

# The Black Ink

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The Black Ink Celebrates Twenty Years of Black News

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## Homecoming Queen For 1989-90 Fills In All The "Blanks"

By Nicole Majette  
Staff Writer

"And the 1989 Miss Homecoming is ... Tonya Blanks.." At this instant, a young woman's dreams came true. She had just won a very prestigious title and had come out on top of seven other finalists.

Tonya Blanks, UNC's 1989 Homecoming Queen, was born and raised in Clarkton, North Carolina, which is about 40 miles west of Wilmington, North Carolina. She attended Hallsboro High School which covered grades 7-12, and had a student body population of 636. "Carolina was a big adjustment, but a welcomed change,"

stated Blanks. "I really enjoy it here, in fact, these past few years have been some of the best years yet. I've had the chance to meet a lot of different people by being involved in different activities."

Instead of Blanks saying "different" activities, she should have said "numerous" activities. She is a very active student in several outstanding organizations. During her freshman year she served on the Freshman Class Committee, which consisted of freshmen that showed leadership. This committee voiced the opinion of what their fellow freshman were thinking. As a freshman, she also served on the founding committee of the now



DTH-Kathy Michel

Tonya Blanks, escorted by Kenny Perry, smiles after being crowned homecoming queen

three-year old UNITAS program. Other involvement with UNITAS is that she was also an

intricate part of the program's planning during her sophomore  
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## Students Attend Black Congressional Caucus In Washington

By Sherry Waters  
Staff Writer

Thirteen students, representing the Black Cultural Center, were given the opportunity to attend the 19th Annual Congressional Black Caucus in Washington D.C., September 13th-17th.

"A Global Crisis: Our Children at Risk" was the theme dedicated to Texas Representative George (Mickey) Leland. "I really liked the caucus, because I got a chance to meet a lot of powerful people," Keith Belton, a senior from Nashville, Tennessee, said.

The legislative program was primarily concerned with Black issues and social policies. Taking a critical look at problems facing the Black community,

Black members of congress-including Congressman Kwaisi Mfume and Congressman Ronald V. Dellums- addressed the caucus.

"We, as a people, now stand before the world as perhaps the last expression of the possibility of man," Mfume, Chairman of the Legislative Weekend, addressed at the invocation.

"It was nice to see so many young leaders, who were in the spirit of fun, to uplift the Black race," Belton said. Shamusideen A.A. Abiola, Harold Ford, Jr., Pamela Gregory, Jesse Jackson, Jr., and Martin Luther King, III were some of the legacy roundtable participants at the caucus.

The legacy conference: "Leadership 2000- The Legacy

of The Movement" was taped for National Broadcast, which will be a Disney Production Fall Network Special. Larry Carrol, Network News Anchor for KJH-TV 9 in Los Angeles, was the moderator for the program, which will be aired in February.

Thurgood Marshall, Jr., Marc Morial, Susan Robeson, Cheryl Sulton, and Mpho Tutu also hosted the legacy conference: "Leadership 2000- The Legacy of The Movement" also.

Cheryl Grant, a junior from Fayetteville, said: "I am honored to have met the children of people who fought for the civil rights of Black progress in America."

The Caucus consisted of workshops, luncheons, and discussion sessions dealing with

issues such as: "Youth Saving and Serving the Black Community", "Political and Economic Empowerment: Ensuring Our Future", "The Black Student Athlete: Prospects for the Future", and "Racism and the College Campus".

To conclude the program, The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation held their Annual Awards Dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel. Bernie Casey, former NFL All-Pro; and Madge Sinclair, television and screen actress, hosted the awards ceremony. Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, the first Black woman to head Atlanta's Spelman College, was another keynote speaker at the conference.

The students returned on Sunday, September 17.

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