

# The NUBIAN MESSAGE

March 23, 2000  
Volume 7, Edition 16

Knowledge



What's Goin' On?

## Pan Afrikan Festival 2000

This year's Pan Afrikan Festival will be hosting its events starting Saturday, April 1, 2000 and going until Saturday 8, 2000. For any information, please call (919) 515-5919.

## Hampton University Summer Program

The Physics Department of Hampton University will be accepting application for its Undergraduate Institute in Physics. This 8 week program will run from June 5 - July 28. College students who are expected will be receiving a 2400 stipend, housing, some meal support, and limited travel reimbursement. For more information contact Dr. Claudia Rankins @ (757) 727-5864 or e-mail @ claudia.rankins@hamptonu.edu

## "We Got the Funk"

East Carolina University will be hosting the "We Got the Funk" program featuring George Clinton and the Parliament on Sunday April 2, 2000 @ 8pm. Admission is \$20 General Public, 25 @ at the door. ECU students \$15. For more information call 1-800-ECU ARTS

## Ebony Harlem Awards of Excellence

The Ebony Harlem Awards of Excellence will be presented this year in conjunction with the Society of Afrikan American Culture, and the Afrikan American Cultural Center. The awards are designed to recognize Afrikan American students at N.C. State in the campus involvements in fields ranging from: Leadership, Scholarships, Service and etc. The selection process will be through nominations from students, peers, faculty and staff. Please submit all names to Kimberly McNair @ klmcnair@eos.ncsu.edu

The Afrikan American Voice of North Carolina State University

## Pan Afrikan looks to Set it off

By Landra Cunningham  
Staff Writer

The Black Student's Board, a division of the Union Activities Board, will be hosting its annual Pan Afrikan Festival from Saturday, April 1 until Saturday, April 8. Created in 1972 by Mr. Larry Cambell, assistant director of the University Student Center, the original Festival's intent was to celebrate the African American presence on campus.

A new version of the Pan Afrikan Festival was formulated in 1999 which not only celebrates the influence of black's on campus, but also serves to foster campus unity and acknowledge the wealth of talent to be found at N.C. State. All N.C. State students, alumni, and individuals from the surrounding communities are all encouraged to take part in this

weeklong celebration of the African-American experience.

The Pan-Afrikan Festival promises a great diversity of events throughout the week. On Thursday, April 6 there will be a Block Party at Talley Student Center Plaza from 4-7 p.m. At 8 p.m. that same night, there will be a Dance Visions Performance at Stewart Theatre. Steppoff2000 begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday night (April 7) in Stewart Theatre, followed by the After-Party in the Talley Student Center Ballroom from 10:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m. Live entertainment, food, vendors, and more will be available on Harris Field on Saturday, April 8 from 11:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. The Comedy Showcase features comedians Mike Yard, Marquez the Greatest, and Shang in Stewart Theatre from 8:00-10:00 p.m. The festival finale will be the Pre-Drawn party in the Talley Student



Scene from a Pan Afrikan parade from the early 90's.

Center from 11:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m.

All tickets for events are available at NCSU Ticket Central (919) 515-

1100. For additional information on these events, visit the Black Students Board's website at [www2.ncsu.edu/uab/bsb/](http://www2.ncsu.edu/uab/bsb/).

## News and Observer hires first Black Publisher

By Landra Cunningham  
Staff Writer

"I have a passion for this business. It has never been a job for me because there is something new everyday," Orage Quarles, publisher of the News and Observer commented. This was duly spoken for a man who had just attended a lecture given by Stedman Graham on diversity and leadership followed by a ceremony that announced Carol Allen the new publisher at the Cary office.

In January, Mr. Orage Quarles III became the first African-American publisher of the News and Observer. What worked best for him in achieving what he wanted? A plan. "Things happen when one is able to plan and be goal-oriented," he asserted. "You have to be your best at whatever you do so there's no doubt in your ability."

There is no doubt that he is at his best. Mr. Quarles, the California native who initially wanted to be a police officer, was publisher for the Gannett newspaper chain for twenty-four years. Why didn't he become a police officer? "I asked too many questions," he admitted. Apparently, inquisitiveness is an essential characteristic for publishers because in 1990 he was named publisher of the year for his work at the Fort Collins Coloradoan. Mr. Quarles spent the last three years as publisher of The Modesto Bee. Prior to that, he was

publisher of The Herald in Rock Hill, South Carolina. He is currently secretary of the Newspaper Association of America and serves on the board of directors. He is also on the board of The Associated Press. In 2001, he will become chairman of the Newspaper Association of America.

Mr. Quarles has plenty of experience in his field and knows what it takes to make it in the workforce. "It's important for young people to understand that there are no shortcuts. You have to work hard and get hands-on experience," Mr. Quarles emphasized. "Be flexible; get out of your comfort zone and do what you've never done before if you want to achieve new things."

Mr. Quarles is prepared to try new things. However, he believes his first priority is listening. He wants to increase circulation of the newspaper. "One of the biggest challenges in the industry is making newspapers relevant to their communities," he said. "In order to achieve this, we have to listen and talk. We need to find out what we're doing right and what we're doing wrong. We need to find out what the people like and what they don't like. We also have to remind people of what's in the paper. Sometimes people need to be reminded of what the paper has to offer."

Sometimes new things are good, and sometimes things are meant to

stay the same. The media is changing so quickly that many wonder what will happen to print media. Mr. Quarles is confident, however, that newspapers will never leave: "Newspapers are the link to the world for some people. America would not be America without the newspaper. It is our evidence of 'freedom of the press.' It's important to us. News isn't always good news, but we have to give the facts." He believes that the design and style of newspapers may

change, but because the news on the Internet originates in newspapers, they will never become obsolete.

Passion for print media and flexibility have brought Mr. Orage Quarles to the South once again to enjoy the southern hospitality that he said he looked forward to returning to. "North Carolina embraces diversity more so than some areas of the South," he said. "The environment is exciting; the area has a great history and a wonderful future."



The audience looks on as John Hope Franklin spoke at the 2nd Annual Park Symposium. Dr. Franklin talked about the 1921 Tulsa Race Riots from firsthand experience. He was only six, but had vivid recollections as to the destruction and massacre that occurred. Also on hand were Oklahoma State Senator Don Ross, who has worked tirelessly to bring to light the events of the Tulsa Race Riots.

What is P.B.A.? If you don't know, you better find out on page 4!!



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The Afrikan American Voice of North Carolina State University

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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.



With only the permission of our ancestors and our elders do we proudly print this and all editions of The Nubian Message. Always keeping in mind and spirit:

Dr. Yosef ben-Yochannan, Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Dr. Leonard Jefferies, The Black Panther Party, Mumia A. Jamal, Geronimo Pratt, Tony Williamson, Dr. Lawrence Clark, Dr. Augustus McIver Witherspoon, Dr. Wandra P. Hill, Mr. Kyran Anderson, "Dr" Hughes Suffren, Dr. Lathan Turner, Dr. M. Iyailu Moses and all those who walk by our side as we continue to make our journey to true consciousness.



March 23, 2000

# SPORTS

## The Greatest Baseball First

By Keesha Dover  
Sports Editor

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee..." This is only one of the many quotes spoken by the legendary boxer, Muhammad Ali. In a prejudice world of sports, during a time period when not many Afrikan Americans prevailed and were not recognized when they did, Ali overcame all adversity and finished at the top.

On January 17, 1942, Ali was born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky where he started boxing at the age of twelve after the theft of his brand new bike. As an amateur, he won the National AAU and Golden Gloves Championships. He turned pro in 1960, at the age of 18. In 1964, just four years after he went professional, he defeated Sonny Liston and shocked the

world. Soon after this victory, he announced that he was converting to the Islam religion and changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

In 1967, Ali refused induction into the U.S. Armed Forces during Vietnam and was stripped of his title and lost the privilege to practice boxing. His privileges were eventually restored after taking his case to the United States Supreme Court.

Ali came back to fighting in 1970 to compete in what was known as the biggest fight of the century. Both he and Joe Frazier were undefeated at the time. Joe Frazier had claimed the title while Ali was unable to fight. Ali lost and Frazier held on to the title. Ali was granted an opportunity to face Frazier again in 1973 and was successful. They were to fight again in 1974. The fight lasted 12

rounds and it was determined that Ali was victorious and gained the opportunity to battle George Foreman for the heavy-weight title. Ali knocked out undefeated George Foreman in the eighth round to claim the heavyweight title for a second time. The fight was the first to be held on the continent of Afrika. He lost the title at 36 and then regained it for a third time by defeating Leon Spinks.

When Ali retired from boxing in 1981, after a loss to Trevor Berbick, he left with 56 all time wins, 37 of them KO's, and only five losses. He was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990, and given the honor to light the Olympic torch in Atlanta, Georgia to begin the Summer Olympic Games.

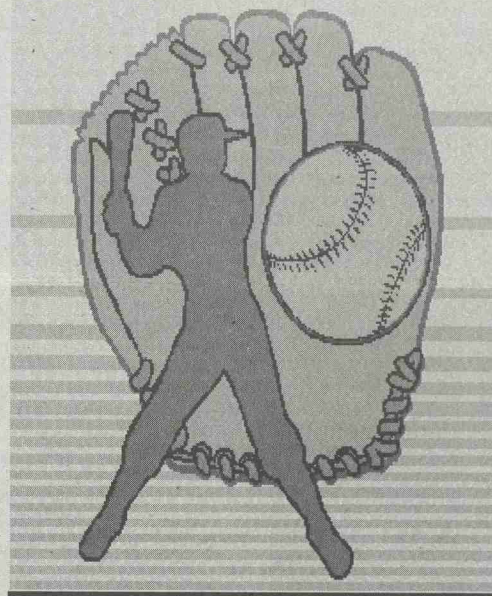
By Keesha Dover  
Sports Editor

Jackie Robinson was an athlete, a business executive, and a civil rights leader. He was born in Cairo, Georgia and went on to attend the University of California at Los Angeles. There he became the first UCLA student athlete to earn varsity letters in the four sports of football, basketball, baseball, and track.

Robinson went on to join the army and became a second lieutenant after graduation. He was disturbed by the ill treatment of

and try to injure him with their spikes. He had the support of Branch Rickey, the man who signed him, and some of his teammates that helped him to keep on. He went on to help the Dodgers win the National League pennant in 1947. He led the National League with 29 stolen bases and was named rookie of the year by sports writers.

In ten seasons, Robinson made the exciting play of stealing bases 19 times. He drew knew fans and more money for the team. He also paved the way for other black athletes to sign



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black soldiers in the army and complained. He was later arrested by military police for not following the orders to move to the back of a bus. He was acquitted and given an honorable discharge in 1944.

In 1945, Robinson started his professional baseball career with the Kansas City Monarchs in the Negro Leagues. Later on, he signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers and played one season with the minor league affiliate, the Montreal Royals, before being called up to play with the Dodgers and becoming the first Afrikan American to play major league baseball in the 20th century. He played his first game with the Dodgers on April 15th, 1947 starting at first base.

Going through many trying times as a black man in major league baseball, Robinson had the courage to hold on and do what he did best -- play. Players did things such as throw pitches at Robinson's head, spit on him,

major league contracts; however, it was not until 1959 that all 16 major league baseball teams had at least one Afrikan American player.

Robinson retired from professional baseball after the 1956 season to avoid having to face being traded to another team. He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame and was the first black to be honored. His dream was also to become the first black to manage a major league team, but no team would give him the opportunity.

After baseball, Robinson became the vice president of a chain of restaurants in New York City. He also became a leading advocate for black civil rights. On October 24, 1972, Robinson died in Stamford, Connecticut.



March 23, 2000

# CULTURE

## Calling a P.B.A. in Minority Communities: **POLICE BRUTALITY ALERT**

By Michelle Reed

Culture Editor

"Bad boys, bad boys, whatcha goin' do, whatcha goin' do when they come for you." Not only is this the beginning of the famed theme song from the television series, *Cops*, it should also be a P.B.A. for minority communities throughout the United States. At young ages we are taught that the duty of a cop is to protect people and the community. But what happens when some police don't serve lives, but help to take away the lives they pledged to protect? So now, many minority communities are under a P.B.A. A Police Brutality Alert.

This week celebrates Human Rights Week, but the violation of civilian rights, especially of minorities, by police seems as if it's becoming a daily process. The spread of police brutality from state to state has become cancerous and the number of incidents continues to rise as we read newspapers and

NYPD to the attention of the nation is the 41 shots heard around the world, in which 19 pierced the body of a young West African immigrant named Amadou Diallo.

It all happened on February 4, 1999 when four white officers who were in plain clothes were searching for a rape suspect in a large minority neighborhood of the Bronx. The 22-year old Diallo was standing in the doorway of his apartment building when approached by the men, whom they suspected Diallo to be the rapist. Assuming that Diallo was reaching for a weapon, the officers opened fire and killed Diallo. Many community leaders, Diallo's family, and supporters searched for justice and repercussions for the officers. But sadly, there was no justice for this case, and the outcome was that all four officers were acquitted of all charges. But let us not forget about Abner Louima. Had this

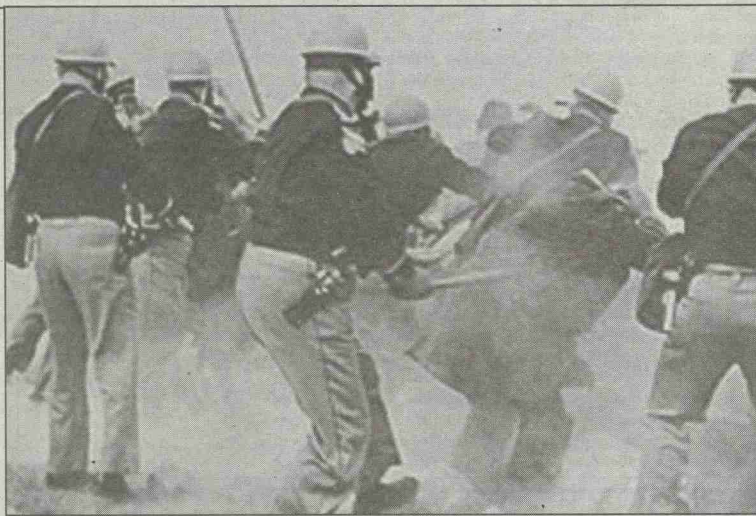
been the first major incident of police brutality in New York or had Diallo been white, as stated by President Clinton, the outcome may have, and would have been totally different. But New York just like many other major states is plagued with police brutality. Listed below are some incidents of police brutality in New York and other states.

### New York:

Haitian immigrant Abner Louima was brutalized by New York City police in 1997, when he was arrested outside of a nightclub. When taken to the police station, Louima was beat and sexually assaulted with a plunger and tortured. Louima's rectum and bladder were perforated and he had some missing teeth. He had to undergo three operations and spent weeks in the hospital.

### New York:

On April 9, 1992, Jacques Camille, a Haitian taxicab driver was shot and wounded by a police officer after his cab was stopped by the officer who was looking for robbery suspects. The cab's number had been reported to the police by the robbery victim. In his first week as a cab driver, Camille, not knowingly picked up the two robbers. Camille was fired at after turning to



Alabama police used extreme brutality during the Civil Rights era.

the officers to protest his being stopped. Several witnesses said Camille's hands were raised when the officer fired a single shot that destroyed a kidney and part of his liver. In a non-jury court the officer was tried with recklessly shooting Camille. The officer was convicted of a lesser charge of misdemeanor assault and three years' probation. A civil lawsuit for wrongful shooting was settled by the city for \$1,500,000 in May of 1994.

### New York:

Douglas Orfaly, a 29-year-old Latino man who was unarmed, was shot and killed by a NYC Housing Authority police officer while sitting in his car on March 3, 1992. Responding to a burglary, the officer said he thought Orfaly fitted the description of the burglar. As the officer approached the car, Orfaly allegedly made a sudden movement and the officer shot him once in the head through the car window. He was found guilty by a jury of criminally negligent homicide in the shooting and was sentenced to one to four years' in prison. This officer twice had accusations of excessive force brought against him in civil lawsuits.

### New York:

Three unarmed black young men who were shot in Harlem by two plain clothes officers in 1997 are to be awarded \$1.87 million by the city. One of the youths was hit in the stomach, one was struck in the leg, and one was grazed.

### Connecticut:

Franklin Reid, a black man who was unarmed, was shot in the back at point blank range on December 29, 1998. Officer Scott Smith believed Reid was reaching for a weapon. Witnesses say they saw Reid lying down moments before the shooting occurred. Scott's boot print was on the back of Reid's shirt. Scott, 28-years old, was acquitted of murder, but was found guilty of intentional manslaughter. He faces 5 to 40 years in prison at his May 5, 2000 sentencing. Scott is the first Connecticut police officer to be charged with murder for an action committed in the line of duty.

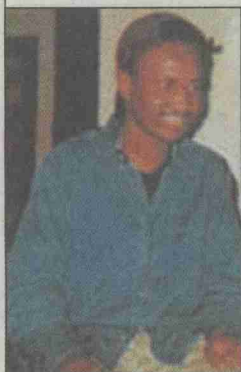
### Rhode Island:

Off duty police officer, Cornel Young Jr., 29, was shot January 28, 2000 when he saw a suspect confronting two officers outside a restaurant and rushed to assist. Officers ordered him to drop his

weapon, and when he did not, they fired.

These are only a minute number of police brutality incidents that have taken place in the United States. Actually, there are some pretty respectful police officers in the United States who live by the oath to protect and serve. Is it fair to throw all police into the categories of brutal, vicious, and power seekers who enforce their authority with excessive force? No. Is it fair that citizens may have to call the police on the police? No. And is it fair that sometimes there is no justification when police officers use deadly force when not needed or when an innocent man is riddled with 19 bullets and his "murderers" walk away clean? No. Amadou Diallo

knows that the treatment he received the night of his death was not fair, and he definitely knows the consequences received by the police that killed him were not fair. So, the signs of "No justice, no peace" will continue to become as common as the changing of seasons. Now is a time when minority communities wouldn't mind a blizzard in the middle of July. Rare, not common, and a strange sight. This has been your P.B.A.



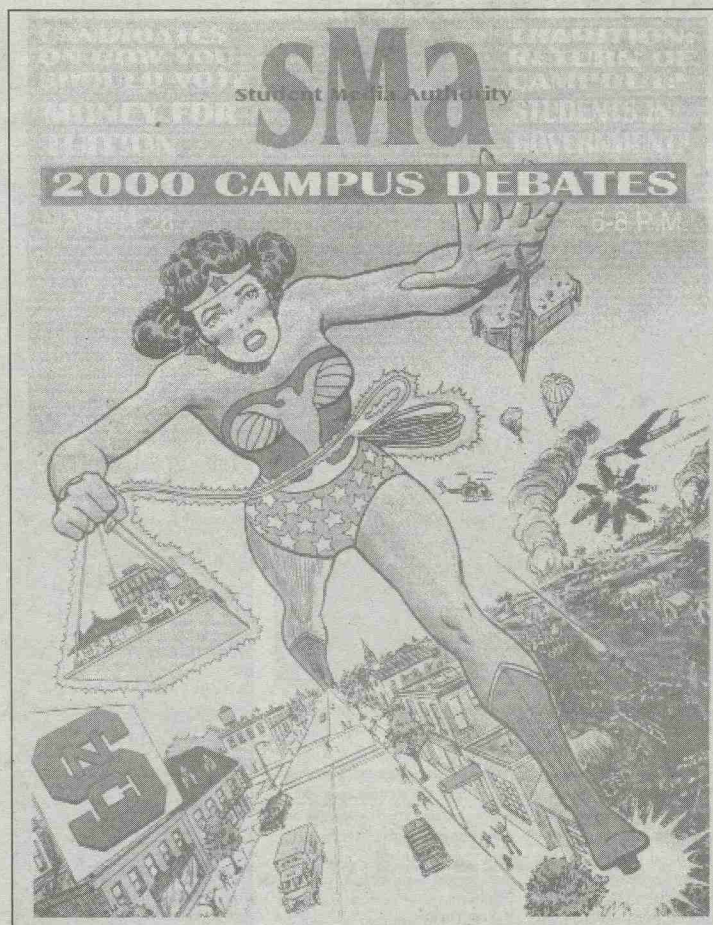
Amadou Diallo is just one of many recent victims of police brutality.

watch the news. Accounts of police brutality vary among the states, but the pain and suffering family and friends must endure for lost victims at the hands of police brutality may be the same.

The New York Police department has been under a lot of scrutiny because of the behaviors of its officers, especially towards minorities. A major incident that has drawn the

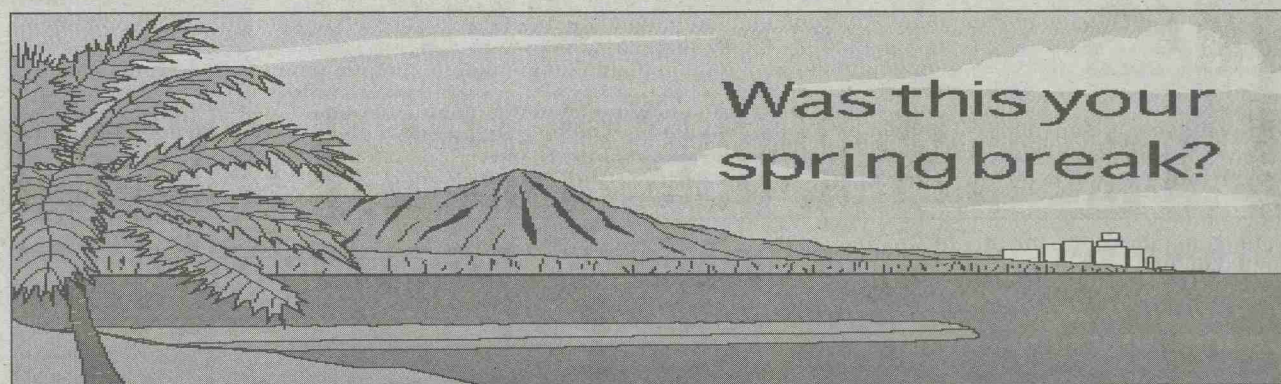
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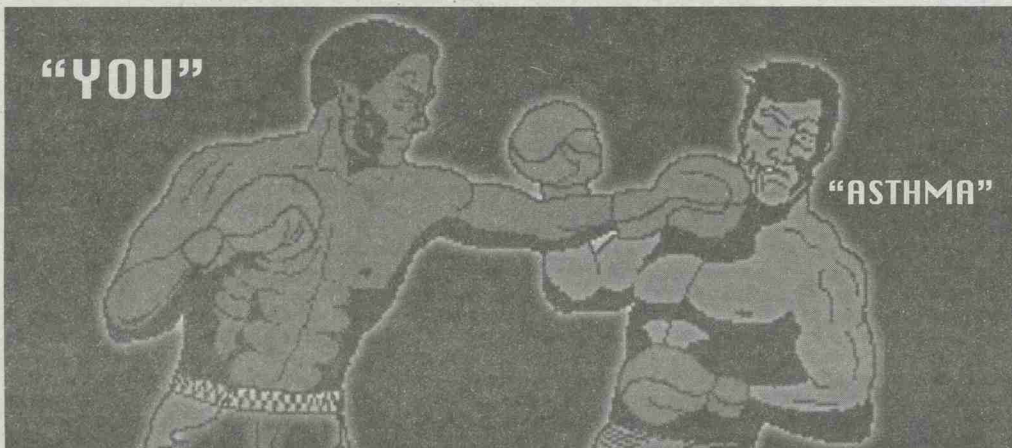
Either way, The Nubian Message would like to hear about it. Send us your stories and pictures, along with your name and telephone, to [dr\\_dock@hotmail.com](mailto:dr_dock@hotmail.com). The best ones will be published in a future edition of the Nubian Message.



March 23, 2000

# HEALTH

## Fighting Asthma



By Melodee N. Wallace

Staff Writer

Each year more than 15 million Americans suffer from asthma and more than 5,000 people die each year from asthma. African Americans between the ages of 15 to 44 are at a higher risk for serious asthma; they are three times more likely to die from asthma than their white counterparts. It is estimated that 4 out of 5 Americans are directly affected by asthma, half of all Americans have asthma in their households or immediate family, and 29% of Americans know someone with asthma.

Each year approximately \$6 million is spent for health care treatment. This dollar amount is expected to rise, since each year more people

are found to have asthma. In 1997, 41% of asthma patients were hospitalized, treated in emergency rooms, or required some form of urgent care. What is even more alarming is that according to Dr. Miguel Jose' Lanz, the Medical Director at the Asthma and Allergy Center of the Pan-American Health Network in Miami, studies show that asthma is often poorly managed and that too many people suffer needlessly.

Asthma is a chronic lung disease caused by the inflammation of the lower airways and periods of airflow obstruction. Air passages are always sensitive, swollen, or inflamed in asthma sufferers to a degree. However, during an asthma attack—the lining of the airways swell and become even more inflamed, mucus

clogs the airways, and the muscles around the airways tighten. This causes breathing to become even more difficult and stressful. Asthma is generally characterized by wheezing, chest tightness and cough, itchy throat that may be accompanied by a runny nose, nasal congestion, eye irritation, and sometimes restlessness.

Treatments to make asthma more bearable include the use of anti-inflammatory agents such as cromolyn, medecromil, or corticosteroids. Cromolyn and medecromil are types of inhalants for milder cases of asthma. Corticosteroids are the most potent drugs available and have been used since 1948. They decrease airway inflammation and swelling in the bronchial tubes and reduce mucus production of

bronchial cells. Generally, they come in the form of tablets or liquid.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute recommends reducing your exposure to allergens and other asthma triggers. Also, talking with your doctor about using long-term control medications. Regularly monitoring your asthma symptoms and peak flow will help stop attacks. Also developing an action plan for use during asthma attacks. Finally, it is recommended that you regularly visit your health care professional.

Whenever dealing with asthma, especially when an asthma attack is occurring, it is important not to panic and follow the advice of your doctor.

### COMMON TRIGGERS OF ASTHMA:

**allergens** - dust mites, pollen, mold, pet dander, and cockroaches;

**irritants** - smoke from tobacco, wood fires or charcoal grills, household sprays, paint, gasoline, perfume, and scented soaps;

**respiratory infections** - colds, the flu, sore throats, sinus infections;

**weather** - dry wind, cold air, and sudden changes in temperature;

**In addition:** exercise and activities that cause you to breathe harder.

## Hayfever: A Season for Misery

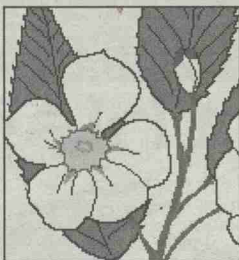
By Melodee N. Wallace

Staff Writer

Pollinosis, allergic rhinitis, or what we generally call "hayfever" affects 22 million people each year. The symptoms of hayfever cause Americans to lose 2 million days of school, spend 6 million days in bed, lose 3.5 million days of work, and visit the doctor 8.4 million times during a year.

Hayfever is caused by inhaling particles that you are allergic to; most commonly: pollen, pet dander, dust particles and mold spores. Triggers of hayfever include: weather changes (especially heavy rain), outdoor activities (playing sports in grass, gardening, or cutting the grass), pets, letting your laundry dry outside, and riding with the windows rolled down. Symptoms most likely experienced among hayfever sufferers are: sneezing, clear and watery mucus, itchy eyes, nose and throat, sometimes itchy ears, watery eyes, dark circles under the eyes, and fatigue.

A hayfever attack can last from



15 to 20 minutes and occur several times throughout the day. When an allergen such as pollen enters the body, a person who suffers from hayfever reacts by producing antibodies. The histamine and other chemicals released by the body tissues cause itching, swelling of affected tissues, mucus production, muscle spasms, and other symptoms.

There is no cure for hayfever since it is an allergen, but treatment options include: avoidance of the allergen, medication, and immunotherapy. It is impossible to avoid pollen, but the best thing to do is avoid being outside during peak pollen production times in your area.

This information can be obtained by visiting [www.pollen.com](http://www.pollen.com). You should also use an air conditioner or air cleaner to remove pollen from the air. Antihistamines, decongestants, and nasal corticosteroids are often given as forms of medication. If all else fails, you can also be treated by immunotherapy, which consists of getting an allergy shot. The allergy shot emits large quantities of the allergen into your body to build up your antibodies in order to help your body from overreacting when exposed to the allergen in the future.

In order to decrease your risk of an hayfever attack at home, you should:

1. keep your house clean,
2. remember to clean and change air filters regularly,
3. keep your pets outside as much as possible.

The good thing about hayfever is that it does not result in death, and even though its onset usually occurs by the age of 20, symptoms decrease with age.

## HEALTH WRITERS

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March 23, 2000

# OPINIONS

## Be Ye Kind to One Another

By Antwannette Watson

Staff Writer

The title of this week's article came to me, when I was recently sitting back and re-evaluating my life and priorities. Therefore just in case some of you have not figured it out, this week's article will deal with fairness, how to treat others kindly, fairly; the way most of us would want and prefer to be treated. Consider this Antwannette's four step program.

This has worked for others and I am pretty sure it can and will work for you. Note: You cannot take the instructions out of context, use the ones you like best only, or use them how you prefer for them to be used, if you want success. Or better yet you cannot follow half of the instructions on baking a cake and expect to yield the same quality product being advertised on the box!

First of all, it is IMPERATIVE to treat others the way you want to be treated. Or in simple english:

Everyone wants to received a little respect. In order to receive you must also give respect (eventually it will come back to you in more ways than one). Remember that you only merit the treatment you give to others. Word of advice: You might get by with something, but you never really get away with doing things (depending on your personal religious convictions or philosophy...). This simply means that we all accountable for our actions.

Next: Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, for as many as you can, in all the places that you can, as long as you can... Sometimes we are blessed in different ways and do not realize it. Therefore it is always good to share what you have with others. It can be not only personally rewarding, but it might come back to you in a time of need (which can be a comforting thought to say the least).

Third: If you do not have emotional intelligence, AKA empathy

and compassion and sincere interest and concern in others (the well-being of mankind, etc.), then you need to go take a crash course in this Life 101 course. To the disappointment of some of you, and to the amazement of others, homosapiens AKA mankind; we are not self-sufficient and or complete entities of one another that can do without other human interactions. Or as one famous poet stated and is well known for saying: No man is an island.... Hello I am definitely talking to someone out there....

Last but not least and most importantly is guidance, I mean spiritual and or religious guidance is key. If you do not believe in anything, then of course you are not going to go out your way for others, or for the hereafter. It is very important to embrace God, or whomever you consider your creator. It is also important to want to do things that you know you can live with (i.e. take care of your family, because not only do you feel

that is the right thing to do, but your religious beliefs and or convictions have got your back). This often times will always, if you look towards this spiritual/ religious guidance will help you through any hardship in life. This can pull you through any test, trial and tribulation you may be experiencing for the moment. This is essential for us, as a people. We literally have come this far "by faith". It is obvious, if it were not for GOD, we all know we would not have made it through slavery let alone any other genocide, human atrocity, and degradation that has ocured on this planet.

This is just a little food for thought. You can never be on the right track soon enough. Learn from your life's experiences, and if you can learn from others as well, hopefully to keep you from making the same mistake (since for one reason or another an example was placed in your presence).

Everyone has an opinion. What's yours? Let us know. Write for the Nubian Message. Email Dock G. Winston, Editor in Chief, at [dr\\_dock@hotmail.com](mailto:dr_dock@hotmail.com) for more information



## It's hard being Black

By Tonya Johnson

Staff Writer

It's hard being black. No matter how much we perceive things as getting better, they're really not. I'm tired of being followed in the store by people who assume that I will steal if I am not watched closely. Well, I don't need to steal anything nor was I brought up that stealing is okay. I'm sure most African-Americans feel the same way.

I'm also tired of walking into a store without a sales assistant even saying "hello" or acknowledging my presence. Not only is that rude, but

that store just lost a customer-along with my money. I'm pretty sure that if I was another race, like Caucasian, then I would not have this problem.

African-Americans face obstacles daily. I've known friends and relatives who have been pulled over just because they were driving while black. I've also heard of people who didn't get that particular job or place because of their color.

This bothers me.

People who are not African-Americans view us as athletes, great dancers, and loud-mouth people. Very few outside of our race look at

us as intellectual individuals who can become successful lawyers, doctors, etc. I see plenty of N.C. State students and other African-Americans who are hard workers with high GPAs and involved in a variety of organizations. I also know many successful African Americans working in the real world as therapists, dentists, lawyers, etc.

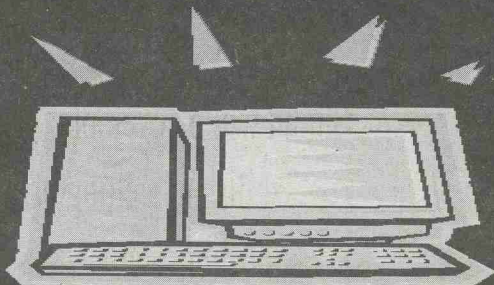
But no. Society wants to overlook us and our accomplishments. We are law-abiding and smart people.

It's tough going through these daily obstacles, but we must not give up. Sometimes I feel depressed

when I see what we have to go through, but this leads me to only work harder and have faith in my religion that God will take care of those who rely on him.

My message is simple. I'm tired of us being discriminated against. I hate it when people judge me and what they think I would do based on the color of my skin.

Even through struggles and pain, when I think about it, I'm glad to be black. We're a special group of people, and I'm proud to be a part of this group.



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### Letters to the Editor

The Nubian Message welcomes questions, comments, concerns, and suggestions. The following guidelines must be followed:

- Letters must be limited to 300 words
- Letters must be signed by the writer, including his/her major, if a student
- Letters should address campus issues, breaking news, or public-interest topics

The Nubian Message will consider fairly all submissions but does not guarantee publication of any.

All letter are subject to editing and become property of The Nubian Message.

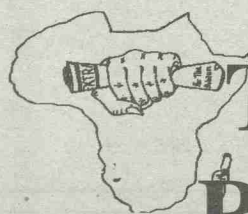
Letters should be brought to Room 372 of the Afrikan American Cultural Center or mailed to:

The Nubian Message  
Letters to the Editor  
Box 7318, NCSU  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7318

or you can submit via e-mail:

[nubian@sma.ncsu.edu](mailto:nubian@sma.ncsu.edu)





# The Nubian Message

## Remaining Publication

### Schedule

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The Nubian Message is printed every Thursday except in the case of holidays, school closings, and the Thursday before Spring Break.

Special editions will be announced at a later date.

