

ECSU CHOIR TOURS EUROPE

A DREAM COMES TRUE

by Evelyn A. Johnson

The whole thing started in the fall of 1970 when Emhage Tours Incorporated invited the Elizabeth City State University Choir to tour the Rhine area under their supervision. The matter was discussed with students and it was decided that this could be a project for the year 1970-71. That year the venture hardly got to first base because of other commitments; however in May of 1971 the project became better formulated and really got off the ground with highly organized activities under competent student leaders. The first

item of business agreed upon was the each member be taxed \$200.

Emhage Tours, Inc. was then notified of our serious intent. They in turn sent complete plans for a European Concert Tour. Choir members began paying some or all of their tax of \$200 in order to receive his or her personal itinerary.

Everyone was highly elated to see this brochure. We began daydreaming about viewing castles atop the vine clad Rhine River banks in Germany, or observing beautiful hills of rocks in Luxembourg, or making a visit to the Rijksmuseum to see Rembrandt originals,

or seeing reclaimed polders in the Zuider Zee and quaint fisherman's villages in the Netherlands.

Choir members became deeply concerned about raising the necessary funds. They took over concessions at basketball games, sold records of favorite songs pressed during the 75th anniversary, participated in a two-day door to door Walkathon, solicited funds from alumni and friends, and did odd jobs in the community to help raise the colossal sum of \$20,000.00.

More than two thousand letters were sent to the University family, alumni, friends representa-



Choir Members receive tulips in Zaandam, Holland

tives, business places, clubs, Greek Letter Organizations, Labor Unions et al. The response to our request was terrific, far exceeding all expectation.

At the end of January our receipts totaled approximately \$4000, but it was during the month of February that we hit the jackpot. We now saw our way clear to make the first payment of \$100 per person.

The initial deposit was

sent on February 18. This of course, really put us, so to speak, "on the spot." We were now obliged to acquire the total sum or lose a portion of our down payment. We took this risk.

In the meantime the Student Government Association came to our rescue. Darryl Morris, President of SGA and bass singer, announced that the sum of \$2000 was being

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FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

The 1972 Fine Arts Festival at Elizabeth City State University can easily be categorized as a "smashing" success this year. This year's festival dealt with black awareness in the arts. The opening of the festival featured an outstanding art exhibit by world renowned artist Dr. David Driskell, Chairman of the Art Department, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Driskell and Mr. Mohinder Gill studied together at Howard University. Mr. Gill is on the Art Department Staff at ECSU. The opening of the Festival featured the display of Dr. Driskell art work in the University Center. The official opening was held in the lobby of the University Center, the University Choir performed a thirty-minute concert featuring the popular excerpts from "The Sound of Music," and other numbers from the European repertoire.

Another outstanding feature of the Fine Arts Festival week was the display of African Black Art in the G. R. Little Library Foyer. The dis-

play of African Black Art included pieces of musical instruments, dolls and small statues from the Ibo, Hausa and Yoruba tribes of West and Central Africa. Dr. Louis Nadeau, philosophy professor at Elizabeth City State University and au-

thority on African culture provided most of the material.

On April 15th the Physical Education Department presented the Modern Dance Group in Recital. The program, choreographed and directed by Mrs. Bonnie Smith, was "dedicated to the people darker than blue." The recital featured members of the Modern Dance Technique Class as well as the Modern Dance Group members. The recital featured Miss Judy Garris, a graduating senior, Physical Education Major; Miss Zoe Vaughan, A Northeastern High School student and member of the Dance Group, daughter of Mr. Robert L. Vaughan, Chairman, Department of Physical Education; Mr. Elbert Watson from Norfolk State

College Modern Dance Theater and Mrs. Doris Cooper of Norfolk State College.

On April 18th, The Jubilee Folk Singers of Raleigh, North Carolina presented a musical dramatic presentation of the spontaneous development of Negro Spiritual entitled, "Black Music in Historical Perspective." Mrs. Ann H. Jones is director of the Ligon Jubilee Folk Singers. This was the second appearance of the singers - they also appeared in the 1971 Fine Arts Festival.

On April 20th and 21st the University Players of the Little Theatre presented a three act play entitled "The Man Who Came To Dinner". The play was directed by Mr. Bernard L. Peterson. Mr. Peterson was also featured in one of the main roles. The play ran two nights with standing room only both nights.

The 1972 Fine Arts Festival was truly devoted to Black Awareness in the Arts and the sisters and brothers seemed to have enjoyed the festival more than previously held ones.



This Paper Is Dedicated To The First Class Of Dr. M.A. Thorpe Class Of '72

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

On April 22, the Assembly and Convocations Committee presented the first leadership conference in the University Center. Mr. Ronald Harrison, Senior Sociology major presided over the conference. Mr. Harrison is also President of Men's Government Association.

The purpose of the conference was to focus attention on present-day leadership opportunities and demands; to learn through participation some leadership roles and methods to provide for campus leaders dialogue contacts with experts selected in leadership areas, and to broaden the outlook of the ECSU student and to move him towards a commitment of involvement in the affairs of the larger community, of which this campus is

only a small part.

The techniques for the conference dealt with resource consultants presentations, small group sessions for a question - raising discussion, group session idea interchanges and evaluation reaction by individual participants.

The consultants were Dr. Frederick Humphries, Vice-president of the Institute for Services to Education, Washington, D.C.; The Honorable William P. Robinson, Ph.D., a delegate to the Virginia Assembly and Director of the Division of Social Science and chairman of the Department of Political Science, Norfolk State College, Norfolk, Va.; Dr. Gloria Scott, Director of Institutional Research, A & T

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