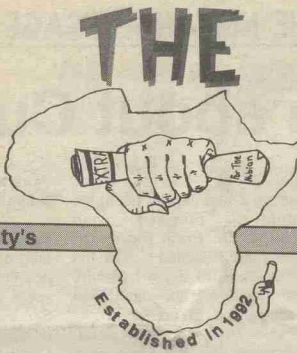


THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

North Carolina State University's
Volume 2, Edition 2

Afrikan-American Newspaper
September 28, 1993



Alpha Kappa Alpha celebrates SkeeWeek

By Tony Williamson

Editor-in-Chief

The Kappa Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. held its annual Skee Week celebration September 20-25th. According to Angela Graham, member of AKA, the purpose of Skee Week is "to give students an opportunity to know what AKA is all about through enrichment programs that allow to better educate themselves on today's societal issues."

Based on the positive response to the variety of programs AKA offered last week, Skee Week definitely served its purpose.

The week started last Monday with a program entitled "Woman to Woman." During this session, Afrikan-American women got a chance to discuss their status as role models, including their responsibilities to the Afrikan-American community.

Last Tuesday's forum was a discussion on Afrikan-American Corporate Concerns,

featuring Linda Wilson and Richard Briggs from IBM.

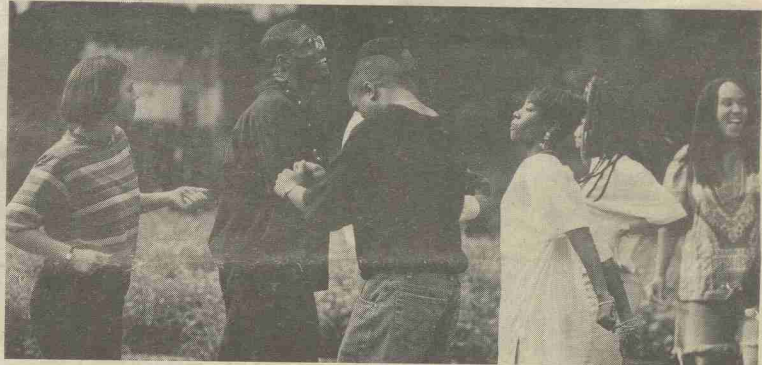
Wednesday's event was the much-anticipated Cakewalk, where about 50 people won cakes contributed by the sorority. Proceeds from this event went to the NCSU Women's Center.

On Thursday, a program was given called "Complex Times, Complex Relations." This was a discussion of the intricacies of male/female relationships, with a focus on the Afrikan-American male. This discussion was facilitated by NCSU's own Dr. June Murray.

Skee Week ended on a high note last Saturday with a slammin' party in the African-American Cultural Center. Since AKA is a non-profit organization, money raised from the party will be "donated to a scholarship fund or charity" yet to be decided, said Graham.

More Skee Week, page 2

Partyin' on the Block



James Cogwill/ Technician

Students "shake their rumps" at the AKA Block Party last Friday

Omega Psi Phi Flexes at Bench Blast

By Jay Cornish

Entertainment Editor

What do weight lifting, charity fundraising, good music and many people have in common? Well, nothing, unless you're talking about *Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.'s* Bench Blast Mania '93, which took place two Fridays ago, on Sept. 17th. Power, strength, sweat...and a touch of class; these are just some of the words that describe the Kappa Nu Chapter's 3rd annual fund-raiser. Kicking off at about 4:15PM on a beautiful Friday afternoon (upon which it was forecasted to rain) during the "Q-Dog" block party hosted by DJ Hindu, the numerous participants of the event took to the bench and flexed their muscles for money, with the proceeds going to help benefit the United Negro College Fund

and the NAACP.

However, before stepping up to the plates to show the crowd on the block how "diesel" they were, participants had a few entrance requirements to complete. In order for an individual to have participated, he first must have had sponsorship, with consisted of getting a list of people who pledge so much money per amount of weight lifted. Precisely four sponsors were required in order to be involved and each sponsor had to pledge at least a penny per pound for the maximum amount of weight lifted. Secondly, he must have been weighed in so that an correct measure of body mass could be taken and an accurate calculation of true strength could be determined. Lastly, he had to show up and get "wrecked" for

the cause.

Of course, there had to be some type of other motivation, besides doing something charitable, for the brothers to come out and give of their time (black folks today!), so there were three categories and three awards that were eligible to be won: Strongest Man, Strongest Man (Lbs. for Lbs.) and Most Sponsors. In all of the categories but one, Most Sponsors, the competition was somewhat tough and very competitive. However, at the end of the event, there were very clear and decisive winners. In the Strongest Man category, Greg Harvey, a Business Management major, grabbed the title with an impressive lift of 360 lbs. Afterwards he stated that he had heard about the Bench Blast and

More Bench Blast, page 2

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Phone: (919)515-5210



Prospects learn about Cultural Center

By Christina Verleger

News Editor

The Friends of the African-American Cultural Center held its first organizational and purpose meeting for the African-American Extended Family Association (AAE-FA). This event took place on September 18th as part of NCSU's Open House and was open to parents of prospective State students.

The program began with lunch at 12:30 PM, and after an hour of eating and mingling, the program began when Dr. Augustus M. Witherspoon gave the welcome and stated the

purpose of the program. He told the parents of the hardships Afrikan-American students have gone through to get to where they are now and noted the importance of support throughout that time. Dr. Witherspoon also told the parents that the students and faculty still have a long way to go and, because of that, they need continued support. After Dr. Witherspoon finished, the first panel discussion began.

The topic for the first panel discussion was the African-American Cultural Center. Dr. Witherspoon told the parents about the struggle to get the present Center. Then, Dr. M.

Iyailu Moses, Director of the Cultural Center, spoke about the Center's purpose and importance. From there, Dr. Moses discussed the budget, the renovations to the Art Gallery and Library and the importance of fundraising and donations.

The second panel discussion was about improving the retention and graduation rates of Afrikan-American students at NCSU. The panelists discussed the importance of the MDS program, which Afrikan-American students take during their first year, and tutorials that are now offered to aid students in classes that are known to be

more difficult and have higher failure rates.

The organizational structure of the AAE-FA was the third panel topic. The leadership positions were discussed and voted upon. James Washington, Sr. was elected High Chief (President), Brenda Wilson and George Williams were selected as Q-Chiefs (Vice-Presidents), Aloa Harris as Scribe (Secretary), Herbert G. Whyte as Cache (Treasurer) and Brenda McDougal as the Financial Secretary. Four committees - Programs, Membership, Fundraising and Public Relations - were created for

organizational support. The committees will come together twice a year, once in the fall for a business meeting and in the spring for a celebration.

Between the second and third panel discussions, everyone took a tour of the Cultural Center to see the renovations on the second floor, and to view the offices and continue the program on the third floor. The Friends of the African-American Cultural Center Committee, made up of various faculty and staff members from NCSU, sat on the panels.

McCoy lectures Heritage Society

By Sarah Hobbs

Education Editor

Dr. Sheila Smith-McCoy kicked off the African-American Heritage Society Lecture Series on September 20th with "Descriptions of Time: Narrative Legacies 'Daughters of the Dust'".

The lecture focused on the concept of Time. Time, as McCoy stated, is an important concept in our community and

through time, we all are linked to Afrika. In the movie "Daughters of the Dust," a scene takes place in a graveyard involving Nana and her grandson Eli. Nana calls on Eli to get in touch with the ancestors and to ask for their strength and guidance. This scene suggests that by being in touch with our ancestors, we can look forward to the future and also reach back in time to obtain cultural identity.

Many Afrikan-American writers focus on the theme of Time. Books such as *Beloved* and *Tar Baby* by Toni Morrison, *Praise Song for a Widow* by Paul Marshall and *Kindred* by Gloria Naylor focus on connecting our heritage to our present experiences. By keeping in touch with Time - past or present - we will, as Nana states, "never forget who we is and far we come."

AKA holds corporate discussion

By Christina Verleger

News Editor

In the African-American Cultural Center last Tuesday, the Kappa Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated held a panel discussion regarding Afrikan-American corporate concerns. The panelists for the discussion were Ms. Linda Wilson, who researches minority hiring at the Research Triangle Park IBM, and Mr. Richard Briggs, a manager at IBM.

Companies are no longer looking for white males with bachelor degrees. A lot of companies are now looking for Afrikan-American males, which Ms. Wilson states, are not an abundance. She also said that most companies are looking for people that have masters degrees and at least a 3.5 GPA;

and even with experience, companies are still looking for at least a 3.0 GPA. The emphasis is no longer on how involved a person is in extra-curricular activities.

"The biggest turn-off that a person could do during an interview is not to dress or act very professionally," Ms. Wilson said. Another big turn-off was men wearing earrings to an interview. The type of questions that Ms. Wilson and Mr. Briggs are more apt to ask during an interview are those questions that will give them a feel for the type of person they are interviewing and test their communication skills. Whether or not a person is willing to relocate is another question that is becoming asked more often.

For some reason, it seems to take Afrikan-Americans longer to get established in the corporate world than their white

counterparts. The panelists admitted that it is a white world. However, they also stated that it depends on how good the person is and how much they want to advance. "If you don't want to play the game, don't cry about the things you don't get," said Ms. Wilson. A good way to get ahead faster is for a person to let their manager know that they are interested and to take the tough assignments. Mr. Briggs also suggested that people should "find a particular niche and specialize in it."

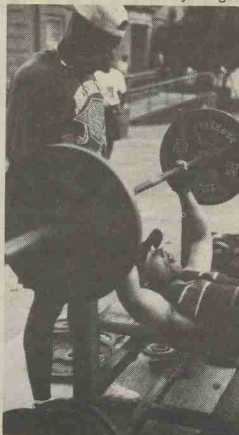
The up and coming major that companies are really interested in is Programming. The panelists stated that Engineering is going downhill because of the problems that technological companies have had in recent years. Because of the recession, promotions have also been on the decline.



Bench Blast con't.

Andrei George/Staff

did it just to see how far he could go with it; he went all the way. In the Strongest Man (Lbs. for Lbs.) category, Electrical Engineering major Lamar Joyner pressed through the competition by lifting more than twice his body weight.



Shirley George/Staff

Yo! That kid is diesel!

Taking care of business.

He had benched 265 lbs. with a well built 125 lbs. frame. (Yo! The kid gets strength!) Lamar stated after he was done, "I came out here just to see how much I could do, for a personal satisfaction." And in by far the most lopsided competition of the day, Ben Bohannon boguarded all others by scooping up an amazing 88 sponsors. Unfortunately, Mr. Bohannon was not available for comment on this feat.

These three fellas were not the only ones who went home with something to show for the afternoon. All participants received an official purple on white Bench Blast Mania '93 t-shirt for free, while everyone else had to pay about \$3 for one. But of course, everyone out on the block that day went home with the memories of hanging on the block (and the ladies checking out the fellas) and the knowledge that the "Q-Dogs" were throwing a party that night in the Annex. All in all, it was a good day (and an even better night.)

Stroud Center residents to get new home

By Risha Hamlin

Sports Editor

During the 1970s, a private corporation not affiliated with North Carolina State University, known as the Wolfpack Club, bought a hotel and renovated it to provide guaranteed housing for the growing number of male athletes. Since then, the majority of male athletes have been housed in the "Stroud Center," or as it is most commonly called, "The College Inn (CI)." Despite the fact that this housing facility is owned by the Wolfpack Club, it is managed by the University Housing and Residence Life Department. Since the Stroud Center's establishment, both the Wolfpack Club and NCSU have been working together to ensure that this facility acts as an athletic support center, as well as providing an atmosphere of team unity among its student athletes. In addition, another concern was to protect many athletes from crowds and reporters. However, as of August 1, 1996, many of these accommodations may change; affecting first the 220 male

athletes currently residing in the center, the owners of the center (the Wolfpack Club), and finally NCSU.

Recently, during a 1991 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Convention, several new policies were adopted concerning the housing facilities of student athletes. One in particular states that:

"Athletic dormitories shall be defined as institutional dormitories in which at least 50 percent of the residents are student-athletes."

Although this policy doesn't go into effect until 1996, NCSU has formed a committee of Housing and Residence Life and Athletic Department representatives with members of the Wolfpack Club to try to come up with a reasonable solution to the complex situation. Director of Housing and Residence Life, Dr. Tim Luckadoo, says that the reason the situation is becoming more complex is because the Stroud Center is not owned by NCSU. This factor makes it difficult to make final decisions without consulting the owners. Nevertheless, since the adoption

of the policy on January 10, 1991, NCSU's committees have come up with several alternatives and/or recommendations to help solve the problem. Some of their concerns deal with questions like: "Who should the new owners of the Stroud Center be? Who would operate it? Should the center become a coed housing facility?"

"...the only thing I dislike is being separated from the rest of the Afrikan-American student body."

—Christopher McNeil

Of course, these questions were raised before the university's purchase of the Mission Valley Inn. The purchase, which will be final on October 1, 1993, will give the university other options. First, it will give them 700 more vacancies for students; secondly, it will illuminate the lottery system (a system that places students on a 50/50 chance of guaranteed

housing); and lastly, it will give the university an opportunity to provide air conditioning for the majority of the student body. "Although no final decision has been made on how the university will use all of the resources available to them, the Fall '96 deadline will give us more time to think things over," says Dr. Luckadoo.

At any rate, the situation shifts to another level, that which is best for the student athletes involved. One primary focus concerns freshman athletes, and their transition/adaptation from high school to college life. Dr. Luckadoo expressed his concern when he stated that "it would be a great idea if freshman athletes could participate in the 'First Year Experience' program". This program is usually held for freshmen (residing in the Metcalf dormitory), and it focuses on academic success, study resources and ways of getting to know the campus. However possible, this would give the freshmen athletes a chance to explore their academic resources, while interacting with the majority of the Afrikan-

American student body. As freshman football player Christopher McNeil comments, "I have no problem with the relocation of us (the athletes), the only thing I dislike is being separated from the rest of the Afrikan-American student body".

Nevertheless, many other athletes and coaches feel that team unity is a serious factor in deciding where to place the athletes, and how they are going to divide them. Sophomore Omar Dixon, who is currently on NCSU's track team and resides in the CI, stated, "I understand we (the athletes) might have to be separated for equality, however, I think team unity plays an important role in our lives; if nothing else, it helps us stay out of trouble."

Hopefully, NCSU's Housing and Residence Life representatives, the Athletic Department, and the Wolfpack Club will have come to a final decision about the situation by the fall of 1994. By this time, Mission Valley Inn will be complete of its renovations and prospective students will be allowed to move in.

Volleyball team gets new faces, new attitude

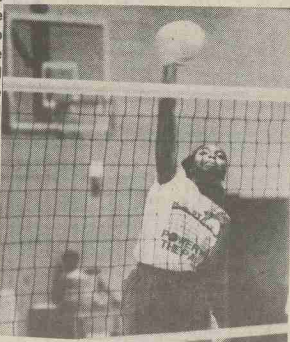
By Shawna Daniels

Staff Writer

Have you ever watched a NCSU volleyball match before? If so, have you ever wondered what goes into the making of the team? Can you detect whether or not there is a spirit that thrives among its players? Can you determine whether or not there exists team unity? Well, if you answered no to any of these questions, you are missing out on the game of your life. Complex plays are completed with the greatest ease, and with each victorious blow, hugs and pounds go around as the sideline team stands and cheers as their teammates stomp the competition.

This year's volleyball team has grown from those of the past, with an addition of two new coaches, five new freshman, and a

total of three Afrikan-American players. With a newly found attitude, the goals of the players are to improve the volleyball program here at State and to win matches. Despite the fact that the team has lost three games so far, sophomore Rhonda Surratt feels that, "we can only improve".



we learned that we can play hard and play well against any team, and still feel good!"

This year's volleyball team is aiming for bigger and better things; the addition of new people, the inner strengths that exist among them all and the 8-3 record they have so far, will help them achieve many more victories in the future.

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE
has openings for
Writers, Photographers, Layout
Assistants, Cartoonists and
Sales Representatives.

If you're interested in becoming
a part of the only Afrikan-
American media organization at
NCSU, then come by room 372
of the African-American
Cultural Center and fill out an
application.
You'll be glad you did.
(And so will we)

School of Design sets precedents

By Arnold Murray
Staff Writer

Although the School of Design is the smallest college at NCSU, its faculty and focus on the Afrikan-American student cannot easily be ignored. The School of Design (SOD) has already made key steps in positioning itself to attract a larger range of minority students.

One of these key moves has been the attainment of Professor Patricia Harris. Professor Harris joined the faculty at the SOD on April 1 of this year. She is currently serving as the Afrikan-American coordinator for the school of Design. Professor Harris is a seasoned authority in the area of design with over 22 years of experience. Professor Harris has a bachelor's degree in English and obtained her Master's of Architecture at the

Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her experience in design includes work on Durham Planning Committee, City Planner, and project manager for the Freelon Group of Architects. The Freelon Group of Architects is a minority firm in Research Triangle Park where Professor Harris oversees client contact, organization of project teams, contract negotiations and more. Professor Harris will play a premier role in the SOD's overall development.

The School of Design also has set a precedent for all colleges at NCSU, as it has just

completed and documented a five-year study of Afrikan-American students at the college. The purpose of the study is to provide an overview of Afrikan-American students in the SOD from Fall 1988 through Spring 1993. Included in the study is information on the enrollment, retention and graduation rates of Afrikan-American students which may be used as the basis for developing and implementing goals and objectives, in addition to providing a useful tool for evaluation.

CORRECTION!

In last issues "Index to Afrikan-American Student Organizations," we forgot to acknowledge that most of the information in the index was taken from the 1993 Afrikan-American Symposium Handbook. We regret this oversight.

Get Jazzed Up With The Mystery Jazz Band LIVE!

October 1st
4-6 pm

Free Expression Tunnel
Area

("The Block")

Sponsored By The Nubian Message
(NCSU's Afrikan-American Newspaper)

THE PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

welcomes the African-American freshmen class and salutes the talented and dedicated brothers and sisters who will serve as their Peer Mentors for this academic year.

1993-1994 Peer Mentors

Wallace Alston
Ave Alston
Chreatha Alston
Shirlette Ammons
Shorlette Ammons
Dior Austin
Yolanda Avery
Erica Baines
Danita Baldwin
LaVaughn Barker
Emanuel Barnes
Wendi Bell
Tawanna Benson
Dehavayn Black
LaTanya Blakely
Crystal Boykin
Shanna Bragg
Eric Brooks
Anjanette Brown
Neukisha Bullock
Milton Burgess
Jensen Burton
Tim Burwell
Wilton Bynum
Bernice Campbell
Michael Charlton
Deirdra Clemons
Shannon Clemons
Chuck Coulter
Jason Cooper
Cynthia Cotton
Lekesha Crutch
Shammah Daniels
Lisa Davis
Ernie Davis
Reggie Degraffenreid
Tametha Dewberry
Omarr Dixon
Devi Dixon
Rachella Dobson
Dalton Dockery
Janee Dubois

Cassandra Duncan
Dawn Eaton
Angela Edwards
Kimberly Ellerbe-Marlow
Letitia Evans
Cecilia Featherstone
Samara Fleming
Natasha Ford
Shelton Ford
Ebony Fowler
Corey Franklin
Glenn French
Shonda Funches
Erica Garner
Yolanda Garrett
Martin Garvin
Adrienne Gaskins
Katina Geiger
Pilar Gore
Rayshaun Gorham
Shannon Graham
Niambe Green
Segrid Hall
Tonya Ham
Marcella Hamilton
Risha Hamlin
Tahjah Hanks
Tonya Harris
Tamala Harris
Leslie Harrison
Emma Hayes
Edith Henderson
Sarah Hobbs
Elizabeth Holmes
Raven Huff
Tyrone Hughes
Donnell Ivy
LaShun Jackson
Tawanna Johnson
Shontae Johnson
Bobby Johnson
Teresa Johnson

Jermaine Johnson
Tanya Jones
Tanisha Jordan
Pamela Kelly
Callie Kelly
Leroy Kelsey
Theodore Kingsbury
Dwyer Lawhorn
Stacey Lawrence
Tonya Lilly
Gertrude Lyons
Carlotta Mattison
Tanya McAuley
Raquel McClain
Lisa McClain
Kristi McClellan
Franco McGee
Angela McNeill
Johnny McQueen
Natasha Miller
Terri Moore
Troy Newman
Mark Newsome
Felicia Parham
Edwin Peters
Tyrone Pierce
Betinna Pope
Ellen Pratt
Tiffany Price
Kimberly Quick
Cheryl Ramseur
Dana Reese
Calvin Rhodes
Amy Rhyne
Bonnie Rhyne
Chameka Riley
Andre Robinson
Fabrienne Rogers
Nekia Rouse
Terence Rouse
Katherine Rouse
Cherese Rowe

Letitia Scott
Tonya Scott
Tony Scurry
Cassey Sessoms
Felisha Shepard
Robin Shepard
Reginald Silver
Keneth Smith
Celecia Smith
Brian Smith
Sheritta Speight
Garrick Tarver
Michelle Taylor
Tressa Teel
Kenya Templeton
Jeavetta Terry
Toma Thomas
Christa Thomas
Angela Tilmann
Tasha Toms
Daniel Truxler
Anjanette Turnage
Cheryl Vaughn
Christina Verleger
Marsha Walden
Latricia Walker
Edwin Wallace
Clayton Walston
Derrick Ware
LaTanya Webb
Patrick Wells
Sonja Weston
Carlton White
Dori Williams
Walter Williams
Wayne Williams
Tonia Williams
Tony Williamson
Jodie Wooten
Jared Worsley

SCHOLARSHIP!

FELLOWSHIP!

MENTORSHIP!

Campus Radio Goes Underground

By Jay Cornish

Entertainment Editor

It's 9:30 on a Wednesday night, there is nothing on TV and there is calculus homework to be done. It's too hot and muggy to hang outside, and the only person with really good music on your floor is out on a mission. What do you do? Do you turn on the radio and hope there is something good on K97.5? Or 104? No, you tune into 88.1 FM. Who?!? What?!? Well, for those of you who don't know (and for those of you who just forgot) NCSU has a radio station, **WKNC-FM**, on the third floor of the Student Center Annex. And contrary to popular belief, they're not just rock-n-roll, dude - they play hip-hop and R&B, too!

For Afrikan-American students on this campus, WKNC has recently been the subject [and site] of controversy and protest because of the lack of

Afrikan-American DJs and accessible airtime for the Black music format. WKNC's former *Magic 88* was (and is no longer) the only Black music format being broadcast on WKNC's frequency, and the format itself used to only air from Sunday through Thursday from 10PM

until 6AM. As one can imagine, it was not very good for general listenership and support, nor was it good for the few hardworking Black DJs that were in the FM control booth. However, all that has changed since the troubled days of last year. *Magic 88* is no more and neither are its horrible hours (although it's lack of support still lingers on.) What was once *Magic* is no known as the *Underground 88*. And it is, quite frankly, PHAT!

With the best of new,

next and old school hip-hop, not to mention gospel, R&B and reggae, it's no wonder why dedicated listeners enjoy the *Underground* so much. Plus, those dedicated fans, and new ones, too, appreciate the changes. Instead of only three Afrikan-American DJs, there are

now ten and three of those are sisters. The hours have changed from those latenight-non sleeping-staying up doing late homework-creeping hours to evening primetime air slots. In addition, the *Underground* has spawned three new shows: *Divine Inspiration*, *Reggae Sunday*, and the *Saturday ThunderStorm*, each of which bring a new dimension to an already expanding musical forum.

Most the Afrikan-American student population on

NCSU's campus (as well of the rest of WKNC's 50-mile broadcasting radius) now enjoy music from the *Underground* at a decent time of the night. Listeners have brought the *Underground* up from the darkness of latenight [almost] into the forefront of campus night life. All it needs to succeed now is support, then and only then can the *Underground* get busy while staying underground. Check 'em out. Here is the staff roster below:

Underground 88 Hours:

Sunday-Thursday 9PM to 4AM
Saturday ThunderStorm 6PM to 10PM
[Sunday] Divine Inspiration 7AM to 9AM
Reggae Sunday 7PM to 9PM

Underground 88 Staff:

Deide "Small Change" Alston
Abram "A1" Claiborne
Denise "KC" Codgell
Jay "Cool" Cornish
Chuck "Total Kaos" Coulter
Na'im "Phloe Original" Ambakিয়ে (Underground Ass't Music Director)
Tannon "The Renegade" Hardy
Dawn "Anonymous" Peoples
Garrick "Rampage" Purdie
Garrick "G-Money" Tarver (Underground Music Director)

Editor's Note: In all fairness, there is another brother working at WKNC-FM who is not on the *Underground* staff - but works just as hard as any Nubian on the air, so he will get his "props." His name is **Chukwuma "Chuck" Ukata** and he is the co-host of the World Cafe (international music), which is on between *Divine Inspiration* and *Reggae Sunday*. He deserves all of the support and respect that the *Underground* receives, so check him out. He has real Nubian flavor. Remember, turn to 88.1 and stay tuned.

What's Going On

Another issue, another event, another column. That's the way of the world for an events columnist. However, seeing as how our services bring important news of what's going on and who's doing what around this campus, we'll do it for you again. No rest for the weary (and not enough events for us to report - come on y'all, hook us up!) Here's the lowdown on what's going on:

- 9/30 In Stewart Theatre, after Menace II Society, there is *The Comedy Showcase*, featuring comedians Tim Howell and Quick, DJ Sump, and much, much more. The festivities will commence at 9:30PM and continue until 11:30. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$3 for everyone else. It supposed to be 2-Hype!
- 10/4 The *Sistah 2 Sistuh Network* is sponsoring a lecture, *I Dream A World: Growing Up Black and Female*, in the Multipurpose Room of the Cultural Center. The program starts at 7:30PM and all are welcome to attend. The program was done last year and it was a great success. The panel year had powerful stories and really influenced all who were there, so come out and bring a friend. (Stay on the lookout for more information.)
- 10/5 *New Horizons Choir* presents *Expressions of New Horizons*, a talent showcase, at 8:00PM in Stewart Theatre. It will be a very enjoyable performance, so bring you friends and enjoy a night of culture - your culture. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$3 for everyone else, and the can be purchased at the box office or from any Choir Member.
- 10/7 *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.* is presenting a program entitled *Afrikan-American Women Supporting Afrikan-American Men in Today's Times* in the Multipurpose Room of the Cultural Center at 7:30PM. It is a program featuring Paula Giddings, author of *In Search of Sisterhood* and *When & Where I Enter*. A \$1 of each ticket proceed will go to the American Foundation for AIDS Research. For more information, call Rhonda Long at 829-2515.

If you have an event, program of presentation that is going on that you want to spread the word about, come by the Nubian Message Office in Room 372 of the Cultural Center and pick up an Event Notification Form, call the office at 515-5210, or contact Jay Cornish (WGO Editor) at 512-6830. In order for events to be reported, Event Notification Forms need to be turned in no later than 1 week prior to the event

A Room for All Seasons

By Tamika Lee

Staff Writer

On the first floor of the Student Center Annex, there is a large, gray room with two tables against the back wall and four steps that lead to a platform. This room is known as the Multipurpose Room. On a few occasions, you may enter the room and find it empty, with the exception of an "African-American Symposium" banner hanging on the back wall. In fact, sometimes, it is so quiet, you can hear a pin drop. In other instances, the room may be filled with the sounds of enthusiastic individuals who have gathered for a specific occasion or event.

For example, on a Tuesday evening, when approaching the Student Center Annex, you can hear voices singing and synthesized sounds from a Yamaha organ. When you walk into the chilly room, where thirty or more students are gathered, the coldness is soon transmuted to warmth by the energy flowing from each person. These people make up the New Generations Ministry-young students of today's society congregating together to learn

about God, give praises to Him and thank Him. An individual feels a high spirit being among New Generations in the Multipurpose Room, most of whom are swaying from side to side, clapping their hands, and tapping their feet...and the feeling is quite contagious. Even the most tired person who enters the room can be rejuvenated by the joyful, clean and crisp spirit that fills the room, from wall to wall and corner to corner. But of course, praising Him is not the only thing that occurs in the room. There are a myriad of other programs and lectures that commence inside the walls of the Multipurpose Room.

"We would like to thank you from coming to the first meeting, and now we will begin by each person introducing himself." It's a Thursday evening and groups such as the Society of Afrikan-American Culture (SAAC) meet in the dimly lit Multipurpose Room. There are only a few people, but the are enough minds to get things started. The students separate themselves into group to discuss organizational plans for the fall

More Multipurpose, page 5

Summer ends with Reggae Fest

By Olanda Carr
Staff writer

In 1990, when Janet Jackson produced her idea of a "Rhythm Nation" - a nation united through various forms of music and dance that rises above social prejudices- critics laughed. They billed Jackson as an idealistic, overly optimistic performer who was too naive to see the true social problems of America. If these same critics, however, had witnessed the crowd of people of different races, beliefs and cultures that came together last Sunday for the love of reggae music, their views may have changed. The event was Summer's End Reggae Fest at Harris Field, sponsored by the Union Activities Board's Entertainment Committee and Black Students Board.

The show started at 2:00pm and ended when people decided to go home (though slated to end at 6pm, it lasted until well after 7). Three live bands were featured, they were:

Kindred Soul, The Amateurs and Awareness Art Ensemble. The first of the bands to perform was The Amateurs, who managed to liven up the event with up tempo tunes of soulful beats and intricate lyrics. Kindred Soul was next. They offered variations from other reggae groups by featuring an alto saxophonist. They managed to combine jazz and reggae with a touch of house beats for the ultimate sound. The final band was Awareness Art Ensemble. Their unique sound was more audience-oriented and managed to get many people up and moving.

Aside from the bands, Reggae Fest offered many other attractions. Among these were vendors, who sold items such as hand-made jewelry and shoes, Afrikan clothing and accessories and Afrikan t-shirts (which bore the names and faces of different Afrikan-American leaders). There was also an unlimited supply of ice-cold soft drinks, which were provided free by the show's sponsors.

Perhaps the most

interesting attraction at the Fest was the people attending it, who were of all ages, races, sizes and shapes. On-lookers came equipped with blankets and dancing shoes and had an excellent time. Some of the most noticeable people were those who balanced "devil sticks" (as called in Afrika, or "key sticks," as called in China). These people attracted many others who desired to learn the art, as well as those who were just curious. The art, which consists of balancing and maneuvering a baton-like stick with two smaller, slimmer sticks, requires a lot of practice. Other attendants performed expressive dances with the bands. These dances ranged from the "butterfly" to the Shabba Ranks Style" moves.

It can be said safely that most of the people had a great time at Summer's End Reggae Fest. It was a very appropriate way to end the summer - with good folks, good fun and good music.

Chillin' at the Fest



Andrei George/Staff

A vendor takes time off to enjoy the show

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Multipurpose con't.

semester. Everyone is relaxed, so expressing ideas for fundraisers and other numerous activities comes as naturally as talking. The power of the minds of these dedicated individuals fills the room and sets it aglow. The meeting is soon adjourned and the students fellowship their way out of the room.

However, after a week of lectures, programs, and various other mind-broadening activities, the weekend arrives and the role of the Multipurpose room expands into yet another dimension. "Is NC State in the house?!? Is Shaw U and St. Aug in the house?!? (NOT!)" Yes, yes, on a Friday or Saturday night, everyone shows up for a jam, and the Multipurpose room is packed for a party. There are throngs of people at the engagement, but because of the few flashing lights from the DJ booth, you can't tell friends from strangers in the darkness. Before entering the room, people pay their money, get stamped, and a young man scans people for weapons.

Once inside the hot and muggy room, the whole place

appears to be swaying from the crowd jamming on the dance floor. Ladies are dressed in attire from clogs (with phat 2-inch heels) and bellbottoms to daisy dukes. The music is so loud, you can feel the vibrations in your chest from the bass of the sound system. The air is enhanced with the smell of cologne and perfume, tinted with perspiration. Every once in a while, the crowd is entertained (and sometimes annoyed) by the stepping of the various fraternities and sororities. Soon, the DJ announces that the next song played will be the last, the lights go on, and people begin to make their exit from the Multipurpose Room.

People do not know about all of the events that place in the Multipurpose room of the Student Center Annex, but at least now, one has an idea of what goes on within those walls. The Multipurpose Room truly lives up to its name because it is a place where students can come together to have a great time, socialize, and become more knowledgeable about themselves. But for now, this is only the beginning.

Bald by nature...Not by choice

By Lathan Turner

Guest Columnist

Fall semester is off to a good start at NCSU, enrollment is up (and so is tuition), the freshmen are getting acclimated to the campus environment, professors are beginning to administer exams, seniors preparing for graduation and, as usual, students are "communicating" and admiring the latest trends in fashion and style. Hence, what's up with the brothers that have chosen to visit the local barber shop and request that all their hair be cut off?! I learned a lesson early in life that if you have a question about something, ask it and it shall be answered. Well, I asked some of the brothers on campus why they have "chosen" to wear the bald look when nature has not deemed it a necessary move.

When I spoke with Jason Stewart on his choice and whether this was some type of position he was taking on an issue (as has been rumored), he stated that "some people may think that the look is intimidating, but this was personal decision and not some sort of political statement. The style is in, it's easy to take care of and besides - I like it." Stewart is comfortable with his decision and besides, who is he harming by cutting off his hair? The rumor around campus is that this is a political statement, but no one seems to know exactly what the statement is. I doubt that a brother would spend hard-earned dollars on a haircut to make a political statement, knowing there are other avenues to express such sentiments.

Regarding his decision to sport a bald head, Jason

Cooper stated "for me, it was a personal reason, a new look. The first time I got a bald head, it was from a dare from a friend. After that, it just caught on." Cooper added that "another reason [I kept it] was that I received a lot of compliments. This is a new look, I like it, and that's all."

One may argue that this is not necessarily a new look if you are a fan of some of the big names that have bald heads. Nevertheless, we know that our history is rich in tradition and it can be noted that many of our ancestors chose this look as a symbol of strength and power. Thus, it can be stated that this trend is yet another that is making a "comeback" along the cycle of life. It is this "comeback" concept that Quinzel MacMillian's comment reflects. MacMillian proudly stated that "I cut my hair off so that I can grow an afro!" But why? I didn't think this generation wanted to identify with the "old school" styles of the 60's and 70's. Remember looking at pictures of relatives from back in the day who had an enormous amount of hair? It brings about quite a few grins, doesn't it? So, what does this mean? Again, it in all likelihood doesn't mean anything other than a personal choice that MacMillian and others have made about how they want to wear their hair. As I am sure you have noticed, the resurgence of the afro is as popular as the bald look on college campuses and in communities today.

This style not only has undergraduate participants, it is popular among graduate students as well. I spoke with Oswald Woode, a grad student from Sierra Leone, and he said that "I have chosen the bald look,

first and foremost, to have a different look. Secondly, to see what my scalp looks like. Thirdly, the fall season is the most convenient time to wear the bald look."

It was in further conversation with Woode that I began to conceptualize the concept for this article. Since I am among those who have been "chosen" by nature to be bald, I found it very intriguing that many brothers were actually wearing this style voluntarily. There are many alternatives to natural balding, including all the "cosmetic enhancements," but accepting it is made easier when admirers say that the look is "becoming." Of course a brother will go through that period of time when he will look back at those pictures I mentioned before - when nature allowed him to have lots of hair- and wonder what happened.

Are some of us destined to be bald? Some people say "just look at the hair pattern of your mother's grandfather and that will give you an indication of what expect." Well, I took that look. And in my case, they were right! But, I am not one to complain.

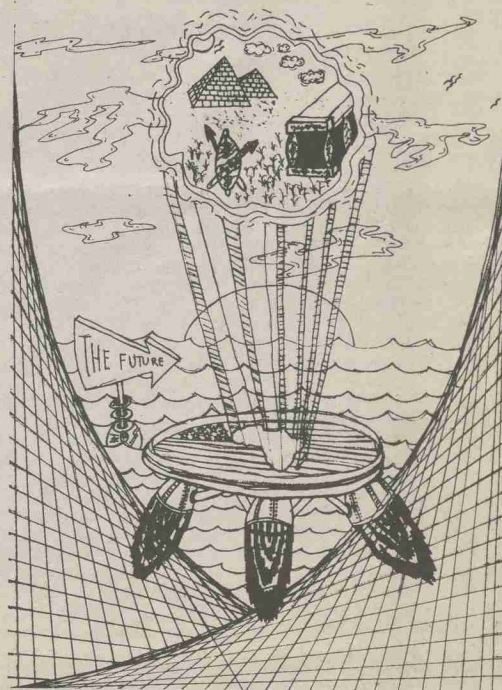
As indicated from the various response to my earlier question, the bald style is chosen for a variety of reasons; but most importantly, it is one of personal choice. It's inexpensive to maintain, you don't have to worry about combing or brushing, it is not harmful to the masses and it will not retain sweat - what more can one ask for!

Lathan Turner is the President of the Association for the Concerns of African-American Graduate Students

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Do you draw or sketch?
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Four Reasons for Using K in Afrika

- Most vernacular or traditional languages on the continent spell Afrika with a K; therefore the use of K is germane to us.
- Europeans, particularly the Portuguese and British, polluted our languages by substituting C whenever they saw K or heard the K sound—as in Kongo and Congo, Akkra and Accra, Konakri and Conakry—and by substituting Q wherever they saw KW. No European language outside of Dutch and German have the hard C sound. Thus we see the Dutch in Azania calling and spelling themselves Afrikaaners. We are not certain of the origin of the name Afrika, but we are sure the name spelled with the C came into use when Afrikans were dispersed over the world. Therefore the K symbolizes our coming back together again.
- The K symbolizes us to a kind of Lingua Afrikana, coming into use along with such words and phrases as Habari Gani, Osagyfo, Uhuru, Asante, together constituting one political language, although coming from more than one Afrikan language.
- As long as Afrikan languages are translated (written) into English, etc., the European alphabet will be used. This is the problem. The letter K as with the letter C, is part of that alphabet, and at some point must be totally discontinued and the original name of Afrika be used. The fact that Boers (peasants) in Azania also use the K, as in Afrikaan (to represent the hard C sound) demonstrates one of the confinements of the alphabet.

Source: From Plan to Planet by Haki R. Madhubuti, February 1992. Reprinted with the author's permission.

Ms. Africana

From dawn to dusk,
 I look.
 During your uprising and downfall,
 I watch.
 When you cry and laugh,
 I listen.
 When you need a shoulder,
 I hug.
 If you're are mad,
 I might run.
 If you leave,
 you are missed.
 Life and history have dealt
 thier harsh blows, and yet still,
 you stand.
 You are my mother, my sister, my wife,
 the cole of my life and my existance.
 You see my Nubian Queen, I will never understand you.
 But one usually never understand miracles.
 So when you work,
 I support.
 When you achieve,
 I celebrate.
 If you wish,
 I make love.
 If you live,
 I learn.
 When you die,
 I still learn.

-contributed by Jermaine Haleen Johnson

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

N.C. State's Afrikan-American Newspaper

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