

## CAMPUS NEWS

## Area students shine during Science Fair

By Johnny Reid

You wouldn't think fruit flies would figure into the educational process.

But for Chrissy Rodriguez, a batch of fruit flies, some vials, chemicals and a plumber's T, added up to an award-winning science experiment.

Rodriguez's experiment was one of 150 exhibits on display at the Eastern Regional Science Fair and Energy Expo, held Friday, March 11, at ECSU's Vaughan Center. The Manteo High School senior's experiment measured the fruit flies' response to several stimuli—light, gravity, and various chemical substances.

"It was fun to work with these fruit flies," said Rodriguez, after explaining to a group of interested bystanders how the fruit flies' choices demonstrated positive and negative attractions. "I learned a lot from them. The experiments helped me learn how to use the scientific method to obtain logical results."

Sponsored by ECSU, East Carolina University, and the Northeast Regional Education Center, the Science Fair featured the work of about 400 area students, grades 6 through 12, who have won in local competitions within their schools. Fair winners will advance to the state competition, where they will compete to win scholarships to college, according to Dr. Turnage, Chairman of ECSU's Department of Biology.

"The Science Fair gets bigger and better each year," said Turnage. "The 150 projects on display

are in three different areas, biology, earth science, and physical science."

Turnage said the Fair is "a continuation" of the science department's efforts to enhance the science development in this region. The program has been "extremely well organized and well presented," according to Turnage.

Included among the displays were experiments demonstrating: "The Effect of Centrifugal Force on Plant Sprouts," "Variations in Germination from Microwave Radiation," and "How Excitement Affects the Color of Fish." About 100 students won awards in the Fair.

"The Science Fair is one of the finest events we have on the ECSU campus," said ECSU's Dr. M. A. Alam, who is on the 1987-88 Science Fair planning committee. "We hope that some of the students will come to our university."

ECSU faculty and administration members presenting awards at the fair were: Dr. Thaddeus Beasley, Dr. Katherine Hodgins, Dr. Edward Ianni, and Dr. James H. Townes. Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, Chancellor of ECSU, gave the welcoming speech.

Corporate sponsors of the Fair were: Animal Crackers, Ltd. Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, Texasgulf Chemicals Company, and Weyerhaeuser Company.

Certificates were printed Courtesy of Burroughs Wellcome Company. Judges refreshments were courtesy of Winn-Dixie, Elizabeth City.



Although these future science majors didn't receive any awards, they put on a fine show. The group, from Pitt County, presented a skit about electricity during the Eastern Regional Science Fair and Energy Expo held March 11 in Vaughan Center.

Photo by Richard McIntire

## Getting involved: Political awareness raised by Students for Jesse Jackson

Students learning about the power of their votes

By Monique Thomas

"In North Carolina students at black colleges have the power of 30,000 votes," said ECSU senior, Gary Rann. "But they have to register and vote."

Rann is one of the student organizers of ECSU's Students for Jesse Jackson Committee—an organization dedicated to getting students more politically involved.

"We've registered 500 student voters out of 1600 students at ECSU," said Rann. "There are 1000 students on campus, and 600 commuters. We've registered half the students on campus."

SFJJ members agree that their aim is to get students more politically involved and aware.

"Before we got involved, you'd hear students complaining about minute issues, like the food in the cafeteria," said Rann, "but now



JESSE JACKSON

HIGH SCHOOL: Sterling (S.C.) High School CLASS OF 1959

COLLEGE: University of Illinois, North Carolina Agricultural And Technical State University 1963

Chicago Theological Seminary

that they're more involved, you don't hear them complaining about little things. They're talking about real world issues that affect all of us."

SFJJ members agree that they are trying to get students more politically involved and aware. But they are also serious about helping the candidacy of presidential contender Jesse Jackson.

"I support Jesse Jackson because I believe his platform is feasible," said Cynthia Burrus, ECSU senior, and one of the student organizers of the committee. "In light of the Rainbow Coalition, I think it will work."

The Rainbow Coalition is a group of minorities, including blacks, Indians, Hispanics, Jews and farmers, who have been ignored by the political system. Jackson's highly effective national campaign is seeking to improve the opportunities for members of these, and other, groups.

SFJJ was especially active around Super Tuesday. The members organized phone banks, and distributed fliers around the city, urging students to vote.

The organization also helped sponsor the February 18 visit of Jackson's son, Jonathan, to

ECSU. The younger Jackson addressed the ECSU family during an assembly commemorating Black History Month.

SFJJ members say that their organization is working for much more than the Jackson campaign.

"That's the name of the organization," said Rann, "but that's not what it's all about. We have other elections coming up in Elizabeth City. We have to utilize what we've learned for the Elizabeth City elections."

SFJJ official Tanya Little said that the organization has also attracted interest outside Pasquotank County.

"We've had request from other people in other counties, seeking to use our organizational skills to start new committees based on the levels of SFJJ," said Little, the director of the organization's publicity committee.

Currently, SFJJ is working with the Rev. Charles Foster, in his campaign for N.C. legislator. The organization has also participated in Pasquotank County Democratic Convention and plans to send delegates for Jesse Jackson to the Democratic Convention in Atlanta.

## Jonathan Jackson challenges ECSU

'We need strong minds and bodies for our campaign'

By Deborah Carr

"The Jesse Jackson campaign will declare war on poverty, not on the poor," Jonathan Jackson told the ECSU family on February 18. "Having civil rights with no economic rights is like having the right to swim in a pool with no water in it. The two must go hand in hand."

Jackson, son of presidential contender, Jesse Jackson, spoke at ECSU during the Black History Month Assembly. He is the Eastern Regional Coordinator for his father's 1988 presidential campaign.

"We have a poor campaign with a rich message," Jackson said. "We are in a struggle doing the best we can against the odds. Our coalition is expanding. We must transcend race and creeds in order to fight for economic justice."

Declaring that his father's campaign has "raised the hopes of all oppressed people," Jackson added, "This is not Jesse Jackson's campaign, it's the people's campaign. We need strong minds and strong bodies to continue the fight."

Jackson cited a comprehensive list of reforms needed to end "economic violence" in America.



Jonathan Jackson, son of presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson, gave an inspirational and provocative speech to ECSU's students and faculty in Moore Hall Auditorium, on Feb. 18.

Photo by Matthew Coates

"Thirteen million Americans have no health care," he said, "and 38 million have no health insurance."

"The South has the hardest workers and the lowest wages, as well as the most toxic waste dumps. Farmers have lost their land, students can't get loans, and hospital workers can't afford to go to the hospital."

Jackson pledged his father would work to end discrimination against lower-income workers, the poor, and farmers. "If we can bail out Chrysler, we can bail out the family farm. They have fed us and fed the nation. It was poor policy that took their land from them."

Jackson said the government should spend less money on the military and more on education, including working to establish a \$600 billion educational fund.

"We need to put an end to the arms race, and put more focus on the human race. Education is sacred. It's the backbone of our democracy. This is what we have fought for, and we must not abuse that right."

Jackson called for a war on drugs, describing the drug trade as a \$150 billion industry. "The government wants to build a missile that can shoot down other missiles, but they can't even stop a plane of cocaine flying in from South of our borders."

"At the height of the drug interdiction, Reagan cut the U.S. Coast Guard budget by \$100 million," continued Jackson, "then he made a television commercial telling people to say 'no' to drugs. There must be some priority to

attachment to the purse."

Jackson said that although his father has never held an elective office, "he has given his life for service. He had spent 25 years working in the public sector, proving his leadership skills. He has fought for open housing and the right to vote, and he has fought for economic justice."

Jackson, 22, and a 1987 graduate of A & T University, said he had "fond memories of" ECSU. "Two years ago you all came to our homecoming and beat us," said.

Jackson praised ECSU students, saying they were "in the privileged seats. The real challenge is what will you do, and what are you doing? You are training to become leaders and role models. You can strive to do what you want."

"I challenge you to fulfill the work of generations that have died to help make your opportunities possible."

During the Black History Month Assembly, the University Choir performed two selections. The choir was directed by Professor Billy C. Hines.

ECSU Chancellor Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, and Carl Jones, SO President, also addressed the audience.

At the end of the program the ECSU family held hands and sang, "We Shall Overcome."



Sue Amaral  
ECSU Junior



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### Images of King

This pencil drawing, by art major Vickie Strickland, was displayed on stage during Jonathan Jackson's presentation.

Photo by Richard McIntire

