Students complete living and learning experience in India

Ariana Vaughan recently returned from her first trip abroad. The 19-year-old Elizabeth City State University sophomore declares the eight-week living and learning experience in Jaipur, India, an incredible addition to her undergraduate education. She now reads and writes well in Hindi, the sixth mostly widely used language in the world.

"It was a great experience," said Vaughan, a native of Ahoskie, N.C., who was captivated by the cultural differences in India that included everything from attire to personal space. "In India, there were no boundaries. Many
Indian natives would approach me for pictures and would even touch me. Others just stood and stared in utter amazement."

READ MORE

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Back to School Bash prepares youths for school year

Scores of area youngsters are ready to hit the books thanks to a weekend Back to School Bash and Food Drive at Elizabeth City State University, where they picked up school supplies and more.

Sunday, August 25, ECSU radio station WRVS-FM 89.9 collaborated with the Elizabeth City Police Department, the North State Law Enforcement Officers Association and Champion Kutz to hold the event. WRVS has participated twice in the event that provided 185 youths with free haircuts, and nearly 300 students with free school supplies, free food, raffle prizes and entertainment.

READ MORE

VIKING ATHLETICS

Mighty Vikings host first home game

As summer draws to a close, football season has officially arrived. On Saturday, September 7, the Mighty
Vikings will host Newberry College at their first game on the ECSU campus at Roebuck Stadium.

The 2012 Pioneer Bowl Champs are slated to repeat their rank as CIAA Northern Division champs, and second overall, as announced by the CIAA Football Coaches Association in July.

Three seniors were voted to the 2013 Preseason All-CIAA Team; offensive lineman David Gatlin, kicker/punter Brett Symonds and two-time All-CIAA performer, defensive back Nigel Rios. Last season David Gatlin blocked for an offensive line that was the season best rushing attack in the CIAA. Brett Symonds, who lands on the Preseason Team as both a punter and a kicker, had a solid junior season that saw him connect on 9-12 field goals and 35-38 in point after attempts.

Nigel Rios is primed for an All-American campaign this season after starting all 12 games for ECSU last year. A native of Washington, DC, he led all Viking defenders with a team high 84 tackles (64 solo) and 6 blocked kicks.

The September 7 game will begin at 6pm. Tickets are $15 and may be purchased online at www.etix.com, the Ticket Office (252-335-3578) or Cashier’s Office (252-335-3207). VIP Season Passes are on sale until September 6, 2013.

Abebe awarded $298,995 grant from National Science Foundation

Three ECSU biology students found a practical, summer research project just a few miles away from campus.
Shawnette Toney, left, and Kenya Holley, right, collect soil samples to identify microscopic worms in the soil near a former fuel site at the local Coast Guard base. Shawnette Toney, Kenya Holley and Juanette Roache are undergraduates majoring in biology.

A 2010 study by the researchers at N.C. State University’s Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources indicates residual fuel lies below the surface. The site is located within 150 meters of the Pasquotank River. Remediation efforts that reduce any leakage of fuel to the river will have a critical role in improving environmental health. The oil resulted from an underground depot that once was a fuel source for coast guard airplanes.

READ MORE

A $298,995 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) supports research by Dr. Eyualem Abebe and students who collect soil samples near a former fuel site at the local Coast Guard base. Shawnette Toney, Kenya Holley and Juanette Roache are undergraduates majoring in biology.

Tisdale, '73, establishes $10k Endowed Fund

This month, the Office of Institutional Advancement announced the establishment of the Henry N. and Alice Carson Tisdale Endowed Fund. Alice Tisdale, '73, is the current director of the Alice Carson Tisdale Honors College and First Lady of Claflin University in Orangeburg, SC. Tisdale has spent nearly 40 years in education; the endowment will support scholarships for education
Mrs. Tisdale is a published author, motivational speaker, and an appointee by South Carolina Governor Nikki Healey to the Governor's Mansion and Lace House Commission. Below is an interview with Mrs. Tisdale regarding her decision to create an endowment.

**Why did you choose to attend ECSU?**
Actually my aunt, who was a guidance counselor in New Bern, had my parents send me to Elizabeth City from the Philippine Islands, which was where I attended high school. She knew the elementary education program, liked the environment, and thought it was the best fit for me.

**Why did you choose to establish this endowment?**
Having been an educator for over 40 years, and working in higher education for 20 of those years, I cannot stress enough to young African American kids the importance of a college education and its impact on their future and the world. The world needs visionaries, and today's youth are smart...intelligent...visionary. They are, and will become the change agents that our world needs. It is up to us to do what we can to help provide the financial support that will enable the next generation to come into their "greatness," and help to solve some of the world's greatest and most complex challenges facing our global society today.

**READ MORE**

Are you an alum with exciting news? Turn yourself in! Email klmurray@mail.ecsu.edu your news and be sure to include your graduation year.