

# VIEWPOINT

## BLACK INK

The essence of Freedom is understanding.

Vol. 11 No. 8

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### We still push the mops

The government recently set up a business bureau in Washington, D.C. for Black businesses. It's called . . . the Small Business Bureau. That's a fact.

Of the top 100 Black owned businesses in the United States, their combined capital was similar to the 226th business of the top white 500 companies in the United States.

In the 650 seats on the American Stock Exchange, only one is held by a Black firm.

Only statistics, but behind these finding can be found one of the causes of the Black people's state. What is our state, one may ask?

For an example, non-white men and women make up 33 and 44 percent respectively of the service, private household and laborer occupations in the United States as of 1971, compared to the white male and white female making up 14 percent and 20 percent of the janitorial work force.

Even though the janitorial position is an honest job-these jobs as well as others acquired under white firms and industries are only serving to deter Black people's progress in acquiring decision-making positions. This may be an enormous generalization, but as long as whites control the job market, the hiring and firing, they control us.

### A college degree does count

Do you have friends, walking the streets, back home who try to convince you that a college degree is not worth anything anymore.

And haven't you heard that excuse used by people who quit or flunk out of college?

"College students don't have an advantage on the job market anymore, they will tell you.

Well it just isn't so.

Herbert Bienstock, who directs the U.S. Division of Labor Statistics' Middle Atlantic Region staff, told a City University of New York conference that doom-sayers, who swear college degrees don't improve a student's chances of getting a job, are simply wrong.

Bienstock released statistics that showed college graduates have an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent, compared with the 8.8 unemployment rate for all American workers in

March, 1977.

Male college graduates had a jobless rate of 2.8 percent, or about a third of the rate of all males. Female graduates had a 4.2 percent rate, versus 9.2 percent for all females.

"The much-heralded cautions about college attendance," Bienstock warned, "should themselves be viewed with considerable caution. It seems clear that, while the college graduate has in recent years experienced some difficulties in the labor market, we can expect to see the pressures ease as we move into the 1980's."

So when you happen to see that "doom saying" friend of yours, tell him to stop kidding himself.

Tell him that the advice from the old television commercial still holds true. "To get a good job, you need a good education."

And today . . . college is the jam.

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### Letters

## Frat leader defends organization Blacks, chancellor may meet

To the editor,

In reference to your half page article on fraternity hazing, I have a simple question: why? Why did you feel it necessary to print the most negative aspects of fraternity life? Why do you feel justified in relating to the populus of UNC an event that occurred some 17 months ago, i.e. Roberty Bazile's death? Why would you choose to print an article "highlighting" Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in a negative aspect?

Mr. Squires, from my understanding of journalism, your job is to educate and inform the public in an unbiased manner. I respect and admire your contribution to the black culture on this campus, but can't you see how you have created a twisted perception of Omega Psi Phi and black Greeks in general? The general masses have good reason to associate this article directly to the Greek lifestyle on this campus, especially since you decided to get the "tide rolling" by printing hazing by another chapter of Omega Psi Phi. I fail to see the relevancy of this article. My reproach would be less severe if something of this nature had recently happened or ever happened on this campus, but it has not. Would not have an article describing the service aspects of black Greeks served a more meaningful purpose?

Your obvious lack of knowledge of what fraternity life is all about shows; and your choice of publishing this article is explicit evidence of it. The generalities of this article are quite disturbing. Many Greeks do not think "hazing is an essential part of fraternity life." Why print an article concluding that hazing will likely continue? As an outsider looking in, you have chosen to publish a vary hazy picture.

I cannot speak for everyone, nor will I attempt to speak for anyone but the Psi Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi. But if it is necessary to flog a pledge in order to coerce him into learning the history and ideals of Omega Psi Phi, then he is not worthy of the brotherhood of our fraternity.

We are a very closely knit service fraternity, Mr. Squires. We do "un-

newsworthy" projects such as collecting can goods and distributing them to less fortunate people who thank us with tears in their eyes and a desperate request from their hearts for us to return during Thanksgiving and Christmas and serving as surrogate big brothers for infortunate kids. Omega Psi Phi seeks to uplift the commuuty, not for recognition, but as an expression of our values.

We are not a close-minded organization; we can accept constructive criticism. However, we did not deserve the negative allegations of this article that you chose to print. I apologize for the length of my letter, but you attacked something that I love and I saw a need to defend it. As your theme says, "The essence of freedom is understanding." Before you establish your freedom, perhaps you should examine your understanding.

Jesse L. Grissom, Jr.

Basileus

Psi Delta Chapter

Omega Psi Phi Frat. Inc.

### BLACK FACULTY STAFF TO INVESTIGATE

To the editor:

The Black Faculty-Staff Caucus at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has followed the controversy concerning the admission of undergraduate black students and the actions of officials in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The Black Faculty-Staff Caucus has recently communicated its concern to Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor and requested a meeting to discuss the issues which has been raised regarding the admissions process. The members of the BFSC want to be assured that fair standards are being applied equally to all applicants.

BFSC Steering Committee  
Harold G. Wallace, Secretary-Treasurer

If blackness  
can be converted  
into words  
and pictures . . .

We intend to do it  
Suite B, Carolina Union

## BLACK INK

### Black Ink

There will be two more issues of Black Ink this semester. There will be a homecoming issue on Nov. 17 and a Christmas-ACC Basketball issue on Dec. 1.

Despite limited funds, these final two issues will push to 10, the number of Ink's printed in one semester. We also hope to publish 10 issues next semester.

The record for the most Black Ink's published in one academic year is 14, courtesy of Allen Johnson and Lonza Hardy last year.

This year our goal is 20.