



Students in the Kennedy Jr. High School Multi-Media Talent Production pledge allegiance during a school scene in "We The People."

who researched and wrote the dialogue. The talent production celebrated thirty years in Southwest Mecklenburg Community.

MCEP Program

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ling reasons to participate in cooperative education is its effectiveness as a tool to recruit highly qualified employees. In addition to serving as a recruitment tool, the Co-op program can reduce training costs and serve as a period of trial employment without either the student or employer having to make a long-term commitment. Both parties therefore have an opportunity to evaluate the experience to determine if it is a suitable match. The employer also has the services of excellent employees at minimal costs -- employees who are knowledgeable, skilled, dedicated, and willing to work.

Since the inception of the MCEP

in the 1984-85 academic school year, it has provided opportunities for 128 students from 16 colleges and universities throughout North Carolina. Forty-three percent of these students are enrolled in Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The program has been a success: last year, Winston-Salem State University recognized state government as "Employer of the Year." This is one of the highest honors that an employer of Cooperative Education students can receive from this university. It is awarded to the employer that has done the most for the university's Cooperative Education Program.

In an address last September to the participants of the First Annu-

al Historically Black Colleges and Universities' Cooperative Education Conference, Governor Martin encouraged continued participation in experimental learning and praised the MCEP for reaching out to Historically Black Colleges and Universities in North Carolina to build a partnership between them and state government.

Thus far, 19 state departments or agencies have participated in the MCEP. They are helping the Office of State Personnel to bridge the partnership between state government and education, providing a win, win, win triangle for all involved -- the state, the student, and the university.

A&T Gets \$30,000 To Develop Project

Washington - North Carolina Agricultural & Technical University has signed a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, to increase participation of minorities and women in natural resource programs, Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson announced recently.

Under the agreement, the university will receive \$30,000 to develop projects to interest these groups in the Forest Service Volunteers Program and to increase

enrollment in education programs relating to natural resources.

"The agreement is part of a long-term project between the university and the Forest Service that began in 1984 and is scheduled for completion in 1988," Robertson said.

Some of the projects to be carried out this year include: broadening public awareness of volunteerism on natural resources, developing a credit course on management of a volunteer program in natural resources, finalizing the

development of a degree program in forestry in cooperation with North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., and conducting a two-week workshop in forestry and ecology as a cooperative project between the university and Weyerhaeuser Co. of North Carolina.

Since the program began, 4,800 minority high school seniors have

indicated an interest in natural resource careers.



Rev. Palmer

Rev. Palmer Speaks To NAACP

Dr. James Palmer, pastor of University Park Baptist Church will be the guest speaker at the fourth annual joint banquet of the South Iredell and Statesville branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on Saturday, May 2 at the Mooresville Junior High School, beginning at 7 p.m.

President of the South Iredell NAACP unit said that the theme of the banquet program will be "United to Ease the Struggle." Banquet tickets are \$15 per person or \$120 per table.

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Award See Page 5B
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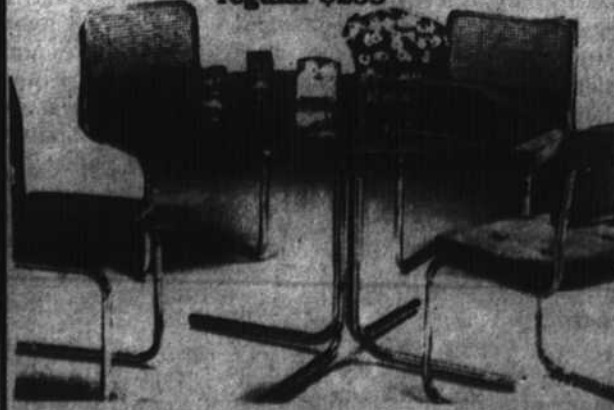
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