NEWS/Che Charlotte Post

BSC gave degrees without credits

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONCORD – Nearly 30 students from Barber-Scotia College were awarded diplomas last year without meeting degree requirements, a report by the school's accrediting body found.

The report by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools found students graduated with degrees in O r g a n i z a t i o n a l Management without the number of credits required and that students were awarded degrees with too few general education requirements and too many elective credits.

For example, SACS identified a student who was awarded an ``A" grade for an independent study course five days after applying to take it in May 2003.

The Concord school could be placed on probation or lose its accreditation, said Donna Wilkinson, an executive director with SACS.

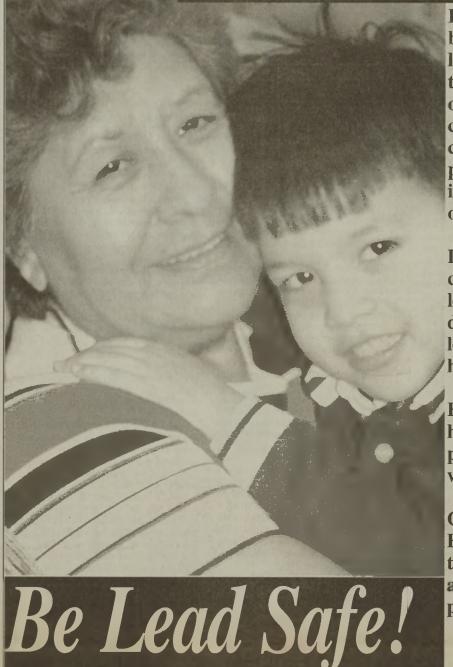
"I would think what we have here is an issue that relates to the basic integrity of an institution," Wilkinson said. "The public response to an issue of that sort will determine the future of the institution."

The SACS report, written last fall, was prompted by a written complaint the accrediting body received in June 2003. The complaint raised questions about the awarding of degrees in the college's adult program.

"Of particular concern to the committee is the inconsistent application of degree completion requirements for all students," the report says.

Barber-Scotia trustees, who were notified of the findings in January, said they have put safeguards in place to prevent future violations.

"We are very serious in making sure we are meeting SACS requirements," trustees chairwoman Ella Scarborough said. He has his fathers eyes, his grandmothers looks, and he has lead in his blood from the house we live in.



If you live in a home built before 1978, it may have lead-based paint inside or on the outside of the house. One out of 11 children in the country has lead poisoning in his or her blood, is you child one of them?

Lead poisoning in children, even in low levels, may cause development problems, learning disabilities and hearing problems.

Have your child and your home tested for lead poisoning. It's free for those who qualify.

Call the LeadSafe Charlotte Hotline to get more information about lead-based paint poisoning now.

CHARLOTTE.

LeadSafe Charlotte Hotline Spanish - 704-336-3500 English - 704-336-2114

students & parents

need a low interest loan for college?

The source of your college loan can make a big difference in what you pay over the life of your loan. Check with College Foundation of North Carolina to find: we can help.

- » Loans for North Carolina students and parents that offer:
 - No origination fees
 - Low interest rates
 - Outstanding repayment benefits
 - Real savings for you

» Free information on loans and financial aid through:

- Our website, www.CFNC.org

www.CFNC.org

- Financial aid specialists at our toll-free number, 866-866-CFNC

We are here to help North Carolina families. Give us a call or visit our website today to find the college financing help that's right for you.



Helping You Plan, Apply, and Pay for College

Se Habla Español service of the State of North Carolin © College Foundation, Inc. 2004