

Readers project new image

by Cherie Evans

Got up this morning
Feeling Good and Black
Thinking black thoughts
Did black things
Played all my black records
And minded my own black business
Put on my best black clothes
Walked out my black door
And Lord Have Mercy
White Snow!

This poem, "One Thousand Ninety-Hundred and Sixty-Eight Winters" by Jaci Farley, can outline the theme the Ebony Readers have adopted this year. As a sub-group of the Black Student Movement (BSM), the Ebony Readers are trying to "get away from black/white issues and bring out black work," said Felecia McGhee, president of the Readers. While acknowledging the existence of racial problems, McGhee said that they are "trying to deal with positive images of black life and reality."

The Ebony Readers present black

poetry, prose, and drama that would not ordinarily be accessible on the UNC campus. In 1970, the readers and the dramatists, of the BSM joined to form the Ebony Readers because there was a "need for black expression and it was a chance to use our talents in that area," stated Allen Russell, a five year member of the group. Many of the works interpreted are written by the Readers or are found after extensive research in the library. To become an Ebony Reader, one must be tested on expertise in characterization, articulation, projection, poise, voice variation, attitude, stance, and his performance of an impromptu piece.

At present, the Ebony Readers consists of sixteen members and their major goal is to focus on plays. They will be performing in November and are planning to extend an invitation to other Reader groups to participate in cultural programs at UNC. Students can also look for their performances at mini-shows in the North and South Campus dorms and in front of Greenlaw.

We as a people are of different attitudes.
We pledge to do our best to live with one another
We hide behind the shadows, not to be seen or heard.
We do not understand why misconception are laden on our hearts.
We seem natural enough, or are we?
To my white brother, I am a public exhibition.
I am to be studied and torn apart.
But why can't I just be accepted as a human being?
Race is important, but let me shine as an individual too.
Believe it or not, I am different from my black sisters and brothers.
I have different ideas and beliefs.
We share a race and a historical culture
But we are different.

by Connie Smith

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planning should be done to insure the watershed has a built in safeguard to protect it from adverse conditions and to keep in mind that water is primarily for residents use," said Wilson.

"Careful zoning and planning should be done and growth should be monitored so that no sporadic growth occurs that is not beneficial to the community," said Rev. Wilson. He said that zoning permits should be upheld to insure uniformity and insure interest of the total community present.

Rev. Wilson is a supporter of the acquisition of the Cane Creek area. "I support the acquisition of Cane Creek so the area would have two viable water systems," he said.

Rev. Wilson, pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, pushes for continued support of the arts in Carrboro. "In many instances arts and cultural aspects of the community suffer greatly in budget reviews," he said. He feels that local community is obligated to preserve the arts at the level the town budget can and will allow.

Rev. Wilson feels that residents should be concerned with the face of the community. "Features which make Carrboro uniquely distinct must be preserved. Preservation must not preclude growth and development but must take place," he said.

Rev. Wilson serves on the Board of Adjustments, is vice president of Ministerial Alliance of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and is second vice president of the area black caucus. He is a recent graduate of the University of the District of Columbia, receiving a B.A. degree in social welfare and he is looking forward to attending Duke Divinity School in January.

By being a pastor and coming in contact with a cadre of persons, Rev. Wilson feels he has a first hand opportunity to interact with people. He feels that contact with people enables him to know what people think and know their views on issues. He feels the church is part of the community, but there is a total community outside the church that must be reached.

"With real concern and genuine caring, we feel we can be effective in the political world," he said.

Rev. Wilson also sees a need to look at the existing transportation system to study and devise ways to improve the system without increasing fares. "The transportation system needs to be examined to find where money might be saved so money won't be exhausted if the federal government stops subsidizing," said Wilson. ■

Milton Jordan

Executive Editor of
The Carolina Times will speak to
The Black Ink Staff
Monday, October 31 at 5:00
in the Carolina Union.

All interested persons are
urged to attend.

