

The Campus Echo

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Eagle fans have a lot to celebrate these days. The football team is undefeated and while the team is ranked fifth in NCAA Division II, a lot of people expect bigger and better things before the season ends. (Photo by August Mustafa Abdur-Raafi)

Black College Day date set for Oct. 25

By LaTanya A. Isley

Despite being postponed from its original date of Sept. 27, Black College Day '82 is finally underway.

Student Government Association officials from various predominantly black colleges and universities throughout North Carolina have been meeting to lay the groundwork for the Oct. 25 march and rally in Raleigh.

James Webb, SGA vice president, said one of the reasons for the postponement a lack of communication between the organizers.

"The information was received too late and too close to the date we were supposed to have it," he said. "There was a lack of communication between Tony Brown (one of the organizers of the first Black College Day) and the universities."

Webb explained that one of the primary issues in the meetings centered on whether or not bands were to be included in the march because of the parade type publicity that the news media gave Black College Day last year.

"We had about 45 minutes of debate," he said. "The affirmative side was that bands provide a form of unity and show the talent we have. The negative side was that the media distorted this and (characterized the event) as a parade. It was felt that it was not necessary to have bands to make our message."

In order for Black College Day '82 to be a success, Webb has suggested that "presidents of organizations and the executive staff bring to the next meeting specific goals we want to achieve and the specific things we weren't satisfied with as far as black universities are concerned."

'Wonderful script' highlights drama department production

By Thomas McDonald

The director, musical consultant and male lead of NCCU's upcoming theatre production, "Death and the King's Horseman," agree African playwright Wole Soyinka has written a masterpiece.

The story, set in 1947 in the ancient Yoruba city of Oye, Nigeria, centers around the attempt of a colonial district officer, Simon Pilkings, to prevent the ritual suicide of Elesin Oba, the chief horseman of the recently deceased tribal king. Elesin intends to follow tribal law and die with his king.

Director Karen Dacons, whose recent directing credits include Euripides' "Medea" and last season's "Boesman and Lena" by South African dramatist Athol Fugard, says, "Elesin is a larger than life character. He takes on the classic aspects of the tragic figure who struggles with himself, who finally determines his unfortunate destiny."

Nigerian-born Shola Olaoye, the show's musical consultant and himself a member of the Yoruba tribe, also feels that the script is a "classic" that will challenge his creativity and theatrical skills as well as those of the cast.

In fact, he says, staging and performing Soyinka's drama is more than just a theatrical challenge. "It is not merely acting for the cast; it is a reeducation for them also."

Walter Norflett, who will play the tragic Elesin, agrees that it is a "rare opportunity for an actor" because the situations in which the character finds himself are "very challenging."

And like Dacons and Olaoye, he has only the highest praise for the script. "It's beautiful," he said, "an incredible script. It has become a very emotional and educational experience."

The play will run Oct 13-17 in the NCCU University Theatre located in the Communications Building on the corner of Fayetteville and Lawson Streets. Performances will begin at 8:15 p.m.

Webb's proposed amendment will change election laws

By Edwin Horsley

A proposal to change two articles in the "Eagle Eye Handbook," two elections and three approved motions highlighted the Oct. 7 meeting of N.C. Central's Student Congress.

Congress President James Webb submitted a proposal to change Article 7, section 5 under General Elections and Article 8, section 2 under Election Board in the "Eagle Eye Handbook." The articles specify a required number of hours for candidates for class presidencies.

In other actions, the student congress also approved its executive committee members and approved Leon Rouson as congress parliamentarian.

The congress also approved a resolution submitted by Billy Barber, sophomore class president, congratulating Durham native Mickey Michaux on his efforts in the recent 2nd district congressional race.

Two congressional officers were elected. Billy Barber was voted congressional president pro-tempore and Diane English became congressional secretary.

Convocation Address

Whiting lauds NCCU's gains, confronts financial problems

By Kelvin Hart

Highlighting his years as chancellor, Albert N. Whiting expressed the positive and negative aspects of Central's past and present state to an audience of about 1200 faculty, staff, students, and guests at NCCU's fall Convocation in McDougald Gymnasium Thursday.

Starting with the positive, Whiting, in his final state of the university address, noted Central's success in obtaining accreditation for the Evening Law School program and re-accreditation for library science and nursing programs. "In addition we have added an undergraduate degree program in computer and information science," reported the chancellor, noting that the criminal justice and public administration programs have received approval for master's degree programs.

Whiting was pleased with the progress made in capital improvements, such as the completion of the Health Science Building, the renovations to the School of Business Building, the construction of the Criminal Justice Building, and the site being cleared for the new Physical Education and recreation complex.

Expressing delight in this year's increase in enrollment, Whiting commended the Admissions Office Staff and director Nancy Rowland for their diligent recruiting in the face of the current economic recession and reduced federal student aid. "This is no small accomplishment," he said.

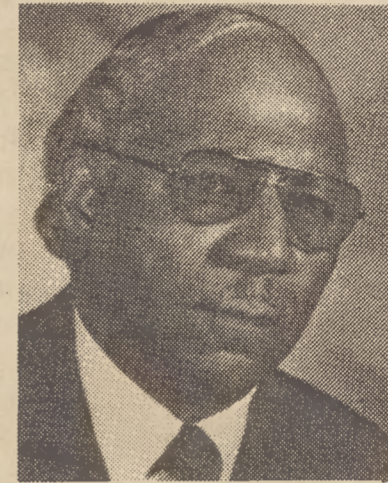
Turning to the problems, he noted that Central could offer no NDSL loans because of the excessive 51 percent default rate of alumni and former students, totalling a deficit of \$3,098,580. SEOG grant money was reduced by \$149,459 and BEOG grants were cut about \$150 per student.

Other dilemmas faced by Central, said the chancellor, were an overall cut in the budget of 6 percent, a loss of the equivalent of eight positions, and a freeze on salary increases for state employees.

One major problem he mentioned was in athletics. Last year, the two sources of income, student athletic fees and gate receipts, totalled only \$264,000, while athletic expenses, not including salaries, totalled about \$325,000—producing a deficit of over \$60,000. "Without significant extramural funds we can anticipate only deepening deficits and an untenable situation," said Whiting. Consequently, he announced that he has asked

the Board of Trustees to appoint a committee "to give this problem immediate and serious attention with a report and recommendations due next September at the fall board meeting."

According to an NCAA report, most Division II institutions, of which Central is a member, experience an average annual athletic deficit of \$140,000.



Albert N. Whiting

The chancellor touched on the subject of finding a replacement for himself, cautioning against "beguilement by rumor and speculative politics." Whiting admonished, "(This) can be the cause of great disappointment and peculiar antipathies, detrimental to the harmony and spirit of this community."

Whiting explained that "if the committee's timetable is met, you should know by the first part of the new year whom the Board of Trustees will finally appoint."

The chancellor, in explaining his actions over the past 16 years, said that "his interest, his motivation, his concerns were always formulated in terms

of what I perceived as the best interests of NCCU."

In considering NCCU's future role, he declared, "It is imperative that NCCU and all other institutions of higher education focus on the imperatives of world citizenship, the essentiality of a bond of respect for all people and all cultures and the maximum use of intelligent, honest analysis of the human condition. Only in this way can education at NCCU lift its products beyond self, beyond group, beyond culture and carry the motto of this institution, truth and service for humanity, to the pinnacle of achievement."

Baines hears Reagan at White House, finds support for black colleges wanting

By Reginald Watson and Marion McKinney

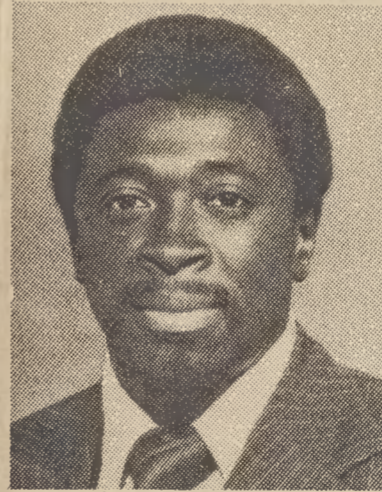
Dr. Tyrone Baines, director of University Relations for N.C. Central University, expressed disappointment, though no surprise, with President Reagan's position on supporting black colleges, following a Sept. 22 meeting with the president in the White House.

Baines and Duane Howell, SGA president, met with Reagan on the anniversary of his signing of an executive order to increase the involvement of historically black universities and colleges in federally sponsored programs.

Also attending were seven chancellors from predominantly black universities.

While Reagan delivered a speech at the meeting in which he claimed his administration had increased support for black colleges, Baines said that in fact his research indicates that when .4 percent rise cited by the president is corrected for inflation, the new figures show that there has been little, if any, increase in financial support for black colleges.

Prior to the meeting, Baines admitted that he had been "somewhat skeptical" that Reagan's initiative had actually increased the support for historically black colleges, even though "it was the President's intent to assemble the heads of historically black colleges on an occasion to show how much support his administration had really given."



Tyrone Baines

Baines noted that the format of the meeting did not promote an exchange of ideas between college officials and the president. "Prior to the speech Reagan had ordered that there be no questioning session. So basically it was a 'show and tell' meeting. Reagan followed his agenda by saying what he came there to say in political terms and that was it," he said.

Baines added, "I was disappointed, but not surprised. The President had the opportunity to interact with some of the best minds in black education in the country" and yet he structured the meeting so there was no opportunity for dialogue.

Indeed the program for the entire evening was tightly organized. Upon reaching the White House, Baines and the other guests were directed to a briefing room and addressed by Terell H. Bell, U.S. secretary of education; Secretary Francis Pierce of HUD; chairman of the White House office of Black College Initiative staff; and the assistant secretary to transportation. They spoke positively about the administrations efforts on behalf of black colleges and explained how each of their individual programs had helped support black colleges.

Baines also expressed concern about discrepancies between two reports that the White House had prepared on black colleges.

According to Baines, the final report was much more optimistic than the preliminary report issued two weeks earlier.

However, Baines does give the Reagan administration credit in the government's role in saving financially troubled Meharry Medical School in Tennessee.

Although he was disappointed in Reagan's presentation, Baines said, "I am looking forward to attending another such meeting that examines the support of black colleges. I will also be looking forward to a clearer presentation of the facts and a meaningful interaction between the leaders of the black educational system and the White House staff."

Burning the devil out of rock & roll

SALUDA, S.C.: A young boy tosses an album cover into a drum of fire after hearing born-again Christian evangelist Rev. Billy Adams deliver a fiery sermon on the evils of rock and roll music. Adams told the nearly 200 people at the Sept. 23 revival service that "rock music has a direct effect on the pituitary gland," and that when the beat of the music pounds on the gland, "it distorts it and sends too many chemicals to the brain. It causes a complete wipeout of the moral inhibitions."

(UPI photo by Bill Creighton)

