



**NCC'S YOUNGEST STUDENTS**—Shown are the youngest members of the North Carolina College student body—the youngsters in the Home Economics Department Nursery School. From the top left: Vincent Quiett takes a ride on his luxury model tricycle. Below left, Mrs. Cornelia Haith assists several of the children in matching picture cards. Children, clockwise from Mrs. Haith, are Marvin Brown, Sandra Bryant, Ralph Hunt, Karla Solomon, Evie Gardner, Joan Pakenham, and Pamela Bivens. Top center, Patrick Smith rides in a wagon pulled by Sandra Bryant, and, below, scoots down the slide. Bottom center, Karla Solomon, muses on a teeter-totter board, and top right, matches cards to pictures. Bottom right, Miss Margaret Thorpe, director, gives classroom assistance to, from left, Ramona Long, Roscoe Belton and Crystal Lynn Duncan.

## Nursery Tots Enjoy Campus Programs, Too

Children from three to five years of age are also members of the North Carolina College student body this summer.

They are enrolled in the nursery school, under the direction this summer of Miss Margaret Thorpe.

Miss Thorpe describes the school, a continuation of the Home Economics department's laboratory nursery school, as a "place where young children learn as they play with materials and share experiences with other children and with their teachers."

"It is also a place where adults may gain a more satisfying knowledge about children as they observe and participate with them from time to time," Miss Thorpe said.

Students assisting Miss Thorpe in the operation of the school are Mrs. Cornelia Haith and Miss Ada Williamson.

## Math. Student At Brookhaven For Summer

Willie Otto Kent, a North Carolina College junior, has been named to a summer internship in mathematics at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, Long Island, N.Y.

Kent, who began work on June 12 at a salary of \$450 a month, is a mathematics major at NCC, with a minor in chemistry.

A native of Wilson County, Kent lives on Route 1, Lucama, N.C., where he graduated from Springfield High School first in a class of 41.

Kent is in the Honors Program at NCC, is president of the junior class, has been nominated to Beta Kappa Chi national honorary society for science, and is vice president of the campus chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha social fraternity.

## Student Union Is Social Center

Social activities on campus this summer are centered on the Student Union, which has sponsored "Hello-Street Dances," a tricycle-bicycle derby, and other regular events.

One of the special events for the summer is the regularly scheduled bridge lesson on Tuesday nights. For novice and advanced players alike, the lessons are from 7 to 9 p.m. Instructors include Robert Heard, summer

program director for the student union; Thomas Pinson of the French department; and Dr. Norman Johnson of the education/audio-visual department.

On Wednesdays at noon, the student union sponsors the "Plain Talk" sessions featuring outstanding campus and city personalities.

The "Birthday Week" features has been a popular innovation. Each Monday, persons

having birthdays that week may play an hour of free billiards or get a free table tennis ball for "Ping Pong."

Sunday features include "Dating Game," "Password," and other television-style games, as well as a surprise feature.

For those who will be here next year, an intriguing possibility is the new chess club, organized during the spring semester by V. G. Wright of the

Romance Languages department. The club twice defeated Fayetteville State in matches last spring.

Plans are for the chess club to arrange other matches this fall, to join the Intercollegiate Chess Club of America, and to participate in regional tournaments sponsored by the Association of College Unions—International.

### In Special Education

## Concern Heightens For Mental Retardation

By Octavia B. Knight

A broader and deeper concern for dealing with problems of mental retardation has been emerging in recent years. This concern is reflected in the developing multidisciplinary approach to diagnosis, remediation, and prevention of mental retardation.

In addition, the rapid expansion in the number of special classes in the public schools and the improved professional programs for teachers of mentally retarded children are further evidence of this concern.

When the goals of special classes for the mentally re-

tarded are examined, it becomes abundantly clear that special teachers are expected to provide experiences which will enable the retarded child to reach his potential. The present special class environment includes a program for meeting academic, physical, social, and emotional needs of these children.

### Questions Raised

Some important questions emerge with regard to this challenging responsibility.

Among these: How well are special classes meeting the needs of retarded children? Can special class teachers even

with limited enrollment, find ways of meeting all the needs of these children?

These questions assume vital importance as we move into the next decade of special classes. To help teachers more adequately meet the need of retarded children, North Carolina College is offering a sequence of graduate courses leading to the Master of Education degree or to state certification for teachers of the mentally retarded.

### Range of Courses

Course offerings included Psychology of Exceptional Children; Introduction to Ex-

ceptional Children; Tests and Measurements in Special Education; Problems, Materials and Methods for Teaching Mentally Retarded Children; Mental Hygiene; Materials and Methods for Elementary School Teachers (Arts and Crafts); and Practicum for Teachers of Mentally Retarded Children. The practicum is an essential phase of the summer program.

Enrollees have an opportunity to gain experience with educable mentally retarded children who are enrolled in a demonstration class. The major emphases in the class centers on developing skills in reading, social studies, and basic skills

and concepts in number work.

Special materials are designed to enrich learning experiences and to meet individual needs. In the area of reading, attention is focused on helping the individual student improve his vocabulary, reading ability, and to create a desire to improve oral expression and develop good reading habits.

### Procedure

Enrollees in the practicum make observations, do actual teaching under supervision, and work with individual students to enable them to further master the concepts in reading, arithmetic and social studies.

To achieve the overall objectives of the special education program, students are required to develop interesting projects under the guidance of a staff member. The projects include oral reports and written reports, case studies, term papers, abstracts, and other class projects. Films pertaining to various exceptionalities, charts, and other audio-visual materials and equipment serve to enable the students to become familiar with the essentials of a well-rounded special education program.

Members of the staff include: Miss Piccola Morrow, John Way, Dr. Richard L. Fields, and Mrs. Octavia B. Knight.



**SPECIAL EDUCATION**—At left, Mrs. Octavia B. Knight looks on as Miss Yvonne Frederick emphasizes the importance of good health habits. Center, children receive individual reading instruction from Mrs. Mamie B. White, left, and Mrs. Gladys G. Sawyer. Right, Mrs. Peggy McDowell demonstrates the use of the abacus to children, while Mrs. Knight observes.