A laptop can store amazing amounts of information, but senior Mary Lyons has learned that no computer can match the learning experience achieved the old-fashioned way—reading a book.
Meet the Garvards

I love football, so I was bubbling over with questions to ask David Garrard for the cover story in this issue. I was, that is, until I remembered the tragic shooting death of Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor. Just 24, Taylor was fatally wounded inside his Miami home by robbers who allegedly had been guests at his house and returned in the night to steal valuables they saw. Taylor’s fiancé and infant daughter also were home.

By opening up his home and his private life to relatives and their friends, Taylor had unwisely exposed himself to danger. In the wake of that tragedy, wouldn’t most star athletes instinctively raise their guard a bit when talking to the media about their private lives? Would it make Garrard uncomfortable if I asked him to talk about his happy marriage to his college sweetheart and the birth of their son? The legions of his admirers in the Pirate Nation who have followed his career since college would want to know the details, to share in his personal and professional triumphs. But where, I wondered, does one draw the line these sad days between the athlete we cheer for and the private person who just wants a normal home life?

I hung up the phone and glanced at the list of questions I had jotted down to ask David and crossed off a few, not out of a fear that printing his answers might be untrue but out of respect for the family values he embraces, qualities he has repeatedly said he acquired at East Carolina.

Yes, he is a star quarterback in the NFL, and yes, he and Mary Knox Garrard ’03 both are esteemed alumni whom we hold out as among East Carolina’s great success stories. But perhaps we, more than other media outlets, should be cautious in our loving embrace to be sure we don’t smother with attention a young couple just starting their family.

Besides, David’s life on the football field is a heartwarming story in itself. Pirate fans who want to know more about his life off the field can just ask in person. The Garvards both are in North Carolina frequently to visit their families; they summer at a home on Lake Gaston. He carries a wallet full of baby pictures, many taken by Mary, who has become an accomplished photographer. Just ask, and watch him grin when he whips out the photos.

I saw the picture and caption in the last issue of East about the Rebel and its 50th anniversary. I was editor in 1962–63.

For some reason, I thought the Rebel had been discontinued or turned into a humor magazine. I’m pleased to know it still lives. Ovi Reid was the faculty advisor and we were located on the top floor of Old Austin. During my tenure as editor, I opted to join the Associated College Press as I believed that if the magazine was successful, it needed evaluation by some outside source with clout. The 1962 award was for the 1960–61 magazine. The late Carolista Fletcher Golden (daughter of English professor) was a part of our staff and Jim Stingley Jr., from Jacksonville, contributed promising poetry as did Tom Jackson, from Creedmoor, and others. Stingley made it to the Los Angeles Times and spent a number of years as a general assignment reporter. He died about 20 years ago at age 42. Tom, a former editor of the East Carolinian, is now a gentleman farmer in Sampson County.

Still ‘Feuding’

I compliment Bethany Bradsher on her article “Family Feud” in the fall issue of East in which she called North Carolina State our biggest football rival in the state. The article was interesting but I disagree with her premise. I suspect that if she took a poll among ECU football fans she would find that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to be the state team that we had most rather beat because of their refusal to play us for years and their strong efforts to squash the establishment of a medical school and university status at ECU; also, their recent unsuccessful effort to prevent the establishment of a dental school in Greenville added to the resentment. Thank you for an enjoyable magazine. I look forward to the next issue.

—Bill Jackson ’62, Kure Beach
WE BEAT WAKE IN ’63!
In his letter in the winter edition about ECU beating N.C. State in football in 1972, Paul Haung ’70 said: “It was a great win, as it was the first time ECU had beaten an ACC school in football.” That’s not true, because East Carolina beat Wake Forest 20-10 in 1963.
—Wayne L. Evans ’74, Durham

In all due respect to Mr. Haung, I think he missed the game between Wake Forest and East Carolina in the ’60s. I was there and I believe we won that game. If I am correct, that was the first ACC team EC beat. I still have the game program and news write-ups. The interesting thing about that game was (wrong) Brian Piccolo, who was then a running back for Wake Forest.
—Bob G. Daniels ’59, Wake Forest

REMEMBERING ROGER THRELF
I was saddened to read in your winter issue that Roger Thrlef had died. He was a close friend while I was at ECTC. He was not only a great quarterback but a fine person. I read that ECU now has about 24,000 students. When I entered ECTC in 1947 there were about 987 students. When I graduated in 1951 there were over 3,000 students. You are doing a great job with East. Congratulations to ECU on 100 years of providing a quality educational opportunity for so many persons.
—James L. (Jim) Ratledge ’51, Charleston, S.C.

AND DR. TODD
Your piece about Dr. Richard Todd (in the winter issue) was right on the money! Among his many credentials, Dr. Todd was an expert on the Civil War. I still have a copy of his book Civil War Finance which he autographed. A major memory from his classroom teachings is the origin of the term “soul food.” He taught that during the slavery and Civil War days when a plantation owner was to give a big party serving food, he told his slave cooks, “Now I want you to put your soul into preparing that food!”
—Robert Blake ’66, Sarasota, Fla.

THE EQUAL OF UVA?
My connection with East Carolina is through several of my children who held various degrees at varying levels from the university. (which), explains why I was able to read your fall edition. For more years than I care to remember, as a grad of both UNC and UVA I have received regularly the quarterlies of each, and although they have been in the game much longer than ECU, you are there equal in format, content and overall satisfaction derived from reading good writing. I wish you continued success.
—Thomas Hold, M.D., Warrenton

SMARTER THAN A MED STUDENT?
It has been brought to my attention that I was featured in an article in East after I was recently on a game show (Are You Smarter than a Fifth-Grader, where he won $500,000). I would be very interested in getting a copy so I could show it to my family. I am getting ready to get out of the Marine Corps and apply to medical school with the winnings.
—Capt. Robert Rutter ’U2 ’93, San Clemente, Calif.

First class of engineers graduates
East Carolina’s first class of engineers will graduate this spring, four years after the UNC Board of Governors approved creation of a degree program tailored to boost economic development in the region. About 24 ECU students representing the inaugural class of engineers are expected to receive their diplomas during commencement exercises on May 10, university officials said.

The students have been trained in an emerging field called systems engineering. Systems engineers—as opposed to civil or electrical engineers—focus on ways to integrate technology, people and organizations to achieve a specific mission. The job of a systems engineer is to find out how to best solve problems given a variety of constraints, especially time and money. Officials said that type of training is particularly needed in eastern North Carolina to bolster economic development in the region.

Ralph Rogers, dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science that houses ECU’s engineering program, first approached the Board of Governors in 2002 about creating an engineering program in Greenville. The board voted its approval in March 2004, an action followed by an unexpected flurry of criticism. Within days, N.C. State’s trustees voted 12-1 to express displeasure with the Board of Governors’ action. The resolution said State was concerned that an engineering program at East Carolina would sap money from its programs, which, with about 5,700 undergraduates, is the nation’s fifth-largest.

ECU’s engineering program became the fourth in the UNC system, joining those at N.C. State, UNC and N.C. A&T in Greensboro. At least seven private schools in the state also offer engineering. Since its inception, East Carolina’s
Planning for growth

East Carolina is developing a new facilities master plan that will guide the selection and location of new buildings on campus for the next several years. The new master plan should be completed within the next 18 months and will consolidate infrastructure planning for the entire university into one document.

“This plan has been needed for two years,” said William E. Bagnell, ECU’s director of facilities, engineering and architectural services. The previous master plan was completed in 2000 and included only the Main Campus. It did not cover planning for the Health Sciences Campus or for athletics facilities, which were treated separately.

The new master plan will focus on buildings needed to house programs in the Colleges of Education and Business, along with other buildings needed on the Health Sciences Campus, including the dental school and a family medicine center.

“Most of the growth of the institution, has changed,” said William E. Bagnell, ECU’s director of facilities, engineering and architectural services. “This plan has been needed for two years.”

Officials said ECU would seek national accreditation of its engineering programs from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) this coming fall. ABET cannot accredit a program until it has produced graduates.

Searches for two deans near end

The search for a new dean for the Brody School of Medicine and the School of Dentistry. Separate search committees have been at work for months on what Chancellor Steve Ballard has said are two critical hiring decisions.

By December, the search committee had spent about 2,200 letters and e-mail messages across the country announcing the opening. Advertisements also have appeared in several national medical journals. To assist with the search, the medical school has contracted with Witt/Kieffer, a Chicago consulting firm.

Interviews could begin as early as February, with a new medical school dean on site by late spring or early summer. A timetable has not been set, however.

Charging the 13-member committee searching for a dental school dean is Stephen Thomas, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences. That committee will contract with a still-undetermined search firm that has experience relevant to dental school dean recruitment.

Thomas said, “Our national search will enable us to find the most qualified candidate to help us build the new dental school and bring it to prominence.”

“The positions of medical school dean and vice chancellor of health sciences, traditionally the same person, will now be separate. A decision on that post will be made once the dean is in place.”

—Marion Blackburn

Help address a statewide shortage of dentists, which is especially acute in the East, where four counties have no dentists at all.

“Our national search will enable us to find the most qualified candidate to help us build the new dental school and bring it to prominence,” Thomas said. The new dean could be in place as early as the summer or fall, he said. The first dental school class of 50 could enter as early as 2011. The dean will oversee building, hiring and academic policies related to the new school.

The positions of medical school dean and vice chancellor of health sciences, traditionally the same person, will now be separate. A decision on that post will be made once the dean is in place.

—Marion Blackburn

The university is close to hiring new deans for the Brody School of Medicine and the School of Dentistry. Separate search committees have been at work for months on what Chancellor Steve Ballard has said are two critical hiring decisions.

Dr. Daniel Moore, chairman of the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation who chairs the 20-member medical school dean’s search committee, said the group has met weekly since August to develop guidelines and procedures for applications. “We are very focused on finding a new dean,” Moore said.

“The search will include physicians in medical specialties not currently part of the medical school and will actively seek minority candidates. “Consideration of minority candidates is an important part of our goal,” Moore said.
Boddie endows Heart Institute

Two major centers within the new East Carolina Heart Institute will be named for the Pitt Family of Rocky Mount family that pledged $500,000 toward costs of the pediatric cardiology and cardiac diagnostics units. “We are happy that we are in a position to contribute to a worthy cause that will mean so much to the people of eastern North Carolina,” said Mayo Boddie, chairman of Boddie-Noell Enterprises, David Whitchurch, chairman of the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, said, “Their gift will help us improve services to both children and adults with heart problems in our community.”

The ECHI comprises two buildings. The ECU building, funded by state appropriations and private contributions, is under construction on the medical campus. It will house offices and research labs for cardiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, vascular surgeons and scientists. The four-story, 206,000-square-foot, $60 million building also will house outpatient treatment facilities, clinical services for patients, physicians and scientists. The six-story, 375,000-square-foot, $150 million cardiovascular bed tower Pitt County will house operating rooms, 13 interventional labs and 120 patient beds.

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The agreement calls for an integration of the two schools’ clinical research programs. ECU doctors and patients now will have access to research results at Lineberger, which is among the top 15 nationally in cancer research funding. “What (ECU’s) patients and the region will gain is access to new drugs and therapies, some of which are still under study,” said Dr. Adam Asch, associate director of the Jenkins Cancer Center.

That opens the possibility, for example, of patients from eastern North Carolina receiving bone marrow transplants and post-surgical care in Greenville, rather than having to travel to Chapel Hill, Asch said. The agreement “sets out the framework and a direction, and I think that five years from now our relationship is likely to be tighter and more significant,” Asch added.

The agreement “represents another significant partnership in medical education with UNC Chapel Hill,” said ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard. “This is a major development for students receiving bone marrow transplants and post-surgical care in Greenville, rather than having to travel to Chapel Hill. This agreement will allow us to better serve our patients in eastern North Carolina.”

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Somatic gene correction

Two UNC Board of Governors voted to name two centers to ECU’s School of Allied Health Sciences and the Nursing of Students, East Carolina now encompasses nine colleges as well as the medical school and the graduate school.

Dorms to get sprinklers

Sprinkler systems will be installed in Cotton and Fleming residence halls this summer at a cost of about $1 million. Aycock and Jones are scheduled to get sprinklers in the summer of 2009. All UNC campuses must install sprinklers in all residence halls by 2010. ECU has more residence hall rooms than any of the 16 campuses.

Student fees rising by $38

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously for an $38 increase in student fees for the coming academic year, the smallest increase in several years. Currently, fees are $1,423 annually for a full-time in-state student, plus a $144 technology fee and a $220 health service fee. A semester at ECU now will cost $2,245 in tuition and $1,961 in total fees.

Water use cut by 17%

Conservation measures cut the university’s water consumption by 4.4 million gallons, or 17 percent, in one month last fall. Officials said most lawn watering was stopped and fountains were shut off. The outside pool at the Student Recreation Center also was taken off line. About all non- necessary use of water was halted.

Requirement delayed

East Carolina delayed requiring all students to carry health insurance next school year, but officials said the mandate may come in fall 2010. Chancellor Steve Ballard put off a decision on a hard-waiver policy, which would allow full-time students to carry insurance or buy it through the university. More financial aid will be available to students who lose next year’s waiver. Administrators estimate 9,500 ECU students who get financial aid aren’t covered under a parent’s health insurance.

Eakin honored

The College of Nursing is naming its first endowed distinguished professorship for former Chancellor Richard Eakin, who led ECU from 1987 to 2001. The professorship will support a nurse scientist who will specialize in research into the health needs of eastern North Carolinians. The endowment is made possible by a $667,000 challenge grant from the C.D. Spangler Foundation and $333,000 in state matching funds.

Dr. Sam Sears, a nationally recognized leader in the psychological care of patients with implanatable cardiac devices, has been named to the position of director of health psychology in the Department of Cardiarcial Sciences at the Brody School of Medicine. Sears will oversee the development of the doctoral program in health psychology at the new East Carolina Heart Institute.

The founders of the North Carolina Literary Review—Alex Albright, professor of creative writing; Evi Roberts, professor emeritus of graphic design; and W. Krats Sparrow, former dean of Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, were recognized for their longtime commitment and development of the state’s literary journal of record. The award was presented at ECU’s Fourth Annual Literary Homecoming, a two-day celebration of writers with roots in North Carolina.

Professor of literature and folklore C.W. Sullivan III won a Fulbright grant to study and teach in Hungary. He left in January to be senior lecturer in English Studies at the University of Debrecen, which is about 100 miles east of Budapest. He visited the university last January to address the Hungarian Society for the Study of English.

Scott Snyder, senior associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, retired after a 20-year career at ECU. He started as an assistant professor in 1987 and became a full professor in 1993. He spent 10 years in director of graduate studies for the Department of Geology, then served as chair of the department from 1998–99. In 1998, Snyder became director of the NSF program in coastal resources management.

Dr. Cynda Johnson, senior associate vice chancellor for clinical and translational research, resigned to become the dean of the new medical school at Virginia Tech. The school is planning its first class for 2010.

Kenny Flowers, former executive director of the N.C. Rural Development Council within the state Department of Commerce, was named to the position of assistant director of health psychology in the Department of Cardiarcial Sciences at the Brody School of Medicine. Sears will oversee the development of the doctoral program in health psychology at the new East Carolina Heart Institute.

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Dr. Cynda Johnson, senior associate vice You should go
CELEBRATING CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

Speculum Musicae, the New York-based ensemble serving as Robert L. Jones Distinguished Visiting Professor of Music this year, will be the featured guest artists during the this year’s New Music@ECU Festival, which runs Feb. 27-March 2.

The 12-member ensemble earned a 2003 Grammy nomination for its recording of Elliott Carter’s Oboe Quartet. Speculum Musicae is composed of some of New York’s most gifted musicians who work together in a co-operative organizational structure.

This year’s New Music@ECU Festival program celebrating contemporary music—will include performances by some of the world’s most exciting composers, performers, conductors and reading sessions of student composers’ works. Most performances will take place in A.J. Fletchere Recital hall.

Speculum Musicae will perform Feb. 29 at 8 p.m.; the ECU New Music Camerata will perform March 1 at 3 p.m.; pianist Arnon Erez, speculum Musicae will perform Feb. 29 at 10 a.m., will perform feb. 29 at 10 a.m.; cellist Zvi Plesser will join artistic director Ara Gergorian on viola to play Shostakovich’s String Sextet. gregorian and others will perform March 27–28. Pianist Arnon Erez, speculum Musicae will perform Feb. 29 at 10 a.m.

Those not able to attend the festival may watch performances broadcast live on radio.

PERFORMING ARTS

The State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico conducted by Enrique Batiz, will perform at Wright Auditorium Feb. 13. The performance, part of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series, will include Rachmaninoff’s Third Piano Concerto and Mendelssohn’s Reformation Symphony.

The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre’s production of Romeo and Juliet will take place April 8 at Wright Auditorium.

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SYMPHONY

The ECU Symphony Orchestra will offer concerts on March 2, with works from the contemporary repertoire by Richardson, Novak and Adams; and April 20, with works by Beethoven, Martinu and Respighi.

CHORAL MUSIC

The University Chorus and St. Cecilia Singers, under conductor Jeff Ward, will present a concert Feb. 24 that will include works by Debussy, Britten and several American composers. The annual High School Singers Symposium will conclude with a concert April 20; the ECU Chamber Singers under conductor Daniel Bara will join the scholastic choristers in performances of works by Faure, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff. Immediately following the symposium, the Chamber Singers are traveling to Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. The Chamber Singers will be in concert in Schlesinger Hall at National City Christian Church in Washington, D.C. and will offer clinics and master classes at high schools March 21 and April 3. The University Chorus, Choral Scholars and St. Cecilia Singers will present a concert April 2 that will include Mozart’s Missa Brevis and works by Handel, Haydn, Vivaldi and Mendelssohn. The ECU Chamber Singers will sing Rachmaninoff’s Vespers at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church April 27. The work will be performed in Russian a cappella.

CHAMBER MUSIC

The popular Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival continues its music-making on the road in 2008. The festival programs will include a March 26 performance at the Timague Theater in Washington, N.C., and on campus March 27-28. Pianist Aroon Erez, violist Ettala Shapira and harpist Shaham and cellist Zvi Plesser join artistic director Ara Gergorian on viola to play Shostakovich’s Allegretto for String Quartet; Elgara’s Piano Quintet in A minor, Op. 84; and Brahms’ Piano Quintet in F Minor, Op. 34. The group also will perform April 23 at the Timague Theater. April 24-25 at ECU and April 26 in Columbia, N.C. The performers will be Elaina Vilahla, violin; Hsin-Yun Huang, viola; Maria Lambros, viola; Raman Rakeshrin, cello, and Gergorian, violin. The festival players will return to Carnegie Hall in New York Feb. 23 at 8:30 p.m. During most of the performance, the group will play as Concertante, a chamber music sextet. Gergorian and others will perform Schumann’s Adagio and Allegro; Brahms’ String Sextet in B-flat Major, Op. 18; and piano music by Chopin. Joining Gergorian will be pianist Adam Weinman, violinist Arvo Gregorian Resnik and cellist Sarah Carter. The 2007-08 season will conclude with a May 23-28 tour of Israel, where concerts will be given in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Rishon La Zion and Ramanna. The May 26 concert at Henry Crown Hall in Jerusalem will be broadcast live on radio.

2008 Spring Arts Calendar

Audiences, March 14, and All Aboard America as staged by Storybook Theatre, April 11. The ECU Opera Theatre will present Mozart’s The Magic Flute, which is among the dozen most frequently performed operas in North America, March 5-7.

FLORA, THE RED MENACE

FLORA, THE RED MENACE

Book by David Thompson and Music by John Kander and Lyrics by Fred Ebb

An Unforgettable Musical From the Creators of Chicago and Cabaret

Chamber Singers Release Album

The ECU Chamber Singers have released an album of classical English works, entitled Greater Love, which was recorded in St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Greenville using the church’s new Fris organ. The album includes such masterpieces for choir as Britten’s Rejoice in the Lamb, Handel’s Greater Love Hath No Man, and Howell’s Requiem. The album can be ordered online at www.gothic-catalog.com.

WHO’S IN TOWN?
The university’s fourth annual Youth Arts Festival, sponsored by the School of Art and Design, is scheduled April 20 from 3-4 p.m. on the ECU Mall. Past festivals, more than 100 visual and performing artists from the university and across the region have exhibited and performed. The event has included such activities and demonstrations as wheel-thrown ceramics, watercolor painting, weaving, felting, papermaking, printmaking and portraiture.

2008 Spring Arts Calendar
David Garrard’s *summa cum* season

The Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback enjoys a stellar year on the field, but it’s his happy home life, and a new baby, that he cherishes most.

By Steve Tuttle
David Garrard ‘01 is too nice of a guy to say “I told you so” to the critics who thought he didn’t have the skills to excel as a starting quarterback in the National Football League. Some sportswriters had pigeonholed Garrard as a good backup but not the star who could lead a team through a winning season and into the playoffs. In case they haven’t noticed, that’s exactly what he just did.

Six years after leaving East Carolina holding 28 school records in football, Garrard finally got the chance to prove he’s a blue-chip NFL player. Officially tapped as the starting quarterback at the beginning of the season, Garrard relied on deadly accurate passes and timely runs to lead the Jacksonville Jaguars to an 11-5 record and a spot in the playoffs. At one point in the season he completed 230 consecutive passes without an interception and was hailed as a David among the NFL quarterback Goliaths.

His last-second, fourth-down scramble for 32 yards to get the Jags within field-goal range to beat the Steelers in the AFC wild-card game instantly became an ESPN highlight reel. Analysts saw it as a career-defining moment validating his new spot among the NFL’s elite, sealing his reputation for winning big games, often while coming from behind.

Garrard never would say “I told you so” because that would involve negative thoughts, and Garrard just doesn’t “do” negative—not even during the three and a half years he labored in the shadows as the Jags’ No. 2 QB. “I felt that if I was patient, not causing a fuss and remaining positive, that would get me there eventually [as the starter],” he says. “There were things I couldn’t control. What I could control was getting better every year, improving my skills. And I just wanted to do those things and focus on being a good teammate and a person the coaches could always count on.”

Making this breakthrough year even more special for Garrard is the joy he experienced in becoming a father. In September he and his wife, Mary Knox Garrard ‘03—the college sweetheart he proposed to on the giant TV screen at a 2003 game at Jacksonville Municipal Stadium—celebrated the birth of a son, Justin.

“Family life is something that is important to me,” he says in voice that is warm and genuine. He was 14 when his mother died; he and a younger sister were raised mainly by two older brothers. “I had my two brothers and my sister, and we tried to keep our family going [after her mother died]. When I got married my wife became a big part of my life, and now with the baby we are a complete family.”

It seems entirely appropriate that the year David Garrard became a complete NFL player also was the year his family was completed.

A diamond in the rough

As a tall, husky ninth grader trying to look like either of them. Except for his arm.

David Garrard was the state’s top-rated high school quarterback in 1997 and received scholarship offers from several football powerhouse schools. Based on his size and speed, most college recruiters saw him not as a quarterback but as a linebacker or defensive end, like Julius Peppers. Luckily for East Carolina, Garrard had attended summer football camp in Greenville and caught the eye of then coach Steve Logan, who in recent years had produced two NFL-quality quarterbacks, Jeff Blake and Marcus Crandell.

Garrard reportedly weighed 268 pounds when he arrived at camp and didn’t look like either of them. Except for his arm.

“He came to our football camp and I asked him where he played,” Logan recalled in a 2001 newspaper article. “I was figuring he was a defensive lineman. He said, ‘quarterback.’ Then he threw one over the elementary school across the street [from the football stadium], and I thought, ‘Maybe you are a quarterback.’”

Garrard redshirted his freshman year while spending time in the weight room turning baby fat into muscle. Going into the 1998 season, he was among a few rookies trying out for the quarterback jobs. Logan tried each, then gave Garrard his first start in a midseason game at Alabama. East Carolina was outmatched and fell behind 21-0 but Garrard and the Pirates came back late, forcing the Tide to complete a two-point

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—Steve Logan, former ECU football coach
No. 9-ranked Miami. Pirate fans still are in West Virginia, South Carolina and then four consecutive victories, beating Duke, the team didn't disappoint. Expectations understandably were high the next year, and the team didn't disappoint. It was even his best college game. The score was tied 31-31 with 2:12 left in the game. I could not have written it any better. "But the game got away from us and the score was 20-3 at the half. Our backs were against the wall. But that night our fans were great; there wasn't an empty seat in the house. At halftime they were cheering so hard all we could hear [in the locker room] was 'E-C-U' and 'Pirates.' We just came out hard all we could hear [in the locker room] was 'E-C-U' and 'Pirates.' We just came out and turned it on in the second half. I threw the game-winning touchdown at the end of the game. I could not have written it any better."

It was just one of many magical scripts Garrard eventually would write in the ECU record books, including the last game of that woeful 1999 season when the Pirates beat N.C. State 23-6 in the Wolfpack's first game in Greenville.

The Pirates finished that season 9-2 and were ranked in the Top 20 but lost a tough bowl game to highly-touted Texas Christian. There were more heurics his junior season in 2000, which produced an 8-3 record with notable victories over Syracuse and Louisville and an impressive bowl victory over Texas Tech. But his senior season was marked by disappointments and frustration. Weakened by injuries and the loss of the team's strong and conditioning coach, ECU won only two of its first five games. But then the team, led by 20 seniors, seemed to regain its stride and notched four straight wins, including road victories over TCU and Cincinnati. Ahead was a season-ending showdown against Southern Miss.

That last game of the 2001 season— Garrard's final game in Dowdy-Ficklen—left a sour taste in many mouths. Hoping for a big TV audience, Conference USA and ESPN scheduled the game for a Friday night, which in North Carolina traditionally is reserved for high school games. A storm of criticism engulfed the team and, more broadly, the university. The game began with an announced attendance of some 30,000 but the stadium looked half empty. The Pirates led early but then gave up five turnovers and lost the game, 28-21.

The Miami miracle
Expectations understandably were high the next year, and the team didn't disappoint. The Pirates opened the 1999 season with four consecutive victories, beating Duke, West Virginia, South Carolina and then No. 9-ranked Miami. Pirate fans still are in awe of the last two of those games, which occurred just past and just after Hurricane Floyd. Playing in Columbia, ECU beat the Gamecocks 23-3 as the deadly hurricane approached and was left stranded by the worsening weather. South Carolina opened its dorms and allowed the team to practice on its fields. After the hurricane passed, it was evident ECU couldn't play Miami on Saturday in waterlogged Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. N.C. State stepped forward to offer its Carter-Finley Stadium as the host site.

Garrard picks up the story at that point. "I remember so clearly going down to South Carolina, beating them, then having the hurricane roll through and flood out our town, having to stay in South Carolina the whole week and then playing the Miami game in Carter-Finley. They had that whole Miami mystique about them. It was just so cool."

"But the game got away from us and the score was 20-3 at the half. Our backs were against the wall. But that night our fans were great; there wasn't an empty seat in the house. At halftime they were cheering so hard all we could hear [in the locker room] was 'E-C-U' and 'Pirates.' We just came out and turned it on in the second half. I threw the game-winning touchdown at the end of the game. I could not have written it any better."

Still, ECU was invited to the GMAC Bowl to play Marshall, led by quarterback Byron Leftwich. That game also started well for the Pirates, who cruised to a 38-8 halftime lead. But disaster struck in the second half. Garrard fumbled once and was picked off twice. The poorly played game ended in a 51-31 tie. Marshall ultimately won 64-61 after two overtime periods. It still stands as the highest-scoring game in college bowl history.

Turning pro
In three and a half years as ECU's starting quarterback, Garrard gained 9,029 yards passing and 1,209 yards rushing. He threw 60 touchdown passes and rushed for 21 more. In his four years on the team the Pirates won 29 games and played in three bowl games. But after football practice he says he was just another college student banging out with his friends.

"I went downtown probably too much," Garrard laughs. "I had two really good roommates—Corey Floyd, a tight end on the team, and Charlie Robinson, who was a defensive back. We went to parties, played a lot of PlayStation and all the video games. It was through Kevin Miller, the kicker on the team, that I met my wife, and started hanging out with her friends. It was fun, doing all the things that college kids are supposed to do."

Completing a bachelor's degree in construction management, Garrard was drafted in the fourth round by the Jacksonville Jaguars as the backup to veteran Mark Brunell. Garrard adapted to life as a pro, but he admits he became lonely for his college friends, lonely for his family. During the preseason in his second year in Jacksonville he decided to pop the question to the girl he had left behind in Greenville. A teammate helped Garrard set up the surprise during the fourth quarter of a game they knew she would be attending.

"The stadium announcer asked if there was a Mary Knox in the stands, that she should turn her attention to the Jumbotron. And it says 'Mary Knox, will you marry me?'" I went to find her in the stands and the cameras were following me but she wasn't sitting where I thought she was. She was sitting on the other side of the stadium with my family, so I couldn't find her. It wasn't until after the game in the parking that I was able to find her and finally officially get down on my knee and propose."

But there were some low moments in that 2003 season. After apprenticing under Brunell, Garrard had hopes of becoming the starting quarterback. But the Jaguars drafted Leftwich, and when Brunell was injured in the fourth game of the season, the coaches tapped Leftwich, not Garrard, to lead the team. An even greater disappointment came in the spring of 2004 when Garrard suddenly became ill. He developed sharp pains in his stomach, lost 35 pounds and was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, which is a chronic...
inflammation of the lining of the intestines. Surgeons removed about a foot of his intestines and followed that with infusions of immune suppressant drugs. Under Mary’s watchful eye, Garrard bounced back to rosy health. Just months after his surgery, he got a rare start in a game against the Detroit Lions and threw the game-winning touchdown in overtime.

Although he’s enjoyed many victories since then, he says that game will always stand out as his finest moment as a professional athlete. “Up until then there were questions about whether I could be a starting quarterback. On top of that there were the other questions about my health. I was happy to answer all these questions.”

Garrard remained the backup to Leftwich through the 2005 and ‘06 seasons. But he dedicated himself to improving his skills at reading defensive formations. At the start of the ‘07 season, the Jaguars abruptly cut Leftwich and named Garrard the starter. A midseason ankle injury kept him out of four games. In 12 games as the signal caller, he threw for 2,509 yards with 18 touchdown passes and only three interceptions. His 102.2 rating—the key measure of a quarterback’s proficiency—was third-best in the NFL.

Strong community ties
In his six years there, Garrard has established strong ties to the Jacksonville community. In memory of his mother, he volunteers his time for media events and public appearances at Baptist Cancer Institute in Jacksonville. He’s also given quite a bit of his time volunteering with the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America and travels around the country appearing at special camps for pediatric Crohn’s patients. Although he’s the star athlete in town, Garrard doesn’t do many local TV and radio commercials. “The family comes first,” he told a Jacksonville sports writer last fall. “I’m not going to get carried away with [endorsements]. I don’t want to be sleeping in this locker room.”

Garrard, who signed a three-year contract extension with the Jaguars in 2005 that came with a $2 million signing bonus, is just hitting his stride as an athlete, but he’s not necessarily hoping for a long career in the NFL. He faced Vinny Testaverde, the oldest quarterback in the NFL, in a late-season game against the Panthers. Would he want to still be playing when he’s 44?

“Absolutely not. Even if I could play quarterback at that age, I wouldn’t want to. I am a family guy. I have a family life and I don’t want to go on missing the holidays away from my family. You know, we [the Jaguars] are working constantly for months at a stretch, and I miss having Thanksgiving and Christmas. I have to have that in my life.

[Family helps] keeps things in perspective. When I got sick [with Crohn’s], that put things in perspective. That showed why family is so important because I came so close to not being here. What I know is, when you get upset with your family, don’t let that last because your family is all there is that is important.”

Garrard maintains strong ties to ECU. He continues wearing the No. 9 jersey he wore in college. During post-game press conferences this season he’s often sported a Pirate-purple jacket. His smiling face pops up on the video screen at Dowdy-Ficklen exhorting ECU fans to make some noise. He and Mary return to the area several times a year to visit their families and to attend university events. They also own a house on Lake Gaston and spend a lot of time there in the off-season.

Mainly, he focuses on remaining level-headed. “I know it will not always be peaches and cream for me, on the field and at home, but I have been through some tough times and I know how to balance the good and bad and keep moving forward to be a better player. And now, I just want to be a better parent.”

David among the Goliaths

NFL quarterbacks are ranked according to their passing proficiency. The best have a high pass-completion rate, a lot of touchdowns and not many interceptions. An overall score of 100 is considered very good. According to league statistics, here are the five best quarterbacks for the 2007 season.

**NFL PASSING LEADERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
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<th>Rating</th>
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<td>Tom Brady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Roethlisberger</td>
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<td>Dallas Cowboys</td>
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Additional photos of Garrard are at our web site, www.ecu.edu/east.
You don’t have to bleed purple and gold to become a lawyer in Phillip Dixon’s office. But you’d better have a Pirate sheepskin. The three other attorneys in the Greenville firm of Dixon Conner Allen & Garcia are all ECU graduates because that’s the way the senior partner wants it. It’s one way Dixon ’71 shows his loyalty to his alma mater.

He’s demonstrated that loyalty countless times by donating many hours of his time to serving the university, including stints on the Board of Visitors and the Board of Trustees. Currently he’s one of only three ECU graduates on the UNC System Board of Governors.

What motivates him so deeply to continue serving ECU? He says it’s because the university changed his life so dramatically after he arrived on campus in 1967 from the town of Wake Forest, the son of a broken family experiencing severe economic pain.

“We were really poor. We lived on a dirt road next to railroad tracks,” Dixon remembers. “My dad was a handyman at Wake Forest College when it was in Wake Forest, and after the college moved in 1955, our two movie theaters closed, our grocery store closed. And yet we bought a house because he had saved some money.”

The college’s move to Winston-Salem disrupted the town and the Dixon household. Dixon’s father wanted to relocate with the college to Winston-Salem but his mother didn’t, so his parents separated when Dixon was 9. The family soon moved to Raleigh, where Dixon received his first exposure—indirectly—to East Carolina, as a junior high and high school student.

“My [high school] teachers

Grateful for what ECU made him, Phil Dixon gives back with his advocacy and advice.

By Steve Row
Excited to be here

Carrying a “beat-up suitcase I got at W.T. Grant,” Dixon was so excited about going to college that he arrived on the Greenville campus a day before he was supposed to, and the only other student he encountered was someone from the Bahamas, “and he was freezing in August.”

The handyman’s son did well at East Carolina, “probably better than most people thought I would. I made something like a 3.94 [GPA] my first year. When I was in high school, I was so worried about failing out that I probably worked too hard,” he laughs. Dixon majored in business administration, although he initially thought he would go into coaching or a career in business. But he also took a business law course, and the idea of being a lawyer interested him.

He was elected vice president of the Student Government Association his junior year, where he learned to debate rules and defend his position. He set his sights on law school at UNC Chapel Hill and got accepted. There, he attracted enough attention to receive an invitation from the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill to serve a summer internship as one of 25 students of Government in Chapel Hill to serve a term on the North Carolina Law Review, at the suggestion of the law school dean (whose name, interestingly enough, was Dixon Phillips). In his second year, he worked for then-Attorney General Robert Morgan ’47, and as he was finishing law school, he interviewed for a position with Judge Naomi Morris on the N.C. Court of Appeals.

“The first thing she said to me was, ‘I don’t think much of your school. Doesn’t everyone refer to it as EUTC?’”

“I told her that I had a wonderful experience at ECU, and all my professors were quite good. She smiled back and laughed and said, ‘You’re hired!’ Dixon says Morris proved to be a great teacher, especially because she had a master’s degree in English and was a stickler for clear writing.

Educatng the law

After clerking for Morris for a year while living in Raleigh, he returned to Greenville in 1975 to work at a local law firm. Three years later he organized his own firm and developed a special interest in education law. A friend who was a local school board member asked Dixon if he would be the school board’s attorney. That was nearly 30 years ago, and Dixon has served continuously as school board attorney for either Greenville city or Pitt County schools. He also has served as attorney for Washington County schools for more than 12 years and has provided legal services to 18 other school systems.

Dixon also represents Pitt and Martin community colleges and has represented Carteret, Bladen and Halifax community colleges as well as the College of the Albemarle. At the state level, he has represented the N.C. Association of Community College Trustees. He is a former chairman of the N.C. Council of School Attorneys and the Education Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. Dixon’s firm also specializes in municipal and utilities law and works in business and real estate as well as estate planning and administration.

Currently, his firm’s other lawyers are Ernest L. Conner Jr., ’84, W. Lee Allen III ’89 and Adrian A. Garcia ’02. Dixon says he expects two of his sons to join the firm one day soon. Phil Jr. is finishing his law degree at N.C. Central University, and Scott, an ECU junior, plans to enter law school after graduation. Middle son David chose an entirely different field and now plays guitar for the beach music group the Embers.

Be willing to pay the price

Here are Phil Dixon’s “Rules to Live By,” which he shared with graduates as the speaker at the winter 2005 ceremonies:

1. Be willing to pay the price. You graduates have already invested four or more years as a down payment, while some of your former high school classmates decided to spend those past four or more years elsewhere beginning their careers. Today most of them are already earning what they can expect to earn for the rest of their lives. Don’t throw that down payment you have made away.

2. Be self-disciplined. Discipline is simply control. If you don’t control yourself, someone else will, or no one else will. Either case will be less desirable than self-control.


4. Learn to get along with others. Studies confirm over and over again that people do not lose their jobs because they don’t have the technical know-how and the requisite skills. Most frequently, they simply cannot get along with other people.

5. Be a dreamer. We need more people in the workplace saying “why not?”

6. Take risks. Don’t be afraid to fail.

7. Stay informed. Wealth was once measured in gold. Now it is measured in what we know.

8. Be ethical. Right has been, and always will be, right.

9. Have some fun. Choose a job you love, and you will never work a day in your life.

10. Define success in your own terms. Some people spend their lives climbing the ladder of success only to find that when they get to the top, the ladder is leaning against the wrong building. Decide what you want.
Phil Dixon is the hardest-working man I've ever known," says Randy Doubs '77, a former law partner and now U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina. "He gives everything 110 percent, and if he takes on a project, you can bet the ranch it will be done perfectly.

"He is also one of the finest men I've ever known," Doubs adds. "He hired me as a summer law clerk in 1977, and I went with the firm in 1980, so we practiced law together for almost 26 years. I know him as an excellent attorney, always prepared."

Carl Joyner '71, says Dixon "can't say no. He always runs at 90 mph, and he's been such a great friend to his university, his employers, his family and his community," Joyner, senior financial advisor and trust officer at Old North State Trust LLC in Greenville, had need to have special certificates printed up for members. I have one framed in my office right now," Doubs says.

An all-round Pirate
But Dixon is more than just a sports fan. He is a former chairman of the ECU Board of Trustees and former president of the East Carolina Alumni Association, and he received the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Service award. He has been chairman of the Pitt Community College Board of Trustees and former president of the Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

"He is very committed to the [Greenville] community and to the ECU community," Doubs says. "He's served in about every organization that exists in Greenville, and he's served in leadership roles. He does all these things selflessly, and he puts his whole heart and soul into that vision of where ECU ought to go. He doesn't play golf, and he doesn't seem to have any real hobbies other than community service."

"That's what I do for fun," Dixon says. "I want to be a big-brother type. I go to the hospital once or twice a week, helping with wills and powers of attorney."

He also has been on the receiving end of community outreach—when his wife, Mamie, was diagnosed with cancer several years ago. "I can't tell you how many people helped us. They came out of the woodwork," he recalls. "My most profoundly satisfying experience has been working for the United Way, after seeing so many agencies come to our assistance."

He and Mamie met as students at East Carolina. She completed a bachelor of music degree in 1974 and a master's in 1976. They celebrated their 30th anniversary in November. She teaches yoga classes at the ECU Student Recreation Center.

Dixon was named to the UNC Board of Governors in 2005, where he has been able to take his loyalty to ECU to a larger arena. East Carolina's enrollment growth in recent years has made the university more of a player in state higher education circles, and Dixon wants to be "sort of a conscience" to remind other board members about ECU's rising stature.

"We're not the runt of the litter. We have a place at the table. We have the best distance education program, we produce more teachers and more health professionals. And kids who come here from poorer areas past flower," he says. "But we have to do a lot on our own."

His passion for ECU draws praise from Chancellor Steve Ballard, who calls Dixon "an indefatigable supporter of ECU whose energy, historical perspective and commitment make him an excellent member of the Board of Governors and a true friend of ECU."

Ballard foresees Dixon becoming "a champion for the 'new ECU' as portrayed in our strategic plan. That is, ECU leads the state in the service mission and has also grown to a place where we have the respect of the higher education community and can expect the necessary resources to fuel our vision and mission."

"Why did I stay so close to ECU? I could never pay them back. I had never had a steak, never had real spaghetti, never had so many vegetables. I went to the travel film series, the summer theater here. They gave me a life. I came here with low self-esteem, poor as a church mouse, and I went through such a metamorphosis. Plus, it was interesting."

—Phil Dixon

the planet. Jim Hicks '71, a classmate and fraternity brother who also roomed with Dixon for a year in Raleigh, says Dixon always was "very driven, organized, active and a hard worker. When we were living in Raleigh, while he was clerking at the Court of Appeals, he ran the campus chapter of the Order of the Crow, which referred to the crow's nest of a pirate ship and to a Greenville restaurant called the Crow's Nest. "We'd meet for lunch every Friday and have the chicken special and talk about Pirate athletics. He took the initiative to have special certificates printed up for members. I have one framed in my office right now," Doubs says.

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—Phil Dixon
You hear mostly positive comments from students about East Carolina’s new $18.7 million computer system called Banner—that it simplifies registering for classes, that it makes it easier and faster to get financial aid checks, that it allows them to transact business with the university entirely online. They say they’re encouraged that it eliminates using Social Security numbers as an identifier, which reduces identity theft concerns.

In the few months that Banner has been up and running, students seem to have accepted it as the logical next step to the OneStop system they’re familiar with. In OneStop, students could search the course catalog, check on parking tickets and see if tuition payments were due. Banner expands those features to allow professors to post homework assignments online and for students to submit them online. Students who don’t take good notes or lose the class handout can usually go to the professor’s Banner web site and download those, complete with PowerPoint presentations and study materials.

Actually, the students themselves aren’t saying all that much about Banner because to them it isn’t that big of a deal. They are the first generation of college students who have never known when a computer wasn’t a central part of the classroom.

The ones who are commenting about Banner are ECU administrators and staff, and not always favorably. They have had to learn how to use the new software to complete a myriad of administrative tasks, and mastering new methods of completing old chores can be difficult.

### Virtual classrooms

Sophomore Matt Kucinich, an urban planning major from Herndon, Va., seems nonplussed by the fact that one of the few actual, hold-in-your-hand documents that he has received from East Carolina was his acceptance letter. Almost every other interaction he has had with the university since then has been via computer.

He applied to ECU by e-mail after researching the web sites of several schools. He submitted the required admissions essay as an e-mail attachment. “Every application I submitted was online,” he shrugs. “I didn’t do one single hard copy.”

When Kucinich arrived as a freshman, he met with his advisor, who handed him a list of classes he should take the first few semesters. Kucinich then signed up for those classes from the comfort of his dorm room, using his wireless laptop, through OneStop.

While OneStop was good for handling many academic functions, the university relied on other software systems to manage tuition payments and financial aid. Still other systems managed administrative tasks. And because all of this information resided in different databases, the various software systems couldn’t “talk” to each other. Worse, they all relied on a student’s Social Security number as the only form of acceptable identification, making identify theft a constant concern. A rare breach in security in February 2007 potentially exposed thousands of ECU students’ Social Security numbers to unauthorized users.

East Carolina solved most or all of those problems with the launch of Banner, a four-
Learning in cyberspace

It’s not only the big tasks like admission and registration that have been transformed by technology. Daily classroom attendance, studying and homework are all now supported by cyberspace.

When Kucinich attends his first day in a new class, the professor reminds the students that the syllabus and class requirements can be found on Blackboard. Some professors still distribute printed syllabi and some still require homework assignments to be physically carried to the classroom, but Kucinich says that more often than not he is encouraged by his teachers to complete quizzes, homework and papers online.

“They’re a lifesaver,” he says. “I think the best thing is doing the homework online, and being able to submit it that way. There’s no forgetting it. It’s just a click away.”

Al Burne, a lecturer in the planning department, is Kucinich’s advisor and has taught several of his classes. He is also fully linked to Blackboard, using the program to communicate information with his students and to post lecture notes or other material they might need.

“It’s made teaching much more efficient,” said Burne, who has been teaching for eight years. “If they miss a handout or something like that, they know where to go to get it.”

Which is not to say that Blackboard doesn’t present some new challenges for professors, Burne said. For one thing, many of the assignments in the planning department involve drawing and submitting detailed maps online, and those files are so big that it used to tie up Burne’s e-mail inbox when students submitted them. Now the assignments come through the Blackboard server instead of his personal inbox, which has increased his efficiency.

Teaching in a digital age

When he’s not logged on to Banner, Kucinich—like nearly every other college student on the planet—is spending time on Facebook, a social networking website that allows members to post pictures, communicate with each other and plan get-togethers. On one hand it’s the ultimate online time-waster—Kucinich said it’s one of the places he visits when he’s supposed to be doing online schoolwork—but it also has served a valuable purpose for groups of students that need to work together.

When Kucinich is given a group assignment, he starts by finding the members of his group on Facebook. He “friends” them, he says, (asks them to join his friend network), then makes a special Facebook group so that they can talk online. From there, they can easily talk about progress or plan work sessions.

Because Kucinich has never known life as a student without the constant companionship of the Internet, he is quick to learn new systems like Banner when they come along. Anything that makes his campus life more convenient is welcome, he says.

Teaching administrators and staff members to use Banner has been harder because they have to learn new ways to do their jobs. The university spent more than $6 million bringing in consultants to teach Banner to its employees.

“My daughter knows more about Banner than I do sometimes, and I’m in charge of it,” Sweet said. “Students are so much quicker to pick these things up.”
Ask the average Pirate fan and it’s doubtful they would correctly answer this question: What is the winningest sports program in East Carolina history? It isn’t football or baseball. It’s swimming and diving, the sport where a 7-4 season is considered a major slump and the coach just notched his 400th win.
Walk into Minges Natatorium and the first thing you see are the trophy cases crammed with gleaming plaques and statues—conference championships, All-American awards, three national championship ribbons. Dozens of other plaques and commemorations hang in neat rows down the long hallways outside the pool area. Apparently, the trophies do pile up when you’ve had 25 consecutive years without a losing season.

That’s the remarkable distinction achieved rather quietly this year by the swim team. The 61 men and women athletes on the team hardly slowed their strokes to celebrate. They just kept practicing in search of even more milestones. Head coach Rick Kobe, who has led the program for 26 years, is confident that even greater successes lie ahead.

“As good as we are this year—and I say this every year—I think we’re going to be better next year,” says Kobe, who has coached 29 National Collegiate Athletic Association qualifiers and four All-Americans at East Carolina. “I think we’re just going to keep on going.”

After a fall dual meet season that included competitors such as N.C. State and UNC Wilmington, the women’s team was undefeated and the men’s team had lost only to the Wolfpack. In the Nike Cup, a competition that included UNC Chapel Hill and other ACC schools, the Pirate swimmers qualified for 50 finals and women’s diver Christie Icenhower took first place in the 3-meter event.

**Diving right in**

Pirate swimming began with a big splash in the 1950s when the program started under legendary coach Ray Martinez, one of the early proponents of what is now known as biomechanics. By studying swim strokes and dives on film, and applying the principles of mechanics and motion, he was able to convert wildly thrashing arms and legs into smoothly functioning windmills in the water. He was called the “stroke doctor.”

In just its third year, the program reeled off impressive showings and won the 1957 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national championship. It was East Carolina’s first national title in any sport. In more than two decades as the swim coach, Martinez produced two NAIA national titles, 20 championship swimmers and 45 All-Americans.

Ted Gartman, a retired professor in the ECU School of Social Work, was a member of the first team Martinez fielded; he was a junior who played a major role in bringing the national title to Greenville in ’57. In those days only men competed in swimming, and the team included only right swimmers and two divers. Gartman became an All-American even though he was not a competitive swimmer until he arrived at East Carolina.

“They said they were going to have a swimming team, and one of my friends and I decided to try out,” said Gartman, who went on to be a survival swimming instructor in the Navy after graduation. “Coach Ray Martinez said he thought he might be able to make swimmers out of us, and we of course stuck with the team. That helped...
Our goal isn’t to be the winningest team on campus. Our goal is to beat other teams.” —Geoff Handsfield, swim team captain

The emphasis this season was on rolling the men’s roster after a large and talented group was lost to graduation. The result of those efforts, Kobe said, was the most gifted class in ECU history—17 new members of the men’s team who made an impact right away.

“When you come in here, there’s no growing-up process,” Kobe says. “You’d better be ready to go. [New team members] should be as talented if not more talented than the upperclassmen, if we’ve done our job recruiting correctly.”

One of those newcomers, Thiago Cavalcanti, came all the way from Brazil via Roanoke, Va., where he swam with a club team in a swimmer exchange program after finishing at his Brazilian high school. A distance swimmer, Cavalcanti has quickly adjusted the intensity of Division I training; he adjusted to the unity of the swim team, said that the swim team captain for the past three years. “Our goal is to beat other teams.”

East Carolina first fielded a women’s swim team in 1977; in the 30 years since then, the women have failed to compile a winning record only four times and only one of those came during Kobe’s tenure. Senior Aundrie Enderle, who was drawn to ECU from her Georgia home by the warmer climate and the unity of the swim team, said that the high point of this fall was her team’s victory against UNCW.

After capping off the fall season at the highly competitive Nike Cup meet, swimmers like Cavalcanti looked to their next big challenge: the swim team’s annual 10-day training trip to Florida. The setting is a 50-meter pool in a sunny location, but the focus is on shaving precious seconds off swimmers’ times in preparation for the conference championships in February and the NCAA Tournament in March. There’s also the potential for some individual swimmers to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials in July.

“Impeccating hard work, so we can do well at conference,” Cavalcanti said of the Florida trip.

Programs across the Southeast compete for the same top-level swimmers, Kobe said. But ECU often has a recruiting edge because the coaching staff has a reputation for pushing its athletes well beyond their personal bests. “When they come in here they improve,” Kobe said. “That’s why you have a good program is that kids continue to improve. There are some schools that have reputations that their kids don’t really improve that much. And that’s not fun, because all swimmers want to get fast. That’s their number one goal, is to swim faster.”

Freshman Lauren Dufault has only been competing since August but already she has taken two seconds off both her 200 butterfly and 200 individual medley times, she said. She has been swimming hard all of her life, she said, but the Pirate regimen has stretched her work ethic and brought results.

Always a family

Twelve years ago, McGee Moody had just finished his last race as a Pirate. It was the last event of the meet, and something kept him from getting out of the pool. After about 15 minutes, Kobe walked over to him and said, “You don’t want this to be done yet, do you?”

The next thing Moody knew, he was a graduate assistant under Kobe, which led to an assistant coaching job and a career path that propelled him, at the age of 33, to the head coach’s post at the University of South Carolina. He considers Kobe one of his chief mentors and the Minges Natatorium, the place where he forged lifelong bonds.

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**The Avett Brothers call the tune**

For Scott Avett ‘99 ‘00 and his bandmates, 2007 was a busy year. The Avett Brothers—Scott, Seth and Bob Crawford—released a new studio album, Emotionalism, which debuted at No. 1 on Billboard magazine’s Heatseekers Chart. They performed some 185 concerts, including some 185 concerts, including 36 East Carolina Alumni Association scholarship recipients—Scott, brother Seth, and Bob Crawford—performed some 185 concerts, including

**Surf to PirateAlumni.com**

The alumni association’s web site, PirateAlumni.com, is a treasure of information for alumni and friends of East Carolina. With alumni and campus news, information on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, career services, student programs, awards and scholarships, a photo gallery, and Pirate songs and traditions. PirateAlumni.com has something for everyone.

**Pirate Career Calls**

Need a boost to your career or acquire additional knowledge to enhance your job skills? Then take advantage of the Career Center and East Carolina Alumni Association’s monthly Pirate Career Calls. Pirate Career Calls are interactive conference calls moderated by a member of the Career Center staff and guest experts. Each call covers a key job search issue and offers participants the opportunity to gain insight, engage in discussion and get answers to questions on a different topic each month. Pirate Career Calls are held from noon to 1:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month and are free to all alumni and friends. When you register for a class, you will be given a toll-free phone number to call on the day of your class and a PowerPoint presentation to help you follow along. Visit PirateAlumni.com to register for an upcoming Pirate Career Call.

**UPCOMING CAREER CALLS**

March 6—Salary Negotiating with Jim McAtee

April 3—Time Management with Bruce Maxwell

**ECU TODAY EVENTS**

ECU TODAY brings potential students face to face with orientation and admissions staff. ECU students and their families to take a “virtual tour” of today’s campus without changing since you were a student. Get missed all of the ways the university has changed since you were a student. Get

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KRISTEN LEIGH BLOODWORTH and Steven Lee Cox were married Sept. 15 at the groom’s grandparents’ house in Grimsland’s Autumn Lakes. She works at Greenville Veterinary Hospital.

THOMAS BLAKE LANGSTON and Tracy Lauren Smith were married Sept. 22. He works for One Source Communications in Greenville.

KATHERINE EGAN is the athletic director and a health teacher at the Pennington School, an independent boarding school for middle through high school students in Pennington. Del. Egan was a teacher and coach in Plumsted Township School District. KAREN FREEMAN was named one of the top 100 nurses in the state by the Great 100, a scholarship granting organization that recognizes excellence in nursing. She works at Tarboro’s Heritage Hospital in the labor and delivery, ICU, and emergency departments. ASHTON NELSON and Jennifer Lynn Hudson were married May 25. He works at PCMH and they live in Winterville.

CRYSTAL SHIPLEY opened Crystal’s Elite Dance Studio in Rocky Mount in September.

TONIQUE TABRON is a registered nurse and family nurse practitioner at the OIC Medical Center in Rocky Mount.

MICHAELE PAUL TAYLOR and Heather Nicole Williams were married on Aug. 25. He is a superintendent with WIMCO Corp. in Washington.

DAVID RUSSELL GILBERT and HEATHER MARIE SUGGS ’06 were married on July 21 in Indian Beach. He is in the BSOM class of 2020, and she teaches elementary school in Pitt County.

WILLIAM AUTRY, an associate vice president at BB&T, was promoted to business service officer in the bank’s commercial loan department. He is enrolled in ECU’s MBA program.

WILLIAM L. CARAWAN and COURTNEY MICHELLE KULERS ’06 of New Bern were married on Oct. 13. He works for the N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, and she is a registered nurse on the cardiovascular intermediate-care floor at Craven Regional Medical Center. WILLA DICKENS is vice president for economic and workforce development for the N.C. Community College System. She has three children and two grandchildren.

JENNIFER LAUREN FRAZIER and James Ray Mabe were married Oct. 13. She works at Grady-White Boats.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Retired Navy Capt. David M. Fitzgerald ’66 of Richmond received the Congressional Veteran Commendation in ceremonies marking Veteran’s Day. Congressman Eric Cantor (R-Va.) presented the medal to Fitzgerald, who is a resident of his district. Congress created the Congressional Veteran Commendation program to honor veterans who have “served our nation with honor consistent with the finest traditions of military service.” The program operates with the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress to preserve oral histories of America’s war veterans.

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Cheryl Berry Stevens ’75, vice president of workforce and supplier diversity at Oncor Energy in Dallas, Texas, was selected board chair of the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council, WBENC, which is based in Washington, D.C., as the nation’s leading advocate of women’s business enterprises as suppliers to corporate America. Formerly WBENC board secretary, Stevens, who served on the organization’s executive committee since 2004, is passionate about helping companies owned by women and minorities get ahead. “I’ve spent 17 years preaching the fact that when you buy something from a company owned by a woman or a minority you won’t pay more and the quality is just as great. I believe that there will be no economic freedom until we have social freedom.” Stevens has worked at Oncor Energy, formerly TXU Energy, for 29 years. For the past 17 years she has been responsible for supplier diversity at the huge utility. She was promoted to vice president in 2000.

“Things definitely are better today for companies owned by women and minorities but we still have a lot of challenges,” Stevens said. “Enterprise, for example, is a huge company. The military teaches us that if we wish to compel them to try a company’s product or services if they are not a current customer. The WBENC survey found that among women consumers between the ages of 35 and 55, an overwhelming 79 percent said knowing a company buys from women businesses would be no economic freedom until we have social freedom.”

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in Greenville. KENNETH GREGORY ’04, a former Army medevac supervisor, is a registered nurse and family nurse practitioner at the NICU Medical Center in Rocky Mount. MICHAEL STEPHEN HARRIS and Megan Rayman were married on Sept. 8. They live in Ayleen, and he is a validation associate at DSM Pharmaceuticals. JONATHAN LOCKLEAR is a mortuary science intern at the death investigation office of First South Bank at Arlington Boulevard in Greenville. He previously worked with Hospital HBC Group. DANIEL AERRINGTON ROBISON and Heather Lynn Andrews were married on Sept. 29 in Williamson. They live in Oak City, and he is a sales rep for Drozdos Brothers post truck. AMYLLE ANN WOOGARDNER of Washington-Salem and James Edsion, Jr. “Jimmy” Longtime Climbers were married Nov. 10 in Washington-Salem, which is where they live. She is an associate final year law student at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

2003

JULIE ELIZABETH HALLACOCK and Craig Johnson Walker of Winston-Salem were married Sept. 12 in Hudson Mills. She is a portable x-ray technician at PCHM. KRISTA WILLIAM BUNTING received her National Board Certifications in 2007 and teaches online reading courses at ECU. COURTNEY DARE EKES ’00 VS and Joshua Jose York were married on Oct. 13 at Yankee Hall Plantation. She is a counselor at Pitt Country Day School. KELSEY LAWSON of Pitt County was named North Duplin High School teacher of the year and Duplin County teacher of the year for 2007–2008. He also has an acting/dancing part in Across the Universe, a film released in October 2007. TIMOTHY GENE CORBETT ’02 VS and RACHEL VIRGINIA HARRIS ’03 VS were married on Nov. 3 in Norfork. SYDNEY ALLEN GORE, a space and missile officer with the rank of captain stationed at Mississippi Air Force Base in Mimsonton, and AMANDA RAYFORD GORE ’04 had their first child, Jackson Ashton, on Nov. 2. DR. JEFFREY TOSI KORENZIG ’92 VS and JENNIFER LEE HUSSELL ’93 were married on Oct. 20 at her parents’ house near Burlington. He is an internal medicine resident, and she is an occupational therapist, both at PCHL. RANDY MINTON and ASHLEY BIGHILL of Winterville were married Sept. 13 in Merrick City. He works for Regional Acceptance, and she works at Quest. JASON PAGE TAYLOR and Marthos Joseph Lee married Sept. 15 in Wilson. She is a kindergarten teacher in Pitt County. JENNIFER BEACHAM WOBSELY, an audit manager with McGladrey & Pullen, and Matthew Woodley of Rocky Mount had a son, Brandon Matthew, on April 19, 2001.

ALAN DIXON DUPREE, a biology instructor, was named North Duplin High School teacher of the year and Duplin County teacher of the year for 2007–2008. He also has an acting/dancing part in Across the Universe, a film released in October 2007. TIMOTHY GENE CORBETT ’02 VS and RACHEL VIRGINIA HARRIS ’03 VS were married on Nov. 3 in Norfork. SYDNEY ALLEN GORE, a space and missile officer with the rank of captain stationed at Mississippi Air Force Base in Mimsonton, and AMANDA RAYFORD GORE ’04 had their first child, Jackson Ashton, on Nov. 2. DR. JEFFREY TOSI KORENZIG ’92 VS and JENNIFER LEE HUSSELL ’93 were married on Oct. 20 at her parents’ house near Burlington. He is an internal medicine resident, and she is an occupational therapist, both at PCHL. RANDY MINTON and ASHLEY BIGHILL of Winterville were married Sept. 13 in Merrick City. He works for Regional Acceptance, and she works at Quest. JASON PAGE TAYLOR and Marthos Joseph Lee married Sept. 15 in Wilson. She is a kindergarten teacher in Pitt County. JENNIFER BEACHAM WOBSELY, an audit manager with McGladrey & Pullen, and Matthew Woodley of Rocky Mount had a son, Brandon Matthew, on April 19, 2001.
Together, the Pirate Club accomplished a great deal in 2007. But now it's time to be complacent. We've paved ourselves too many nights and did more than many thought possible. We heard the call, and we responded in true Pirate fashion.

- We raised more than $2 million, exceeded our goal by more than half a million dollars.
- We increased our membership level to more than 22,000 football season tickets.
- We increased our membership level to more than half a million dollars.
- We increased our membership level to more than 15,000, a record for the Pirate Club.
- We sold an astounding 12,000 football season tickets.
- We best Carolina by a heart-stopping 39-yard field goal with seconds left to play, and lunged across the goal line in overtime to defeat UTEP.
- And on Christmas Eve, the Pirates stunned nationally ranked Boise State in the Hawaii Bowl, 41-38, with a 34-yard field goal as time ran out.

All of these things, they've happened in the past. For all of them, we continue to press. For all of them, we hear and obey the call.

Remember, it's not just about football. The Pirate Club also supports the whole breadth of ECU's 19 collegiate men's and women's sports.

For all of them, we continue to press. For all of them, we hear and obey the call. We're prepared for another great season.

"We increased our membership level to more than half a million dollars."

"We increased our membership level to more than half a million dollars."
played piano for Sunday school classes for 50 years.

EDMOND JOSEPH "JOE" ACKER JR.

MELVIN OETTINGER

MARILYN HENDERSO

Baptist Church.

POLLY

46

in Memoriam

EUNICE EDWARDS BRODHURST

of Charlotte died '33 of Charlotte died Oct. 14. She was a history

in MeMoriaM

EDWARD CORBETT, Jr.

DANIEL FRANK YORKE

Brockneal and Lynchburg, Va.

DARRELL "DARL" HUNT GLOTER

32 of Bailey died Dec. 3 at age 96. She taught school in Salisbury, Pinehurst, '33 of Charlotte died Oct. 14. She was a history

20 years working with special-needs infants, she was a special-care and

DIANE RENEE LUNDY of Raleigh died Nov. 16. For almost all of her 20 years working with

Seth Daniel's daughter and a dominion officer in the Eastern Star;

20 years working with special-needs infants, she was a special-care and

Laura Smith's mother and a dominion officer in the Eastern Star;

LINDA LOUISE FORBES

CAROLYN P.

15. She worked in the automobile business and raised

Original from Union County, she lived in Charlotte until the 1970s when she and her husband moved to Wilmington, where they were the presiding elder at the Presbyterian Church, Wilmington.

Marilyn Henderson

STANLEY KREMERS III of Hendersonville died Nov. 26. He was a retired police officer and retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools system. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Charlotte and was an announcer for the Charlotte Knights baseball team.

BILLY NUNN WARREN

CARL

1940s

BIRMINGHAM. Ala., Sept. 12. He taught science for 18 years at Sanford School and was a member of the Rotary Club.

BRUCE ARTHUR COOPER '94 of Byron Beach, Fla., died Dec. 12. He was a and director of the ECU Folklore Archive. She

BEVERLY SYLVIA RICE

was a special-care and

REAR ADM. WILLIAM MORRIS

Comer Wilson, who was a retired teacher and coach at Aulander High School and was a member of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. She was a member of the Shriners and a member of the American Legion.

FRANCES DILDA MCARTHUR

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Carrboro, and was a member of the National Guard. For 15 years, he held

BEAVER WILSON

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RUDOLPH COBB

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“We are not here to destroy the old and accept only the new, but to build upon the past…”
—Robert H. Wright, Nov. 12, 1909
From his inaugural address and installation as East Carolina’s first president

When Kennedy came to campus

Five days after his address to the Houston Ministerial Association defending the right of a Catholic to run for president and 10 days before debating Richard Nixon on television, Sen. John F. Kennedy touched down at the Pitt-Greenville Airport on Sept. 17, 1960, in his campaign plane, The Caroline. “Sen. Kennedy broke into his trademark smile the moment he appeared at the door of his aircraft,” The Daily Reflector reported. “He was surrounded by newspaper and television photographers from all over the state. There were handshakes and flashing smiles for the folks who just came to look, too, as the senator neared the roped off area on the taxi apron [crowded with about 2,000 people].”

He rode in a convertible to campus and held a rally at the football stadium packed with students and townsmen.

The controversy surrounding Kennedy’s Catholicism left some wondering if the state’s Democratic politicians would show up to greet him in Greenville, the first of four stops he would make in North Carolina that day. In fact, they surrounded him. He took the stage accompanied by U.S. senators B. Everett Jordan and Sam Ervin, Rep. Herbert Bonner and several members of the congressional delegation as well as Gov. Luther Hodges and Terry Sanford, the Fayetteville lawyer who would succeed him.

Kennedy came at the invitation of President Leo Jenkins, who wielded considerable political influence in eastern North Carolina. Speaking at the football stadium, Kennedy said: “I am very grateful to be the guest of East Carolina College. I understand that they have had a most rapid growth and now wish to play in the Southern Conference. I am scheduled in the Southern Conference, too (meaning, he knew he could not win the presidency without carrying the South), and I hope you have success and that I do, also.”

The New York Times story about the event was headlined, “Democratic Candidate Gets Rousing Reception on First Sortie Into Old South.” On Election Day six weeks later, he carried North Carolina, 52 to 48 percent.
A wild horse on Shackelford Banks munches on spring flowers.

Photo by Forrest Croce