

# Bond issue passes!

The  
WCC

38th  
issue  
Fall

# CAMPUS VOICE

Wayne Community College, Goldsboro, NC 27533-8002

December 6, 2000

## WCC to receive \$13 mil

By KRISTIN G. DAVIS

The ballots have been cast and the votes are in.

Election Day 2000 allowed North Carolina citizens to consider the Higher Education Improvement Bonds, which passed 74% for, 26% against statewide on November 7.

It was the largest bond referendum to go before NC voters. The bonds will provide \$2.5 billion to the 16 University of North Carolina campuses and \$600 million to the state's 59 community colleges

Wayne Community College will get close to \$13 million for its documented needs. Of this amount, \$11.6 million will go towards construction, and \$1.3 million is provided for renovations and repairs.

"I'm excited. It was a tremendous vote. It demonstrated that the people support our Universities and Community Colleges, and especially WCC," said Dr. Edward H. Wilson, Jr., WCC president.

According to Wilson, WCC will build 10 additional classrooms, a larger bookstore, and facilities for student activities, including physical education.

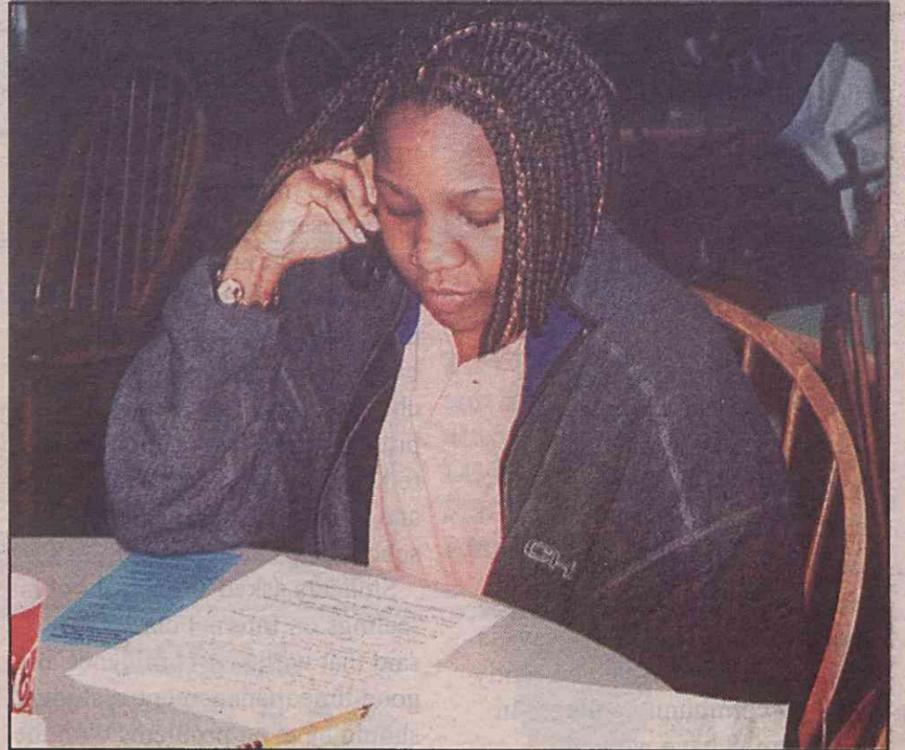
Programs that will benefit from bond money include Basic Law Enforcement Training, which will have classrooms and labs; emergency services; fire/EMS training; building trade classes; and specialized occupational extension courses.

Other projects include improved lighting and communications in all buildings.

The first project is a new roof for the currently leaking Holly Building, where health and science classes are taught.

Renovations and repairs will begin as soon as possible after the state government bidding process.

The system launched a mass publicity campaign to keep the bond issue in voters' minds. A video entitled "A



**Vickki Daniels, WCC student, was one of 27 student volunteers who called citizens urging them to vote for the bond issue.**

**PHOTOS: VOICE STAFF**

Growing Crisis" was telecast on PBS stations 4 times in October.

According to Tara Humphries, WCC Public Information Officer, faculty, staff, students, and members of the community worked together to inform the public of the Higher Education Improvement Bonds.

"We did everything a political campaign does," said Humphries.

The volunteers put out yard signs, held a press conference, and distributed brochures and flyers. Brochures were even translated into Spanish.

Students and staff participated in a "phone-a-thon" to inform voters of the referendum. They also manned booths at the Wayne County and State Fairs.

On Voter Registration Day, SGA members reminded students about the bonds as they turned in their applications.

On November 5, an advertisement appeared in the Goldsboro News Argus to encourage a positive vote.

The Higher Education Improvement Bonds Steering Committee for Wayne County paid for the ad.

Political, social, and religious groups and a vast range of other organizations endorsed the campaign.

A steering committee rallied support for the bond. "They don't get enough credit," says Humphries.

The Dental Hygiene department provided assistance in an effort to pass the bond. Currently, the laboratory is not big enough to meet guidelines for bloodborne pathogens.

The publicity efforts paid off. Every county passed the bonds. Wayne County passed 77.4%, finishing 12<sup>th</sup> in 100 counties.

The core message of the campaign said that the passing of the bonds would keep open the doors of educational opportunity and promote economic growth—without raising taxes.

State Treasurer Harlan Boyles says the state will not need to raise taxes to pay off the bonds. Repaying them will take, on average, less than 1% of the state budget.



**Faculty and staff posted signs along the roadway to remind voters to vote for the bond issue.**

**Continued page 20**