

INSIDE:

Campus fashions: a look at what's hot

—page 5

Equal rights for women?

—page 2

Hit Broadway play to be performed at ECSU

—page 3

VIEWPOINT

Michael Jackson's new video

—page 2

X-rated

—page 3



The Compass



SPORTS

Coach Little on the Vikings:

"I'm optimistic."

—page 7

Lady Vikings—on a roll!

—page 7



49

October 13, 1987 — Vol. 28, No. 1

Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, North Carolina

Circulation — 1,500



The family of the late Dr. Marion Thorpe joined members of the ECSU family for the October 3rd dedication of the new Thorpe Administration Building. Pic-

tures above are (from left): Mrs. Marion Thorpe, Marion Thorpe, Jr., and Mrs. Pamela Thorpe Young.

Photo by Richard McIntyre

Education: foundation of freedom, happiness, C.D. Spangler tells ECSU

By Steve Smith

The entire ECSU University family gathered in Vaughn Center September 8 at two p.m. to witness "an historic occasion."

C. D. Spangler, Jr. President of the UNC system, spoke to the ECSU University family for the first time since he assumed his position in March. Spangler's visit to ECSU marked the first time a president of the UNC system had ever spoken at the campus.

"Most of you know I have taken very special interest in ECSU," Spangler said. "I admire the faculty and the staff, but my overriding concern is for you, the student."

Spangler called education "the most important event in which society can be engaged. No other secure foundation can be devised

for the preservation of freedom and happiness.

"Ill-educated people are basically disenfranchised," Spangler said, "and denied the chance to fully participate in the nation's life."

Spangler said that education is not only a means for upward mobility, it has also made the nation strong. "Never has the future depended so much on the kind of education we make available to our young people," he added. "I believe ECSU can meet our goals."

Spangler hailed the new Incentive Scholarship program as "a major new academic effort," which has won support throughout the state. "The General Assembly has given the program acclaim," Spangler said. "It won't be easy, it will place great demands on us all, but nothing really great comes easy."

"I won't lie to you, life is tough and often uncompromising. But if you are tough on yourself now, it will be much easier later. Where education is concerned, no sacrifice is too much."

Spangler said that although ECSU accounts for only two percent of the enrollment of the UNC system, he believes the campus merits the expense because Northeastern North Carolina needs a university like ECSU.

"Where education is concerned, no sacrifice is too much."

"I'm concerned about all students regardless of the size of the campus," Spangler said. "If we can make significant qualitative improvements here, then we can make them elsewhere. If we are successful here, we will help other campuses, by providing them with the findings."

Spangler said that the "whole venture was taken with you, the student, in mind — to make you as competitive in the job market as any student on any other campus."

"When you move from here and get those jobs, you will have the ability to meet those challenges regardless of color, gender or what side of the tracks you grew up on."

"I want to assure you that the plan we have developed is sound and it will succeed."

Spangler said he envisioned the ECSU campus becoming more involved with both the community and the public schools. "We care deeply about our public schools," he added.

Calling the plan "a unique venture with much promise," Spangler said that ECSU is "slated to move to a higher level of service and excellence."

Spangler praised the contributions of former ECSU Chancellor Marion Thorpe and former UNC system President William Friday, saying they put the elements of the program in place.

"I feel like I've been given a

baton in the last leg of a relay race," he said, adding that the work of others had given him a head start.

"I could drop back, or I could take the lead and extend it. I assure you that if I rested on my laurels I would do you an injustice. Nothing wills faster than laurels rested on."

"Chancellor Jenkins and I will do more," Spangler said, "we promise you that."

At the end of his speech, Spangler, who was wearing suspenders, grinned and unbuttoned his shirt, revealing a Viking T-shirt underneath. "God bless you," he said.

He received a standing ovation. "We want to thank the President for that dynamic presentation," said ECSU Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins. "We join hands with him and his administration, and thank him for sharing his vision with us."

Before Spangler addressed the crowd, the University Choir sang, "You Must Have That True Religion," arranged by Roland Carter, with Billy C. Hines conducting.

ECSU dedicates new \$4 million building Oct. 3

Despite gray skies and a chilly wind, spirits were high at the October 3rd dedication ceremony for the new \$4 million Thorpe Administration Building at Elizabeth City State University.

"As chancellor I'm proud of this day when we officially open the doors of this building to the public," declared Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins, during his dedication statement and presentation of the building.

The building was dedicated to the late Marion Dennis Thorpe, who spent 15 years with the university as president and chancellor. Dr. Thorpe was the institution's sixth president, and his 15-year tenure with the university, beginning in 1968, was the second longest in the school's history.

Thorpe's wife, Mrs. Marion D. Thorpe, accepted the certificate of dedication from Levin D. Culpepper, Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees.

"You honor us very much," Mrs. Thorpe told the crowd, "but you honor him even more. This is a truly beautiful building. We are very honored to participate in this."

Ms. Thorpe told the crowd that she and her husband had always believed in the importance of community involvement in the

University's progress. "He often used the word 'communitarity,'" she added. Ms. Thorpe said she and her family and friends were honored by the building, as a reminder of her husband's contributions to the school.

Mrs. Thorpe was accompanied by her son, Marion Dennis Thorpe, Jr., and daughter, Mrs. Rueben (Pamela Thorpe) Young.

The new building's architect, Harvey Gantt, also addressed the crowd, saying "I'm delighted to have been part of the team." Gantt is the Mayor of Charlotte.

Construction of the new building began in the spring of 1986, and was completed this past summer. In his dedication statement, Dr. Jenkins explained that the new building is the first step of a long range construction plan for ECSU. "We plan to open bids on Tuesday for a new \$4.8 million science building," Jenkins said.

The new administration building is something the administration has wanted for some time," Culpepper said, after the ceremony. Culpepper credited Thorpe "for fighting to get the project going," and Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins for "following through" with the building.

See dedication, p. 8



Photo by Scott Yates

Levin Culpepper (left), Chairman of the ECSU Board of Trustees, presented the certificate of dedication to Mrs. Marion Thorpe during the ceremony.

Accident claims lives of three ECSU students

By Nancy Porter

A September 21 multiple car accident has claimed the lives of three ECSU students.

Two of the students died in the accident, and a third student died September 29 as a result of injuries sustained in the wreck, which occurred on U.S. 17 North, about a mile north of Elizabeth City.

George Matthew Pledger, 21, of Elizabeth City, and Sonja Yolanda Murrell, 17, an ECSU campus resident, were pronounced dead on arrival at Albemarle Hospital, according to Faye Gray, Secretary at the Department of Motor Vehicles in Elizabeth City. Pledger was driving the car in which Ms. Murrell was a passenger.

Tanya Hite, 19, of Elizabeth City, died September 29 in Norfolk General Hospital.

William McCaffity, 20, another ECSU student, was seriously injured in the accident. He has since been released from Norfolk General Hospital.

The four students were freshman and in the General Studies program, according to Mrs. Vivian Key in the Registrar's office.

ECSU held a memorial service for Pledger and Murrell on September 29 in Williams Hall Gymnasium. Prayers were offered for Hite and McCaffity.

ECSU Gospel Choir rendered two musical selections which audience members described after the ceremony as "beautiful and fitting to the occasion."



ECSU Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins appears with C.D. Spangler, President of the UNC system, during Spangler's September 8th visit to the ECSU campus.

Photo by Richard McIntyre