

# Rev. Ellis — ECSU's groundsman and poet

By SYBIL STANLEY  
Staff Writer

ECSU's groundsman is also a poet who has written over seven hundred poems and six plays.

Rev. James C. Ellis was born near Elizabeth City and attended P.W. Moore High School. He left school in the twelfth grade to join World War II. As an army veteran, he traveled extensively and settled in New York where he worked as a storeowner and manager.

On campus, you will find Rev. Ellis picking up paper and trimming branches. He wears a smile most of the time and carries with him a pleasant attitude.

The groundsman enjoys working outside, because he likes to see plants grow. When asked how well he liked his job, he replied, "I'm crazy about it, and to tell the truth I wouldn't take anything else."

Rev. John C. Evans, senior at ECSU, thinks Rev. Ellis is a very nice guy. Evans said,

"He carries on conversations with other students and gets along well with others."

Lt. C. Perry, Security Officer at ECSU, summed the character of Rev. Ellis up by saying "he's a very nice man. He's intelligent, dependable, and religious."

When asked what changes he'd observed over the five years in students at ECSU, Rev. Ellis said, "the young people are better. They are more learning and they see their goal in life."

Ellis thinks education is good, but he said, "if I get ten years of schooling it wouldn't help me." He does not believe all the knowledge is found in books. He describes himself as a poet and says, "a poet does not have to always have a degree. The problem, said Ellis, is that "we are worshipping education and not God."

Rev. Ellis said writing poetry was a gift given to him by God. He was inspired to write poetry one Sunday

when he was unable to find a poem in a book to supplement a sermon he had written. Ellis asked God to teach him.

Rev. Ellis relies on his mind to bring about creativeness, and he writes from his perception rather

than the influence of books. When he writes, he said, "I write from my thoughts. This is my mind thinking."

According to Rev. Ellis, he could write all day with no pain at all. Ellis believes that

the mind of a poet and artist is his own.

The poet is in the process of trying to publish his writings and get the message across to the young folks. He has been writing since June, 1979.

## An unknown bargain: use it wisely

By Sybil Stanley  
Staff Writer

Students at ECSU are getting quality meals at an economical price.

Bedell's Cafeteria, operated by ARA Food Chain, prepares more than two thousand meals daily for as many as nine hundred students. According to Mr. Ossie Myles, manager, the cafeteria is serving quality meals at an economical price. Boarding students pay only about eighty-seven cents per meal. Menues are carefully planned by the assistant manager, Mr. Johnny Harvey, and the manager, who has worked extensively at such schools as Lincoln University and the University of South Carolina.

Many ECSU students seem to think differently about the carefully planned meals and the quality food. Donnell Sawyer, a junior transfer student from St. Augustine, said "the food lacks nutrients."

According to Emma Clarke, a freshman, the cafeteria does not serve real food. She was referring to the additives and preservatives

recognized in the taste.

Stanley Whitehurst, a senior, feels that "the vegetables should be fresher, the meat could be meat and the rolls could be hot buttered." Sawyer adds, however, that the food at ECSU is about the best in the CIAA.

The cafeteria staff is not exactly pleased with the behavior of the students either. The workers complain about the students not being able to understand that certain food items are not served together; for instance, two meats. Others say the students show very little respect at times and often leave the dining hall without taking their trays off the table.

Moreover, the cost of meals in the cafeteria stands a chance of increasing due to vanishing glasses, plates and utensils.

Most of all the manager would like for the students to be more cooperative, cost conscious and less wasteful.

Having a meal in Bedell's Cafeteria is not a bad deal after all, and it's up to ECSU students to keep it that way.



Rev. James Ellis makes sure ECSU's trees and bushes stay beautiful and healthy.

## Four new degree programs in store for ECSU

Four new degree-granting programs are on their way to Elizabeth City State University, announced Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

ECSU officials are now preparing to expand curriculum with programs in accounting, computer science, applied mathematics and music (non-teaching).

"We recognize one of our problems in attracting students is not having as comprehensive a program as

our sister institutions. Coupled with our graduate programs and our new building program, this will bring us a tremendous leap forward," said Jenkins.

Dr. John H. Carson, chairman of the business and economics department, said the accounting program, formerly an accounting minor in a business degree, will become an accounting degree and is designed to increase the levels of excellence and proficiency as students train for positions in

the accounting profession, for successful admission to professional schools, or for successful completion of the Uniform Certified Public Accountants Examination.

Observing that only two state universities provided programs in mathematical and theoretical statistics, Dr. Schindar Sachdev, chairman of the mathematical sciences department, noted the new program in applied mathematics, when implemented, will be the first in the state.