

News Briefs

Compiled By Lavenia Dameron

The ECSU 1992 Spring Commencement Exercise will be held Sunday, May 10, 1992, at 10 a.m., in the University's R. L. Vaughan Athletic Complex. The Elks Oratorical award winning orator Patricia Russell-McCloud, President of Russell-McCloud and Associates, is the scheduled commencement speaker.

Approximately 250 graduates are expected to receive diplomas at this year's 114th Commencement Exercise.

The Chancellor's annual Senior Picnic will be held on Friday, May 8, at 4 p.m. on the lawn of the Chancellor's residence.

Lakeisha RaShon Wilson, an ECSU student, died Wednesday, April 8, 1992 in Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville, NC "Keisha," a 20 year old native of Williamston, NC, was a sophomore Education major who lived in Doles Hall.

She left behind a loving family and a host of friends. Funeral services were held Sunday, April 12, 1992 at Roberson Baptist Church in Robersonville, NC

ECSU provided transportation to and from the funeral.

"We all miss you Keisha, but we're glad you don't have to hurt anymore," a friend said.

ECSU held its annual Honors Convocation on Thursday, April 16 in Moore Hall Auditorium. Dr. Helen Caldwell, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs presided. The Guest Speaker was Barbara K. Hairston, President of Marketing Resources, in Ellicott City, Maryland.

Awards were presented by Dr. Anne Henderson, Chairman of the Honors Council, and Dr. Carol C. Jones, Director of the Honors Program.

Winners of the Chancellor's Distinguished Emblem Awards were Stephanie Crouail, Pamela Cribb Faber, Angela Hager, Sandra Lee Onley, and Lynn Craddock VanHome.

More than one hundred other ECSU students received awards and honors in the program.

ECSU held its 12th annual Scholarcade Showcase on April 11, 1992 at 7 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium.

The Scholarcade-Scholarship program is designed to provide full grants for four years of continuous undergraduate study towards a degree offered at the University; and to encourage ECSU recruitment of high school students who possess outstanding academic and leadership abilities and skills.

Some of the entertainment included Mrs. Louise Sutton performing "The Creation," Dr. James Townes singing "What the World Needs Now," fashion by Dr. Glenda Davis, and Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins as the fabulous Ray Charles.

The Art Guild of ECSU held its 7th Annual Art Guild Show in the Art Gallery of Johnson Hall April 14-27, with twenty art students exhibiting their work. Many types of art were displayed such as jewelry, photography, mixed media, assemblage, dry point, acrylic and plaster. One of the show's highlights was a sculpture by Sean Parrish which was representative of a robot. Other student participants were Dale Ball, Yvonne Blount, Stephanie Crouail, Alec Harding, Jesus Hawkins, David Joyner, Warren McMaster, Steve Northwood, Sean Parrish, Kevin Rogerson, Stephanie Sears, Dana Williams and Catina Wood.

Mr. Alvin Kelley, ECSU's head football coach, was selected as the CIAA Football Coach of the year by the CIAA Football Coach Association. He received the award during the CIAA Tournament.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association recently awarded the Silvio O. Conte Award of Excellence to ECSU in recognition of its 1991 National Youth Sports Program performance. The NYSP program, in partnership with ECSU, the Department of Health and Human Services and the NCAA, served 430 economically disadvantaged community youth with meals, medical examinations, sports, and academic instruction. The award was presented in Washington, D.C. on February 28, 1992. Thomas L. Caldwell, project administrator and Thurlis J. Little, activity director, were commended for their outstanding leadership.

The ECSU Athletic Department will host a Roast and Toast, a reception and banquet of the legendary Coach John McLendon, on Friday, May 1, 1992, at 7 p.m. at the Kermit E. White Center. For information, contact Dr. C. J. Mackey at (919) 335-3479 or Mrs. Addie Griffin at (919) 335-3385.

Dr. Rachel Gragson performed a piano recital on Friday, April 3, 1992 at 8 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium.

Dr. Gragson was assisted by Dr. Karen Brown, piano. Mark E. Curry, percussionist, performed his senior recital along with the ECSU Percussion Ensemble on Sunday, April 5, 1992, in Moore Hall.

Sandra Hill and Joan Boudreaux, Instructors in the Dept. of Language, Literature & Communication, presented papers at the North Carolina Writer's Network Women's Conference in Winston Salem, March 14, 1992. Ms. Hill's paper, "Imitations of Sexuality: The Cybele Attis Myth in Daphne Athas' *Entering Ephesus*," explored the goddess myths in Daphne Athas' novel. Mrs. Boudreaux's "Wilson County Folkways and Their Impact on Roxanne Walston's *Fight to Find Her Heart a Home*" explored the harsh realities of the young farm wife during the depression in Louise Shiver's novel, *Here To Get My Baby Out of Jail*.

ECSU's Academic Team traveled to Baltimore, Maryland on March 27-29 to participate in the 3rd Honda Campus All Star Challenge.

Under the direction of Dr. Olive Wilson and coach Kenneth Roberts ECSU's team members included Larry White, Miriam Bridges, Gary Brinn, Kenneth Richardson, and Elisha Jennings.

Although ECSU did not place among the top teams to compete in the national competition, they "gained experience and exposure," according to Kenneth Roberts. ECSU also brought back a \$2500 participation prize for the University, Roberts said.

ECSU English major Gary Brinn received the highest point total among the participants.

Though ECSU has participated in the Honda Campus All Star Challenge two years, the University has no standing academic team. Participation is a volunteer activity, but participation is encouraged "to enhance academic enrichment," Roberts said.

The ECSU Dept. of Music presented The University Concert Band and Collegians Jazz Ensemble on Thursday, April 9, 1992, 7:30 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium. Dr. Gary L. Callahan was the conductor, Mr. L. Anthony Johnson, assistant conductor and Dr. Floyd L. Robinson was the guest conductor.

The ECSU Concert Choir presented its Annual Spring Concert Wednesday, April 15, 1992, 7:30 p.m. in Moore Hall Auditorium with Billy C. Hines, Conductor, and E. Vendetta Sutton, Accompanist. Admission was free.

The ECSU Gospel Choir will celebrate their 11th anniversary Sunday, May 3, at 4:00 p.m. in the Moore Hall Auditorium.

By Florestine Jones

After long hours of rehearsal, ECSU's choir toured six states, March 20 through March 30. First stop of the Spring Tour, 92, was the Quality Inn in Cincinnati, Ohio, where ECSU choir members joined students from other colleges for a dinner and party.

On Sunday, the Choir participated in the Eleventh Annual American Negro Spiritual Festival at Music Hall in Cincinnati, Ohio. The choir also performed in churches in Columbus Ohio; Fort Wayne, Indiana; Chicago, Illinois; Racine Wisconsin; Cleveland, Ohio, and New Rochelle, N.Y.

Choir members say the tour was pleasurable, but grueling.

"The tour was a lot of fun," said Kevin Alston, a bass in the choir, "but the traveling took a toll on us."

"Touring provides great travel opportunities for students to familiarize themselves with different cities and learn how people in other cities and states live," said Collus Long who sings baritone in the choir.

Billy C. Hines, the Choir's director, said when the choir goes on the road, it "serves as a goodwill ambassador for the University." The tour also helps recruit new students, said Hines, and helps broaden student's horizons.

"I try to provide a learning atmosphere for the students at all times," Hines added. "Any student who feels he has the talent, discipline and desire to be to be a part of an organization such as the University Choir should get in touch with me."

The tour was an excellent learning experience, according to Michael Myrick, the new SGA President for the 1992-93 academic year. "I had a lot of fun and enjoyed meeting new people," Myrick said.

"The choir is like a family," said choir member Kenneth Jones. "We have a close-knit relationship."

On the tour, the choir mostly performed spirituals, like "I Thank You Jesus," "You Better Mind" and "I Wanna Be Ready."

Spirituals are African American folk music commonly known as "Negro Spirituals." The songs typically express fantasies of freedom, show defiance, signal escape, and relieve the pain of toil and hardship.

Under the direction of Hines and accompanied by E. Vendetta Sutton, an Edenton teacher, the University Choir has performed throughout the eastern United States and the Bahamas. Former North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt has said ECSU "has the best university choral group in America."