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THE COMPASS

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Welcoming Haley



Convocation speaker Alex Haley poses with Miguel Purvis, SGA President (left); Joynita Robinson, SGA Vice President (center); and Tonya DeVaughan, Miss ECSU.

Jenkins testifies for court nominee Clarence Thomas

By Rodney Moore

ECSU Chancellor Dr. Jimmy Jenkins appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee Sept. 19 to offer testimony in support of President Bush's nominee to the Supreme Court, Judge Clarence Thomas.

"I believe we need an Afro-American on the Supreme Court," said Jenkins, in explaining his decision to speak out on behalf of Thomas. "Clarence Thomas can act as a symbol for Afro-Americans as well as a role model for our children and grandchildren."

When asked how Thomas will help minorities if he is confirmed, Jenkins said, "His views will force us to become less dependent on race specific assistance. This is not to say this assistance wasn't a noble gesture at first, but the method by which we achieved it may have caused more problems than it has solved. Judge Thomas and I both believe that self-help is the answer to our problems."

Jenkins appeared along with three other presidents and chancellors of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Dr. Julius W. Beeton, president of Prairie View A & M University, Dr. Wesley McClure, president of Virginia State University, and Dr. Talbert Shaw, chancellor of Shaw University in Durham.

Jenkins admitted he has taken some criticism for his stand with Thomas. "I have already taken some flack from some of my friends in the Democratic Party as well as some of my

friends in the civil rights movement," he said. "Later on these same people have to acknowledge that they were wrong."

"To move in the way that Judge Thomas wants us to move will hurt at first. It is like we are addicted to these social programs. Like an addict we will have withdrawal pains at first, but they ease as time passes."

Jenkins said that Thomas "is marching to the tune of a different drummer, but his rationale behind it is sound, and therefore I proudly break away from the pack and join him in marching to the same tune."

The Chancellor was asked by the White House to make a five-minute presentation on behalf of Thomas.

"Although I do not agree with Judge Thomas on all the positions he has taken, those areas we do agree on far outweigh those areas on which we may disagree," Jenkins said.

"He will not only remember his roots, but will be a strong spokesman for problems evolving from racism and illegal discrimination," the Chancellor said.

Jenkins pointed out that he is not alone in supporting Thomas, who has been opposed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"When all of the facts are clearly known I believe you will find that a majority of Afro-Americans, as well as other people who have the best interest of America at heart, support...giving Judge Thomas an opportunity."

Vaughan concedes race

By DeAnna Rudisill

ECSU professor Robert L. Vaughan will not call for a run-off after losing the three-way race for mayor of Elizabeth City by 12 votes.

Shortly after Vaughan entered the race, ECSU Chancellor Dr. Jimmy Jenkins informed him that he would have to either resign his University position or withdraw from the race because of a UNC system policy that prohibits professors from running for a political office where the annual fee exceeds \$5,745.

The mayor receives \$6,780 annually.

In the letter informing Vaughan of the policy, Alice C. Bynum, legal assistant to the chancellor pointed out

that Vaughan could petition the ECSU Board of Trustees for relief but, at the time, he chose not to.

Later Vaughan discovered that his name had not been removed from the ballot, and through the encouragement of "hundreds of phone calls" from supporters he decided to re-enter the race.

Had Vaughan won the race he planned to request that \$1,380 of his annual income be put aside for a designated fund so that he would not exceed the \$5,745 maximum annual fee allowed for professors running for public office.

According to the *Virginia Pilot/The Ledger Star*, Vaughan had an "excel-

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Greeks, Student Affairs end war over Fall Homecoming schedule

By Crystal Sturdivant and Mark Morris

When Student Affairs scheduled Coronation and the annual Greek step show for the same night, it set off a storm of controversy at ECSU.

Pan Hellenic Council members were demanding more cooperation from Student Affairs, the Student Government Association was asking the Pan Hellenic Council to be more cooperative and most of the student body felt left in the dark.

Student Affairs changed the schedule in an attempt to improve students'

performance on midterm examinations, according to Dr. Olive Wilson, Acting Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

The 1990 step show raised \$9,000 for ECSU, however Greek organizations only received \$100 apiece out of that money. With this memory lingering, Greeks decided last Thursday to move the step show from the campus to the auditorium of Sheep-Harney Elementary School in Elizabeth City.

One Greek said that having the step show off campus would demonstrate to Student Affairs that Greeks could carry out step shows without the

administration "babysitting" them. "A token of \$100 is not compensation for the practice, time, entry fee and the outfits purchased for the event," the Greek added.

Dr. Leon White, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs said that if money was the issue with the step show, then Greeks were taking "a selfish approach." Added White, "It's not possible to go through life like that."

On Sunday Oct. 13, Florence Hinton, president of the Albemarle Pan Hellenic Council learned of the Greeks' decision to move the show off campus. Hinton also learned and

that the Albemarle Pan Hellenic Council was listed as the event's sponsor on the contract between the Greeks and the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County School System.

The Albemarle Pan Hellenic Council held a call meeting on Monday Oct. 14 in ECSU's Science Complex to address the issue. In that meeting the Albemarle Council made it clear that they did not intend to sponsor a step show off campus.

"I would be embarrassed if the Greeks did not participate in our

please see Greeksp.9

Overcrowding blues: planned dorm won't ease Wamack students' plight

By Rodney Moore and Mark Morris

The University plans to break ground on a new \$4 million dormitory this fall, but the dormitory won't be completed in time to ease the plight of approximately 30 ECSU students who are sharing a room with two other roommates in Wamack Hall.

ECSU officials say the campus' overcrowding stems from the closing down of Butler Hall this past summer for renovations.

"Last year we were able to use half of the building, which gave us room for a little over 60 people," said Kenneth Roberts, ECSU's Housing Director. "This year we don't even have that."

"Plans are in design now for the renovation of Butler (Hall)" said Roger McLean, Vice Chancellor for Busi-

ness and Finance. "Actual construction should begin in November or December."

McLean said that he hopes the work on the 65-year old building will be completed by August 1992. However, an architect who visited campus in September for a preliminary look at Butler told a *Compass* reporter that he doubted that the 65-year old dormitory could be renovated by then.

"The \$1.6 million we have to work with is a shoestring budget for what we have to do," the architect said. "August of 1992 is an unrealistic completion date."

The University plans to raze and rebuild the left half and renovate the right half at an estimated cost of \$1.8 million, McLean said. The school plans to borrow the money through long term bonds.

In the meantime, Butler Hall is

closed for the 1991-92 school year and the housing department has taken measures to alleviate the overcrowding in Wamack Hall. Roberts said that the number of Park Street apartments occupied by men has increased from five to nine, opening up housing for sixteen male students.

Park Street apartments, 12 townhouses owned by the University, are normally reserved for seniors. The apartments have two bathrooms, a kitchen, and are one of two campus residential facilities wired for cable TV.

Roberts also said he hoped that the housing crunch would be relieved when some students complete their course work in December.

In the meantime, however, about 30 ECSU students must cope with living in cramped quarters.

Jermaine Jones of Rocky Mount,

N.C. and Tony Pittman of Tarboro, N.C. share room 118 in Wamack Hall with Freddie Hawkins of Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

"It's crowded as hell," said Jones. "I have not brought down my winter clothes yet, but I know there will not be enough room for them."

"The University should not try to grow so fast that it can't provide the facilities for all of the students," Pittman said.

Both Jones and Pittman agree that the main problem with three in a room is that there is not enough room for everyone's belongings.

"It is real hectic if all three of us have classes at the same time," says Jones. "It is almost impossible for us to do things like get out clothes and iron all at the same time."

please see Crowdingp.9

Compass places 1st in contest

By Albert C. F. Woodley

The *Compass*, ECSU's student newspaper, has won its fourth consecutive first-place award in The Columbia Scholastic Press Association's annual contest.

The award, for general excellence, was for all issues published during the 1990-91 academic year.

In commenting on the award, one of the judges wrote, "The *Compass* offers superior writing and reporting leadership. The *Compass* is a highly enthusiastic newspaper, as evidenced in its complete content. It is a "people" publication in offering, in a very fair way."

Judges singled out the following stories as examples of excellent, in-depth reporting, "Middle East Crisis hits home at ECSU" (Dec. 7th, 1990), "Budget woes to cost ECSU \$700,000" (April 23, 1991).

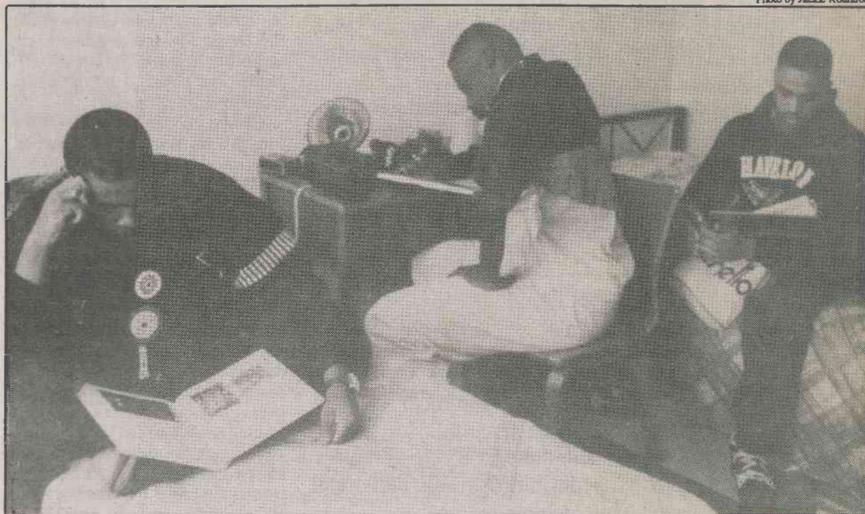
In the feature category, judges mentioned Mark Morris' story, "The Joy of Teaching," (March 1, 1991) and Becky Overton's, "In The Shadow of Saddam" (Oct. 11, 1990).

The *Compass* received especially high marks in the section of the contest dealing with news coverage. The *Compass* received a perfect score, ten out of a maximum of ten points, on "accuracy, fairness, and completeness in news coverage." The publication also received a perfect score on its effectiveness in covering the institution and on ethical and objective content.

Judges praised The *Compass's* arts and entertainment coverage and its editorial page.

"The *Compass* demonstrates a solid opinion leadership in responsible and responsive editorials," one of the judges wrote, citing "Launching the Phoenix," (Dec. 7, 1991 issue), as an example.

please see Award p.9



Frederick Hawkins (left), Jermaine Jones (center) and Brandon Carson are three of about 30 Wamack Hall residents who must cope with living in cramped quarters this semester. ECSU officials say the housing crunch is due to the closing down of Butler Hall this past summer for renovations.

At ECSU:

Chimes make ringing debut

By Julie W. Osmon

If you're walking across the ECSU campus and hear the school's Alma Mater chiming in the air, it isn't coming from the Music Department.

That song, and others, are currently being played on a carillon, a special computerized system that broadcasts from the Moore Hall tower. The carillon chimes on the hour and the half hour, according to Dr. Floyd Robinson, a Professor in the Music Department. "It plays the school's Alma Mater daily at 12:01 and 6:01."

The carillon was the brainchild of Robinson and ECSU Chancellor Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, and was funded by Centennial Commission appropriations. The project cost \$19,500.

"The Chancellor and I had heard bells ringing on other campuses," said Robinson. "We wanted to install bells as part of the Centennial Celebration."

The carillon has a pre-programmed

tape with thirty other selections, but the University now only plays four of the thirty songs, including the Alma Mater and the Westminster Chimes, Robinson said, adding that he hopes to add new tunes, including a selection of hymns.

The University Carilloneers, Dr. Rachael Gragson, Leonard Ballou and Dr. Karen Brown will present "a concert" on the carillon during Homecoming Week, Robinson said. Gragson and Brown are both instructors in the Music Department. Ballou is an assistant vice chancellor and the University Archivist.

The carillon was installed on Sept. 13. The system is made up of the carillon, a keyboard instrument and a computer. The carillon is a 49-note range bell instrument that can be played like an organ. The music can be recorded into the system's computer by an artist, and played back automatically, according to Robinson. The artist may also perform on the

instrument live.

The carillon system "gives the school and the community a different atmosphere," said Robinson.

Most ECSU students and faculty agree.

"The chimes provide a traditional feel that seems appropriate to an established campus," said junior Gary Brinn.

"The chimes, ringing out on a cool, autumn day, have a dreamy quality," said Stephen March, an assistant professor in the Department of Language, Literature & Communication. "They give the campus a touch of class."

Not all of the reaction to the chimes has been positive, however.

"They wake me up in the morning," said freshman Natasha Worldts. "I like to be awakened by an alarm clock, not chimes."

The carillon will be moved to the new Mass Communication and Fine Arts Building when it's completed, according to Robinson.