

FEATURES

Mail Clerk Hargraves is just like one of the guys



Hargraves—You have to like people to like this job.

Staff photo by Beatrice Taylor

LONZA HARDY JR.
Staff Writer

If not a resident of James Dorm, one may think that Cameron Pembroke Hargraves is just one of the "guys on the block." He is not just that; he is the chief mail clerk for all South Campus dorms.

"Mr. Hargraves," as the mailman is known, handles over 1,000 letters, 200 flats (newspapers and magazines) and 100 packages each day, more than some second class post offices handle. Even though he has been handling mail for 10 years, the job for him is an exciting one.

"Every day I come to this job there is something unique about it," Hargraves said. "Nothing is ever the same—nothing but the people themselves. You have to like people to like this job. Every day there's a different problem."

Hinton-James had just been constructed

when Hargraves was hired as its mail clerk. There were only about 200 students in the entire dorm, making it much different from the present 1000-student population. Hargraves had been chosen to fill the position which had just been created.

"It took me about three years to learn this job," Hargraves said, "because there were so many obstacles that I had to overcome to even learn the job itself. It was a new job so there wasn't anybody there to show me what to do, because nobody else knew what to do. I alone initiated the whole system. Those were really some trying years."

The biggest problem Hargraves faced was dealing with the students. The racial condition on campus was not at its best, and there were so few Blacks that Hargraves had no one to depend on for

conversation. The treatment he received from whites he described as "terrible."

"I can put it no other way," Hargraves said. "The white students then felt they could do anything they wanted to do, even with the mail system. They felt that me being black, that I didn't have any rights, that I was just here to serve them. They had the attitude that whatever they demanded of me I had to do it."

Today Hargraves says that even though the University has a long way to go, it has made a lot of progress. His main concern now is the apparent unwillingness of campus Blacks to get involved in activities in the Chapel Hill Black community. The city's residents are willing to intermingle with the campus Blacks, he believes, but campus Blacks refuse to get involved.

"This problem has always existed," Hargraves says, "and it's something that the Black students themselves are going to have to think about. A lot of Black students assume that everything was laid out for them to come here, but they don't know what the community Blacks had to go through before they (students) came here. The University didn't just open up and say, 'Come on in.' It wasn't that simple. There were a lot of drawbacks before the Black students started coming to the University."

Hargraves feels that the scheduling of social activities, in addition to regular Sunday church meetings, in the community is one way UNC black students can mingle with the community Blacks. The Black Ink staff could play a large role by reporting some of the events of the Black community and by the distribution of papers in the city.

Hargraves believes he is an expert on the needs and concerns of both the student and community factions. With the students, he says, "I probably have gotten to know more people that have come through this University than any one single person on campus."

Blacks under-represented in physical sciences

SHARON MARSHALL
Staff Writer

Blacks planning to major in the physical sciences have great opportunities in the field because it is in need of minorities, especially Blacks.

Professor Thomas L. Isenhour, chemistry department chairman, said, "Black Americans are under-represented at all levels of the physical sciences and more so than in almost any other discipline category."

Blacks constitute about 11 percent of all college enrollments. Their representation in the physical sciences is about 5 percent. In graduate physical science degree programs and physical science professions, Black representation in the United States is about 1 percent. From 1973 to 1976 only three Black women received Ph.D.'s in the physical sciences.

Isenhour said that perhaps few Blacks entered the chemistry field because more white college students have role-models that include parents who attended colleges.

The UNC Chemistry Department, located in Venable Hall, has the task of changing the low representative numbers of minorities in the physical science fields. For eight of the past nine years, UNC has led the nation in bachelor of chemistry degrees. Of 16 constituent institutions statewide, the Department has graduated over a third of all physical science degrees.

The chemistry department is not fully satisfied with its achievements. Isenhour said "Young Blacks are missing out on very good opportunities in the Sciences."

"About 23 percent of North Carolina's population is black; I feel it's a crime for all these resources to go to waste."

The faculty of the chemistry department has taken steps to increase minority representation by

writing North Carolina high school students and freshman minority students already at UNC and supplying them with information on UNC's chemistry department, providing tutorial help and advice to students having difficulties with

chemistry and conducting discussions with A&T State University and North Carolina Central University about possible cooperative programs that may increase the number of Blacks in the physical sciences in North Carolina.



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