

Greer: It's going to be a very good year



This year's Student Government Association Officers stepping out confidently: President Allen Brooks, center, flanked by Social Board Vice President Nick Embrey, left, and Judicial Board Vice President Don Rett, right. (Clarion photo)

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If college presidents could give the academic counterpart to the State of the Union address, that would be the title of Brevard College President Billy Greer's summation.

Every year about this time he likes to throw his feet up on the desk and have a "fireside chat." Anybody who's spent any time around Brevard College's infectious chief administrator knows that he lives, eats and breathes Brevard College and when things aren't right you don't have to have a degree in psychology to tell.

And when things are going right, it's all over him. In his own words, he's "juiced."

He doesn't mince words about this coming year: "I've never looked forward to the beginning of an academic year as much as I am this year. It's impossible not to be excited. First of all, we've got an immensely talented freshman class coming in, plus a wonderful core group of returning sophomores, and marvelous seasoned faculty, and an administration which now has some experience under its belt — it all adds up to a very positive experience for everybody."

Greer says, "The invitation will definitely be out to every student to get involved and to stay involved, both in the classroom and out. There really is a sense of family here and I don't think it will take the new freshman class long to get infused with that spirit. These young people are in for a treat."

Greer is excited about the level of student involvement with responsible governing. He's got high hopes for this year's SGA piloted by President Allen Brooks and Social Board Vice President Nick Embrey and Judicial Vice President Don Rett. Greer says Rett wrote him a letter this week that was "so upbeat and mature and positive that it made me want to jump up and charge through the wall."

This year's Orientation activities have been beefed up to help the college community gel. Greer points to increased transfer counseling, a campus-wide assembly and pep rally Sunday, Aug. 23, when BC athletes will be introduced, and the Freshman Outing at Camp Greenville, Saturday, Aug. 22.

Greer lists other major developments: The enrollment picture for this year is strong. The president says "the dormitories are going to be full this fall for the first time in six years."

And there is a real possibility that there may be a groundbreaking in January for a new 7,500 square foot addition to the present Coltrane Art Building, which will become the new Student Center, allowing the Art Department to swap buildings with the present Sims Student Center.

This year also, the new Uniform Guidelines, which are designed to place more responsibility on the students, go into effect. President Greer says, "I think if students look carefully at the Uniform

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