

CAMPUS NEWS



John Thomas Bowe sings for the new queen on coronation night, held Oct. 12 in Williams Hall. The evening's festivities "were designed to highlight the essence of what ECSU is all about," according to Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins.

Photo by Eugene O'Neal



Alisa Robinson's dreams came true on coronation night, when she was crowned Queen. The Elizabeth City native credits her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A.C. Robison, with "leading me in the right direction."

Jenkins OK's funding for literary magazine

By Lavenia Dameron

Chancellor Jimmy Jenkins has approved the funding for ECSU's first literary magazine in ten years.

Jenkins agreed to finance the magazine this month after a delegation of students in The Pickwick Society visited him to ask him for the money.

The Pickwick Society is an honor society in the Department of Language, Literature and Communication.

"I believed he would say yes, but when he did I was really excited, and so happy that I could hardly come back down to earth," said Pickwick Society president Sharon Chappell.

"The Chancellor was very enthusiastic," said John Merritt, chairperson of the Literary Magazine Committee. "He was impressed with the Pickwick Society for being prepared in our presentation."

To get ready for the presentation, members of the Pickwick Society interviewed printers and prepared a budget for a 48-page magazine.

"There was no way we were going to be able to do it without the Chancellor's support," said Merritt.

Merritt said the Pickwick Society came up with the idea of the literary magazine "because of the Centennial, for recruitment purposes, and for the SACS visit in April."

SACS is the abbreviation for the Southern Accreditation of Colleges and Schools, an organization which accredits member universities and colleges. ECSU is to be visited by teams from SACS in April, as part of

the University's accreditation process. The school was last accredited in 1980.

The society will begin compiling work for the magazine in January, Merritt said. The issue will contain poetry, prose, photography and drawings.

"There will also be a contest connected with the Centennial and the literary magazine," he said.

Merritt said the magazine "will hopefully go to press in early April." It will be printed by Cardin Printing Company of Elizabeth City.

In their visit with the Chancellor, students pointed out that ECSU is the only school in the 16-school university system not to have a literary magazine.

"The magazine will call attention to the fact that ECSU students have a lot of talent and can compete with any university in any way," said Chappell. "And this fact should impress potential students."

Officers for the Pickwick Society are Kimberley Robinson, Vice President; Beverly Johnson, Secretary; Jamie Whitehurst, Treasurer, and Phyllis Tillery, Parliamentarian.

Students who have learned of the funding have expressed support and excitement about the new literary magazine.

"A literary magazine will provide another avenue for the students' expression," said Craig Avondo, news editor of *The Compass*. "We've got a newspaper which deals with facts. But a literary magazine can show the more creative side of the students."

Coronation 1990—a dream come true and an evening of silver enchantment

By Sharon Chappell

The moment she walked through the cascading silver streamers an audible "ah" whispered its way through the audience.

In her long white gown studded with sequins and pearls that shimmered in the soft light, Miss Alisa Lynette Robinson didn't, at the moment, look anything like an English teaching major—she looked like a queen on her coronation day.

After former Miss ECSU Gail Hall gave her farewell remarks, Alisa Robinson was formally crowned. As silver stars, silver streamers and white balloons floated overhead, the new queen stepped to the podium to deliver her acceptance speech.

"This evening is a very special one for me," she said. "It actually is a dream come true. I always wanted and dreamed of actually wearing a crown instead of carrying one. Tonight marks that long awaited moment."

"I have reached another milestone in my life and from here I will set out

Nights of enchantment shouldn't have to end... But a radiant smile on a certain young lady's face suggested this was not an ending at all.

to achieve new goals. This, however, will be my most cherished endeavor. As this institution's reigning queen, I promise to do nothing less than to give my very best in every aspect of whatever I do.

"Tonight I challenge all of you—especially my peers who elected me—to always reach for the top because the bottom is already full."

On the way to becoming Miss Elizabeth City State University 1990-1991, Alisa had worked very hard—as a cheerleader, member of the Gospel

Choir, announcer for WRVS, reporter for *The Compass* and an honors student.

It took thirteen committees of fifty-one people plus a production staff of six, two consultants, one hundred and eight representatives from the various campus student organizations and lots of volunteers to create "An Evening of Silver Enchantment," held October 12 in Williams Hall.

The evening's festivities were "designed to highlight the essence of what Elizabeth City State is all about,"

said ECSU's Chancellor, Dr. Jimmy Jenkins.

Following Alisa's acceptance speech, the Gospel Choir, John Thomas Bowe, the University Ensemble, Dr. Willie Sullivan and Vincent Priester gave special performances just for her.

Priester, a saxophonist from Greensboro, NC, added a special touch to the evening. Not only did he enchant the audience with his mesmerizing solo—for which he received two standing ovations—but he also gave Alisa a unique present. While standing in front of her throne he sent her a "smack kiss" through his saxophone. Blowing into the instrument, he was able to create the sound of a loud kiss.

It was no wonder that Alisa and her escort, Reginald Joe, hesitated before beginning "The Queen's Dance." Nights of enchantment shouldn't have to end. And yet it appeared to end with a reception and lots of sumptuous food in Bedell Cafeteria. But a radiant smile on a certain young lady's face suggested this was not an ending at all.

New Queen praised for helping others

By Tymekia Troy

As a little girl she always carried the scepter for Miss ECSU and dreamed of carrying her own some day.

For Alisa L. Robinson that dream finally came true when she was crowned Miss ECSU, 1990-91.

A native of Elizabeth City, Alisa had a choice of many colleges to choose from, but because of the Incentive Scholarship, she decided to stay at home and attend ECSU.

"Many of my friends at other colleges don't have half as much fun as I do, as opposed to being at home and going to school," she said.

Having grown up in the shadow of the University, it seemed only natural that she would try to become Miss ECSU. She credits her parents, both ECSU alumni, with "leading me in the right direction, and supporting me in my efforts."

"No matter what I chose to do they were right there to back me," she said. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.C. Robison. Robison is Assistant Vice Chancellor in the University's Department of Business and Finance.

Alisa said she most admires her mom, Joycelynn, a former Miss ECSU.

Being active in the Gospel Choir, AKA Sorority, the Cheering Squad, the Pickwick Society, SNCAE, SGA, and WRVS, in addition to reigning as Miss ECSU, Alisa said she realizes it is important that she moderate her energy output.

"Give everything your best," she said. "For when you strive to attain success the best will come to you."

Alisa Robison

"I know my limit" she said. "Whenever I begin to feel overburdened, I slow down a little."

Her future plans include pursuing her master's degree at either Ohio State University or Minnesota State University.

Alisa Robison believes in unity among Black women, regardless of appearance and social background.

"We don't take people for what they are," she said. "We always let appearances stand our way."

Friends praise her for her consideration in helping others.

"If I can help somebody along the way then my living will not be in vain," she said.

She is especially interested in helping people in speech, her major area of interest.

"I feel that our race has always had



Saxophone maestro Vincent Priester mesmerized the audience on coronation night with his dazzling sax solo. He also gave the new queen a special gift, a "smack kiss" sent through his saxophone. Priester is from Greensboro, N.C.

some type of speech problem and I would like to be able to help them correct their languages because I love helping people and I feel that it would help us communicate better with each other as well as helping us get certain jobs."

Although Alisa said she is dedicated to all of her organizations, she said she believes in putting "Christ first in everything you do."

"Give everything your best," she said. "For when you strive to attain success the best will come to you."

'Believe in yourself,' says Gerald McCants during the Army ROTC awards ceremony

By Lavenia Dameron

"If you have the entering power, then you should have the staying power," declared Dr. Gerald McCants, guest speaker at the ROTC Awards Ceremony, held October 18 in the Little Theater.

Perseverance is just one of the characteristics that enable one to be successful in the world, said McCants, Director of the University's Academic Development Program. He also placed a high emphasis on self-esteem.

"High school students graduate with little self-esteem," McCants said, adding that low self-esteem leads to "procrastination and defeatism."

A strong sense of self-esteem is a prerequisite to success, said McCants. Successful people know where they are going, he continued. And they have a sense of purpose, a sense of urgency.

"Many people look for opportunity outside of themselves," he said, "but opportunity lies within the individual."

To illustrate the importance of teamwork, and knowing how to get along with others, McCants said that when an individual joins the Army, "the most important word to know is we. The least important is I."

McCants also said it's important to know how to make choices, and to have self-confidence and determination.

Other prerequisites to success, said

"Many people look for opportunity outside of themselves, but opportunity lies within the individual."

Gerald McCants

McCants, are knowing how to use time effectively and having excellent habits.

McCants entertained the audience with a humorous story and an original poem, "Major Bad," written in honor of Major Ernest Spruill, Assistant Professor of Military Science. The poem was about a tough Army major named "Major Bad" who said if you didn't have what it took to be successful in his platoon, then you could join "Major Good" and be lazy and unsuccessful.

LTC Chauncey Crenshaw, Professor of Military Science, said that he was "pleased with the growth of the program" as he commended those who spent six weeks at Fort Bragg during the summer.

Dr. Jimmy Jenkins stated that "ROTC was a point of light to that rising star in the east."

The Vice Chancellor's Awards were awarded to Susan Paige and Pamela Shields.

Susan Paige, Vincent Swift, Pamela Shields, Reginald Wilkins received

Honor Roll Awards.

The following students received Academic Achievement Awards: Julian Barron, Russell Matthews, Gregory Boston, Timothy McCray, Richard Cureton, Doris Elliott, Derek Griffin, Sandra Hines, Sulene Jones, Bryant Key, Simeon Knight, Arlene Leigh, Russell Matthews, Timothy McCray, Anissa McNeill, Frederick Melton, Stephen Oates, Susan Paige, Vincent Swift, Lilrita Thorpe, and Reginald Wilkins.

The Distinguished Military Student Award went to Richard Cureton, Russell Matthews and Stephen Oates.

The Most Outstanding Cadet Award went to Lilrita Thorpe.

Eric Cooper, Jeffrey Vinson, and Frederick Melton received Outstanding Leadership Awards.

Miss ROTC Award went to Lilrita Thorpe, and the Basic Camp Award to Dawn Conner.

The following people received

Completion: Julian Barron, Richard Cureton, Derek Griffin, Sulene Jones,

Bryant Key, Arlene Leigh, Russell Matthews, Anissa McNeill, Frederick Melton, Stephen Oates, Susan Paige, Pamela Shields, Vincent Swift, Lilrita Thorpe.

Honor Platoon Awards went to Richard Cureton, Sulene Jones, Arlene Leigh, and Lilrita Thorpe.

Land Navigation Awards and the Recondo Awards were presented to Anissa McNeill and Lilrita Thorpe.

The Parachute Awards were presented to Sulene Jones, Bryant Key, Frederick Melton, and Lilrita Thorpe.

The Cadet Troop Leadership Certificates were presented to Derek Griffin, Arlene Leigh, Stephen Oates, and Vincent Swift.

A case for Crimestoppers

Two rooms in the New Complex were broken into over the Thanksgiving Holidays, and approximately \$400 worth of property was stolen, according to ESCU Chief of Security, George Mountain.

The thief or thieves gained access to the Complex through a first floor window, Mountain said.

"We are in the process of investigating," he added. "And we would appreciate any help through Crimestoppers."

The crime took place Nov. 23.