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New Student Body President

Parker speaks on upcoming term

By Marjorie Roach
Staff Writer

"Go forth and Conquer" is the theme Paul Parker intends to live by as president of the student body. The junior, French and International Studies major from Jacksonville, Florida, has many goals in mind to conquer. In a personal interview with Parker, he outlined a few of those goals and issues his administration will tackle this year.

Black Ink: How does it feel to be the new Student Body President after such a tough race against James Exum?

Parker: It feels great, but that only lasts for a few minutes because I realize it's time to get to work. There's a lot that has to get done. I made a lot of promises, and I want to make sure I can follow through on those promises. It was a very good race. It was very clean and positive. All the candidates involved had the interest of the student body at heart and that's what made the outcome so clean. Had Exum won, it would have been very positive. Even with me winning, it's still very positive.

Black Ink: You once said in a DTH write-up and I'll quote, "If we don't choose carefully, then we will be unable to solve the biggest problem—that of making Student Government into a dynamic body which provides tangible results." Tell me, how do you propose to accomplish this?

Parker: By attacking the issues, and bringing in motivated people with drive so they can use that inertia to help solve problems. By looking at the problem and at all the factors, then pulling everything together and trying to see what the best solution is. To make sure that Student Government is always doing things, I've taken 15 specific issues and concerns and incorporated them into a project board. We will have 15 projects which will be worked on constantly. It's flexible in that whenever a project comes up or something that needs a solution to it, we can address it.

Black Ink: What's already in progress on the SG agenda? What's next for the Student Body?

Parker: There are some specific short-term issues which we are working on now. One is the extension of library hours. We are taking the initiative now in doing research as to what would be the best library hours. Other issues we are working on now is space in the union. What we want to do is come up with a standard flexible policy that we can judge and look to designate space. Another thing is food services and student store prices. Also, increasing employment. We're in the research stage at this point. There are issues coming up with trying to decrease the prices for student insurance. Student Government has got to concentrate on issues that deal with money because we're here to get an education, and to have a good time, (we have to make sure we can for that). That's why a lot of issues are centered on money, especially with the 18% dorm increase. We may not be able to decrease the rent in the dorm, but we can work on opening up other money in other areas and making sure people can get employment. We are also in the process of making constitutional changes. Sport clubs and free play are also being worked on by the policy board.

Black Ink: Where does the root of the housing integration problem lie? What do you propose to do about it?

Parker: Many of the findings have come up through research that I've done, and by talking to individuals and also through the research of others. There's a whole mixture of reasons that led to south campus being predominately black. In our findings, it did not appear that it was a concerted effort by the administration or by any group to put blacks on south campus. One particular thing that happened according to Collin Rustin, was there were a lot of orientations on the campus during the



summer and other periods of the year that took place on south campus because of convenience and space availability. What happened after that was a trend of more blacks living on south campus. It is believed that freshmen that come in are more familiar with this area already because they've come here as seniors in high school. Recently there have been orientations on north campus, and time will tell if they'll have that sort of trend on north campus with blacks moving in that area. Also more support systems (for blacks) are on south campus. The dorms are more modern. What we're trying to do is change attitudes. Just by putting sheer numbers such as 16% (blacks) does not mean that attitudes are going to change. I am not in favor of a randomized plan. I am in favor of choice. We are trying to make sure that a pattern of segregation does not occur.

Black Ink: Could you comment on the current status of black/white relations on this campus and if you feel there is a problem, will your administration do anything to improve it?

Parker: I think a lot of people are interested in solving any problems that we have. White groups, black groups and black-white (mixed) groups have come together in trying to solve some of the racial problems we have on this campus and to increase awareness. I think for some people, racial problems are very severe and for others not as severe. But as long as there are any problems or concerns of any student, then we have a problem. This administration will continue to work on dorm integration and race relations in general. We will have a direct contact with all major groups on this campus. I will be sure to know when BSM meetings

continued on pg. 8

Young artist paints Craige Mural

By Winfred Cross
Staff Writer

Spring vacation for most of us was spent sunning on the beach, catching up with old friends or enjoying (hating?) the ACC Tournament. Not so for Clinton Anderson.

Anderson, a senior criminal justice major, was busy finishing "The Order of the Usual," a mural in Craige Hall's Coffee Haus.

"It's the usual types you find at any social function," Anderson said while explaining the mural's meaning. "The guy with the tongue in his hand is your basic party animal. The bartender is up on a pedestal (which) represents an altar; you go up to pay your tithes and you get a High Ball

The female is a cool female type. She's not too aggressive, not dormant in attitude, yet cool and laidback. My type of woman.

"The guy with the coffee cup is your Joe Studd type who brags about not drinking alcohol while at a bar."

Anderson said he gets the inspiration to paint from things that affect him emotionally such as child birth, thunderstorms, sun rises and dreams. He said he dreamed of the lady in the mural while he was daydreaming in class. "I usually dream in color—very bright colors. Each figure has jagged edges. Everybody's angular."

Anderson's style owes much to

that of Kadinsky and Picasso but it is distinctively his own brand of "Cintism." Born the son of a La Grange construction worker, Anderson became interested in art when he was 5-years-old. He used to sneak into his brother Joseph's room and play in his paint box while he was away at work. Things went along fine until he put red paint all over his brother's floor. "I can still remember that beating," Anderson said. "I decided to ask my sister to buy me some paints of my own after that."

The Craige mural is the second major work Anderson has done on campus. His first mural, "The Per-

sonality of Music," was done in the Recreation Room of Hinton James in 1981. Although he enjoys doing such large scale projects he isn't looking for a career in art.

"The level of work I'm doing gratifies me greatly," Anderson said. "I could get the financial backing to become a professional artist I'd do it. Right now it's a pleasant hobby."

Anderson was born in La Grange in 1962. He is the ninth of the eleven children of Joseph and Martha Anderson. He now resides in Washington, D.C., where he has lived since 1980 with his sister. ■