

# Homecoming proposal defeated

By KIM JOHNSON  
Assistant News Editor

The Homecoming Steering Committee Tuesday defeated for the second time a proposal for additional entertainment for Saturday, Oct. 30 of Homecoming Weekend.

SGA President Tim Sullivan made the proposal which called for "one or two" on-campus concerts to be held simultaneously with the scheduled Count Basie Dance and Show.

According to Sullivan, the SGA was willing to contribute up to \$5,000 for free-admission concerts in hopes of curbing anticipated crowds in the downtown Greenville area Saturday night.

Sullivan said he felt the scheduled agenda for Oct. 30 is weak and will not attract enough of the student body to avoid an occurrence such as the 1975 Halloween weekend.

The committee voted nine to four in secret ballot defeating the proposal.

Barry Robinson, Student Union president, gave his reasons for the defeat of the proposal, "I feel that those concerts might cause the same type trouble anticipated downtown on campus. Also, I think the Count Basie Dance & Show plus the Greek function planned for Oct. 30 will be sufficient to draw students away from the downtown area."

Rudolph Alexander, Associate Dean of Student Affairs for Activities and Director of Mendenhall Student Center commented on possible profit loss the Student Union might face if the free concerts were allowed to take place.

Greenville Mayor Percy Cox, a regular member of the Steering Committee and Jim Caldwell, Greenville City Manager, were present at the Tuesday meeting.

What actions the city will take to prevent trouble in downtown Greenville Halloween weekend depended on whether or not Sullivan's proposal was accepted by the committee, according to Cox and Caldwell. Both men supported the proposal and voiced disappointment at its defeat, regardless of the belief that the Count Basie Dance and Show and Greek functions scheduled for Oct. 30 will sufficiently draw crowds away from downtown.

"I feel Sullivan's proposal would have taken the edge off the large crowds anticipated for that night," said Cox.

According to City Manager Caldwell, no definite plans as to how the city will handle the expected crowds downtown have been finalized. However, he did say the city will be well prepared especially now that Sullivan's proposal is defeated.

In a later interview, Sullivan mentioned alternatives for dealing with the crowds Halloween weekend being discussed in City Council meetings. These alternatives include a city curfew and

closing the downtown bars Saturday night.

Robinson said he had no previous knowledge of the "alternatives" the city might use before the Tuesday vote was taken.

Marshal McAden, Secretary of Minority Affairs, present at the meeting voiced support of Sullivan's proposal with the stipulation that one of the proposed bands be directed towards the black students' musical tastes.

McAden was also disappointed at the outcome of the vote and said it could have done much to "at least draw the black students away from downtown Greenville."

After this second defeat of his proposal, Sullivan said he was not working for the citizens of Greenville in making this proposal but for the students: "All we (SGA) wanted to do was help take the edge off the crowds downtown that night and give those students who wanted to avoid the area a place to go."

"I'll fight to see that the bars downtown are not closed Saturday night but the troublemakers there that night can easily pull students back into a fiery atmosphere."

Sullivan predicted "plenty of trouble downtown" if the city does decide to close the bars the night of Oct. 30.

The concern over Saturday, Oct. 30 stems from the fact that the downtown bars will be closed all day Sunday. This is being done "voluntarily and unanimously" by the bar owners, according to Caldwell.

In other business, Jim Mallory, Dean of Men, reported a treasury of \$4,702, \$4,625 of which is being spent on Homecoming activities.

The committee also passed a motion for seven to eight bands to participate in the Homecoming Parade, each band receiving \$100 instead of \$70 as last year.

Bill Cain, Director of Athletics, reported to have one ECU "Hall of Famer" to appear at

half-time of the Homecoming football game.

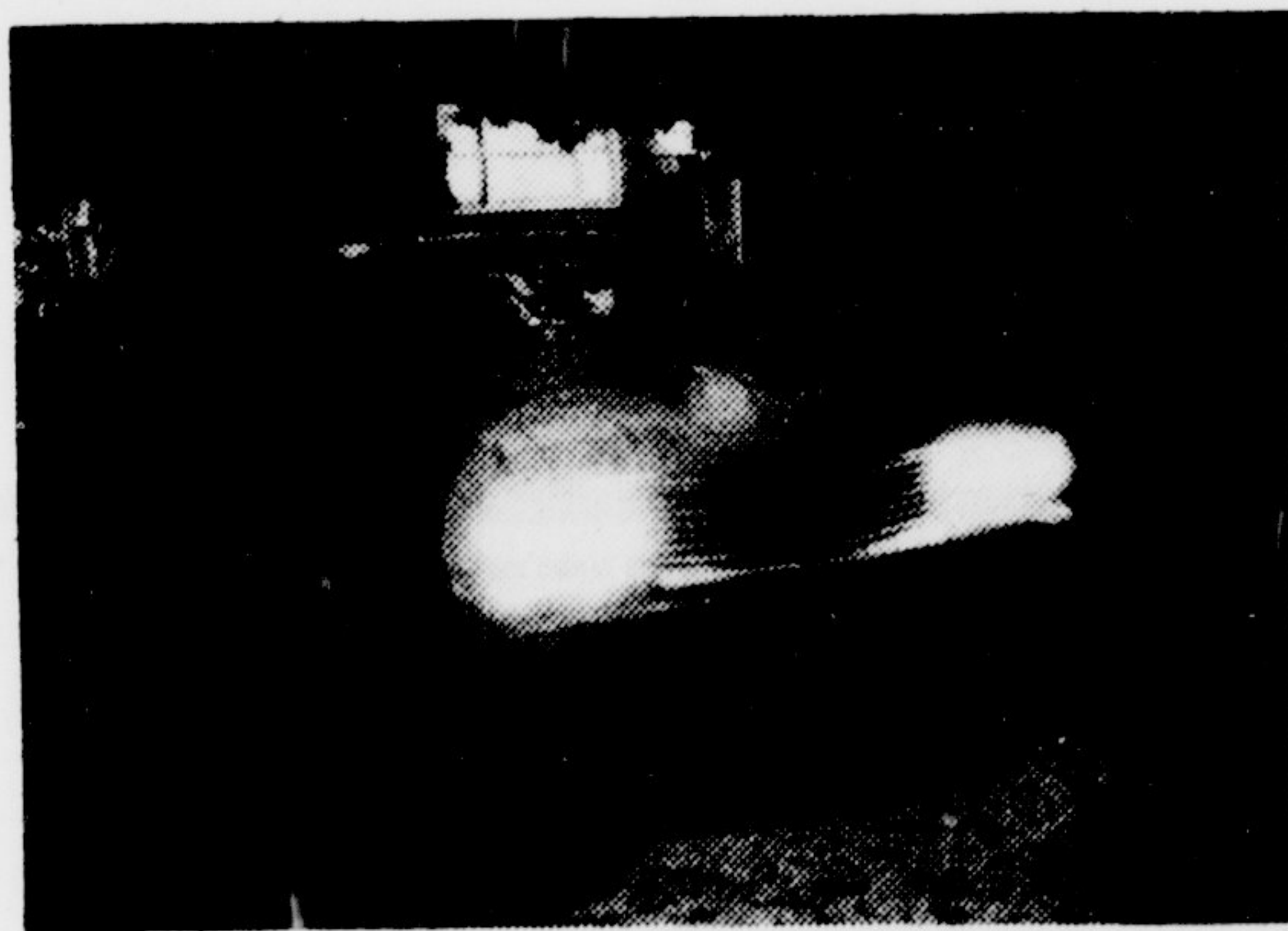
The committee also passed a motion for purchasing 5,000 pompoms at \$850 for students to use at the Homecoming game.

The committee is still seeking any non-commercial entry into the Homecoming Parade, according to Charles Brown, Director of Institutional Development and co-chairperson of the committee.

Robinson, also co-chairperson, rumored that Charlie Rich will be one of the major attractions for Homecoming Week.

The total agenda of Homecoming activities will be published at a later date.

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