

95-96

Opinions on Minority Enrollment

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Upcoming Events

Final Exams
April 25-May 3

Issue 58

North Carolina Central University
Durham, NC 27707

Wednesday, April 10, 1996

Student Enrollment

Budget crisis looms as admissions fall

Campus Echo reports

Rebounding from low freshman enrollment, the university has lost a considerable amount of potential revenues.

The school has lost about \$584,500 in housing receipts because of the low freshman enrollment of 553, as reported by the *News and Observer*.

"When Chancellor Chambers announced that we were to have an average SAT score of 950 for the 1995 entering freshman class, many students and alumni of the university took this to mean that every student's score had to be 950," said Undergraduate Admissions Director Nancy Rowland in the September 22 issue of the *Campus Echo*.

The school has set the minimum average score on the college entrance exam at 950, 100 points higher than last year. To achieve an average SAT score of 950, the high scores of applicants had to balance out the low. What this means is that for every considerably low score, there had to be one higher than 950 to reach that average.

NCCU is more than 1000 students away from its goal of

1700 new students for the fall semester. By mid-March, NCCU had asked 921 people to become part of its freshman class. But university statistics say the school must offer admission to 1,205 more students to reach its target of 1,105 freshmen.

Headed by [Chancellor Julius] Chambers, the administration is promoting an agenda that will strengthen NCCU in resources as well as student diversity. This campaign includes setting a target average SAT score of 950 for the 1995 entering freshman class. The Chancellor feels that raising standards will aid in recruiting top students and placing NCCU in equal standing with colleges ranked higher in the UNC system. The University will suffer growing pains because of the upgrade, and it will be most acute this year, Nancy Rowland said. Compared to the 752 first-time freshmen enrolled in August 1994, 500 first-time freshmen are presently enrolled at the university.

Echo Reporters Saw it Coming

September 22, 1995-

Freshman enrollment takes a dip, New strategy aims to boost academic standards

By Erica Dixon

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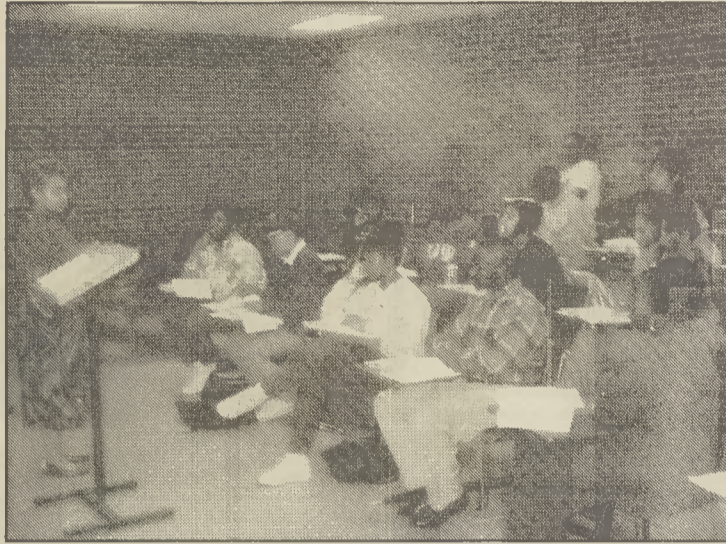
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Julius Chambers



Classes continue: Students in an English department class taught by Mrs. Mudy Stone. NCCU is more than 1000 students away from its goal of 1700 new students for the fall.

Convocation recognizes academic achievement

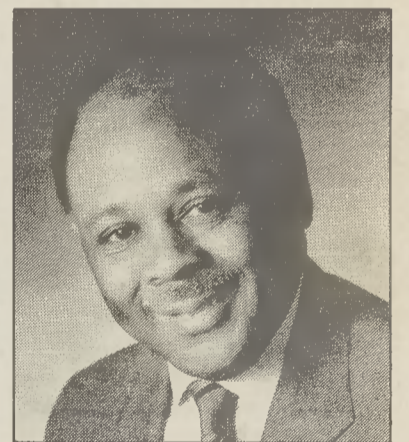
Keynote speaker William Raspberry advised his student audience at the 47th Annual Honors Convocation to be ready when opportunity arrives and to make themselves necessary in their fields of study.

"You master those two things and you'll be amazed at how lucky you can get," Raspberry said.

He also assured students that in the early stages of a career, money cannot be a major motivation.

"In the early days of your career, you're not likely to be transferring all that much money," he said. "What you can do, if you work at it, is to persuade an employer that you are bright, and eager, and worth having around."

Kristi Dunn, of Raleigh, an English major now doing student teaching at Cary Senior High School, was the recipient of the Chancellor's Award, which recognizes the senior with the highest average going into their final semester of study.



William Raspberry

Minority Presence

Triangle Media missing big picture

Echo Staff

Local newspapers, and television stations all hopped on the Eagle train to capture student response to the increasing administrative efforts to recruit minorities.

Note the following reports:

North Carolina Central University freshman class president and fellow students were the subject of a March 20, 1996 *News & Observer* report focused on opposition to white recruitment.

Taken out of context, the freshmen were portrayed as advocating racism.

However, many the students who signed the petition called for representation of all minority groups--not just whites.

As a result of this initial report, fellow *N&O* journalists Dennis Rogers and Barry Saunders waged a

verbal war against each other to debate the issue.

In an editorial that appeared that same day, Rogers accused NCCU students of reverse racism.

"To believe that black racism is as bad as white racism and divides us rather than unites us is to be called an ill-disguised racist in liberal rags," he said.

In the March 21 issue of the *News & Observer*, Saunders said that NCCU students fear the school is losing its "soul".

"You know as well as I that if the white students NCCU is pursuing don't get in there, many of them may get into Duke, Carolina or N.C. State," he said.

"But the black students who don't go to NCCU won't have nearly as many options."

UNC General Administration's policy on wrong track, SGA says

Recently, in responding to the use of Minority Presence Grants, North Carolina Central University has been portrayed as being racist.

This biased and incorrect portrayal of our university has led the student body to issue this press release in an effort to clarify our position on several issues.

These issues include minority presence, appropriation of funds in the University of North Carolina system, and the improper use of SAT scores.

We have been disappointed by the poor and irresponsible

The 10 percent minority mandate at Historically White Institutions versus the 15% mandate at Historically Black Institutions is racist and unfair

journalism that has led the public to believe that our opposition to exclusive integration is a racist one.

That is incorrect. We are concerned with the administration's

preoccupation with exceeding the government mandate of a 15% minority presence.

We also assert that the 10 percent minority mandate at Historically White Institutions versus the 15% mandate at Historically Black Institutions is racist and unfair.

It is our position that if it is the General Administration's desire to make North Carolina Central University a more viable institution in the new millennium, our energy would be better served if used to increase the quality of our educational facilities and equipment rather than the population of other groups.

In a recent report submitted to the UNC General Administration by a consulting group, Historically Black Institutions were reported to have been overfunded during recent years.

As students of a Historically Black Institution, we assert that the formula used in their assessment is inaccurate and biased.

The present misuse of SAT scores in measuring the academic capabilities of potential incoming students is also a major concern of the student body.

It has been determined to be culturally and economically

biased.

In Chancellor Chamber's attempt to raise the SAT average of the university to 950, we suffered a drastic decrease in our enrollment.

Being ranked fourteenth worldwide in the realm of education makes it obvious that our nation's public school system is making no drastic attempts to provide an equal opportunity for an equal education for all of its students.

Biased SAT

By placing a greater emphasis on a test proven to be biased, such as the SAT, neither are we.