

## Black Ink will not be a forum for gossip

Many people have been complaining that the Black Ink has not printed anything on the controversy going on now within the Black Student Movement. Why hasn't the official voice of the BSM published the news about that organization?

Because, as far as we at Black Ink are concerned, until now there has been no news. The same old anti-"Wende" factions have been up to their old tricks—ruining the whole organization.

Some apparently feel it is news when a small group of radicals set out to undermine the aims of the Black Student Movement and to manipulate the unsuspecting, naive general body into helping them by soliciting their signatures on a petition.

That is now news. That's history. Blacks have been tricked before. One time some blacks thought the Communist Workers Party was their ally. Before then some blacks thought the plantation owner had their best interests at heart. Now, blacks in Alabama and other states have been duped into thinking that a one-time racist can actually change. But none of that is as tragic as what we see happening on the Carolina campus. Here blacks are being used by their own people.

Little did the committee thought. Little did the committee know that born-again choir members would not think twice about breaking the law and would embezzle BSM funds from the student government.

It appears that the choir leaders were determined that the central committee would not be their governing body, for the treasurer of that non-sub-group, Zollie Stevens, acted as only BSM treasurer is allowed to do, and completed requisitions for all but \$60 from the choir's allocated funds. That's a violation of the honor code. That's news. Furthermore the checks were made payable to gospel choir leaders. That's peculiar.

It's time for blacks to start being suspicious of the petition pushers. Why should anything they spectated Harvey Jenkins says be taken with more than a grain of salt? For someone who knows so much about the Black Student Movement, he was only in it two months. He must have a personal vendetta against Watson. And isn't he the same Jenkins who had to be forced by the student attorney general to turn over records of deposits for BSM monies because he was holding them until "Wende apologized" to him? He is the same Jenkins who failed to pay a single bill

## Viewpoint

The problem started and stems from, we contend, the regulations handed down from the Black Student Movement Central Committee requiring the BSM Gospel Choir to give up most of its religious aspirations, the main problem being that they did not want to give them up. While Black Ink is not a religious organization, we have means of knowing that the nature of God is not such that He would have the choir use the tactics they used against the central committee.

Choir leaders set out to form their own choir, still using the good old BSM name. But there was one problem with this. They did not have the good old BSM funds, allocated to that organization by student government, at least that's what the central com-

mittee thought. He is a questionable source of reliable information.

No, there is nothing in Black Ink about the controversy. We don't consider it news or even features, and that's all we print.

As for obtaining information, blacks must take it upon themselves to actively pursue the truth. All BSM meetings are open and most central committee meetings are open, so find out for yourself.

We believe that if blacks really want the truth from the central committee and the chairperson, Wende Watson, they should simply ask. An impeachment hearing is far from necessary. But it would give Jenkins and the choir the revenge they are seeking.



Lisa Staten and father, Roland Staten, are elated as she is pronounced Homecoming Queen, 1982. Staten was the BSM nominee.

## From the Mailbox

To the editor:

I have three very important questions that I would like to have answered in your paper. As an active, involved, and concerned BSM member, I feel that I have a right to know what is going on in the organization that I belong to. The questions are as follows:

1. Why wasn't the Black Student Movement listed among the Student Recognized Organizations on their campus in the October 14th issue of the DAILY TARHEEL?
2. Why did the General Body need to vote on whether to change the titles Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to President and Vice-President when our "Chairperson" took the liberty of having the membership cards printed with her title as PRESIDENT?
3. Why did the Black Student Movement endorse another black candidate for homecoming queen AFTER the Black Greek Council had already endorsed their candidate? Why didn't the BSM support the BGC's endorsement since the BSM was late with their endorsement anyway? That act did not show very much unification between the blacks on this campus. Isn't UNIFICATION the message that the BSM is supposed to be advocating this year? Are we as unified as we claim to be?

Thank you for your time and effort in answering these questions.

Linnette D. Banks  
BSM Member

Fellow BSM member:

While Black Ink appreciates meaningful input from members of the Black Student Movement we were surprised and disappointed that you, a BSM member would attempt to abuse the pages of this newsmagazine to damage the reputation of a long-standing institution like the BSM. We sincerely hope that in the future those who want to see unity in the organization do not show it by publishing defamatory statements about the group.

In answer to your questions, no such report was printed in the Oct. 14 issue and according to sources at the Daily Tar Heel office, the Newspaper did not print such a list. You may be referring to an ad taken out by student government, where BSM may or may not have been included, according to the discretion of the advertiser. In any case the BSM is an officially recognized organization.

The BSM central committee elected to have the chairperson referred to as president because the rationale for the change was so logical. That rationale was that the head of a committee is a chairperson. The BSM is not a committee; therefore, the head of our organization should more rightfully be referred to as president. The central committee reasoned that the general body would see the logic in this and vote accordingly.

Finally, the BSM and the Black Greek Council are separate organizations neither of which dictates policy to the other. Since it was the goal of the BSM to nominate and endorse the candidate most likely to win, it backed Lisa Staten. We believe that action has been vindicated.

# BLACK INK



If blackness can be converted into words and pictures, we intend to do it.

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