

# Campus News

## Students Face Racism in Georgia Freedom March

By Wilt Hyman, Guest Writer  
and Sheila Simmons, Editor

Wilt Hyman expected the singing of the civil rights songs, the speeches by civil rights activists and the gathering of the crowds in the streets.

But the red, white and blue confederate flags, the Ku Klux Klansmen, the National Guardsmen and "Nigger Go Home" banners presented a scene right out of the 1960's, a time fairly unfamiliar to Hyman, a sophomore political science major from Laurinburg, NC.

Unfortunately, the date was Saturday, January 24, 1987. And Brotherhood March II was going to bring together blacks and whites in an effort to march in all white Forsythe County in Georgia. They were protesting the violence by white supremacists against protesters who attempted to march through the county on Martin Luther King's Birthday a week earlier.

After arriving in Atlanta, Hyman, along with UNC students Kenneth M. Perry, Sandra Purnell, George Perry and Allen Davis frantically searched for a bus

not filled to capacity. The students stood up on the bus for three hours amidst people singing songs and exchanging names and hometowns.

The students filed off the bus about a mile from Cumming and proceeded to lineup and participate in what would turn out to be the largest civil rights march in Georgia's history.

About 20,000 people attended the event, in which blacks and whites interlocked arms and marched down the highway towards Cumming.

"National Guardsmen were everywhere," Hyman said.

Lined up on both sides of the street were white supremacists yelling racial slurs and waving banners and flags, according to Hyman.

They ranged from small children to middle-aged men and women to elderly, he said.

As the crowd pulled into the Forsythe County Courthouse, their destination, the racist actions continued to come from people lined up on the sidewalks, Hyman said.

"All the marchers just held their fists up high and kept looking straight ahead," he said.

"As we rounded the corner to the courthouse, we could hear Andrew Young introducing the next speaker," Hyman said. "We also saw and heard the Klan rally that was no more than 200 yards away on the same street the Brotherhood March was on."

According to Hyman, the only thing separating the two groups was a green wall of National Guardsmen holding billy clubs.

The thousands of people standing in the street in front of the courthouse heard speeches from Coretta Scott King, Hosea Williams, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Dick Gregory, Benjamin Hooks, Bernice King and other civil rights leaders.

At about 6:00 p.m., the Brotherhood rally began to come to an end, as the thousands of people left the courthouse grounds and marched out of Cumming singing, "We Shall Overcome," Hyman said.

Although the show of racism and supremacy left a negative impact on the young students who attended the march, many said the experience of togetherness and brotherhood among the 20,000 marchers was an event that they will long remember.

"I felt that the march was one of the greatest things I'll ever see in my life," said Allen Davis.

Hyman said he doubted that he would ever witness an event where "so many strangers came together and unselfishly gave each other support, encouragement and belief in the individual's potential and contributions to the cause."

"I wish other blacks from UNC could have attended this major event," he said. "It made me more aware of the inequality between blacks and whites. For example, some say blacks and whites are equal. But if we are equal, why can't blacks live in Cumming, Georgia?" Hyman asked.

"If blacks don't wake up and see the light, we will be living in a world of eternal darkness."

## Making the Difference

By Mia C. Davis, Advertising Editor

"You can make the difference," said Donella R. Crosland, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, speaking January 13 in Hinton James Lounge during the second day of the Delta Sigma Theta Founders Week Celebration.

Crosland, a Delta member and a North Carolina Central University graduate, told about 35 enthusiastic students and faculty that we should support and maintain the arts as part of our cultural identity.

"To enlighten our community," said Crosland, "we need to be civically conscious."

Since Blacks make up a large portion of the arts field, we derive a lot of history from participation in fine arts programs, said Crosland.

The beauty of education is that it informs, said Crosland. Accompanied with the proper attitudes, she believes that we can become whatever we want to be.

"Don't be students who sit in their rooms and let the world pass them by," she said.

As students, we need to cultivate our

interests, help one another and pool our resources, said Crosland.

A lot of students short-change themselves and take things for granted when they come to college. Many develop a competitive academic attitude and "purposefully forget" to pass on tips to underclassmen.

The black campus community should, said Crosland, help future students by keeping notes, filing exams and informing students about experiences with teachers.

"We wouldn't be where we are today if there weren't persons before us who paved the way," said Crosland.

Students — while earning an education — must set standards, develop skills and professional attitudes and think about their entire futures.

Never sell you capabilities or yourself short, she said.

"Be able to say, 'I care about me, the kind of person I am and my future — I'm willing to make the difference,'" said Crosland.

## It's Greek to Me

By Taundra S. Woodard, News Editor

Freshmen are the most impressionable students on campus. In their first year of college, these students judge and form an image about the various organizations, leaders and events that occur in their new environment.

The Greek organizations appear to be among the most visible of the university. So what impression do freshmen have about such organizations? And when they form an impression of such organizations, does it become a set picture in their minds, limited to changing views and filled with false perceptions? What can Greek organizations do to assist freshmen? Do

Greek organizations separate the black community? And what do the 75 percent of the upperclassmen who are not members of Greek organizations think of the Greeks?

In a series of articles, *The Ink* will explore such topics and attempt to create a better and more understanding atmosphere between the campus and the Greek organizations. Through this series, *The Ink* hopes to open the organizations up to the needs of the unification of the campus. *The Ink* invites your questions, comments and ideas throughout the running of this series which will begin in the next issue.

# Stepping Out

at Carolina Union Events  
George Winston  
February 13 - 8:00 p.m.  
Tickets on sale January 26

February 9-12  
Rape Awareness Week  
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February 27: Rufus Reed Quartet  
8:00 Hill Hall  
February 28: Rufus Reed and  
UNC Jazz Band 8:00 Memorial

February 25  
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8:00 p.m.  
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February 27  
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