

Commencement Exercises Planned

North Carolina State University plans to hold special commencement exercises May 9 in celebration of the school's 100th birthday. All NCSU alumni are being invited to join the class of 1987 for the Centennial Commencement, the first graduation exercises to be held at Carter-Finley Stadium. In the event of rain, the commencement exercises will be held at Reynolds Coliseum.

Chancellor Bruce R. Poulton will award more than 3,900 degrees to an estimated 3,650 men and women on behalf of the NCSU faculty and trustees. Poulton will also deliver the commencement address.

The centennial ceremonies will take place against a red and white backdrop being built for the occasion. Sharing the stage with Poulton and other dignitaries will be three former NCSU chancellors -- Dr. John T. Caldwell, Dr. Carey H. Bostian and Dr. Joab Thomas.

Poulton will pay tribute to all university alumni by calling the roll of former chancellors and recognizing those attending who graduated during each administration.

NCSU's 98th commencement is being held simultaneously with the university's Alumni Weekend.



LOCAL SCHOLARS—Dina Richmond and Nancy Hendee became new members of the Nu Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Fraternity during a recent induction ceremony at College of The Albemarle. The Edenton residents were among 10 COA students who were recognized for their academic achievements and leadership potential. Richmond, who is the wife of Dr. Paul Richmond, is enrolled in the computer programming program. Hendee, a business administration technology student, is the daughter of Jerry Hendee and Mrs. Barbara Kehayes. (COA Photo)

Hostility Study Results Released

CHAPEL HILL—Continuing hostility toward other people can lead to illness and early death, scientist in North Carolina say.

The scientist, who spoke at a recent meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society in Philadelphia, compared results of a personality test 118 law students took at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill during the mid-1950s with what has happened to the former students since then.

Those who scored high on questions measuring hostility were more likely to have died during the past 30 years than those who scored lower on the questions.

"It's important to point out that we were dealing with a small sample of people in this study and that there were only 13 deaths," said Dr. John C. Barefoot, principal investigator for the research and assistant professor of psychiatry at Duke University.

"When this finding is viewed in combination with two previous studies with similar results, however, it presents a strong case that hostility predisposes young men to increased risk of major illnesses leading to premature death."

A former graduate student in psychology at UNC, Barefoot conducted the first of those studies on 255 UNC medical students who also took the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory test in the late 1950s. The second involved 1,877 middle-aged male Western Electric workers. Both papers were published in 1983.

In the study, hostility was considered a combination of mistrust, cynicism, anger and aggressiveness. Fifty of the 566 questions the students answered on the MMPI related to hostility, and those who scored high on that subset of questions tended to consider others untrustworthy, mean-spirited and undeserving.

"We found that someone who scored at the 80th percentile on the hostility scale had about four times the mortality risk as someone who scored at the 20th percentile," Barefoot said.

Of the 13 deaths the researchers discovered when tracing the alumni, six resulted from coronary heart disease, four from cancer, two from thrombosis and one from congestive heart failure.

It is not known why hostility apparently can contribute to premature death for some people, Barefoot said, although a variety of theories exists.

"It may be that hostile attitudes put people in more stressful social

situations or it may indicate that they are not coping with everyday stresses as well as other people," he said. "The people may just be different physiologically. We are continuing to conduct research to see which of these factors may account for the results."

Barefoot said it's also unclear whether changing behavior patterns of young adults significantly is possible and whether change would reduce one's risk of major illness and early death.

"Certainly it's not going to hurt people to adopt a more positive view of others," he said.

Concession Volunteers Needed

Hot weather and lots of activity bring many visitors to Elizabeth City during Memorial Weekend. Those people get thirsty and Concessions Co-Chairmen Mary Tirak and Kay Ahearn are looking for some special people to work Coke and Pepsi drink concessions. The festival, scheduled May 22-25, uses proceeds from concessions to assist with cost of the festival.

"We need approximately 180 volunteers," Tirak said. "We're looking to clubs, civic organizations, college students and other individuals to help us out."

This is the sixth year for RiverSpree, an event conceived by the Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce to promote the city and its waterfront. Memorial Day weekend will be highlighted at Waterfront Park

with more than 50,000 people partaking of foods, crafts, live entertainment, water activities, and a dance at Southgate Mall.

"Hopefully, the drink concessions will be a good source of revenue to offset some of the expense of RiverSpree," said Kay Ahearn. Ahearn added, "The support of the community has been wonderful in the past and we sincerely appreciate it and look forward to another successful year. It's one of the few times that the entire community comes together to work and play."

Individuals and groups willing to volunteer their help should contact Mary Tirak during early evening hours at 771-5828, Kay Ahearn during the day, 338-3037, or the Chamber of Commerce at 335-4365.

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Craft Classes

Are Scheduled

NEED has scheduled the following craft classes during the months of April and May. All classes will be held at Watermarks, 109 Hughes Boulevard, Elizabeth City.

April 22 - 10 a.m., Egg basketmaking.

April 27 - Bluebird carving. This class will also be conducted on May 4. Both classes will begin at 9 a.m.

April 23 - May 1, 10 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., Quilting.

May 6 - 10 a.m., Cornshuck flowers.

Basketmaking classes are held weekly.

For additional information, please call Jo Stephens at 338-0653 or 335-1434.