

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

North Carolina State University's

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Afrikan-American Newspaper

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Established in 1992

Film probes color question

By Na'im Ambakisye
Entertainment Editor

"Light Bright."
"Cream Colored."
"Red Bone."
"Skillet Blonde."

These are all terms used to describe the different complexions of Afrikan-American people. Over time, these terms have proven to be divisive forces within the our community, as they have projected and reinforced stereotypes of light and dark-skinned Afrikan-Americans, creating separations and hostilities between the two groups.

Last Monday night the Student Center Annex Cinema was filled to capacity as "A Question of Color" was discussed. Bringing forth topics which need to be discussed within our community, director Kathe Sandler, an independent filmmaker from New York, presented an in-depth look at "color consciousness" from the plantation to it's present state.

This documentary is an attempt to "open up the issue" in order for us to make progress towards remedying it. Interviews in the piece show how some brothers and sisters have an anti-Afrikan sentiment rooted in their subconscious. Wiley, one of the people

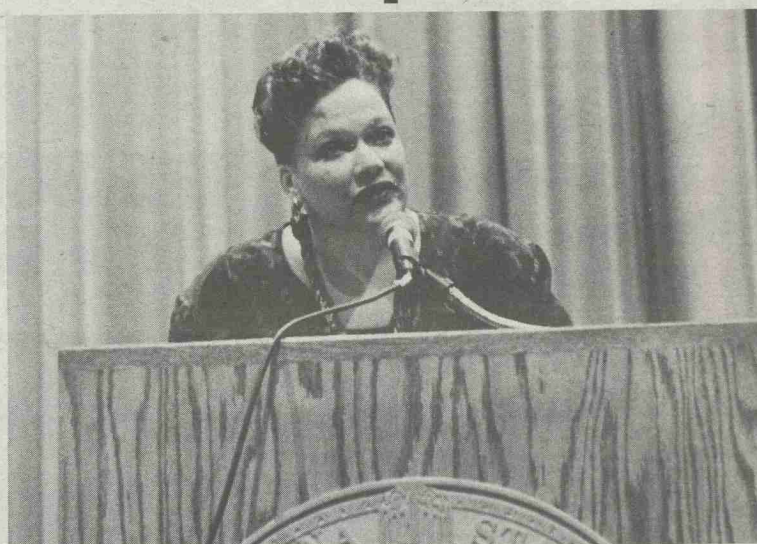
interviewed, stated "This is white man's world and I benefit from being light-skinned... I like light-skinned women with long hair, or white women."

Since the issue of "color consciousness" in general is such a touchy issue, subconscious beliefs, standards, and values (though negative when applied to self) are reinforced by society (mass media) and seldom challenged.

"Problems we have with our color is a result of white people's problem with our color," said Rhonda Baraka in an interview. Some of us have internalized these problems more than others.

Sandler attempts to reveal "the broadest ranges of how this issue affected people" from old to young and dark to light. There was a scene where the camera "looked in" on a family conversing over dinner, where a mother and her two sons discussed their complexions, which were of a richer tone. At one point, the youngest child was asked if he wished he were lighter. He didn't answer. His older brother said "girls like light-skin boys" jokingly, and the child's answer was on his sad, dark-skinned face.

Along with many other myths about Afrika, there is a myth that everyone on continental Afrika is



Jake Huffman/TECHNICIAN

Kathe Sandler discusses her documentary "A Question of Color" before its showing last Monday night in the Student Center annex Cinema.

jet black. In actuality, Afrikans on the continent, as well as in America, are not a universal complexion.

"Everyone is challenged by their complexion," stated Sandler. By interviews, she showed how "less-than-knowledgeable" people assume that all darker skinned people are "Pan-Afrikanists" and lighter-skinned people are "sell-outs."

Knowledge of Afrika, and an Afrikan perspective, is excluded from school curriculums. Myths combined with ignorance is more than enough to make a child of Afrikan descent form a negative sense of self and aspire to be light-skinned.

"A Question of Color" dealt largely with womens' reactions to the color issue. In an answer to a question posed by the audience, she stated this was because "the issue is stronger amongst

women" as they are judged by eurocentric standards of beauty. "A European standard of beauty has been imposed on the world" and in result, "[Afrikan-American] women feel compelled to change how they look."

Like many other elements of "black" culture, white people have defined "black beauty" and it is an assimilation to European standards.

As far as the impact of mass media is concerned, Sandler stated that the television "reflects the racist society that we live in, which affects everyone. We must hold 'black' TV and magazines accountable for enforcing Eurocentric beauty [values, beliefs, etc...]. [We] have to redefine our community in the different areas of entertainment."

Sandler's first film entitled "Remembering Thelma," which depicted the life of the late

dancer, teacher and mentor Thelma Hill, was screened at the 1982 New York Film Festival and won the Best Biography of a Dance Artist Award at the 1982 New York Dance Film and Video Festival in New York City.

"A Question of Color" is a continuation of Sandler's remarkable work and success in documentary films. The film earned her a two-year tenure as a Scholar-in-Residence at The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. The film had its world premiere at the 1993 Panorama Division of the Berlin International Film Festival, opened to rave reviews at New York City's Film Forum and won a Prized Pieces Award for Best Public Affair Documentary.

"A Question of Color" will air nationally on PBS this February 15th at 10pm.

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Mailing Address: Room 372 African-American Cultural Center, Box 7318, NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27695 - 7318
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Cultural Center still lacks librarian

By Christina Verleger
News Editor

When the library in the African-American Cultural Center (AACC) first opened in 1991, it lacked the necessities of a library. At that time, the AACC library had very few books, no one to run or work in the AACC library, and no means by which a person could check-out a book. Now, almost three years later, some improvements have been made. There has been a fairly large increase in the amount of books now held in the AACC library, and there are

now people working in the library.

At this time, there is a graduate student working part-time and six work study students working in the library. Organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the African-American Studies Group volunteer in the AACC library.

Although there are now people working in the AACC library, Dr. M. Iyailu Moses, the Director of the AACC stated, "The part-time graduate student and the six work study students does not cover all the time and there is rarely double coverage... sometimes the library

has to close down in the middle of the day... there are a lot of gaps and inconsistency."

Although there are students working in the AACC library, a full-time librarian is still needed. Dr. Moses said, "A full-time librarian is well needed because there needs to be a person to maintain an overall responsibility for the library, train work-study students, and to order of books."

A full-time librarian is also needed so there will be a person to act as a liaison between D.H. Hill library and AACC library and coordinate programs.

In order for to get a full-time librarian for the AACC library, there has to be money to pay for one. At this time, the AACC does not have money to pay for one in the budget that was allotted. Dr. Augustus Witherspoon said the money for a librarian has to be approved by the Provost and added to the budget for the University, and then be approved by the legislature.

Dr. Witherspoon showed a lot of hope in the possibility of the AACC librarian receiving a full-time librarian by August 1994. He also stated "As programing

increases, we can also get a Program Director, down the road."

Dr. Moses also said, "Most libraries start out as reading rooms. However, progress will be inhibited if we do not have a librarian." Hopefully by August, the AACC library can become a true library where there is a librarian and people can check out books, so the AACC library can continue to be prosperous.

GET UP!!!

**Take Part in the
UMOJA(Unity)
March and Rally
TODAY!!!**

**The March will start
at 4:30pm at the
Design School and
will end at the Multi-
Purpose Room of the
African-American
Cultural Center.
Several People will
be speaking on the
history and purpose
of the Cultural Center
so come out and
show your support
for Afrikan unity and
progress!!!**

READ

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE It's Good For You

Grad student sets examples

By Terri Moore
Staff Writer

Born in Silver Springs, Maryland, 23-year-old Dwight Williams makes for a spectacular African-American student. Dwight came to NCSU in 1988 as an undergraduate student in Nuclear Engineering. In 1992, Dwight began his graduate studies in Nuclear Engineering.

During Dwight's first semester as a graduate student, he was a teaching assistant for Nuclear Engineering 405. He gives complimentary tutoring not only in engineering but also in economics, math, chemistry and english.

Dwight feels that it is only fair to tutor for free because he believes "God blessed me with the knowledge at no cost, so why should I charge others just by sharing it with them?"

Dwight has received scholarships from the Department of Energy, CP&L and Doug Williams. Dwight was a Peer Mentor for four years and a member of NSBE for a year. He is also a member of the American Nuclear Society, New Generation Campus Ministries and Campus

Crusades for Christ. Last year, Dwight was a contestant in the Ebony Man contest and says that he will participate again this year. He also is a member of the United Student Fellowship, which is a campus church. Her serves on the executive board as secretary and is the Sunday School teacher.

Dwight also ran track (decathlon) for four years. He has been involved in track, basketball and swimming intramurals.

Some of Dwight's other interests include speaking, various physical activities, listening, observing and learning about different religions around the world. He is a born-again Christian and has been since his freshman year. He stated, "I live my life as an example to other Christians and to people in general." Dwight says that since he has been living his life for God, he has received focus in his social and academic life.

Next January, Dwight will take the Ph.D. Qualifying Exam. If passed, he will be able to exempt his masters studies and go straight for his Ph.D.

After he completes all of his

studies, Dwight plans to go back to the D.C. area and work for the Department of Energy. He is interested in doing community work around that area also. Dwight feels that, "there are no African-American role models on the local level in which they can interact with schools."

It burdens Dwight to see the oppression of African-Americans, especially the African-American male. The two things that holds the majority of this burden, he feels, is the plight of the African-American male and the plight of the Christian church. He explains that he would like to be involved in the process of bringing esteem back into the African-American male.

Dwight believes that he owes a lot of his success to his mother, Sharon Musa. She has been a school teacher for twenty years. He says that she has been the perfect example to him as to what African-Americans can achieve.

Dwight is truly an achiever. . . he's Who's Who among African-Americans and the best of luck to him in his continuing studies.

Professor discusses strengths of Afrikan-American males

By Sarah Hobbs
Education Editor

Dr. Paul Bitting, an Associate Professor at North Carolina State University, kicked off the first ever "Celebration of the Afrikan-American Male" sponsored by Black Students Board/ Union Activities Board on Monday, November 29th in the African-American Cultural Center's Multipurpose Room. He was introduced by Black Students Board member Tonya Williams.

Dr. Bitting said he was told to give a lecture on the "Strengths of the Black Male." However, he said "Who are the authority or the experts?" He went on to say men

know what it is to be men and women know what it is to relate to men. He threw out more questions of "What is it to be male?" and "What is it to be an Afrikan-American male?" Dr. Bitting said he did not want to give a lecture but to cause a dialogue with the audience to find the "Strengths of the Black Male."

He began the dialogue by saying the concern in the what the strengths are did not deal with masculinity, but of goodness. Bitting noted the concern deals not with what men are, but what they ought to be. He stated that we need to tease out how we see the world, but how it ought to be seen. The ways should be

healthy and not self-destructive.

"The heart has a place and a function. It is uniquely designed to pump blood. Nothing can do what it does. We judge it based on its place, how it is different from the lungs and the stomach. It is judged harshly if it does not work properly and must be fixed." He went on to give another example with the eyes.

More questions came after that. They dealt with developing good people. "What is the function of people? What places us unique? What is our unique station in the scheme of things?" He said human beings are unique because of their intellectual capabilities. People who make good

choices are considered good. Those that make wrong choices over and over are considered bad.

Dr. Bitting made the statement "I was the product of someone who survived slavery and social degradation." There is nothing in the streets that hasn't been faced before. We will survive."

The audience joined in Dr. Bitting's dialogue of defining the strengths. Percell R. Davis stated that "My grandfather said being a man in is being responsible." David Gilliam elaborated by stating "being responsible for actions good or bad." Dr. Bitting then asked the question "Is it unique or anything special about being

responsible as a man?"

Ricky Livingston stated, "The male role is protection and providing." Emmanuel Barnes stated in response to Ricky that "notion is not unique and special to men, we have bought into roles that can really be shared." David then stated "You can't define male or female in a single sentence or role."

Tau Tembo said we need to "go back and redefine ourselves by Ancient values in contemporary times."

The notion of what it is to be a good African-American man is pulled out from the communities view, God's view, and lastly, from one's own view.

Do you have creative talents?
Do you draw or sketch?
Do you write poetry?

Well, if you answered yes to any one the above, then we want your work. The Nubian Message would like freelance contributions to add to the diversity of the publication (and besides, we would love to showcase the talents of fellow Nubians.) Send your appropriate contributions to the Nubian Message or come by the office in Rm. 372 of the Afrikan-American Cultural Center.

All contributions will become property of
The Nubian Message

Showing Appreciation



Andy Tucker/TECHNICIAN--special to The Nubian Message

Dehalyn Black, a member of Delta Sigma Theta, gives bus driver Hilton Morris a cup of orange juice and a doughnut as part of the sorority's appreciation program for Wolfline drivers.

BSB celebrates Afrikan-American male

Black Students Board/Union Activities Board sponsored A Celebration of the African-American Male from November 29th to December 2nd. LaShon Ormond, President of BSB, said the idea came from the general body. Members felt that there was nothing being done about the African-American male. Kim Williams and the Programs Committee put the celebration together.

The first event held on November 29th, in the African-American Cultural Center's Multipurpose Room, was a lecture on the "Strengths of the Black Man." Dr. Paul Bitting, an Associate

Professor at NCSU, led the discussion with the audience.

The following night, Malcolm X, the movie directed by Spike Lee and based on the Autobiography of Malcolm X by Alex Haley was shown. This was one of four films on "Positive Black Men."

Wednesday's event took place in the Bragaw Activities Room at 8pm. The program was on the "African-American Male and Female Relationships From a Man's Point of View."

During the Celebration, four films were shown daily in the Student Center Lobby at 12 pm. The films were chosen because they reflect positive male images.

The films shown depicted the lives of Roots author Alex Haley, civil rights activists Malcom X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American to be a judge on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ormond said the week was very successful. She said that it is important to show the positive aspects of the African-American male because "we always see the negative and we wanted to focus on the positive."

Black coaches want change in NCAA Rules

With the new basketball season upon us, the political activity of many Afrikan-American basketball coaches has been slowed temporarily. Nevertheless, they remain frustrated by what they contend are discriminatory rules in college sports.

Having met with several members of the Congressional Black Caucus to gain support for the rule changes in the NCAA, Afrikan-American coaches continue to raise public awareness about their concerns.

This group, whose membership includes nearly 3,000 male and female basketball coaches at

school and colleges nationwide, believes the NCAA rules and practices limit the participation of Afrikan-American athletes, in college sports, hinder the advancement of coaches and have kept Afrikan-Americans out of leadership roles in the [National Collegiate Athletic] Association.

Black coaches are particularly disconcerted by NCAA rules that have hardened academic standards for freshmen athletes and cut the number of scholarships for men.

"We're interested in our communities and our kids that are in our community," said John

Thompson, men's basketball coach at Georgetown University. "If we are not able to help kids, regardless of whether they are basketball players or not, where does that leave a concerned coach, but more importantly, where does that leave a kid who needs assistance?"

U.S. Representative Kweisi Mfume, a Maryland Democrat who heads the Congressional Black Caucus, said that he understands the problems faced by both Afrikan-American coaches and athletes and he vows to lend a hand.

Rep. Mfume announced that

the caucus would appoint a panel of its members to work with Afrikan-American coaches to develop and refine plans and goals that are related to their problems.

Although political activity is limited at present, Afrikan-American coaches continue to plan and strategize for the confrontations that lie before them.

With some members of the NCAA president's commission sympathizing with the Afrikan-American coaches' frustrations, they dispute the need for reform actions.

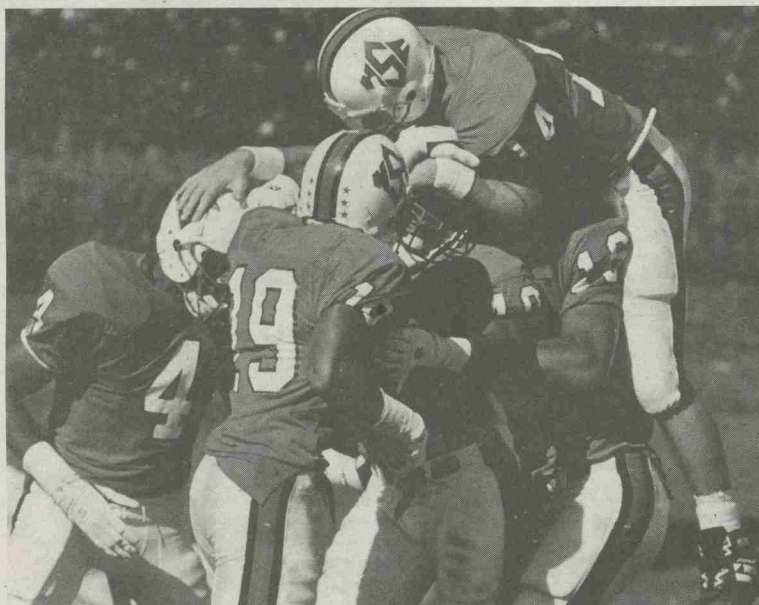
"To increase the number of

scholarships for male athletes, to lower academic standards and to expand coaching staffs does not fit into the environment we have right now in higher education," said Gregory M. St. L. O'Brien, chancellor of the University of New Orleans and head of the NCAA presidents' commission. "We are trying to expand opportunities for women, find a better balance between academic and athletics, and to cut down costs."

The question is, at whose expense?

By Fred Lindsey

(Reprinted from the Final Call, Dec. 1993)



Bonnie Heath/Technician

Wolfpack players celebrate after a touchdown, but will they celebrate on Jan. 1?

Wolfpack vs Wolverines: Match made in heaven?

By Jared Worsely

Staff Writer

As another vigorous season comes to an end on the grid iron, the time comes for several teams to gear up for one last battle—the bowl games. Because of North Carolina State's final overall record in football, they will be participating in the Hall of Fame Bowl on January 1, 1994. The Wolfpack will be squaring off against the Michigan Wolverines in Tampa, Florida at approximately 11:00 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Tackling the Wolverines will be no easy task for the Wolfpack squad, so several different strategies are going to be needed in this game. Freshman tailback, Carlos King summed up one strategy by stating that, "Offense needs to control the ball, defense needs to deny Michigan a score on their first possession and we need to make big plays on special teams." Sophomore, wide receiver Jimmy Grissett uses a strategy for both on and off the field when he says, "We need to work harder to stay in shape over our vacation." Grissett goes on to say that, "... we need to practice with the

game in mind at all times; have fun, but keep in mind what you are there for and what you have to do."

When this question was addressed to some students around campus, there were several important strategies given that could help towards a victory. Senior Bettina Pope suggested that our team should, "... execute on offense, throw the ball more and run the ball less and hopefully cut down on turnovers." Junior Rodney Phillips said that, "We can't let Michigan control the time of possession and try to get the ball to Eddie Goines." Lastly Senior Zee Hudson states that, "The key to our (football team) success against Michigan will be to contain the Tyrone Wheatly and Derrick Alexander connection and do not let Michigan control the line of scrimmage."

Using these strategies, along with the masterful coaching of Mike O' Cain should help the Wolfpack along greatly against such a tough opponent. Hopefully, giving them the proper weapons to use in order to defeat the Wolverines. Good luck to the Wolfpack and have a safe and prosperous holiday.

Did You Know?

By Jay Cornish

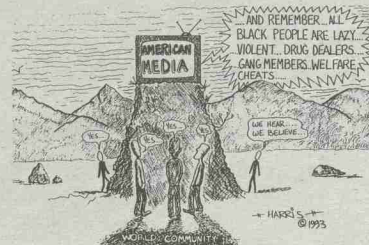
Assistant Editor

Did you know that former track star/entertainment mega-star Bill Cosby canceled an attempt to buy the NBC television network from its parent-owner, General Electric Co.? He recently appeared on Arsenio Hall Show and stated that that he was only a quarter of a billion dollars (\$250,000,000) short of his goal

to raise the \$4 billion required to buy the network. Bill told Arsenio, "While I did have the interest, at the present time it's over. However, I will continue to support and fund the Penn Relays, if they will still run in them."

Bill is on the right track because we need some major Afrikan-America influence over the media in the country. So, instead of just portraying Afrikan-Americans as low-lives or sellouts

(i.e. lawyer-but living with with white girl Blair Underwood or comedians (cause we all know life ain't that funny anymore), we could get some true representation—a little less laughter with a lot more life. My question is, why won't any other multi-millionaire Afrikan-Americans (or prominent ones for that matter) support and represent the cause? It's something to think about...



Afrikan-American groups celebrate Kwanzaa

By Sarah Hobbs
Education Editor

Kwanzaa Week began last Monday with an event in the African-American Cultural Center's Multi-purpose room. The program was on self-determination (Kujichagulia) and collective work and responsibility (Ujima), Alpha Phi Alpha and the African-American Heritage Society sponsored the event.

Self-determination and collective work and responsibility were the first two principles of the seven involved in Kwanzaa to be talked on. Shelton Ford gave the definition of collective work and responsibility as "to build and maintain community together. It is to make our brother and sister problems our problems and work to solve them together." He then asked the audience for their ideas of what it meant. LaShon Ormond, the President of Black Students Board said it meant to her "students in the North Carolina State community and other college communities giving back to the community." Mr. Ford then lit the first candle.

Shanda Bragg, secretary of the African-American Heritage

Society, gave the meaning of Kujichagulia (self-determination). She stated "the purpose of the principle self-determination is to define ourselves, name ourselves, and speak for ourselves instead of being defined, named, created for, and spoken for by others." She then lit the second candle.

Tony Williamson, Editor-in-Chief of "The Nubian Message," spoke on how his organization represents the two principles. He stated that "The Nubian Message came out...to counter-act negative images of Afrikan-Americans portrayed in the media."

Tony stated that the principle of collective work and responsibility is shown through the newspaper's staff working together. He also stated that the paper "gives other Afrikan-American organizations a voice that they would not have otherwise."

As for the principle of self-determination, he said "The Nubian Message was created by, for, and about us." He went on to say Kwanzaa is an example of the power we have as a people when we come together. Tony ended by saying "self-knowledge leads to self-empowerment,

which leads to self-determination."

Dawn Eaton, representing the Student Mentor Association, spoke about her organization. She explained that the Student Mentor Association is an auxiliary of the Peer Mentor Program. It was started twelve years ago to provide support for incoming Afrikan-American students.

She stated that a good mentor "must be self-determined, confident in one's own ability, and have a positive outlook on life. As examples mentors help shape the lives of Afrikan-American brothers and sisters. The organization can not function with one person. It takes the support of all."

Carlton D. White from the African-American Student Advisory Council read from KWANZAA: EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO ASK By Cedric McClester. His reading gave insight on the Afrikan-American holiday.

Derigus R. Underwood, President of the African-American Heritage Society, said his organization is an umbrella one. It encompasses five circles. Through each circle, students can

learn about themselves and learn self-expression.

Cornell Rogers, Vice-President of Society of African-American Culture, stated his organization supports the principle of collective work and responsibility by being a place where students can come out and voice their opinions. The organization also helps to keep students updated on what's going on.

The last speaker was Christian Hall. He gave a speech titled RECLAIMING THE COMMUNI-

TY: THE AWAKENING OF A SLEEPING GIANT. He stated that we have to stop living by the philosophy, "I've got to get mine, you've got to get yours." Christian said we must take responsibility for our own present situation. He used a quote from Bob Marley that stated we need to "free ourselves from mental slavery, no one can free our minds but ourselves." He ended his speech with the statement "we have power, if we don't use it we will lose it. We must 'reawaken the

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE BIRTHDAYS!!!

Tony Williamson
Editor-in-Chief
December 16th

Sarah Hobbs
Education Editor
December 27th

Kwanzaa speakers talk business

By Jay Cornish
Assistant Editor

Ujamaa - cooperative economics; Black dollars for Black business for Black consumers for Black advancement.

Nia - purpose; having the drive to accomplish and give back, not only for oneself, but for the community as a whole.

These two principles of the Nguzo Saba were the keynotes of speakers at Tuesday evening's Kwanzaa event, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Society of African-American Culture (SAAC).

Beginning at 7PM in front of an audience of about 40 people (only 6 brothers - what up with that?!), two local business owners and a recent NCSU graduate shed new light on the meaning of cooperative economics and purpose.

The first speaker for the night was Ms. Maxine Matier, owner of Balloons Flowers & Gifts on Hillsborough Street. She spoke of how her experiences in the

corporate world were hectic, very political, frustrating, and unfriendly, even for a woman with a B.A. in Business Administration from ECU, 61/2 years experience as a retail director for K-Mart and 41/2 years as an internal auditor for Carolina Power and Light.

She stated that after being out of work for 4 or 5 months and not finding a job that suited her and let her grow, she decided to start her own. Ms. Matier stated that, "I decided to do something that I was good at, something that I like to do..." and she did just that by helping to start Balloons, Flowers & Gifts. She said that she researched in different areas for success, including books and magazines and she listened to personal tips. She said she didn't get discouraged when people doubted or discouraged her, or when things got rough.

Ms. Matier said that hard work pays off big, because she started from a stall at a flea market and kept at it until she now has her own shop. "I sometimes work 60 hour weeks, and it gets tough," she stated, "but I have a supportive husband and we both get

through it."

She said that the main thing was to have the motivation to follow your dreams, and not to get comfortable when things are good, but instead, keep striving for bigger and better.

The second speaker for the night was the owner of Sealovers Seafood in Mission Valley, Tim Hankins and he too, spoke of motivation for better. He told the audience that he was the 7th of 14 children, with his mother raising them herself after his father died, and he saw his older brothers working hard, but for not for themselves. Hankins stated, "I didn't want to be like that, working for someone else."

The 26 year old entrepreneur said that at the age of 20, he had his wake-up call when his son was born. He said that at first, he was working for a former football coach and he was making decent money. [But] he also stated that \$500 a week wasn't good enough — it wasn't right making money for the other man. So he started saving his money and got

see Ujamaa, next page

Remaining KWANZAA WEEK Activities

Thursday, December 9

4:30 pm: UMOJA (Unity) March and Rally. The march will begin at the Design School and end at the African-American Cultural Center.
Sponsors: AASAC and SAAC

7:00pm: Poetry Readings
Sponsors: ACAAGS and Phi Beta Sigma

Friday, December 10

4:30pm: Seven Principles Lecture.
5:30pm: KWANZAA Feast
Sponsors: The Peer Mentor Program and Student Mentor Association

Kwanzaa program focuses on creativity and faith

By Rene Scott
Who's Who Editor

With an opening spiritual selection, "We've Come This Far By Faith," describing the theme of the evening's program, "Imani (Faith) and Kuumba (Creativity)," the night was set off. In continuous festive celebration of Kwanzaa, last night's program was no different.

With an audience anticipating the knowledge of speakers Brenda Moore and Tony Williamson, Nubian minds were filled to capacity with cultural and

spiritual uplifting.

Bobby Johnson, master of ceremony, first introduced Mrs. Brenda Moore. Moore is the Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid here at N.C. State. Moore approached the theme with spiritual innuendoes of keeping faith. Her powerful belief in God and her Afrikan decent added to the true sense of the celebration. Ms. Moore stated, "Why not make a big to do about the King of Kings as we do the Kings of Afrika. . . While speaking on her mutual love for everyone and unified theme of sisterhood and

brotherhood, Moore goes further to state that ". . . we are all children of God." Like other visible Afrikan-American mentors in the university community, Moore concludes with their idea of instilling knowledge of self into younger generations. Referring to a Tony Brown statistic that Afrikan-Americans are ". . . the most educated group of people in the world, be proud."

Following her knowledge was a presentation by Tony Williamson, Editor-in-Chief of "The Nubian Message." Williamson promoted the theme that Afrika is not the

dark continent in which it has been made to be by Western civilization. He supported this with several ideas of the Afrikans being the first in many modern fields such as astrology, medicine and architecture. With slides representing the creative heritage of the Afrikan people, Williamson aided to dispelling the distortion of the culture. As a whole, Williamson summed the Afrikan people up to be a very creative society in all aspects of their lives.

Various Afrikan artworks were displayed and another musical selection ended the event, enti-

led "Everything You Touch," performed by Casey Sessoms and Shelton Ford. DeMisha George also added to the conclusion of the program with her poem, "I Never Thought I'd Find You." The poem proved to be an appropriate ending for most of the thirsting minds who continue to strive and find heritage and knowledge.

The week will continue with other Kwanzaa celebrations which will end Friday, December 10. All events will take place in the African-American Cultural Center.

Corrections

---Terri Moore was incorrectly given credit for writing last issue's article entitled "Dr. Clark Speaks Wise Words." The article actually was written by Arnold Murray.

---Several of the facts attributed to Dr. Clark in that same article were incorrect. We apologize to Dr. Clark for these errors.

Kwanzaa principles are guidelines for life

By Nicole White
Reflections Editor

Its that time of the year again. You know what time I'm talking about. Its the time for that fat white man and his enslaved reindeer to leap from rooftop to rooftop spreading cheer.

Its the time for overcrowded shopping malls, overpriced trinkets and underpaid holiday workers.

Most importantly, it is the time for radio disc jockeys to get permission to play the Temptation's "Silent Night" until blood slowly trickles from the ears. How's that for Ho! Ho! Ho! in your stocking?

But if you find yourself saying "ENOUGH" and need something more meaningful than the typical commercialized Christmas, or if you like Christmas just the way it is but you still yearn for something a little deeper, then I suggest you follow in the footsteps of millions of Afrikan-Americans and discover Kwanzaa.

It easy to find someone who has heard about Kwanzaa but is not quite sure what it really is about. Kwanzaa is a word taken from the Kiswahili (Swahili) language and its meaning is "the first" or "the first fruits of the harvest".

Kwanzaa is observed

December 26 through January 1st.

In 1966, Dr. Maulana Karenga created this holiday for Afrikan-Americans as a way for us to explore our cultural roots and express ourselves with our own holiday.

Kwanzaa is a non-religious and no-political holiday. Its purpose is to pay tribute to the ancestors. Therefore, you can practice Kwanzaa without infringing on any prior beliefs.

Kwanzaa is based on Nguza Saba, or seven principles. These principles can be used as guides for daily life. They are as follows:

Umoja (U-Mo-ja) -Unity
Kujichagulia (Ku-ji-cha-gu-lia) - Self Determination
Ujima (U-ji-ma)-Collective work and responsibility
Ujamaa(U-ja-ma)- Cooperative economics

Nia - Purpose
Kuumba (Ku-um-ba)- Creativity
Imani (I-ma-ni)- Faith

Along with these seven principles, there are seven symbols that are used in the ceremony. Mazo, fruit and vegetables; Mkeka, place mat; Kinara, the candle holder; Vibunzi, ears of corn reflective of the number of children in the home; Zawadi, gifts; Kikombe Cha Umoja, communal unity cup; and Mishumaa Saba, the seven candles.

Okay, so now that you know

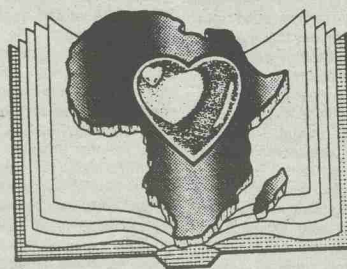
the history and the materials needed, you are almost ready to go. It is important to keep in mind that Kwanzaa can be celebrated in different ways. What I present is an edited version that is subject to all sorts of variations.

You take your place mat which is usually made of straw and assemble the rest of the symbols on a table. The candles should be placed in this order. Three green candles should be placed on the left and three red candles on the right. A black candle is in the middle and is the first one lit.

Each day a candle is lit alternatively left to right and the principle of that day is recited and talked about. When the communal cup is passed around and the libation is given depends on whomever is celebrating.

Gift-giving is not essential and Dr. Karenga kept that in mind when he developed the holiday. However, if you want to exchange gifts they should be handmade, or something inexpensive and useful, like a book.

If you really want to go all out with Kwanzaa, I suggest you research the holiday in any Afrikan-American bookstore. Forget D.H. Hill. Pleasant Kwanzaa.



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POWER!!!**

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

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December 9, 1993

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

Reflections Talking Business

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As a public service announcement (and just so you'd know,) here is the local Kwanzaa events going on in the Raleigh-Durham area.

Raleigh-Durham Leadership Summit

Regional Kwanzaa Calendar

Pre-Kwanzaa Celebrations (From Miseducation to Education)

Thursday December 9, 1993

Umoja (Unity) March & Rally (Begins in Front of Design School) — 4:30PM
Sponsored by AASAC/SAAC

Poetry Readings — 7:30PM

Sponsored by ACAAGS/Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
NCSU African-American Cultural Center

Friday December 10, 1993

Seven Principles Lecture (Annex Cinema) — 4:30PM

Kwanzaa Feast — 5:30PM

NCSU African-American Cultural Center

Sponsored by Peer Mentor Assoc./Student Mentor Assoc.

African-American Student Affairs (515-3835) — 4-7PM

NCSU African-American Cultural Center

Kwanzaa Celebrations (Activation of Nguzo Saba)

Sunday December 26, 1993, 2-6PM

UMOJA Group

Hayti Heritage Center (683-1709)

Monday December 27, 1993, 12-4PM

Coalition for African-American Development/Assoc. of Black Psychologists
Crosslink School (834-1025)

Tuesday December 28, 1993, 5-8PM

Elks, South Central Raleigh Residents Assoc./Raleigh Men's Council
Davie Street Elks Lodge (833-1142/546-0677)

Wednesday December 29, 1993, 5-9PM

Black Women's Investment Corporation, Raleigh Men's Council
Roberts Community Center (832-6830)

Thursday December 30, 1993, TBA

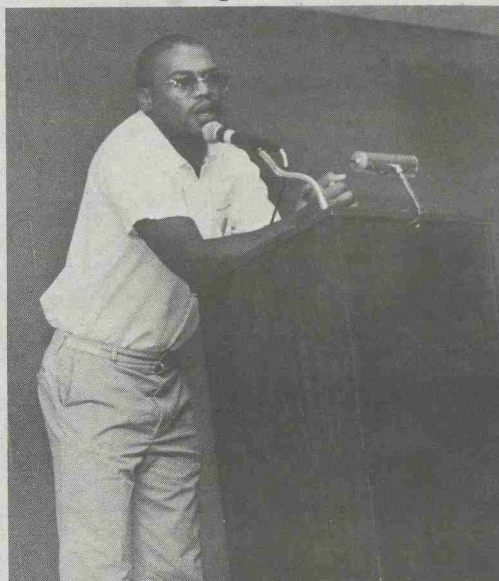
Friends Against the Spread of Drugs & AIDS
Going Places (832-1400/856-5978)

Friday December 31, 1993, 12-3PM

Travellettes Social Club/ NCSU AACC Community Gallery Comm.
NCSU African-American Cultural Center

Saturday January 1, 1994, 3-PM

Raleigh-Durham Leadership Summit
TBA (833-1142/990-1499)



Liz Mahncke/TECHNICIAN

Tim Hankins, owner and operator of Sea Lovers Restaurant, spoke about economics at Tuesday night's Kwanzaa program

Ujamaa.

focused. Then he struck out on his own.

Hankins said that he knew the business well, but he was still learning and was intent on making it work.

Hankins said that his main motivation for going into business was, "...so that I could be there for my son, so I could go to his little league games and be there for him." And for that, he dedicated himself to 2 years of hard work. He believes that hard work pays off, and for him, it is still paying off.

He stated that he believes African-Americans are the hardest working and one of the smartest races, but it is up to us to shape our future. He said that we shouldn't wait or depend on anybody to do things for us, because it might never get done.

The last, and certainly the most personable speaker, was NCSU's own Thabiti Anyabwile, 1992 graduate and former president of SAAC. And yo, the brother got deep.

He told the audience that the traditional eurocentric philosophy of "I think, therefore I am" is incomplete. He explained that in European philosophy, the individual is paramount, however, in African philosophy, the community is of the utmost importance. Thabiti used the African proverb "I am, so then we are; we are so then I am" to illustrate this.

He told the crowd that degrees

are not enough, that to have a career, make a good living and retire is not enough. Anyabwile stated that we must use those skills and that knowledge that we have learned and use it to feed our community so it will grow strong.

Thabiti said that without Black business, we will surely perish (and die a slow and painful death at that.) He said the we need to improve, innovate and create [Black business.]

Then, in between calling people out for walking in late (including some Deltas), he spoke of his experience running a book store in the Electric Company Mall and equated it to all potential African-American entrepreneurs. Anyabwile said in order to produce a successful business, you need to have a plan and you need to have money — you need to have a purpose.

Then he stated, "Many [African-American] people don't think, they just think they think. And most of them don't know that they think that they just think."

Thabiti said that you can't think without experience, and if you can't think, then you can't participate fully (in the community.)

"If you are not a part, then you are a detriment," he added.

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cation.**

**You'll be glad you did.
(And so will we)**

The Nubian Message Staff would like to wish all of you a
safe and Happy Kwanzaa/Holiday season.
Check y'all out next year. C-YA.