

Campus News

ESCAPED INMATE WAS CAPTURED

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A local inmate who was doing community service at Elizabeth City State University escaped from his yard-work on October 4. He was recaptured that same day at the Salvation Army in downtown Elizabeth City.

Inmates had been working that morning in the open area adjacent to Doles Hall. The Correction Officer, Mrs. Evangeline Morris, first reported Dale Beatty as missing at 8:45am when a few other inmates under her supervision had noticed Beatty had disappeared. Beatty, a 32-year-old white male, was serving time for a breaking and entering charge. He had served less than one month of his fifteen-month sentence.

Correction Officer Morris alerted ECSU campus police, and while the other inmates were being interviewed, the police began to notify students and initiate a search. "We went to the dorms near the area where the inmate was last seen. We were informing students and checking to ensure the inmate was not there [at the dorms]" Chief George Mountain, ECSU Chief of Police said. Campus Police called all the residence halls to make sure all students were notified and safe. Elizabeth City police and the Department of Correc-

tions were also involved in the search, the campus police attempted to solicit help from the Coast Guard. Chief Mountain said, "The Coast Guard was contacted to see if they had a helicopter with heat sensitive capabilities to check if the inmate was still in the area, but they did not have a helicopter available."

In the woods near where he escaped, Beatty's prison clothes and a bushwhacker were found. Captain Dennis Daniels who works with both campus police and the DOC said, "The inmate had intended to escape. He was wearing his kitchen uniform [which consists of white shorts and a t-shirt] under his prison clothes. He took off his prison uniform and headed for the Coast Guard base until he realized he was moving away from the main highway. He caught a ride into town and then another ride to the Salvation Army on Hughes Boulevard."

At 12:10 pm, Beatty was apprehended as he attempted to purchase clothes at the Salvation Army. According to Captain Daniels, "The Salvation Army employee had just heard about the escaped inmate two minutes before. When Beatty was purchasing clothes the employee noticed Beatty's inmate ID card and whispered to her co-worker to call 911."

Chief Mountain said the situation was handled well. "It was a very unfortunate incident, but inmates are essential for the upkeep of schools and highways," he said.

MIXED REACTIONS TO THE AIR STRIKE

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On Sunday Oct. 7, at approximately 1 pm, President George W. Bush announced that the United States had begun its retaliation against terrorist Osama bin Laden for the bombings of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"On my orders, the United States military has begun strikes," he said; this was the beginning of the air strikes that are focused on the Taliban regime.

In an update televised on October 11, he said: "The men and women of the United States military are doing their duty with skill and success. We have ruined terrorist training camps, disrupted their communications, weakened the Taliban military and destroyed most of their air defenses. We're mounting a sustained campaign to drive the terrorists out of their hidden caves and to bring them to justice."

Students and faculty on Elizabeth City State University's campus have mixed opinions about the attacks on Afghanistan. A freshman, Sheena Cross said, "It seems so unreal to me."

A few individuals felt that bombing was probably not the answer.

Dr. Glen Bowman, Assistant Professor of History, said, "The air strikes certainly have destroyed the terrorists' communication networks and training camps. That is a good start. Will the bombs eliminate the hatred and determination of the radical fundamentalist movement? That is the key question."

Juanita Lebaron, a maintenance specialist on campus, said, "I feel like bombing is not the answer because of the lives lost. Perhaps, covert operations are best."

A sophomore, Vicky Arrington,

said, "When I was watching it I didn't know what to think. War and bombing isn't the solution."

Bertha McCoy, Cafeteria Supervisor, said, "To me, terrorism is bad, but retaliation is only going to continue the cycle. But I guess this is the only way the U.S. can take revenge." She added, "It's so sad that it had to come to this."

Other students and faculty supported the efforts:

ECSU's Chancellor, Dr. Mickey L. Burnim, said, "Basically, I have to trust the President. He has specific evidence about the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks and if the evidence points to bin Laden and the Taliban protecting him then that's who we need to attack... The response made thus far seems entirely appropriate."

Carl Seward, sophomore, said, "Obviously, I don't believe in violence, but in these circumstances the U.S. is threatened... Military action is the only way to conquer terrorism."

A senior, Ernest Walker, said, "I'm 100 percent for it [the bombings]. I think they have waited long enough to ensure they have targeted the right people," but he also noted, "The repercussions bother me because the terrorists will most likely retaliate."

"I knew this was coming and it is an ongoing process... this is just the start it is deeper than just paying bin Laden back," said another senior, April Clark.

Asked by members of the media how long the retaliatory strikes will continue, President Bush said, "People often ask me, 'How long will this last?' This particular battlefield will last as long as it takes to bring Al Qaeda to justice. It may happen tomorrow, it may happen a month from now, it may take a year or two, but we will prevail." So while individuals continue to debate the methods of attack, the war on terrorism will continue.

We can only hope that "we will prevail."

AMERICAN HONDA CAMPUS ALL-STAR CHALLENGE INVIGORATES ECSU STUDENTS

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The American Honda Campus All-Star Challenge has been attended greatly by many of Elizabeth City State University students. ECSU encourages fraternities and sororities, honor societies, clubs, residence hall associations and various campus groups to participate in this mind-challenging event. Twenty-six teams registered for the on-campus tournament, but only twenty participated.

Competition on campus began on October 2 and ended on October 4 in the Ridley University Center. Participants on the winning team were Joseph Suvivant, Shannon Penn, and Marcus Ralph. These individuals have been selected for the varsity team. They will have a chance to compete to travel and stay in Orlando, FL on April 4-8, in the National Championship Tournament. A total of 13 students will pursue the chance to attend the Tournament, but only five will be selected. Thirteen students make up the varsity team: Joseph Studivant, Shannon Penn, Marcus Ralph, Warren Gibbs, Clayton Knight, Carinthia Cherry, Donald Cartwright, Golar Newby, Linda Grimes, Tiffanie King, Don Moring, Tim Summers and Travis Billups. Tryouts for the National Championship Tournament will demand many practices and much coaching. Participants on the traveling teams will need to demonstrate enthusiasm for the game, dedication to practice, commitment, knowledge, quick speed of the mind, eagerness to learn, cooperative work skills, and knowledge of numerous areas of interests.

The American Honda Motor Co., Inc sponsors the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge. The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) and the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) works with and supports the program.

Over the past 11 years, the ECSU team has received grants totaling over \$60,500. American Honda All-star gives over \$329,000 in institutional grants for

all the 64 participating schools. The American Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team Scholarship is, available to competitors of the National Championship Tournament who are enrolled as full-time students at Elizabeth City State University. Multiple years of participating on the traveling team will enable the student a chance to receive a scholarship based on the highest institutional grant established in his or her years on the team. One of the most rewarding experiences is the gaining of lifelong friends by students who make the traveling team.

Special awards are given to the team members. The traveling team can earn the Participation Award: a plaque and scholarship or cash award letter to be presented at the Honors Convocation. The National All-Star Team Player Award is presented to eight of the players along with a \$500 cash award at the ECSU Honors Convocation.

With the help of Campus Coordinator and Coach of the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge, Derrick L. Wilkins, the competition will be able to continue. Coach Wilkins was selected by HCASC Headquarters to assist the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) to ensure the strong and continuing development of the program. Wilkins has been a Coach Representative for the American Honda All-Star Challenge for three years. Fifteen people are selected to join the PAC.

Wilkins said it was an "honor" to be invited to sit with the "decision makers of this prestigious program." The first PAC meeting will be held in November in Los Angeles, CA. Wilkins feels it is a "wonderful program" that allows the student to "compete and have serious fun at the same time." Because of his long-standing association with Honda, Wilkins will be able to contribute greatly to the committee. "The National Program Office in California wants to use our website as a model website for other HCASC Programs," he said.

The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge is an event the ECSU student should partake. Along with its rewards and growing numbers of student enthusiasm, it has become like dances, football games, and activities; the students and staff are eager to show Viking Spirit.

ECSU Appoints Elliott Robinson as Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance

Public Relations' Report

Chancellor Mickey L. Burnim is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Elliott Robinson as Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance at Elizabeth City State University effective October 15, 2001.

With over 20 years in business and finance, Mr. Robinson brings a wealth of experience to Elizabeth City State University. He has an extensive background in management, as well as in planning and budgeting, finance and accounting systems for higher education institutions. Most recently, Mr. Robinson pursued private business interests and served as vice president for Business and Finance at Johnson C. Smith University. Prior to that he served as associate controller at Florida International University

managing a large staff. Additionally, he has worked for Miami-Dade Community College and the Dade County School Board as an internal auditor.

Mr. Robinson is a graduate of Tuskegee University in Alabama. He is a member of several professional organizations, including the National Association of College and University Business Officers, and the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers.

"Mr. Robinson will be a great asset to the administrative team at ECSU. With his strong management and leadership background in business and finance, we will be able to maintain our outstanding fiscal management record and continue to progress on the multiple facility upgrades and capital projects underway. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Robinson to the Elizabeth City community at your first opportunity," stated Chancellor Burnim.