

# Editorial Corner

## Forward Ever

## Backwards Never

In this year of 1975 it causes one to consider the year of 1776. This was the year of exuberant patriotism and all the efforts of America were bound by a common cause, the freedom of these United States.

Now in these years so close to the year 2000 we see Americans in an entirely new perspective. They no longer care about the existence, support or well being of the United States but their attention is directed strictly on themselves. Every man puts himself first. It is rather disillusioning to compare the American of 1776 with that of today's American. Greed is the motivation behind today's people the trend seems to be "to get over" and to get all one can for namely "yourself". This is the common bond of Americans now, to beat the system out of everything possible and concentrated efforts are on monopolizing as much power as forcibly possible.

How disheartening it is in a time that America needs its

citizens the most that they turn their backs on the country they have continuously fought and died for in preserving the ideas for which it stands.

All over America efforts are being exerted to prepare projects of salute for the bicentennial. I advocate a genuine salute to the history of this nation this salute would be that each and every American re-direct their efforts into America not to their own selfish individualism. We, as Blacks must join the efforts because it is only now and in the future can we make in America a place for ourselves and if we and all others fail to support and rejuvenate America, its principles and goals, we will not have a place in which to perpetuate. One's thinking must now be directed to the good of America in order to prosper in the future. If we as Americans continue to be negligent this will indeed be our last 2000 years.

Associate Editor

## Whenever He Wants To

Who is He?  
 Who does He think He is?  
 Where does He get His rights?  
 He walks in and  
 He walks out  
 He comes today  
 and goes tomorrow  
 Who does He think He is?  
 Who does He think I am?  
 He must compare me  
 with a door that He  
 goes in and out  
 whenever he is ready  
 What does a door care?  
 It had no feelings.  
 He comes in and goes out  
 whenever he wants to  
 When I want him to come in  
 He is not there  
 So,  
 Why should I continue to  
 Let Him in  
 Whenever He wants to.

## Dream Of A Janitor

Each day of my life I walk.  
 Miles upon miles I walk as  
 I push my broom and  
 sweep another's floor.  
 I am the collector of another's filth,  
 the polisher of another's furniture.  
 And now my life has made me the  
 beggar of another's money.  
 I am the listener of everyone's problems,  
 but not the teller of my own.  
 I am the bidden to everyone's command  
 whether I like it or not.  
 But every day when my work is almost over,  
 I let down the blinds, close the curtains,  
 and cut out the lights in every chamber.  
 And then I stand there in the midst  
 of my soul and conceive the beauty of  
 darkness.  
 And I listen to the beauty of the  
 absence of voices, the sweet, vast,  
 quietness.  
 Ah how sweet my death shall be.  
 Anthony Ballard

## Evelyn Johnson, The Music Woman

"All the sounds of the earth are like music." That's what Oscar Hammerstein II said. He was a famous man of music.

The Albemarle has a famous woman of music, Ms. Evelyn A. Johnson, music professor at Elizabeth City State University, who no doubt, agrees with Hammerstein.

Ms. Johnson has been at ECSU for more than 40 years and is planning to retire. She joined the faculty in 1933 as a music teacher. She made \$70 a month and received all the enjoyment of teaching she wanted. "In 1933 the school offered only two years of training for teachers. The total enrollment of students, counting summer school, extension classes, training skills, etc. was a surprising high of 1,219.

It was a rough start for the woman of music. "When I first came here there was no music materials of quality. I could not find the type of music or level of music I wanted the students to use," she said. College president at the time, John H. Bias was interested in the development of black youth and he got money for the purchase of music. "In those days there were no machines to make quantities of copies, therefore each student memorized the music. The choirs memorized the compositions and so did I," she said.

Elizabeth City State Univer-

sity's choir has been praised and supported by governors of North Carolina. Former governor Terry Sanford, when hearing the choir was to tour Europe sent a contribution to help the choir in its trip. The choir has toured the U.S. as well. As years went by, Ms. Johnson made it more difficult for students to make the choir. "I wanted good quality voices in the choirs I directed," Ms. Johnson said.

"I've never taught a student I disliked. I always tried to find the best quality in each student," she said. It's obvious students have never disliked her.

Ms. Johnson has been honored by her students, faculty and staff throughout her career. She has been proclaimed, not only as an outstanding professional, but a warm and wonderful person.

ECSU did not have a music major until 1961. She headed up the department and got it started in '61. She then gave up the position in '65 to devote more time to her students and choir.

A native of Petersburg, Va., Ms. Johnson came from a family which believed in education. Each member of her family attended college. Her mother insisted each member of the family have piano lessons. With this as her background, Ms. Johnson graduated from Peabody High

School, with honors, and music awards. She then did undergraduate study at Fisk University, where she earned a B.A. degree in music. She went back for a fifth year and earned a diploma in piano and music theory. She did graduate study at Columbia University in New York earning a M.A. in music and music education. Learning did not stop here. She studied at a number of universities. She attended Buckness, Syracuse, Columbia and American universities. The renowned Peter Willhousky gave Ms. Johnson private lessons.

Recalling her 40-plus years with the university, Ms. Johnson worked with all the presidents except one. "There were and are nice qualities in all the president's the university has had," she said.

A member of many musical organizations and civic clubs, some of her honors include:

- \*the Omega Psi Phi fraternity outstanding achievement award in the fine arts.
  - \*general alumni association of ECSU distinguished service
  - \*North Carolina Music educators association award
  - \*Personalities of the South listing
  - \*gifts and recognition from students and alumni
- It's been a good life at ECSU for Ms. Johnson. She says she lives by these words, "one lives to be of service to others." She has.

## Poets Highlights

### Hear Ye, Hear Ye

This is a plea to all department chairpersons and to the entire student body from the Compass staff.

We are in need of your support and cooperation in order to produce the newspaper. Our issues cannot be in any form of regularity if we cannot obtain the news and meet the appropriate deadlines. Therefore, the staff is requesting that all persons with any information of benefit to other members of this university submit this news to the Compass. Students are especially encouraged to submit editorials of any nature and poems to the Compass.

These articles may be turned in to the editor, any member of the Compass or the Office of Public Information in Moore hall.

The Compass staff desires to serve you as an information agency in transmitting the news but we need your help!!!

Thank you,

## Coming Events

March	
2	Founder's Day
3-7	Women's Week
	Bloodmobile
9-13	Religious Emphasis Week
16	Vesper [Palm Sunday]
20	Spring Break
**Periodic dances are also scheduled for March, however they are not indicated because they are not definite engagements.	

## One Alone

Alone, alone in a world of stone,  
 I find no joy in living within myself  
 Where is found the only sanctuary of love.  
 I tried to be like all the rest, but now  
 where once was love is only despair  
 My heart alone.  
 My world collapses, the warmth grows cold;  
 My shoulders drop under life's weary strain  
 Which once was borne with selfless grace.  
 Hear my pleas, understand my cries, for this  
 is only living death made supremely read --  
 My heart alone.  
 Alone, alone have I, too, become living stone.

**Listen Smokers:**  
 You don't have to wait 20 years  
 for cigarettes to affect you.  
 It only takes 3 seconds.



In just 3 seconds a cigarette makes your heart beat faster, shoots your blood pressure up, replaces oxygen in your blood with carbon monoxide, and leaves cancer-causing chemicals to spread through your body. All this happens with every cigarette you smoke. As the cigarettes add up, the damage adds up. Because it's the cumulative effects of smoking—adding this cigarette to all the cigarettes you ever smoked—that causes the trouble. And tell that to your dog too.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE - The Space Contributed by a Public Servant

## Poetry Anthology

COLLEGE STUDENT'S POETRY ANTHOLOGY  
 The NATIONAL POETRY PRESS

announces its  
 SPRING COMPETITION

The closing date for the submission of manuscripts by College Students is:

APRIL 10

ANY STUDENT attending either junior or senior college is eligible to submit his verse. There is no limitation as to form or theme. Shorter works are preferred by the Board of Judges, because of space limitations.

Each poem must be TYPED or PRINTED on a separate sheet, and must bear the NAME and HOME ADDRESS of the student, and the COLLEGE ADDRESS as well.

MANUSCRIPTS should be sent to the OFFICE OF THE PRESS

NATIONAL POETRY PRESS

3210 Selby Avenue

Los Angeles, Calif. 90034