

Campus News

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SINGERS continued

Community Singers. They have performed at various sites, including the Robinson Auditorium at the Fine Arts Center.

The "Messiah," by George Handel, is a traditional concert for musical groups across the United States. The entire work was written in a twenty-four day spurt from August 22 until September 14, in 1741. It was performed for the first time in Dublin, April 13, 1742. The words are taken from scripture arranged by a friend, Charles Jennings, in Handel's adopted home, Great Britain. Handel toured Great Britain and Ireland performing the Oratorio.

The first major revision of the "Messiah" was done by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1788. In 1883, Sir George Grove decided that the Mozart editions be discarded and a return to Handel's original scoring be performed. It was performed in London in December 1888, as Handel had written it.

Whether or not King George II stood at the singing of the

Hallelujah Chorus, the last selection, is questionable. Rumor has it that George became tired after sitting for so long, and when he stood, in his box seat, all the rest were obligated to stand whenever he would stand; thus the explanation given for why we now stand at the performing of the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Members of the local community are joined by music faculty in singing the "Messiah," and by the Community Strings under Dr. Michael Weaver of the music Department of ECSU. Soloists include Dr. Gloria Knight, chairman of the Music Department, and other singers from the ECSU

Choir. Come and join this special holiday performance of a great tradition and wonderful musical experience.



2005 Honda Campus All-Star Competition

By Audrey Jacobs
Staff Writer

On September 27, students from Elizabeth City State University participated in the campus version of the 2005 Honda Campus All-Star Challenge.

Walking into Meeting Room A of the New Student Center, the atmosphere was intense. Two tables with four buzzers on each were strategically placed at the front of the room so the supporting audience could clearly see each competitor. Derrick Wilkins, Interim Chief Information Officer of ECSU, who coordinates the campus event, stood at the podium ready to fire questions at the contestants. The ECSU version of the HCASC was officially underway.

The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) is the first-ever academic competition between students at America's Historically

Black Colleges and Universities. Derrick Wilkins is more than enthusiastic about the competition.

"Students on a college campus should be given opportunities to participate in challenging and exciting academic events outside of the classroom, and HCASC is the event," Wilkins said.

At the conclusion of the ECSU campus level competition, the winning team was the Band of Brothers. Each member of this four player team received a \$50 cash prize, but that's not the only incentive. This "seriously fun competition," says Wilkins, isn't just a local game. Selected students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills at the national competition in Orlando, Florida.



Emerald Lucas, Jerome Gillis, Arkeem Fleming, Sean Williams, Salimah Cogbill, Tyrone, Knox, Jedidiah Gist, Daryl Turrentine, Kristopher Wilkerson, and Raymond Franklin are members of the varsity squad and candidates to represent ECSU nationally in March 2006.

"We will meet at least twice a week to learn game strategies, new information, and to boost the confidence level of the team," Wilkins said.

The HCASC has proven to be a great opportunity for ECSU students. According to Tyrone Knox, varsity squad member, "A competition like this promotes academic excellence on our campus." Jennifer Young, another competitor agrees, adding,

"This competition gives the rest of the country a chance to know ECSU."

For the past two years, because of their excellent performance in the competition, the team from ECSU has been featured on a two-page ad in USA Today.

For those interested in being a part of this challenge next year, Derrick Wilkins said, "Stay on top of current events, read the newspapers, go to the movies, watch the History Channel, and go to class. All of these things will prepare students for competition."



The pageant of queens Where big is beautiful

By Jerrae Henley

Staff Writer

Before the beginning of her senior year, ECSU student, Krystle Lee came up with the idea to have a pageant for plus size women on campus. The ladies in the pageant are pleasantly plump, lusciously large, and showing ECSU Vikings who's in charge.

"I wanted to do something different because many full-figured females do not get the chance to participate in pageants without being ridiculed," Lee, the director, producer, and editor said. "As a plus size woman, we have to work twice as hard as the average sized person to get half the respect that we very much

deserve." Dominique Lewis, a finalist said,

On August 25, 30 young ladies went to the Little Theatre located beside the G.R. Little Library to audition for the pageant. The auditions consisted of introducing themselves, showing off talent and answering questions. The judges were Krystle Lee, Nykki Nianda and Dr. Delbert Barnes. All of the judges are members of the Alpha Psi Omega, a theatre fraternity which sponsored the pageant. Nianda is a high school teacher in Hertford County, and Dr. Barnes is a psychology professor at ECSU.



Krystle Lee

After the 30 young women auditioned, their first tasks began. This test was called Viking Pride. On August 27, the ladies had to represent ECSU by showing school spirit at the first football game. They made up cheers, chants, songs, and decorated themselves by wearing the school colors.

"I loved the first activity because I am full of school spirit and had no problem wearing a blue wig and face painting. Plus I personally bought \$30 worth of candy to give out at the game," Leandra Hill, a finalist, said.

After each challenge, some of the women were eliminated. see PAGEANT on pg. 5

ECSU, first "Midnight Madness"

By Angela Byrd
Staff Writer

Free food, music, a basketball game and a free fashion show was the line up for Elizabeth City State University's first "Midnight Madness." Organized by the SGA on October 14 at the Vaughan Gymnasium, the event attracted 500 students and lasted from 10 pm to 2 am.

The event started with the gym a bit empty, but by 11 it was a party or what some called the madness. Family, friends, and students who didn't attend NC A&T homecoming or Virginia State's, came to see what ECSU spring semester was to bring. Fans stood to their feet as Omega Psi Phi, Nu Gamma Psi, and Alpha Phi Alpha party hopped and stepped, giving us a taste of what we hoped to see homecoming weekend.

Vike Nu Fashion Troupe walked the runway, turning the gym floor out with their white and beige outfits. Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, P.O.I.S.I.O.N (ECSU's Drum line), entered, doing a mixture of drumbeats including "go-go," and reggae to rock the entire gym.

The highlight of the night was most definitely the women's and men's basketball team scrimmage. The crowd stood to their feet as former player Tyrone Smith returned to the court, after sitting out for two seasons for getting in trouble on campus. Smith who is already picked for the All Conference Pre-season Team laughs when asked about how it feels to already be chosen as a leader. The boys were definitely hyped as

they showed off their slam-dunks and alley oops.

This years women's basketball team also looks very promising adding additional players at shooting guard, point guard, small forward, and the post, including returning All Conference Pre-Season players Deanna Price, and Celeste Trahan.

"I think we have a winning team. I love playing with the new players too," said Price after being asked about the recent additions. As always Trahan stays humble with her answer, saying "I'm ready."

If you didn't enjoy any of the activities, during the night of madness, you were sure to enjoy the free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, and soda that were given out all night.

By Fae Deaton
Staff Writer

For years LuAnn Pendergraft has been teaching a sequence on Museum Studies. Now, you can obtain a minor in Museum Studies here at ECSU. The current offering this semester is Museum Studies II, coming under the School of Arts and Humanities' Department of Art.

The experience, syllabus, included issues of management, accessioning, documenting, and handling artifacts, as well as designing

hands on experiences for young visitors to the Museum of the Albemarle, and the newly established Port Discover Museum, the latter under the direction of Mrs. Pendergraft.

Lectures/training by the staff of the Museum of the Albemarle ranged from history of the local museum, guidelines for listing the artifacts, how, when and when not to accept donations to a museum, How to

incorporate volunteers, and working with the museum board.

Guidelines for security issues and "how to's" were given by the security staff at the newly "opened" Museum of the Albemarle, complete with closed circuit television as well as documenting all visitors and staff in the MOA so that all could be safely removed in the case of an emergency.

Being able to go into the storage areas, as well as

the galleries that are still in the process of being constructed, some displays, such as the old Jackson House gave a reality that could not have been experienced by plain lectures.

Trips to the Museum of Science and of History (two museums) allowed a live experience of how the finished product(s) can function. Another "Field Trip" was to the Children's Museum of Virginia, located in downtown Portsmouth Virginia. Orientation presentations by

the Directors, accompanied by visits to the various hands on parts of the museum gave reality to what being in the museum field was all about.

The Museum Studies II students even assisted in packing the tool artifacts/items at the old museum building, complete with white gloves, and clip boards as we took turns wrapping the item in special tissue paper and carefully laying the objects into the containers preparatory to being moved

over to the big blue roofed downtown Museum of the Albemarle.

The Mus II students assisted with the Day on the River at the time of the Moth Boat Races, set up outside on the "green" in front of the MOA. Exploration in the special pond next to the MOA gave the "hands on" science exploration opportunity for young researchers, complete with notebook and clipboard, to write down observations and discoveries.

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ECSU offers museum studies Degree