

Sales Tax Raised to Fund Educational Improvement Act

A Penny for Thoughts

When students returned to school on August 28, they were confronted with many new regulations established by the South Carolina Educational Improvement Act of 1984. The Education Improvement Act raised the State sales tax from four cents to five cents in order to finance desperately-needed improvements in public education.

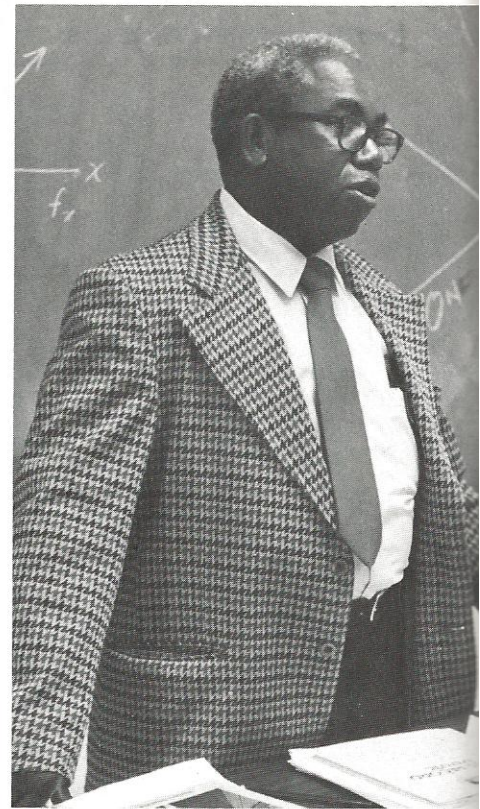
Teachers received a much-needed salary increase, and the school received 20 Apple IIE computers for a computer class. The Educational Improvement Act also included many new regulations to improve the quality of education.

The rule which students were most concerned about was the one limiting

absences to 10 days instead of last year's 20 days. Like many other students, Danny O'Connor did not like this rule. He felt ten days was too strict. "I wish I could have a few days just for rest." In October the Board of Education decided to increase the number of absences to 15 for athletes.

Seniors were very upset about the new rule stating that students must graduate within 24 hours of their last day of school. Seniors in the past were permitted to miss the last several days of school. Sherry Cummings felt that seniors should not have to come to school the last few days because "it was one of the few privileges seniors had."

Beginning with the class of 1987, stu-



Not realizing that the emphasis placed on tougher educational standards would cause the work to begin on the first day of school, Glenis Mosley tries to fit all of her assignments on the only sheet of paper she brought.

One of the old rules that students did not like was the prohibition of chewing gum. Mark Walling often ignores this rule in Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry. If caught, his punishment would be five pages of writing.

