



Black freshmen brought new energy and enthusiasm to Chapel Hill last fall, turning out in record numbers to Pre-

Orientation '78 and boasting the most consistent attendance of any class to General Body meetings.

Photo by David R. Squires

How You feel about the BSM

By ALLEN JOHNSON
BSM Chairperson

Most of this page deals with what the Central Committee perceives as its high and low points.

In a fall-semester telephone survey, however, the Central Committee sought to gauge the pulse of a more objective, detached reflective mirror—the General Body.

Results were mixed, although most persons interviewed appeared to support the organization and what it stands for.

"As a whole, the BSM has served as a source of unity for all blacks and created a cultural background that we are accustomed to," said one respondent. "But large mistakes of some leaders have made the BSM seem poorly planned and unorganized."

Other positive statements were similarly tempered by "buts."

"BSM is a nice organization, but I don't get anything out of it," said another

student.

Those who responded most positively about the BSM cited its programming at one major reason. "The BSM has sponsored a lot of activities this year that have been a success," said one individual. "It should keep up the good work and involve the students more."

When asked what specific complaints they have concerning the BSM, some interviewees contended that the organization is not accessible to all students and fosters a racist philosophy.

"Unless a person works directly with the BSM as an officer, he is not really informed," said one. "The Central Committee has too much power and doesn't inform its constituents of what is going on. Contrary to popular belief, volunteers aren't readily accepted."

"You need to have a more open atmosphere," said another. "You should change your name if you aren't a racist group."

A third student felt that the Black Pre-Orientation program, cosponsored by the BSM and the office of Special Programs should be revised or done away with altogether.

"The BSM should either stop sponsoring Black Pre-Orientation or change its system," he said. "They tend to scare the freshmen away by telling how hard it is".

On the whole, however, the respondents felt that the BSM has made significant strides this year, although much room remains for improvement.

"I think the BSM has improved since last year," said one interviewee who epitomized the sentiments of most. "It has managed to get more blacks involved with the program offered. I think they need to get even more people involved."

On-Campus Coordinator

Last semester, the On-Campus Coordinating Committee, along with the Office of Student Affairs and Undergraduate Admissions, implemented Black Pre-Orientation (Aug. 16-19) and the National Achievement Weekend (Nov. 9-11). Both programs went well with only minor problems in housing during National Achievement.

My other responsibilities, not designated under the On-Campus Coordinating Committee, included work on the "Vintage '78" summer night club, the design and distribution of membership cards, service as temporary elections board chairperson and help with the December "Accent!" BSM night club-talent show.

Pam Dockery

James Action Committee

My accomplishments as James representative and head of the James Action Committee include: 1) a get to know you-night 2) the appointment of a J.A.C. representative to sit in on James Senate meetings 3) membership recruitment in the dorm 4) the improvement of Black Ink distribution 5) "Secret Friends Week (Dec. 4-8) and 6) a fund-raising dance (Dec. 8).

This semester promises to be even more successful as the J.A.C. will become more involved with the James Senate in providing activities for black and white students. Also, we will work to increase dissemination of information concerning meeting times and places and other pertinent facts.

Finally, my big ambition for second semester is to get more men involved in the J.A.C.

Roscoe McClain

Morrison Action Committee

Morrison Action Committee officers include myself as chairperson, Vice-Chairperson Robert Mitchell, Secretary Kathryn Pointer and Treasurer LaWanda Price.

We have organized M.A.C. into units according to floors, the selection of floor officers who are in charge of relaying information to the constituents on each floor, bi-weekly meetings and the assignment of each officer to head a committee.

Plans include the completion of a dorm directory and more programming. We had a first-semester fund-raiser planned but time conflicts with other activities soon killed this.

Sheldren Hardison

Ehringhaus Action Committee

In Ehringhaus this year, the BSM representatives have performed the basic duties: delivering Black Inks, conducting publicity campaigns and soliciting new members.

When we took office, we were hoping to get more people involved because Ehringhaus has a reputation of being indifferent. Not only have we tried to cover Ehringhaus but we are reaching out to Central Campus (Avery, Teague, and Parker) as well.

publicity and or interest.

The Soul Train Disco was a stone gas! It was the result of a winning combination of a brilliant idea, early planning and publicity, creative workers, National Achievement students, sterling talent and a widespread interest in jamming. Soul Train was the work of a great many people and the range of input should be striven for again.

Accent! Lacked snap, crackle and pop. The talent was excellent, despite the irritations of bad technical equipment.

The black masses were elsewhere that night, however.

If I could redo this one, I would highlight the publicity around the event.

The Choir, Opeyo Dancers, and Ebony Readers, each performed last semester to varying sizes of audiences. I hope that they will include in this semester's schedule workshops and-or classes that are open to non-members. This would be one way to spread our resources and encourage more participation on different levels.

The Onyx Theatre has been slow in starting and I wonder at times if I should have pushed it more to get it underway.

For this semester, I look forward to the return of the Soul Train Disco, a tour of the cultural groups over spring break and a black arts festival the last week of March.

I also expect about the same amount of satisfaction and frustration.

Greg Pennington



Photo by James Parker

Cultural Coordinator Pennington: the success of "Soul Train" due to "a brilliant idea, planning, creative workers and sterling talent."

music and a key speaker, a couple of art exhibits by senior art major, Edward Ingram and Noble Swain, a "club-nite" with brown-bagging and for the cold months a movie or two.

Since it is evident that a lot of work is to precede these endeavors, the Upendo Board is soliciting help and ideas from the student community.

If interested stop by the Upendo Lounge Information Desk or contact Kurt Garrett: BSM office hours Monday through Friday, 12-2:00 in Suite B of the Carolina Union; the office phone is 933-8345; Kirt's home phone is 942-8840.

Upendo Lounge operates during the following hours: Monday through Thursday, 1-11 p.m.; Friday 1-7 p.m. and Saturday, 2-7 p.m.

Special Projects

The Special Projects Committee has involved itself in numerous dimensions of black student life. The "Ebony Spotlight" radio program was begun in the early fall on a campus station WXYC. In addition, the Special Projects committee was active in the planning and implementation of "The Dating Game," the "Soul Train Disco" and "Accent!" club night.

Plans for the spring includen a black student-faculty directory and a series of fund-raisers.

Rochelle Riley

Pre-O, Achievement programs a success

Freshman Representative

As one of the Freshman Representatives, I feel that I have adequately carried out the duties expected of my position on the Central Committee. I have gone through an extensive learning process, which was necessary but restrained my performance because of my lack of knowledge about the BSM and the Central Committee. As a freshman representative and BSM member I have done the following:

- 1) Supported BSM-sponsored activities
- 2) Worked with the Morrison Action Committee
- 3) Contacted fellow freshmen through the dorm representatives
- 4) Made myself available to my constituents

At the present, I am currently planning a freshman meeting. I feel this is necessary, since my constituents have not made the effort to drop by the BSM office or my room to consult with me or give us their complaints or ideas. If I am to represent my constituents completely and fairly, I must have their input.

John R. Slade, Jr.

CC disappoints reader

To the Editor:

TO ALL CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

On Monday night, November 20, 1978, the Ebony Readers had their fall performance in Great Hall. Unfortunately, there were only a few people there at the performance, which was surprising and ridiculous. After all, the Ebony Readers are a cultural group of the Black Student Movement.

All year long, I've been hearing comments and reading letters asking Blacks to support the Black Student Movement, yet this appears to be a prime example of the BSM not even supporting itself. It certainly gave us no support. As the gover-

ning council for the Black Student Movement, if you do not support BSM functions, how can you have the gall to expect others to.

I, myself, will praise the Ebony Readers and say that their performance was good and the work that went into the performance was evident, although it was noticed only by a small handful of people. If this is an example of what is to be expected of the Central Committee: "Do as we say, and not as we do in terms of support of the activities of the cultural groups, as well as other areas, then I, for one, am extremely disappointed!!

Beverly A. Wells
Director, The Ebony Readers



Photo by David R. Squires

Kool and the Gang's female backups were called something sweet the debt that the spring concert plunged BSM into, however, was a bitter pill to swallow.