

THE ARTS

Student performances

"A legacy of struggle"

Cynthia Roberts
Staff Writer

Black students on this campus must consider ourselves a unique breed of pioneers. What we must not consider ourselves is immortal and irreplaceable. This was the message *A Legacy of Struggle* attempted to convey.

A Legacy of Struggle is a historical presentation of how Black students were given the opportunity to become a part of the University. It also conveyed what Black students have done since their acceptance here, and what they need to do to stay a part of the University.

The April 28 presentation was a farewell salute initiated by a group of seniors who were concerned enough to devote their time and energy. Because the story had never been told, the presentation had to first be researched and then written.

The idea originated from senior Oveta Fuller, who, while doing a "Senior Reflections" column for *Black Ink*, began to think back over her four years at Carolina.

"When we got here we were more aware of being Black on a white campus," she says. "My class came here scared and psyched-up because we knew the work was hard. But the main things freshmen see now is not that you've got to study, but why not have a good time? They don't take into consideration that we are here because people fought in the 60's."

Oveta stated that according to Dean Renwick the program of allowing students with a SAT score of 900 or less will be up for review in about three years. What the review board will see is that a great many Black students aren't graduating. "We were given a chance and we're blowing it," said Oveta.

Another goal of the presentation was to show what it was like to be one of only ten Black students on this campus; to look back to when there were no Greeks, no Upendo, and no BSM.

"Maybe after seeing this presentation Black students will learn to appreciate BSM and Black Ink more," says Oveta. "Maybe the next time any action is taken that would stop or inhibit the progress of BSM, we will take it personally—be it a budget cut or moving Upendo."

A Legacy of Struggle informed Black students of their heritage by using narratives, dancing, drama, slide projections, and special guests. This BSM-sponsored program was followed by a dance in recognition of seniors.

Special thanks goes to program researchers: Rhonda Crawford, Oveta Fuller, Lillie Love, Bernard McIntyre, Robert Watson, and advisors Lee Greene and Wekesa Madzimoyo. Thanks also goes to the committee that contributed their special talents: Leroy Bynum, Karen Dacons, Anthony Greene, Brenda Jones, Sandra Little, Brenda McClain, Hugo Williamson, and the many other contributors.

Oveta summarizes *A Legacy of Struggle* as being a "production that is about us and concerns all of us. It is about how we got here and everyone should want to see it because it is a part of them."

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Also, if you are able to give a little of your time during the summer to help the staff, please contact Kathy Gabriel. We intend to have a few fundraising projects during the summer and any help would be greatly appreciated.

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Talent show

Beverly Wells
Managing Editor

...Twas the 8th of April in Memorial Hall...

The Black Student Movement had its first Talent Show, and it was really successful. The job done by the Social Committee of the BSM was superb! Phyllis Pickett, Vice-Chairperson of the Black Student Movement and Chairman of the Social Committee, did a fantastic job of organizing the Talent Show. Helping her with the organization were Rita Brackeen, Toi Carter and Nora Parker.

There was an extraordinarily large turnout of approximately 500 students, who were very responsive to the performers. "As far as response to the performers by the audience," Phyllis said, "I wasn't surprised. I knew the audience would get off—that they would really enjoy the show, and they did!"

When asked if the performers were competing for a prize Phyllis said, "We intended to give cash prizes, but the performers said that they wanted to perform because they enjoyed doing so, not to compete with one another."

The performances ranged from an original tune, "Seek the Light," performed by Byron Horton and Brian Delaney, to a sensuous performance by The James 8 (Sylvia Collins, Jennifer Cody, Vivian Lucas and Denise Pulley). The James 8 did an excellent presentation of "I've Got Love On My Mind." Denise Pulley later re-appeared to sing the theme song from *A Star Is Born* entitled "Evergreen."

Other tunes performed included, "A Prayer," sung by Cliff Harrington, Sheldon Hardison,

James Carroll, Anthony Boone and Ricky Sharpless. Sandra Banks double-dazzled the audience with "Winter Melody" and "No Regrets" while Terri Burns, along with Sandra Banks and Carmen Battle captivated the audience with "Free." Avis Squires, Sharon Wellington, Sam Tucker, and Phillip Woods sang "We Expect You" and "What Good is a Song?"

Richard Pryor II, known to UNC students as Spurgeon Fields, managed to keep the audience amused with his comedy routine. Rosalind Fuse, with the aide of a poem by Langston Hughes, also amused the audience with a dramatic reading entitled "Name in Print." Finally, Sandra Little intrigued everyone with her creative dance performed to an Andre Crouch tune entitled "If Heaven Never Were Promised."

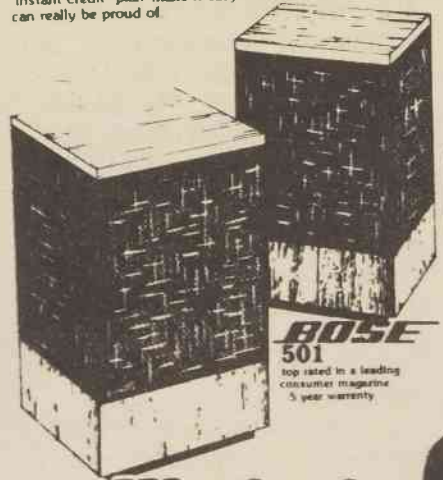
The Talent Show was also efficient enough to have their own band to provide back-up music for the musical acts. Brooksie Harrington was the music director of the band, which consisted of Phillip Woods (piano), Leslie Dula (flute), James Carroll and Ricky Sharpless (guitars). Technical director was Stan Eaves.

The Black Student Movement made approximately \$500.00 from the exciting event. The proceeds would have been more, but the Project Uplift students were admitted for half price.

Phyllis made the following remark in reference to the annual continuation of the Talent Show. "I would like to see it become an annual event done by the Social Committee each April."

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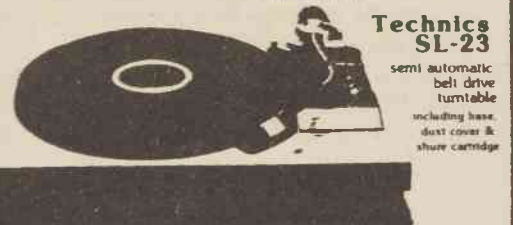
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