

THE COMPASS

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Photo courtesy of Margaret Fisher

Thomas Stockett's art work on display for African-American History Month

by Margaret Fisher
Staff Writer

When the Baltimore artist, famous for his paintings, sketches and cartoon drawings, walked into the fine arts gallery, those who were present at his reception could see a humble man, one who enjoys the results of his work but doesn't flaunt it.

It was a celebration of Black History Month at Elizabeth City State University, and Thomas Stockett's artwork reflected the passion and realism of the African-American culture.

The collection was loaned to the University by Stockett's friend, Richard Singletary, a resident of Portsmouth, Virginia. The exhibit ran through February until March 10.

"I started collecting (Stockett's art) because I wanted to make sure there was a record of his works," said Singletary, a teacher of African-American art at Norfolk State University.

Stockett's paintings and sketches include a rich multicultural variety of African-American life of the past, yet portray enough warmth and depth of character to believe they happened today.

"It makes us more aware of black artists and black art," said Sherry Lewis, the chairperson of the black history month committee at ECSU.

Left to right: Richard Singetary, Dr. Drusiano Scerbo, Mr. Thomas Stockett, Prof. Alexis Joyner.

Parking Blues: when will it end?

By Tresha Morning
Staff Writer

As in the past, this semester Elizabeth City State's University's campus police have come under fire from students.

One of the biggest complaints from ECSU students is the security on campus isn't as effective as it should be. An example of these complaints is when a student was in distress and campus police did not stop to assist, but simply continued patrolling and that ticketing is more focused on than safety.

On any given day, campus police can be seen writing tickets or showing a tow truck driver where to pick up a car. Most of the vehicles are taken to Steve's Auto Repair. Some students feel that campus police spend most of their time correcting parking violations. Junior Samantha Royster-Cunningham feels this way. "They ticket too much. They know parking is limited and until the school is fixed it, they should lay off giving so many tickets."

Campus Police feel that parking violations is not the main aspect of their job. Patrolmen Anton M. Thomas states "That's not all we do (ticketing), we also do accident and police reports on all types of complaints. Examples of these complaints are articles stolen, harassing phone calls, sexual assault, fighting on campus, and drug and alcohol violations."

Other complaints that have come

from the students are that campus police are seen off campus too often, there is not enough security at night and that there should be more officers on foot patrol. Sophomore Danielle McCain says that "for those who have class at night should not have to walk in the dark in fear of something happening to them."

The students' complaints are being heard and addressed. Things that are done to ensure a safe campus are having patrol 24 hours a day, having the police station open at any time to respond to student's complaints, and having Security Residence Officers to patrol the campus to deter crime.

Some of the suggestions have come from the campus community. Pernel Bartlett, Language, Literature, and Communication Department secretary, feels the use of video cameras on campus and the designation of all 30 minute parking as open spaces" would improve campus security. Senior Trasca Williams suggests "...not focusing solely and wholeheartedly on where a student parks since new buildings are being erected at this time, and parking spaces are definitely limited."

Despite criticism, campus police work hard to make Elizabeth City State University a safe campus for its residents. The Office of Campus Police is located in the Thomas-Jenkins Building and has someone available 24 hours a day for student needs.

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