



Viking Vigor must survive

By MAYO CALDWELL

Yes, it's Homecoming... You can feel the hypnotic excitement in the air. Traditionally revolving around a football game, the central idea of Homecoming is to bring together the students, faculty and alumni for a week of festivities.

It also generates a warm, positive feeling of belonging, a sense of unity - like a family reunion. Indeed, Homecoming is all of this and more.

On the surface, the occasion appears to resemble a Mardi Gras. The enchanting, soulful sounds of the Marching Viking Band captivates the ear, the panorama of colorful floats and the beautiful pecan-tanned queens fascinates the eye.

However, Homecoming has a deeper, connotative meaning. Loyalty to our Alma Mater, along with a release of genuine emotions which are displayed through idol worship enhances the heart and perpetuates Viking Vigor.

The festivities of this annual family affair indulges some people's minds and all of their problems and sorrows

The following copy, taken from a Mobil Oil advertisement in the "Black Collegians" speaks to the issue loud and clear.

Most students don't realize it now, but a career counselor is really more important to their future than a freshman dance. Too many of them think the proper time to see a career counselor is when they're ready to start a

are temporarily washed away.

Psychologically, Homecoming is a therapeutic panacea that relieves the stress of mid-term examinations and mentally prepares us for the shift in the season.

Epicurean tendencies previously submerged by long, tedious hours of study suddenly surface, and lead to an abstract thought: Later for the books...

Facades and projected images crumble and real people emerge. The entire campus will celebrate and will be motivated by the contemporary lyrics of the "Bar-Kays," "Instant Funk," and "Evelyn Champagne King," instead of the classical works performed by a visiting harpsichordist, Frances Cole.

Educationally, homecoming is a time for group learning and creative development.

The desire for authenticity is so great that research committees often work long hours studying available literature, organizing materials and developing eye-catching concepts in

career, not when they're ready to start school.

As a result, they major in the subject that interests them, only to find some surprises waiting for them when they graduate.

Maybe they needed analytical courses instead of pottery. After all, Students don't always know that businesses require. Or even

order to display their exhibitions with the greatest degree of excellence.

An education can also be obtained by simply taking account of the expenses incurred in our town at this time.

It is now a big business as well as a pleasure, and serves as the University's primary source of athletic income.

Various floats and costumes cost hundreds of dollars, but because of tradition, we become extravagant. Can we afford to make original creations?

The alumni, parents and visitors also spend thousands of dollars at local motels, restaurants and convenience stores.

Without a doubt, the 'Homecoming Dollar' knows no ethnical boundaries, because local business establishments also rake in their share of the ECSU Homecoming profits.

Eventhough the expenses of this annual shindig are great, we must remember that life's greatest treasures lies in human personality. In turn, Viking Vigor must be rekindled at each Homecoming for Viking memories to survive.

what skills can be useful in a job.

And over the years we've seen a lot of otherwise qualified graduates turned away by industry because of this.

So try to catch your students when their beanies are on. It could help a lot when their caps and gowns, come off.

A Farewell Message to "J.P."

Why do we only remember the academic scholars who graduate and become businessmen or members of the elite sect, cheerleaders who marry football stars, or students who wore the latest fashions while attending college?

Is it so hard to remember a fellow Viking who walked to a different beat of a different drummer and worked his way up the ladder of success by helping others?

Some of us knew one such Viking who let nothing stand in the way of his dream - James Perry Ebron was his full name, but we called him "J.P."

For those that didn't know him, James Perry Ebron attended Elizabeth City State University, obtaining a Bachelor of

Arts degree last May.

While a student, he actively participated in the coordination of intramural athletics. He also assisted various head coaches in co-ed team sports. This was his dream deferred. His first intentions were to play football at ECSU. A heart murmur, however, kept him on the side line.

His close friends will verify that he was a living monument of self-determination regenerated by the love of helping others.

His close friends will verify that he was a living monument of self-determination which was regenerated by the love of helping others.

Although his life came to a tragic end Sept. 25, his memory will live in the hearts and minds of fellow Vikings who knew him.

By Tamara E. Wright

Never again shall we see your smile,
Or speak your name and hear you respond.
Only in thought can we keep you with us,
For death has callen your name.
You left us only yesterday
To find eternal peace
Your memory lingers as a part of our lives
That remains with us forever.
Always able to find a smile
When things seemed at their worst
No better man could have been found,
A nicer man there is not.
Two men of Hell have come to take you
Away from those you know
And all because of terminal greed
Have we lost you from this earth
Farewell good friend,
You will be missed.
Find happiness in your journey
To the bosom of our Creator
We will be strong and remember
your friendship
Goodbye "J. P."
We love you.

Letter to the Editor

There is a lot talk going around campus. The students are downing the football team on the one-yard-line because of their losses within the middle of the season. The team goes out on the football field to practice.

We, the student body go to class and enjoy our breaks between classes. We then expect everything to be on the one at the football games.

We overlook the fact that our players are human beings who have problems just like ours. When game time comes, it's time to play football.

Our football team would probably do better if they were at a football academy

made up of just football players.

They would not have to listen for our cheers nor fears living up to people's expectations or base their inner concerns at the mercy of the coach.

They would be a team strong enough within themselves to be the best. The Student Body of Elizabeth City State University must first evaluate our reason for coming to this institution of higher learning.

We will then become stronger as individuals. When two minds come together and agree to do the best, we do not have to holler or shout to show we exist. Our prescence will mean the most.

Keith Urquhart