

The Step Show



Photo by Macey Long

Members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. give students a sample of their routine for the homecoming step show.

By Cheritta Pridgen

The night of Nov. 6 was considerably warm and maybe it was due to the fact that the Homecoming Step Show was so hot. As people crowded into Memorial hall, everyone was anticipating a good show. No one knew just what was in store.

The 1999 Homecoming Step Show received rave reviews from many, including Shayna Waites, a junior, who said: "I went because I like to socialize and it's fun to watch the different groups compete. Everyone was competitive. This step show is probably the best I've seen since I've been here."

Dr. Archie Ervin, who is Assistant to the Chancellor and Director of the Office of Minority Affairs here at the University, was a judge for the step show and said: "The 1999 Homecoming Step Show was the highest quality production I can remember in my 13 years here. People had fun and you could feel the audience having fun."

At the start of the show, the stage was graced with the presence of Harmonyx, who sang the Black National Anthem with great precision and then the stepping began with the sultry sisters of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. doing their thing in the west. The lovely ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. blew us away with their western routine as well and left with a bang.

As the lights went down again, the next thing we saw were those illusionary green wigs and the pink cowboy hats and boots worn by the dazzling ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. They gave it to us one time and then rewound it, and did it again.

The rowdy brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. were the first fraternity to perform and hit us off

with their art of storytelling. Then, the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. shook what their mammas gave them, while the ice-cold brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc. took us on a train ride through time. And last but not least, the brothers of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. let the light shine down on them.

The competition was solid and making the decision to award only one fraternity and one sorority was difficult. This year, the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. earned the right to be called the winners.

To be christened the winner from all the awesome competition displayed at this year's step show is truly an honor. In response to their victory, Franklin Ford, a junior and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. said: "I had doubts, but I feel very elated. We had an exciting show and we weren't just sitting around. We kept moving." Niccole Cosby, a senior African-American Studies major from Atlanta and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. said: "I'm very excited. We practiced long and hard and it paid off. The step show was really good and the competition was very stiff and all of the groups did very well."

The step show has become part of the tradition of Homecoming week and according to Cosby, "it is necessary to incorporate something of black culture" into Homecoming week.

Special guest emcees Deja Dee, Tony Gee and Jasmine James from "K97.5" did an awesome job and also contributed to making the show a success.