

## ✓ VICE PRESIDENT

# Black: Coed committee experience helpful

Michael Black says one of his main objectives in running for election is to ensure a smooth transition to coeducation next year.

"Being on the Coeducation Steering Committee has really helped me a lot in opening my eyes to what problems might arise next year, and there will be problems," said Black, also a junior representative to the EC.

The coeducation committee recently passed a resolution asking the EC to appoint a woman ad hoc member to the Student Control Committee if one is not elected. Black said that resolution, which he helped pass, is the kind of action needed to make sure women are treated as fairly as men next year.

Black compared the problems that women might have next year with the problems he sees minorities as having now.

"People would assume that if [the Student Association for Black Unity] had a problem with the EC they would speak up

about it, but that's not the case," he said.

Minority students might be hesitant to bring their problems to an all-white committee they feel cannot possibly understand them, Black said, and the same thing might happen with next year's women.

"Next year is really going to make it or break it for women in the University," he added. "If it is a bad transition, the sour aftertaste will persist for a few years, and I don't want that to happen. I love this school."

Black said that keeping lines of communication open between the students and their government — and opening them for minority students and women — is one of the reasons he is running.

As for the EC's job of administering the Honor System, Black said he sees himself more as leaning toward the accused "until the evidence goes against him."

"I'm not out to get anybody,"



MICHAEL BLACK

he said. "If there is any doubt about the guilt or innocence of the accused, I lean toward the accused."

The fact that both honor convictions this year were unanimous verdicts is evidence of the EC's care in ensuring that inno-

cent students aren't convicted, Black said.

The vice president's major responsibility, though, is to oversee the student body budget, and Black said he is qualified to handle that job.

"Last year, I owned and ran my own business — the Campus Linen Service," he said. "Just having to run a business's books I think makes me extremely qualified for the budget part."

In addition, Black said, his enthusiasm and outgoing nature will enable him to stay in contact with the student organizations that receive funds.

"If they had some problems, they would know I was there and I would help."

Black said his involvement in student activities — the Student Activities Board, student recruitment and the track team, in addition to his EC work — will help him understand the varied interests of the organizations.

He said he would like to see an EC next year that will involve it-

self in any issue that affects the student body, even if the issue does not specifically involve the EC.

He gave as a suggestion the possibility of the EC's buying banners or arranging for someone to lead cheers at football games to increase school spirit.

"I feel like, 'Get in there and — not get your finger in every pie and get pie all over the walls — but get involved and show your interest.' I think that is something we have not done this year."

"This year the EC has been 'silent supporters,' and I want to change that."

A friendly, outgoing EC can reduce the fear some students might have for the EC, Black said. "I want the student body to not feel threatened."

He also hopes that breaking down the barriers between the students and the EC will keep next year's women from becoming alienated.