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Speaking on women writers

Maya Angelou to appear Nov. 11

By Linda D. Powell

Noted author Maya Angelou will speak on "Women Writers of the Harlem Renaissance" and read from her works Nov. 11 in B.N. Duke Auditorium at 8 p.m.

A woman of many talents, Angelou has been a singer, dancer, writer, actress, historian, lecturer, producer, editor, songwriter, educator, and playwright, which she accomplished with only a high school education.

Dr. Patsy Perry, NCCU English Department chairman, is excited about Angelou's appearance. "She uses the experiences of her life beautifully in her works. Her coming here should be an inspiration to both students and faculty," she said. Her appearances on university campuses and before private organizations have made her one of today's most sought after personalities.

Maya Angelou made her first professional performance in 1954 as a singer in a club. From there she went on to roles in plays as a singer and dancer, travelling in Europe and Africa.

Angelou's writing career began when she was associate editor of *The Arab Observer* in Cairo, Egypt. She also wrote free-lance articles and was features editor of *The African Review*.

Angelou has had five books published by Random House Publishing. Her novel *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* is the most well-known of her works.

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Richmond defends policies in midst of student complaints

By Lori Grier

Twenty-seven business majors, some fearful that their graduation may be delayed, presented complaints about the Business School curriculum, course scheduling and enrollment policies to officers of the Student Government Association at an Oct. 19 meeting in B.N. Duke Auditorium.

The business majors who attended the meeting are disgruntled because they believe that course prerequisites in the business curriculum, which require them to take Decision Science 3300 before they take Operations Management 4750 followed by Business Policy 4740, may delay graduation for some.

In the past business majors commonly took two of these courses in one semester, but strict enforcement of the prerequisites policy has prevented that this semester.

According to the students, scheduling these courses is also made difficult because some of them are now offered only once a year.

Business school enrollment policies were another source of controversy aired at the meeting.

Several students complained that six or seven weeks after enrolling, some business majors were told to withdraw from required courses by Dean Tyrone Richmond and their instructors.

Such scheduling and enrollment problems may delay the graduation of approximately 20 business majors who must return next fall to take only one course, and others have been forced to change their majors in order to

graduate on time, the students said.

"I've been forced to change my major from computer to management. It was unfair for them to cancel us from our classes in the middle of the semester because we didn't have our prerequisite (managerial economics)," said Cynthia Brothers, 21, a senior from Edenton.

Claudette Hester, 21, a senior from Bladenboro, who said she too had been forced to change her major from computer to management, put the blame on Dean Richmond and faculty who "they let us sign up for Decision Science and its prerequisite (Managerial Economics) at the same time," she said.

Some said they felt caught up in an impersonal bureaucracy and thought the Business School ought to reorder its priorities. "Dean Richmond should have more concern for the students than the School of Business being accredited," said Olivia Evans, 21, a senior from Maxton.

Commenting on this issue, Richmond said, "I will hold our business curriculum against any other school's. We have a curriculum that's highly constructed, because we have built on our courses. My goal is to get the NCCU School of Business accredited; then I will have made my contribution."

According to Richmond, the enrollment controversy developed because "some students are not following the curriculum." He noted that "35 of 65 business students violated the prerequisites this semester." However, he added that most of the juniors are following the prescribed program.

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State Republicans play Reagan 'ace' but lose big election night hand

By Edwin Horsley

To most people "ace in the hole" is a phrase that means that one has a last resort plan of action, a secret weapon or option that gives one a winning edge.

Bill Cobey, Jack Marin and their unsuccessful Republican ticket-mates found out this week that sometimes an ace in the hole isn't enough, and in fact, it may be the wrong card to play.

Republican Congressional Club candidates in this state played their "ace," President Ronald Reagan, Oct. 26 in Raleigh. They had hoped that Reagan's North Carolina campaign tour would win some undecided votes, would be the capstone to a powerful media campaign.

Although Republican popularity has increased in the last two years, North Carolina has remained a Democratic state, at least as far as voter registration is concerned. So even a strong Republican candidate can expect a tough race in North Carolina.

Foreseeing a number of close races, the Congressional Club called on the president to save the day. Republican candidates hoped that Reagan might be able to work some of the same magic that put him in office two years

ago.

But Reagan's magic failed for two major reasons.

First, he did not address issues that were of significance to North Carolinians, and second, he ignored the black vote.

He did not say what the state's Republican hopefuls would do to improve the economic conditions of its citizens.

Farmers wanted to hear what the Republicans would do for them at the state and federal levels. Farmers have complained bitterly about their low personal incomes, drastic drops in the market value of their products and their powerlessness in deciding agricultural policies.

Reagan chose to overlook these points and to discuss North Carolina's problems only in the most general terms.

He repeatedly stated his administration's national aims. "We are changing the course to put you the people back in charge of your country," he said. He also noted that he intended to keep up the struggle against abortion and for prayer in schools.

His speech was the gospel according to Jesse Helms, but it was largely irrelevant in many local races.

Undecided voters may have wondered if the Republican hopefuls would remember to keep local issues in mind if elected. Reagan did not address them, and his appearance shifted the focus of the campaign from the personal qualifications of the Republican candidates to the Congressional Club's slate of national issues.

There is no denying that the Republican campaigns picked up a lot of energy after the president's appearance. Local television and radio stations covered the visit well and the Republican campaign advertising began to feature pictures of a smiling candidate alongside a beaming president. All must have seemed well in the Republican camps.

But on election night, it was clear that all was not well.

Minority voters ignored

Besides ignoring local concerns, Reagan and the Republicans made another tactical blunder: they ignored the state's minority voters.

True, Republicans have not traditionally sought the support of blacks and other minority voters, who usually vote a straight Democratic ticket. But this election campaign was not traditional.

Democrats had internal problems that threatened their hold on several congressional seats.

Rep. Ike Andrews, the 4th District incumbent, hurt the Democrats as well as his own re-election chances when he was arrested and found guilty of drunk driving.

Democrats in the 2nd Congressional District were split between Tim Valentine, who won the right to run, and Mickey Michaux, the black favorite who won 15 percent of the vote in an unofficial write-in campaign.

In the 3rd District incumbent Charley Whitley faced a strong challenge from Republican Red McDaniel. Age was also a factor against Whitley.

But even in the face of these factors which hindered many blacks from unconditionally endorsing Democrats, the Republicans simply treated the undecided black votes as if they did not count.

President Reagan did not once mention minorities or any minority concerns in his 45-minute speech. This not-so-benign neglect might have been the decisive blunder, because the minority vote could have sent several Republican candidates into office.

When blacks in this state don't vote, the odds are about even between the two major parties. When blacks do vote, the way that they vote has many times proven to be the winning edge for one party or the other.

Blacks traditionally vote Democratic because that party recognizes and respects the power of the minority vote. The Republicans also recognize black voting power, but they refuse to respect it.

In sum, though flashy, Reagan's visit did not contribute much to the North Carolina Republican effort. Perhaps state Republicans should have reflected that an ace in the whole does not do you much good if you are trying to draw to a pair of deuces.

Black College Day: A failure

By Marion McKinney

Crossed signals and bad weather plagued the Oct. 25 Black College Day rally in Raleigh, which this year attracted only 150 students from the 13 predominantly black colleges and universities in the state.

Black College Day was organized three years ago as a national day of demonstration to bring attention to issues important to the survival of black colleges. Last year's demonstration in Raleigh drew more than a thousand marchers.

Weather was certainly a factor in the poor turnout. A cold October rain and gusting wind kept most of the rally's participants huddled under the porch of the Capitol Building.

The event had originally been scheduled for September 22, but organizational delays forced a postponement.

Duane Howell, N.C. Central University student government president, blames the North Carolina Association of Black Student Governments (NCASB) rather than the rainy weather for what he termed a "underplanned and chaotic Black College Day."

Because of a communication breakdown, NCCU's participation in the march and rally was severely curtailed, Howell said.

First there was confusion about the rally staging area. While some schools gathered in the auditorium on the St. Augustine's College cam-

pus, the group from Central was sent to the student union, Howell said.

By the time a St. Augustine's school van was finally arranged to take them to the march site, most of the Central students had missed the start of the march.

In fact, only one Central student, Lori Grier, who as Miss NCCU had been slated to speak at the rally, managed to make the march to the Capitol.

"Pam Young (Miss Johnson C. Smith) and I were at McDonald's when we saw the marchers lining up," said Miss Grier. "We ran out and joined the march."

Only five were able to attend other rally events. Most of the NCCU students were left waiting at the march site.

Why the confusion?

According to Howell, the fact that Black College Day had to be postponed from September to October was an indication of the NCABSG's inability to coordinate the event competently.

Howell said that "the nonchalant attitudes of the NCABSG" were one reason Black College Day was a failure but that with "the restructuring of communications, this will never happen again."

Breakdowns in communications were not the only complaint expressed by NCCU student leaders. James Webb, student government vice-president, criticized the keynote

speaker of the event, Terry Bellamy, a magistrate and local political figure from Charlotte.

Webb said that Bellamy was the wrong choice as speaker and that his speech, a general attack on the policies of the Reagan administration, did not stress specifically the survival of black colleges.

"His selection was the result of the communication problem we have had in organizing Black Col-

lege Day," Webb added.

Although Webb said that he was determined to see that next year's rally is a success, he commented that this year, "I saw no other purpose for the gathering except as a ritual."

Though disappointed with the number of Central students who did come, Howell said those who did go "should be commended for their patience and endurance."

Miss Homecoming '82 to be crowned at game

By Regina Hayes

For five N.C. Central University women, this Saturday, seems years away. Saturday, during halftime of the football game, one of them will be crowned Miss Homecoming.

The candidates, Virginia Hargrove, Cynthia Jordan, Kathy Sharraine Lockhart, Makita Long and Gwen Spain had to confront 50 students, Sunday, Nov. 1, in B.N. Duke Auditorium, for a "trap session".

Only three questions were asked and one of the most interesting was for the candidates to explain the qualities they enhanced for Miss Homecoming.

Hargrove, 21, a senior business education major from Gaston, feels that "Being devoted, always there in a time of need for NCCU," are her attributes.

Jordan, 21, a senior business administration major from Burgaw, says she possesses "supportiveness, dedication, dependability, friendliness, free heartedness, and consideration."

Lockhart, 21, a senior English major from Lexington, said, "Integrity, academic achievement, to go beyond in distance and degrees is what a queen is all about."

A senior language arts major from Newport News, Va., Long, 21, called her strengths "leadership, responsibility, and being myself."

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