

ARTS AND FEATURES

Black Ink covers issues from African-American perspective

By Ginger Meek
Staff Writer

The Black Ink has been reborn, catching more readers' eyes and drawing them to UNC's only alternative publication focusing on African-American students.

Sponsored by the Black Student Movement, Black Ink has been publishing weekly this year, as opposed to its previous biweekly schedule, under the editorial administration of Erika Campbell and Akinwale N'Gai Wright.

Increased regularity of publication allows more issue-oriented, in-depth coverage of campus events, said James Benton, who recently joined the Black Ink staff.

Features writer Teresa Jefferson said, "No other publication presents a black or minority point of view ... Black Ink covers different activities and events that would not otherwise receive press coverage." Jefferson is a senior journalism major from Fayetteville who also writes some commentary for Black Ink.

Sabrina Evans, BSM president, said, "Gai (Wright) and Erika (Campbell) have succeeded in establishing a high standard of excellence. They've left a legacy for Black Ink because this year will be a year people will use as a standard of measurement in the future."

The 1990-91 year has seen 16 of the 21 scheduled issues of Black Ink thus far. The staff is aiming to meet or break the record of 18 issues produced in 1976-77 under then-editor Allen Johnson, Benton said.

son, Benton said.

Johnson, now assistant managing editor for features at the Greensboro News & Record, said numerous fund raisers and the implementation of advertising sales contributed to the success of the publication during the mid-1970s.

"Success breeds more success," he said, "and when you have strong editors you will have a strong paper."

Co-editor Wright declined an interview, and co-editor Campbell chose not to comment without accompanying comments from Wright.

Benton, a senior journalism and Afro-American studies major from Lawndale, said Black Ink served two basic purposes:

"Black Ink provides the black population of the campus with a voice by covering campus events from a different perspective. It also gives students an alternative publication that is able to cover what The Daily Tar Heel (DTH) does not have the time or the space to cover," he said.

Benton does some writing and oversees the editing process for Black Ink. A former DTH staff member, Benton said he was glad to have the opportunity to apply the knowledge he gained as a DTH staff member to Black Ink during its revival.

Black Ink was formed in 1969 following the establishment of the BSM in 1967, in an effort to strengthen the African-American presence on campus, Benton said.

A desire to have a hand in shaping

"... and when you have strong editors you will have a strong paper."

**Allen Johnson,
former Black Ink editor**

their own destinies motivated African-American students to challenge racial problems, he said. Out of this came Black Ink.

Today, a preference for Black Ink over other campus publications stems from the angle of coverage Black Ink provides, Jefferson said.

"It (Black Ink) is an outlet for black and minority students to get their points across — they can't do that in other publications," she said.

DTH editor Jennifer Wing said she was making balanced coverage a priority.

Revamping the features desk so that it is able to cover more issues of concern among minority groups and recruiting an editorial writer with an African-American perspective are ways in which she is trying to create more diversity in the DTH, she said.

The most important, yet the most difficult task, she said, is recruiting minority staff members.

"Minority students will only come if they read the paper and feel that it is sensitive to their concerns and covers issues in their community," said Wing,

a junior English major from Greenville.

Former DTH co-editor Kelly Thompson said, "We try to reflect the entire campus in our coverage and naturally that includes the views of any minority — racial, political and others." Thompson is a junior journalism and international studies major from Jefferson, Ore.

"We want diversity in our staff and our coverage — that's something we are concentrating on building," she said.

The implementation of the election process in selecting the DTH editor during the 1950s was a big step toward increased diversity in the DTH, she said. But, Thompson said that the administrative level was not the only level from which to achieve increased diversity. It's a one-on-one process, she said.

Daniel Peddle, a junior anthropology and RTVMP major from Winston-Salem, does some of the graphic art featured on the cover of Black Ink.

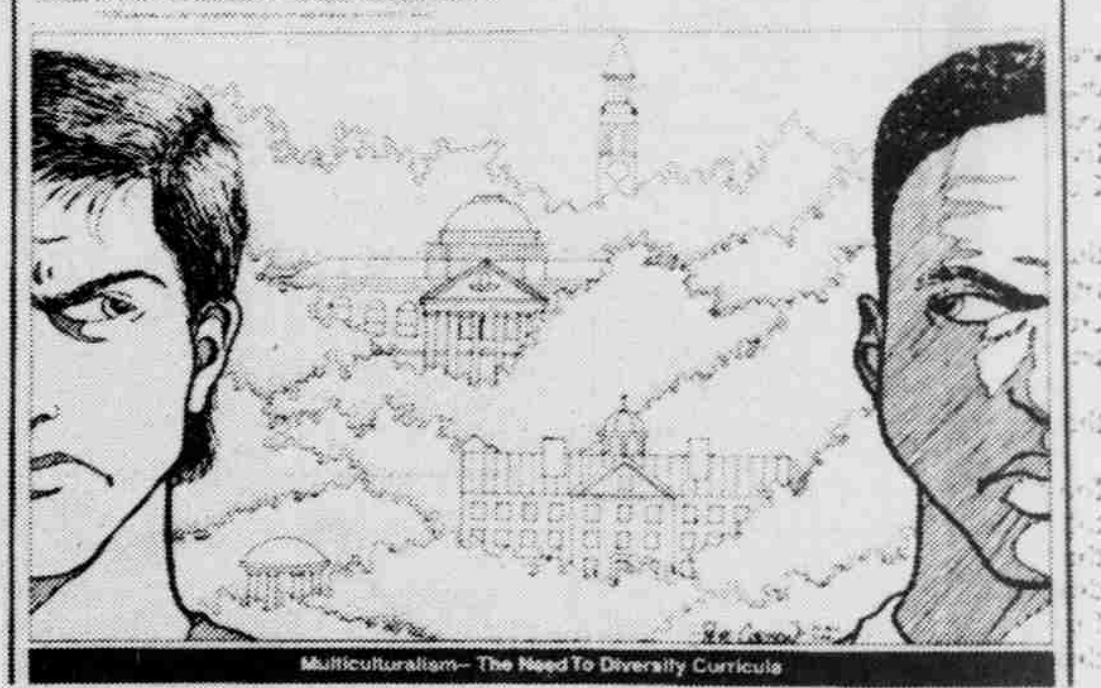
"They let me be more daring and creative with the cover art than other campus publications would," he said.

Peddle said he became involved with the publication not only because he thought it had a lot of potential, but also to improve racial relations on campus.

"When working with an ethnically diverse group of people, one way to overcome problems and differences is to work together on a tangible product. That's the reason I got involved as a white person, but that is not my main focus as a staff member," he said.

Black Ink

On The 1991 Senior Class GR, p. 10
Peder, Pans and Streeter Respond To
Questionable RHA Endorsement, p. 4



A recent copy of Black Ink

DTH illustration/Grant Halverson

Price

Politicians are now required to adopt their appeals to an electorate easily manipulated by expensive television spots, said Price. "This new kind of politics poses many challenges to those involved in the game."

Price said he hoped this change did not cause North Carolina to abandon its traditional politics that he believes have been one of the state's greatest historical strengths. "It's important to have a strong, positive message with a universalistic appeal."

"The way to succeed in this environment is to do a lot of the old-fashioned politics but also to combine that with a sophisticated and professionally run campaign." Specifically, he said, "you have to maintain grassroots and person-to-person connections while running an extensive campaign that vigorously raises large funds and gets on television with a compelling message."

Price considers the dawning of this new political era to have begun with the 1972 Senate race with Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

"Helms' brand of politics is anything but traditional," Price said.

"What has come to dominate in this state so often is what you might call hot-button politics. Politicians go out and take a poll to figure out what the most emotional, most controversial hot buttons are that they can push."

"Democrats have come out looking almost dull in comparison."

Negative campaigning has been an issue on which Price has focused significant attention. "People in this state are fed up with negative politics," he said.

Price warns against a spiraling of negative advertisements that would lead to skyrocketing campaign costs and overall public confusion. In his 1988 re-election campaign, Price chose not to respond to his opponent's (John Carrington's) criticisms.

"We decided instead to run an ad that filled the public in a little about my opposition's background," Price said.

Price was recently given a position on the House Appropriations Committee, a remarkable assignment for a third-term congressman. "The move to the Appropriations Committee has been a political move of the first order," Price said.

Winners crack on Vanilla Ice

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — There was plenty of crushed ice at the Grammys—Vanilla Ice, that is.

Cracking on Vanilla Ice, the cocky rapper, was the most popular sport.

M.C. Hammer said, "They said Vanilla Ice could dance better than me. Once I stopped laughing, I said, 'Right, What's next?'"

More males contemplate nursing profession

By Eric Bolash
Staff Writer

Scott Hoffman said that when he began visiting patients in the hospital where he did his rotation, they would see a man in a long, white coat and call him Dr. Hoffman. But Scott was not a doctor: He was one of the rare males in the nursing school.

In last year's nursing class at UNC, there were 110 juniors. Thirteen of them were male.

He began his day like all the female nurses, by putting on his lab coat and making his rounds, he said. But he would walk around the hospital with a fellow female nurse, and doctors or nurses singled out Hoffman to tell him what a good thing it was that he had decided to go into nursing. They didn't say the same to his female colleague.

"I think (there are few male nurses) because a lot of people think it is a feminist profession," Hoffman said. "There needs to be more education about nursing. That gender barrier needs to be knocked down."

Hoffman said he never considered nursing until he saw the care his grandmother received after having open-heart surgery. A male nurse cared for her, and Hoffman said he saw how much she appreciated the nurse. He talked with the nurse about the field and decided that was the route he wanted to take.

Tom Santa, a junior from Graham, is also a nursing student. "I think I can really understand now what it's like being a minority," he said. "I can understand a little better how women felt breaking into the medical field. I mean, 'cause we're definitely a minority."

Santa said he was comfortable as a male in a female-dominated profession.

"At first it was kind of hard. There are a lot of stereotypes and things," he said. For example, people tend to assume male nurses are effeminate.

"But now that I've gotten used to it (the nursing program), I've realized it doesn't matter. I can do just as well as women, and they can do as well as I can. It doesn't matter anymore. You can be male or female."

Dr. Debbie Thompson, head of student services in nursing, said salaries have recently improved, and men who are worried about supporting a family or who simply want a higher salary will be able to consider nursing now.

"I think some of the things we have been trying to do are things like advertising career opportunities, advertising better salaries, emphasizing autonomy

and responsibility and decision-making," Thompson said. Though the publicity was not aimed directly at males, it might make the profession more appealing to them, she said.

Thompson said the profession needed more males. "I think it's a problem in that I think diversity is good in any profession. I think men bring in a different perspective."

"The other thing is, let's be honest. I think in society, often things thought of as being primarily women's professions are devalued."

Santa said he thought he and his fellow males in the nursing school drew more attention than their fellow female students. "I do think that because there are only a few of us we draw attention to ourselves," he said.

"At times it's good and at times it's bad."

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