

The Guilfordian

Journey into Blackness: "always nourishing"

By Claudette Franklin
Special to the Guilfordian

For ten years Journey Into Blackness has provided a vehicle for recognition of the contributions of Black People. During the month of February, a week has been set aside at Guilford to highlight these contributions. Since 1972, such noted speakers as Dick Gregory, Ben Jachannon, Gil-Scott Heron, Maya Angelou and Julian Bond have graced the Guilford College Community with their art and knowledge.

"Journey provided for us an education in Blackness; an education we rarely glimpse in the traditional educational arena," said Claudette Franklin, Director of Minority Affairs. Those of us fortunate enough to partake in the food for thought offered during Journey find ideas sometimes offensive to the palate but always nourishing."

This year, Journey Into Blackness has been extended to include the entire month of February. On February 1-6, the

focus will be on Africa. Dr. Willie Liggett, professor of political science, will lecture on "U.S. Policy toward Southern Africa" and the department of Intercultural Studies will present a program on African Women in Work.

February 7-13 will deal with Religion, Art and Politics. Sunday February 7 is Religious Emphasis day. This program is being coordinated by Valencia Mack and will include the participation of area choirs and clergy.

John Fayson, sculptor and painter, will have his art work on exhibit beginning on the 12th and running the entire month.

Mr. Fayson will be on hand to discuss his craft at the official opening on February 17th. Claude W. Barnes will speak on "Reagan-economics: The New American Federalism" on Friday, February 12th. Mr. Barnes is a veteran of the Civil Rights Struggle here in Greensboro and a dynamic speaker.

Clarence Thomas, Secretary for Civil Rights in the Reagan

Administration will join us on Monday, February 15th. On the 18th, James Wright of the Human Relations Commission will speak on "Making It." Sizwe Bansi will be presented on the evening of February 18th, sponsored by the Student Activities office.

February 21 is the date that "Black Lite" is being presented. "Black Lite" is being coordinated by Michelle Spaulding, and will be a talent show, night club and dance all rolled into one.

The evening promises some surprises, good music, talented people and a very enjoyable night of entertainment.

Dr. Alvin Poussaint, noted sociologist, psychologist and educator will speak on "Racial Violence and the Rise of Extremist groups" on Tuesday, February 23. Dr. Poussaint is the author of Why Blacks Kill Blacks and former dean of the Harvard Medical schools.

On February 23, an original production, "Voices", will be presented by members of the college community. This



Noted sociologist, psychologist, and educator Dr. Alvin Poussaint will speak Feb. 23 at Guilford College as a part of the month-long "Journey Into Blackness."

production traces the history of the Black man from Africa to now through narrative, poetry, dance and song. This production is being directed by Claudette Franklin.

Other features during the

month will include panel discussions, workshops, films and "rap sessions." For further information on these and other activities contact the Office of Minority Student Relations or B.A.S.I.B.

Panel states pro-choice case

By Wendy Barkley

On January 21, the Women's Center, together with the Guilford County Coalition for Choice and the Guilford College Student Health Service, sponsored a panel discussion representing the "pro Choice" view of the current abortion issue.

Members of the panel included Robert Doolittle, Campus Physician; Kathy Adams, Psychology Department; Jeanette Stokes, Campus Minister at UNC-G; and Laura Smith, Public Affairs representative from Planned Parenthood in Winston-Salem.

The panelists spoke on some of the psychological, medical, legal, and religious aspects revolving around the abortion issue and offered their arguments against the pending "Right to Life" amendments.

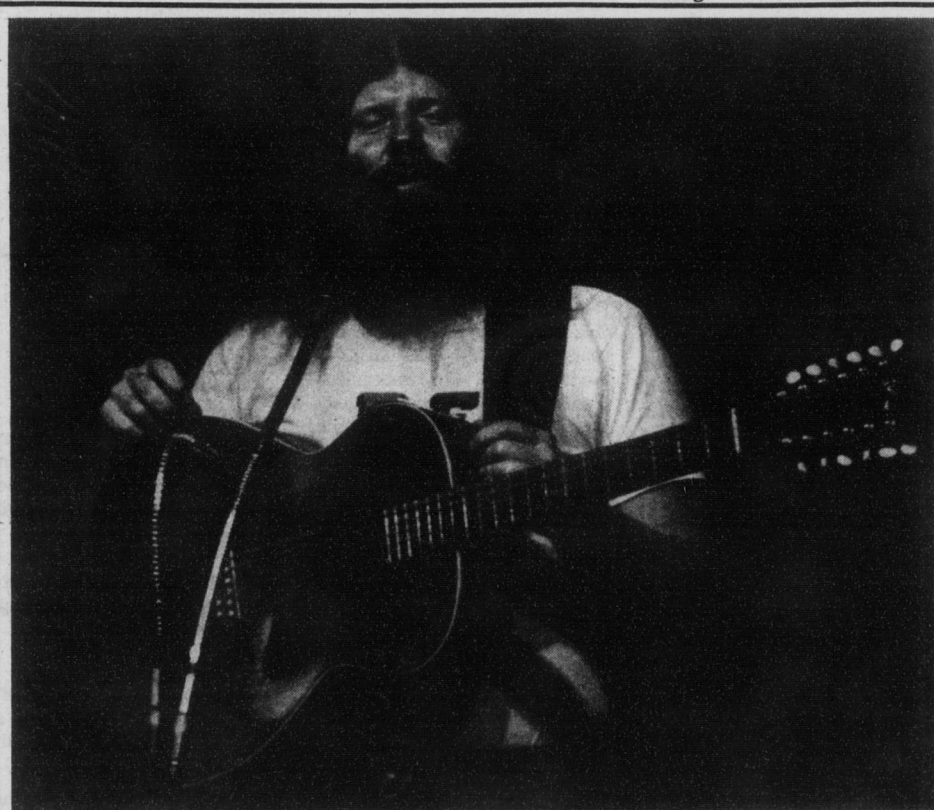
The 1973 Supreme Court decision in the case of Roe vs. Wade declared that the federal and state governments couldn't interfere with the rights of the woman to decide, in confidence with her physician, whether to carry out the pregnancy or terminate it by an abortion. Subsequently, a Right to Life movement arose in opposition to the stand taken by the Supreme Court and has since worked on legislation that would protect the life of an unborn child and limit the freedom of choice detailed by the Roe vs. Wade decision. Laura Smith commented, "They went from saying that the state wouldn't interfere to saying that the state had to protect the fetus."

The Hyde Act, passed by Congress in 1977, restricted the use of medicaid for abortions to only pregnancies resulting from rape and incest. Last Spring further legislation eliminated the funding of abortions by medicaid completely.

According to Smith, this leaves women, especially those at poverty level, to resort to dangerous means of aborting the unwanted fetus. It is important to consider that self induced and illegal abortions were a major cause of death in pregnant women prior to legalized abortion.

A decision to have an abortion is not always the result of rape or incest. Failure of a contraceptive, health of the mother, and the future

See "Pro-choice," p. 3



Mike Williams played to an enthusiastic audience Tuesday night in Sternberger Auditorium. It was his eighth visit to Guilford, and reportedly his best.