

# Moses: 'I don't listen to white writers'

By ALLEN JOHNSON  
Editor-in-Chief

Although a number of adjectives may be used to describe Bernadine Moses, one of them is not soft-spoken.

The Spelman graduate who earned her master's and doctoral degrees in the UNC school of journalism and who is now assistant editor of the *North Carolina Education* magazine, states her opinions candidly and quite explicitly.

For example, concerning Howard Lee's criticism at the hands of columnist Mark

Pinsky (page 2), she countered, while examining Pinsky's article, "I say whoever wrote this was white. I say secondly, for him to say that the only way you could tell Howard Lee was Black was to look at his campaign poster is because whites who write articles want Blacks to sit around and say 'yeah, uh-huh, well you know, I have a hard time.'"

"When they get ready to quote Blacks, they always leave off the 'ing' at the end and put an 'n' and a little line. But since when was it that they ever quoted Jimmy

Green and put the southern accent in and wrote it down that way?"

"I don't listen to white writers. Why should I listen to them?"

During the past summer, Ms. Moses assisted in the teaching of a Black press course with Professor Sonya Stone. A frequent source of spirited discussion in the class were the Black oriented consumer magazines, "Essence" and "Ebony."

"On the magazine level you expect some things that are beyond you," she said of magazines' tendency to portray prohibitively expensive elegance and glamour. Of "Ebony," she said, "I don't like their writing and I don't like their subject matter. I think they're on two extremes, either they've got LeRone Bennett being very, very intellectual, or they've got somebody else, who's writing crap, like Diahann Carroll and Robert DeLeon, and all about the cars and houses and on down the line."

On the subject of the Black North Carolina press, Ms. Moses, who will be coordinating a workshop for Black weekly's later this month, observed, "Too many of the papers are not set up on a level with the daily in marketing, research, demographics. Right now they don't have the packet that they can present to the advertisers, and as a result, they don't get the long-term ads. Secondly, most of them, with the possible exception of the (Carolina) "Peacemaker" are run like a family organization."

"Consequently," she said, "too much dependence on family hierarchy can mean a premature end for some papers."

"Papers like the "Future Outlook" just die. The editor dies and the newspaper never comes out again."

"Black papers in North Carolina do, however, have some very important strengths, most important of which is the mere fact that they are Black."

"Most people get their identity by having something that's just for them. Good or bad it's for me, if it's directed to me, that means, i.e. I exist. I'm important enough so somebody puts money into something that is for me."

On the subject of the "other" Black North Carolina press, the campus publications run by Black students, Ms. Moses points out that although the Black paper on the Black campus serves a definite purpose, the Black paper on the white campus is even more important.

"On the Black campus you know you're there, you run it," she said. "On the white campus, the paper gives you an identity when it's lost so much in your day-to-day movements. It tells who you are, what you've done on that campus. It legitimizes you."



Staff photo by Phil Geddie

Bernadine Moses: "On the white campus, the Black paper gives you an identity."

## Play that funky music...



by YVETTE BELTON  
Staff Writer

Being Black in a predominantly white organization has its drawbacks for many students, but for Blacks in UNC's Marching Band it's a different experience.

Black faces in the Marching Tarheels are few. This marching season there are about 15 Blacks out of about 170 band members, but as a handful, they're treated as individuals instead of as a minority group.

"I feel I'm treated like I'm a musician and a contributor," says a Black band member. "The fact that I'm a Black is secondary. I just wished more Blacks had joined the band."

Kathy Fayton, a senior education major is also concerned that more Blacks didn't come out for the band this year.

"Black participation is slack," she said. "I think the band should actively recruit more Blacks because I don't think Blacks really know much about the band or what goes on in the band. So they're skeptical about getting in."

Kathy also feels that the type of shows performed at half time may not attract some Blacks because they're more used to dance-type shows.

UNC's marching band shows consist mostly of march routines, highlighting the majorettes and flag girls.

Jean Mills, a former band member, feels that the type of shows discourages some Blacks.

"Predominantly Black colleges use more dance steps. Here, the half time show is more like a play."

During a week of the game, the band practices Monday thru Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to around 7:30 and for a short period on Saturday mornings.

Like Jean, some Blacks quit the band because of lack of time but racial reasons aren't one of the problems.

"The Blacks that stay in the band seem to stick around and work," said Kathy Fayton. "I've only heard about two cases of any racial trouble in the band, however I

don't know the details."

Senior Darrell Van Hoy of Walkertown said, "Many students, Black and white quit after one year because the band was not what they expected or it doesn't offer them what they're looking for."

Whatever the reason for the fast turnover rates of Blacks in the band each year it still has something to offer to the incoming freshmen, said Terry Stinson a freshman from Fayetteville. Terry was impressed by the music.

"I'm pretty pleased with music, considering the number of Blacks in the band."

Music with a Black flavor that has been played so far this year includes the "Hustle" and "The Theme from Swat."

"Some (Blacks) join for the music and others just for the fun of it," Stinson said.

"Band takes up a lot of time but it is a lot of fun," says Linda Williams a senior physical education major. Linda has been in the band for three years, and she now holds a leadership position in the band. The lack of Blacks in the band has also hurt the leadership roles for Blacks because leadership is based on seniority. Kathy Fayton and Linda Williams are the only Blacks who have been in the band for at least three years.

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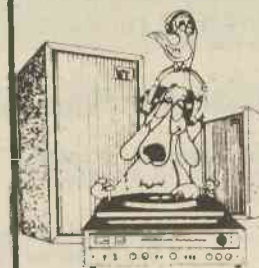
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