

# All Hail the Queen: Miss BSM Takes Crown

By Jacqueline Charles and Renita Mumford  
Ink Staff Writers

Maleikka Hardy will always remember the ninth of October. Not just because it was her 21st birthday, but also because it was the day she made history by becoming the University's fifth black Homecoming Queen in a row.

"I was nervous and excited," Hardy said of the minutes following the announcement.

And when her name was finally announced, Hardy said, "I

was so surprised. I couldn't have asked for a better birthday present."

Although Hardy described running for and becoming queen as "a good experience," there were a few heartaches, which made the road to Kenan Stadium far from smooth, she said.

Once it became known that Hardy was one of the entries for Homecoming Queen, the senior political science major from Charlotte had to deal with both campus attitudes and the *Daily Tar Heel* editorials and articles downplaying her qualifications.



Maleikka Hardy

"It just got so political," said Hardy, who was crowned Miss BSM on Sept. 17 during the Black Student Movement's Coronation Ball.

"It almost took the joy out of homecoming, except for my friends and members of the BSM who were very supportive," she said.

Despite the smirks and disapproval of some over her selection, Hardy said that both titles "are an honor."

"Being Miss BSM is allowing me to be the representative of an organization that has been very important to me since I got here," she said.

While Hardy plans to use her position as Miss BSM to become more involved with the Black Student Movement as a whole, she'll use her title as Homecoming Queen to help bring the community together. She plans to do this via her service project - Community Day.

"It will be an opportunity for the University, Chapel Hill and Carrboro communities to get together for a day of fun," said Hardy, who is planning the event for the latter half of the Spring semester.

"It will be a chance for people in the community to come on campus and enjoy campus. You don't see too many people from the community on campus and it's right here," she said.

Among her many other involvements, Hardy is also a member of Ebony Readers/Onyx Theater, the president of the Carolina Union and a member of the Honor Court.

*Editor's Note: When Hardy ran for Miss BSM, she was among six lovely young ladies bidding for the title. The following is a profile of the contestants who ran for Miss BSM. Their list of activities range from participating in the BSM's dorm activation program, to the president of a sorority.*

*Vying for the title were:*

**JOVANNA BROOKS-FOX**  
AGE: 22  
HOMETOWN: Cary  
MAJOR: Speech Communication  
MINOR: Recreational Services

Jovanna is a vocalist for the UNC Jazz Band, a manager at Granville Towers East and programs cultural events for Granville and the campus.

**CAMILLE GADDY**  
AGE: 21  
HOMETOWN: Raleigh  
MAJOR: Mathematics  
MINOR: Business

As the BSM on-campus coordinator, Gaddy acts as a liaison between the BSM and the Office of Student Affairs. The president of the New Generation Campus Ministry, Gaddy is also a senior class marshal, a member of the National Student Board for New Generation Campus Ministry. Gaddy also tutors local elementary and middle schools students.

**TONI HALE**  
AGE: 20  
HOMETOWN: Westbury/Long Island, NY  
MAJOR: Business Administration

Hale is liaison between BSM president John Bradley and the senior class marshals. Hale is also a sub-group coordinator, a floor sergeant for the Dorm Activation System, an Opeyo!

dancer, and a volunteer at W. G. Pearson Elementary School. A member of Crossroads, Hale also volunteers for the Business Symposium and the Bicentennial Celebration. Other activities include being a senior class marshal, the adviser for the Black Business Student Alliance and a member of Carolina Women in Business.

**ANGELA RAY**  
AGE: 21  
HOMETOWN: Fayetteville  
MAJOR: RTVMP

Ray is involved with Upward Bound, Speech departmental performances, Ebony Readers/Onyx Theater, the Lab! Theater, and Project Uplift. Ray is also a Minority Adviser, a Student Recruitment Committee volunteer, a Campus Y volunteer/Richfield Action Project and an Edgemont Community Center drama coach. She was also a Pre-Orientation Counselor and a Summer Bridge tutor.

**APRIL C. TURNER**  
AGE: 21  
HOMETOWN: Charlotte  
MAJOR: RTVMP/Drama

Presently president of the Theta Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Turner, like her fellow candidates, is very involved.

Turner is a Residence Assistance, a dancer with Rafiki Ngoma and Obakunle Akinlana African Dance groups, a chairperson for the Performing Arts Committee and Programming Coordinator in Morrison. April is also a Sauti Mpya Editorial Board member and active participant in the state and local arts community.

In the past, Turner has served three years in Ebony Readers/Onyx Theater and for two years, she was Artistic Director (Artist in Residence). She also was on the Editorial Board for the *Black Ink* and is currently the Bicentennial liaison for the BSM.

## Black Women United: On Its Way To a Comeback

By Tee Omolodun  
Ink Staff Writer

After two years of hibernation, an organization dedicated to uniting black women at the University is on its way to what promises to be an exciting comeback.

The organization, Black Women United (BWU), is a group dedicated to bringing together black women faculty, staff and students.

"It's not a support group," said Countess Hughes, Hinton James area director. "It's more like a talk group."

On Oct. 29th, BWU sponsored a reception in the Wilson Library Assembly Room, where it honored several outstanding black women on campus. About 50 women attended the reception.

Working along with Hughes to revise BWU, are Asst. Dean Sibby Anderson-Thompkins, Asst. Housing Director Monique Wiggins and Associate Dean Rosalind Fuse-Hall.

Among the organization's many purposes are to respond to the needs of black women on campus and to foster a more

harmonious relationship among black women.

"It is necessary to put an organization together that will get black women to act and be more sisterly toward each other," Hughes said. "It's important wherever you go to connect with people who are similar with each other."

Sophomore Kami Chavis agreed.

"I think it has the potential to be a great organization and that it's something that's greatly needed to promote unity among black women," Chavis said.

When BWU was founded in 1978, it was just a group of black students and faculty members getting together to discuss social issues pertinent to black students at the time. Eventually, the group developed an organizational format and sponsored various events such as mother-daughter banquets, budgeting and stress management workshops.

But in 1991 the organization disintegrated from lack of good leadership.

BWU will have its first meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday in the first floor lounge of Hinton James Hall.