



Beth Emerson/Daily Nebraskan

National Black History Month Battle against racism continues, leader says

By Merry Hayes
Staff Reporter

"A man who won't die for something is not fit to live. The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

King, along with many others who fought and died with him, are being honored across the country during February — National Black History Month.

"Black History Month is a time to celebrate and acknowledge our history and our heritage as well as looking toward our future," said Reshell Moore, president of the Afrikan People's Union.

To observe the month, there are several activities scheduled that are "a way of looking at people who in the past have done things to advance the black race," said Moore.

The highlight of the month, Moore said, is a luncheon Feb. 27 in the Nebraska Union Ballroom, Shirley Chisholm, the first woman to actively run for the presidency, will be the guest speaker. Tickets are on sale at the union.

Other activities include:

- discussion of South Africa by Donald Woods at Model United Nations — Wednesday, union Ballroom

- Showing of two movies, "A Raisin in the Sun" and "Imitation of Life" — Feb. 18, Culture Center, 333 N. 13th St.

- Career planning workshop — Feb. 20, Culture Center

- Relationship workshop that deals with communication and the family structure — Feb. 25, Culture Center.

But these activities are not enough, said Willy Watkins, chairman of the Big Eight Council on Black Student Government.

"Racism, and institutional racism especially, has not gone away" Watkins said. "That's why there's a need for the Big Eight Council."

The council brings Big Eight student governments together to combat racism in the Midwest.

"When just the students at a school protest or say something, it doesn't carry as much weight as if all eight schools are saying, 'this is wrong and we're not going to let you get away with it,'" Watkins said.

Among the council's concerns are two incidents at Oklahoma: a cross-burning at a fraternity and the naming of a building after a Ku Klux Klan member.

Council members also discuss issues such as curriculum, black faculty and retention of black students who can't adjust to a predominantly white institution.

The council annually holds an educational conference featuring workshops and speakers for all black college students in the Big Eight. At this year's conference, which was last week, UNL won three awards: the most improved black student government; Moore was named outstanding delegate; and senior Darrell Hornsby was named Mr. Black Big Eight.

"It's up to black college students like myself, who are future professionals, to be concerned about the rest of our people," Watkins said. "We're the only ones who have power enough to help our race get back on its feet."

Watkins said UNL has many changes to make.

For example, he said, UNL helps finance activities such as Walpurgisnacht, which appeals mostly to white students. Also, he said, the campus' fraternities have few black members and the black-white ratio among UNL faculty members is dismal.

"(The white majority is) not even in touch with black people here," Watkins said. "And they're separated because they want to be."

One department that has made an effort to change is the Office of University Housing, Watkins said. Housing officials are actively seeking minority candidates for Student Assistant positions in residence halls. This semester, UNL has 120 SA's, five of which are minority students.

"UNL has at least recognized there is a problem now," Watkins said. "Before, it was no problem. No one would say anything. Now it's, 'Let's talk about it for a long, long time — no action — let's talk about it.'"

Watkins, a former rank leader in the Cornhusker Marching Band, former president of the Afrikan People's Union, first runner-up in Mr. Black Collegiate and an SA and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, said all his activities are "like stairs that lead to nowhere."

"I'd trade everything I have right now just to move ahead."

Digest

NDSL checks

National Direct Student Loans for this semester will be issued Monday through Wednesday, 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Ballroom and the same times Wednesday in the Nebraska Union Regency Suite.

Students must show their current student identification cards. Students under 19 must show a promissory note signed by their parents or guardians.

include Ellen Rosenberg, educator and author; JoAnne Owens-Nauslar, chairwoman of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, and Lou Goldstein, comedian/sportscaster who is known for his trademark "Simon Says" show.

Tickets for the event will be sold at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, the Nebraska and East Unions and at various health clubs sometime after March 15.

Health for All

Health for All-All for Health will be April 11 through 13. The event, designed to promote better physical, mental, social and emotional health, is coordinated by Alan Sands of Lincoln.

Some celebrities scheduled to appear

Engineering seminar

A chemical engineering seminar will be presented Friday by Hugh Gray, a UNL alumnus in chemical engineering, at 4 p.m. in Avery 135. Gray's talk is titled "Forty Years of Research and Development at Dupont."

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V A L E N T I N E ' S D A Y



Valentine's Day at Miller's Junior Department:

Clusters of comfortable knits and oversized shirts. Layer them, tie them, add a brooch or scarf, throw a sweater around your shoulders—create your own style. Choose pretty spring pastels, bold brights or stripes in an array of colors. S,M,L. Celebration Polo Shirts, reg. \$14, now 9.99 Pinot Noir Oversized Shirts, reg. \$22, now 15.99

Don't miss "Promenade," a prom fashion show. Sunday, Febr. 16, 2 p.m., 3rd floor Downtown auditorium. \$3 tickets/available at door.

Miller & Paine

Nebraska's Quality Department Stores

Most of South Africa-related investments divested by NU

By Jonathan Taylor
Senior Reporter

The University of Nebraska invests in seven corporations that do business in South Africa, said William Hemann, UNL director of finance.

Those investments yield about \$850,000 interest a year, which adds to NU funds for scholarships and programs, Hemann said.

However, NU President Ronald Roskens said that not a dollar the university invests or receives supports the racially unequal policies of the apartheid government in South Africa. The university followed a 1984 state law, although it was not legally bound by the law.

In July 1984, the Legislature passed a bill requiring the State Investment Council to divest most of Nebraska's holdings in corporations doing business in South Africa. An exception is made for companies working toward racial equality. The deadline for divestment from corporations not mak-

ing good progress in reaching racial equality is Jan. 1, 1987.

Although the university did not have to follow the law, the legislation prompted NU to divest as well, said Alan Seagren, vice president for administration.

Since the law went into effect, NU has divested from all of the corporations not following the Sullivan Principles. It completed its divestment two years ago, Hemann said.

"To the extent we have any investments in American corporations that do business in South Africa, we don't do any business unless the company is signatory to those principles and is making progress on, and achieving all of those principles," Hemann said.

Named after the Philadelphia minister and member of General Motors Board of Directors, the Rev. Leon Sullivan, the principles are a voluntary set of guidelines that gauge how racially equal a corporation is.

Corporations that choose to follow them also are responsible to police

themselves and report their findings to the International Council on Equality of Opportunities Inc.

That organization publishes a list of those corporations that are attempting to abide by the principles, Seagren said.

There are those who say corporations should not be asked to act as an agent of social change, according to Louis Picard, assistant political science professor.

Picard said they believe the principles are "well meaning but that there are more fundamental ways available," to end apartheid.

Reshell Moore, president of the Afrikan People's Union, said that although she and her organization are upset and concerned about investments that may support apartheid, the APU is not focusing on NU investments.

"We want to get things in order at home before we look abroad," she said. APU's campus interests include increasing the number of minority faculty at UNL, Moore said.