

Campus Briefs

National library week

The G.R. Little Library observed National Library Week April 5-11. The theme for this year's activities was "Take Time To Read."

Activities began with exhibits which were shown the entire week in the lobby of the library and in the University Center.

On April 7 book review sessions were held in Room 214 of the library. On April 9, a children's hour for are kindergarten and nursery school children was held. Mrs. Juanita T. Bailey, a Perquimans County home economics agent, presented "Tootsie Fruitsie" for the children. Carolyn Penny, Pasquotank County's 1986 teacher of the year, was the guest speaker for the public program held that afternoon.

National Library Week is designed to emphasize the significance of libraries and to promote more effective use of the many resources provided by the library.

Reid selected for NASA program



Johnny G. Reid has been selected as one of 36 students from across the U.S. and its territories to participate in NASA's Space Life Sciences Training Program at the Kennedy Space Center this summer.

The program is scheduled for six weeks and will start on June 21 and ends August 1.

Regional ECSU math contest

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science of ECSU recently held the Seventh Annual Regional Mathematics Contest on campus.

Two hundred fifty-one students and 16 sponsors from fourteen area schools participated in the event this year. Each participant received a certificate for his or her efforts and trophies were presented to the top five winners in each of the four categories.

Listed are the top three winners in each category:
Algebra I - First place - Jimmy Beckman (A.G. Cox Grammar); second place - Stuart Rayburn (Perquimans High); third place - Selena Overton (Perquimans High)

Geometry - First place - Donald A. Ball, Jr. (Manteo High); second place - Carolyn Shanley (Manteo High); third place - Chris Morgan (Elizabeth City Jr. High)

Algebra II - First place - Jonathan Li (J.H. Rose High); second place - Won Kim (J.H. Rose High); third place - Kevin M. Lewis (Perquimans High)

Comprehensive - First place - Robert Barnes (J.H. Rose High); second place - Bella Kang (J.H. Rose High); third place - Louis Anderson III (Currituck High)

McCants appointed Development Program director

Dr. Gerald McCants has been appointed as the Director of the ECSU Academic Development Program. McCants comes to the ECSU campus from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff where he was Professor of Education and had previously served as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

McCants will direct the new Academic Development Program being developed to attract and retain a larger number of academically talented students. A cornerstone of the new program is the Incentive Scholarship Program in which high school students and transfer students from the local 16 counties may be eligible for up to \$3,000 in scholarship money to attend ECSU.

McCants's educational background includes B.S. and M.A. degrees from Central Michigan University and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He is married and has two daughters.

National mathematics week

ECSU observed National Mathematics Week April 13-19. During this week, mathematicians across the country explained their work and recent accomplishments in the field.

On April 14, ECSU hosted a lecture entitled "U.S. and Japanese Mathematics and Science Education - A Comparison."

Nakayama is a Ph.D. student at the Graduate School of Education at Hiroshima University in Hiroshima, Japan. He is currently on assignment with the Science and Mathematics Center at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C.

Academic Computer Center serves many ECSU needs

More than 600 ECSU students passed through the Academic Computing Center's reflective glass doors last semester who were doing work for computer classes, work for other classes using computer support software, or for self-improvement purposes.

"Our main purpose is the service of the computing needs of ECSU," according to Umfort Locus, manager of the center. "Our secondary purpose is to service the non-computing needs of the administration. Word processing programs meeting different needs of various campus offices have been set up with the personnel trained to operate them."

Assisting Locus in supervising and training are Tony Lamb, program analyst, and Sandra Hendrick, secretary and computer information facilitator.

According to Locus, a telephone survey of ECSU graduates showed a 75 percent employment rate among computer science majors.

"There are also students, not necessarily in computer fields, who come in to learn dBase II and Locust 1-2-3," Locus said. "I know of students who have landed jobs because this additional knowledge made them more desirable by employers."

Students also benefit from Computer Assisted Instruction programs, or CAI, according to Dr. Helen Caldwell, chairperson of the Division of General Studies.

CAI is the use of computer programs to supplement or assist students in their regular classroom work. The programs have different levels of difficulty and are available for most disciplines. Students can go to the computing center by appointment and work at their own pace in completing the CAI assignments.

"CAI is an excellent teaching device because it allows students to work at their own pace," Caldwell said. "It allows teachers to plan programs in advance and package the most supportive work for particular students."

Caldwell, who writes her own computer programs, says that there are many commercial programs on the market, some more expensive than others, but none really cost prohibitive.

"We learned to use the programs during summer training sessions sponsored by the computer center," she said. "We learned how to write our own programs and to customize commercial programs to meet our needs. I hope that such sessions can be offered as part of a regular faculty institute."

Jean Sims, administrative secretary to the Chancellor, and Vivian Sawyer, secretary to the General Studies Division, both have word processors at their desks now. They were trained through the Academic Computing Center.

"I used a regular typewriter from 1974 until December 1986 when I learned to use word processing," Sawyer said. "If I had to give it up, I would fight over it."

Sims learned word processing three years ago and says she would "cry" if she had to go back to her regular typewriter.

The ability to delete, add, insert, move paragraphs and the additional speed have helped both secretaries make their office more efficient and professional.

Five years ago

The Academic Computing Center has come a long way in five years.

"In 1980, we had three terminals, one deckwriter, a card reader and a printer," Locus said. "That was our academic computing center. We shared Johnson Hall 205 with the Math Lab."

According to Locus, five new terminals were added, then ten more terminals and a deckwriter, making a move to Johnson Hall 135 necessary. In 1983, a grant under

Title III made it possible to purchase 20 IBM personal computers and three printers plus networking capabilities.

The Academic Computer Center today has 30 microcomputers and 22 terminals connected to the Triangle University Computing Center (TUCC). In 1985, the present 4,000 square foot building was completed. About one third of the building is used for administrative offices, the rest for student needs.

The building is angled and designed for further expansion from the computer laboratory.

"Our students have three options with which to work," Locus said. "Each micro-computer will operate alone; each micro-computer will network from a single source; and the students can also use terminals tied directly to the Triangle University Computing Center."

The networking program, called Novell, allows students to communicate with a single source, but was not a traditional choice. Locus said the decision was made to break with tradition and choose a program most beneficial to ECSU students and the University's long-range plans.

"We were the first UNC school to install Novell" Locus said, "but now 10 other UNC systems use the same networking program."

Suicide climbing at alarming rate

by Deborah Carr
staff writer

Jane Doe seemed to have the world at her feet. She was a straight A student, beautiful and her future seemed bright. One day she was found dead with a bottle of sleeping tablets by her head. In sixty seconds, another Jane Doe will attempt suicide.

Since 1980, suicides among 15-19-year-olds have tripled in the last 25 years. Statistics show that an American will attempt suicide every minute, and that there are 400,000 attempts each year. Suicide is the eighth leading cause of

death in America, and it is the third leading cause of death among young people.

sion and 12 percent suffered psychosis. However, only one-third of these victims had received mental health treatment during the last year of their life and only half ever received any treatment at all.

The greatest risk of suicide belongs to adolescents who have experienced bitter custody battles, violent homes, or a recent death in the family.

Suicide pacts had been a rarity until recently. Evidence shows that suicide attempts in the presence of others rarely succeeded. However, it now seems as if the news of youth suicides

triggers others and it may be dangerous to talk about them. Some experts say the news

According to researchers from the University of California San Diego, of the 233 suicide victims analyzed from 1981-83, 89 percent were 20 or over, 53 percent of those under 30 were diagnosed as drug abusers. Thirty-nine percent of the under 30 suicide victims suffered depression coverage is healthy, while others say that television programs about suicide may lead to an increase in suicides and suicide attempts.

Suicide victims exhibit certain behavioral characteristics. Some of these characteristics are: a preoccupation

with death, pain or suicide; giving away of prized possessions; loss of interest in schoolwork and favorite activities; erratic sleeping habits; appetite loss; and use of drugs and alcohol. Many potential suicide victims are irritable and cry for no apparent reason. Many also possess impulsive or reckless behavior.

Most suicide victims really don't want to commit suicide, they are actually reaching out for help. Talking to someone can often help these people.

Dr. Olive Wilson or Mrs. Brenda Creecy in Student Services are available for any ECSU student that is struggling through a crisis.

Barco receives Cole scholarship

From left: Matthew Coates, Viking Football Team; Anthony Stewart, Omega Psi Phi; Evell J. Barco, honoree; Pam Brown, Delta Sigma Theta; Lee Overton, SGA president; Johnnie Walton, Viking Football Club.



The Darin Lamont Cole Memorial Scholarship Award was established on January 29, 1987 by the Viking Football Club. This award was established as a tribute to the late Darin Cole for his outstanding achievements as an athlete and as a student.

The award will be presented annually to a junior who has a grade point average of 3.0, participates in an extra-curricular activity on campus, demonstrates financial need, and writes an essay on why he or she should receive the award.

The recipient of the first award is Evell J. Barco. Barco received a plaque and will receive book rental fees for one year. The award amount will increase after there is at least \$5,000 in the fund. Contributions totaling \$1,719.40 have been received to date with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. contributing \$200, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. \$205, professional football player and ECSU alumni Reginal Langhorne \$500. The ECSU SGA donated \$500 and the school's football team donated \$314.40.

If any group or individual is interested in making a contribution to the fund, they may do so by contacting Johnnie Walton, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development.

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