

The Gaslight



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Gaston Welcomes New Members



Dr. Wayne Scott

President Greets Students

Welcome to Gaston College! The Board of Trustees, the faculty, staff and the Student Government Association are pleased to have you as a student at Gaston College.

Gaston College is beginning its eighteenth year of operation. During the past years, the College has grown in programs and in facilities.

Gaston College continues to be dedicated to providing the best possible education for you, the student. You are urged to take advantage of the rich human and physical resources that are available, as you seek to gain new knowledge and new skills.

On this campus, and in the various centers that Gaston College operates in our neighboring communities, many different kinds of people come together for basic reasons—a desire to upgrade their skills, to increase their knowledge, and to become a more useful, happy and productive person in a rapidly changing world. We hope to help you accomplish these things.

Best wishes for a successful year.

Wayne Scott
President

Noted Parapsychologist To Appear Here September 22

By Gary Leonhardt

Probably the eighth wonder of the world, Russ Burgess has been amazing audiences for years, and on September 22 at 11:00 in the Myers Center, Gaston College people will have an opportunity to see this truly amazing act—which is anything but an act.

The show is made possible by the Gaston College Fine Arts Council, and there is no admission for the program. This appearance by Burgess is part of the "Primary Activity" schedule (see article on page 2) and a large crowd is anticipated.

Russ Burgess is a parapsychologist who stands with the elite few who can predict the future with amazing accuracy and he is also a hypnotist who can put the most stubborn subjects into a trance. Studies from a major university, incidentally, show that Burgess's predictions are 87% accurate. (That ain't

Lincoln Center Invites Students

Dear Students:

The new school year offers many exciting opportunities for both new and returning students. I encourage you to use your time wisely and to explore what Gaston College and the Lincoln County Campus have to offer you.

If you are puzzled or have a question, please ask the appropriate person for an answer. So we can better serve you, please feel free to make suggestions when you see areas where improvements are needed.

I hope you share my enthusiasm for the new year and I invite you to call on me if I



Steve Thornburg

can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

L. Steve Thornburg
Campus Director

Reaganomics Affects Students

By Myra Short

Dr. Helen Carter of Gaston's financial aid department handles applications for Pell grants, work study programs and student loans that go through Raleigh. Dr. Carter says that the students of Gaston have not been hurt too much by the cut down in federal education money because the tuition here is low.

Dr. Carter says, "Last year the Pell grant allowed a student to get as much as \$762. This year an eligible student could only receive \$732. While this is a thirty dollar cut, it isn't enough to keep a student from going to college."

The government has lowered the ceiling on what a family's income can be and still have a member receiving aid. Dr. Carter guessed that there may be more people applying for the Pell grant this year, but there will probably be 330 accepted—the same as last year.

As for work study programs, there is a certain amount of money allotted to Gaston each

year. This money must be used so as to help as many as possible without "over helping" one and leaving out another. Students are allowed to work a limited number of hours and are paid minimum wage.

While the work study program was not actually cut by the government, it was not increased—thereby receiving a nip from inflation. This means that if the minimum wage goes up some students will make more money for less work—but it will have less buying power.

At Gaston there are not many federal loans applied for. These loans are available at low interest rates and are generally applied for by married people rather than those who live with their parents. So far this year there have been 15 applications—of these there are three "yes," four "no," and the others haven't heard.

Dr. Carter says, "Bigger schools will be more affected than small schools like Gaston because of the big difference in tuition."

bad, folks!)

Burgess has devoted over 25 years of study, trial and error and psychological pursuits into his art and presentation. This explains part of his ability. What about the other part?

The man himself is probably the only person who can explain his talent. In the past years he has entertained over a million people with his mental powers, and he insists that there is no complicity of any type connected with the show; to back up his claim he has a standing offer of a large sum of money to go to anyone who can prove that his feats are rigged.

One week before Burgess appears at a given location he mails a prediction in a sealed envelope to the program chairperson. At the end of the show the envelope is opened and it contains the headline on the front page of the local paper.

Hypnosis carries a large part

of Burgess' show. He will hypnotize a large number of persons at one time and have virtually complete control over their minds.

One of the many incidents involving Gaston folks and Burgess is that of Lisa Digh. After last year's show Lisa was talking with Burgess backstage, and in that conversation Burgess, who knew nothing previously about Lisa, predicted that she would be accepted as a student at N.C. State where she had applied (also without his knowledge.)

That same day Lisa went home and pulled her acceptance letter out of the mailbox.

In other feats, Burgess often tells students their social security number (if they know it); he has a student think of a card in a deck and then, after the student admits which card he has chosen, Burgess has someone

President Extends Greetings

By Bill Pritchett

On behalf of the Student Government Association, I would like to welcome you to Gaston College. We hope that you will take advantage of the many opportunities offered here at Gaston. The social life at Gaston College can be as rewarding as you, the students, make it. We ask you to help support our school by participating in its clubs, intramurals and all S.G.A.-sponsored activities.

I want to urge each of you to cooperate with the Administration, Faculty and Student Government. By cooperating you will enable Gaston College to grow.

The S.G.A. has three primary means of communicating with the students. They are: the Gaslight, the Marquee, between the Learning Resources Center and the Myers Center, and the bulletin boards in each building on campus. All of these sources will enable you to achieve any information in extra-curricular activities. This year we of the Executive Council are looking for a complete turnaround in student activities. We have had a new Primary Activities plan passed by the Faculty Senate on a one year trial. These activities will be known as "Primary Activities" to distinguish them from other activities. Attendance to "Primary Activities" will not result in less of class

time but may be counted as an excused absence. All instructors will be notified at least 14 days in advance of occurrences. For the plan to work with us (the S.G.A.) and excuse students when "Primary Activities" are planned, students must plan to attend the activities, not go running on campus or the plan will fall flat on its face.

The S.G.A. is elected by you. In order for us to function properly, we want and need your help.

Please make it a point to recognize and know your senators. All students are invited to attend the S.G.A. meetings on Thursday at 12:00 noon in the Student Government Conference Room upstairs in the Myers Center.

Once again, welcome to Gaston College.

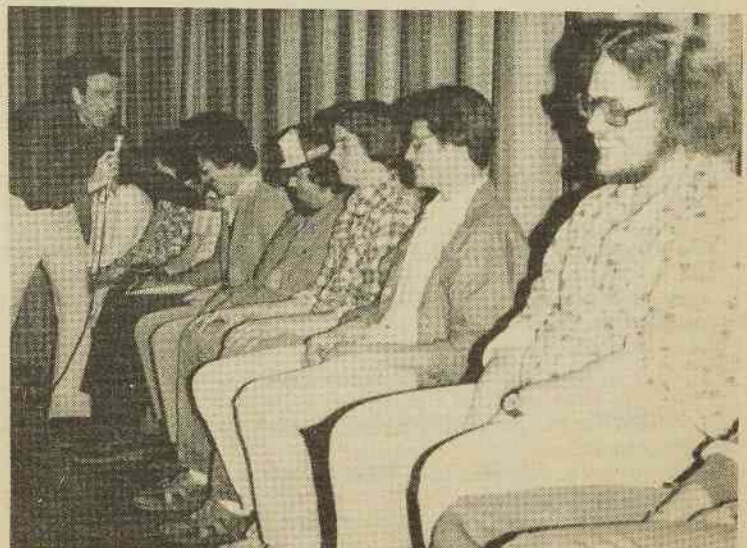
Bill Pritchett
S.G.A. President



Bill Pritchett



The SGA would like to welcome all incoming freshmen with the first dance of the Fall. The Original Drifters will be appearing in the Myers Center Building on September 10th from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. All students with a valid I.D. will be admitted free of charge. Tickets will be sold at the door. (\$3.00, no more than 300 non-students will be admitted.)



open the envelope he had sent a week earlier—and the message is the correct suit and number of the card chosen.

He's hard to believe, but come September 22 and see for yourself that the future may indeed be within our grasps.