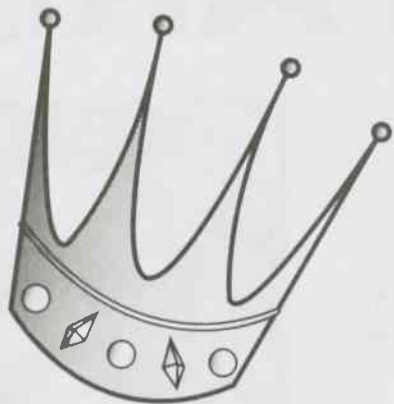


One-on-One



With Royalty

By Vida S. Awumey

The purpose of holding the position of Mr. and Ms. BSM within the Black Student Movement is to be a representation of the ideal BSM member. Upholding these titles, Mr. and Miss BSM continue their involvement with their community services, and acting in part as spokespersons for the organization upon the absence of the president and or vice president. The two winners further help the movement by moving on to campaign for the Mr. and Ms. UNC titles, providing more exposure and having outside contacts to the BSM.

The Coronation Ball for the Mr. and Ms. BSM competition was held Saturday, Sept. 15, 2001 at the Morehead Planetarium. Gentlemen were dressed in suits and tuxedos and ladies, in elegant evening gowns. It was a night filled with anticipation as all waited for the announcement of Mr. and Ms. BSM. The evening had only begun when the winners of this anticipated competition were revealed. Thurston Cherry and Sundarkia Newman were pronounced Mr. and Ms. BSM. There were ovations and smiles of joy, especially by the two winners. I was able to interview these fine young individuals concerning their achievement.

*And the Winner Is
Thurston Cherry*

Thurston is a 21-year-old senior communications major with a concentration in

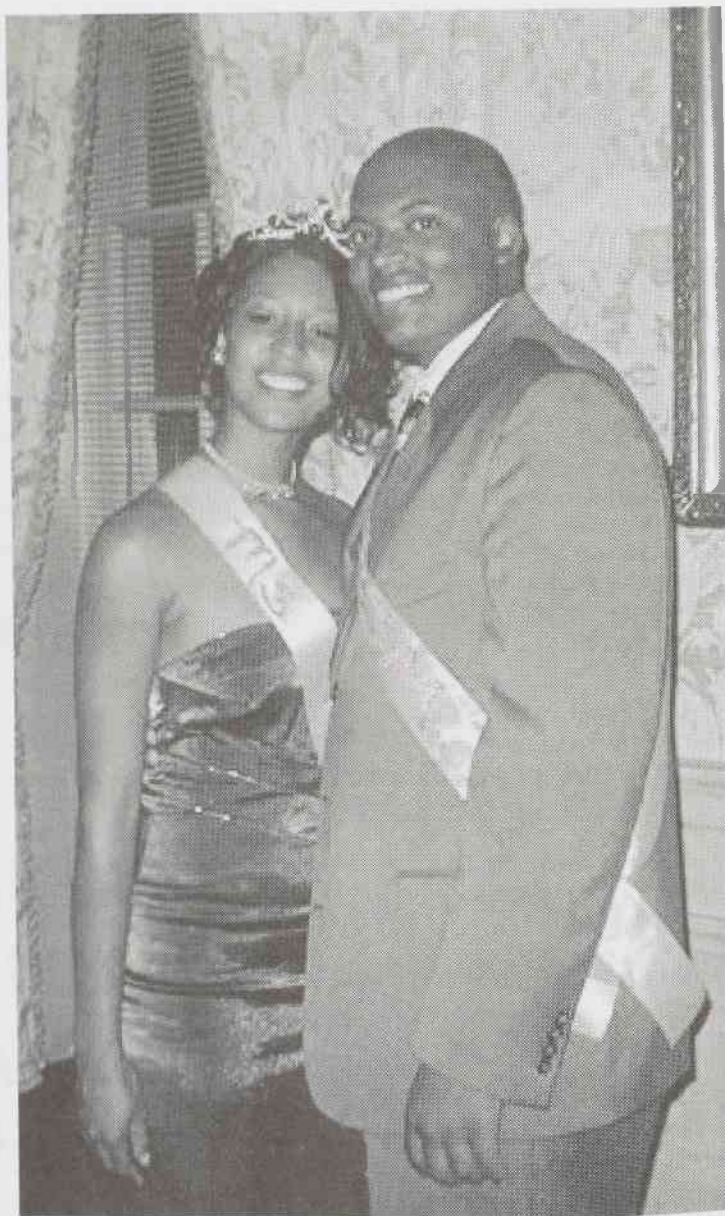
performance studies. He is from Cary, N.C. His activities include the Young Democrats, Student Television, Concepts and being a member of the Mu Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is the stepmaster.

VA: "What are your future plans as Mr. BSM?"

TC: "First, I plan to represent BSM in a positive manner around campus. I will try to attend most meetings and represent the BSM completely. Also, I am currently involved with Masala and helping raise money for the recent events of Sept. 11. For my service project, I will be putting on a benefit concert for the Durham Arts Council. I will be getting local artists to perform and having a talent show with high school students. I hope that by getting involved like this, I will become a mentor for African-Americans and encourage them to attend UNC and major in drama.

VA: How do you feel about winning this position?

TC: "I am excited, but nervous. It was



really a close race. I had very good competition with candidates strong in their beliefs, and I just thank God I'm in this position."

VA: "How would you describe your experience with the BSM election?"

TC: "I feel that it was worthwhile. It gave me a chance to interact with many freshmen, with whom I got to meet and persuade for my election."

VA: "Why do feel that you best represent the black student body?"

TC: "Many people say that I am very open-minded and communicate and work well with everyone I come in contact with. I feel I have a positive image that provides proper representation of, not only the black student body and the BSM, but of all UNC as well."