

Band Director Resigns Over Credentials Questions

By Talia Higgs
Staff Writer

FSU's band director Dr. Harold Bray, gave his resignation effective August 30, 2002. School officials still will not comment on why.

Mike Bernard, former FSU men basketball coach, was fired in August when university officials learned that he had falsified his academic credentials on his resume.

It has been discovered the Bray received an invalid doctorate degree of music from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago in 1994. The school, which is located in Illinois, closed in 1992 and therefore did not have the power to grant such degrees.

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Bray was Director for two years university officials learned that he had falsified his academic credentials on his resume.

In response to recent media publicity, Dr. Marvin Curtis, chairman of the Department of Performing and Fine Arts, says, "It was news to us all, but we're continuing on."

The marching band has increased to over 100 members, a credit to Bray and the FSU Foundation. The FSU Foundation has also given away \$25,000 in scholarships. Students must

audition to win the scholarships, which range from \$500 to \$1,500. Curtis says, "We haven't lost a beat."

James Warner is currently the acting band director.

A nationwide search will begin next year for a band director to start by the fall 2003 semester.

When asked about how he felt about the situation, a band member stated, "No, I don't like it, but we must go on."

As for the music department, the Cumberland County Arts Council gave a \$7,000 grant, and the number of students within the department has grown.

According to Curtis, there is even talk of adding a B.A. degree program for those students wishing to earn a non-teaching degree in music.

Bryant Hall Residents Get Lessons in Professionalism

By Aisha Brooks
Staff Writer

The 2002-2003 school year has already made it clear that this is the "Year of Transformations" here in ol' White and Blue country. From the change in authority to the change in the school service provider, much attention has been received from the faculty, staff, and students of FSU.

However, there are some changes going unnoticed — particularly in our very own Bryant Hall. Under the new direction of Mr. Calvin Ellis, the Resident Assistants (RA's) of Bryant Hall are now receiving more than a monthly paycheck.

They are learning the value of professionalism and how it positively affects their futures. In this age where image is everything, Mr. Ellis has sought to teach the young men that success is not only based on what a person knows, but also on how he or she looks.

One new change is that Bryant Hall's RA's now "dress for success" while performing their weekly office duties. Although Mr.

Ellis requires only a nice shirt and slacks, the RAs have taken it to the next level by dressing professional from head to toe. "If we are going to do it, we might as well do it right," sophomore RA, Brian McFarland, commented to Mr. Ellis in reference to exceeding his expectations of dressing for duty.

Certainly the RAs appreciate and understand the efforts of Ellis. "We are being prepared for success in the business world," said senior RA, Orlando Robinson. When asked about his views on having to dress for duty, junior RA, Bashshar Parker, confidently responded, "We don't mind. We like it because it provides a more professional atmosphere."

The Bryant Hall staff also has a "Make it Happen" slogan. Mr. Ellis borrowed this slogan from the military and it was soon adopted by the entire staff

as a mentality toward situations faced in the dorm. Sophomore RA, Keith Springs explained, "The power in every situation belongs to each resident. We should all try to solve our own problems instead of waiting for someone else to provide the solution." Instead of seeing a challenge and doing nothing, the Bryant Hall staff see the challenge and work together toward the situation.

Professionalism is certainly one thing Mr. Ellis is helping to instill in these young men. "We want to serve as role models for our residents as well as for other halls." Of course, Mr. Ellis understands the importance of leadership as he has had the opportunity of working at FSU for the past 7 years.

He says that he has seen a countless numbers of students leave FSU without completely being prepared for the business world. This

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FSU Students Give Campus Back to Christ

By Garrett N. James
Editor-In-Chief

Campus life is definitely changing for the better. This semester, the FSU's two major spiritual organizations — Chosen Generation Campus Ministries and the United Voice of Praise Gospel Choir — have vowed to bring a spiritual presence back to campus life. They say that playtime is over and they are giving the campus of FSU back to Christ.

Chosen Generation is one of the most recent organizations to join the FSU campus. It is a merge between the former New Generation Campus Ministries and a group of rising sophomores who desired more spiritual enrichment on campus.

This new ministry started on campus this semester with the first of their Sunday Night Live Fellowship Services. There were over 90 people in attendance and the service began with a performance by the Voices of Inspiration and the No Limit Dancers, both sub-auxiliaries of the organization.

Apostle Gary B. McLaurin of Shekinah Faith Temple in Fayetteville presided. Chosen Generation's Music

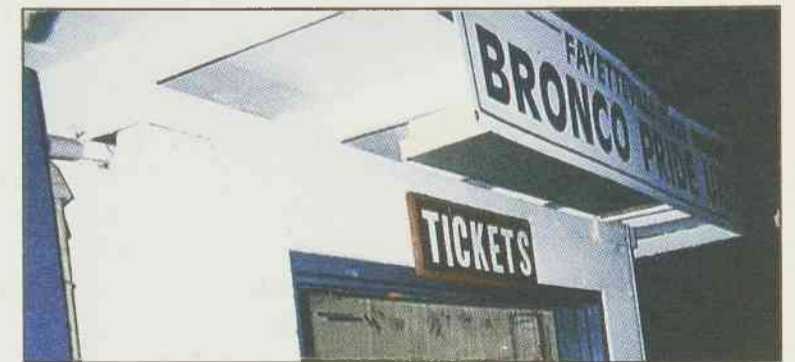


Director, Judson "Bishopp" Fraley and Lakiva Clark, both students at FSU, said that they were very happy with the turnout. They were not surprised because they say the "vision" had long ago been foreseen. "It was something that was needed and if would just organize it, I knew God would take over," says Bishopp.

Half of Chosen Generation's foundation is a group of students know as the Voices of Inspiration. Bishopp and LaKiva founded the group in December of 2001. They began singing together and soon decided to go further into the ministry that God had given them for the campus.

A few of their main goals for this year are to establish bi-weekly fellowship

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Renovations should be complete by 2004

Plans Underway for Stadium Renovation

The Board of Trustees has approved Clark-Nexsen Architecture Engineering of Charlotte as designers for \$2.8 million in renovations to FSU's Nick Jeralds Stadium.

Renovations include new home grandstands, improved rest room and concession facilities, new coaches' offices, and an attachment to Capel Arena. The stadium expansion would provide seating for 6,500 to 7,000.

Construction is expected to be completed by Sept. 1, 2004.