Brothers support group provides University family for black men

"It's like a gas station," said Michael Bowden. "You can go there and get

Bowden, a sophomore public policy analysis major from Charlotte, offered this metaphor for Brothers.

Brothers is a discussion and support group for and about black males. The group, which was begun in the fall of

Clifford Charles, counselor and coordinator of minority student programs at the University Counseling Center.

fold. It provides social support, cultural affirmation and educational programming," Charles said. Topics of discussion include aca-

The purpose of the group is three-

demic achievement, career planning, relationships, positive identity, religion, multicultural living and such specific

Student Body," the infamous statues moved from in front of Davis Library. These are all discussed from a perspective that focuses on the black male experience, Charles said. Andre Tippens, a senior business major from Charlotte, said, "Brothers

issues as the Persian Gulf War and "The

lets you know you are not alone, build confidence, share cultural identity, and talk about anything. "It is an excellent group," Tippens

said. "It allows you to focus on what

you have to do.

One concern raised by Tippens was the fact that there were decreasing numbers of black males on campus and the ones that were here were not staying for four years.

Charles said that joining a group such as Brothers is a solution to many of the problems students face on campus. For example, Tracy Cameron, a sopho-more business major from Middlesex, said he did not feel as if he belonged at UNC. He started attending Brothers as "You get information you wouldn't otherwise get. It is a safe and confidential environment where one feels comfortable enough to express his thoughts without criticism."

Lionel Williams Brothers member

a freshman and now feels he is a part of the University, not because he is black, but because of his grades and achieve-

Also, Brothers has done outside activities. Last year, its members attended Glenwood Elementary and talked with black male sixth graders about academic achievement and setting goals early in their school careers.

The best aspect of the group is the

friendship, said Aaron Bell, a sophomore business major from Gastonia. You meet people, make friends and have somebody you can confide in who understands. We are all on the same

Bowden said,"The group is very positive; it's like a comfortable gathering of friends or a little family.

He also said one could learn a lot. The format of the meetings varies from inviting a speaker who gives a presenta-tion and answers questions to having the members meet amongst themselves

Lionel Williams, a junior pharmacy major from Jackson Springs, said, "I learned to think about the future, graduate school, for example, and the group allowed me to gain a broader perspective and see the world differently.

"You get information you wouldn't otherwise get," he said. It is a safe and confidential environment where one feels comfortable enough to express his thoughts without criticism, he said.

Williams said, "The group is a place where black men get together and express ourselves on issues unique to us."

"I feel very positive about the group, how it has evolved, and where it is going," Charles said.

The members encourage and invite newcomers to attend the meetings on Thursday nights, from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., in the first floor lounge of Hinton

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North Carolina

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Campus Calendar

FRIDAY Noon: CGLA Leshian Lunch will be held in 218

TARP will wrap-up Recycling Week in the Pit with a drawing for all pledge signers. Fifty prizes will be awarded, and you need not be present to win.

1 p.m. UNC Slavie Club will sponsor a "Russian Table" in 218 Union ible" in 218 Union, IM-REC Sports: Rugby vs. UNC-Charlotte on

Carmichael Field.

3 p.m. Graduate Art Student Association will sponsor a talk by Jaraslov Folda on "Byzantine Travels in the Soviet Union, Aug. 6-22, 1991" in 117

Hanses Art Center.

8 p.m. Henderson Residence College invites everyone to come to the Cabaret for a little night music, free munchies and beverages. Co-sponsored by Caro-

lina Dining Service and Harris Inc. SATURDAY

8 p.m. The Carolina Union will sponsor The Pixies with Pere Ubu in Memorial Hall. Tickets are available. Questions? Call 966-3837. Noon: The Senior Class of 1992 invites all seniors

to come to Hams to watch the UNC-UVa game. Food and drink specials will be available. SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Pumpkin Sale until noon at University Methodist Church and the Newman Center

I p.m. IM-REC Sports: Women's soccer vs. NCSU at Finley Field.

IM-REC Sports: Football Club vs. Pack Club.

away.
3 p.m. IM-REC Sports: Men's soccer vs. Wilson at Finley Field.
5 p.m. The Black Interdenominational Student

Association will have worship services in the Wesley Foundation followed by fest and fellowship. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. invites all inter-ested women to attend the fall 1991 Sigma Tea at 5 p.m. in Gernard Hall. Formal attire is required. Ques-

TTEMS OF INTEREST
Anyone interested in KIDSREAD should come to
the Campus Y before Saturday for more information

on the next training session.

UNC YEAR-AT-MONTPELLER

Informational Meeting Thursday, Oct. 24th 3:30-5:30 pm

3.30

Video Presentation

4:00 Student Panel

in Toy Lounge 4th Floor DEY HALL



on the Village Green.

BRICE STREET SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
(weather permitting)

WELCOME BACK LACROSSE ALUMN!!

Don't Miss Karaoke Sing Along **Every Sunday**

And don't forget our Tuesday Specials!
75 Blue Cups 942-7939 \$3.50 Pito \$3.50 Pitchers \$1.75 Blue Cups

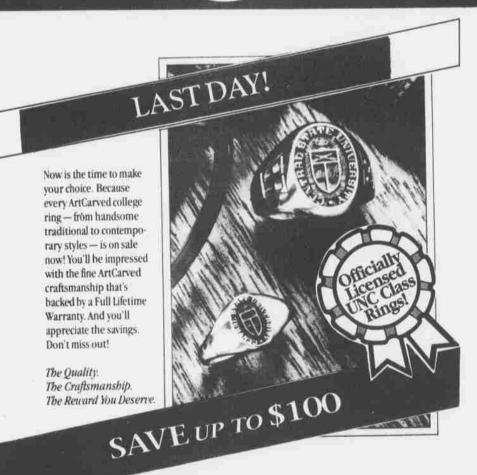
Tar Heel Target will hold an interest meeting at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 21 in the Upendo Lounge.

Timberlyne Shopping Center

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