

Black solidarity day

No Blacks?

Saturday, November 6 was a beautiful day for a few Black people in Chapel Hill. At two p.m. in the Union's Great Hall, the Ebony Expressions Community Theatre presented "Tamborines to Glory", by Langston Hughes. For all who have had occasion to read any of Hughes' famous works the perception and method of expression of Black life characteristic of his style, are no new phenomenon. Written in the 1940's, "Tamborines to Glory" is still a very relevant portrayal of the struggle of Black people against the economic and social predicament which is inherent in Black life in the United States of America. And perhaps even more exciting for Saturday's audience was the evidence of hard work, talent, dedication, and enthusiasm portrayed by the local cast of students and members of the Chapel Hill community. There were approximately 60 people present - about 30 of them UNC students.

The evening's festivities were also very relevant to the Black experience. We had the privilege (which is rare indeed on a campus with an orientation such as that of UNC) to meditate on our African heritage as Emperor Dele Ojo and his Cultural Group from Nigeria played, danced, sang and did miraculous feats in the style of the native land. There were approximately 125 people present - about 15 Black UNC students.

Black Solidarity Day was culminated with a party in Craig Dormitory. There were approximately 300 Black students present.

For those who participated in Black Solidarity Day, there was an educational experience in Blackness which one very seldom, to say the least, absorbs from a white institution: in one day we experienced a portrayal of the urban Black experience, a comradeship and unity with the community, and an interaction with our African culture.

But where were the Black students?

Are we no longer interested in the Black experience? Perhaps we'd better consider this question seriously, brothers and sisters. Apathy, negativism, individualism (or Cliques) seem to be the "in" things.

Or perhaps we feel that we are so "together" we don't need events like Black Solidarity Day; all we need are friends and parties.

Just what's going down, bloods? Are we tired? Are we satisfied?

There were approximately 40 Black boys and girls from the community at the Black Solidarity Day festivities. Do we care anything about the future of the little brothers and sisters in America; have we forgotten that this future promises to be dim for them if they aren't born into the class of "uppity niggers" or if they aren't super stars, both of whom only *think* they have it made, and that the majority of Black people are neither!

Where is our vision? I know we must each deal with the realities of our day to day existence, but can we afford to be content with handling this satisfactorily?

Black Solidarity Day, and other Black events, organizations, and materials are important, it seems to me, not only in developing one's consciousness about the future of our race, but they can also help one in dealing with the day to day existence - they enable one to think, feel, and meditate on his or her being; they help one to develop an understanding of self.

But perhaps none of this is important and relevant for the Blacks at UNC. Maybe many feel no need for Black events, a *Black Ink*, or a Black Student Movement, for that matter. Many of us seem strong, invincible, self-sufficient.

For those among us who do need the experiences that Black events, organization, and materials can provide, and who are just in a slump, you missed a beautiful day on November 6 - but do come and get involved, as there will be more of the same...

For those among us who don't give a fuck, may you wake up before it's too late...

BLACK INK

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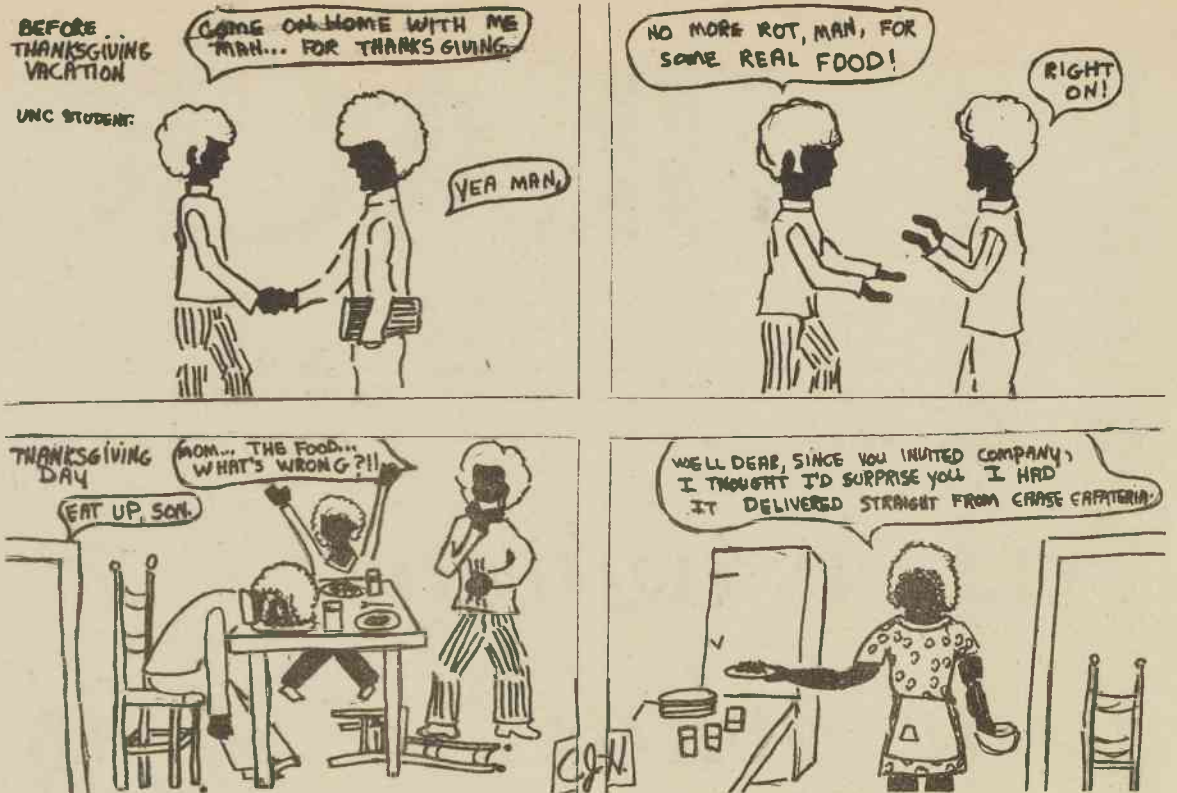
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Carolina darkies everywhere!!!

by Larry Mixon
Staff Writer

This question may sound simple and trite, but nonetheless it is quite pertinent: **JUST WHERE IN THE HELL ARE BLACK STUDENTS** at Carolina...the proud, confident, beautiful, and together Black Students? I've looked and gone everywhere, and still have not come across some true, down to earth, together Black folks. I mean even untogether Black people are missing from this campus!!

Everywhere I look all I can see is a group of dark skin students whom I label "Carolina darkies". Talk to a Carolina darkie. Ask him some questions pertinent to the condition and direction of Blackness on this campus, and all you'll hear is, "An-man, I ain't got time", "Bullshit", or "Like wow, man, black people are beautiful, like dig that chick over there with long, fine, good hair." My God Almighty, above, its enough to drive one into whiteness.

"Man the B.S.M. ain't shit, and I know 'cause I went to a

meeting back in '70 and all they did was argue." "I'm going at 8:30, 'cause Niggers ain't never on time." "Ah man, I ain't got time for that Black Shit Movement, Black people ain't never going to go anywhere, or do anything", "Like I said, niggers ain't goin to do a damn thing for you..." Black Students here at Carolina don't make me cry!! Never before have I seen or heard Black people indulging in such self-negation - that's reserved for negroes and colored folkses.

Black Students would never label Black ideals - bullshit. Never would you see Black Students running around with smiles and grins for whites, and frowns and blank expressions for Blacks. Never would you see a Black Student act towards his fellow non-student Black brothers and sisters as though they were dirt. Never would you see a Black Student become so identified with his school, that he is a Carolina Tarheel, and not a part of Black people. Never would you see or hear of a Black Student looking upon the childish antics of whites as excusable, and the same acts by Blacks as stupidity and to be expected.

Never would you see a Black Student become so involved and wrapped up in his individual self that he could care less about the welfare or survival of his fellow Black Students. Never, but never, would you see a Black Student become so involved in using his fellow Black Students that he would begin to regard them as objects and not people. Nor would you ever see or hear a Black Student refer to "Black" with shame, and dislike.

And above all, never but never would you see Black Students allowing white people to define what they can and cannot do, where they can and cannot go, and what they are and are not. But believe me, all the connotations and more are to be expected of and from Carolina darkies.

I repeat, where in the hell are the Black Students of Carolina. Will they *please* make themselves known, heard, respected, and felt amidst all these Carolina darkies.

BSM Minutes

Doing some "fly" politikking of its own in a national election week, the BSM, on Thursday night, November 9, met the issues head on. Endorsing the YOBU Conference to be held November 18th and 19th at NCCU, it emphasized the pressing demand for UNC Black attendance. As a potentially powerful coalition of students across the state, the conference will deal primarily with statewide politics, the Ben Chavis affair, and Pan-Africanism.

So much is happening this month! Nikki Giovanni is bringing her talent to UNC on November 21 (since she is not fasting there will be eats afterwards, chitlins not included!) A fashion show is shaping up for November 17; and Blacks will take to the streets to march in honor of James Cates on the 20th of November. The committee, headed by Deryl Davis, has procured speakers Rev. John Caldwell and Brother Osofu McDonald of WAFR, as well as the BSM Choir to help appropriately express anger and grief.

For all those turned off by the cacophony of WCAR, "Black Sounds" is on its way, and for all those looking for more than that offered between

the covers of the "Yack," a Black yearbook may be in the offering. Also, those interested simply in depicting Black life at Carolina, or yearning to follow in the footsteps of Shaft should contact UNC's own budding Melvin Van Peebles: Burnes Ray, who is getting together a film on Blackness at Carolina.

It was disclosed that WAFR needs money for a new transmitter and has asked UNC Blood to donate fifteen hundred dollars. "The Friends of WAFR" (A UNC committee) has proposed benefit dances and speaking engagements to raise the needed funds.

Guest speaker for the night was Ed Caldwell who emphasized the need for Black students to assist in choosing the new assistant dean of student affairs, who will work mainly with Black and foreign students. Mr. Caldwell himself is being considered for the job. Right On!

Comic relief was provided by none other than the alumni association of UNC. It had had the audacity to submit a letter to student body president Richard Epps suggesting that "Sweet Sweetback" be banned from being shown Sunday November 12, at the Union. "Its racist content might cause a riot." Surely they were joking! More Power!