

# CAMPUS NEWS



Professor Joyner working with mixed media.

Jennifer Pride

## Professor exhibits work

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Alexis Joyner, professor of art, currently has two sculptures, "Crowd Control 2" and "Blues Repository," on display at the North Carolina State University's Talley Student Center. The exhibit will be on display through December 18.

"Crowd Control 2, was inspired by my childhood memories of watching older black women chasing away crowds of unruly children," Joyner said. "It's all about discipline."

"The blues piece is about music – just a place to store those kinds of vibrations," Joyner said.

Joyner, an accomplished sculpture, illustrator and visual artist, has exhibited his work since 1977 through numerous venues. Joyner's works are among the private collection of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the New York City Pub-

lic Library, and the Daura Gallery at Lynchburg College.

"His work is in keeping with primitive art, keeping in the guide line of the African art work through out the years," said Kelley Mahaffey. "His work is a good source of self."

Joyner uses found and fabricated objects for visual interest in his art while incorporating his family values and religion into his style and subject matter.

Among his many affiliations, Joyner is currently a member of local art councils and area museums throughout eastern North Carolina and Virginia.

As an art professor at Elizabeth City State University, Joyner teaches 3-D Design, Art Appreciation, Sculpture and Ceramics and is co-director of the ESCU Art Gallery and adviser for the Art Guild, the art honor society.

Joyner was commissioned by



"Crowd Control 2"

ESCU to redesign the graduation Mace, which was presented at the 1996 inauguration of Chancellor Mickey L. Burnim. The Mace is carried by the graduating student with the highest GPA of their class and distinguished as the Bearer of the Mace. Joyner was later honored to see his daughter, Tarsha Joyner, carry the Mace during her graduation from ESCU.

## Students encouraged to drop tobacco use

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On average, forty-five people die each hour due to smoking related diseases. A male smoker is twenty-two times more likely to die of lung cancer than a non-smoking male. The average smoker loses seven years of his or her life because of smoking. These are just a few of the facts that some ECSU students learned at the Great American Smokeout on November 20.

The Smokeout is a nationwide event that is held each year on the third Thursday of November. It encourages smokers to quit for at least one day, in hopes that they will drop tobacco use for good.

"When the event began, smoking was accepted as the cultural norm," Dr. Dileep G. Bal, national president of the American Cancer Society, said. "Now smoking is seen for what it actually is - a killer of nearly a million Americans each year."

The Smokeout draws national attention to the importance of quitting smoking, not just for the smokers' health, but for the good of those around them. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency adults exposed to second-hand smoke are at a risk for lung cancer and heart disease. Children who are exposed are at a higher risk for developing asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, ear infections, and even Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

"Cigarettes are sneaky in the fact that you do not know you are addicted until it is way too late. At least you have the effects of alcohol, or other drugs to show that they are doing something different to your body. Cigarettes are different; they sneak up on you and keep you thinking of them as a stress reliever. When actually they cause you a lot more stress than they relieve" Terri McKean, a senior at ECSU who has been struggling with smoking for many years, said.

ECSU's Student Health Services wanted to highlight this day and bring awareness about the hazards of smoking to students on campus. A table was set up with pamphlets about the dangers of smoking and ways in which they could quit.

The table also included a non-smoking pledge that said, "I will pledge to be part of this Great American Smokeout. I will encourage others to do the same. I will do my part to make this community a safe place. I will set the example for my peers by not smoking. I will eliminate smoking from my social activities today. I will not let smoking interfere with my health. I pledge to be Smoke-Free starting today." After signing the pledge, the participant was rewarded with a popsicle stick, with a pair of lips attached, Ms. Beverly Shannon said in an interview following the Smokeout.

"It's good doing workshops that students can enjoy and learn at the same time."



## Students visit Ohio State University

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Five Elizabeth City State University students attended Ohio State University as a part of its annual Graduate & Professional Schools Visitation Days (GPSVD).

The program, which is sponsored through the university's Office of Minority Affairs, selected 250 students from 58 colleges and universities to attend the event. This program, which ECSU has participated in for the past twenty years was open to seniors with an interest in attending graduate or professional school.

"In making a selection, we look for students who are honor students, though that is not a requirement," said Sandra Gibson, Assistant Director of Career Services. "Students should also be eligible for graduation either in the coming fall or spring. The minimum GPA requirement is a 3.4 or better."

The five students selected were: Melody Lynch, Demetra Gilmore, Joy McGhee, Eunice Smith, and Damion Lewis.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for prospective graduate students for several reasons: the program offers in-depth studies of the university's various academic programs; it gives students an opportunity to receive full fellowships; and, it gives students the opportunity to network with the university as well as other students from across the nation," Gibson said.

The three-day program began with an opening ceremony and banquet, which were followed by a special concert for the students, starring Ohio State's award winning Gospel Choir, and Grammy nominated artist, Witley Phipps.

"The Ohio State University is recognized worldwide for its high-quality research, teaching, and service," said Karen A. Holbrook, President of Ohio State University. "As you visit your chosen academic unit, it will become evident that our exceptional faculty are committed to providing you with a first-rate education and to preparing you for a fulfilling career in your area of interest."

During the second day, students were able to see if what President Holbrook said was true when they were given the day to visit their prospective professional or graduate school. While there, students were able to tour their particular school's facilities, chat with faculty members, and get first-hand information from other graduate students. Some participants were treated to private luncheons, while others were able to participate in research studies.

For many this part of the program also proved as a decision maker. The students bombarded the faculty with a barrage of questions and concerns about their programs and university.

"This was a very exciting experience," said Demetra Gilmore, a senior participant from ECSU. "I really liked how each school has their own library, and the people are genuinely friendly and open to help you. It was very surprising to discover that the campus promotes a family-like community."

That same night students were treated to a banquet where Attorney Rodney E. Slater, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, delivered the keynote address. During his address, Attorney Slater sought to invigorate, and encourage all those present to keep their aspirations high and determination even stronger.

## New programs planned for campus television

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Future local programming for W18BB TV is marked by Succesfest, a bi-annual pledge drive for the campus radio and television stations.

Talbert Grey, general manager of radio and television, brought to a reality the idea of utilizing the television station for the fundraiser, said Melba Brown, director of television services.

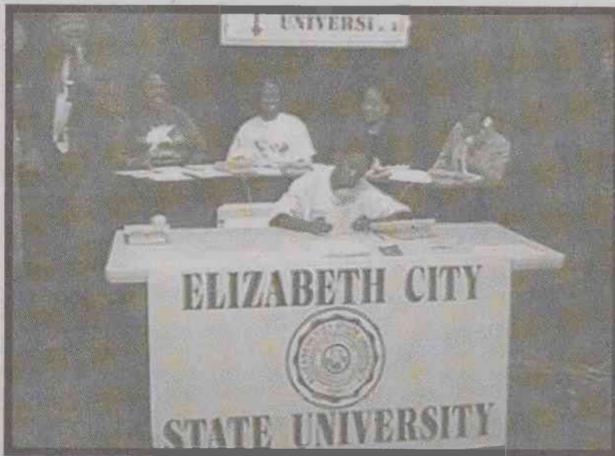
"I thought (the idea) was terrific," Brown said, "because, to me, it's kind of like an obvious idea that was just never brought forth. ... It took Mr. Grey to initiate the idea and say 'hey, we're going to do it.'"

More programs are in the planning. The goal is to introduce new programs in 2004. Brown said she eventually hopes to run local programming daily from 10 a.m. to midnight. Currently, public bulletin board announcements are aired on the station.

"It'll be a work in progress," she said. "With the onset of the new year, people will see an increase in programming on the station."

Brown would not discuss any programs in particular, but mentioned general programming plans. She hopes to offer gospel, ministry and motivational shows in the mornings, educational programs in the afternoons and campus and public affairs events in the evenings. Sports and entertainment, including music videos, are planned for nights.

Brown runs the station alone, with the exception of students and



Successfest volunteers hard at work.

Photo Courtesy of ECSU-TV Channel 18/22

other volunteers. One way implementing local programming can be accomplished is by enlisting the aid of volunteers. High school and college students, as well as interested community members are encouraged to assist and learn.

"We have an asset," Grey said. "We have volunteers." Grey said that volunteers of any age bring in good ideas.

Grey is moving his efforts into the community by working with the Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce and downtown merchants. Volunteers can help by videotaping area businesses. They can also learn about their community and have the opportunity to be creative, he said.

Grey also hopes to expand the

market. The current market size is about 34,000 people. W18BB reaches area broadband residents and Adelphia Cable viewers. Grey hopes to expand into other cable television services in area counties and Hampton Roads.

"(Elizabeth City) is the perfect setup for the university," he said. "The city is large enough to be an impact on the state (in the arena of learning) and small enough to fit our needs as a radio and television station very comfortably."

W18BB-FM can be viewed on local broadband channel 18 or Adelphia Cable channel 22. For further information about the television station or to volunteer, call Melba Brown at 335-3985.