



Cultural night

North Carolina Central University's modern dance group was one of several featured guests at Delta Sigma Theta's Cultural Night Jan. 22. The night was part of the Kappa Omicron Chapter of DST's Founder's Week celebration. The BSM Choir and the Opeyo Dancers also performed, as well as several individuals and duets. DST is 68 years old. (Photo by Beatrice Taylor.)

Americans know little about Africa

By JOHN HINTON
Staff Writer

Media coverage and general folklore concerning Africa shape the stereotypes Black and white Americans have about Africans and their homeland, Darnell Hawkins a UNC assistant professor of sociology said recently.

"Blacks know Africans as backward, underdeveloped, rural, and poor," Hawkins said. "People get these stereotypes from the media."

"If you look at TV, you see only Tarzan movies and animal-type shows," the Assistant Professor said. "There are few about the people of Africa. People get the notion of lions and tigers all over Africa."

In reality, there are large urban areas on the continent. Cities such as Cairo, Egypt, Nairobi, Kenya, and Capetown, South Africa are representative of most of the big cities.

Some black and white Americans believe that these municipalities are as technically advanced as modern as cities in the United States, Hawkins said.

The instructor of a black-white race relation course at the University stresses that the only people-type shows are the ones concerning the hunger situation showing African people starving.

During the mid '70's the American media emphasized the border wars between certain African countries and a particular third-world dictator.

"Idi Amin is thought of as a dumb Hitler — a real idiot," Hawkins said. "He did less



Darnell Hawkins

offensive things than other world dictators."

He cited former Haitian President Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier's human rights violations as dictator of that Caribbean country — a pro-American nation.

Another factor also figures into these stereotypes. "General folklore also contributes to these stereotypes black people have about Africans," Hawkins said.

"Slaveowners told their slaves that their African ancestors were wild and savage, and they should forget about that uncivilized placed," Hawkins said.

Hawkins feels that statements such as "You act like an African; you look like an African," are considered derogatory by Blacks.

"In the 60's these stereotypes were sought to be changed. However, the media did not change its attitude about Africa," Hawkins said. "There are those same type of movies and even Tarzan reruns."

"It's like showing a movie of the United States with buffaloes and other animals and not with the highways and skyscrapers," he said.

"The stereotypes of Africa from the media and the stereotypes from general folklore — racial stereotypes held over from slavery make for a distorted picture of Africa," Hawkins said.

Apartheid governs South African lives

By KAREN MOORE
Staff Writer

Apartheid is a collection of laws that allow the controlling caucasian class in South Africa to use, to segregate and to brutalize the Asians, coloureds and Africans. Apartheid does not deal with laws — only it is a way of life for the people of South Africa.

After World War II the industrial revolution created a rush of Blacks to the cities in South Africa in order to find work. To keep them from getting too much power, the Nationalists who took a strict line of control were elected. Rules for blacks who wanted to stay in an urban area more than 72 hours were that they had to be 1) residents since birth in that area, 2) employed at the same place for 10 years, or a lawful resident for 15 years, 3) the wife, unmarried daughter or son under sixteen of some one who qualified, 4) granted permission from the Labor Bureau.

Blacks were not allowed any type of self government. They were organized into a 53 square mile area southwest of Johannesburg called Soweto, an acronym for south western townships.

In 1976, a demonstration by Black high school students in Soweto turned into violent riots in which almost 500 people were killed. Several situations were said to have caused the riots. Some of these were the protest against teaching and speaking only the Afrikaans language in the black schools, and the Communist backing of the African National Congress.

After the riots the government agreed to make conditions better at Soweto. The dream of having electricity in Soweto is now in the process of becoming a reality. Three high schools have been built in Soweto. The young people no longer have to go back to their homelands for secondary education. Although the South African government has relented some in building the schools it has not made the education for blacks free nor mandatory.

In 1980 tens of thousands of black students boycotted their classrooms against school and apartheid. The amount spent on each black student's education is \$40 compared to the \$740 spent for each white child.

More harsh realities of the apartheid system are: no person who is generally adepted as a member of an aboriginal race or tribe in South Africa is allowed to have his wife and other family members living with him unless they have such separately obtained permits; a white man cannot teach his coloured workers to read; an African minister who teaches his congregation to read the Bible is also guilty of breaking the law; mixed marriages are forbidden between coloured and other races and considered null and void when inside of South Africa.

Martin Luther King Jr. said of apartheid in 1967. "The tragedy of South Africa is not simply its own policy; it is the fact that the racist government of South Africa is virtually made possible by the economic policies

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South African says conditions hinder Black rule

By LAWRENCE TURNER
Managing Editor

The conditions in South Africa would not allow for black majority rule before the next 20 years, Levi Engelbrecht, a Black South African said recently.

A visiting student at UNC, 35-year-old Engelbrecht said his country is "unfortunately the richest country on the continent," of Africa. The wealth of the nation is

the major reason for the repression of Blacks and those of mixed race (coloured) through apartheid (racial segregation). "The white minority wouldn't have clinged to power."

South Africa is the first world producer of gold, he said, it also produces platinum, aluminium and uranium.

The repression comes also from Western powers which support the present government and last the country's strong army

restricts blacks advancement. "And they are not thinking of sharing power, they will fight to the bitter end," Engelbrecht said.

The army's strength is recognized also in a recent Newsweek article of it when the Deputy Defense Minister Hendrik Jacobus Costsee said, "If nuclear weapons are a last resort to defend oneself, it would be very stupid not to use them."

South Africa has 21 million Blacks and just four million whites with land divided 87

percent for whites and 13 percent for Blacks, Engelbrecht said. Blacks cannot live in cities and live on "homelands" which has land not good for cultivation. Those Blacks found jobless in cities for 72 hours are forced by officials to return to a homeland whether they belong there or not, he added.

Jobs traditionally held by Blacks are manual labor profession or the position of

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