

# SSS



# STAR

November 2004  
Vol. 1 No. 2

## TRiO

Student Support Services  
Federally-funded  
TRiO comprises various programs, which, since 1965, have promoted opportunity in education. Student Support Services (SSS) has served almost 1000 participants at CCC&TI since its inception here in 1993. Its mission is to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and serve to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education. Visit [www.ccti.edu/sss](http://www.ccti.edu/sss) for more information. Educational Talent Search (ETS), launched at CCC&TI in 2002, currently serves 600 middle-school and high-school students. Its mission is to get academically talented Caldwell County students enrolled in college. Visit [www.ccti.edu/ets](http://www.ccti.edu/ets) for more information. For further information on TRiO programs, please visit [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).



Debbie Holtzclaw, Casey Davis, and Jessica Dillard “answer the call!”

## SSS Students Answer the Call! By Andrea Powell

The students of Student Support Services came together and volunteered their time to help keep SSS functioning properly while one of our vital members was out due to family injury. For a little over two weeks, SSS was void of our Administrative Assistant, Sheila Pritchard. For anyone who comes into the SSS office frequently, you know that Sheila helps the Student Support Services office run smoothly. So of course it was a big deal not to have her around! Not surprisingly, lots of SSS students chose to help out in SSS's time of need and volunteered to sit at the front desk to direct people and answer the phones when they rang. We greatly missed Sheila while she had to be out with the unfortunate accident of her husband. The help that was received from us wonderful and caring SSS students was greatly appreciated by staff!

## Surviving Your First Semester

By Tammy Peters

I'm the mother of three children. My oldest is 7 years old and my twins are 5. I decided to go back to school when my twins started school. I'm taking my first semester of classes at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and my experience as a first time college student has been a wonderful experience. I'm in a program called Student Support Services, also known as SSS. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to be involved. SSS offers many different services to students such as free tutoring to students who need help with their classes; also, if you need one, you can check out a laptop computer from SSS. SSS provides counseling to students who may need it. These are just a few of the many services that SSS provides for students. I am part of a group called Independent Women. This group allows women to talk as a group about many different issues that women face on a daily basis. This is a really good group to help students cope and understand how to deal with different issues. I was really shy and scared to start college, but SSS and the people in SSS have made college a wonderful experience for me. Thank you! SSS, you really rock!

## Joe Abbey: Going the Extra Mile

By Kelly Harrison

Many instructors and staff members of CCC&TI are candidates for recognition as outstanding and exemplary individuals. Space does not permit mention and focus on every one of those individuals, but at least one can be the subject of such recognition. For this edition of the SSS Star, I would like to introduce Mr. Joe Abbey.

Mr. Abbey was born in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He spent twenty years in the Navy, where he worked as a recruiter and he worked on submarines. A first-generation college student, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Appalachian State University. Mr. Abbey teaches mathematics and various other subjects here at CCC&TI and always seems eager to discuss math with anyone. He loves the subject, and love of an academic subject is, without doubt, a prerequisite for being an effective instructor.

One of his MAT 080 (Intermediate Algebra) students, Heather Lovins, said “Mr. Abbey is very intelligent and goes out of his way to help.” Fitting words for someone who goes the extra mile.

## *Esquina Española por María Punch*

*Estoy muy contenta de ser un nuevo miembro de SSS. Yo he escuchado muchas cosas buenas acerca de este programa. Yo sé que este programa también me ayudará a sentirme mejor de mí misma. Gracias.*

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## Habitat for Humanity

By Ruby Lipford

I, Ruby Lipford volunteered to participate in the Habitat for Humanity project this year. It was such an enriching activity! I totally enjoyed it. I was part of a group of students going to a work site to help build a house for a lady and her two daughters. We all had jobs to do and we all stayed busy. I helped put insulation on the outside walls of the house and helped build a deck. I caulked cracks in the floor and walls. I also helped put up ceiling rafters, which were heavy, but the feeling I got from helping someone else was worth it all. I hope I get another chance to help someone else soon. I'm glad I did not pass on this opportunity because I found it very fulfilling. Being in the SSS program means sharing with others and helping others. This is what it is all about, in my opinion.



## The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band Comes into Town with a Storm By Brad Stover

Amidst the end of Hurricane Ivan, the NGDB played to a large crowd at the J.E. Broyhill Civic center Friday night, September 17. Many people thought the concert would be canceled as the Piedmont region was pounded with more rain from a second hurricane, but “the show must go on,” and what a show it was!

The band had the crowd clapping and tapping from the get-go. They mixed mid-career hits with many songs from their new material, due to come out in stores later this fall.

As the show went on, the band played many old favorites including “Mr. Bojangles.”

The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band concert, with its mix of Bluegrass and Southern pop sound, made for an enjoyable and memorable evening.

The band was a great kick-off to the new season at the Civic Center.



# Important Dates for SSS

## Students:

### November, 2004

- Nov. 12 Comedy Pet Theatre, 7:30 pm  
Civic Center
- Nov. 12-13 "A Thousand Clowns", 8 pm FPA  
Theatre
- Nov. 14 "A Thousand Clowns", 3pm FPA  
Theatre  
Men's Basketball, Cobras vs. Cape  
Fear, 3 pm (Home)
- Nov. 16 Men's Basketball, Cobras vs. Wilkes  
Community, 7 pm (Home)  
TRiO Deli, 12:00pm  
ETS Induction Ceremony, 6:00 pm  
Civic Center  
BMSA Meeting
- Nov. 17 SGA Thanksgiving Activity
- Nov. 18, Men's Basketball, Cobras vs.  
Anderson College, (Home) 7 pm  
Business Club, 12:00 pm
- Nov. 18 SSS college visit to UNCA, sign up  
sheet in SSS on sign up board
- Nov. 18-20 "A Thousand Clowns", 8 pm  
FPA Theatre
- Nov. 20 ETS/SSS Open House, 1-4 pm  
Student Lounge  
SSS college visit to UNCC, sign up  
Sheet across from Becky's office
- Nov. 21 "A Thousand Clowns", 3 pm FPA  
Theatre
- Nov. 23 Men's Basketball, Cobras vs.  
Spartanburg Methodist, 7 pm (Away)  
Circle K Club, 12:00
- Nov. 24-28 Institution Closed for  
Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 29 Curriculum Classes Resume  
Phi Theta Kappa, 4:30 pm  
Nov. 29-30 NC Biomedical  
Symposium for Biomedical Equipment  
Tech Students, Pinehurst, NC

Nov. 30 Fiddler on the Roof, 7:30 pm Civic  
Center  
Wise Up: Workshop, 12:00pm Room  
F153

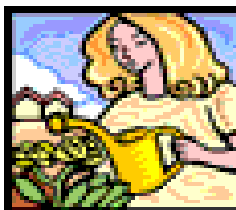
### December, 2004

- Dec. 1-3 NC Biomedical Symposium for  
Biomedical Equipment Tech Students,  
Pinehurst, NC
- Dec. 1 SGA Christmas Door Decoration  
Contest  
Men's Basketball, Cobras vs.  
Anderson College, 7 pm (Away)
- Dec. 2 TRiO Deli, 12:00pm E 120
- Dec. 4 Men's Basketball, Cobras vs. Truett-  
McConnell College, 2 pm (Home)
- Dec. 5 Men's Basketball, Cobras vs. St.  
Andrews College, 3 pm (Away)
- Dec. 6 Paralegal Club, 12:00pm
- Dec. 7 BMSA Meeting,  
Faculty Senate Meeting
- Dec. 9 Business Club, 12:00 pm
- Dec. 10 Puddingstone, 7:30 Civic Center
- Dec. 13-15 Exams, End of Fall Semester
- Dec. 14 CCC & TI Chorus Concert, 12:15 pm  
FPA Theatre

## Landscape

### By Tim Ford

Student Support Services would like to  
congratulate Christina Reardon, an SSS



student, for being the first  
CCC&TI student to be  
certified as a NC  
Association of  
Nurserymen as a Plant  
Professional. Christina is  
an SSS student and she

will graduate from Caldwell Community  
College and Technical Institute in the spring  
of 2005. Christina helped design the gardens  
that are between buildings A & B while taking  
classes in landscaping. Student Support  
Services congratulates Christina Reardon for  
her degree and also wishes her the best luck  
on continuing as a Plant Professional.

# Group Activities and Updates

*What are those SSS students doing now?!*

**Helping, working, living, giving....**

As you know, SSS has created **eight new service groups** in which students can participate to bolster their resumes and applications while giving back to the CCC&TI community. Below, the activities of each service group are updated.

## SSS Alumni Group:



*Group members assist in maintaining contact with SSS alumni and planning alumni related events. The SSS Alumni Group met and decided on two*

*priorities for their team. Priority one is an **SSS reunion**, scheduled to happen in April of '05! Priority two is a **new SSS Alumni Scholarship**. This scholarship will be awarded to at least one SSS student in need. The SSS Alumni Group is moving fast with some innovative and amazing ideas! If you are interested in joining, contact Belinda Ballew-Schrag*

## CCPS (Caldwell County Public Schools) /ETS (Educational Talent Search) Group:

*Students assist in organizing and coordinating services as requested by CCPS.*

*CCPS/ETS group members are preparing to help with the ETS new student induction ceremony scheduled to be held on November 16 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center.*

*Students are also gearing up to help mentor senior ETS students in the public schools. TRiO students unite!*



## Independent Women Groups:

*These groups function as a support network for their members.*

*Independent Women has met several times this semester. Because more women responded than there was room for in just*

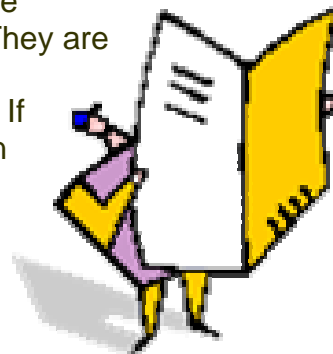
*one group, we now offer two Independent Women sections! Meetings are on Tuesdays or Thursdays at noon in E 305. Come join us!*

*Thus far this semester, Independent Women have presented at a TRiO Deli, attended the Haunted Mill in Boone, and organized a costume contest for SSS students. Independent women really know how to get things done!*

## Newsletter Team:

*This team is for students who are interested in composing the new SSS newsletter.*

*The Newsletter Team meets weekly on Fridays from 3:00 – 5:00. This team is an amazing team who really pushes themselves to gather, organize and create information interesting to their SSS colleagues. This team works hard to produce an incredible newsletter for you. They are getting all kinds of editorial experience! If you would like to join the SSS Newsletter Team, contact Belinda Ballew-Schrag or any student editor.*



### **Orientation Team:**

*These students help orient incoming SSS students by providing an orientation day as well as creating a directory of SSS students.*

This team was innovative and motivated enough to get together and raise money to contribute toward the New York trip by raffling off a date with one of their own! They raised over \$55.00!



This team also donated time to make Halloween treat bags for every single SSS student.

Thanks for thinking of us, Orientation Team!

Work continues on the SSS directory. If you have not yet had your picture taken for the directory, please see a staff member as soon as possible so that we may include you in the directory.

### **SSS Service Corps:**

*These team members organize and assist in the deployment of SSS student resources across campus.*

Thus far this semester, students have conceptualized, coordinated, and implemented a chili cook-off whose proceeds went to help needy families in the area who, due to illness, have exorbitant medical bills. Thanks to all who participated and thanks very much to the Service Corps who made the chili cook-off possible.

### **TRiO Deli Group:**

*This group is responsible for the coordination and organization of TRiO Delis.*

The TRiO Deli team has put on yet another successful TRiO Deli for over 100 students and faculty members. Wow! Thanks, Deli team, for making all this possible! You rock!

If you haven't been to a TRiO Deli yet, you have to go! Sign-up sheets are posted on the sign-up board at SSS.

### **J.E. Broyhill Civic Center Group:**

*Group members assist in day to day activities associated with the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center, including ushering.*

So far this semester, SSS students have volunteered upwards of 25 hours to the Civic Center and have ushered five shows! Wow! That is a lot of hours!

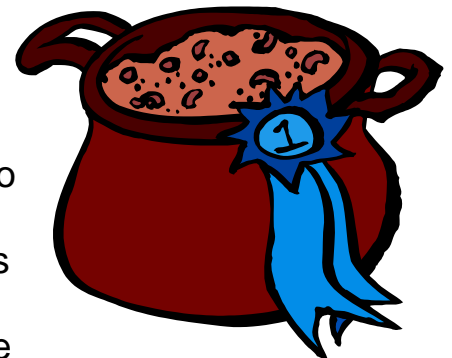
On November 10, the SSS Service Corps hosted a chili cook-off.

Many students submitted chili ranging from mild to extremely hot!

CCC&TI Instructors Vale Biddix, Dustin Greene, and Janice

Wheeling served as the judges for the SSS chili contest. The "Beans and Meat" chili, crafted by Theresa Pierce was chosen as the blue ribbon chili. Second place went to Terry Kanupp for his "Terry's Greatest" chili, and third place went to "Sylvia's Chili" by Sylvia Foster.

\$186.00 was raised and split equally between two needy families in Caldwell County. Thanks to all of the SSS students who donated food, time, taste buds, and energy to the cause. SSS students ROCK and so do all the faculty and staff who help support them!



## English as a Second Language By Melissa Hall

I am a volunteer tutor at West Lenoir School of Technology, and I am starting my fourth year there. Before this year, I helped children who needed extra help. However, this year along with many of the typically challenging students, I have been challenged with two third graders who cannot speak English. I work with a boy and a girl both of whom are in the third grade. Both of these children are very intelligent and are the most polite children anyone would ever want to meet. However, the children are at a “disadvantage” because of their inability to speak English. The amazing thing about these children is that they are more than eager and willing to learn anything anyone will help them learn. For instance, one day we had reviewed several simple words like colors and numbers, and while I was preparing for the next activity, I noticed the two children were quizzing each other. This is amazing to me to see children so eager to learn!

These children try to do everything in their power to learn all they can every day of their lives, and these things are things we have taken for granted most of our lives. Personally, I have gone to every extreme to help these children. I have taken up the art of pantomiming, playing follow the leader, using what little bit of Spanish I still know. I am working with the students, their teachers are doing as much as possible, and the children are trying their hardest to fit in and be able to function. After a month of school, these children are beginning to say some sentences, they know many words when they see them, and they are reading beginner level books with help. These children are *excelling, striving, and learning* all at the same time! While these children are doing it for survival in Caldwell County, can we as Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute students learn from these third graders? Yes, we certainly can!



If nine-year-olds can survive seven hours a day and five days a week in an environment where they can barely communicate, then we can make the best of our learning experiences. All we have to do is set our minds to it, and try our hardest and not give up no matter what. Just remember that everybody makes mistakes, and we can only learn from our mistakes!

### My First Generation Story

My name is Jessica Dillard; I am twenty-nine years old and a mother of an eight year old and soon to be a stepmother of an eleven year old girl and a fourteen year old boy. My story may sound funny, but it's true. When I was a senior in high school I wanted to go in the Air Force and I knew that I would further my education while I was enlisted. I was two weeks from signing my papers when I met my ex-husband and he changed my mind about enlisting. In March 1995 we were married and May 1996 our daughter was born. I always said I would go back to school, but for some reason or another I was never able to go. Then in May 2003 I was home recovering from surgery when I received my divorce papers in the mail. Even though it was a great day it made me realize that I would need to further my education if I wanted a better future for my daughter. So after making my mind up that I would go to college, came the hard part. Where would I get the money to go? Then the next day a letter came about financial aid, I called the number that was on the letter. The financial aid office told me what I needed to do. I did everything just like they told me to do, and in mid July I found out that I had been awarded a Pell grant for the fall and spring semester. I quit my full time job so I could come to school full time. I took the placement test in early August, signed up for classes, and started school on August 18, 2003. Now I am in my third semester and love it. I am planning to enter the nursing program. I dedicate this to all the people that say “I can't go back to school.” There is always a way.



*Jessica's story is among the 200 collected from SSsS and ETS students for the TRiO First Generation Statement Campaign.*

## The Afghan Women's Project Afghanistan 2003

By Kim Brinkley

I attended the presentation given by Peggy Kelsey on her perspective of the women of Afghanistan. She traveled throughout Afghanistan for 6 weeks in August and September 2003 photographing and interviewing Afghan women. While there, she also visited a female prison, a university, The Primary School of Hope, and attended a wedding.

Ms. Kelsey's experience with Afghan women differs greatly from what the media conveys. The media tends to present Afghan women as mistreated and uneducated. Although this is true in some cases, it is not the norm. The women interviewed seemed to be very intelligent.

Ms. Kelsey spoke often about the Burka. The Burka is a covering Afghan women wear that covers the hair down to the wrist and ankles. It is a tradition not forced upon them, but chosen. It is worn only when out in public. The Afghan prison system is very different than the one in America. Children of Afghan mothers, if they have no one to care for them, must go with their mothers to prison. The women or their families can pay to have time removed from their prison sentences. Each day in prison counts as one day, and each night counts as one day. So, 24 hours in prison is equivalent to two days. The prison system seemed to be fair to the women, but unfortunately some instances of abuse and rape have occurred.

Women in Afghanistan are allowed to attend school but are taught separately from the men. Some women there attend R.A.W.A schools, which stands for Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan. This association promotes literacy and vocational training for women and promotes women's rights.

Ms. Kelsey attended an Afghan wedding during her visit. The wedding was similar to an American wedding except that the fathers make a trade before the couple can marry.

In most weddings, the bride and groom have never met. The bride is not always happy with her father's decision, but by not marrying she would disgrace her family.

Ms. Kelsey's conclusion was that her experience in Afghanistan might differ from the experiences of others. She summed it up in a statement from one of the women she interviewed, "Women in Afghanistan are just like women everywhere. They have the same emotions, feel the same pain, and experience similar trials."

## TRiO ART SHOW

By Jesse Stumbo

TRiO held its inaugural art exhibit in the Jo Seila Art Gallery in the S Bldg. on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Art submissions to this exhibit were open to all SSS students and family members. There were 23 art works on display and the media types ranged from abstract drawings to representational paintings. The show was judged by juror, Lynda Lea Bonkemeyer. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to a photograph taken by Jesse Stumbo, 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to a painting by Larkin Kassuba, and honorable mention went to a piece by Amber Watts. Congratulations to these winners and a special thank you to all of the artists that entered this show. These students' artistic talents made this art exhibit a huge success. All of us here at SSS would also like to thank these people for their contribution in making this show possible, Lynda Lea Bonkemeyer, Ron Wilson, Jean Cauthen, Thomas Thielemann, Sheila Pritchard, and Alice Lentz. We hope everyone enjoyed the show, and for those who could not attend, these works of art can be viewed at the following link.



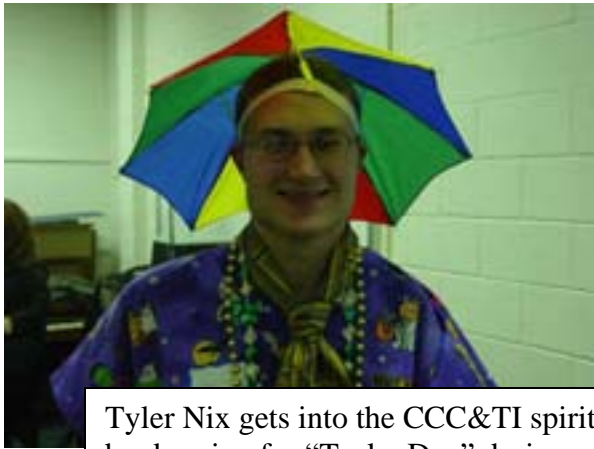
**Editor's note:** When Jesse Stumbo agreed to cover the exhibit's opening, neither he nor we had any idea that his entry would win first place in the juried show! Congratulations, Jesse!

❖ If you would like to see photos by Denise Wagner of the TRiO Art show you can check out this website.

<http://www.cccti.edu/Activities/04TrioArtShow/index.htm>

*Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being.*

**Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**



Tyler Nix gets into the CCC&TI spirit by dressing for "Tacky Day" during spirit week which kicked off CCC&TI's basketball season opener on November 2. What an outfit Tyler!



Victoria Bryant and Kay Bragg look to see what yummy treats the Orientation Team has left for them.



Victoria Bryant, Dana Miller (2<sup>nd</sup> place winner), Shannon Withers, Stephanie Spears, Rebecca Gragg (3<sup>rd</sup> place winner), and Kay Bragg (1<sup>st</sup> place winner) all pose in their Halloween finery. What a crowd!



Kelly Harrison studies more Philosophy. He'll have a Doctoral Degree before we know it!



Eric Frazier tries to stay dry during our deluge of rains, outside of E building.

*Why worry? It never gets darker than midnight.  
An Italian Saying*

## The new SGA Senators

By Tim Ford

The SSS Newsletter team would like to congratulate the new SGA Senators. They were elected by those from the CCC and TI students who cast their votes. Before being considered for their respective SGA positions, each candidate had to compile and submit a petition with at least 25 signatures from fellow students. Each new SGA Senator deserves our support and help in making our college experience more enjoyable and rewarding.

The new Senators are:

Reggie Carson

\*Sonja Farnsworth

\*Melanie Payne

\*Nicole Stough

Jessica Roark

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding school policies and activities, feel free to contact on the SGA Senators. We can't help but brag about the fact that three of these shining stars are SSS students.

## Newsletter Team's E- Mail

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Jessica Dillard.... soldierslady@yahoo

Tim Ford ....spillmaster2002@yahoo

Kelly Harrison...

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Andrea Powelllilandie222003@yahoo

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bballew@cccti.edu

M. Christie...mchristie@cccti.edu

**Student Support Services**

**Caldwell Community College and  
Technical Institute**

## Interdepartmental Cooperation Furthers the SSS Purpose

By: Nicole Stough

On September 13, 2004, the first ever SSS Star Newsletter went live! The SSS students

spent two months editing and getting information together. We could not have done it without the Marketing and Communications Department. We are very



lucky to have such a department that is so devoted to our students' success.

Marla Christie met with the newsletter staff to bounce around ideas, talk about the process and provide tips for production. Marla is going to meet and work with newsletter staff on a regular basis while this student publication evolves.

Denise Wagner provided technical assistance with Adobe Acrobat and CCC & TI's Web Pages. Denise set up navigation on SSS Newsletter Web pages so visitors can locate and download the newsletters easily. Finally, she was on hand to create the PDF file, upload it to the CCC & TI web server and ensured that all the new links worked. Denise plans to continue providing technical assistance for and suggestions to the Newsletter Team.

Thanks a lot to Marketing and Communications for all their help!!!