

CAMPUS SCENE (POST-HOLIDAY GOSSIP)



Higher Standards Implicit In Plans

By Drew Brown

With the coming of a new president to an institution, certain policies change and many new programs are put into effect. North Carolina College is no exception. Since the appointment of President Samuel P. Massie, the administrative machinery has been grinding out brave new plans.

Since this is an institution of higher learning, the main objective of the administration is the improvement of academic standards, i.e. presenting the type of curriculum under which each student will have the opportunity to obtain the best possible education commensurate with his abilities. This aim, although noble, is thwarted at the implementation stage by the peculiarities of the student body of this college.

First of all, the College Boards Examination is not required for entrance here and, as a result, most students entering from high school are deficient in one or both of the basic fields, English and Mathematics. These deficient students may be divided into two groups: those who lack ability and are, in a sense, not "college material," and those who are capable of doing college work but need remedial courses to correct the inadequacies of their high school preparation. The students in the latter category are the factor which is delaying the establishment of an SAT cut off score because, if such a score were used, many able student would be rejected before they had a chance to prove themselves.

Fortunately, the administration has found ways of achieving its goal without coming into direct confrontation with such knotty problems as cut-off scores. First on the agenda of new programs is the centralization of all remedial instruction under one head. This move will coordinate the efforts of the Mathematics and English Departments so that more unified results can be achieved.

The "Three Track System," which is growing at present, will soon be in full force. Under this plan, the student body will be divided into three groups: Honors, Standard, and Deficient. The two main advantages of this system are that: exceptional students will compete with one another to a greater extent than at present, and deficient students will not hold the others back because classes will consist of students of only one of the three levels.

Eventually, the undergraduate program will be divided into a lower and an upper college. The lower college will consist of all freshmen and sophomores. At the end of the sophomore year, tests will be given to measure the reading and reasoning abilities and the general level of achievement of each student. These tests would determine whether or not a student would be admitted into the upper college which will cover the junior



West Point Cadet Joseph B. Anderson Jr. seems to really relish the cocultural atmosphere at NCC as he relaxes with two students during a recent visit to the campus. The coeds are Jean Cheek, left, a senior English major from Halifax, North Carolina; and Edith Lewis, a sophomore English major from Henderson. Anderson, a native of Topeka, Kansas, is a first classman (senior) at the Academy. He accompanied West Point Commandant Major General James B. Lampert on the NCC visit and followed an assembly speech by the general with comments on student life at West Point.

Massie Reviews

(Continued from Page 1) ment that all undergraduates take a sophomore achievement test at the end of the sophomore year and the Graduate Record Examination during the senior year.

—Participation in the Woodrow Wilson Teaching Intern Program. NCC has three interns this year, the largest number in the program Massie said.

Other developments during the year, as cited by the president, include a grant to institute a program of independent study in undergraduate mathematics, construction of a 300-bed men's dormitory and a 400-bed women's dormitory at a combined cost of nearly \$2 million, and the placement of more than 300 of the college's graduates in jobs with beginning salaries, in many cases, as high as \$7,200.

Citing his inauguration in April as a highlight of the year, Dr. Massie commented also on the Foreign Affairs Scholars Program, in which an NCC student served an internship last summer in the Department of State, and a similar program through which a political science major is spending a year at Morgan State College. He spoke of participation by a large number of students and faculty members in overseas

and senior years.

Naturally, in the process of implementation, some of these plans will be modified, but it is hoped that the over-all result will lift North Carolina College above its provincial past onto an equal footing with the better liberal arts institutions in the nation.

projects last summer and the presentation on the campus of such outstanding persons as Judges Leon Higginbotham and Marjorie Lawson, Education and World Affairs President William W. Marvel, and Noble Peace Laureate Martin Luther King, Jr. as speakers.

Speaking of faculty activities, he mentioned research now being conducted and articles recently published and acknowledged the participation by a French professor this year in the Duke humanities program.

An alumnus, he added, has named the college as beneficiary of an insurance policy as a new way of providing endowment funds.

Closing, Dr. Massie declared that, "the progress made in 1964 cause us to face 1965 with much faith and hope for the future. We remain steadfast in our desire and determination to make North Carolina College the best possible college for our faculty, staff, students, and friends. We thank you for your cooperation in 1964 and look forward to another year of progress toward our goals for North Carolina College."

Speigner Named

(Continued from Page 1)

culture in Africa and America. Outstanding Americans from many walks of life are members of the board. In appointing Dr. Speigner, Dr. Cain said: "Your skilled assistance in charting the course for future explorations will be invaluable."

Scientific Institute Grant Announced

President Samuel P. Massie announces that the college has received a \$15,845 grant from the National Science Foundation for the conduct of a summer institute for advanced high school students of science in 1965.

The third grant authorized by the NSF for the college's various 1965 summer programs in science, the latest grant raises the total of the institution's support by the Foundation to \$121,545. A summer institute for secondary teachers of science and mathematics and a summer program for college teachers of microbiology are budgeted for \$79,460 and \$26,240, respectively.

To be directed by Dr. C. E. Boulware, associate professor of mathematics at NCC, the 1965 program is the sixth in the series of institutes for talented secondary students of science sponsored by the college. It will enroll approximately 45 eleventh grade students for the six-

week period June 7 through 17.

According to Dr. Boulware, modern approaches to the study of mathematics and the sciences will be emphasized.

"The program is designed for high ability junior students from secondary schools in which science courses lack adequate facilities for satisfactory laboratory work and from other schools in which a limited amount of science and mathematics work is offered. It is particularly intended to acquaint students with basic materials in mathematics and science which will provide a background for advanced scientific studies and elementary research," he said.

Each student will take a course in either biology or chemistry and a course in mathematics.

In addition to Dr. Boulware, the institute faculty will consist of I. A. McCollum, mathematics; David Denny, biology; and Dr. Norman Padnos, chemistry.

Eleventh grade students who desire to enroll should write without delay for information and application forms, Dr. Boulware emphasized.

Massie Appointed To Council Post

President Samuel P. Massie of North Carolina College was appointed by President Logan Wilson of the American Council on Education to a three-year term as a member of the Commission on Academic Affairs. This Commission has a three-fold area of concern: the college student, the faculty and the instructional program. Its purpose is to study these elements of higher education in the light of changing economic and social conditions, to suggest means by which new educational issues may be more satisfactorily resolved; and to provide leadership at the national level that will enable individual institutions to improve their programs of study.

The American Council on Education is one of the major educational associations in the nation. President William C. Friday of the University of North Carolina is currently serving as its chairman.

Letter

(Continued from Page 2)

blame. Certain policies can only be changed at a state level. Smaller classes would require more teachers, finance, and facilities. I invite the Administration to re-examine the present policy. It is reasonable to assume that, if the Administration takes the initial step to better classes and education, it would be supported by faculty, student, parents, and all concerned with education. It is time responsible persons stopped closing their eyes and boasting, and opened their eyes and looked, realized, and accepted the hard bitter truth. Until the Administration realizes the importance of small classes, I will forever wonder—what is wrong with the Administration?

By J. T. Clemons

Garrett-Parker Drug Store

Prescriptions Filled

702 FAYETTEVILLE ST.

Phone 682-1715

W. P. Wimberley, Phar.



Basil Rathbone, distinguished actor, chats with three NCC faculty members after his recent appearance at the college during which he presented a one-man performance, "In and Out of Character." From left are Mrs. Minnie T. Spaulding, instructor of English; Dr. Sylvia Lyons Render, professor of English, and Mrs. Martha Lifson, instructor of English.