



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, LILLIAN RIGGS

**RIGHT OR WRONG OBJECTIVES
YOUR AFFILIATION WITH A BLACK
MOVEMENT**

With the many Afro-American organizations springing up over the nation, all advocating racial pride, integrity and unity, in what manner do we choose one to which we dedicate ourselves? Or do we choose to even accept the proposals of any of them? Although all of these Black associations have basically the same objective of working for the betterment of the Negroes, we can't agree with the means by which they all profess to do this. By what means do we examine these groups in determining which one or ones we might devote ourselves? The distinguishing characteristics of these Black associations range from those who advocate non-violence, to those who advocate violence.

As we are made aware of the specific objectives of the various Black groups, I am inclined to believe that we choose those which have presented proposals which appeal to us. We don't choose

those which seem to have the majority of the Black followers merely for the sake of unity. So what, if the Black association to which we belong have only a small number, are we wrong because we have chosen to belong to it. My feelings are that no matter what we endeavor to do, even if our feelings are in contrast to the majority, we stick to them. It is the strong individuals who can think critically for themselves and who are not easily led in a direction which they do not wish to take.

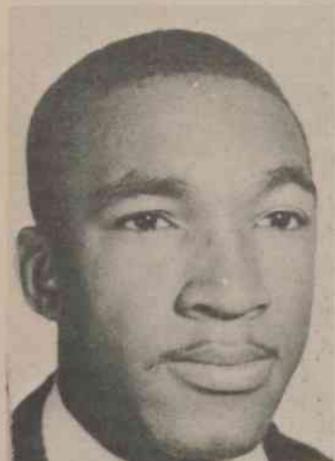
To correlate this to making a choice as to what Black movement we devote ourselves, I feel that basically we are all our own judge and we work for what we believe is right, just and fair. We don't join any group merely for the sake of Black unity, be it's objectives wrong or right. We view its proposals subjectively and objectively and choose that one which is for right, whether we are in the minority or not.

**WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY
CENTER**

We of the University center extend to you a sincere welcome to the University family and to your Student Center. We like to think of the Union as the University's "living room" where activities are much like those which occur in the same room at our individual homes. It is a family retreat which is here to provide academic, so-

cial, cultural, and recreational (not necessarily in that order) outlets for individuals alone or with groups. The Union is what you make it and with your ideas, your participation and your support, it can and will be true to its purpose. There is always need of more persons (active) on our various committees, we request that you make known to us your interest and desire to become affiliated with your chosen committee. Not only may you approach those of the Union Staff and Programming Organization (elected officers) concerning the Union but we also are available for questions or aid to you in any academic or other problems which might arise and you seek the aid of a student.

We would like to see you succeed in your college pursuits and stand ready to help in any way possible. Again I say greetings and welcome to the Viking family.



ALFRED CARTER
Pres., Student Union

**Freshman Talent Show
Is Smashed**

Moore Hall Auditorium was the scene of the Annual Freshmen Talent Show for the year 1969-70. As the auditorium filled to its total seating capacity with students on the floor and standing, the upperclass audience anxiously awaited the performance of the new addition of Elizabeth City State University, the class of 1973.

The program started promptly at 8 o'clock commencing with a poem by Miss Gail Turner, which was interrupted with booing from the over excited audience. The program continued on rough edges with intermittent booing from the audience. The members of the audience began to formulate ideas about the outcome of the program introspectively. Then it happened noises of all kinds, from all directions made their way to the stage. This embarrassed the performers. Dr. Marion D. Thorpe, President of the University spoke with the audience concerning their conduct. After Joseph Bryant sang "I Believe" serenading the audience with lovely music, Mr. Jimmy Sutton, newly elected President of the Student Body spoke with the audience. He suggested that those individuals not respectful enough to at least listen to the performers, to quietly leave the auditorium so that others could. The program terminated under a more conducive atmosphere.

The program was directed by Miss Evelyn A. Johnson who is professor of Music and also Director of ECSU's outstanding choir.

Orris Clark, Freshman Industrial Arts major from Ahoskie acted as Master of Ceremonies. The program was consisted of poems, groups singing, dances, etcetera. The following states were represented by students performing on the talent show: New York, Washington, D.C., Virginia, and North Carolina. The latter half of the program was highlighted by black beauty, elegance and charm as lovely Miss India Harris of Washington, D.C. led a selected group of lovely black Freshmen women into the portrayal of the lovely fashions worn by today's Black women.

It is evident that the reactions of the Upperclassmen of this University to the Freshmen Talent Program presents a vague and unproud image of the backbone of the University and the students. It is a fact that University students would have more guts about them to even want to be in the presence of such an audience as the one on September 5. Shame and forgiveness ring endlessly in the hearts of many of the students of this institution. We regret that the Freshmen Class had it

so hard. I want you to know that as a whole we care about you because you are a part of us. We know that during the Basketball, Football and Wrestling season that we will want to hear you cheering for ECSU and not booing. No matter how good or bad our team plays your cheers count. I want you to know that the few students that embarrassed or ridiculed you didn't have any idea of what was happening. As a former Freshman I was bored, but the fact of black people performing amidst an atmosphere of black power should make any black man proud and if it doesn't, he is not black.

The opinion of the majority is that the program was very well performed under the existing circumstances at that time. The audience was rude, unthoughtful and inconsiderate. The general presumption of the performers was that the audience wanted to make the situation as unpleasant as possible. A minority of the Upperclassmen made the entire student body look obnoxious. Many of the freshmen students misconstrued the concept established by the minority. At one point a group of students began singing "We are the mighty Vikings and don't give a hoot about the Freshmen". It is my personal belief that this group of students was not cognizant, at this time that the Freshmen are also Vikings of ECSU and soon to be just as mighty as we.

The overall opinion of the Freshmen, from what I gathered, was that the Upperclassmen didn't want the program in the first place. One young lady stated quote "It was only stupid, here we put on a program for the Upperclassmen of this University and what do they care. That's just the thing they don't care. We wanted to please them, so that they would accept us more gracious as Vikings. Robert Ward



VELMAR ROUNTREE,
WGA PRESIDENT

**WHAT DOES
IT COST**

We can wear Afros, we can shout Black Power, we can wear dashikis, but if we fail to get some of that black dignity in our hearts we might as well "hang it all up". In other words, the wearing of African dress does not mean that we will gain respect from others for it. And as Blacks we had better realize this. Don't misunderstand me. I think that wearing dress that supposedly distinguishes the black man's pride is alright. But are these symbols (hair styles, dress, jewelry, and the like) merely worn because they have become the fad?

Respect is cheap, it costs absolutely nothing. But to gain a little we must give a little. As a student at Elizabeth City State University, I become concerned when a student shows disrespect to another student. As Black men and women, we must first of all exhibit some respect among ourselves to acquire the respect of others. If we don't respect each other, then what can we ask in the way of respect from those who are not of our Black race.

I've seen a few isolated incidents here that were pure examples of things we say we're sick and tired of seeing displayed among our people. These things are disrespect, rudeness and just

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