



Photo appears courtesy of ECSU University Relations & Marketing. ECSU celebrates a new 15 foot, aluminum clock. The Fancy Street Clock Company made this presidential model of their street clocks. It plays chimes and displays roman numerals on the clock face. At night the clock is illuminated. The clock rests on the Viking promenade deck which links the Ridley Student Center to area residence halls, the R.L. Vaughn Center and the south side of campus.

STUDENTS AND GAS PRICES

By: Darell Caldwell

High gas prices are affecting older Americans as well as the younger population.

"I think they started going up in 2004," says Elizabeth City State student Rodriguez Humphrey. "I went from putting \$10 in the tank and being ok to putting \$30 in, it's getting out of hand."

In 2004 gas prices reached \$2 a gallon forcing a lot of students to carpool or even walk. The reason for the rise in the prices is because of the supply and demand of crude oil. Many oil producing countries are facing uncertain futures as the demand for gas in the U.S. continues to grow.

Because the gas prices are so high, a lot of students don't even use their cars. Students spend a lot of time studying and going to class, while others may be involved in clubs or a sport. "It's a struggle because when you're involved in extracurricular activities it's hard to get a job", says Humphrey.

Students who live in other states such as New Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, and Maryland find it hard to get to and from

school. Some are forced to take a bus or train, while others may find rides with other students. "It's the worst traveling from New York to Elizabeth City," says ECSU student Jarell Davis. "It takes about \$50 worth of gas to make it to ECSU from New York, and that's not counting the tolls."

Today's cars are simple and there are even gas-saving tips that can be useful to any student. Getting your engine tuned can be helpful, as not doing so can hurt gas mileage by an average of 4.1 percent.

Also, keeping the tires properly inflated can help against tire damage which could cause your mileage to increase resistance and make it more difficult for the engine to move the car along the road.

Check your air filter and replace it every 12,000 miles. Most drivers believe that a car just runs on gasoline. Cars run on gas and oxygen. If one of the filters is clogged then the performance and fuel economy won't be as good.

ECSU REVEALS NEW CLOCK

By: Lenora Coley

On Sat., January 19, a ceremony unveiling a new clock tower and walkway that is outlined with lights and additional benches was held at Elizabeth City State University. Chancellor Willie Gilchrist and Elizabeth City Mayor Steve Atkinson were present to help unveil the clock tower located in the New Student Union area.

The clock tower, which is in the center of ECSU campus, will give the area a new and brighter look. Built by Fancy Street Clock Company of Illinois, the tower is 18-feet high, black aluminum, with four-faces trimmed in the university's royal blue. The ECSU logo

is in the middle. The clock rings every hour and can be heard across the campus.

Along with the clock tower, the campus also has a new 600-foot Viking pedestrian walkway with benches and new lighting. This walkway will give students, faculty members, staff, and visitors a shorter distance to many of the university's buildings. The new lighting is expected to use less energy which soon will be used in other areas of the university.

The Division of Student Affairs is sponsoring a Viking Walk of Fame. Donors will be able to have an engraved brick placed in the walkway for \$100.



Kimberly Bowens, Nealand Lewis, William Allen Thomas, Steven Carter, Joy Clark, Nabia Rhobes, Julia Madison, Jamal Robinson, Khstynna Olwek, Brandi Mathews and Garry Cameron

TECHNOLOGY TRANSITION OF THE FUTURE

By: Brandon Yancey

The technology transition will arrive in the future when all television stations will cease analog broadcasts and switch to digital broadcasts on Feb. 17, 2009. Megan Pollock of Consumer Electronics Association made the announcement in a December 2007 radio interview from public relations firm Strauss Radio Strategies (SRS).

In order to prepare for the transition, Consumer Electronics Association wants all television owners to purchase a new converter box or own digital sets by the transition date. Pollock stated that starting January 1, 2008, households can request up to two coupons from the National Telecommunication and Information Administration. "Coupons are worth \$40 each and can be applied toward digital-to-analog converter boxes," said Pollock in the SRS interview.

Pollock also mentioned other options for households such as subscribing to cable or satellite to ensure they continue to receive their favorite programming, or purchasing a new digital television to make certain they are able to receive and enjoy the new digital broadcasts.

The transition next year from analog to digital television represents the most significant advancement of television technology since color TV was introduced.

For more information about the digital television transition, visit dvttransition.org. For more information about the Consumer Electronics Association, visit www.ce.org.

