

BRIEFS, continued from page 14

College and consisted of eight modules or sections and twenty-four hours of training.

On August 31 officers, Cpl. Wilbert Shannon and Ptl. Wayne T. Barclift completed a course on Police Communication and Traffic Stops, also held at Coastal Plain Law Enforcement Training Center at Wilson Technical Community College.

The course focused on communication skills that officers can employ which will enhance Police/Community relationships, save time and permit citations to be written with fewer complaints and court appeals. Both officers received a certificate for successful completion of the course.

Trenace Fayton, Miss ECSU for 1995-96, was crowned Miss National Black College during the Annual Black College Hall of Fame Queens Pageant in Atlanta. Fayton, who received a \$3,000 scholarship, is the first Miss ECSU to ever win the national pageant.

Six ECSU students attended the 25th annual NCCTM State Math Conference Sept. 21-22 in Greensboro, NC: Cordell Garrett, Lamont Robinson, Abdulaye Fofana, Reshma Downing, Samantha Brown and Darlene Walton.

ECSU students Curtis Felton, Marie Dail, and Kuchumbi Hayden made presentations at the annual MUSPIN Conference held in Baltimore, MD. Oct 5-7. Tammara Ward, Cory Ellis and Clutilda Monk, members of the Fractals/Chaos team, made presentations at the same conference.

Jason Powell and Vincent Thomas presented papers at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Schnectady, New York, in April. They were the only students from an HBCU to present papers at the conference.

Six ECSU students enrolled in the UNC-System Summer Field Camp this year, Vincent Thomas, Jason Powell, Kelly Spivey, Melanie Turner, Dessalines McClure, and Roy Norwood. The students traveled to the western part of the U.S. as part of their degree requirements for geology majors. They visited New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado to map different project areas like Rattlesnake Gulch, and Wildcat Gulch. They also visited The Grand Canyon and The Petrified Forest.

The U.S. Dept. of Energy sponsored summer internships for four geology majors, Vincent Thomas, Melanie Turner, Tyrone Mitchell and Kelly Spivey. As the first group to complete the Office of Gas and Petroleum Technologies internship program, they were invited to give presentations on their work experience at a meeting held in Washington D.C. Floyd Fayton, a sophomore geology major, also participated in the EPA summer internship program.

Renita Boone, a biology major, and Elizabeth Cash, a physical science major participated in summer internships sponsored by National Science Foundation grants for the Department of Geosciences.

Faculty to consider tough new policy on class attendance



by James Perry

Beginning with the spring semester of 1996, ECSU's students may find themselves attending class much more often.

University officials are currently considering a massive revamping of the attendance policy. The proposed changes, which would shift control over absences from administration to faculty, will have a dramatic impact on students, particularly those who miss classes.

Under the new policy, officials will not write excuses for students. Students who miss classes will have to deal directly with their instructors. Under the current system, students are allowed only three unexcused absences per semester for a three hour course. The proposed new policy, which faculty members will vote upon in November, will allow students six cuts per semester for a three hour course; however, students who exceed that number of cuts can automatically fail the course.

Under the new policy, the instructor may also choose to lower a student's course grade for each additional absence.

Dr. Helen Caldwell, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, said that the existing attendance policy needed to be revised. Officials and students admit that the current policy is not taken seriously.

"The policy has a tendency to be abused, and is ineffective," said Caldwell, who stressed that the university has an "obligation, responsibility and a privilege" to educate students.

Under the current system, it is common for students to miss over 20 percent of class meetings, according to the preamble to the revised policy statement. Committee members working on the change in policy say they are seeking firmer control over students' class attendance, so that students will benefit from a full semester's exposure to course content.

Several ECSU students said they object to the existing policy, particularly "the hassle" of having to go to administrators for excuses.

ECSU senior Jennifer Capps said she objected to having to produce a program from a family member's funeral. "Why would I lie about something as serious as my mother's death?"

Another student pointed out that some instructors are not always sure who is in class and who isn't.

"How do they know whether you're there or not?" said Jean Samuel, an ECSU senior. "You come in late and they say you're absent anyway. They need to come up with a policy about lateness."

The new policy will also allow instructors to record excessive tardiness as an absence.

順興

SHUN XING

Chinese Restaurant

Szechuan, Hunan & Cantonese
(Take Out or Eat In)

OPEN: Mon. thru Thurs. — 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday — 11:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
Sunday — Noon -9:00 p.m.

Telephone (919) 335-5188 or 338-5198

Elizabeth City, NC