Organizations honor activist

Alpha Kappa Alpha cancels pageant to honor Rosa Parks

Krystal Miller

Thoughts of Rosa Parks took the floor during a recent event held in the Colonnade Ballroom. The Alpha Kappa Alpha and sorority, the University of Kansas College Program, hosted a dance and ceremony to honor Parks on the 50th anniversary of her death.

The event started with a prayer and then proceeded to the black history program where each of the participants spoke about Parks.

"She wasn't any more; she was just a woman who got tired one day and refused to sit in the back of the bus," said Linda Schulte, who was one of the speakers.

Schulte spoke about how Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus, as well as how that action inspired other people to do the same. She also talked about Parks' life and career, and how she became an activist and leader in the civil rights movement.

"Parks was the mother of the nation's civil rights movement," said Tolliver. "She was one of the most important women in history, and she deserves to be remembered in a big way."

Tolliver said she was excited about the pageant because it would give people an opportunity to learn more about Parks' life and legacy.

"It's an honor to honor a woman who did so much for the country," she added.

The ceremony also included a performance by the Kansas State University Gospel Choir, who sang songs celebrating Parks' life and work.

"Parks was a hero to everyone who considers themselves a part of the civil rights movement," said Seidel. "She showed us that it's possible to stand up for what's right, even when it's hard."

Tolliver said the pageant was a success and that it brought people together to remember Parks and her legacy.

"It was a great way to honor Parks and to celebrate the work that she did," she said.

Several people were present to speak about Parks, including Thomas and Seidel, who spoke about Parks' influence on the community.

"She was a woman who cared deeply about people," said Thomas. "She never forgot about the needs of others, and she always tried to help them."

The pageant concluded with a performance by the Kansas State University Gospel Choir, who sang a final song celebrating Parks' life and legacy.

"We hope that this pageant will inspire people to learn more about Parks and to remember her legacy," said Tolliver.

The pageant was a big success and it brought people together to remember Parks and her legacy. People were inspired by her life and work, and they were moved by the messages that were shared during the event.

"Parks was an inspiration to all of us," said Seidel. "She showed us that we can make a difference, and that we can change the world for the better."