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### INSIDE

•The 70th Eagle-Aggie Classic drew 48,001 people who enjoyed socializing as much as the game.

# CAMPUS ECHO

EXCELLENCE WITHOUT EXCUSE

Issue No. 67  
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### ALSO INSIDE

•NCCU Professor Ike Robinson is a candidate for mayor of Durham.  
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•'Long Time Since Yesterday,' a play that tells story of five college friends reunited for a funeral, opens Oct. 1.  
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## Eagles in flight

*Editor's note: Beginning with the inaugural issue of the 1997-98 academic year, The Campus Echo will publish in this column brief news items on current and former members of the NCCU community. Our goal is to let you know about significant and interesting achievements of the university's students, faculty, staff and alumni. We will publish news of awards and honors, internships, full-time jobs, graduate study, significant out-of-state travel and other information that will show the full range of activities by the Eagle activities. To be as comprehensive as possible, we need your help. If you have something you would like to be included in Eagles in Flight, please call us (560-6504) or drop by our newsroom in 319 Farrison-Newton Communications Building. We prefer to have submissions in writing, and you must include your name and local telephone number so that we can verify information.*

#### Students

**Shadrack Frazier**, a junior Computer Science major, is working as a computer systems analyst with IBM in the Research Triangle Park, N.C....**Julian Weaver**, a junior art major, served an eight-week internship at the Williamsburg Art Conservation Center in Williamstown, Mass. last summer....**Ann-Marie Nicholson**, a senior English Electronic-Media major, interned with New York City's WNBC-TV, working with the station's consumer affairs reporter....**Tina Buford**, a senior theatre major, worked as an intern with the American Dance Festival last summer....**Shana Walker**, a history education major, is one of 16 national winners of the Sears Director's Cup Postgraduate Scholarship Awards worth \$5,000...

#### Alumni

**Gwendolyn Chunn**, '64, heads the N.C. Division of Youth Services, which operates schools for juvenile delinquents and 580 training programs across the state. Her daughter, **Gerrelyn Chunn**, '92, completed a



Silver-Parker

master's degree in English at the University of Virginia and joined the NCCU English department this month....**Esther Silver-Parker**, '69, is president of the AT&T Foundation, which has an annual budget of nearly \$50 million. A former *The Campus Echo* editor, she directs AT&T's public relations activities, including media relations, constituency relations and market communications in the Northeastern United States....**Carey Johnson**, '97, is a sports reporter for the *New Bern Sun-Journal* in New Bern, N.C....**Alicia Williams**, '97, is a police beat reporter for *The News & Observer* in Raleigh, N.C....**Valerie Bracy**, '95, is a weekend anchor for WGNO-TV in New Orleans, La. ....**Rhonda Robinson**, '95, is an associate producer for WNCN-TV news in Raleigh....**John A. Riddick, Jr.** is publisher and editor of *Rhapsody in Black*, a literary magazine...

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# Enrollment up; budget cut

### More students attend despite raised admission standards

by Evelyn Howell  
Staff Writer

Enrollment is up this year at North Carolina Central University after a slight decline in 1995-96, a trend that university officials say is possibly correlated with the raising of academic standards for admission.

In 1994 NCCU raised its average SAT score requirement in an attempt to attract academically better-qualified students. One result of this policy was a short-term drop in enrollment — and a decrease in state

funding, since state money is tied to enrollment.

Because NCCU had about 450 fewer students enrolled in the Fall of 1996 and the Spring of 1997, the UNC Board of Governors cut the university's budget by \$3.1 million for the 1997-98 academic year.

The decrease in enrollment came as no surprise to NCCU Chancellor Julius Chambers, but he defended the raising of admissions standards as necessary to improve NCCU's academic reputation.

"I've heard complaints about this raising of standards, but if you're going to change

this institution, you've got to have competitive students," he told faculty and staff in his Aug. 13 State of the University Address.

"We anticipated we would have fewer students for the last year's enrollment," Chambers said. "We also expected that once the word got out about improvements in academics, better students will gravitate toward NCCU."

University officials say they are pleased with increased enrollment this year.

"Enrollment this year is 5,644 overall with 4,925 full-time equivalent (FTE)," said See ENROLLMENT, page 2

## More signs to show way to NCCU

by Rasheda Barnes  
Staff Writer

Ever gotten lost trying to find North Carolina Central University?

Thanks to one man's campaign for more roadside recognition of NCCU, that may soon be a thing of the past.

Phillip Vereen, a 1997 graduate of NCCU, became interested in increasing the number of road signs directing travelers to the school when he began to hear a number of complaints from his peers. They complained about the lack of signage directing motorists to NCCU on Triangle highways.

Northbound motorists on Interstate 85 routinely miss the sign directing them to exit on Avondale Drive, a more direct route, Vereen said.

Instead of exiting from the Interstate at the Durham Freeway, unfamiliar travelers would stay on I-85 instead of taking the freeway to Fayetteville Street," said Vereen.

More than a dozen signs direct drivers to Duke University on U.S. Highway 15-501, I-85 and Interstate 40. A majority of signs inform motorists of routes to Duke up to three miles in advance of the exit.

On I-85, U.S. 15-501, and I-40, more than a dozen signs direct drivers to Duke University's east and west campuses.

Five signs direct motorists to Duke University on I-85 northbound alone, while just one directs traffic to NCCU.

See ROAD SIGNS, page 4

### ROUGH START FOR EAGLES



Quarterback Warren Bell, passing against Gardner-Webb, leads an offense that has struggled in the Eagles' first three games. Sports, page 7.

Staff photo by Paul Phipps

## Funding formula may not be equitable

by Shelvia Dancy  
Editor-in-Chief

A revised model intended to more equitably distribute state funds among UNC system universities could bode for North Carolina Central University.

Supporters of historically black universities have long alleged their schools were shortchanged by the state in regard to funding. The new funding model approved by the Board of Governors last November attempted to lay such charges to rest.

Under the new model, state funding will no longer be based solely on enrollment figures.

"The new model will consider enrollment," said NCCU Chancellor Julius Chambers. "but it will also look at the number of students receiving degrees within a four or five year period, and the success of students in finding

*'They completely ignored history and additional funds universities may have from private contributions.'*

Chancellor Julius Chambers

jobs after graduation. It's called a performance-based budget."

But even under the new criteria, NCCU still may not fare any better. Only 18 percent of NCCU's class of 1996 graduated in just four years during, according to Dr. Larry Leith of the university's Office of Research, Evaluation and Planning. That figure is the highest it's been in years, said Leith. Figures are not yet available for the class of 1997.

Moreover, the Office of Career Development has kept no records of NCCU graduates' success rate in finding jobs. It must do so to provide required information for funding.

Increased enrollment this

year will be a plus for NCCU when state money is allocated next year. But during the 1996-97 school year, when NCCU did not meet its enrollment target and had more than 200 students fewer than anticipated, the university lost \$3.1 million in state funding for 1997-98.

The loss hit hard. About 20 faculty positions were lost in the College of Arts and Sciences alone. The decrease in staff and this year's enrollment increase have led to overcrowded classrooms this semester, particularly in CFAS courses — general courses required for graduation.

The new funding formula is a result of the second of two

studies ordered by the General Assembly two years ago to assess the method used to fund the 16 UNC system campuses.

The first study raised a furor after it reported that five historically white universities (Appalachian State, East Carolina, UNC-Wilmington, Greensboro, and Charlotte) received \$21 million less than they should have. The study proposed adding that amount to the UNC system's budget request each year to address the inequity.

The implementation of that suggestion roused ire among many supporters of the state's historically black universities, who say the study ignored decades of funding inequity black universities suffered.

"That's one of the problems I had with the study," said Chambers. "They completely ignored history and additional funds universities may have from private contributions."