

# FEATURES

## Care for our children

### Binkley provides alternatives

By TERESA DIXON  
Staff Writer

When I walked into the Hargraves Recreation Center, I did not see basketball courts or hear the scuffling feet of energetic athletes. What I saw were signs like, "Do you know your colors?" and what I heard were little voices and giggling which I knew could only come from a lot of happy children. I had entered The Binkley Child Care Center and after talking to its director I could see that the happiness had something to do with the center's atmosphere and its director.

Mr. Wekesa Madzimoyo (Phil Geddie), director of the Binkley Child Care Center held me in awe as he enthusiastically spoke of the work being done at the center. Wekesa, a 1975 graduate of UNC, is now working on his masters in speech communication and education. He was very active in the BSM, and served as On-Campus Coordinator and Morrison Representative, coordinated National Achievement and Project Uplife along with Dean Wallace, and was a photographer for *Black Ink*. But Wekesa's zeal for progress in the Black community

didn't stop at graduation. His work at Binkley's Child Care Center is comparable to the strides he made while at UNC.

The center, which receives its funds through tuition, the United Fund, and contributions from parents and supportive citizens, has 33 students and a staff of 10 including 7 teachers. "The students are from varying backgrounds and neighborhoods and most are from low-income families," said Mr. Madzimoyo. A board of 18, (only 5 are not parents) is representative of one of the approaches Wekesa takes at the center—parent involvement.

"My approach to child care is three-pronged," Wekesa stated. It is composed of 1) development of a curriculum, 2) staff development to help them actualize the program, and 3) parent involvement which Madzimoyo feels "is essential to any serious child care program."

Communication skills are emphasized at the center and Wekesa is "very interested in the development of communication strategies for children, particularly Black children." At the center, the basic

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## Drama to show talent

By MELODEE ALVES  
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"Down Home" is the name of the production assembled by Dr. Lee Greene. This theatrical event, based on materials studied in his English 84 class, is tentatively scheduled for December 6.

According to Greene, "A chemistry major has a chance to display his unknown singing abilities." Although groups such as the Opeyo Dancers, Ebony Readers, and BSM Gospel Choir will perform, other students not belonging to any of these organizations will have a chance to display their hidden talents.

This production will portray the evolution of various art forms. A historical approach to such events as the "Great Black Migration" and the influence of northern exposure will be seen. A blending of dancing, singing, and acting provide continuity throughout the program.

Parallels of African dance movement adapted by American dance forms and a section of jazz selections evolving from Black American music for example, will be presented.

The production incorporates over 50 different people: Carol Willis and Sam Fulwood will give a dramatic rendition. Spurgeon Fields is

spotlighted as a Black minister preaching the funeral of Jim Crow. Teresa Burns will do a solo of one of Melba Moore's numbers. Dancing appears to be the talents of Harold Woodard, George Forrest, and Jeff Bryson; several brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha and Omega Psi Phi fraternities lend movement in an African dance. Featured in a "whore dance" will be Charmaine Grey and Bevelyn Parham. Sets were designed by Larry Alston.

Time is the major problem of the production. "Because there are so many different people involved," said Greene, "it's hard to get them together." At the moment, different segments meet at different times.

Although this is his first attempt at a dramatic production, Dr. Greene is very enthusiastic about it. "I am thrilled about the interest and involvement which the students have shown," he said. Although no one in the Chapel Hill community will actually be performing, they have expressed their desire to help by providing the materials.

"I feel that the people will be surprised at the display of individual talents displayed. The production is a fantastic opportunity of artistic outlets for the students," added Greene.

## 'Avery Incident' terminated by everyone-except the BSM

A group of Black students were returning from a CGC budget hearing around midnight April 19, 1977. They were bombarded with water balloons and racial obscenities, by white students.

Cries of indignation went up from Black students, who met with Dean Harold Wallace and others to determine if the matter could be investigated. It was reported in the September orientation issue of *Black Ink* that the BSM wanted to prosecute the perpetrators of the Avery Incident.

More than seven months later, the students involved have not been charged or admonished, and according to an October 17 *Daily Tar Heel*, they won't be.

"There is not going to be any charge in it. There is a lack of sufficient evidence. And we are dealing with a time factor," the DTH quoted Student Attorney General Elson Floyd as saying.

Later, Floyd said, "There are not students (victims) who can give positive identification. Only one student was actually hit and he didn't see anyone. I did not have an eyewitness.

Unless there is new evidence, like a confession or positive identification, there is no way the case can be reopened."

Lt. David Williams of University Police obtained written confessions from several students involved in the water balloon throwing and name calling incident. Williams investigated the case for Student affairs.

Because of what has been termed a "misunderstanding between Student Affairs and University Police," these confessions were inadmissible as evidence.

Williams told Avery residents that their comments would be used for informational reasons and not against them in prosecution.

Williams, and two others from University Police, attended a meeting with Deans Schroeder and Harold Wallace after the incident occurred. At that meeting, a letter from Dean Schroeder concerning the nature of the investigation was passed around.

According to Floyd, "If Lt. Williams had told them (Avery residents) their

statements would be used against them, it would have been admissible evidence."

Lt. Williams offered the following explanation as to why he told students their confessions would not be used in prosecution:

"The letter was not addressed to me or to University Police; it was addressed to someone in the housing department. Our (University Police) understanding was that they (Student Affairs) wanted to find out whether or not there was any basis to the allegations and to see if they (the Avery Incident and five other past incidents) were related, or racially-motivated, or if there was a conspiracy."

Lt. Williams still maintains, "Student Affairs never made it clear to me that they wanted charges brought against students. I gave them my report in May, and I'm wondering why they didn't act on it then if they really intended to.

"The whole thing was dropped until you all (*Black Ink*) and the *Tar Heel* brought it up again. It's over and we have to move on."

Williams added, "We have no victims in the Avery Incident. To my knowledge, none of the victims phoned in a complaint that night or since."

Based on his investigation, Williams believes the matter was not racially-motivated, but was merely coincidental. Elaborating, he said "The water balloons were thrown by white students first but there is a lot of confusion as to who called names first. The Avery residents weren't throwing at anyone in particular."

Floyd said, "As attorney general, I didn't attack the investigation on racial lines. I don't know if it was racially-motivated. I didn't get a direct confession of 'Yes' and I didn't expect to. The decision I reached was a professional one, not a personal one."

Despite conviction that the Avery situation is closed, BSM Chairperson Byron Horton has reached another conclusion. "Of course we would like the case to be reopened. As a matter of fact, we are in the process of having it reopened. I don't know what will happen if it isn't reopened, but one thing for sure, we don't plan to let the case die," he said.



A member of the Hampton Institute Choir sings her heart out. The internationally famous group performed in Great Hall November 21. Staff photo by James Parker.