



INSIDE:

Godfather, we kiss your ring.

James Brown reviewed in Arts & Entertainment, Page 5

The CAMPUS ECHO

North Carolina Central University
Durham, NC 27707
Issue No. 82
Thursday, Feb. 25, 1999

ALSO INSIDE:

Hoops, of course.

Expanded sports coverage on pages 6-7.



Campaigning begins for upcoming elections

by CHANDRA MOSS
The Campus Echo

Past participation in elections at North Carolina Central University has been rather sparse; some of this year's candidates have expressed hopes for a better turnout at the Alfonso Elder Student Union on March 3.

The candidates who are running for the most sought-after position of Student Government Association president for 1999-2000 are Clifton Gray III, Marci Jones and Deena Smith.

Clifton is a junior secondary education major from Washington, N.C. He was the

freshman class president in 1996, a member of the Student African American Brotherhood, resident assistant in Chidley Hall, and a White House Intern. Currently, he is a member of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta National Honor Society, and a member of the University Honors Program.

Gray said that he is qualified for this position because he "knows politics."

"To whom much is given, much is required. During my tenure here at NCCU, I've been given a lot. It's now my turn to carry the torch and give back to the university," said Gray.

Jones is a junior political science major from Wilson, NC. At NCCU, she is the current SGA vice president as well as the vice president of the Black Student Government Association.

Jones said she is the best person for this position due to her close interaction with current SGA president, Derrick Jordan. She said that she has received presidential training from Jordan, which has prepared her to take on this position.

"There are a lot of issues (from 1998-99) that need to continue next year, said Jones. "As well, I will make sure that the students' voices

are heard. Students are first priority,"

Deena Smith hails from Temple Hills, Md. She is a junior textiles/apparel major. While at the university, Smith has been a member of the NCCU Sound Machine Marching Band, as well as a member of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority.

She was her freshman class treasurer, sophomore class congressperson and Baynes Hall house council president. She currently serves as president of the junior class.

"I feel that I would be doing the students at NCCU a great disservice if I didn't run," said Smith. "I'm the best candidate for this job. I

am offering the students a good choice."

All candidates running for offices for the year 1999-2000 had until Feb. 10 to submit a formal letter plus a petition in order to be eligible to run.

In order to run for SGA President and Miss NCCU, students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and at least the status of a rising senior. In order to run for SGA Vice President, a 2.5 GPA and a rising senior or junior classification is required.

To run for class offices, one must be a member of the class office for which he/she is running.

See ELECTIONS, page 2

RUMORED PRIVATIZATION SPURS PROTEST

Housekeepers fear job losses

by RICHARD DUNLOP
The Campus Echo

On Feb. 16, the housekeeping department rallied outside of North Carolina Central University's Hoey Administration Building, protesting against rumored privatization that could leave full-time employees of the university suddenly unemployed.

If Chancellor Julius Chambers's privatization proposal is put into effect, 32 full time housekeepers could lose their retirement and health insurance benefits. Many of the full time NCCU housekeepers will have an opportunity to be re-hired by the private contractor.

However those that are rehired may have to accept lower wages and a dramatic reduction in benefits.

Julius Mangum, 47, has been working full time as an NCCU housekeeper since 1983. Mangum, a single parent who works two jobs and owns a home, makes just over \$16,000 a year.

"We are the least respected but the most important staff members on campus!" Mangum shouted at the rally, while she carried a bright yellow banner that read "Organize

Don't Privatize."

Representatives of the UE 150, a local public employees union, showed up at the rally to support the workers. The UE 150 called on the university to place a three-year moratorium on privatization at NCCU.

The union also called on the university administration to conduct a study on the impact of privatization on NCCU workers, their families and the university community. UE 150 also wants NCCU to fund an independent audit of budget and expenses for NCCU's physical plant that covers the past five years. Finally, union representatives demanded that the UNC General Administration and the North Carolina General Assembly provide the needed funds to address the needs at NCCU and other historically black colleges and universities.

Workers said that many times over the past year they have complained to Chambers, about the lack of adequate staffing, insufficient supplies and equipment, and the slow progression of salary raises.

Chambers was at a conference in Charlotte the day of the rally.

A custodian in the Communications building who identified himself only as "Rich" said he has had the same mop head for months, adding that he has worked all three floors of the building by himself, until recently when a temporary four-hour worker was hired.

NCCU students also showed their support. Senior political science major Bridget Harris helped organize the rally. Harris is a member of the Student Health Coalition here at



Saladin Muhammed, representing a local public employees union, gestures angrily as he addresses NCCU housekeepers and supporters at an organized protest against privatization of housekeeping services.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL PHIPPS

NCCU.

"We will not stand for privatization," Harris said. "Misallocation of funds by the administration forces the housekeeping department to work with limited supplies or none at all.

"We [the students] are led to believe that the workers are the blame for the poor upkeep of the facilities on campus," Harris said.

The final decision on privatization

rests with new physical plant Director Ed Eng, who oversees the housekeepers. Eng told the *News and Observer* last week that he is looking at using an outside firm to manage the housekeeping department, or provide both management and workers.

Eng told the Campus Echo that he has placed a "self-imposed deadline" for making his decision, which he said will be by the end of March.

Food services loses \$90K to coaches' pay

Student costs will rise despite planned cutbacks

by MARI McNEIL
The Campus Echo

Food Services may soon be more costly for North Carolina Central University students, as the school's Finance Committee recently voted to cut the food fund balance in order to pay competitive salaries to new football coaches.

The Finance Committee for the board of trustees voted Feb. 16 to decrease the food fund budget to help pay the salaries of a new football coach and two assistant coaches through June of 1999. The committee approved Chancellor Julius Chamber's proposal to cut \$90,000 from the food services fund, leaving the total balance for food service usage at \$582,753.

This is down from last year's food fund expenditure of \$672,753. This decrease in reserved allocated funds could also mean a potential decrease in food quality for students and faculty. Students already complaining about the declining food quality may see a further dip in overall food services.

In addition, the finance committee approved ratification of the food services budget, with a 4.3 percent increase for students. This amounts to an increase of \$67.50 per student who takes advantage of the 21-day or 19-day meal plan for a total cost of \$1,643.00. The 15-day meal plan will increase by \$63.50, and the 20-meal PM costs will go up \$2.50.

Students will inevitably pay more

for the meals regardless of the services provided. This proposed increase will be implemented to cover cost changes, and to cover administrative overhead charges.

This was determined after vendors requested a 5 percent increase in revenue that the committee said would not affect students.

The question remains however, why the food services fund was chosen to receive the cutbacks to finance the athletic program? Some board members stated in the committee meeting that after careful review of various budgets, the food fund was ideal to support a decrease in its maintained balances.

This decision was reached to exhaust the food fund balance, although several other programs such as radio station WNCU and the mail center generate revenues that exceed their yearly expenses. These excess funds were considered and rejected.

The proposal was passed 2-1 despite considerable opposition by Trustee Lavonia Allison, who argued that funds for the athletic program could be attained by other means.

"The athletic program needs to hold a fundraiser rather than depleting funds it can not replace," said Allison. Trustee R. Edward Stewart countered by stressing the importance of a quality student athletic program.

See FOOD, page 2

NCCU parties in jeopardy due to violence

by SHEON LITTLE
The Campus Echo

In the past, North Carolina Central University students have been heard to complain about the lack of parties on campus. Since the beginning of the school year, parties have been held at the Walker Complex and McDougal Gymnasium. However, recent events at some of these parties may jeopardize future parties on campus.

Reports of fights at recent campus parties have led the school's administration to examine the situation, without entirely ruling out the possibility

of banning such parties completely.

A recent meeting of Student Affairs along with representatives from the Student Government Association and the Student Union activities board, discussed the behavior of students at the parties and what could be done to curtail the disturbances.

All persons in attendance contributed to a memo that has been circulating around campus; the memo states that if there were any disturbances at an upcoming party on Feb. 13, all subsequent parties would be cancelled for the remainder of the semester, including the SGA-sponsored pre-dawn party on Feb. 19.

The February 13 party went without incident and the pre-dawn party took place as scheduled. However, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Angela Terry warned that the memo is a continuing policy, meaning that if there is any behavioral misconduct at any other parties, any planned parties after that date will be cancelled.

When students saw the memo posted around campus, many said they



Vice Chancellor Angela Terry wants to crack down on violent incidents at NCCU parties.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL PHIPPS

were shocked because they did not realize that this type of behavior was going on. "All the fighting is ridiculous," said Junior Kimberly Downtin "We're in college now, and should

See PARTIES, page 2

BOT meeting emphasizes diversity

by IBI LEWIS
The Campus Echo

Student Government Association Vice President Marci Jones introduced the popular topics of co-ed housing and visitation at the North Carolina Central University board of trustees student relations committee meeting on Feb. 16.

Jones argued that more dormitories should enjoy co-ed housing and should abolish or revise strict co-ed visitation rules that currently exist. Jones used Chidley Hall as an example of a dormitory that successfully converted to co-ed housing without many problems.

Miss Junior Adonna Bannister commented further on the co-ed housing situation, citing her experience living in Annie Day Shepherd Dormitory, a co-ed dorm for honor students.

Bannister said her experience in the co-ed dorm was positive, and that she believes that students should have a choice between living

in a same-sex dormitory as opposed to living in a co-ed housing facility.

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs/Dean of Students Dr. Roger Bryant responded by saying that Annie Day Shepherd was not set up as a "testing ground," but that it was set up as a facility to house students in the honors program, which happens to include both males and females.

Chairman Dr. Dudley Flood responded also by pointing out that some individuals who help fund NCCU are older, thus are less susceptible to adopting the idea of creating co-ed housing throughout the university. He added that the process of abolishing current co-ed restrictions and creating additional co-ed dorms would have to be a gradual one.

Moving on to another topic, Jones inquired about the results of faculty evaluations that students fill out every semester. She argued that students have the right to know the results of the surveys, and offered a suggestion to model NCCU's meth-

ods after the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, which hires an outside agency to compile and publish results of faculty evaluations.

Jones concluded her list of concerns by arguing for longer library hours, better books and equipment in the library. She also mentioned that the school's academic advising system appears to "slack up" around registration time.

At the two freshman mass meetings, Freshman Class President Bobbi Brown brought up frustration among students and teachers with the CFAS program (CFAS). According to Brown, students don't understand the program and teachers don't want to teach it.

The meeting then then turned to increasing campus diversification, and support groups and services for disabled students that have been formed this year to address the needs of the disabled. Changes include the

See RELATIONS, page 2

Inside

- Campus News.....pages 1-3
- Features.....page 4
- Arts & Entertainment.....page 5
- Sports.....pages 6- 7
- Editorial.....page 8