

THE VOICE

Speaking For Ourselves



FAYETTEVILLE
STATE
UNIVERSITY
FAYETTEVILLE
N.C. 28301



VOLUME 33, NUMBER 10

MAY, 1979

FSU'S FOUNDERS DAY

by Fidele Essono

The natural law requires that any being has to be born before it can live. This characteristic is observed daily. The hypothesis of birthdays can be confirmed by the joy we express in knowing how long we have existed. Founders Day or "FSU's Birthday" is not something endemic to our institution but an old tradition for honoring the roots of any institution or foundation and remembering its first steps.

On Sunday, April 8, 1979, FSU commemorated its founding in a splendid manner by printing another memorial in its history and saluting the glorious past which has been covered by many obstructions. "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee" . . . that was the prelude hymn preceding the long procession headed by the Chancellor, Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., followed by the professional staff who contributed daily in different areas to the University and its students, to finally gather in J. W. Seabrook Auditorium where they were welcomed by the FSU Choir's melodies in a religious atmosphere thanking God for his blessings. The traditional invocation was given by Rev. Chrysostom Manuel, who implored the "omnipotent" to watch and secure the school. Mrs. Emaretta Felton, a Trustee, read the history of FSU. In the history, it was pointed out that there were a lot of financial difficulties encountered in the beginning when this academic institution attempted to provide "colored" men and women with full rights and the dignity afforded others in the educational system of North Carolina.

Ironically, in the morning of the same day HEW's Dr. Mary Berry was interviewed in the Tony Brown's Journal. She was asked, "What's better, improving black campuses' facilities or desegregating most of them?" She replied, "Both whites and blacks need to have equal opportunity in financial

assistance in desegregation and give the choice to any student an academic curriculum he prefers." That was FSU's birth problem, a handicap that arose from pigments which had predominantly invaded the "South" after the civil war and Fayetteville was not excluded from that policy. But, that did not stop Mathew N. Leary, A. J. Chestnutt, Robert Simmons, George Grainger, Thomas Lomax, Nelson Carter, and David Bryant, to strive in the darkness to produce something better of themselves and offer a moral commitment with an uncertain future. The dream came true when the North Carolina General Assembly approved in 1877. The color that was the identification of the former FSU names had been changed by another new progressive step of the North Carolina General Assembly.

In revising the Charter in 1959, the school became then a constituent of North Carolina University system and elected Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., as first Chancellor. In his introductory speech, Dr. Lyons greeted the audience and welcomed everyone with a few jokes which provided an air of gaiety before the guest speaker, Mr. Julius Morgan, the FSU National Alumni President, of Philadelphia. Mr. Morgan presented himself as a good speaker in bringing his actual home message to FSU's Founders Day. With a pleasant mood which later revealed the secrets of his thoughts without ambiguity, he first sent a new awareness to students that they don't have to quit school because of a lack of funds to study. He said, "If you financially feel weak, find a sponsor to sustain your efforts instead of giving up." Dropping out students just weaken and rear the black intellectual potential. He called for blocking that attitude which prevents the blacks improvement through contemporary education. About graduates, from FSU

Mr. Morgan accentuated on the contribution of local major businesses and industrial enterprises to open eyes on black graduates to help them for jobs. He terminated by encouraging students to "hold on" which also was the title of FSU Choir's interpretation for an interlude to give a moment to the Chancellor to prepare his presentation to knight alumnus. Dr. Rudolph Jones, the former President of FSU and a host of local and visiting alumnus and those who were remarkably concerned about FSU came expressly to share the spiritual communion of the Founders Day. The mood was symbolized by Ms. Vertelle Godbolt, who marvelously sang in Soprano with an angelic voice "City Called Heaven" seemed to give a new hope to FSU for overcoming someday and in joining the "heaven" of some other schools that are entirely cherished and fairly supported in the North Carolina University System.

The ceremony continued with a pilgrimage to the monuments to the Founders and Dr. E. E. Smith's to place flower crowns on each. These contributions are forever alive and will in the coming generations, by saying, that death steals the body not the action. Roman Empire and Julius Caesar had died but the Coliseum stands in Rome; Egypt's pharaohs died but their pyramids are still there. In other words, FSU Founders had died but the stone they used to build it will not die. That stone needs care to survive from present needs to better University assignment through its life. This guarantees the ongoing program drafted by the Office of Development; of Dr. William Greene inviting all FSU Alumnus and friends to financially and morally support the school. The same observation was issued by Chancellor Lyons in the Founders Day. In concluding that any kind of right contribution works for this institution which is a part of black people and deserves to live.

Dr. Larry E. Riddick Appointed to Position

Chancellor Charles "A" Lyons of Fayetteville State University announced the appointment of Dr. Larry E. Riddick as Director of Planning, Management and Evaluation (PME) at the University.

A native of Newport News, Virginia, Dr. Riddick's educational background includes a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Education from the University of California at Berkeley, a Master of Arts Degree in Sociology from the University of California at Berkeley as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music from Norfolk State College.

He was formerly Director of Institutional Research at Delaware State College. He

has also worked at Virginia State College and Monterey Unified School District as Professor at Old Dominion University and Virginia State College. He has held the position of Acting Director of Behavioral Research Projects for the District of Columbia Public Schools.

As Director of PME, Dr. Riddick is responsible for coordinating the development and maintenance of the Planning, Management and Evaluation System here at FSU. "I feel a great challenge working in the area of PME," states Dr. Riddick, "the future of this or any university is tied so directly to its ability to plan effectively."



Left to right: Mr. Julius Morgan, Founders Day speaker; his wife and Chancellor Lyons. (Photo by Spicer)

A Rally To Save Our Schools

by Michael Shepard

"We are fired up; we want to save our school. Free at last, free at last, our black institutions are being made a thing of the past."

These were some of the chants and signs that were a part of the scene when the five black universities, North Carolina Central, Fayetteville State, Elizabeth City State and A & T State came together on Thursday, April 11, 1979.

The Solidarity Rally was held in front of the State Legislature Building in Raleigh to urge the state representative to lobby for more funds to enhance the predominately black universities.

Speeches were offered by FSU's Anthony Baldwin and NCCU's Michael Howard. Upon invitation, groups proceeded into the Legislature Building auditorium where students stated grievances concerning the UNC-HEW

controversy. Representatives Kenneth Spaulding, Henry Frye and Frederick Alexander responded to the grievances. Representatives Frye and Spaulding told students of the resolutions they had introduced to the state house concerning the issue of the black schools. The students' petition was also read and recorded by the house while in session.

Overall, the rally was a worthwhile trip and certainly needed. It allowed the state of North Carolina to know that we, as students, would not sit idly by while the future of our schools was weighed in the balance unequally.

The rally brought back unity which we had now shown in a while. Our task was carried out orderly and deliberately. Recognition goes to a concerned freshman, Bobby Cofield, who saw a need for a rally and alerted his SGA Representative. Also, thanks goes to the Student Government Association and faculty members who assisted.

We must continue to watch this situation. Students of FSU don't forget to write your representative concerning this important matter.

.....The movement has only begun.....

S.O.S.
Save Our Schools

Clinical Psychology Class Tours Dorothea Dix Mental Hospital

by Brenda McNeill, Clinical Secretary

To enhance class involved tasks, the clinical psychology class of Mrs. Hattie B. Anderson toured the Dorothea Dix Mental Hospital, Raleigh, North Carolina on March 26, 1979.

The tour was conducted by Ms. Regina Umstead, a Fayetteville State University Alumnus. Prior to the arrival at the hospital, a program of three major events for the class was prepared. "Opening The Door to Mental Health," a film to emphasize the various therapeutic treatments administered at Dorothea Dix Hospital was shown to describe the mental health facilities available to the general public.

Dr. Moylan, Director of Psychological Services at Dorothea Dix Hospital, hosted a question and answer

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Election Results

The following persons were successful in their bid for office.

SGA President: Robert Atkins
Vice-President: Valorie Perry
Business Manager: Maynard Smith
Miss Student Center: Shirley Long

A run off for Miss FSU was held on April 18, 1979. The results were not available at press time. The candidates were Pat Crump, Wanda Green and Donnie Boseman.

Ronald Smith, FSU Academic Dean, Member Humanities Committee

Dr. Ronald Smith, Academic Dean at Fayetteville State University, is a member of the North Carolina Humanities Committee. The committee is composed of 22 cities from across the state.

A \$419,170 matching grant has been awarded to the North Carolina Humanities Committee by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant, the largest in the Committee's seven-year history, is designated to promote educational programs in the humanities for North Carolinians who are not enrolled in colleges and universities. The award is for the calendar year April 1, 1979

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