

# UNCC fastest growing

A Board of Higher Education report has confirmed that the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is the fastest growing four-year institution in the state, and Chancellor D. W. Colvard isn't surprised.

"We fully expected that the institution would reach a point of substantial visibility and acceptance by the people of North Carolina," he said.

"The growth pattern at UNC-C could not be predicted if compared to other institutions in the state, however," Dr. Colvard said. "It is unique in the state. But if one looks to other new urban oriented institutions in major population centers, he will see that UNC-C is following a pattern that is now well established.

"Urban oriented institutions such as Louisiana State University at New Orleans, the University of South Florida in Tampa, Georgia State University in Atlanta, and the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee have established the precedent," he said.

Enrollment at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is 3,085, an increase of 31.2 percent from the 2,351 students of last year.

The UNC-C Chancellor believes that the growth of his campus

substantiates the decision to place a campus of the University in the Charlotte area.

The growth is coming because the University now has some of the needed facilities and programs of a well rounded institution, he indicated.

Dr. Colvard believes that growth will continue at a high rate, particularly if some needed programs, such as graduate work in management for area businessmen, can be provided.

Another factor in the growth rate, he said, will be the continued growth of population in the Charlotte area and the increasing number of transfer students from the rapidly growing community colleges.

He expects that for some time to come a majority of UNC-C's students will be commuters. The University opened its first residence halls this fall and now has 560 students living on campus.

The percentages of increase at other campuses of the University of North Carolina are: the University of North Carolina at Asheville, 16.2; the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1.2; the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 9.1; North Carolina State University, 5.8; and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, 14.9.



T. J. Reddy, Charlene Whisnant, and Sherman Burns at the Jazz-Poetry Concert last Wednesday night.

## jazz and poetry

BY MARCIA WALKER

The Jazz Poetry Concert held in the Parquet Room last Wednesday night commenced with a set of poems that were essentially letters. The poetry that was read dealt mostly with problems in America and the conflicts that people have within themselves.

The group that read the various poems consisted of three people: Charleen Swansea Whisnant, Sherman Burns, and T. J. Reddy.

Charleen Whisnant was an undergraduate Major in Latin and has a Masters Degree in modern America-Poetry from Chapel Hill. She was the editor of the RED CLAY READER and her poems have appeared in PRAIRIE SCHOONER, MODERN AMERICAN POETRY, and SOUTHERN WRITING IN THE SIXTIES.

Sherman Burns, originally from St. Louis, Missouri, has lived most of his life in Charlotte. He attended Rollins College and is presently teaching at Gaston Day School in Belmont. His poetry has been in the RED CLAY and will soon be published in AIM.

T. J. Reddy attended Johnson C. Smith University and UNC-C. At present, he is a staff writer for the CHARLOTTE OBSERVER and Co-editor of the forthcoming literary magazine, AIM. T.J.'s poems have appeared in RED CLAY READER, SOUTHERN POETRY REVIEW, and are scheduled for A GALAXY OF BLACK WRITING.

To set the mood for each poem, a three man jazz band played in the background. The jazz band consisted of Loonis McGlohon on piano, Jim Lackey on drums and Creighton Spivey on bass.

The poem readings were very dramatic in most cases. A very good example was

"Moonsong" by Charleen Whisnant. While she read her own poem, Loonis McGlohon played not on the keyboard of his piano, but on the strings inside his piano. To obtain a psychedelic "moon" atmosphere, two strobe lights with blue tints were used.

The audience became so involved and fascinated with the words of the poem and the atmosphere created around "Moonsong" their applause was a delayed reaction. This spellbound reaction was not uncommon for many of the poems presented.

Another significant part of the Jazz Poetry Concert was the imaginary conversation in prose between Walt Whitman and Allen Ginsberg. (It is to be understood that all the poems read were not composed by the three performers present.) The three poets present considered Whitman and Ginsberg as great patriots of America. They agreed that even though these two poets never met, it would be interesting to imagine how their conversation would be.

T. J. Reddy portrayed Whitman and Sherman Burns portrayed Ginsberg. The conversation was taken from their own poems. Whitman's poems were serious in mood with solemn music in the background; where as, Ginsberg's were rather light hearted with fanciful music in the background.

Walt Whitman, through T. J. Reddy, spoke of wars; while Ginsberg, through Sherman Burns, seemed to be following Walt Whitman through the aisles in a grocery store marvelling at what a great man he was. This presentation gave a good insight to the two personalities of Whitman and Ginsberg.

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## volunteers needed

Several agencies in the community of Charlotte are in great need of volunteer service, according to Dr. Loy Witherspoon, director of UNC-C's United Religious Ministry. Students and other members of the University community who have time and who want to become involved in urban affairs are asked to consider the following opportunities:

**AMERICAN RED CROSS**, Greater Carolinas Chapter provides opportunities for service in the local chapter house, child care centers, homes for the aged, and hospitals. All that is needed on the part of the volunteer is time and a willingness to serve others. Training will be provided by the Red Cross and in some instance the other agency as well. Specific needs include drivers, aides in the blood program, assistants for the local hospitals and aged and child care centers. If you have two or three hours a week to give to a worthy project, telephone Miss Ruth Lehman, American Red Cross, 2425 Park Road, telephone 376-1661.

**BETHLEHEM CENTER** is a mission project of the Methodist Church to the Black community of Charlotte. This program is in dire need of male students who are willing to give each Monday night to help tutor socially promoted black students who are in the fifth or sixth grades but who are unable to read above the second grade level. In addition to the reading problem, tutors are needed to help with "modern math."

Currently there are three tutors who meet with twenty-five boys who want and need help. The study period is from 7:15-8:15 on Mondays. This is followed by a recreation period until 9:00 P.M. Tutors are invited but not required to attend the play period. Members of the university community who are interested in this project should get in touch with Miss Lucy Gist, Director of the Bethlehem Center, 2705 Baltimore Avenue, telephone 333-8948 or 333-9006.

ski with the university union



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