

Report calls for increase in black educators at Harvard

By KAREN DUNN
Staff Writer

Because Harvard University is such a prestigious institution, it is "embarrassing and unfortunate" that only 3 percent of its faculty and administrators are black, said Lawrence Watson, assistant dean for academic administration at the graduate school of design.

Watson is co-chairman of the Association of Black Faculty and

Administrators at Harvard. The group released a report last week calling for the percentage of black faculty members to be raised to at least 10 percent.

As of the spring of 1988, only 17 out of the 957, or 1.8 percent, of the tenured faculty members at Harvard were black, according to the report. Twenty-six blacks, or 1.1 percent, were among the 2,265 assistant and associate professors on Harvard's

faculty.

The report, titled "The Final Report: How Affirmative Action at Harvard was Transformed From a 1988 Tragedy to a 1990 Triumph," presented a fictitious scenario of a faculty meeting with Harvard's president and its 198 black faculty members. An explosion kills everyone at the meeting, and at the memorial service an affirmative action program calling for a min-

imum 10 percent black faculty is presented.

"It's something to talk about," said Derrick Bell, professor of law at Harvard. Bell is the author of the report and co-chairman of the association. In his scholarly writings, he has often used the African tradition of parables and allegories to "create the kind of impact that grabs people."

"When you use straight textual material, yawns come pretty quick,"

he said in a recent telephone interview. "We wanted to put the problems of affirmative action in a context that would spark discussion instead of boredom."

This two-year affirmative action plan puts the issue back in the forefront, he said.

"It is our legacy as black Americans that we continue to produce black scholars," he said.

But administrators disagree with the association on the goals of the

report.

"We certainly are pleased that the black faculty and administrators desire to work with the administration on these matters," said Ronald Quincy, associate vice-president of Harvard. The groups have mutual objectives, he said.

Harvard has established a five-year plan to increase the number of blacks on its faculty, but the university does not feel it can meet the association's objectives in two years, Quincy said.

UNC group to debate State panel

By JAMES BURROUGHS
Staff Writer

UNC's Young Democrats will debate N.C. State University's chapter of College Republicans on the upcoming presidential election because UNC's College Republicans did not attend two of the three meetings scheduled for planning the debate, student government officials said Friday.

The debate, scheduled for 8 p.m. on Nov. 2 in Gerrard Hall, was originally to consist of three UNC student supporters of Michael Dukakis debating three UNC student supporters of George Bush, said Patricia Griggs, student government executive assistant for the special projects committee.

Three meetings were scheduled between leaders of the Young Democrats and the UNC College Republicans, Griggs said. At the Oct. 12 meeting, four officers of the Young Democrats were present, and one member of the UNC College Republicans attended — Bill Taylor, chairman of the group. Taylor had agreed to fully support the debate, she said.

At the next two meetings, Oct. 19 and Oct. 26, five officers from the Young Democrats were present, but no UNC College Republican officers attended, she said. The absence of Republican leaders at the meetings caused Griggs to go to Student Body President Kevin Martin for assistance, she said.

Martin contacted Billy Maddalon, vice chairman of NCSU's College Republicans, who agreed to participate in the debate, Martin said Friday.

Maddalon said Friday that three NCSU students had been chosen for the Republican panel in the debate and that they would begin working on the questions, which they received Friday night from Wayne Goodwin, president of UNC's Young Democrats.

Taylor said Saturday that he did not know the UNC College Republicans would not be participating in the debate.

Taylor said his organization would be ready to debate on Wednesday. Taylor said he missed the Oct. 19 meeting because of a political meeting in Raleigh, and the Oct. 26 meeting to visit his grandfather, who had suffered a heart attack.

Taylor said Goodwin knew he would be absent from the second meeting.

Wanda Tucker, the second executive assistant for the special projects committee of student government, said Sunday that Taylor had not yet contacted student government about the debate, and fliers advertising the participation of the NCSU Bush supporters had already been made.

Taylor said he is close friends with Zan Bunn, the chairwoman of the N.C. Federation of College Republican chapters and an NCSU student, and he doubts NCSU's College Republicans would attend.

"I can assure you that if they (NCSU's College Republicans) follow the request of the leaders over there, they will not be here," Taylor said.

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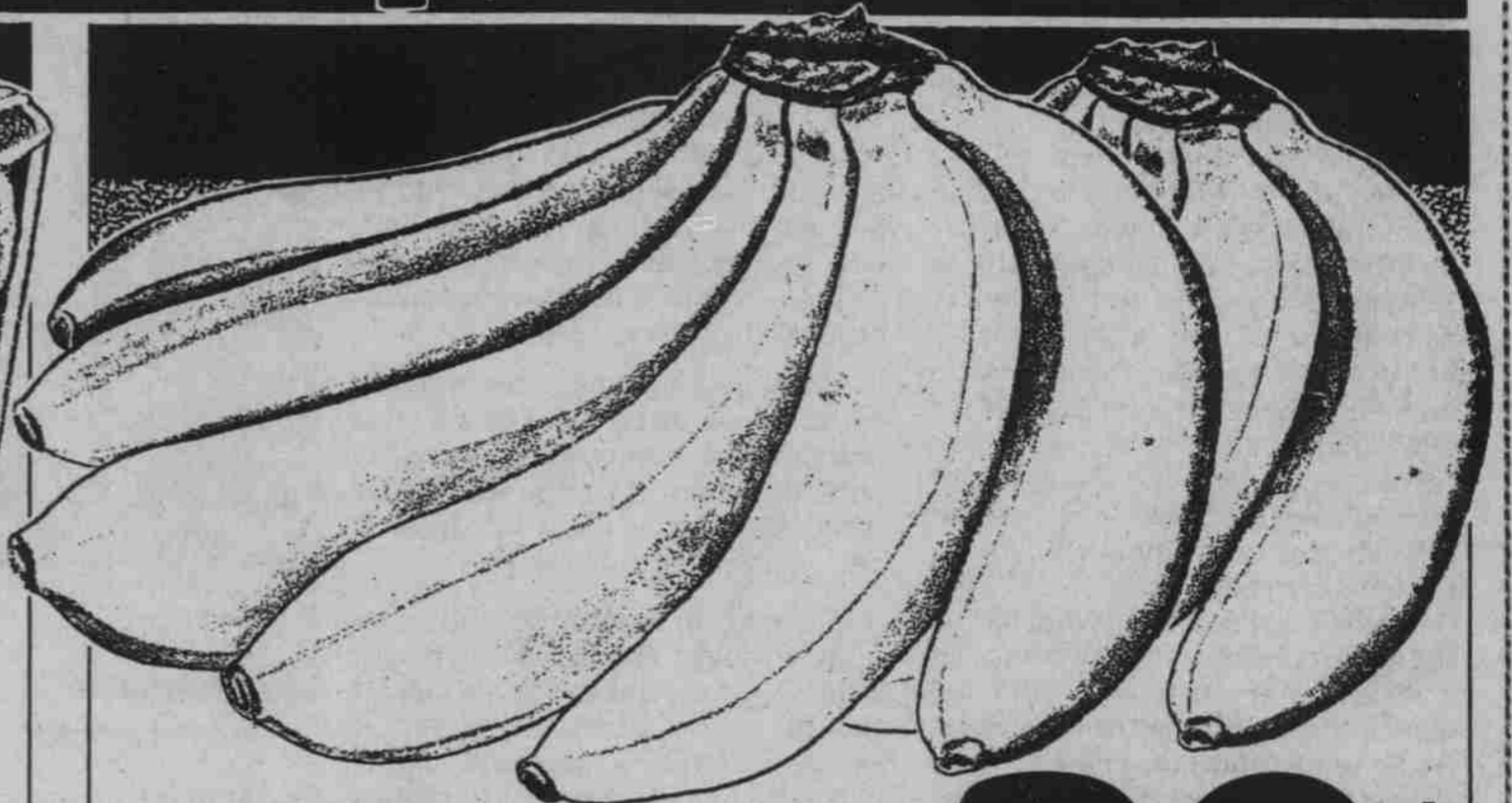
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