FOCUS
On the University

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Coca-Cola Circle City Classic

The Office of Alumni Relations is sponsoring a 35-passenger bus for alumni and friends interested in going to the Coca-Cola Circle City Classic in Indianapolis, Ind. The bus will leave SCSU on Thursday, September 30, 2004 at 12 a.m. and return on Sunday, October 3, 2004. Headquarters for the Classic will be at the Marriott (Downtown).

The cost of the trip includes lodging and round trip bus transportation. Each person will be responsible for meals and game ticket(s). All hotel reservations must be made through the Coca-Cola Circle City Classic Housing Bureau. Contact Jim Fletcher at (317) 237-5224 or call the Office of Alumni Relations at (803) 536-8946 to receive a reservation form.

Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations to make your bus reservations TODAY!

Bus reservations must be postmarked by August 16, 2004.

Gather your family or a group of friends, pack your bags, relax, and let someone else do the driving!

Hotel/2 nights (each)
1 person $540.00 2 people $170.00
3 people $114.00 4 people $85.00

Bus (each)
1 person $85.00 2 people $85.00
3 people $85.00 4 people $85.00

Total (each)
1 person $425.00 2 people $225.00
3 people $189.00 4 people $170.00

Hand tax is not included in the above amounts.

DON'T FORGET YOUR
SCSU SEASON FOOTBALL TICKETS!

(803) 536-8579
or visit www.scsu.edu/ticketoffice

REMINDER
National Alumni Convention • Atlanta, Ga
July 29 • August 1, 2004
For additional information contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at
(803) 536-8946

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South Carolina and national dignitaries gathered in Columbia for the dedication of the new federal courthouse named in honor of South Carolina State alumni Senior Judge Matthews J. Perry Jr., '48, '51.
NEW FEDERAL COURT HOUSE
NAMED IN PERRY’S HONOR

by Cheryl J. Washington

Hundreds gathered at the new Matthew J. Perry Jr. United States Courthouse in the historic business district of Columbus, S.C., to honor a man whose passion and vision continue to change the hearts and minds of all who come in contact with him. Outside in the courtyard, Matthew J. Perry, Jr., a sitting senior judge for the U.S. District Court of South Carolina watched as the “living giants of South Carolina history gathered to pay homage,” said Chief Justice Jean Toal, S.C. Supreme Court. Perry’s journey in law began at the age of 12 as he witnessed the disparities that existed between whites and blacks, and realized the importance of an education. He made the decision to attend South Carolina State College where he received a bachelor of science degree in 1948. He then entered the military where he reflected on the issues that he believed needed to change. After contemplating careers in business, medicine, ministry, science and teaching, Perry slowly turned his attention to law. He realized that the practices that he detested were grounded in law.

He then witnessed two trials that would change his life—Elouise v. Rice and Weight v. U.S.C. The former case involved a black citizen who challenged the exclusion of blacks from voting in primary elections. The latter case involved a black student who was denied admission to the University of South Carolina Law School. As a result, Perry entered South Carolina State College Law School and graduated in 1951.

Perry practiced law in Sumter, Jamaica, and Columbia, and was appointed by President Gerald Ford to the United States Court of Military Appeals in Washington, D.C., where he served from 1975-1981. President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina in 1979. Perry took senior status on October 1, 1995, and continues to work full-time as a district judge.

Perry is a pioneer and a leader. He fought for the rights of blacks through the legal system during the civil rights era. Throughout his journeys, he managed to effect a number of lives especially that of U.S. Congressman James E. Clyburn who was a junior in high school when he first saw Perry. Clyburn’s mother was a housekeeper who closed her shop one day in support of NAACP workers being sued. “She came home and brought me back to the courthouse with her to show me ‘what I could be’... and I watched in awe,” said Clyburn. “Though he lost the case, he changed the hearts and minds of all those who sat in that courtroom, friends and foes.”

Clyburn who introduced the legislation to name the new federal courthouse after Perry and fought to see it through, wanted to repay Perry for getting him (Clyburn) out of jail during the civil rights protests, while a student at SC State. He wanted to repay Perry, not for winning his case, but for “inspiring those who would wonder if they ever would receive justice from this system,” said Clyburn. “He gave us hope and I hope this building always symbolizes what the State motto is all about—hope.”

Also addressing the crowd was U.S. Senator Ernest Hollings, who told the story of a man (Perry) who was “persistent and persevered... who hit by hit won respect, hit by hit won admission and finally was made judge in the same court he had been humiliated in and set himself free and set us free.”

Hollings characterized Perry as an uncommon man with uncommon abilities.

“No matter what case he tries, what decision he makes, he can always look in the mirror and say, ‘I’ve done my best, I’ve done my duty,’” added William Wilkins, chief judge, U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

The audience watched in amazement as several set pieces that were created in Judge Perry’s honor were unveiled. First, an extraordinary statue of Judge Perry surrounded by children, condering degrees in biology, engineering technology, mathematics and computer science,” said Graves.

Graves also told students that they must constantly try to improve themselves and develop their skills, so when opportunities present themselves, they are fully prepared to take advantage of them. With today’s economy, students must work extra hard to achieve success after college. Graves encouraged students to put financial stability before material gain. He also encouraged them to give back to their community and their alma mater, suggesting they join the NAACP, run for local office, start a registration drive and start their own businesses.

“Whatever success you apply, you must be willing to leverage..."
President Hughie has continued to announce appointments which will have a positive impact on the University. They are Dr. W.L. Waddell, vice president for student affairs; Charlotte Johnson, director of athletics; Joyce Green, executive director of planning, analysis, policy and organizational development; Michelle L. Lindsey, assistant vice president for institutional advancement and director of development; Thomas E. Thompson, dean of graduate studies; Michael L. McIntosh, director of the College of Education; Eddie B. Ellis, director of bands; Sandra Davis, director of Financial Aid; and Erica S. Prioleau, director of public relations.

Kevin A. Rolle, Ph.D., has been hired as the new vice president for Student Affairs. As the vice president for student affairs, Rolle is responsible for admissions & recruitment, the career development center, director of student, Brooks Health Center, student life and leadership programs, financial aid, freshman programs, counseling & academic advising, the campus police, food services and student support services.

He received his bachelor of science degree in therapeutic recreation from Towson University; master of science degree in leisure and recreational services from Southern University; Rollins College; and a master of science degree in education and human resource studies with a cognate in administration and community college leadership from the University of South Florida in 1998 from Colorado State University.

Charlese M. Johnson
Charlese M. Johnson was appointed to the position of athletics director after serving in an interim capacity since September 2003. "During the interim period, Mrs. Johnson has performed in an exemplary manner providing leadership to the athletics area, addressing administrative duties and responsibilities effectively and professionally," said Dr. Hughie. "She has put forth an aggressive marketing plan to increase revenue to the University as well as identified plans for intensive recruitment efforts. We are pleased that we have a person of her experience, dedication and vision to fill this position," said Dr. Hughie.

Prior to her interim athletics director position, Mrs. Johnson served as associate director of athletics and senior women's administrator since 1996, where she worked for assisting the director of athletics in planning and coordinating all areas of the athletic department.

Joyce Green
Joyce Green joined SC State as the executive director of Planning, Analysis, Policy and Organizational Development. As the executive director, Green will be responsible for strategic planning and implementation, institutional research, data administration, information research management, evaluation and assessment, human resources, staff development and marketing.

Melissa L. Lindsey
Melissa L. Lindsey was hired as the assistant vice president for Institutional Advancement and the director of Development. Lindsey holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science from South Carolina State University. She has experience in resource development, fiscal management and program planning and implementation.

Prior to coming to SC State, Lindsey worked as a vice president/financial officer at the South Carolina State University. She secured and managed a $56.5 million Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities grant. Also, she was responsible for securing over $1 million in public and private funding and served as the department's legislative liaison. Lindsey is a certified grants writer by the National Great Writers' Association.

Thomas E. Thompson
Thomas E. Thompson, Ed.D., has been hired as the dean of Graduate Studies and chair of the Department of Educational Leadership. Thompson will plan, develop and implement new graduate programs at SC State. He will review and modify existing programs; secure sponsorship for, and direct the development, operation and assessment of the educational leadership program.

He received his bachelor of science degree in health education; master of education in secondary education; and terminal degree in educational administration from the University of Illinois.

Prior to coming to SC State, Thompson served as an associate professor of educational administration, in the department of educational leadership at the University of South Carolina.

Michael L. McIntosh
Michael L. McIntosh, Ed.D., has been hired as the director of the College of Education and an associate professor in the department of educational leadership.

McIntosh will serve as the chief administrative officer and instructional leader for Fellin. He will evaluate and seek resources necessary to support the school's mission, and will be the liaison with public school administrators.

McIntosh received his bachelor of arts degree in U.S. History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; a master of science degree in Educational Administration from North Carolina A&T State University; and terminal degree in Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The principal at the Carver Middle School in Douglas, Ga., prior to joining the South Carolina State University family.

Eddie B. Ellis
Eddie B. Ellis has been hired as the director of bands. Ellis holds a bachelor of arts degree in music from Morris Brown College and master of music education from Georgia State University. He is currently pursuing a terminal degree in educational administration from the State University of West Georgia.

For the past seven years, Ellis served as the director of bands for Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Ga. While at Morris Brown, he was responsible for marching, symphonic and jazz bands. He also introduced a music honors program that recruited students in other disciplines to participate in musical performance.

Ellis also hosted a successful summer band camp for Atlanta area high school students designed to develop their musical, marching and leadership skills.

Sandra Davis
Sandra Davis was appointed to director of Financial Aid after serving in an interim capacity since September 2003. Davis holds an associate of science degree from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College and received a bachelor of science degree in accounting and finance from the University of South Carolina at Columbia.

During her tenure at SC State, Davis was named the 2000-01 Employee of the Year in the Division of Student Services. She has also served on various committees and is the current chairperson for the Counselor Relations Committee. She has also served as a vice president and treasurer of the South Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Erica S. Prioleau
Erica S. Prioleau has been hired as the director of Student Life. Prioleau holds a bachelor of arts degree in professional English from Florida A&M University.

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

The front entrance of the campus was transformed while upgrades were done to Quays Village, S-H-M, guest suites at the stadium and Turner Hall, among others. Pending capital improvement projects include the Arenal Building, Lowman, Mess, Ross, Wilkinson and Truth Halls, a computer lab and Science and Engineering Technology Research Center.

Science and Engineering Technology Research Center

Proposed capital improvement and new construction include Engineering and Computer Science, Hodges Hall Extension, James E. Clyburn Transportation Complex, and Privatized Housing. Deferred maintenance items include Turner Hall, Parham Laboratory Building, and Lowman Hall. A federal grant award was awarded from U.S. Park Service toward renovations which include Lowman Hall.

Prior to being hired in the University's official spokesperson, Prioleau was the program coordinator for public service activities for the 1990 Research and Extension Program at S.C. State.

Dr. Andrew Hughie Jr., South Carolina State University's provost, stated, "I am very pleased to have Ms. Prioleau as the director of Public Relations. Ms. Prioleau brings to the position knowledge, a unique set of skills and enthusiasm. A key component of my vision to enhance the University's image and I am confident that Ms. Prioleau will achieve this through her leadership."
South Carolina State University
Standouts to Compete in 2004 Olympic Games

Emma Wade will compete in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. Wade will represent her native country Belize (formerly British Honduras) in the 200 meter dash. Wade is currently ranked among the top 30 in the world in the 200 meter dash. Wade concluded her three-year South Carolina State track career among the nation’s elite athletes with a sixth place finish in the 200 meter dash at the 2004 NCAA Track and Field Championship that was held in Austin, Texas. Wade holds the school record in both the 200 (22.98) and 400 (53.62). In preparation for the 2004 Olympics, Wade will train under SC State’s track & field head coach Ernest Tibe. Wade, a business management major, will return to the states following the games and prepare for her final year of classes at South Carolina State University.

Celine Nyangya, a native of Paris, France will attempt to make the French Olympic Team in the long jump. Nyangya holds the school record in the long jump in the 400 with a leap of 6.32 meters (20’ 11”) at the East Regional Championship making her an automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. Nyangya, who was originally recruited to the University by South Carolina State University, became one of the best long jumpers in the conference and in the east region within two years. Nyangya graduated in May 2004 with a degree in Consumer Science.


SC State Marks Presence at Army’s Top Leadership School

South Carolina State University alumni made their mark at the U.S. Army War College, the world’s most prestigious institution for the education of strategic leaders and for the study of the development and employment of land power in a joint, interagency, and multinational environment.

Former Bulldog Battalion Cadet LTC Tyrene Brown (Criminal Justice, ’83), LTC/David Glover (Criminal Justice, ’86), COL/ Melvin McBride (Art, ’78), LTC Rodney McCants (Political Science, ’83) recently graduated and are now members of the U.S. Army War College residence class of 2004. Maj Dwight Melvin (Agricultural Education, ’88) received a certificate of completion for a seminar on National Security.

Assignment for the graduates are as follows: LTC Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs, Army G-3 (Pentagon); LTC Glover, Deputy Chief of Staff for Reserve Affairs, U.S. Army Accessions Command (Fort Monroe, Va.); COL McBride, position to be determined; LTC McCants, Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs, Army G-3 (Pentagon); and Maj Melvin, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve.

Two SC State alumni also serve as permanent faculty/staff at the college: COL Nicholas Anderson (Business Administration ’79), director of Logistics Operations for the Department of Military Strategy Planning & Operations and CPT (Ret.) Randolph Scott (Criminal Justice ’82), Security Specialist.

At the academic year culminated with a National Security Symposium which provided an opportunity for students, faculty and invited guests to discuss views on current national security and welfare issues. SC State Professor Dr. Maron Rogers Sillah participated in the discussions. Sillah is an associate professor in the Department of Business Administration.

New Federal Building continued from front page

created by Camden sculptress Marie Kirby Smith to be placed adjacent to the front walkway; secondly, a life-size portrait of Judge Perry, created by Columbus artist Larry Lebby which will hang inside the Courthouse; and thirdly, graceful iron-gates, created by Charleston’s renowned Blacksmith Phillip Simmons welcoming visitors to the new federal courthouse.
The 208,000 square foot courthouse includes a Special Proceedings Courtroom, four District Courtrooms and three Magistrate Judge Courtrooms, a Clerk of Court’s office, United States Marshal’s offices and support spaces. The Federal Public Defender and U.S. Attorney also have satellite offices in the courthouse.
The courthouse entrance, framed by 70-foot limestone columns and a 50 foot glass window from the second to third floor, allows natural light to flood the public lobbies. In the center of the building are the public elevators, curved with granite stairs and a skylight.
The site of the Matthew J. Perry, Jr. United States Courthouse was purchased in 1953 from the South Carolina Baptist Convention for $3.3 million. The groundbreaking took place in August of 2000 and the center was fully operational in October 2003.
Perry thanked his colleagues and supporters. He also thanked his clients who he said are “the Armed Forces and the war and others “on whose shoulders we have stood” who recalled having teachers and principals in school who encouraged him to always ‘just do your best’.
Perry also shared the story of his childhood and how his mother had moved him from her own family and whatever little he had with his maternal grandmother, after his father died. His grandmother was a strict disciplinarian who required Perry to go to school and to church.
Thanks to those who attended Perry and his mother who insisted that he go to school, stay in school and strive to be somebody, the stage was set and Perry, ‘initially took the leading role, where he inspired fellow and improved the lives of Americans in South Carolina and throughout the world.

Graves continued from front page

that success into opportunity for all African-Americans. That is what a leader is all about and building leaders is what SC State is all about,” declared Graves.

Graves Receives Honorary Degree

During Commencement Exercises, Graves was presented with an Honorary Degree by President Andrews Hugue Jr. who described Graves as “a humanitarian, a visionary CEO, a trailblazer and an overall outstanding American.”

Graves is currently the chairman and chief executive officer of Earl G. Graves, Ltd., parent corporation for the Earl G. Graves Publishing Company, publisher of Black Enterprise Magazine, a business-service publication targeted to black professionals, executives, entrepreneurs and policy makers in the public and private sector.

Black Enterprise has a paid circulation of 500,000 with a readership of more than 3.4 million with yearly sales over $53 million and is steadily increasing. The publication is carried on board of most major airlines, and can be found on newsstands nationwide. In 1997, the magazine was honored with the FOLIO: 1996 Editorial Excellence Award for Business/Finance, winning over 370 entrants.

Graves is a nationally recognized authority on Black business development and has been recognized throughout the years for his accomplishments. Since the founding of Black Enterprise Magazine in 1970, Graves has been named one of the ten most outstanding minority businessmen in the country by the President of the United States, and received the National Award of Excellence in recognition of his achievements in minority business enterprise. He is also listed in Who’s Who in America, and was named one of Time Magazine’s 200 future leaders of the Country.

Graves is also the author of a book, “How to Succeed in Business Without Being White,” which chronicles the professional strategies of America’s leading African American businessmen.

Graves was born in Brooklyn, New York and currently resides in Westchester County with his wife, Barbara, of 43 years. They have three sons, all who work in the family’s businesses.

Washington-Williams Also Receives Honorary Degree

Estate Mae Washington-Williams, former SC State student and daughter of the late United States Senator Strom Thurmond was also presented with an Honorary Degree for her lifelong dedication to education where she enriched the lives of thousands in her roles as classroom teacher, assistant principal, and college lecturer.

Williams was born in 1925 in Edgefield but was raised in Pennsby by her aunt and uncle. At the suggestion of her father, she enrolled at South Carolina State College where she majored in Home Economics Education.

While a student at SC State, she met and married the late Julius Williams, a second year law student. After marriage, the couple relocated to California where Williams continued her education and received her bachelor’s degree from California State University-Los Angeles and went on to receive her master’s degree from the University of Southern California.

Williams retired after serving 27 years as a public educator. She still resides in California where she continues to serve her community and is an active member of the South Carolina State University Los Angeles Alumni Chapter. She is the mother of four children.