

Networking the Future

by Shirley Hunter
Managing Editor

Minorities and women searching for jobs will soon get a chance to make some important contacts.

On Friday, April 18 in Great Hall, the "Women and Minorities Business Networking Seminar" will be held. Representatives from such nationally known companies such as Johnson's Products Co., the Pro-line Corp., and Hanes Knitwear will be prepared to look at resumes and discuss job opportunities.

Marjorie Roach, a senior psychology major, the brainstorm behind the idea of the Seminar, said she was concerned that the Career Placement Center at Hanes Hall did not have many minority businesses to come and recruit on campus.

"I felt students needed the opportunity to come into contact with some minority businesses," she said.

Working in conjunction with her internship at the Orange County Women's Center, she embarked on the task of bringing in the companies together. The whole process began in January. She said she did most of the footwork herself.

"I called the businesses and got most of their addresses from magazines," she said.

The BSM, the Orange County Women's Center, Hinton James Dormitory and the Business school helped with the planning and funding of the Seminar.

In addition to the actual networking with potential employers, a panel discussion will be held. Representatives from Minority and women-owned businesses will discuss realities of the business world.

Scheduled panel members include Carmen M. Elijah, National Managing Editor of the magazine, Minorities and Women in Business Magazine, Donald James, District Manager of the Pro-Line Corporation and Cheryl Stone of the National Association of Women Business Owners-NC Chapter.

A reception catered by Dips Country Kitchen will follow the seminar.

The Seminar begins at 2:00 p.m. and is scheduled to end at 5:30 p.m.

Roach said the businesses attending will be prepared to take resumes from interested students. "Students with any major are invited to attend."



Photo by Tammi Foust

The Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity show their stuff at their step show April 10.

Welfare

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The study, released in February, involved 28 mothers and their children for four and a half years. The participants, randomly selected, came from low-income families where the parents or siblings failed in school.

"Within the Chapel Hill community, low-income almost invariably translates into a black family," she continued. "The families who qualified from this area were 98 percent black."

The participants, whose ages ranged from 12 to mid 40's were randomly divided into two groups. The mothers, in the experimental group, were given free day care for their babies in a center run by the Frank Porter Graham staff. The others, who made up the control group, were given free diapers and milk for 15 months after the baby's birth as an incentive to participate. Teen-age moms were in both groups.

Although the mothers were told that assignments were random, some got upset Campbell said.

"These things are always difficult when you're dealing with a real person whose real needs are not being met," she said.

The children placed in the experimental group were from six weeks to three months of age. By the time they

were four and half years old, 75 percent of their mothers had graduated from high school and were able to support themselves according to the study.

Less than half of the mothers in the control group finished high school. Campbell said some mothers could not find any source of care. In some cases, she could not be self-supportive and afford care at the same time.

She said policies concerning teenagers are not very helpful, especially those who are disadvantaged and low income.

"We're making it difficult to obtain birth control, and maintain privacy," she added.

Campbell got her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She received her doctoral degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a clinical psychologist and senior researcher at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center.

She said more money should be put into quality day care so that young mothers can stay in school.

"I think the child has the right to a good start and the young mother has a right to go ahead and complete her education," she said.

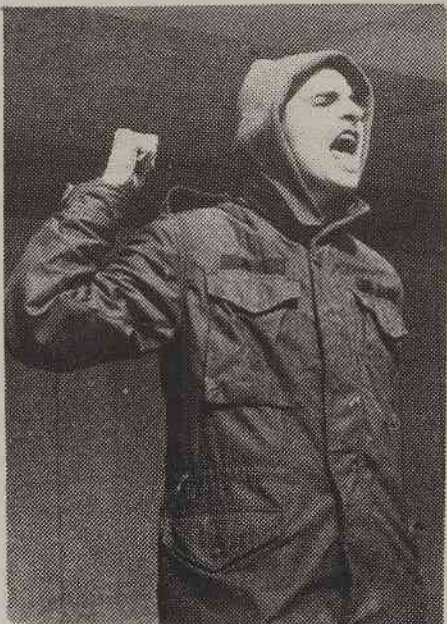
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Brotherhood

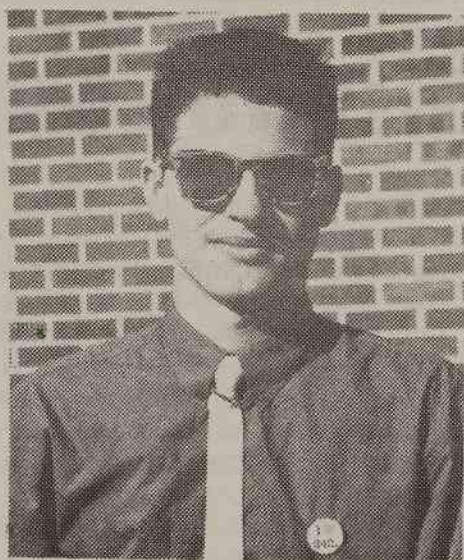
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Greensboro, said Hinton James Dormitory is where he belongs. "People tend to hang with the people they're like and this is what I'm like," he said.

McKinnon has an older sister and brother. They didn't tend to adhere to the (black) culture like I did. But it was me and I liked it," he said.



Matthew McKinnon on line



Matthew McKinnon now

Photos by Tammi Foust

Like other freshmen, McKinnon has to choose a major some time. "I'm thinking about advertising. My sister did it and she liked it." He said he hopes to combine his love of writing and drawing into an advertising career.

Until then, however, he will continue to be a dedicated member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated.

UNC

Some students said that the most difficult adjustment was becoming accustomed to an increase in studying. Another part of that adjustment was becoming comfortable in the racial environment of UNC.

Tony Blue, a pharmacy major from Raleigh said, "It was somewhat of a cultural shock." He added, "With blacks being less than 10 percent of the (UNC) population, I had to adjust."

Being at college meant autonomy for the first time for many students. They had to handle their own finances, make decisions on their own, use their own judgement, set priorities and resist temptations.

Many students said that in the fall they plan to study more and make schedules to be better organized.

And so the journey toward graduation has begun. Good luck and best wishes, Freshmen.