Beaufort Technical Seeks Community College Status

EXPERIMENTATION

This publication of your own Beaufort Tech Newsletter is an experiment in local reproduction in a Mini-Form.

This edition is being published on a trial basis with the intent to disseminate worthwhile and reportable items more promptly than we are now able to do in our quarterly publications. Your comments, recommendations, and support will determine the success or failure of this endeavor. Hopefully, we will continue the "quarterly" in its current form while adding to your pleasure with this Mini-Paper.

Your contributions of news items may be deposited in the Student Government Association mailbox in building no. 1 or be given to our Student Services Coordinator's secretary in trailer no. 2. Please include your name and curriculum so that we may be able to contact you should there be any need to verify possible errors in spelling of names or the dates of events.

Approximately 13 representatives of Beaufort Technical Institute appeared at the February 15 meeting of the Beaufort Commissioners and asked for the county's approval of their pursuit of community college status.

James Blanton, President of BTI, told the commissioners that if the community college status is achieved, there would be no cutback on vocational or technical classes.

Blanton said that Beaufort Technical Institute did a feasibility study in order to determine if adding the college courses would meet some of the needs of the county. Said Blanton, "I was overwhelmed with the response from the surveys." He said that BTI had polled grades 9-12 and had made roughly 1000 telephone calls.

Blanton added that he had received approximately 130 letters from county businesses and industry in support of the addition.

Blanton said that BTI already offers a transfer program in cooperation with East Carolina University and there are about 120 students enrolled in this program. Blanton said that this program costs about 2 times the