

## Here's to the new school year

It began in the turbulent sixties as a radical newspaper used to voice the views of Blacks in the University community. Today, it serves as one of the University's alternative publications.

The **Black Ink's** focus may have changed through the years but its purpose remains the same. The names and faces may have changed but many of the same issues still plague us year after year. Black enrollment, discrimination, the lack of funding for the Black Student Movement, the small number of Black faculty of UNC-CH are a few of the issues. As the official paper of the Black Student Movement, we stand behind all efforts to confront issues that affect Black students.

The members of the **Black Ink** staff feel that it is our duty to keep you informed. At the same time, we encourage you to voice your opinions through editorials or letters-to-the editor.

On behalf of the **Black Ink** staff, I would like to welcome the class of 1989. I would also like to offer a few words of wisdom. In order for you to make your next four years an academic success, you must set your priorities in perspective with your goals. No one said it will be easy.

There are only 303 members in this year's Black freshman class making it the smallest since the 1978 class of 297. The Black population is declining every year. In order to ensure our survival at UNC-CH, please take advantage of the resources here to aid you. The Reading Program, tutorials and the Office of Student Counseling are a few of the resources available to you.

For a well-rounded education, the Black Student Movement offers several sub-groups where your talents are needed. For those who express themselves well through drama, there is the Ebony Readers; for dancers, the Opeyo Dancers; for singers, the Gospel choir; for the political-minded student, the BSM general body or committees; and finally for the writer, the **Black Ink**.

This year Sibby Anderson is president of the BSM. She and the rest of the BSM officers, Tonya Smith, vice president; Janet Roach, secretary and Craig Goodson, will work hard on concerns and issues of the Black student here at UNC-CH. They need your help in making this a productive year.

Although the Black population is small, our cultural presence is rich and strong. The **Black Ink** intends to live up to our motto-If Blackness can be converted into words and pictures, we intend to do it.

## VIEWPOINT

My first week at UNC-CH has proved to be most eventful. I am a Black freshman living in Cobb dormitory. Upon entering Cobb, I was surprised to see that only a handful of Blacks reside there. I felt all alone on my first few nights there. I cried like a baby. I missed my mother and home. I still remember my mother's voice saying, "You're going to miss my cooking." After eating in Lenoir, she's right.

My homesickness was soon forgotten because of the tiring schedule of meetings. To my confusion, I was given a Pre-O.C., O.C., R.A., A.D., M.A., and faculty advisor to advise me of the do's and don'ts and odds and ends of UNC.

One of the most inspiring meetings I attended was with Dean Hayden Renwick, Dean of Student Affairs. His message was of concern and care for the academic survival and well-being of the Black students. When I left that meeting, I was ready to go to work. I got out my books and started studying right away.

Preparing for classes was not an easy task. My schedule was messed up even though I had pre-registered. Drop/add was a zoo. I had never been through anything like that before in my life. After all the confusion of bumping into people for hours, I still did not get the classes I wanted.

My map became a vital part of my freshman experience. As I made my way to classes in the first week, it never left my sight. While in class, I sit quietly never saying a word for fear of saying something dumb and being laughed at. I learned that from my first day. How was I supposed to know what a blue book was; I'm just a freshman.

I know I still have a lot to learn about this University. At any rate, I am looking forward to a wonderful four years here at UNC-CH.

## From the Editor:

*As editor of the Black Ink, it is my every intention to make this newspaper one which objectively reports all newsworthy events, people, places, etc. -- especially those pertinent to minorities.*

*The Black Ink is not a daily newspaper, but is instead a bi-weekly. Therefore, the time element will be a major factor in all issues. Please understand that issues deemed important will appear in the paper as long as they are not "old news" when we print.*

*As editor, I reserve the right to make all final decisions regarding what is printed in the newspaper. While I do encourage letters to the editor, please note that all letters will not appear.*

*This year, I am pleased to say, I have a truly dependable staff working closely with me. They are: Marjorie Roach, assistant editor; Angela Ross, news editor; Kenneth Harris, Special projects editor; Barry Carson, advertising manager; Sharyne McCombs, business manager; Ralph Ward, photography editor, and a number of staff writers.*

*We all anticipate this year's Black Ink to be a newspaper students and faculty will look forward to reading every month.*

*There are several distribution spots on campus, so look for the paper! And please, if you would like to be a part of the Black Ink in any way, let us know.*

Laurie Denise Willis  
Black Ink OFFICE

## From the Mailbox

Dear Editor:

I've gone to the last three Pre-O sessions. I've gone to the last three freshman class meetings with Dean Renwick. I've heard Vice Chancellor Wallace say it, I've heard Dean Renwick say it, I've heard Shavette Satterwhite and Sherrod Banks and Sibby Anderson and anybody else who gets up in front of a large group of Black students say it, but I still don't believe it. "At Carolina," they say, "since the Black population is only ten percent (or less) of the total campus population we stick together. We have to in order to survive."

I want to know who are these people who "stick together." True, I have my good friends who I hang out with, trip with, tell all my secrets to, but that's to be expected. They're my friends. I want to know what's up with all of these other Black people on this campus. Now, I don't expect anyone to fall down and worship me, and I know most people don't even know who I am. But why won't people speak? A kind word never hurt anyone. I'll be walking down the hill by Woollen Gym on the way to my 10:00 class in a generally good mood when somebody ruins my day by not even grunting when I waste my air giving them a "Hello." Or better yet, some intelligent people figure that they only have to speak to me if they see me, so they turn their heads away and look at the Bell Tower, or their DTH, or even the bricks. Just so they won't have to say "Hi."

I walk by the wall across from the Undergrad and see the Jocks and their women. I'm lucky if I get five nods and a hello out of all of those people. True, some of them are busy talking and it would be rude to stop talking to someone important just to acknowledge my presence, but what about the ones that aren't in a conversation and still see me coming? And the worst thing is when a freshman feels that he's too good to speak.

People, part of "sticking together" is to be there for each other. If you're going to call somebody your "Bro" or "Blood" or "Home Boy," you've got to know what that means. I still speak to everyone I see. I still try to give an encouraging word when somebody looks down or a note of pleasure when I hear of someone doing good. It ain't necessary to know everyone to do this. My mama used to say, "Manners are free and love is the only thing you get more of by giving it all away." Let's try a little of that on the yard, okay?

Marvin D. Wethington  
Morrison

# Black Ink

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Academic Skills Sessions are held four nights per week, Monday through Thursday. Each session is staffed by a graduate student supervisor and by minority advisors who tutor courses frequently taken by freshmen. Sessions are open to all students on a walk-in basis. All are encouraged to take advantage of this service.

Academic Skills Sessions Schedule	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday 7-8:30 Wednesday Thursday	Ehringhaus, 4th floor Conference Room 107 Hanes Hall Hinton James, 1st floor Library Morrison, 1st floor Library 309 Peabody Hall Hinton James, 1st floor Coffee House
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