

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## Miss ECSU A Speaks



MISS ECSU - LILLIE FENNER

Fellow students of Elizabeth City State University, now is the time to promote changes. We can no longer just try to slide by, nor live in the past. We are confronted with newer and greater problems which require newer and greater knowledge. This knowledge will not necessarily be obtained in the classroom but from many other sources as well. We must take it upon ourselves to obtain sufficient knowledge to begin a career.

The quality of education we receive can not be placed entirely on our faculty. To place such a burden upon them would be like placing your life in their hands. If this were the case, some of us may not be

alive today. We have faculty members from all walks of life; some are interested in teaching us, some are not, and some do not know how. We can not let this hinder our progress. We will have to supplement what they omit. Further, I say to you, the knowledge you need to face life can not totally be found in books. The guidelines and principles set down by others will not adequately serve your purpose. A certain amount of personal experience is essential in patterning your life.

We can read thousands upon thousands of books and become great intellects, but because of lack of experience among other things, we seem too often to loose touch with reality. The

greatest intellect in the world with no common sense will encounter many difficulties in life. Common sense and book knowledge is interrelated, one without the other produces problems.

Many of us try to follow our friends and we begin to lag along, letting life pass us by. You are left behind and your friends often times are left with you because "Misery loves company." You may find it necessary to pull away from the little leagues and join the major leagues, the students who are striving for success.

Lillie E. Fenner,  
Miss E.C.S.U.

## I am A Viking

I am a Viking  
not by force  
I am a Viking  
by sheer rejoice  
Though others slander and  
curse her name  
her beauty and grace is still  
my fame  
I am a Viking  
not by greed  
I am a Viking  
by sincere need  
to become a spokesman, for  
others to see what ECSU has  
done for me  
I am a Viking  
not by spite  
I am a Viking  
by rich delight  
to be her friend through  
trouble and dispair  
to make her burdens less  
hard to bear  
I am a Viking  
and as you can see there's no  
other place I'd rather be.  
Dorothy Wilson

## Open Letter From The Chancellor

Dear Fellow Vikings:

I take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning students to Elizabeth City State University. Welcome into the "New University for a New Universe" family and to Vikingland where "Youth and the Future Meet," where one motto is "Excellence Without Excuse," and where "To Live Is To Learn."

Your decision to continue on or to begin pursuits in higher education at this time is significant and comes at a time when we cannot afford to give less than our best and you cannot afford to demand less. This is a time when new vistas appear on the horizon, a time when you must set new objectives and be about the business of achieving those objectives which will result in your being developed individuals prepared to compete in the greater society, and a time when the raised arm and clinched fist and all other symbolisms are not, by themselves, enough. To borrow from one of our mayors, this is indeed a time when you must have something constructive in that clinched fist, something of

good knowledge and "brain-power" in the head, and something of everlasting value in the pocket.

The reasons given in yester-years for not aspiring to greater heights are no longer lastingly valid. While the world may not be waiting for you with open arms, if you have something which is wanted or needed, you will make your own place, for you will be in demand.

We have done much, and we plan to do much more to provide programs, facilities, and resources to assist you in becoming prepared to compete. We have just recently spent over one million dollars to renovate and/or add to dormitories, the football field with lights, the cafeteria, classroom buildings, and other support facilities. We have strengthened our Development Office in the areas of clustering, alumni affairs, and foundation operations so as to provide more support for the University and its insitutional programs. Just this year, more than \$10,000 from the University Foundation was made available for scholarships for some of you. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have come to you in the

form of student aid from various Federal and State sources. We are now implementing new programs in Co-op Education and Environmental Science. New concentrations have been added to major areas, Sociology and Pre-Social Work, Medical Technology, and Computer Science are among these.

The architects and our own planners are now working on designs for an Industrial Arts Building which will cost a million and a half dollars, A Health and Physical Education facility to cost almost two million dollars, and a Maintenance Building to cost a quarter of a million dollars. We plan to

spend a quarter of a million dollars to improve roads, grounds, and walks and to improve security. Other renovations and the addition of other buildings are scheduled subject to approvals and available funds. Already approved are two new dormitories, a water treatment system and a second story for the University Center, plus additional roofing, maps and outside renovations.

In the interim, I encourage all of you to utilize positively and fully the facilities and resources that are available to gain knowledge - to learn. Our Library has over 77,000



Dr. Thorpe

volumes and awaits your coming. Our Basic Education and Enrichment Center is equipped and well staffed to assist you with academic difficulties, the faculty stands ready to provide those challenges and learning experiences which guarantee growth and development, and the new Audio-tutorial Learning Center is in progress.

If you have come to Elizabeth City State University with goals to achieve and dreams to fulfill, where these encompass a desire to be a worthwhile citizen to both yourself and society, we are prepared to help you. However, much of what happens to you here will depend upon your willingness to learn, apply yourselves, and to be motivated self-starters. This University is first and foremost an institution of learning. This is why we paid and are paying our dues. We wish for you the very best.

Very sincerely yours,  
Marion D. Thorpe  
Chancellor

## Where Has The Spirit Gone

Fellow Vikings:

I have observed something among us that is not very pleasing and should not be pleasing to you. Our Viking spirit seems to have lapsed. What do you suppose could have happened? However, I feel the time has come to revive that vital spirit.

I have always depicted Vikings as having the charac-

teristics of intellectually aggressive people, knowing where they are going and why. If this spirit does not live within you, I suggest that you use introspective means to solve your problem. If you are a true Viking, you will find your answer within your hearts.

Your willingness to support your school activities and programs should have so great an impact that Elizabeth City State University would become nationally known. It would be known not as one of the small Southern black schools, but as an outstanding university where outstanding students learn to meet and greet their challenge with a smile. This can only be done by our ability to become superior academically, to apply what we comprehend and use it in an effective manner so that we may reach horizons never ventured before.

We realize of course, that our college life is not complete without extra-curricular activities, likewise these activities

cannot exist if they are not supported. Support is not given by destructive criticism but by participating actively and displaying constructive ideas. We all have an opportunity to participate, so take it and work rather than criticize. The key to progress is to give your brother a hand when he needs it.

The food our body, mind and soul needs lies here in Viking land. A true Viking would take advantage of the opportunities before him. Are you a true Viking?

Your Editor,  
Barbara Alston

## Thank You!

Mr. James Sterling, Bookstore Manager, gives his thanks and appreciation for the kindness and thoughtfulness shown him by students, faculty and staff during his illness.

### The Seekers Of Wisdom

Faye Smith

WE COME--AS THE SEEKERS OF WISDOM  
WE STRIVE--AS THE LIGHT OF SUCCESS  
WE SEARCH--OUR HEARTS FOR OUR POTENTIALS  
WE ACKNOWLEDGE--NO LESS THAN THE BEST  
WE OFTEN--STOP AND LINGER LONG  
WE PONDER--OVER MILLIONS OF QUESTIONS  
WE NEARLY--GAVE UP ALL OUR BELIEFS  
WE NEED--NO MORE REGRESSIONS  
WE HAVE BEEN REASSURED--OF OUR PURPOSE HERE for  
WE ONCE WERE LOST--AND FELT VERY BLUE  
WE WILL TAKE PRIDE--OF OUR CAMPUS SO DEAR for  
WE ALL ARE--MEMBERS OF ECSU

## The Compass

State University Newspaper Staff  
Members: Columbia Scholastic Press Association

Editor-In-Chief  
Associate Editor  
Managing Editor  
Feature Editor  
Secretary  
Proofreaders

Typists

Contributing Editors

Anthony Ballard, Gerald Williams, Melba Murphy  
Faculty Advisors: W. Muldrow and J. T. Williams

Barbara Ann Alston  
Sandra Bray  
Dorothy M. Wilson  
Alma Jenkins  
Jeannette Boone  
Elijah Burke  
Dorothy Wilson, Peggy Scott  
and Sandra Bray  
Alma Jenkins, Gail Johnson  
Peggy Scott, Patricia Roberts  
Matthew Blount, Faye Smith  
Jeannette Boone

THE COMPASS is published monthly during the school year by the students of Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, North Carolina 27909. Editorial opinions or those articles on the editorial page are not necessarily those of the COMPASS or the University.



Editor Alston