



# BLACK INK



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Participants in Black Student Congress chat informally after a meeting.

(Photo by Phil Geddie)

## Coalition aims for power

by Tonya Widemon  
News Editor

A 25-year-old Black woman waits for her trial in a North Carolina jail charged with the murder of a white jailer who she says attacked her.

The inmate's safety and defense has prompted concern among many Black students in colleges and universities who feel there must be something they can do to aid her. A unified body of students pressuring officials on behalf of such cases makes evident their concern to make things happen quicker in defense of Black people.

Students are investing that power into a newly formed organization — the North Carolina Black Student Congress.

"We want to have some organization to bring together into one group representatives of Black colleges in North Carolina and bring together Black student organizations on predominantly white campuses," says Leonard Lee, one of the early organizers of the Congress.

The Congress began to take concrete form during the weekend of Nov. 8-10 when UNC and NCCU hosted an organizational workshop conference on campus. Here, ideas for the proposed Congress were given the backing of representatives from 14 colleges and universities in North Carolina. In workshops, they contributed suggestions for the provisions of their constitution.

"The organization will be a political force lobbying in the state legislature," says Lee who also serves on the correspondence committee. State desegregation actions will be watched closely by the group, as well as policies drawn up by the UNC Board of Governors which affect Black schools. The Congress will also seek interaction with the Black community.

The idea of establishing a Black Congress has been tossed around for years, Lee says. "A few years ago, a group of students made a similar attempt but it never got a solid foundation.

"We want this to be a more sound organization structured with a constitution and working committees such as for policy and communication," Lee says.

This fall, the BSM has often discussed hosting such a group here where there are facilities that can accommodate the conference activities, he says. UNC drew their plans and took them to NCCU students who agreed to help organize the November statewide conference. At the conference students decided definitely to establish the Congress and they created the constitutional frame for the organization.

Owusu Sadakavi, an organizer for the Workers' Union at Duke University, addressed the group at its opening meeting before they began to labor through five hours of motions.

Eva Britt, from Elizabeth City State University, was elected the North Carolina Black Student Congress' first president. Her executive committee includes: Vice President of Communication, Carol Mitchell at St. Augustine and Vice President of Correspondence Sherry Meadows, a

graduate of Durham College who is now secretary to Harold Wallace in the UNC Division of Special Affairs in the Student Affairs Office.

Other Vice Presidents are: Finance, John Moore, UNC-G; Political Affairs, Debra Swann, NCCU; and Research, Sam Miller, UNC-G.

To encompass greater strength and unity among Blacks, the Congress is extending membership not only to college students, but also to college alumni and high school students. Their schools may join as charter members for a predetermined number of years.

Lee hopes to see 25 North Carolina schools eventually represented with two delegates from each institution.

By spring, 1975, he says the group will be ready for its first Black Student Congress Convention and will be prepared to work as an active operation in matters concerning Black students and the community.

## Bond: '...an honest man'

by Evelyn Dove  
Staff Writer

"I'm glad to know I belong to the finest group of men money can buy." These were the words of Georgia House Representative, Julian Bond, who described himself as a politician by profession.

Obviously stated as a cut on the nature of many current politicians, the above statement was one of many anecdotes used to describe the profession which he called "unpopular but important."

Bond, in describing his role as a traveling lecturer, explained that the Georgia legislators are paid \$7,600 per year, a substantial increase over their previous salary. Most of the legislators are lawyers or businessmen and have additional sources of income. "I'm not a lawyer

I'm an honest man; I earn my money making speeches," he said.

Bond criticized the United States government for its insensitivity to the needs of the people. "The government's attitude has changed

from benign concern to malignant neglect," he said.

"In the past half decade, the reins of government have been seized by a massive coalition of the comfortable, the callous, and the smug who closed their minds, their hearts, and their ranks to the claims and calls to conscience put forth by the forgotten and unrepresented elements of American society."

Bond added, "This has quite naturally resulted in the national nullification of the needs of the needy and the gratuitous gratification of the gross of the greedy, of victory for the politics of the penuriousness, of prevarication, impropriety, pious platitudes and self-righteous swinishness."

Bond's opinion of the speed with which things change was exhibited in his description of the nation's change from Nixon to Ford for president. He described the former president as an

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## Book Co-Op to save Black students cash

The Black Student Movement and the Black Business Association are co-sponsoring a book co-op to begin during exams.

Students should take books to the Upendo Lounge December 10-19 from 2-6 p.m. to set prices for their books. After deciding on prices, students will receive receipts.

No money will be transferred during this semester. The books will be kept in Upendo, according to course titles, and during the first weeks of next semester, the student will receive his money. To get his payment the student must present the receipt along with his ID card.

This system was initiated because of the low buy-back and high re-sale prices of books at the Student Stores. For example, the Student Stores may buy a \$12 book back from a student for \$3 or \$4, and then re-sell the book for \$7 or \$8.

The BSM-BBA book co-op is not designed to make a profit. It is designed for the benefit of the buyer and the seller of the books. The system will be a "clearing house" for the students' books.

The students are reminded that the APO Fraternity operates a similar exchange, but it also seeks to make a profit.

The users of the system should be reminded that the BSM-BBA cannot afford to reimburse students for stolen books. Also, there will be no refunds if a student buys a book by mistake. Any

transactions made after the sale will be handled on an individual basis from buyer to seller.

Algernon Marbley, chairman of the BSM, and Dennis Pittman, chairman of the BBA, hope there will be a lot of participation by students. "It will benefit them," Marbley stated.

## Valkyries Induct

Among the 15 women inducted into the Order of the Valkyries, UNC's highest women's honorary society, are three Blacks.

Evelyn F. Dove, Mae H. Israel and Edith M. Elliott were recognized Nov. 7 for outstanding character and achievement.

Evelyn Dove, a senior English and pre-law student from Kinston, was cited for her work with the BSM and with student government as publicity chairman.

Editor-in-Chief, Mae Israel, was recognized for her work with the *Black Ink*. The senior journalism major also actively participates with the BSM.

Edith Elliott, campus YWCA director, was named among three honoraries for her assistance with campus race relations.

The number of women inducted in the Valkyries does not exceed two per cent of the enrollment of women.



Julian Bond

(Photo by Russell Davis)