

# BLACK INK



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## Students' grades reflect low priorities



Dean Joyce Clayton

By REGINA GASKINS Staff Writer

The black freshman class isn't the only class suffering from poor grade point averages, two university officials said.

Hayden B. Renwick, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said out of approximately 1,300 black undergraduate students, only 100 have a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

The freshmen class alone, he said, accounts for one-third of that figure, leaving the remaining two-thirds dispersed throughout the sophomore, junior and, senior classes.

(In the Feb. 11 issue of Black Ink Renwick told about the low grade point a averages of black freshman.

Renwick said he doesn't expect a change in these figures as long as students "operate on a basis that academics are a low priority."

"Everything blacks do should be centered around achieving a high academic record," Renwick said. "The only way to get 500 black students under a single roof is to have a step show or a party. We need to eliminate that."

One of the problems of reaching the black students, is the inadequate staff size, he said.

For instance, in the Minority Advisory

Program, which is geared toward reaching the needs of all minority students, only two deans — Renwick and Joyce Clayton, assistant dean of General College, work with all minority students. Undergraduate and graduate students work in the program on a volunteer basis.

Clayton said that she would like to see more graduate assistants, minority advisors, and academic monitoring programs, whereby instructors report on students' performances.

However, she said while the idea of adding more people to the staff is appealing, she doubts that more can be added, given the present economic situation.

Renwick said another way of reaching more students is for the upperclassmen to form a committee designed to police and counsel each other. Clayton said a peer counseling committee would be useful in establishing why some students lack motivation, especially in class attendance.

Usually students who perform poorly during the first months of the semester, she said, are the ones most likely to skip class and fail to seek help through the support programs.

"Fundamentally we're dealing with an age old problem of pride. . . . They (students) refuse to reach out and use the available resources. It seems suicidal almost a death wish," Clayton said.

Felecia Piggott, a junior minority advisor from Winston-Salem, said she has also found the lack of motivation to be a problem among some of her advises.

"There are so many other things to distract them," she said. "They think its better to be social, catch up on the latest soap operas, or join organizations."

She said students are often too satisfied with just a "C" — just getting by.

#### Chapel Thrill

## Choices disappoint blacks

By MICHELLE THOMAS Staff Writer

The 1982 Chapel Thrill concert to be held in Kenan Stadium on April 24, will be a big disappointment to many blacks in the Chapel Hill area.

In early February, soul music performers Kool & the Gang were slated to perform at the concert however, February 24, Kool & the Gang broke their verbal contract with little explanation.

Wes Wright, a junior business administration major who is the coordinator for the Chapel Thrill Committee, said the reason Kool & the Gang cancelled was because of their manager, Jerry Ade.

"The committee contacted Kool & the Gang through Norby and Walters, a booking agency that manages such acts as Kool & the Gang, Wright said. "Jerry was out of town in Nigeria, at the time and the group went ahead anyway and said that they would be happy to perform in Chapel Hill for \$35,000."

"Everyone else in the group wanted it," he said. Ade, however, later contacted the committee and told them that they would not perform at the concert.

Wright said the musical group's manager said "why should my group perform in Chapel Hill, when they can make better money performing in (nearby) Greensboro or in Raleigh?"

He said the committee also tried to schedule soul music performers the Time and the Sugarhill Gang for the concert, but neither of the two groups were able to confirm.

Lourian Burwell, a senior sociology and political science major from Henderson, said she felt very upset when she heard that Joan Jet and the Blackhearts and Donnie Iris and the Cruisers were selected for the concert.

"I've never heard of those groups before," Burwell said, "and I feel like the concert will lose a bundle of money because they would not pay Kool & the Gang \$50,000 like Hall and Oates.

Wright said, "Blacks on the concert selection committee helped, but I didn't have any on my committee in charge of organizing the concert."

There were blacks on the committee that selected the groups for the concert, but there were no blacks on the actual concert planning committee, he said.

### Court seeks minorities

By RAMONA BROWN Editor

A major criticism of the UNC-CH Honor Court has been its misrepresentation of minorities, particularly blacks. The Honor Court is now in the process of recruiting more blacks through publicity to increase the racial diversification of the Honor Court.

"The Honor Court has been accused of misrepresentation for quite some time and we are now making attempts to get more blacks interested in serving on the Court," said Elizabeth Ennen, Honor Court chairperson.

Presently there are six black members of the Court but according to the bylaws of the Honor Court there should be eight black persons minimum on the thirty member court.

"We do have blacks serving on the Court but what we are trying to do now is to get a larger pool of applicants," Ennen said.

The Court faces the problem of getting diverse student representation because the present demographics of the Court are mainly white Greek-letter organization members.

"It is true there is a problem of population representation and we are now trying to insure that the court represents the campus," Ennen, an American studies and religion major, said.

The Honor Court is accepting applications and promoting drives in an attempt to draw more blacks to serve on the court. Qualifications to serve on the court include an obligation to uphold standards of the community, an open mind to foster discussion and a respect for making clear decisions.

"The most important commitment to the Honor Court is thought," rather than time, Ennen added.

Jackie Jeffries, one of the six black members of the Court, said black representation is needed to change the entire representation of the Court.

"Honor Court is great experience and blacks have been urged to serve on the court to balance the representation according to the campus demographics," Jeffries said.