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# BLACK HISTORY EDITION

# Ebony Herald

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ANTOINETTE DELORES GIBBS will represent Columbus County and ECU in the Miss North Carolina Pageant, June 13-18.

## Miss Columbus County represents ECU too!

KENNETH CAMPBELL  
Executive Editor

North Carolina has yet to send a black Miss North Carolina to the Miss America Pageant.

If beauty, a pleasing personality, and talent are the basis for selection, this year the judges may find it difficult to deny the national pageant a black Miss North Carolina.

Antoinette Delores Gibbs, an ECU freshman, will compete in the Miss North Carolina Pageant in June. She will be representing Columbus County, "and ECU", she quipped during a recent chat.

Miss Gibbs became the first black Miss Columbus County on December 18, 1976.

"Surprised? Sure I was," she said, smiling as if she were reliving the moment when she won. "I entered (the contest) mainly to get the stage experience." She hopes to be a professional dancer after she graduates.

The charming dancer was also first runner-up in the Miss West Columbus High School Contest (Chadbourne, N.C.) last year, and is currently Miss WVOE, a small soul radio station near her hometown of Fair Bluff.

As her talent for the Miss Columbia County contest, Miss Gibbs performed a modern jazz dance to the music of "X-Rated" by Kool and the Gang.

Dancing since she was three, Miss Gibbs said she began learning formal dances like ballet, jazz and tap dances when she was 12.

Her dance in Columbus County contest was ad libbed on stage.

"I couldn't practice my dance like I wanted to," she recalled. "I went to the dance studios (in the Drama building) to practice the weekend before the contest," she said. "But the heat and electricity were off.

"So, I came back to my room and tried to practice there. It was small, but I did what I could.

"When I got on stage at the contest, I just put myself into it. I don't remember what I did, but I did my best and I won."

Miss Gibbs said after the contest, her younger twin sisters who are also studying dance, asked her what she was doing on stage. She couldn't tell them.

She wore a black and green outfit while dancing, she said. It was not too spectacular because she wanted the judges to see her.

The judges enjoyed her dance, according to Miss Gibbs. During a critique which followed the contest, they did not have any negative comments on her dance.

She plans to do a different dance at the North Carolina Pageant, she said. She will probably create it since most choreographers are busy with academics or planning their own work now.

The Miss North Carolina Pageant will be June 13-18 with the finals televised on Saturday night. More than 60 contestants from across the state will participate.

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## Renaming Center still not final

By TIM JONES  
News Editor

A resolution by The Society of United Liberal Students (SOULS) to change the name of the Afro-American Cultural Center (AACC) to the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center was not voted on by the ECU Board of Trustees in their quarterly meeting this month.

SGA President Tim Sullivan said the administration did not put the resolution on the agenda for the meeting.

Sullivan said he had sent a letter to the chairman of the board, reminding him of the resolution.

Sullivan re-introduced the resolution to the board, at this meeting, and made a motion that either the Executive Committee or the Building and Grounds Committee of the board meet as soon as possible on the name change for a final vote to be taken in the April meeting of the board.

Dalton Nicholson, president of SOULS, feels there is a problem among the university officials regarding the AACC, which has delayed a reply to SOULS on the name change.

Nicholson said Dr. Jenkins has assured him that the board approves of the resolution and no difficulties will arise in obtaining an affirmative decision.

Ledonia Wright was an advisor to SOULS and was effective in leading the organization in positive directions, according to the resolution.

The resolution also states that Mrs. Wright was instrumental in obtaining the AACC for the students of ECU.

The members of SOULS voted last fall to support the renaming of the AACC after Mrs. Wright, who met an untimely death in June, 1976.

"I knew Mrs. Wright and worked with her," Sullivan commented. "I can't see where anyone would object to renaming the center after her."

## Governor Hunt proclaims Black History Week

National Black History Week is observed annually during the second week in February.

This year, Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. proclaimed February 6-12 Negro History Week in North Carolina.

In the official proclamation, Hunt notes that black citizens in North Carolina have rendered much to the growth and development of society.

He states that many contributions and deeds of valor by blacks have not been recognized in North Carolina.

## NC Minorities Publish Book

"Paths Toward Freedom", a biographical history of North Carolina Blacks and Indians was recently published by the Center for Urban Affairs at N.C. State University.

The 250 page book is the first of its kind in the nation and is the most complete single source for information on the experiences of Blacks and Indians.

Very interesting, readable and informative essays discuss features of Indian experiences as follows: "The Pre-Colonial Indian in The New World," "Some Cultural Aspects of Native American Life," "Indian Religion," "Arts and Crafts of Native Americans," "Federal and State Relationships Since 1776," "Migrations of North Carolina Indians," "Indian Edu-

By recognizing the contribution made by our black citizens," Hunt states in the proclamation, "we foster better understanding between people and encourage a keener appreciation of the heritage of all Americans."

Hunt concludes that North Carolina will be a leader among states towards the goal of improving the political and human rights atmosphere for its citizens through continued leadership and dedication of North Carolina's black citizens and the minority community.

cation in Post Colonial North Carolina," and "Economic and Professional Growth of Native Americans in North Carolina."

Essays on Blacks discuss "Blacks Before Arriving in North Carolina," "The Antebellum Experience," "Blacks and the Professions," "Agriculture and Labor," "Inventors and Their Inventions," "Some Aspects of the Black Experience and Politics," "Protests," "Social Organizations and Culture," and "The Black Church."

In addition to the essays the book features biographical sketches of more than 100 outstanding personalities both living and dead from such fields as sports, the arts, education, business, agriculture, law, health occupations and politics.

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## King, topic of thesis

# Black history presented in prints

KENNETH CAMPBELL  
Executive Editor

The second week in February is set aside for National Black History week in the United States, not because black history is different from American history but rather to reinforce the fact that black history is an important part of American history.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the most important figures in black American history. His life, aims, and successes are interpreted in many ways by critics worldwide.

Sometimes these critics present their criticisms as if there is no room for other criticism. Theirs is the final word.

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ECU art student, David McDowell, has found a way to present black history and one of its personalities, without making definitive statements.

McDowell is a graduate student in lithography in the Printmaking Department of the School of Art. He is currently doing his thesis titled, "A Personal Investigation and Manifestation of Form and Content."

Printmaking, according to McDowell, is an area of art which deals with printing a series of a particular image. The purpose is to get certain consistency such as color.

Lithography is a printing process which is closely related to drawing. It involves drawing with a grease base pencil on limestone which is porous or a non-porous surface such as zinc or metal plates.

McDowell said he prefers limestone because the surface allows for more creativity.

In his thesis, McDowell is using the life of King to illustrate the importance of form in lithography.

Impetus for his series of images on King came from photos and literature of King, according to McDowell. One print in the series is taken from a statement King made while praying during a mass meeting in support of the Montgomery Bus boycott in 1956.

"Lord, I hope no one will die as a result of our struggle for freedom in Montgomery. Certainly, I don't want to die -- but if anyone has to die, let it be me!"

Like King's comment, McDowell's print is vulnerable to criticism. McDowell refuses to reveal what he was attempting to depict in his images. It destroys the effect on the viewer he says.

One of his prints of the bus boycott is taken from a variety of pictures during the boycott. He has taken a picture of a woman sitting alone on a public transportation bus, a black lady standing on a corner and another black woman standing on the side walk waiting for a car to take her home. McDowell combined these pictures into one image.

He created yet another image on King's life from the statement, "King carried the Bible in one hand and the constitution in another." Titled "Mr. Universe", the print contains images of the Statue of Liberty, and King. It won second place in the Graduate Student Art Show last Spring.

McDowell said he is trying to get away from giving titles to his prints. They destroy the impact of the print, he said.

He chose King's life as his topic because he could relate to it.

"When I came to graduate school at ECU, I was doing several types of images," McDowell said. "Many of them were not related to anything."

"In a graduate program, there should be a consistency in media and subject matter. And I needed a subject with meaning so that I could channel all my images in one direction."

"One of my professors suggested that I look in my own back yard. I did and I chose King because I felt it would provide imagery I could relate to physically and emotionally."

His complete thesis is not on King, he said. Just the part which concerns images and form. The purpose of images is to help the artist recognize how plastic elements such as lines, texture, and color can be utilized to produce a coherent and unified result.

The Presbytery in eastern North Carolina recently commissioned the School of Art to do some pictures. McDowell submitted two prints and there were rated as the top two in the collection.

He also had three prints in the recent Rebel Art Show.

McDowell acknowledges that the purpose of his thesis is not to make a personal comment on King or his philosophy. Nevertheless, the nature of the subject of the prints are open to criticisms. It's part of their purpose - to be criticized and enjoyed. McDowell's style of presenting black history is not unique as art has always been a method of criticism. However the criticisms are not definitive. The prints allow each person to interpret King.

## EDITORIALS

# Lack of unity a myth, says editor

Students have written to the editor of EBONY HERALD and complained at SOULS meetings about blacks not sticking together on campus. A general opinion of most blacks at ECU is that we have a low sense of unity, causing a severe setback in our collegiate careers.

I can recall when the black student body was about half the size it is now, and I remember that we were closer. Social affairs were usually successful. Blacks always met in the old CU between classes. Often SOULS would sponsor events on weekdays, relieving boredom and inevitably bringing us closer together.

With a smaller student body, as a whole, few blacks even entertained the idea of living off-campus. Everyone lived in the general campus area, and people were easier to locate. Since practically every black knew every other black there was more communication--more exchange of ideas.

Now that the black population has doubled, black students have extended to practically all areas of the university and Greenville. We now enjoy small social functions with those students who are closer to us.

Seemingly blacks are more active in campus activities, political, academic, etc.

The growth of black Greek organization has helped a great deal in our social separation.

Those students who complain about black unity need to realize that each of us is an individual with individual interests. With a growth in the black student body, we are naturally going to acquire a population of varied interests and goals and viewpoints.

To often we distinguish ourselves as just blacks, instead of men and women who claim our equality and are working towards a comfortable position in life. To reach this position we can't devote enough time to

associating every other black brother on campus.

Instead of complaining, blacks should be pleased to see the brothers and sisters involved in more campus activities. This is when we know that we are really advancing.

A spreadout of blacks in campus organizations is the "strength in numbers" that we really need. When and if the time arrives that we need to congregate as a mass, I have faith that black ECU students will realize the need and act accordingly.

TIM JONES  
News Editor

# The meaning of 'Roots' explored

Americans, both black and white had an opportunity to watch one of the best cast programs ever made for television recently - yet a large number of them did not. Some

might ask why? I'm quite sure that the reasons are very rangeful and of different degrees yet one of them is undoubtedly the fact that some people do not wish to be reminded of the fact that their ancestors were as hypocritical as portrayed on the scene. It is one thing to read about it and have an intellectual knowledge of the black man's past but it is completely different to sit and watch it take place. A profound writer said the facts given in "Roots" are

not new yet the series had an appeal that reached home for all those that watched it. The story telling how things were (and shouldn't have been. Some of the same ill created acts still exist today in the forms of prejudices and other injustices heaped upon the black man and other less fortunate individuals.

Many who watched "Roots" felt that the movie was an over exaggeration of how things really were. Admittedly, what took place in "Roots" didn't happen to every black family, but if it happened to just one person, then the tragedy portrayed in "Roots" is just as great. It was a tragedy.

Contrary to beliefs shared by a few,

"Roots" (the book not T.V. series) was not designed to cause animosities between blacks and whites. "I like to consider that Roots speaks of the American human drama." Say it author, Alex Haley. Haley wasn't trying to cause any ill feelings, simply trying to lift the veil of ignorance that has existed around the cultural values and important of the black man in America. He was trying to show that the time for brainwashing has passed. Attempting to show that the time for blacks to stand and show all the nobility and intellect which is inherent of those of the human race, not just black, or white but the 'human race'.

People embarrassed by the way whites as a whole were portrayed in the series say that they don't believe whites were really like that. Mark Twain once said that; *I once watched a some what dummsy Negro boy struck in the forehead after dropping certain precious items as [hats from France]. The boy was dead in five*

hours. Of course no one liked it, but no one said anything about it either - to think that an owner would be deprived of such valuable property because of one moment of anger in some unfortunate white man.

Another writer said, "the whites hated blacks because it was a very useful way to project their shortcomings onto the creatures they owned. If they didn't want to seem wrong raping a black girl they simply called the 'nigger a lustful animal that couldn't control herself'."

Roots is not trying to start up new troubles between the races but simply a story of the "obscure abduction of an African warrior whose story and children's story has tried to reach out and give us all a sense of belonging. It is a story of "saga" that is trying to give us a glimpse of our "rich" African heritage to which we may add our own far reaching American dreams.

JERRY SIMMONS  
Features Editor

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## Only Detroit Symphony was not a sellout

# Alexander; Artist Series has successful year

JOYCE EVANS  
Staff Writer

The Student Union Artist Series Concerts have had a good year, according to Rudolph Alexander, assistant dean of student affairs.

Every concert on the Artists Series, except the Detroit Symphony were sell outs.

The Artists Series committee is one of the 12 committees in the Student Union and is headed by a president which is chosen by the Board of Directors. The committee is responsible for providing entertainment, cultural events, and recreation for the students.

Eight of the members on the committee are students and two are faculty. With a budget of approximately \$30,000 a year, they choose the concerts and present them. This money comes from two sources—student fees and ticket sales. Ticket sales make up about one third of the budget.

According to Alexander, the committee books at least a year in advance. Artists are difficult to get because they book so far ahead of time.

"We've tried to book Leontyne Price for several years and have not been able to get her because she books so far in advance," said Alexander.

Although the difficulty in booking the really super stars is beyond the realm of ECU, Alexander contends that the committee tries to have a balanced series each year.

Concerts with instrumentalists (pianos and violins), vocalists or choral groups, and major orchestras combine to give variety and to try to meet the tastes of everyone, according to Alexander.

But today's audience is so segmented that it is difficult to book an artist with broad enough appeal to reach everyone.

"One group likes soul, jazz, rock, or folk music and there's not enough in any one group to make it feasible to bring in a big time star," said Alexander.

An Elton John concert would cost approximately \$100,000, according to Alexander. Tickets might cost as much as \$10 a seat.

"A lot of colleges have found this to be true and have lost money too," said Alexander.

Every full-time student at ECU is a member of the Student Union. Their payment of an activity fee makes them eligible. But just because they are, they cannot say what group to get. It's not that simple, according to Alexander.

Among the problems encountered by the committee are ticket sales. Once a

person purchases a ticket, he holds a seat whether he attends the concert or not.

Ticket holders don't always attend the concert, thus causing potential ticket purchasers difficulty.

"We don't oversell the house, but we do sell at the door if there are empty

seats," said Alexander.

Another problem is inadequate facilities to bring in the truly big time stars, according to Alexander.

Since Mingos is no longer available for rock concerts because of damages from cigarette burns, the problem is greater.

The Artists Series has two remaining concerts. Waverly Consort will perform on

March 16 in Mendenhall and Abbey Simon, a pianist, will perform on April 6. The Waverly Consort concert is the music of the middle ages—from medieval songs and pieces through the Renaissance.

## Jazz survives third decade

By C.R. KNIGHT  
Staff Writer

During the fifties and sixties the era of "jazz" was at its peak. Hearing Louis Armstrong sing "Hello Dolly" is a reminder of an age diverse enough as to almost defy definition.

Jazz is the result of the Black Man's attempt to imbue some of the same feeling found in his Black roots into the musical compositions of the time. Even though jazz is still listened to, it hardly has the popularity it had during the fifties and sixties.

Count Basie and Duke Ellington are equitable to Armstrong. Ellington, by the mid-sixties, had played at the Lincoln Center and had conducted the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Basie also deserves acclaim as a senior musician and big band leader.

The magic and style of men like Armstrong and Ellington are now only memories. Basie, Ella Fitzgerald and B.B. King are among the remaining jazz devotees, who gave the world some of its most unimitable music.

There was a time when Blacks entertained completely White audiences at night clubs but were refused entrance to

these very same clubs. In those days the Black man had to accept such terms if he wanted to perform. The innovative urge of the musicians during the fifties, in addition to the philosophical and spiritual state of the Black man is responsible for the vitality that jazz possessed.

Even though Armstrong and Ellington have left us we still have some of the threads of the age to hold on to. The world could never forget Coltrane, Coleman or the master of "cool jazz," Miles Davis.

The nostalgia of the age is still ever present today. Music is still the Black man's "thing" and jazz is music at its best.

## Sweet Chariot.

I'm an Air Force officer and this is my sweet chariot. When I visit home people are happy to see me. And proud. They say I'm doing my part in the community by showing the young people and the adults that you really can make it. You really can get your share of A Great Way of Life.

I also feel good about my position in the Air Force community. I'm a leader there, too. I'm someone the other brothers and sisters I meet in the service can look to. And it reassures them to know they have a voice in Air Force matters that concern them.

The Air Force needs more leaders... pilots... aircrew members... math majors... science and engineering majors. You might be one of them, and the best way to find that out is in an Air Force ROTC program. There are two, and four-year programs. Scholarship and non-scholarship. Why not look into all of them and see if one fits your plans? It's worth it, brother.

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Captain Richard Rowan  
ECU Wright Annex 206  
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**Air Force ROTC  
Gateway to a Great Way of Life**



## correction

In the January 1977 edition of EBONY HERALD, in the article, "West African student discusses self and ECU," it was mistakenly reported that the bridegroom in Africa pays a dowry for his wife. However, as in American, it is no longer the custom.

Also, it was mistakenly reported that in 1968, the Prime Minister of Nigeria refused to resign. It was actually a Governor of a prominent state who refused to resign.

# ECU integrates without violence

KENNETH CAMPBELL  
Executive Editor

East Carolina University was one of the few major North Carolina universities to integrate without a court order. It was due, largely, to the careful planning of Dr.

## Eyewitness reporter discusses media job

By JOYCE EVANS  
Staff Writer

Click...Click...Click...Click!

Sounds of typewriters clicking and telephones ringing are typical of any newsroom when a news broadcast time approaches, and Channel 7 in Washington, N.C. is no different.

It's 10:00 p.m. and Gene Motley busily prepares his script for the evening news.



EYEWITNESS NEWS REPORTER GENE MOTLEY, reports, announces, edits newscast, and recently substituted for the weather person.

Eyewitness News reporter, Motley, has worked at WITN TV for three years and he's more than just a sportscaster as many of his viewers know him as. Motley is a reporter, announcer, newscast editor, photographer, and recently he substituted for the weather person.

"I used to get violently angry when people called me the weatherman because I had never done the weather in my life," said Motley.

But on New Year's Day, he reported the weather for the first time.

"And it's been bitter cold ever since," frowned Motley.

"Now comes the best part of the night--when you throw out what you don't want," said Motley after completing his news copy.

Getting rid of unwanted news copy is not really the highlight of the evening, especially not for the viewers. Motley's delivery of the latest sports news is what the sports fans want. He communicates effectively and fluently in an interesting fashion. Motley writes his own stories so that makes the copy suitable for his unique delivery. He adds witty phrases to make things more interesting.

Working at a local TV station is an advantage, according to Motley.

"Starting at a small outfit, you learn everything. There is so much to take advantage of, but the pay is horrifying," laughed Motley.

Andrew A. Best and ECU Chancellor Leo W. Jenkins.

Best, remembering when no black undergraduates attended ECU, said he and Dr. Jenkins faced the problems integration might present and then planned to prevent them.

His sense of humor is extraordinary so much so that it's difficult to tell whether he's serious or joking. The ability to make

His sense of humor is extraordinary so much so that it's difficult to tell whether he's serious or joking. The ability to take the worse side of a situation and add sunshine seems to be a gift of Motley's.

"In discussions with Dr. Jenkins, we recognized four potential problems in allowing black students to come to ECU," said Best who was representing the Greenville Human Relations Council during his attempts to get ECU integrated.

"The first problem we felt would be student body acceptance of a black on campus and in classes," Best continued. "Then there was the problem of housing."

"The third problem was finding a black student with the academic ability and the courage to meet the challenge. And finally, we were concerned about faculty reaction. We felt that only housing and finding the right student were major problems."

Both major problems were solved when Best convinced one of his former students, Laura Leary, to apply to ECU.

A native of Pitt County, Miss Leary commuted to school which solves the housing problem. She was a business administration major.

Miss Leary enrolled in the Fall of 1963 and attended ECU a full academic year as the only black undergraduate enrollee. However, she was joined the following year by approximately 10 more blacks. Finishing in four years, Miss Leary proved to be the perfect student for the situation.

Best attributes the nonviolent integration of ECU to planning. He said Miss Leary "knew that if she got into any situation which smacked of discrimination," she could call on him for support.

The black students who followed Leary began staying in the dormitories without any violent incidents.

One of the black students who enrolled soon after Miss Leary broke the color barrier was Tommy Harris. Harris was a Psychology major from Greenville.

"There was a maximum of 50 blacks enrolled here when I came in 1966," said Harris. We were closely knitted together.

Harris is currently attending ECU to fulfill requirement for entering medical school. He received his bachelor's degree from ECU in 1972. He also holds a master's degree in special education from North Carolina Central University.

"The so-called Revolutionary Era affected ECU as it did other campuses," Harris continued. "SOULS (Society of United Liberal Students) started during this period (the late sixties).

"Some students were disenchanted with it because they felt it did not have a purpose. They were trying to make the best of being at ECU."

Harris said black students twice confronted Dr. Jenkins at his house with demands.

In the first confrontation, in 1968, the students asked that the flag be flown half-mast in memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who has just been assassinated.

Dr. Jenkins told the group he did not have the authority to allow such an action. He told them he would have to call the governor and get permission. Later in the day, the request was honored.

During the second confrontation, the students presented Dr. Jenkins with a list of demands. One of the demands which was met was that some black faculty members be hired.

There was also a small incident in the late sixties over the playing of "Dixie" at athletic events, according to Best.

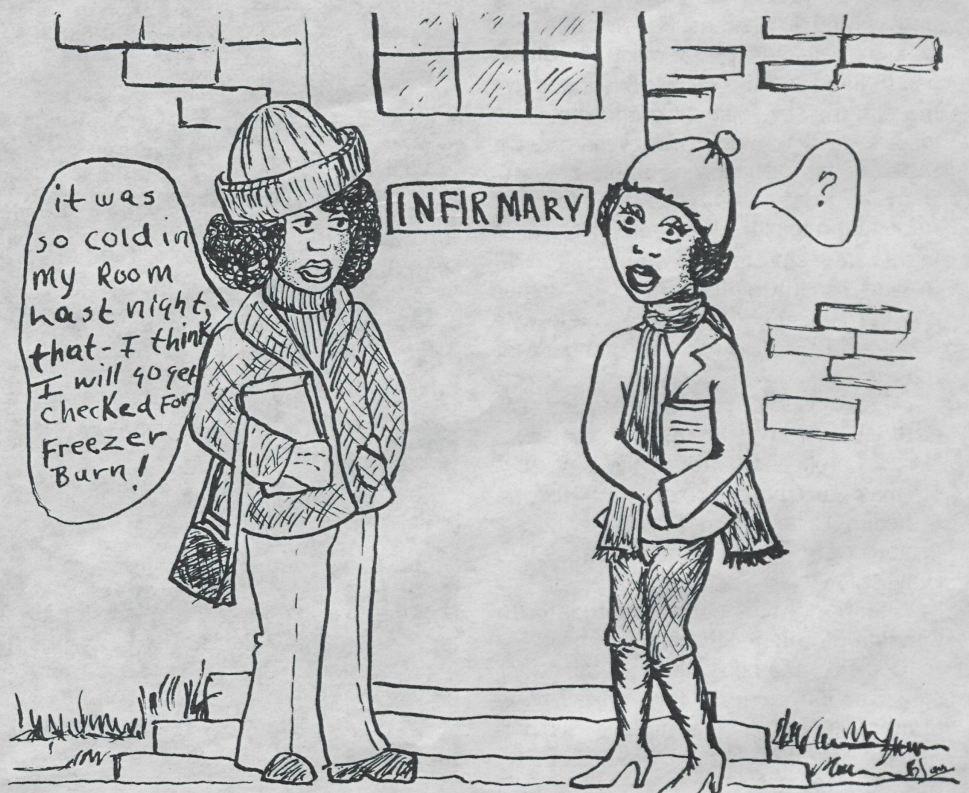
A black student, Phyllis Simpson, ran for Homecoming queen in 1970.

Black fraternity life began at ECU in 1971. Dr. Best said he presented the argument to Dr. Jenkins that the university was meeting academic but not social needs of the black students. The social needs could be fulfilled through fraternities, he argued.

The problem in establishing a fraternity was a university rule which says that no student receiving financial assistance could be in a fraternity. Most black students were getting aid.

Best said the problem was solved when Zeta Eta Lambda, a local graduate chapter of Eta Un, Inc., set out to provide monetary assistance for the students wanting to join a fraternity. Consequently, the ETA Nu chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc. was established at ECU in May 1971.

The void left after the academic and social needs of the black students were assured fulfillment not being satisfied through black participation in campus publications, the Student Government Association, the Student Union, the Marching Band and other extracurricular activities.



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# Writer traces black heritage

Alex Haley was born in Ithaca, N.Y., and reared in rural Henning, Tenn. Haley's date of birth was August 11, 1921.

At the age of 17 he enlisted into the U.S. Coast Guards. In the U.S. Coast Guards Haley moved from a cook to a journalist. He got his first assignments from *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines. When he reached the age of 37 he became a freelance writer.

One of his most famous works is *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. This work was published in 1965.

In that same year Haley began work on tracing his family heritage back to Africa. This tracing was the basis for *Roots*. *Roots* has been published in hardback by Doubleday Publishing Company.

Haley's concern about his ancestors dated back as far as age five. He remembers the conversations of his Grandmother and her sisters in Henning, Tenn. Haley got the beginning of his story from Aunt Plus, Aunt Liz, Aunt Till, Aunt Viney, and Cousin Georgia. Cousin Georgia, the last of the relatives who told

the story on the front porch to die, encouraged Haley greatly to achieve his goal.

Haley was awarded \$300.00 in the form of a monthly check from *Reader's Digest* along with reasonable necessary travel expenses. With this and determination, Haley went to Africa. In "The Motherland" Haley took part in various rituals and ceremonies with his long lost cousins.

Haley, after various small incidents, finally got the honor of talking to one of the "griots" of the Kinte Clan. While talking with the "griot", Haley discovered the same story had been mostly covered on the front porch, by his grandmother and relatives.

The novel, *Roots*, tells in detail the heartwarming story of Haley's reunion with his ancestors.

Throughout the journey Haley had many emotions. He often found himself crying at the thoughts of his ancestors' lives; however, there are beautiful parts to the journey. Haley tells of the beauty of the purity found in the rich blackness of his African relatives.

The novel has been televised on ABC in a series of eight movies.

The beginning of the production, like most of our heritages, begins in the "Motherland". The story shows the evils which stole the children of the "Motherland" and forced them into the hells of slavery.

From the slave ships, Alex Haley takes us into the lives of his ancestors. He tells of how his great, great grandmothers were raped by the so called "masters." Just listen to the listening to the story is a type of torture.

From the years of total slavery we are taken to the years of the so called "free slaves". During this period few blacks gained their freedom. *Roots* tells that freedom was not given; it was earned unjustly. The masters gave nothing that they did not charge three times the price for. Africans were set free in a Native Land. Not knowing of anything but working for the white man, they were still in bondage. The few who were able to read were punished if their knowledge was discovered.

The last part concerns the Civil War. Blacks were said to be free. Alex Haley shows how his ancestors were still tortured. The development of the Klu Klux Klan and other blood-thirsty groups kept blacks in constant agony.

The series, *Roots*, and the novel have brought about various interesting opinions! One brother commented, "It made me mad to see how my people were treated."

When another brother was asked the same question he replied, "It makes me prouder to be black, and when I see it I feel sorta mad. And I feel sorry for those who can still be Uncle Toms after seeing what they did to our blood."

Thanks to Alex Haley many know a story that needed very much to be told. From the determination and hard work of Alex Haley, many have been taught. There can never be enough gratitude given to our brother Alex Haley for telling the story.

Information concerning *Roots* has been published in *Ebony*, *Essence*, *Jet* and *Right On* magazines.

TONI HARRIS  
Staff Writer

## Black history is beautiful...



DONA HURST Freshman V.P.



TIS THE SEASON...



BROTHERS JOHNSON being cool.

## and cultural...



"DON'T BOTHER ME..."

### NC minorities

#### continued from page 1

The book will be useful to the general public including church, civic, community business and professional groups. Grade school, college and university students and teachers will find this volume useful as a reference and as a basis for themes, debates and discussions. Reading this book should create more pride among the Blacks and Indians in the contributions they have made in the development of this state and inspire them to higher achievements. On the other hand, all citizens of this state can gain a greater appreciation for the important role played by these two groups in this state's past and present.

The beautiful illustrations by James and Earnestine Huff, a husband and wife team of artists, appropriately complement the work of the writers.

The editors for this volume were Dr. Earlie E. Thorpe, Professor of History, North Carolina Central University, Dr. Thomas Parramore, Professor of History, Meredith College and Dr. Doris Lucas, Professor of English, North Carolina State University.

The book was funded by the North Carolina Bicentennial Commission.

Copies of the book can be obtained for only \$3.50 by writing to Frank Emory, Managing Editor, Center for Urban Affairs, Box 5125, N. C. State University, Raleigh, N.C. 27607.

# Jazz-funk band formed at ECU

GERALD WAYNE BARNES  
Staff Writer

Because student life on campus can be very hectic due to academic demands, it is nearly impossible for students to participate in a time-consuming extracurricular activity if they have full schedules.

Delightfully, the members of the Funkadixons Band deny this and are alive and well here at ECU.

Formerly called Program I the band's name has changed to Funkadixon's due to the influence of sophomore keyboardist, Barry Dixon. Dixon is not only the backbone of the group but originally got the show together. Sharing equal importance as coordinator is Harvey Stokes, also a sophomore who not only arranges the group's songs but contributes his musical talents at the tenor and alto saxophones. Other band members include sophomores, Gerald Little on drums, Deldis Harper, flute, and Curk Holstin on bass.

The group itself has been together for over a year with and has basically the same members with the exception of Holstin. Unfortunately, the band had problems getting together last year and during the fall quarter because of academic responsibilities. Winter quarter has been almost prolific for the group and they have made an appearance at a basketball game. They also participated in the Delta Sigma Theta talent show.

"Although we do play different types of music we are primarily interested in jazz-funk," explained member Harvey Stokes. "We feel we are best at this and are definitely improving as we learn how to play with each other."

Their style is very enjoyable and for a young band they play very well. They were well-received at the basketball game and according to Little, "all students enjoyed our music. We received a lot of complaints from both black and white players which was especially pleasing to us."

In lieu of this, it is unbelievable that they have been asked not to play at any more games by the administration due to complaints from the alumni and coaches. Understandably all band members felt disappointed at this and are suspicious of the reasons given to them. Since they were playing for all students in order to raise school spirit, it is hard to understand any type of complaints. Ironically their concerts were free which is almost unheard of today.

The Funkadixon's enjoy playing music and they definitely enjoy playing together. This was very apparent at the recent DJT talent show although all band members considered that a bad concert. Not surprisingly everyone enjoyed their show and are awaiting eagerly for their next concert.

When asked when their next show will be no response can be gotten since the band members are also good at being evasive. In accordance with their music and their style they want their next

performance to be a surprise.

In a personal interview with Curk Holstin, Holstin had quite a lot to say.

"I feel that this group is very close music-wise. We seem to have the same or similar ideas in the type sound we want to produce which is mainly jazz-funk. I am quite interested in this style of music and hopefully we will be able to do some original songs. As for the members personally, I hadn't met any of them prior to my transferring here, but it seems as if I've been playing with them all my life. There is one thing that I can't understand, and that is the fact that with all the talent on campus I was surprised to find out that there are so few groups on campus. I know academics and money are good reasons for this, but I still feel that with talent here on campus there should be more activities arranged so that these people can get out and do their thing. I myself enjoy playing and I'm sure the rest of the members do. As for future concerts, we're all for them."

## But Which Way

Tomorrow's child touched down  
looking for the sunrise.  
Today's child arrived  
looking towards the sunset,  
and the dawn of a new day.  
The two paths  
perchance may cross  
cause they keep after each other.  
The sunset must run faster  
to catch the sunrise.  
He's been down but not down  
He's been high up  
Then he looked for the hottom, he saw

### Voice From An

#### Ebony Man Past

Give this message to a black man  
Not one who plays the role,  
But give this message to a Black Man,  
One of body, mind and soul.

Tell him of our nations,  
Tell him of our Pride....  
Tell him of our warriors,  
Tell him how their mothers cried-

When they in turn saw,  
On that most mournful day -  
Their all graceful sons,  
From their embraces stolen away.  
Remind him of the voyages,  
Of all it did demand.  
Remind him of the failures,  
Who were blessed not to withstand.

Tell him of Dixie -  
Tell him its power did cease.  
Tell him of your father's father,  
Tell him how they won their peace.

Remind him of the saga,  
For he must remember well -  
Remind him so earnestly -  
So that his children he shall tell.  
Remind of the Men of old,  
And all that they tried to teach.  
Remind him of all our pain,  
In search of our freedom to reach.  
Give this message to a Black Man!  
One by body, mind and soul,  
Give this message to a black man -  
Not one who plays the role.

JERRY SIMMONS

So he took another path  
towards the sunrise.  
Sail on silver bird  
sayeth he  
Leave all the yesterday's behind  
Conflict arrives  
like a harsh cold wind.  
Tomorrow's child cannot see  
What today's child shows.  
The sunrise was their goal  
but which way.

Kehinde Tokuta

### Tell It To It

Take off the visor  
Place me on the plain  
Where runneth the stream of truth.

Casts and owls see in the dark  
The rattler feels what it cannot see  
That colt cannot see  
'Cause he's looking the other way.

I saw that colt come out  
from a mare, leader of the pack  
It was born free.

A quiet fire was lit  
When it was blessed  
It takes its time.

Beyond the valley  
in the land of starry skies  
They waited, prepared  
Setting it up, setting them up.

Perchance that colt, will fint  
its way, no one thought.  
To sniff the wind  
Will take it time.  
The colt sniffed the wind  
The quiet fire lit.

Like the still water that runneth deep  
The quiet fire will burn slow but sure  
He must take it to the plain  
And tell it to it.

Kehinde Tokuta

## Miss Columbus County represents ECU too

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Miss Gibbs said her wardrobe for the week will be provided free. She also won a \$500 scholarship as winner of the Columbus County contest.

But honors aside, Miss Gibbs said she hopes to get some support from ECU students as she competes in the state contest in Winston-Salem this summer.

"I'll represent Columbus and ECU, too," she said with a smile. "I'm going to the Miss North Carolina Pageant and do my best. It would be good for me to know I have someone in the audience supporting me besides just my family."

During a weekend in March, she will attend a seminar in Winston-Salem to learn what will happen during the contest. People interested in attending the pageant, should contact her before the seminar so that she can buy tickets.

"It will be almost impossible to get tickets after March," Miss Gibbs said. "I want to thank my friends for their support, and I want to see some of them in Winston-Salem."

But, if you can't make it to Winston-Salem because of summer school or other previous commitments, be sure to see Miss Gibbs on June 18 when the finals will be televised. And don't be surprised.

## Eyewitness reporter discusses media job

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"There's no 22 to television. You make it on desire, ability, and luck."

Motivation is especially essential and Motley believes that this is the key. He's not there yet, but he knows what it takes to get ahead and that will be the primary factor in achieving his long term goals.

"You just have to believe in yourself

and do it," concluded Motley.

Motley attended school at Univ. of N.C. Chapel Hill, majoring in Drama. He was one of the founders of "Black Ink," the school's newspaper.

Recently, Motley performed as a "stand-up" comedian for the ECU Coffee-house.

## Pirates post dismal record

As the ECU basketball campaign winds down, the Pirates find themselves with a dismal 8-13 record and out of contention for top honors in the Southern Conference Tourney. Coach Patton's troops have lost their last four games. Their last victory was over Davidson.

Although the team has faced numerous defeats this season, hope still exists that the team will come around before tournament time.

In the Pirates' recent victories, the total point spread has been low.

The scrappy Pirates gave the Mountaineers all they could handle, Saturday night, losing 63-60.

The Pirates are really giving an all out effort to better themselves, and it seems they are closer to the vital aspect of a total team concept.

Things like Lou Crosby become more offensive minded, Larry Hunt's leadership, Herb Gray's improved consistency, and Big Ty Edwards' improved playing are all stepping stones toward this goal which the team hopes will be reached.

## Freeman second

Debbie Freeman, one of the finest female basketball players in the state, is one of the few bright spots for the Lady Pirates.

Freeman, a junior from Jacksonville, is second in the state in rebounding and scoring.

The Lady Pirates have been faced with numerous frustrations this season, and their greatest loss being All-state forward Rosie Thompson. Thompson has a fractured ankle and is out for the season.

With Thompson out of the line-up, opponents have been able to concentrate more on stopping Debbie. But the magician from Jacksonville continues to freak in her own special way.

Freeman and Thompson complemented each other's game real well, each being vital assets for the other, and with reserves not being able to react to the transaction very well, which has hampered the team and Freeman.

Chances are the Lady Pirates will make the playoffs.