

AT ECSU

Talent Search Program teaches students faith, determination while also improving basic skills

By Kysha Gary

"What I can conceive of and believe in, I can achieve."

These famous lines displayed on the wall of a staff member of the Educational Talent Search Program accurately describes what the program represents and tries to instill in each of the 800 area students it serves.

The Talent Search Program was established by the United States Department of Education in 1966 to give people who might not have the opportunity a chance for higher education.

The Program, administered at ECSU in Lane Hall by five staff members and twelve students, provides tutoring in basic areas such as Math and English, financial aid, information, and workshops to pre-

pare students for taking the SAT.

"This program is innovative and very flexible," said Dr. Cheryl Lewis, director of the Talent Search Program. "The program can help students prepare themselves for their future. It has the ability to meet any need a student might have."

To participate in the program, potential students are evaluated in terms of three criteria, said Lewis, adding that students have to meet only one of these in order to be accepted into the program.

The first criterion is need, "whether it be in math or help in problem solving, or getting exposure to certain things in life that will help them be more rounded," according to Lewis.

Another criterion is met by students who are the first members of their family to attend college, Lewis said. Students

may also be "economically disadvantaged," she said.

The program services ten counties in the Albemarle area: Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Hertford, Gates, Pasquotank, Paquamians, Terrell, and Washington Counties. Participants range from the elementary level, to college level and include adults who come back to school to pass the high school equivalency test.

Dywone Holley, a seventh grader at Chowan Middle school in Chowan County, says that he loves the program and hopes to repeat it next year.

"Since I have been in the program I have learned to enjoy reading and use my time wisely," said Holley. "Without the program I wouldn't have learned how to manage my time and sit down and finish my homework."

"My tutor makes sure that before we leave for the day we have finished all our homework."

Holley said that his parents love the program too, because it allows them a little time for themselves.

"They don't have to worry about me because I'm in school learning something and not getting into trouble," Holley said.

Students visit Lane Hall between 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm weekdays.

The Educational Talent Program is one of Trio Programs here on campus that is designed to build better relations with the community and help those who might not be able to get a college education," Lewis said.

ECSU Upward Bound Program and Student Support Services are included in Trio Programs.

Students gain valuable professional skills at University's award-winning radio station

By Anna Herring

"Building Success from the Sound Up."

This slogan is heard on the radio dial 89.9 fm WRVS ECSU's 41,000 watt full service radio station providing listeners with music, news and information.

WRVS-fm celebrated its seventh year in existence March 18, 1993. Under the management of Edith Thorpe, the station has undergone a whole new outlook. Thorpe set up a five year goal plan which will be completed by the end of this year with the installment of a satellite which will receive programs from National Public Radio.

"This is the largest staff in the history of the station," said Thorpe. We have about 40 staff members. When the station first started, we had only five students and

two professional staff."

Since January, 1993, the station has added state-of-the-art broadcast and production equipment, Thorpe said. The new equipment will make students more marketable in commercial radio, she added.

With the mention of radio, visions of d.j.'s playing records come to mind but there is more to playing records at a radio station. Jobs in programming, news, public affairs, sports and production are available, Thorpe said.

Ben Fagen, program director is responsible for the air sound of the station announcers and the music. He stated that "experience is everything."

"In order to succeed in radio, practice English and good diction. Be able to read and network," Fagen said. "It's a who you know business."

Students who work at WRVS say they like the opportunity to work with the professionals.

"I like the mixture between students and the professional staff," said freshman Carlos McCormick. "It gives you a chance to get hands on experience in the business of broadcasting."

McCormick is the disc jockey during the afternoon traffic jam on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-7:00. He also does sportswatch at 4:20 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. He also serves as assistant producer and writer for the music segment, "Just What the Doctor Ordered" and "Viking Countdown."

Glen Mason is the station's promotion director and sports information director. Along with other staff members, Mason assists students with writing and report-

ing their own news stories. More are writing and producing 15-30 minute programs that are aired on a weekly basis. Many of the student radio announcers have been offered positions and some have worked in Elizabeth City and Virginia, Thorpe said.

Some have even gone to work with major record companies.

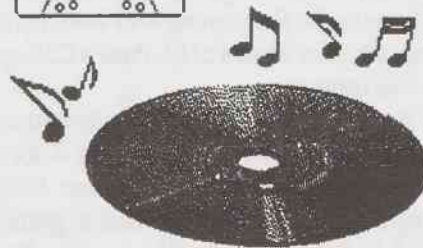
WRVS has received awards from the Red Cross, AKA Sorority Incorporated, Young Black Programmer Coalition and Media Awards.

In order to become a staff member, students must fill out an application, attend an interview interest meeting, attend a four-day workshop in the classroom and pass an FCC examination.

Once these steps are complete, students are a member of WRVS, according to Thorpe.

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