

Soc. of Afro-American Culture *Dean Poble*
204 Peele

SAAC OFFICERS FOR 1975-76

Chairman: Eric Roberts *I-D Lee*
833-9011 (7/12/6)

- Vice-Chairman: Marilyn Truesdale

- Political Affairs Chairman: Anderson Bro Thompson

Communications Chairman: Deena Campbell
833-0740 (7/12/6)

Secretary: Anita Campbell
834-1895 (7/12/6)

- Social Affairs Chairman: Roy Luccas

Treasurer: Jerome Lofton
832-1578 - out of town

Education Chairman: Eleanor Gardner

Advisor: Hubert Winston

SAAC aims to give blacks voice



Eric Roberts

by Richard Stevenson
Staff Writer

The Society of Afro American Culture is an organization on campus whose main objective is to try to make people aware of the existence and contributions of blacks to society.

"Blacks have a culture just like any other race, it just hasn't been played up enough," said Eric Roberts, President of SAAC.

"We want people to realize the black heritage and contributions we have made to society.

"**WE WOULD** like the organization to serve as a mechanism for blacks to enter the political arena," stated Roberts.

In an attempt to get things

going that way, SAAC sponsored a political luncheon and workshop in September with Wake County Commissioner Elizabeth Cofield who spoke on the topic of blacks getting into the "game of politics."

Membership in SAAC has grown from 65 last year to 110 this year.

"We don't necessarily want to become larger in members, but we want to be more effective in areas such as politics where blacks need more identity," said Roberts.

ROBERTS ALSO added, "I personally, would like to see more black courses offered at State. It is ridiculous for the history department to think that the whole history of blacks can be taught in one course. I would also like to see

one or two more courses in black literature and politics."

On November 8, SAAC is sponsoring a symposium on a black family. On January 15, there will be a commemoration for the late Dr. Martin Luther King. Chapel Hill mayor Howard Lee is scheduled to speak and local talent is planned for entertainment.

Meetings are held every other Thursday night in the Cultural Center across from Harris Cafeteria parking lot and are open to all students. The next meeting is scheduled for October 22 at 7 p.m.

TECH. 9-15-75

Cofield calls for blacks to get more involved in local politics

by William Steadman
Staff Writer

Emphasizing to blacks "Get up, you are not dead," Wake County Commissioner Elizabeth Cofield spoke to a group of 75 students, faculty, and staff at a political luncheon and workshop sponsored by the Society of Afro-American Culture in the Cultural Center Saturday.

Cofield, the keynote speaker for the luncheon, dealt pointively on the topic of

blacks getting interested in the "game of politics." She pointed out that the Bible has almost been replaced by politics.

She went on to say that there are many opportunities for blacks in the field of politics. Cofield told blacks to "stand up" as you are not a cripple as you were told you were crippled in the mind."

ACCORDING TO COFIELD, there are a number of reasons for the low numbers of blacks in politics.

"It is a combination of apathy, unin-

formed masses, and being kept out by the system," she stated. "As long as there are opportunities, there is freedom. We can't say we are free until the opportunities have been extinguished. We are at a time when blacks have no time to listen without hearing and talking but saying nothing."

State Associate Dean of Student Affairs Henry Bowers and Dr. Paul Marion, Director of Residence Life at State, were present at the luncheon. Both agreed with Cofield's address.

"**MUCH HAS TO DO WITH** the fact that blacks are a minority and still have the prejudice of the system," Bowers said of the low number of blacks in politics, "but that could be overcome. Willingness to give up one's job to devote time into politics is another reason."

Dr. Marion stated that blacks are being systematically left out by those who are now in the influential positions. He said that if there were more "role models" such as Cofield, for young people to try to be like, there would be an increased interest in politics.

Both Marion and Bowers think that economics is playing a big part in the barrier confronted by blacks trying their hand in politics.