

Lifestyles

The Sole Transformers: The Sigmas Go It Alone

"Transformers, Sigmas in disguise; transformers, more that meets the eye."

These are the words to the theme song of the cartoon, *The Transformers*. It was also the theme of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. pledge line. "The Transformers" were seven sophomores: Rickey "Optimist Prime" Robertson, Joseph "Prowl" Love, Kenny "Grimlock" Perry, Tony "Perceptor" Blue, Reggie "Hot Rod" Taylor, Wilton "Ironhide" Hyman and Stuart "Ultra-Magnus" Holland.

The Sigma pledge line was the only fraternity pledging this semester. According to Stuart Holland, "Being the only line this semester had its good points and bad points. Everyone noticed us; there was no competition. We couldn't hide; we were seen regardless."

Reggie Taylor said, "It was kind of glamorous and tedious. We had to do everything to perfection because everyone was watching us." The others also agree that being the only line this semester was good but it did have its bad points.

These seven young men who pledged Phi Beta Sigma all have various reasons for doing so. Kenny Perry stated, "I pledged PBS because to me, it exemplifies the idea of brotherhood more so than any other fraternity. Joseph Love said he pledged because of the love that the brothers show for each other. Reggie Taylor said he pledged because he saw PBS as an organization that made its claim (Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service), and stuck by it. Rickey Robertson said he pledged because he feels that PBS stresses that if you're gonna pledge, pledge for the right reasons. Tony Blue stated as his reason for pledging, "I thought that becoming a member of PBS would make me a better-rounded and more open-minded person." Stuart Holland said he pledged because he wanted to be associated with a group of young men who would help him realize his full potential. Wilton Hyman: "The organization is very strong and I learned a lot about them

through the Sigma Squires Club. They seemed to be good people and have pretty good direction."

Asked how their line names fit them, they each said:

Rickey "Optimist Prime" Robertson — Optimist Prime is considered invincible; this fits me."

Kenny "Grimlock" Perry — "Grimlock is mean, argumentative and likes to fight. I love to fight, but not with my hands, but with my mind."

Joseph "Prowl" Love — "Prowl" has patience and the ability to think logically, works alongside Perceptor."

Tony "Perceptor" Blue — "Perceptor — the scientist — uses a lot of big words and thinks logically."

Reggie "Hot Rod" Taylor — "Hot Rod's character is really almost like me; it's a sportscar and the way that he acts is very cool, calm and collected. That's me."

Wilton "Ironhide" Hyman — "Ironhide is a tough character who prefers action rather than words. It fits me because I don't like to speak a lot; I just want to get it over with."

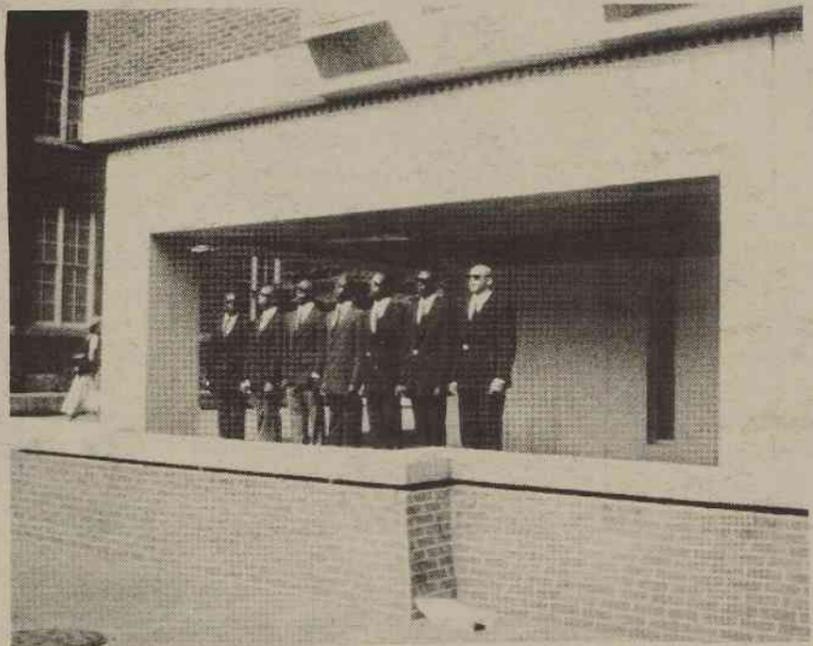
Stuart "Ultra-Magnus" Holland — "Ultra Magnus is Latin for big or large; that fits me."

Being the sole line on campus this semester has indeed brought a bit of fame to the new Sigmas. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Now has 12 active members. Rickey Robertson says, "Phi Beta Sigma is the constant in the BGC and is an ardent attempt to bring black Greek fraternities back to their original ideals and beliefs."

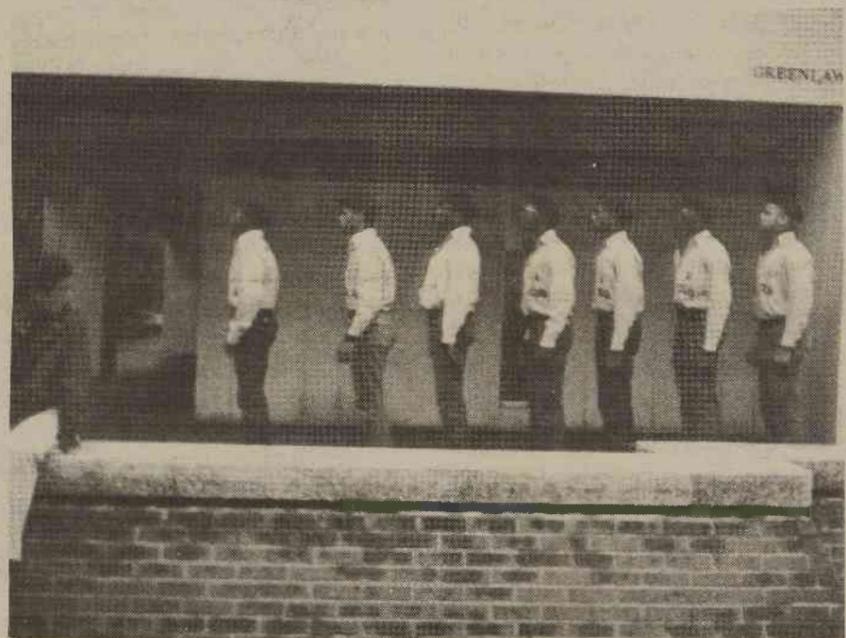
Lastly, Kenny Perry states: "Zeus, Apollo, Hermes etc. were Greek gods. Members of the BGC are not gods. They are students in organizations and the campus should look at them or to them but not up to them."

"Transformers, Sigmas in disguise; transformers, more than meets the eye."

Gina Powell



Fall 1986 Crescents: The "Sole Transformers" (photo by Reubena Whitted)



Sigmas on line (photo by Reubena Whitted)

Students Send Out An SOS Talent Show

Students from five North Carolina Universities put their talents together for a Halloween night "Talent Show Extravaganza" and raised funds for Shaw University.

"Save Our Shaw" (SOS), held in the Great Hall, was sponsored by the Black Student Movement, Afro-American Studies, Black Faculty Staff Caucus, The Friends of Black Children Community Council, Inc. and Monica Green, a postdoctoral fellow of the UNC department of History.

Talented singers, musicians and actresses from Fayetteville State University, Winston-Salem State University, North Carolina State University, Shaw University, and our own University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, performed before an audience of about 200 people to raise money to help Shaw University alleviate its financial difficulties.

Kenneth Howard, of N.C. State, sang

his way into a \$50 first place prize with "My Soul Has Been Anchored in the Lord."

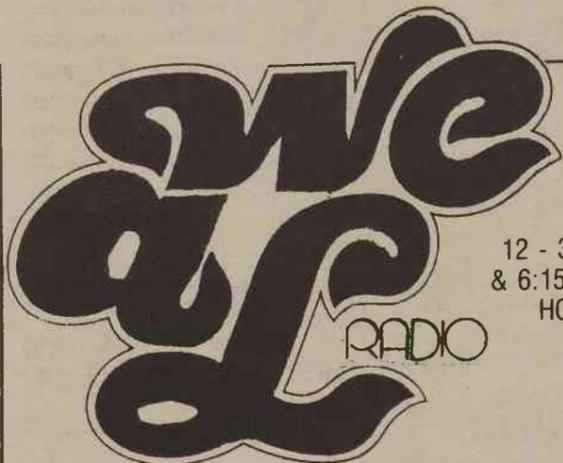
Shaw University's Daryl Lipford performed "Rock Me Tonight," for which he took second place honors of \$25.

UNC's own Fred Holmes (The Saxman) captured third place and a \$10 prize with an alto saxophone solo of "I Don't Want to Say Good-bye."

Rick Williams of PM Magazine, Curtis Sutton of Savior Fare and Neal Carter of Yours Truly, judged the show, while Janet Roach and Greg Bargeman acted as mistress and master of ceremony.

Other performers included Lonnie Lewis from Shaw University, Sophia Gatewood, Danielle Bowens, Kent Brooks and Leonard Johnson, of UNC, Randy Marriable of N.C. State, Cynthia Duncan Norton of WSSU, and Tim Rodgers and Company, of FSU.

Renarta Clanton presented the audience with a history of Shaw University.



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