



Carson, Lacewell claim BSM posts

by Mitzi Bond
Associate Editor

Warren Carson and Mary Lacewell are the newly elected Chairman and Minister of Information of the Black Student Movement.

Of 157 votes cast in the election March 7, Carson, a sophomore from Tryon, N.C., received 110 and Lacewell, a sophomore from Kinston, received 125.

Larry Mixon, a junior from Greensboro, was elected On-Campus Co-ordinator (128 votes), Larry Williams, a freshman from Fayetteville, Off-Campus Co-ordinator (135 votes), and Willie Wilson, a junior from Elizabeth City, N.C., Cultural Chairman (117 votes). Run-off elections on March

21 netted the following results: Secretary—Margaret Blackman, a sophomore from Clinton (177 votes), and Vice-Chairman—Milton Gunn, a freshman from Durham (123 votes).

Only two campus representatives have been chosen: Cheryl Willerson, a freshman from Fayetteville, and Armelda Bracey, a junior from Hillsboro, will serve from South Campus. Carson will appoint representatives from North Campus, Granville Towers, and Off-Campus at the first Central Committee meeting in April. He will also then fill the posts of Parliamentarian, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

"My major goal is to create more unity among Black students. I plan to do this by

Continued on Page 6

Blacks sponsor week of cultural festivities

by Michele Alston
Staff Writer

"Moving Toward Blackness" is the theme that set the pace for the BSM's first Black Arts Cultural Festival during the week of April 2-8, 1972. Poetry reading, song, and dance—significant of Black culture—were the categories used in preparing the program. The week of festivities began Sunday night with poetry reading in the Union Coffee House.

The poetry read dealt with Black identity, Black consciousness and Black love(s). Many poems were written by the readers themselves—apparently after a day of facing frustrations, hardships or racism. One original poem that appeared to especially touch the audience was "Niggers" written by Miss Karen Dacons. The poem was written to niggers—"who aren't worth the time of saying 'fuck you.'"

The walls of Memorial Hall rocked Tuesday night as Miss Francine Randolph and the BSM Gospel Choir performed. Dressed in colors symbolizing Black Liberation—red, black and green—the choir set the atmosphere of the "old Black Baptist Church Revival." Songs that appeared to especially please the audience were "Lord Don't Move That Mountain" with Warren Carson as soloist and "Peace Be Still," soloist

Wallace Peppers. Mona Simmons sang the solo "Precious Lord" in memory of the death of the late Dr. Martin Luther King.

Black people again showed their ability to capture the mood of the music Wednesday night when the Opeyo Dancers performed. Under the direction of Herman Mixon, the Opeyo Dancers moved to the rhythm of different forms of music as varied as "Ode to Billie Joe" and Issac Hayes', "They Long To Be Close To You." The group wore simple costumes to fit the different mood of each song. The most effective performances were "Ode to Billie Joe" and "Inner City Blues." A solo dance entitled "Please Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood" was done by Miss Veneita Washington. Miss Washington, who is not an Opeyo dancer, dedicated the song to all Black maids and janitors on UNC's campus.

Miss Karen Dacons, Miss Barbara Nesbitt and Miss Deborah Mayo justified their talents Thursday night in their performance of *Sister Sonji* by Sonia Sanchez under the direction of Bob Spencer. Explicative of the play are the lines: "Today I shall bring back yesterday as it can never be today; as it should be tomorrow." The play depicted the struggle toward Black awareness and an unprecedented nation. This was accomplished

through the memories of transition by an old lady. The last lines of the play appeared to be directed at young Blacks, especially Blacks in college: "We dared to pick up the day and shake it by its tail until it became evening—a time for us, Blackness, Black people. Anyone can pick up the day and make it stop. Can you? Can you my friend? Or maybe it's better if I ask, will you?"

Friday night, many party goers were dressed in beautiful African attire. The Great Hall was beautifully decorated with African table cloths and fruit center pieces. The fruit ranged from pineapples and cantalopes to oranges and grapefruit. Music for the African Cabaret was supplied by Ronnie Mudd and the Soul Vibrations.

Black parents from all parts of North Carolina came to Chapel Hill Saturday to join their children in ending the week of festivities. After registration, they were entertained by the BSM choir, the dance group and Miss Karen Dacons' acting performance. They appeared pleased with the accomplishments of Blacks on campus. A reception followed during which parents of friends had a chance to meet and mingle. In a scheduled business meeting later that day—headed by Mr. Ashely Davis—parents were informed of many on-campus incidents. The apparently eager parents formed a Parent's Committee to support the Black students on campus. Reverend Walter Alston was selected as chairman and Mrs. Beatrice Smith was selected as secretary. Dr. Reginald Hawkins spoke at the banquet that afternoon using the topic "Tender Warriors at the Crossroads." He recognized Chapel Hill as the most "hypocritical place in North Carolina" and pointed out to Black students the apparent plan for the extinction of Blacks in North Carolina. Remarks by Dr. Hawkins which are well worth the consideration of all Blacks on campus are, be Black 'cause their "sugar ain't sweeter, their ice ain't colder." During the banquet, Gregory Strayhorn, chairman of the parent's day committee, recognized old and new BSM Central Committee members.

Saturday night the Persuaders performed in Memorial Auditorium captivating the audience with their popular song "Thin Line Between Love and Hate." The 8th Avenue Express from New York served as their back-up group. They appeared well appreciated by the large audience.

The theme "Moving Toward Blackness" was chosen to denote the progress of Black people. This progress was personified in the success of UNC's first Black Arts Cultural Festival. The success of the BSM's first Black Arts Cultural Festival was the result of the support and talents of Blacks on campus.

Brown: drug abuse increases among Blacks

by Doris Stith
Managing Editor

The problem of drugs is a desperate problem in the United States, but becomes even more desperate when attention is turned to its influx in the black community—family, school, and community.

In discussing this problem, Ed Brown, brother of H. Rap Brown, told a Black audience at the Black Communications Society Conference that the steady increase of drugs in the black community has made it the number one problem.

"A psychological and economical strain is imposed on people by the use of drugs," he said. "Think about your school."

He labeled high schools as drug stores and said nine- and 12-year-olds are going around with habits on their backs.

"We can't control the problem of drugs in America, but we can control it in the Black community," said Brown.

"The energy of the Black youth should be put into ridding the drug problem rather than the 'free Rap Brown' yells."

He briefed the audience about the alleged incident in

which Brown was accused of trying to rob a night club. "What my brother was really trying to do was fight the drug problem and assess its cause," said Brown.

Brown accused the press of overlooking the real problems of the Black community and distorting articles submitted by Black reporters.

"You have to hold someone accountable," he said. "Newspapers and television say don't use drugs, but they don't say who's responsible."

He said that the selling of drugs is the quickest way to get rich and is financed by respected persons who pump it into the Black community. "This three billion dollar American industry is protected more than Black people by the FBI, police and some of our own people," said Brown.

Asserting that drug rehabilitation only reached one out of five addicts, Brown related the availability of drugs in the community to the use of them.

Brown said that drugs were an obstacle to Black unity in finalizing the desperation of the problem.

