg Pierce said that the football game is one of the bigger events of Family Weekend in Greenville, as the Pirate families are able to get into the stands and cheer on the team. It is a good way for the families of students to get to see the gameday atmosphere in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

With Pirate families coming to Greenville for the weekend, that means they will be coming into the Dowdy stadium to watch the Pirates play on Saturday, Pierce said.

"Family Weekend is always one of the bigger weekends we have, as it gives families the opportunity to sit with their kids at the football game," Pierce said. "Whether you've gone to school here or not in the past, it's always something nice to see."

The advice that Pierce gave to families coming into town for the weekend is for them to get to the game as early as possible, as many families and their students will be getting into the stadium. Pierce also said to cheer loud, as it is an experience for the whole family to enjoy.

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

Amiya Joyner on the upcoming WBB season

Nick Bailey
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's women's basketball team

is coming off of a program redefining year last season after winning the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Championship and making it to the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) tournament.

Last season, the Pirates won 23 games for the first time under Head Coach Kim McNeill. They had also not won 20 games in a season since the 2014-2015 season.

Sophomore forward Amiya Joyner was a big part of last year's squad and their success, tallying up 10.5 points and 9.7 rebounds per game during her freshman campaign. She feels as if her offseason training going into next season has helped her prepare for the season.

"I'm feeling great," Joyner said. "Practice has not gotten to the most extreme yet, but it's getting there compared to the beginning of the summer. We'll be better than last year. We have a lot of talent this year."

ECU has only made it to the NCAA tournament three times in program history, so making it back to the round of 64 is going to take a lot out of every player. The Pirates have not been able to make the tournament since 2007 and have never gone in back to back seasons.

Joyner said she realizes she needs to put in even more work to get to where they were at, and she is willing to do that along with adding to her game.

"Staying consistent you know, staying in the gym, getting better and yeah, just working hard," Joyner said. "Yeah, I think I'm way better than last year. I'm starting to shoot out on the outside more and my free throws have gotten better. I've been staying in the gym and I got an outside game now."

McNeill pulled her team from four conference wins the year before to 11 wins in the 2022 season, her best in her tenure. The Pirates also defended their home court almost every time out last season, accumulating a 13-3 record in Mingos Coliseum.

CONTRIBUTED BY ECU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Amiya Joyner wears the Pirates 2022 AAC Championship ring.

> BASKETBALL page A6

Football searches for first win against Gardner Webb

Trevon McGlone
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's football team (0-3, 0-1 American Athletic Conference) returns home to Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium to take on Gardner-Webb University (GWU) (1-2, 0-0 Big South Conference) on Saturday.

The Pirates are coming off a 43-28 loss against Appalachian State University (2-1, 0-0 Sun Belt Conference) last Saturday.

ECU originally had the lead at half during that game, but gave up 21 unanswered points from App. State that ultimately sank them in the game. ECU junior quarterback Alex Flinn got the start for the Pirates and finished the day with 17 pass completions off of his 31 pass attempts, 158 passing yards, zero touchdowns and three interceptions.

ECU will look to build on the success they found when they ran the ball with their running backs. ECU junior running back Rahjai Harris had 12 carries, garnered 56 rushing yards and scored two rushing touchdowns against App. State. Those 12 carries were the most Harris had in a game all year.

The results showed the most productive game he's had this season (five carries, 22 rush yards, zero touchdowns in game one and nine carries, 29 rush yards and zero touchdowns in game two). Currently, GWU gives up over 131 rushing yards per game on the season.

Flinn put together drives in the first half of that App. State game as well, moving the ball down the field to help



Rahjai Harris ran in two touchdowns against App. State.

ECU score first. Flinn completed over five passes on the drive, setting up Harris's first touchdown of the day.

Flinn will look to build on that portion of that performance, while taking care of the ball, moving past his three interceptions in his first start for the Pirates. In each game played so far this year, ECU quarterbacks have thrown interceptions in every single one (six total interceptions)

The ECU defense will be tasked with keeping GWU's offense out of the endzone. The common trend in the losses the Pirates have suffered so far in the season have been breakdowns from big plays.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

ECU has given up four touchdowns over 30 yards so far this year.

On another note, ECU's defense has forced turnovers in two straight games. They forced two fumbles against Marshall University (2-0, 0-0 Sun Belt conference) and recovered one. Against App. State, ECU picked off the quarterback and then recovered a fumble for a touchdown early in the third quarter.

GWU is coming into this game averaging 27 points per game. ECU has allowed 27 or more points in every game they've played in this year. Both sides have met once in their programs histories, on Sept. 7, 2019, ECU won 48-9.

Heading into this matchup with GWU, ECU's offense is averaging 14.7 points per game. GWU's defense has allowed over 33 points per game to opposing offenses. GWU is averaging 27.7 points per game, compared to the 34.7 that ECU's defense has been giving up to opposing offenses.

Following this game against GWU, ECU will travel down to Houston, Texas, to play against the University of Rice (2-1, 0-0 American Athletic Conference) on Sept. 30. This game will be available to watch on ESPN+.

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

ONLINE

» ECU falls to 0-3 vs. App. State.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA



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BRIEFS

MCSC to host anti-hazing speaker

On Tuesday, Greek life advocate Michelle Guobadia will speak during Campus Recreation & Wellness Hazing Prevention Week at 6 p.m. in the Main Campus Student Center ballrooms. Guobadia earned her master's degree from North Carolina State University and has spoke at many different colleges.

Career Services to hold Job & Internship Fair

ECU students can meet employers offering full-time jobs, part-time jobs and internships at the Career Services Job & Internship Fair on Wednesday. The event will last from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Greenville Convention Center. Students in the College of Business, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Health and Human performance and the College of Fine Arts and Communication are encouraged to attend.

COE to hold teacher leadership training

College of Education Career Advisor Liaison Lina Rios will be leading Teaching Toolbox, an educational workshop. On Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., students interested in teaching can attend the online session to learn strategies for building confidence, maintaining passion and building networks within the profession.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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

CRIME LOGS

Editor's Note: The East Carolinian Crime Logs are derived from East Carolina University Police Department's (ECU PD) public crime logs accessible to all individuals. Crime Logs are not done within the partnership of ECU PD and The East Carolinian, as this publication is meant to act as an additional resource for Pirate Nation. Below are listings of criminal activity that has occurred on or within proximity of main campus.

Sept. 17, 2023

At the 10th Street & Rock Spring Road intersection, Underage Consumption of Alcohol was found at 12:52 a.m. and cleared by citation.

Injury to Real Property was found at Ballard West at 1:40 a.m. and remains an open investigation.

An open investigation began into a charge of Larceny at 9:45 p.m. at Garrett Hall.

Charges of Possession of Marijuana < 1/2 oz., Possession of Marijuana Paraphernalia and Liquor Possession by a Minor were found at the Curry Court parking lot and were cleared by citation at 11:30 p.m.

Sept. 18, 2023

At 12:23 a.m., a charge of Injury to Real Property was found at Jones Hall and is an open investigation.

At 11th Street & Evans Street, Possession of a Stolen Firearm and Carrying a Concealed Weapon were found at 3:24 p.m. and cleared by arrest.

A Larceny charge was found at Jones Hall at 6:38 p.m. and is an open investigation.



Three East Carolina University Police Department officers undergoing their annual active shooter simulation training in a long hallway.

ECU Emergency Preparedness

Aida Khalifa
TEC STAFF

Kim Kassner
TEC STAFF



East Carolina University works on promoting safety and shooting awareness among their students, faculty and staff on campus after the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill went into lockdown twice in three weeks.

For Abbie Clavijo, former ECU undergraduate student, it was her second time going into a university related shooting lockdown this past month. Clavijo now studies public life reporting as a graduate student at UNC Chapel Hill.

When the second lockdown went into place, Clavijo said, she was right outside the student union where an armed or dangerous person was reported to be at.

"I heard people screaming 'GUN' and everybody started running," Clavijo said. "I grabbed all of my stuff and ran too. I hid in a closet in the basement of a building, so I felt pretty safe. This was honestly scarier than the first time, I guess that's just a trauma response though. I was shaking for a while, no one knew what was happening."

Only two weeks prior, the graduate student Tailei Qi shot UNC Chapel Hill faculty member Zijie Yan. Many students like Clavijo were forced to hide on campus and remain safe.

Clavijo said students are now trying to make each other feel better, as being through the same kind of trauma forces them to make friends and stay positive. Her first response after she was alerted with the notification of a lockdown, Clavijo said, was to reach out to her loved ones.

"At first it was actually terrifying, like I was genuinely scared for my life," Clavijo said. "I was texting my parents. Now that we know no shots were fired, I feel a lot more comfortable with what happened. It's just so incredibly frustrating that this is happening again so close to the first one. One of my friends said the sound of the sirens

were so triggering and I can imagine that was true since running alone was triggering for me."

UNC Chapel Hill was as prepared as the university could have been under the circumstances, Clavijo said. Nobody expected to have a second lockdown happen so close to the first one, she said.

To reach out to students, faculty and staff, UNC Chapel Hill used the ALERT messaging system to send notifications with updates on the lockdowns, Clavijo said. Even though being notified was appreciated, Clavijo said she wishes UNC Chapel Hill would have updated everyone faster.

"I was running and had been hiding in a closet for a good 5-10 minutes before they sent us an alert text," Clavijo said. "They also could've maybe updated us better as we were sitting in lockdown. Sending the same text over and over at varying times doesn't make me feel any better about the situation, you know? People want to know what exactly is going on and if they'll be OK."



Chris Sutton who meet regularly to discuss different aspects of shooting preparedness and how to improve training and emergency connections.

Sutton said officers of the ECU Police Department go through a yearly force-on-force training to learn about how to respond to an active shooter. The officers train in campus buildings to remain sharp in their skills and adapt to a campus setting. He said the ECU Police Department also works to test the ALERT messaging system regularly throughout the year.

"We constantly see the need to improve our

communications," Sutton said. "We want to ensure we are using the best practices and develop training that is realistic and reasonable."

The Livesafe App, Sutton said, should be downloaded on everyone's phone as it is an immediate access to reporting a crime, contacting the police department for help, or getting attention.

Sutton said the campus community is trained to "Run, Hide, Fight", the national model for responding to an active shooter. He said this is important to have access to and plays an important part in ensuring safety on campus.

"The first crucial thing a student can do is remain calm," Sutton said. "If you can not run, hide and lockdown so the threat can not find you. If you can not run or hide, you must fight so you do not become a victim to the threat."

Cayla Digsby, sophomore exercise physiology major, said she has felt unsure of safety procedures after seeing what happened at UNC Chapel Hill. She said she felt more confident with the email sent out by ECU emergency management and the work being done on campus to make sure students are safe.

Digsby said it's hard to feel safe on a public campus when all she is seeing in the news is another school shooting. She said campuses should be working more to ensure the students are safe and it shouldn't be so easy for something that dangerous to happen.

"It's scary to see what happened at UNC because it makes you think how easily it can happen to you and your school," said Digsby. "I want to feel safe walking around campus and not worry about being in an active shooting but it's something we have to deal with and be alert about."

Digsby said she wants to see an active effort being taken to enhance safety and shooting preparedness on campus. She said she feels no one prepares the students for the dangers and possibility of that scenario being real and it's important to be aware of any potential danger on campus.

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

ECU AFROTC celebrates 75th anniversary

Eli Baine
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 600 is celebrating its 75th anniversary through an exhibit in the Joyner Library and an Anniversary Ball on Friday.

ECU Archivist Alston Cobourn said the pieces displayed in the Joyner Library detail the rich history of the Detachment and what it has accomplished over the years.

"The exhibit includes notable moments in the detachment's history, like the first female cadet to commission, the first African-American cadet to commission, when they moved to different buildings on campus and when they started pilot training," Cobourn said. "There are photographs, promotional materials as well as some information on how they (AFROTC) are organized."

A panel will be held at the exhibit on Friday at 1 p.m. by the Detachment, Cobourn said. The panel will include retired Gen. Gary North, retired Maj. Michael McShane, Colonel Derrick Floyd, Lt. Colonel Elenah Kelly and former administrative sec-

retary for Detachment 600 Joan Phillips, according to the Joyner Library website.

The panelists will be speaking about their involvement in the ECU Air Force ROTC Detachment and where their lives have gone since, Cobourn said.

"They will be having a discussion about what that (ROTC) has meant to them in their career and their life in general," Cobourn said "It will be free and open to everyone."

Major LaRae Johnson wrote in an email statement Detachment 600 will be celebrating its 75th anniversary for the whole weekend, beginning with the library panel and an anniversary ball at 5 p.m. on Friday.

According to the ECU Alumni website, registration is required for all who attend the ball and the deadline passed on Sept. 13.

"Following the panel, the detachment will host the 75th Anniversary Ball at Greenville Convention Center," Johnson wrote. "Our theme is Heritage to Horizon: Celebrating the Legacy of Flying Pirates Everywhere."

Retired General Gary North will speak both at the Joyner Library panel and at the 75th Anniversary Ball, Johnson wrote.

The AFROTC Detachment anniversary also coincides with ECU family weekend, Johnson wrote, so there will be a flyover for the Gardner-Webb football game on Saturday.

"We will capture the achievements of the detachment over the last seventy-five years and a small look into where the detachment is heading," Johnson wrote. "These events serve as a perfect opportunity for alumni, current cadets, supporters of the detachment, and current as well as past cadre members to gather and commemorate a momentous milestone in the Detachment's history."

AFROTC Scholarship Advisor Second Lt. Brandon Garcia said AFROTC is an important learning experience for all kinds of students.

The United States Air Force relies heavily on ROTC cadets who graduate university for recruitment in many different positions, Garcia said.

"It (ROTC) fundamentally allows students to both enroll in college as well as conduct military training throughout their four years," Garcia said. "It opens the door for hundreds of jobs within the Air Force ranging from flying all the way to financial management."

Consistently each year, Garcia said, at least a third of new Air Force officers participated in ROTC programs at their universities.

Garcia said AFROTC programs and classes can be experienced by those who are undecided on if they intended to serve in the military and who are not interested at all.



The three defining values of the United States Air Force framed on East Carolina campus.

JAYLIN ROBERTS | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

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OUR VIEW

ECU sends condolences to UNC

Following the second shooting threat at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, we, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe it is crucial for actions to be taken to prevent similar occurrences in the future in order to keep campuses a safe, welcoming environment for all students, staff and faculty.

The first incident, which occurred on Aug. 28, caused the fatal shooting of Zijie Yan, beloved Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Physical Sciences.

Although the second incident was also unfortunate and heartbreaking, we, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, are glad that this incident did not cause any death or injuries to the UNC community.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe it is necessary for these occurrences to be taken seriously and as a wake up call for not only the UNC at Chapel Hill community, but for college campuses everywhere.

Safety should always be a priority, and necessary precautions should be taken.

We give our deepest condolences to anyone affected by these unfortunate events. We believe the police departments have been handling the situation well, including any other community members who were involved.

On behalf of East Carolina University, we, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, are hopeful that effective safety implementations can be placed and these distressing incidents can be put to an end.



A group of six East Carolina University nursing major students in a study abroad program at Lake Atitlan in Guatemala pose for a photo. CONTRIBUTED BY BLAIR BEAULIEU

The importance of study abroad programs



Katie Erickson
GUEST COLUMNIST

Study abroad programs have become increasingly popular in recent years and for good reason. The opportunity to study in a foreign country gives students a myriad of benefits, both personally and academically. Study

abroad is important because students broaden their horizons, enhance personal growth and the experience fosters global citizenship.

One of the most significant advantages of studying abroad is the opportunity to broaden one's horizons. Exposure to new cultures, languages and perspectives can be a transformative experience. In a globalized world, the ability to understand and adapt to diverse environments is a valuable skill. Studying abroad forces individuals out of their comfort zones, encouraging them to navigate unfamiliar situations, communicate with people from different backgrounds and adapt to new ways of life.

Through immersion in a foreign culture, students gain a deeper understanding of global issues and the interconnectedness of the world. They witness firsthand the impact of historical events, cultural practices and social norms on a society. This experiential learning goes beyond what textbooks and lectures can provide, enabling students to develop a more nuanced and empathetic worldview.

Study abroad experiences play a pivotal role in fostering global citizenship. Global citizens are individuals who recognize their role in a world community, understand global challenges and actively engage in addressing them. When students study abroad, they become ambassadors of their home countries, representing their cultures and values while also learning from others.

Living in a foreign country encourages students to confront stereotypes and biases, fostering a more inclusive and open-minded perspective. They gain a heightened awareness of the importance of intercultural dialogue and cooperation in a world characterized by diverse identities and viewpoints. These experiences contribute to the development of essential skills, such as intercultural competence, empathy and adaptability, which are increasingly valuable in an interconnected world.

Study abroad experiences offer unparalleled opportunities for personal growth. Being in an unfamiliar environment encourages independence and self-reliance as students navigate daily life in a foreign culture. They learn to manage their finances, navigate public transportation and solve everyday challenges. This self-sufficiency not only builds confidence but also equips students with life skills that are invaluable in their future careers and personal lives.

Additionally, studying abroad often pushes individuals to step outside their

comfort zones and confront their fears. Whether it's trying new foods, participating in local traditions, or mastering a foreign language, students are constantly challenged to embrace new experiences. Overcoming these challenges builds resilience and adaptability, qualities that serve individuals well throughout their lives.

At East Carolina University we've developed helpful ways to summarize the skills students develop from studying abroad – PIRATES. Perspective-taking, Inquisitiveness/Openness, Respectfulness, Adaptability, Tolerance of ambiguity, Empathy and Self-awareness.

As we navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected world, the value of study abroad experiences cannot be overstated. Living abroad empowers individuals to become informed and empathetic global citizens, capable of addressing the challenges and opportunities that arise in our diverse and interconnected world. Therefore, encouraging and supporting study abroad programs should remain a priority for educational institutions and societies alike, as they play a vital role in shaping the leaders and citizens of tomorrow.

For information about ECU study abroad, please go to studyabroad.ecu.edu.

Erickson is the Director of Education Abroad in the Office of Global Affairs. To contact the editor, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

PIRATE RANTS

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

Why do people walk right in front of you when you're riding your bike. Like do you not see me riding this thing with two wheels like it's not hard to miss.

Don't forget to Paint it Gold this weekend in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium!

I absolutely hate having to wait in the parking garage. Sometimes it can take forever to get out and on top of that, it makes it worse to have to pay each hour for parking. I really wish the university would change this. It makes no sense to have to pay hourly parking fees on top of already having to pay for tuition, books, etc.

One of the robots almost ran into me today by the bus stop and it really scared me!

University Day: Wednesday 9/20/23 - Wear your PURPLE & GOLD!

I'm really disappointed with Pirate football, but hoping we can come back strong this weekend.

I love how easy it is to get Starbucks on campus when I really want a coffee.

Just realized how much money I paid for textbooks this semester... ECU help me out here!

Copper Beech management. We've had a leaking ceiling for three years now and they won't fix it.

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.



Why Blackfish is a must-watch film for all



Kristin Outland
TEC COLUMNIST

Blackfish, the psychological thriller documentary on the confinement of killer whales at SeaWorld's theme parks took the earth by storm when it was initially released in theaters on July 19, 2013. I believe this documentary is something that everyone should see, as it is very eye-opening to the realities killer whales face while at SeaWorld's theme parks.

Since then, the movie has gone on to become a popular hit for individuals who yearn to know the truth behind the heartbreaking treatment of these marine mammals under SeaWorld's care.

The documentary not only exposes SeaWorld's wrongdoings but also provides evidence that these animals do not belong in confinement of small tanks.

Killer whales (orcas) are highly complex, intelligent animals who were designed to live in the ocean, their natural environment. In the wild, orcas are able to defend themselves, forage for food and communicate with its pod members.

When these mammals are put into tiny tanks, they cannot carry out their natural daily functions. Orcas typically travel 100 miles each day, but they cannot do this in the theme park. Instead, they are put with a mix of other orcas from different pods, genes, etc., which can cause abnormal hyper aggression.



Tilikum, SeaWorld's infamous killer whale as depicted in the Blackfish documentary. CONTRIBUTED BY TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Although there had been similar incidents of confined orca aggression in the past, Blackfish largely explores the case of the killer whale Tilikum and the death of senior trainer Dawn Brancheau at a show on Feb. 24, 2010.

There have been no reported cases of orcas harming people in the wild, which further proves the psychological effects orcas undergo at the theme park.

Many people who are not familiar with the complexities of killer whales may not have previously known or understood this. People who go to SeaWorld's entertainment shows are typically focused on the show itself, and do not dig deeper to realize the mistreatment the orcas may be experiencing

behind closed doors.

I encourage everyone to watch this documentary in order to gain a better perspective on the importance of bringing subject matters such as these to light. Many people don't realize just how harmful it is until they see it for themselves.

The film can be viewed for free on Youtube with advertisements.

It will really change your perspective of confined killer whales, and open up a new perspective of understanding and sympathy for all of their unfortunate experiences since their capture from the ocean.

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

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CLASSIFIEDS

Did someone say FREE?

Looking for a roommate or a sublease?
Got something for sale?
ECU students can submit a classified for **FREE!**
Contact smas@ecu.edu for more information.



HOROSCOPES



Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Express your view. Collaborate and communicate to build and grow. Put together presentations, reports or statements. File documents and applications before the deadline.



Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Reorganize and reinvent domestic spaces. Clear out by giving away or selling what you no longer need. Share stories, treats and fun with family.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — You can get productive in private. Compose your thoughts, ideas and plans. Nurture yourself with peaceful surroundings. Reconnect with nature. Savor music, meditation and rituals.



Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Collaborate with your partner for success. Write agreements or statements of shared possibility. Review long-term plans. Support each other to reach farther.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Get into a juicy intellectual puzzle. Dig for clues. Focus on correspondence and communications. Find hidden meaning. The answer comes when least expected.



Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — Get creative to stay connected with friends. Network and share news, data and resources. Community actions now can have long-term benefits. Play your part.



Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Enjoy beautiful conditions. Physical action gets satisfying results. Nurture your health and fitness with exercise, good food and rest. Connect with nature, birds and animals.



Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Provide valuable services. The more you learn, the more you earn. Focus on making money and creating financial harmony. Conserve and preserve valuable resources.



Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Dreamy professional opportunities are within reach. Update your profiles, presentations and portfolios. Share appreciation and gratitude. Invent what's next while managing current responsibilities.



Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Love, beauty and passion deepen and grow with practice. Express your feelings. Discover amazing possibilities in conversation. Creative projects flower. It could get romantic.



Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Take charge for the results you want. You're gaining confidence. Pursue personal passions. Connect to broaden your reach. Use your power and confidence for good.



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 9 — Put your talents to work. Prepare for upcoming adventures. Explore and investigate new ideas. Make exciting long-distance connections. Study, listen, and learn. Pursue solutions.

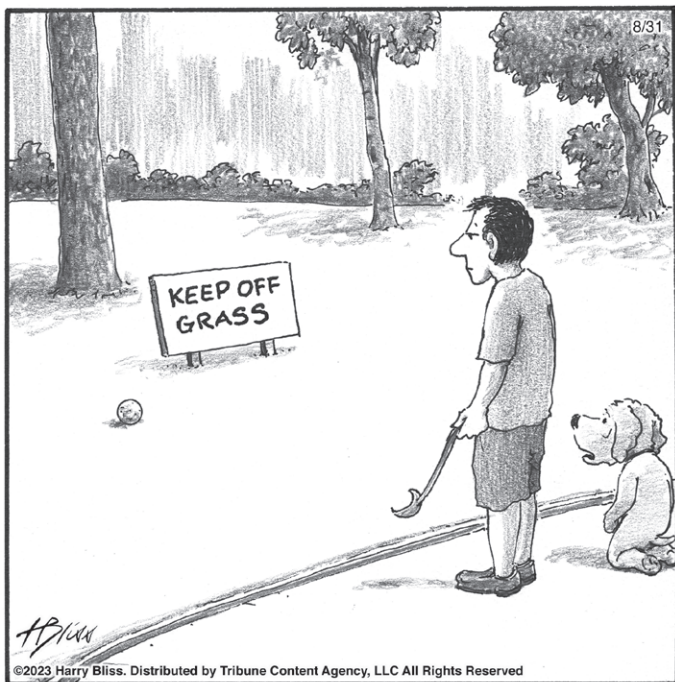
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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



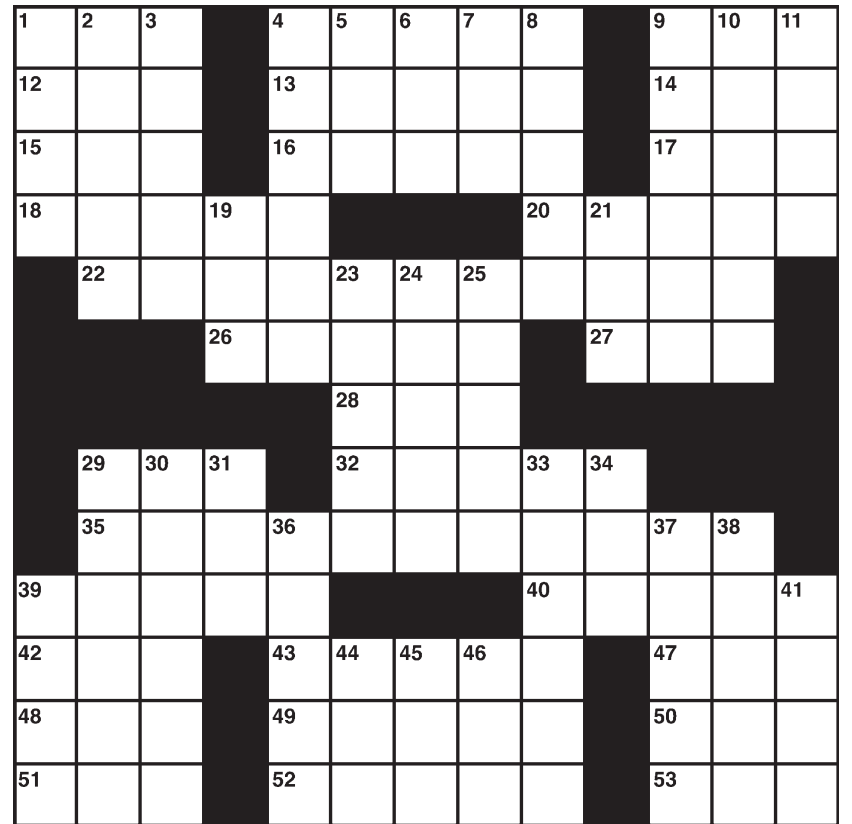
BLISS



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

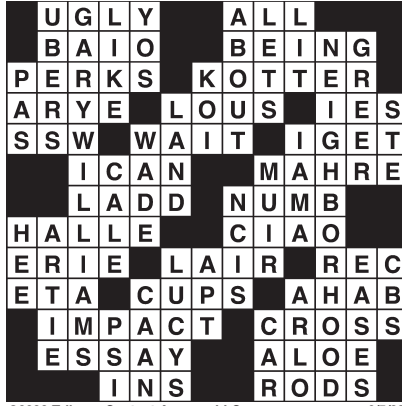
- 1 "NCIS: __ Angeles"
- 4 Actor Nick
- 9 Linden or Holbrook
- 12 "Tarzan the __ Man"
- 13 Amari __; actor on "The Wonder Years"
- 14 90 degrees from NNW
- 15 Role on "Black-ish"
- 16 Group of 4 on "To Tell the Truth"
- 17 "Avengers: __ of Ultron"; 2015 film
- 18 "__ Barbara" (1984-93)
- 20 Wasp nest sites
- 22 "America's Got Talent" judge
- 26 Like beer from a keg spigot
- 27 Walk-__; movie extras
- 28 "Ben-__"; Charlton Heston film
- 29 Runner Sebastian
- 32 Durance of "Smallville"
- 35 Role on "The Rookie"
- 39 Louganis & Norman
- 40 Scatter
- 42 Steiger or Stewart
- 43 "Seven Years in __"; Brad Pitt film

- 47 Old Testament bk.
- 48 Lionel Richie's state of birth: abbr.
- 49 1996 Madonna movie
- 50 Role on "The Waltons"
- 51 Susan of "L.A. Law"
- 52 Actor Jon & his family
- 53 Very long time

DOWN

- 1 Boys
- 2 First name in talk show hosts
- 3 "__ Evil 2"; 2014 horror movie
- 4 "__; no gain"
- 5 "Man __ Ledge"; Sam Worthington film
- 6 Mr. Goodman
- 7 "The __ That Binds"; Daryl Hannah movie
- 8 Actress Burstin
- 9 "Highway to __" (1984-89)
- 10 "Charlie's __" (1976-81)
- 11 Remick & Meriwether
- 19 "__ and a Half Men"
- 21 "Much __ About Nothing"
- 23 Role on "I Love Lucy"
- 24 Actress Tierney
- 25 "__ in Paris"; Doris Day movie
- 29 Gable's Lombard
- 30 "__ at a Time"
- 31 "The __ and I"; Fred MacMurray film
- 33 Longtime NBC sportscaster Bob
- 34 Isn't __ to; probably won't
- 36 Will or Rob
- 37 Actor/comedian Kovacs
- 38 __ Zaki of "FBI"
- 39 Alumnus, for short
- 41 "__ Harry Met Sally..."
- 44 "__ Got a Secret"
- 45 eBay offer
- 46 Greek letter

Solution from 09/14



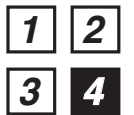
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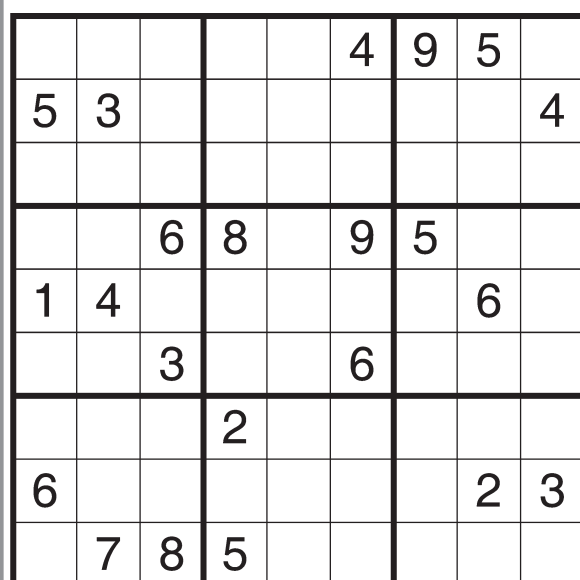
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

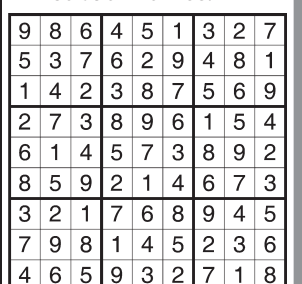
Level



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



Solution from 09/14



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EVENTS

TODAY

Pitt County Fairgrounds
3910 M.L.K. Jr Hwy,
Greenville, NC 27834
5 to 10 p.m.
(252) 758 - 6916

Bachata and Salsa Dance Lessons
Embody
817 Dickinson Ave.,
Greenville, NC 27858
6:30 to 9 p.m.

Aji's September Wine Tasting
Aji
801 Dickinson Ave.,
Greenville, NC 27834
6 to 8 p.m.
(252) 227 - 4512

Karaoke
Use to B's
9527 Hwy 903, Ayden,
NC 28513
7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

TOMORROW

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

Freeboot Friday
Five Points Plaza
5th and Evans St.,
Greenville, NC 27858
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Nash After Hours
Nash Hot Chicken
114 E 5th St.,
Greenville, NC 27858
8 to 11 p.m.
(252) 999 - 5444

Greenville's Funniest
Pitt Street Brewing
Company
630 S Pitt St.,
Greenville, NC 27834
9 to 11 p.m.
(252) 227 - 4151

SATURDAY

Glaze Workshop
Jaycee Park Center for
Arts and Crafts
2000 Cedar Lane,
Greenville, NC 27858
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(252) 329 - 4546

Improve Workshop
Magnolia Arts Center
1703 E 14th St.,
Greenville, NC 27858
12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
1(888) 622 - 3868

Morgan and Company
Trio Rocking Grumpy's
Greenville
Grumpy's Pub
111 E 5th St.,
Greenville, NC 27858
10:30 to 11:30 p.m.
(252) 215 - 1177

Fall Collection Release Event
Awaken Coffee
101 W 14th St.,
Greenville, NC 27834
7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(252) 227 - 4425



Kia Glosson assisting a student on the potter's wheel in her Introduction to Potter's Wheel (Mindful Making) class during this past summer.

Emerge Gallery & Arts Center to offer fall classes

Kim Kassner
TEC STAFF

With fall around the corner, new opportunities of creating crafts are around the corner: The Emerge Gallery & Arts Center in Greenville, North Carolina, offers a variety of art classes for locals, students, faculty and staff to participate in.



Sarah Lazure

Marketing Coordinator Sarah Lazure said the first fall session for art classes at Emerge begins the week of Tuesday. Classes will be available both during the daytime, as well as during the evening. "Our adult classes include drawing and painting, jewelry making, printmaking, bookmaking and pottery, as well as pottery handbuilding," Lazure said. "Then, we also offer weekly classes for use. We only have one class on the books that requires you to have any prior experience. Otherwise, they're open to beginners, as well as those who may need a refresher."

One of the only classes people need to have a prerequisite for is the Continuing Pottery Class, Lazure said. Other than that, she said, people can sign up for any of the available fall classes.

Emerge offers art classes throughout the year, Lazure said, where the art gallery has welcomed a mixture of different community members.

"In most of our classes, there are a few East Carolina University students, whether or not they're undergrad, graduate or doctorate," Lazure said. "Lately, we've had a large handful of medical students that are coming and taking our classes. And then we also have community members that are postgraduate all the way up to senior citizens. Our adult classes have a really large range of ages and demographics."

Apart from learning a new art skill, she

said, potential or future students can expect building a group of friends in their classes. Lazure said she has seen people who have never met become close friends and meet before their art class to chat and build a relationship with one another.

Those who are interested in participating in multiple art classes or becoming more engaged with the gallery, she said, can sign up to become a member either in person or on their website.

"We offer memberships at different levels," Lazure said. "We have a student membership that is for current college students at ECU, as well as at Pitt Community College. We also have a senior membership for people above the age of 65. All of those are \$25 for a full 365 days. Having that membership gets you email notifications for new classes coming out, new programmes, a magazine we publish twice a year, member only events, etc."

Depending if a person is a member or not, Lazure said, the prices for the fall classes will vary. She said people can expect to pay a fee between \$85 to around \$150.

The fee for the art class includes some materials, Lazure said, but not all of it. Students can look ahead to having to buy their own materials as well, depending on the art class.

"The metals class is one class that's a little bit more expensive and that is because we do provide all the equipment, as well as all of the materials," Lazure said. "We provide the copper, a sawblades enamel, everything needed in order to create a project. Same goes with our pottery classes. You have to buy your own clay, but we provide all of the glazes and the wheels and those sorts of things. That's why the class is a little bit less."

As of right now, she said, most fall classes

are still available. A few classes like the introductory class for the pottery wheel fill up as soon as the registration link drops, Lazure said, but others remain open for registration.

For the fall, there will be two available sessions for people to register for a class. The first session is going to be from Tuesday until Oct. 24 and the second sessions from Nov. 7 until Dec. 12, she said. Everyone who is interested in signing up, Lazure said, can either register through their website or fill out a form in person.

Art Instructor Kia Gosson has worked for Emerge Art Gallery & Arts Center since January of this year. She said she obtained her undergraduate degree in art education with an emphasis in ceramics and has taught in public schools, as well as offered private art lessons for the past 30 years.

"I stopped doing art about five years ago to go to grad school and do some other things," Gosson said. "And when I finished grad school, my sort of reward for myself was to get back into art and creativity. So I started taking some classes at Emerge. Then I just asked them if they ever needed a substitute teacher in the fall because there was only one person teaching pottery at the time, and they said they'd love for me to teach."

Gosson is now teaching pottery to both beginners and more advanced students, she said. In her class, she tried to focus on connecting with "yourself", others and the clay "sort of spiritually".

One of her favorite things about teaching art classes at Emerge, she said, is seeing people from different paths in life, ages and socio-economic standing coming together and learning a new creative skill.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

Awaking the community, one coffee at a time

Trevon McGlone
TEC STAFF

"To employ adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, promoting their skills, confidence and dignity."

That is Awaken Coffee's Mission. Since the early stages of its development, Carol Preston, Co-founder and President of Awaken Coffee, was aware of the lack of opportunities given to those with disabilities.

"The national unemployment rate for those with disabilities is 80%, and that's just not acceptable," Preston said. "Once someone with special needs reaches the age of 22, they are no longer provided public construction. So we are so fortunate here in Greenville that there are things for adults with disabilities to do."

At Awaken Coffee, they get that opportunity. The idea for the coffee shop had been around since 2018 when they first put together their committee board. In 2019, Awaken Coffee was awarded non-profit status. By February 2020, they had their first popup store.

Like the rest of the world in 2020, Awaken Coffee felt the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"March 2020, the pandemic hit. And it took the wind out of our sails, we didn't do much for just about the whole year," Preston said. "So then we worked for about a year to fundraise our upfit and had our groundbreaking in April 2022 and then we opened up to people in 2023."



Awaken Coffee employs adults with developmental disabilities.

It isn't just working at the coffee shop that's been beneficial for the employees. They've also been able to attend college classes on various campuses.

The staff at Awake Coffee is excited to have a place where they all feel as if they belong.

"One of my goals is to work with people like myself," Mary Carver, a staff member at Awaken Coffee said. "This place has helped me grow and it's helped me see that we all have unique qualities and abilities. We all work together."

One of the most important revelations to Mary was that the community of Greenville was willing to pitch in to accept the coffee shop for who they are.

"It's been awesome because the

community is inviting us instead of shutting us out," Mary Carver said. "I'm used to people pushing me away, but now they're embracing me and saying I'm doing a good job and you're doing well. It's been awesome."

Bridget Kiltecoin, a staff member who enjoys writing reviews about films and songs, echoed the same sentiment towards her team.

"Awaken has felt like a community, more than a coffee shop. I've been here five or six months, and it feels like I've been here for years, and I've known these people for so long," she said.

"It's been cool. It's made me feel a bit less lonely," Britton Circi, another employee at Awaken Coffee said about working there.

The inside of Awaken Coffee is a place for students to study and relax. Whether they choose to do this in the inside of the store, or sitting outside on the patio, the environment gives a sense of comfort. All they ask for in return, is for the community to come in and continue to embrace them.

"Come and see us," Preston said. "They'll make this their new favorite place if they come and try us. Come buy a coffee and get to know our employees."

The Awaken staff feels the exact same way.

"When I was in school for that little bit, I always enjoyed going to the coffee shops and having that relaxed environment. Coming in here, I think they'll get that: the warmth and the smiles of the staff. It's a cool place to study," Carver said. "This is the best opportunity for the community to see that we can do just as good as people who don't have special needs."



A coffee mug from Awaken Coffee.

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

TEC 'spertZ

The East Carolinian Sports experts predict this week's events

Diego Lerma

TEC Staff



ECU vs. Gardner-Webb

Score Prediction?

ECU 31-24

Why? Even with the Pirate's rough start to the season,

I still see them winning the game. ECU will have the lead in the second half and use that momentum to win.

Trevon McGlone

TEC Staff



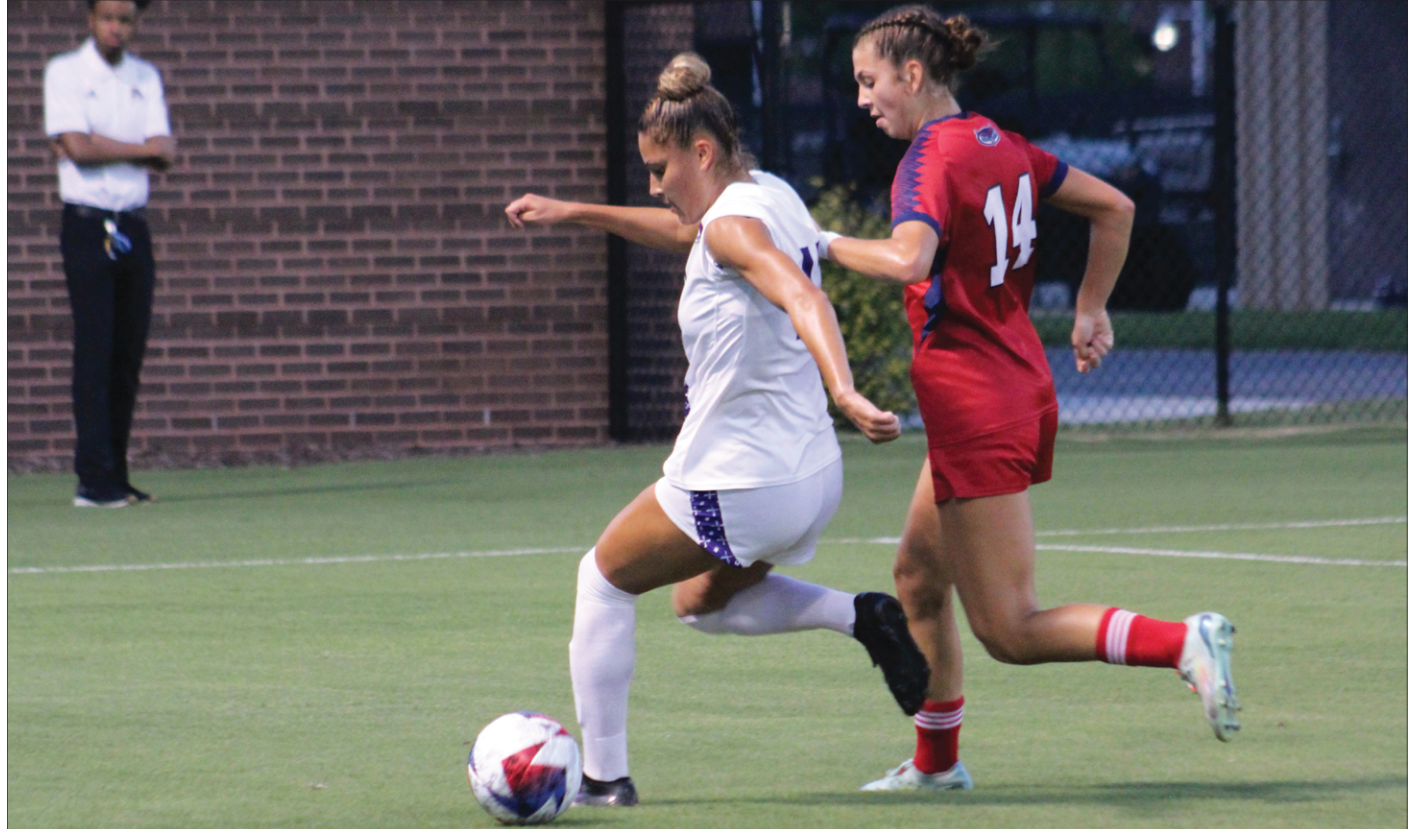
ECU vs. Gardner-Webb

Score Prediction?

ECU 27-24

Why? The flashes of offense the Pirates

had from their last game will carry into this game. Both sides will give up points early, but ECU's defensive knack for forcing turnovers will lead to the Pirates first win of the season.



ABBY BRENNAN | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Juliana Viera avoids the incoming Florida Atlantic University defender coming for the ball in their 1-0 win in Johnson Stadium on Sept. 14.

Soccer seeks to continue win streak

Diego Lerma
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University women's soccer team (6-2-2, 1-0 American Athletic Conference) make their way down to Birmingham, Alabama, to face The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) (4-3-2, 0-0-1 American Athletic Conference) at PNC Field on Thursday at 8 p.m. live on ESPN+.

The Pirates are riding a two game win streak after last week's away game against University of North Carolina Greensboro (3-5-1, 0-0 Southern Conference) winning the game 1-0. The Pirates started the game fast by scoring the only goal of the game. The goal came at the 11 minute mark at the start of the game. The shot was made by

senior forward Sydney Schnell with an assist from freshman defender Lucy Fazackerley.

This was Schnell's second goal of the season with the first coming against the University of North Carolina Wilmington (3-5, 2-1 Colonial Athletic Conference). This is Schnell's fourth year with the Pirates and she proved to be a fast starter as her first goal came early in the game at three minutes.

Fazackerley is one of four freshmen who were added for the 2023 season. She is from Wigan, England, and attended Oaklands College. Fazackerley played for Arsenal in the For All Women's Soccer Super League.

The Pirates senior goalkeeper Maeve English also had a bulletproof performance. The Greenville native managed

to save all three goals from Spartans and she managed to play the full 90 minutes.

Schnell, Fazackerley and English were not the only stand out players of the game. Both junior forward Samantha Moxie and redshirt midfielder Catherine Holbrook attempted shots throughout the match but were unsuccessful. Both players are veterans in the ECU women's soccer program.

ECU faced some adversity against Duke University (4-1-1, 1-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) and Western Carolina University (3-2-3, 0-0 Southern Conference), with those games resulting in a loss 0-2 and tie 1-1 respectively.

UAB has had mixed results this season with their last three games going 1-1-1 and with an overall

record of 4-3-2. Their last three games came against Tennessee Tech University (1-4-3, 0-0 Ohio Valley Conference), the University of South Alabama (7-0-2, 0-0-1 Sun Belt Conference) and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (4-3-3, 0-0-1 ACC).

The last two games for the Blazers resulted in an away game loss (0-3) South Alabama and a tie (0-0) to UNC Charlotte. This loss against the Jaguars ended a four game win streak for UAB.

The next game scheduled for the Pirates is set for Sept. 28 in Tampa, Florida. They will face off against the University of South Florida (4-4, 1-0 American Athletic Conference) and the game can be viewed on ESPN+.

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

poker, music & more!

EVENT SCHEDULE

\$9 DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS

Tuesday through Friday
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

TRIVIA Wednesday 7 p.m. Followed by Karaoke	TAVERN POKER Thursday 6 p.m. Game On	LIVE MUSIC Thursday 6 p.m. Unwind
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BRUNCH
Sunday
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For just \$22, join us every Sunday for brunch, featuring amazing food (including prime rib), refreshing drinks and whatever sports are on. All college students will receive 15% off food purchases with college ID every Sunday!

NOW OFFERING POOL TABLES AND AN ARCADE FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT!



Airing NFL every Thursday and Sunday



BASKETBALL continued from A1

Joyner says McNeill is a great motivator and that she pushes everyone to be the best everyday.

"She (McNeill) wants the best for everybody, so she pushes us to our best everyday. She's got standards for us, high standards, for sure. If weren't not playing our hardest, she sees that and will get on us until we're playing up to her standards."

Every season introduces new faces while old ones depart and this Pirates club will have to adjust to the change in teammates from last year's team. Taliya and Tatyana Wyche, junior forwards from the University of Florida, are considered to be key additions to the group after posting effective 50 percent and 57 percent shooting splits last season.

"For sure, like the team

we got, everybody's got chemistry," Joyner said. "We've been building chemistry together on and off the court, I don't see nobody stopping us. The twins (Taliya and Tatyana Wyche) are buckets. The freshmen are looking good in practice too, so it's going to be a good year for us."

Joyner had the luxury of having many older and more experienced teammates to learn from during her rookie season, and Joyner said graduate student guard Danae McNeal was one of the ones that made a important difference.

McNeal also claimed end of the season accolades like Joyner, she won the Most Improved Player award and the Defensive Player of the Year award for the AAC in her fourth season of collegiate basketball.



Danae McNeal

"It helped a lot, without Danae I don't think we would've made the tournament," Joyner said. "She's a big part of the team. She helps and does a lot for the team and she is a leader."

The women's basketball team's season tip's off on Nov. 6 at Elon University in the Schar Center before they come back home for their home opener against the University of South Carolina Upstate on Nov. 9 at 6 p.m.

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

the BiG VAPE THEORY

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