

## Homecoming 2003 unites Vikings

KyMBER LEE TAYLOR  
ktaylor2@mail.ecsu.edu  
Editor

Vikings from across the region returned to Elizabeth City State University to celebrate Homecoming 2003. The festivities began October 24 and continued through November 1.

Events that generated the largest student and alumni turnout include the annual Mr. and Miss ECSU Coronation, the Gospel Concert, the Vike' Nu Fashion Troupe Show, the Homecoming Parade, the Step Show, and the Homecoming Game.

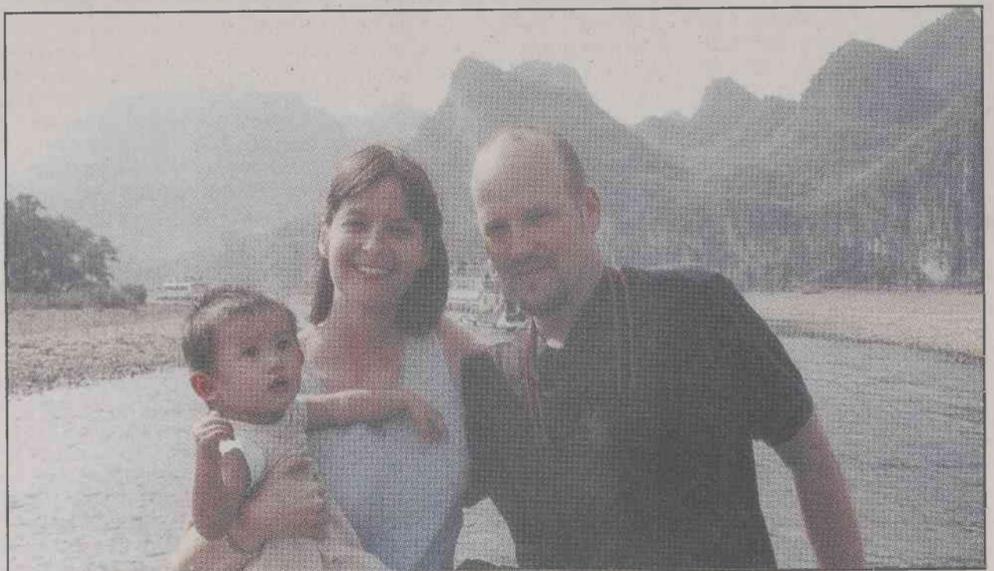
The Gospel Concert featured songs of praise from The Southernaires, Bill Bailey & The Divine Miracles, Edward Sisters, Wings of Faith, Faithway Doves, Doris Gramby, Washington Men's Chorus and ECSU's student directed Gospel Choir.

The Vike' Nu Fashion Troupe is in its third re-established season and features the mosel's latest fashions. The troupe received sponsorship from Maurices; however, the majority of the items were purchased and altered by the models of Vike Nu'.

"Vike' Nu's purpose is to promote individual and creative style," said DeTra Stith, President of Vike' Nu Fashion Troupe.

Water Street came alive on Saturday, November 1, when the annual Homecoming Parade made it's way through Elizabeth City. The parade featured ECSU's Homecoming Court, the Student Government Association, representatives from the alumni community, the Mighty Viking Marching Band, the Alumni Band, ECSU's Cheerleaders, various floats and several high school marching

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Toby, Laura and Zoe Tate together as a family on the banks of the Lijiang River near Guilin, China.

## ECSU student adopts Chinese girl

Susan Correll-Hankinson  
sbcorrellhankinson@mail.ecsu.edu  
Editor

Toby Tate, an English major with a concentration in Journalism at Elizabeth City State University, and his wife Laura Tate traveled over 7,000 miles to adopt a little girl from China. Zoe Ann Alise Tate is 14 months old and as of October 12, the lucky daughter of the Tates.

"We're the lucky ones," Tate said. "We tried the usual ways of adoption and after seeing an ad in the Virginia Pilot for Adoptions From the Heart with a picture of a little Chinese girl, we decided to try them."

Adoptions From the Heart is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian adoption agency. Founded in 1985 by Maxine G. Chalker, an adoptee

herself, offered the first "open" adoption agency in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware areas.

Open adoption allows, among other issues, the adoptive parents and the birth parents to meet and exchange background information.

Ten years ago, Adoptions From The Heart, saw the need for international adoption programs and began working with the governments of certain countries, such as China. A country facilitator is carefully chosen to help the process of international adoption operate without problems.

"Our Chinese facilitators, De and his wife Helen, were amazing. He was so organized and really nice. They work with a new group of parents each month. This is not his only job. He is also an opera singer, and a television personality who has his own

game show. I asked him when he sleeps; he just laughed," Tate said. "The process ran smoothly and all scheduled events were on time. We never had to wait for a bus; everything ran like clockwork."

Zoe was born in China's province of Giang Xi and was left on the doorstep of the local police station when she was two weeks old. "This happens often," Tate said. "Babies are abandoned because they are girls or the family already has their limit of two children. Boys are preferred over there because they are the ones who end up taking care of the parents."

After being found, Zoe lived in an orphanage up until the time the Tates arrived in China to bring her

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Rich Harvey

The Mighty Marching Vikings pep up the Homecoming crowd.

## Credit card companies cash in on students

By Jawana Mosley  
jdmosley@mail.ecsu.edu  
Staff Writer

According to a new study by loan provider Nellie Mae, by the time college students reach their senior year, 31 percent will carry a balance of \$3,000 to \$7,000. They double their credit card debt and triple the number of cards they have between the time they start college and graduate.

A credit card can be a great opportunity for a college student, especially if he/she is responsible and knows what to look for when applying for one. Students seldom realize the responsibility associated with a credit card.

"A good credit rating is very important," according to College-stu-

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Golar Newby

Tarhata Newby (on the left), a sophomore Biology major, avoids high interests charges by paying her credit card balance every month

## Teachers late; students wait Students concerned about university policy

Jennifer Fueston  
jwfueston@mail.ecsu.edu  
Staff Writer

Five, ten, twenty minutes: how long should a student wait for an instructor to begin class?

Students waiting for a tardy instructor are often in a quandary as to what to do. While most Elizabeth City State University instructors are prepared to begin class on time, there have been reports of some who are often tardy or don't show up at all. This poses the question, how long should students wait for a late instructor?

An informal Compass survey has shown that many students have heard that there is a policy requiring them to wait for instructors, but are confused about the amount of time to wait. The survey also revealed that ten minutes for a non-Ph.D. and fifteen minutes for a Ph.D. was the most commonly accepted time to wait among students.

"There is currently no policy (regarding teacher tardiness at ECSU)," stated Dr. Carolyn Mahoney, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. "Faculty are expected to be in class on time."

"Students should take an active role in their education by reporting teachers. You should be getting your money's worth."

Dr. Ronald H. Blackmon

With no official policy in place instructors are free to impose penalties on students who leave prior to their arrival. This was demonstrated in recent weeks when, according to a student who wants to remain anonymous, after waiting thirty minutes, students left a classroom. Following their departure the instructor arrived for class. At the next meeting of the class students were lectured by the instructor for leaving and were refused

notes and assignments.

Dr. Mahoney stated that she thought five minutes was enough time for students to wait before leaving the class.

"Students can report it (faculty members failing to be in class on time) anonymously, or otherwise to the Department Chairperson or the Office of Academic Affairs." Mahoney further stated, "Now that we realize there is a problem we will fix that."

Department Chairpersons across campus were contacted for their comments about a policy concerning instructor tardiness. Some spoke off the record while others were unavailable for comment. However, Dr. Ronald H. Blackmon, Chairperson of the Math, Science, and Technology Department, stated that students need to inform the department chair-

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## African American male teachers actively recruited

Carmen Brown  
cabrown@mail.ecsu.edu  
Staff Writer

Elizabeth City State University and the state of North Carolina hope to inspire other institutions in assisting the efforts to increase the pool of minority males, particularly African American males, in teacher education. On October 15-17, 2003, ECSU and The School of Education and Psychology in partnership with the NC Legislative Black Caucus, held a summit on "The Shortage of African American Males in Teacher Education."

Dr. Claudie Mackey, ECSU's Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, was the "backbone" behind the three-day summit. Dr. Carolyn Mahoney, Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, was the Summit's Chairperson.

Strategies for accomplishing local, regional, and state goals to encourage African American males to seek positions in the classroom and remain devoted to those positions were shared during the summit.

"Across the country, only 9% of teachers are men and only 2% of teachers are African American men," said Glenda Price, president of Marygrove College. There is such a great demand for minority male teachers in American public schools because diversity among the student population exceeds the teaching population.

"In Northeastern North Carolina the 23 Local Education Agencies report that there are 905 white male teachers serving some 22,000 white male students while 392 minority male teachers serves approximately 28,000

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West End Station caters to a mature clientele.

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The Planetarium offers holiday fun. Pg. 5