

CAMPUS NEWS

NATIONAL NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT WEEK: NOVEMBER 3-9, 2002

According to Dr. Demetra Tyner, for the first time in its history, Elizabeth City State University observed a full-week of celebration for recognizing its Adult Learners in the Graduate and Continuing Education Programs and Weekend/Evening College. These Adult Learners are students who are not the traditional age of first-time college students. Many of them attend college in the evenings and/or on Saturdays in addition to maintaining full or part-time employment and raising a family. Others are retirees interested in personal enrichment. The celebration served as a means of welcoming them to the campus and letting them know that we appreciate their presence on campus. It also served as a means of letting other adults in the community know that it is "never too late" to pursue a college degree or to improve their personal and professional expertise.

The following activities were held to honor our Adult Learners:

Students for the Day:

Monday, November 4: Ms. Dawn Graham, Elementary Education Major; Freshman Weekend/Evening College Student with highest GPA.

Tuesday, November 5: Ms. Laura Woolard, Middle Grades Education Major; Sophomore Weekend/Evening College Student with high-

est GPA.

Wednesday, November 6: Ms. Marlene Little, Elementary Education Teacher at Northside Elementary School; The only currently enrolled graduate student who has earned National Board Certification.

Mrs. Mollie Beasley, ECSU Retiree of the Health and Physical Education Department and currently enrolled in a Continuing Education class.

Dr. Thaddeus Beasley, ECSU Retiree of the Biology Department and currently enrolled in a Continuing Education class.

Mrs. Sandra Hendricks, ECSU

Retiree of Academic Computing & End-User Support and Continuing Education instructor.

Mr. James Spence, ECSU Retiree of Office of Institutional Advancement and currently enrolled in a Continuing Education class.

Mrs. Valerie Vaughan, ECSU Retiree of Laboratory School and currently enrolled in a Continuing Education class.

Thursday, November 7: Ms. Joanne White, Social Work Major; Junior Weekend/Evening College Student with highest GPA.

Friday, November 8: Ms. Theo Bohn, Sociology Major; Senior Weekend/Evening College Student

with highest GPA.

Recipients of "We Appreciate You Gift Bags"

Ms. Rose Chesson, Continuing Education Program

Ms. Lisa Jones, Graduate Education Program

Ms. Lori Speller, Weekend/Evening College

Scavenger Hunt (Thursday, November 7)

Ms. Willa Lamb, Coordinator of Commuter Services, hosted a Scavenger Hunt with nine students participating. All participants received gifts of ECSU paraphanelia.

"Vikings' Adult Learners Day"

(Saturday, November 9)

"Door Prizes" and "Special Treats" were given to all students and Departmental Advisors participating in Early Registration.

In October 1996, a group of people, representing academic institutions throughout the United States and Canada, formed the *Association for Nontraditional Students in Higher Education*. The organization is dedicated to the improvement of services to adult students in higher education. *National Nontraditional Student Week* is promoted by ANTSHE. *National Nontraditional Student Week* for 2003 will be celebrated November 2-8, 2003.



Photo courtesy of Continuing Education

UNIVERSITY POLICE URGES STUDENTS TO SECURE ROOMS UPON LIVING

Robert Davis

The Elizabeth City Campus police advises students who live in dorms on campus and in other similar type campus housing to take extra precautions to safeguard their valuables and dorm rooms during Christmas and other upcoming school vacations.

According to chief George Mountain taking advance precautions is just as helpful to his officers as it is to students in safeguarding the campus.

"Students need to work together," Mountain says. "Never trust anyone with

your key, and if you see anyone you're not familiar with let the police station know so they can at least check it out because you never know what may happen."

Chief Mountain's office says students should be especially careful about securing electronic equipment like laptops, videogames and televisions. They also advise students who live on first floors of buildings to make sure their windows are locked before taking off for home. First floor windows are especially vulnerable, Mountain says.

Campus police also suggest that

other items also be thought of before leaving—students take time to unplug irons, defrost and store refrigerators and unplug fans and other similar appliances. They also suggest that any items students are not taking home with them be secured in a locked closet.

Chief Mountain says that students who live in the Complex should take the same care in securing their possessions as those who live in dorms. He suggests that they should make sure who would be the last one to leave the individual units and also who will be responsible for locking and securing doors, including

putting the deadbolt locks on.

ECSU Shawn Leak says that there are some simple things that students do throughout the year that become more important when leaving for a long holiday like Christmas.

"[Especially] when going home on weekends, make sure you tell your neighbors to watch over your room in case unfamiliar faces wander into your room. We should watch each other's back because we all do live in the same place."

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT GOING DOWN DUE TO BUDGET CUTS

Antoine Rascoe

Holiday employment is down this year compared to last year. Throughout the area, Albemarle students who are looking for a job will find that stores are not hiring as many seasonal employees as in the past.

"Retail experience, type of jobs held in the past, and mannerism are qualities that will help you get a job," said Kathy Taylor, manager of Belk's in Elizabeth City. But Taylor says she will only be hiring 6 seasonal employees because of payroll budget cuts. "There is not enough money and time in the payroll in order to train inexperienced employees for the

seasonal period," Taylor says.

According to Taylor, "dressing properly, attitude, personality and the way students deal with the public," are qualities that help students obtain seasonal employment at Belk's. Students face stiff competition from the regularly employed staff members. Seasonal employees are hired to fulfill regular positions. Christmas seasonal employment at this particular Belk's begins two weeks before Thanksgiving and ends at the beginning of January.

OnCue, a music and multi-entertainment store at Southgate Mall, has the same problem as Taylor at Belk's. OnCue is only hiring 3 seasonal employ-

ees this year. Not having enough time slots and payroll budgets prevent OnCue from hiring more seasonal employees.

"The type of personality, experience, working nights, and weekends are things that stand out," said one of the stores managers. "Beggars cannot be choosers" is the way the manager said those who are seeking seasonal employment should think.

Similar incidents are taking place at Greenbrier Mall in Virginia. "I look for the one's ready to work and do the best job for me," said Sheila Painter the manager for Spencer's located inside of the mall. At Spencer's seasonal employment starts in October and ends in January. At

Spencer's, whether a person is retained after the holiday depends on the person's work ethic. "If they work better than the regular employees than they are kept," said Painter. Painter would like to hire more people, especially during the season in order to better help the customer, but with the country going through a recession, it is hard to.

Though it is hard to get a job for the season, it is not impossible. Stores are still hiring and need help. The keys to getting one of these jobs is quite simple: Be neat, be polite and be flexible. Also a good attitude helps.

STUDENTS REFLECT ON CHRISTMAS PAST

Mario Bradley
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Was there a Christmas that was very memorable to you? I am sure that everyone has one. Christmas is the holiday of which we celebrate the birth of Christ. Christmas for many people is a time for fellowship with family and a time for charity. On Christmas, people usually give gifts to one another to show that they care. Personally, I see Christmas as the season when people express love and unity.

ECSU students have a Christmas they remember well. James Hill, a senior, recently reflected his favorite Christmas.

"It was the year when I visited my Aunt Mildred and ate Christmas dinner with my family. This Christmas was special because I had the chance to fellowship with my family," Hill said.

"My favorite Christmas was the last time my mom and dad were together. I was about 3 years old, and that year I received the best parents," Lonnell Harrison, a junior, said.

One thing that makes people look forward to Christmas is receiving gifts. This experience can be good if you get the gift you want, but it can be bad if you do not.

"I remember the Christmas when I got some roller skates. That was my favorite gift," said Tasha Melendez, a freshman.

As the legend continues, Santa Claus rides in a sleigh led by eight reindeers to deliver gifts to all the children of the world on Christmas night. When children get older, they realize that there

is no such thing as Santa Claus.

"The Christmas I remember most is when I found out that Santa Claus was not real. I was shocked when I found out it was my parents," Curtis Langley, a sophomore said.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year that usually is instrumental in bringing families together. It is a holiday that is about love and the spirit of giving. Between getting a chance to unite with family and receiving gifts, Christmas should continue to provide long-lasting memories for many years to come.