

Blacks apathetic to vote

Maxlyn LaVie Ellison
Staff Writer

"Vote" is not a dirty four letter word, but the majority of Blacks on the UNC campus have an obscene political-involvement policy when it comes to elections; they are not involved.

Though George Hollodick, chairman of College Republicans explained the lack of UNC Black participation among the 120 College Republicans by saying, "Most Blacks are sticking with the Democrats." Daryl Smith, a member of the UNC Young Democrats Executive Committee, stated that only seven Blacks actively participated with the approximate 300 Young Democrats.

"I really don't know why Blacks are not more active with the party, but this election year is vital to see that progress in the past continues," Smith said.

Mark Edwards, Associate Coordinator for the UNC Anderson for President Committee said, "There is very little Black participation on the UNC Anderson Committee, but more Blacks

may be involved with the campaign on other campuses in the state." Edwards estimated one to two Black members among the 75 on campus.

Because of Black uninvolvedness, many people are not aware that Ronald Reagan was endorsed by the Ku Klux Klan or that Reagan was opposed to the 1964 civil-rights bill. These same persons are also unaware of Reagan's plan to rebuild the center cities and aid minority employment.

Disillusioned by apathy, Blacks may also not realize that Carter has created 8 1/2 million new jobs and appointed 37 Black judges as well as precipitating the economic instability that was a factor in the Florida riots.

Anderson's support of the predominately Black volunteer army and proposed increases in military pay may also be a secret to the uninformed.

Since major issues for this election year include unemployment, social security, minority youth unemployment, military standards, and taxes, Blacks should be involved with political campaigns on campuses.

Rape reports decrease

LaVie Ellison
Staff Writer

Between July 1979, and July 1980, about 61 rapes were reported from the UNC area to the Rape Crisis Center. The 61 rapes were a slight decrease from 70 reported in the previous fiscal year.

"Rape is real" is more than just a television slogan; it is a reality.

For the fiscal year, 1979-1980, two rapes and one attempted rape were reported to the University Police. Twelve of 29 reported assaults, which occurred during the same period, were sexually related attacks.

Sgt. Walter Dunn of the University Police said; "An attempted rape must be accompanied by intent to penetrate." This intent is established by the victim's account of the incident and the attending officer's view of the attack.

This same reluctance to report sexual attacks has been observed by Janet Combs of the Rape Crisis Center. "Only one of every five rapes is reported," said Combs. "Police in this area, however, are usually very supportive," stated Combs, "but well over half the women raped are attacked by someone that they know."

Pressure because of recognition is often prevalent among Black women. "Black women raped by black men often don't report the crime because they feel it is unethical to turn a Black male over to the white system," Combs said.

"Don't go it alone," said Officer Ned Comar of the University Police. He also expressed the fact that a weapon can be used by the attacker against the victim and must be retrieved. Mace can also be dangerous depending on wind direction.

Responding to this violent act, women should use their instinctive urges to talk, kick, scream, or run. Combs said, "Don't forget that you (women) are strong and that you can come out of it alive. There are no cure-alls."

Rape and Assault Prevention Escort (RAPE) founder Joe Buckner reported 1000 calls last school year. RAPE, originating from Olde Campus, is an inter-campus service. A caller contacts the service, obtains the name and estimated time of arrival of her approved escort, and is escorted to her destination.

"Ideally, everyone should be able to walk where he pleases, but most campuses aren't ideal," said Buckner.

New Position

Continued from Page 1

"I think that the community should understand that the new vice-chancellor cannot be a super-person," Harold Wallace, vice-chancellor of student affairs, said. Wallace said that the new vice-chancellor will be an administrator who would coordinate programs within existing offices, such as financial aid, records and registration and recruitment.

Assistant Dean Joyce Clayton, a General College Advisor, said that the new position would coordinate resources and allow centralized planning.

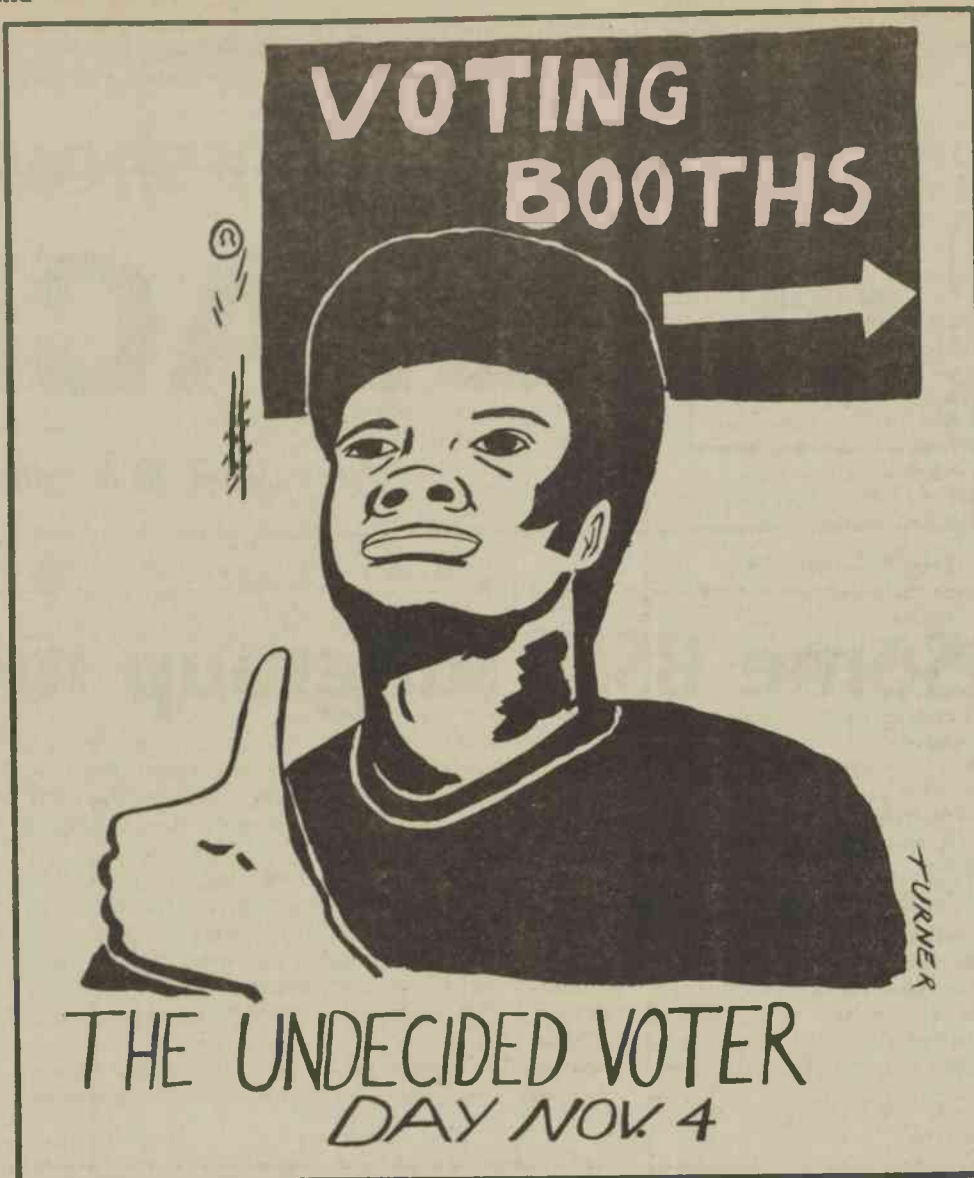
Coordination seems to be the intent of

the Faculty Council committee's request for the new administrative position. It said in its report that the position would provide direct access to the Chancellor.

The committee report also mentioned that it hoped the new position would not phase-out any existing administrative function, person or office.

However, Associate Dean Hayden B. Renwick does not think the vice-chancellorship should exist.

"There never should have been a vice-chancellorship — only an office of minority affairs," he said.



Rhodes Scholar urges peers to vote in presidential election

To the editor:

Some of you may remember my name, but most of you haven't any idea who I am. I am a Black woman, a 1979 graduate of Carolina and currently studying history at Oxford University in England on a Rhodes Scholarship. When I won the scholarship there was great excitement in the press because I am the first Black woman to ever win a Rhodes Scholarship. All the "Negro-watcher" — a species not unlike "Kremlin-watchers" — got out their score cards and exclaimed with delight how far Black Americans had come. They could boast about Black cabinet members, Black U.N. ambassadors and now a Black female Rhodes Scholar. Clearly some of us have come a long way since the civil rights struggles of the 1960's. But don't let the "Negro-watcher" fool you — we, as a people, have not made it yet.

The riots in Miami and Orlando provide the clearest evidence of how much more there is to be done. We haven't made it when most of us still live in poverty despite the fact that this is the most affluent society in the world. We haven't made it when there are more Black men in prison than there are in college. We haven't made it when the number one cause of death among young Black males is MURDER! We haven't made it when unemployment among Black teenagers last summer approached 50 percent. We haven't made it because although Blacks make up 20 percent of the American population we command neither the political nor the economic power to turn those numbers into action. Finally, we haven't made it because too many of those of us who have made it don't care about those of us who haven't.

Living abroad has opened my eyes and mind to many things. Most importantly, however, it has thrown the plight of Black America into sharp relief. I can tell you that it is with pain and rage that I sit here in England and read about the Miami riots, and about the shooting of Vernon Jordan. It is with rage and disgust that I watch both major parties use the Black vote as a power and at the same time ignoring the real needs of Black America. It is with even greater pain that I watch Black voters prostitute themselves before either party, simply because we have not developed our own political sense. We seem ignorant of the nature of political power and incapable of using it to our own advantage. Hence, Republican and Democrat alike know that they can promise us anything and we are powerless to hold them accountable. I think it's time we changed our attitude.

The upcoming presidential election may be the most important one we ever vote in. We need to make the Black voice heard — not as sycophantic followers of any party, but as intelligent, militant critics. Certainly one can find fault with all the candidates and it is not my intention to endorse any one of them. My point is simply this: the vote can and should be a powerful political weapon. We must learn to build it shrewdly and effectively.

The responsibility for raising Black political consciousness rests squarely on you and me. We are young. We are educated. In a time when most Blacks still don't get a college education, we are a privileged group. Therefore, we have a responsibility to share the knowledge we have acquired, to speak up for those who can't. For you at Carolina, getting an education must mean more than drop-add, Botany 10 and exams. Getting your education must include developing a political sense. So while you're jamming, stepping, playing f-ball and hanging out, take some time to register and vote in November. Take some time to THINK about where Black America is now, and what you can do to change things. There are a lot of people counting on us.

— Karen L. Stevenson,
Oxford University

Show concern

To the Editor:

Regarding the article "Klan threat sparks interest," the author called attention to the fact that most Black students will not address small problems for fear of seeming militant. If we are to move forward, we must not allow ourselves to take a low level approach on issues that concern us. Incidents like the one near The Pit October 1, should not be ignored. We as Black students should take a more active stand against such deliberate acts. It should be known that we do not and will not tolerate such conduct.

Lest we forget that our parents and grandparents fought for many of the rights we take for granted today. At the time they were thought of as militants.

Not only should we deal with problems like this, but we should work toward the prevention also.

— Gwendolyn Hailey,
524 James

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"The essence of freedom is understanding."

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