



Crowned At JSTC

Kelley Ballard of Pink Hill and Sandra Hankins of Wallace were crowned as Mr. and Miss James Sprunt Technical College at the Student Government Association's annual Christmas dance held Dec. 5. Elected by the student body, the couple will reign as Mr. and Miss JSTC for 1986. Ballard is a second-year student, and Hankins a first-year student. Both are in the general education-college transfer program. (Photo by William Miller)

Former Students Show Satisfaction With School Vocational Programs

Former Tar Heel students responding to a follow-up survey registered definite satisfaction with the high school vocational programs in which they had participated. Appraisals of a wide range of vocational programs offered in 57, or 40 percent, of the state's local school systems were received from 4,776 young people who had completed standard sequences of vocational education courses in 1983.

Results of the 1984 follow-up survey recently issued by the Department of Public Instruction afford numerous indicators of the quality of the vocational programs. It obtained information regarding the employment and educational status of the program completers less than a year later, as well as their judgments of how well the programs had prepared them for related employment or further education.

Conducted annually in compliance with provisions of federal and state legislation, the survey is one of several methods used to provide evidence of the effectiveness of public school vocational programs. Of the total number of respondents, 4,105 or nearly 86 percent, were people who had completed job-skill development programs, and of these, 101 had completed special job-skill development programs for disadvantaged and handicapped students. The job-skill development program areas are agricultural, business and office, health occupations, marketing (formerly distributive), occupational home economics and trade and industrial education.

Major Findings

Significant findings regarding the 4,004 respondents who had completed regular job-skill development programs include the following:

— The unemployment ratio for the vocational program completers, 11 percent, was substantially less than the statewide unemployment rate of 20.2 percent for youth ages 16-19 for the same period.

— Thirty percent of the job-skill program respondents indicated that their vocational program was a main reason for their staying in high school instead of dropping out.

— Ninety percent found that they had been very satisfied or satisfied with their experiences in vocational programs, while only 79 percent so rated their experiences in other high schools programs — another indication of the holding power of vocational programs for this group.

— Seventy percent of the group indicated that their main reason for enrolling in their vocational program was that it was related to their expected career, while 16 percent said it was because a friend recommended it, and only four percent said it was because they were assigned by school to that program.

— A decided majority or 59 percent, of those who were employed full-time less than a year after completing their vocational programs found that their work was directly or closely related to their vocational job-skill preparation in high school.

— Of those continuing their education beyond high school, an even higher percentage found their vocational preparation directly or closely related to their studies in community colleges or technical institutes, or 71 percent, in trade or business school, 75 percent, in private junior colleges, 59 percent, and in four-year colleges or universities, 58 percent.

— Of the 44 percent continuing their education after high school, 22 percent were in community colleges

or technical institutes, three percent in trade or business schools, and 17 percent in four-year colleges or universities. Taken together with the previous finding about the percentage finding their post-high school studies directly or closely related to their high school vocational preparation, this indicates that most of those continuing their education were continuing in the same line of occupational preparation they started in high school.

Study Conclusions

Taken altogether, state education agency analysts observed, the survey results strongly indicate that the job-skill development courses represented by the respondents to the follow-up survey are doing what they are intended to do: prepare students for entry-level employment in jobs related to their vocational training, or for continuing their education to qualify for advanced jobs related to their vocational programs. Also indicated are a high level of satisfaction with vocational courses as compared with other high school courses, and the contribution of these courses to reducing the drop-out ratio at the secondary school level. Moreover, the results show that most of the students chose to enroll in their vocational programs for the positive reasons of relation to their career plans or on advice of friends or family — not because they had been assigned to them.

For further information, contact Jim Jackman, public awareness specialist at the Division of Vocational Education, Rm. 530, Education Building - 733-7904.

JSTC Classes For Winter Quarter

LET JSTC TEACH YOU TO READ

What if you are unable to read, write or do arithmetic? Suppose you are unable to balance your check-book, make a shopping list, read a newspaper, know whether or not you were charged correctly at the check-out counter, or help your children with their homework.

Maybe then you will let JSTC help you learn these skills. The free classes center on improving reading, writing and arithmetic skills. Classes are small and informal and offer one-on-one instruction. You may start at any time. Classes meet at JSTC on Monday through Friday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:00-3 p.m. in the learning lab of the Hoffer Building. Just ask for the ABE classes. The classes begin on Thursday, Jan. 2. For the class in your area, call JSTC at 296-1341 and ask for Debra Morrissey.

NURSES AIDE CLASS AT JSTC

The department of continuing education at James Sprunt Technical College will offer a nurses' aide class beginning Jan. 6. This two-week class, taught by Mrs. Sherladine Harper, will meet Monday thru Thursday from 6-10 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. All persons planning to enroll are required to take a reading examination before enrolling. There will be a \$10 registration fee payable at the first class meeting. In addition, each student is responsible for purchasing a text, uniform and shoes, which will cost approximately \$75.

For more information, contact Debra Morrissey at JSTC - 296-1341.

Small Engine Repair

This 36-hour class is designed to teach the "why and how" of gasoline engine operations. A careful study of the theory and operating principles, plus actual practice in servicing and repairing lawnmowers, chain saws, etc. will enable anyone to minimize engine troubles and correct those troubles that do exist. The class will begin Jan. 7 and meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 8-10 p.m. in the automotive shop in the Herring Building on the campus. Registration will be \$15 per person and Mike Horne will be the instructor.

James Kenan Financial Aid Workshop

A financial aid workshop for James Kenan seniors and their parents will be held Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the James Kenan cafeteria. Vickie Bell from the financial aid office at Mount Olive College will present the program.

This workshop is designed to inform students and parents about all aspects of financial aid for college. Financial aid forms will be distributed and step-by-step instructions for filling them out will be explained. All seniors planning to further their education next year should plan to attend with their parents. Ample time will be provided for answering individual questions.



Prentice W. Smith Retires

Prentice W. Smith, instructor of building trades at James Sprunt Technical College, was presented a gold watch and many fond farewells by colleagues and friends at a ceremony in his honor, Smith, retiring after 15 years of teaching carpentry and masonry in the vocational programs division, received words of praise for his "dedicated teaching" and "concern for

students" from Dr. Carl Price, president. "I have enjoyed all my years here because of the people who work here and the students. I don't think there is a finer group of people anywhere," said Smith. A resident of Pink Hill, Smith will continue his association with JSTC as a member of the Foundation Board of Directors. (Photo by Nelson Best)

Elected To District EOP Office; JK Student Wins EOP Scholarship

Vivian Teachey, secretary to the director of general education at James Sprunt Technical College, was elected vice president of District 13 of the N.C. Association of Educational Office Personnel (NCAEOP) at the organizations 35th annual meeting Nov. 11 in Whiteville.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Magnolia. Bobby Pigford, president of the JSTC chapter, said, "We are very

proud to have Duplin County so well represented by the achievements of Vivian Teachey and Trudi Williams."

Newspaper Holiday Deadlines

News and advertisement deadlines during the upcoming holiday season for Duplin Publishing Co. are as follows:

January 2 Issue

News Friday, 12 noon, Dec. 27
Advertisement Friday, 3 p.m., Dec. 27

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