



the Nubian Message

serving N.C. State's African-American community

September 21, 2000

Volume 8 Issue 3

Conference leads way to future

Tawanda Murray

Guest Reporter

This year, the Grace Hopper Conference for Women in Science and Computing was held in Hyannis, Massachusetts from September 14-16. The conference is named in honor of Admiral Grace Hopper. Hopper was a trailblazer in the discipline of computer science.

Computer pioneer, Howard Bromberg, describes Hopper as a "mathematician, computer scientist, social scientist, corporate politician, marketing whiz, systems designer, and programmer." Grace Hopper is admired throughout the engineering community for being so multifaceted.

This year's conference is named in Hopper's honor and held with the purpose of making women an integral part of continuing the work

Hopper held so dear. The three day conference was amazing and will forever be ingrained in my mind. The women I encountered were intelligent, innovative and motivational. The women who attended the conference have contributed substantially to improving today's computer technology. The distinguished group of women were very diversified with a strong minority presence. There was a number of African-American women there to discuss their experiences in the field of science and computing.

The African-American women I

spoke with have already reached the goal I am constantly working

woman in the fields of science and computing. Everyone at the confer-

ence reiterating that education is the ticket to reaching goals in a field that is still dominated by white males. It is always helpful to talk to someone who has already been through what you are currently experiencing.

Valerie Taylor received her B.S. in Computer and Electrical Engineering and

her M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University in 1985 and 1986, respectively. She then contin-

ued on to receive her Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley in 1991.

Dr. Taylor says, "Keep pushing the technology forward!"

I also had the opportunity of meeting Sheila Talton-Henton who is the former President & CEO of Unisource Network Services and a recipient of the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award which is given by the National Federation of Black Women Business Owners. Talton-Henton was a banquet speaker at the conference and dynamically described how she started her own company after tiring of working for companies that were being acquired by larger firms. Ms. Talton-Henton also sits on the boards of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Young President's Organization, and Information Technology Senior Management Forum.



Valerie Taylor of Northwestern University, served as chair for the Conference

courtesy of hopper

toward. This goal is to become a successful African-American

Where is the NAACP?

Staff Columnist

It is almost five weeks into the fall semester at N.C. State. The schedules have been finalized, the first quizzes have been given, and lab partners assigned. Meanwhile, the credit card companies as well as the student organizations have taken the campus hostage as flyers soliciting student participation and service overwhelm the Wolfpack community. Student representatives follow the migrating masses to the mecca of the brickyard in mammoth campaigns to evoke interest in their respective organizations. Yet, haunt-

ingly absent is one of the most nationally recognizable African-American organizations in American history. In recent weeks, many students and faculty have asked the same question: where, oh where, is N.C. State's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)?

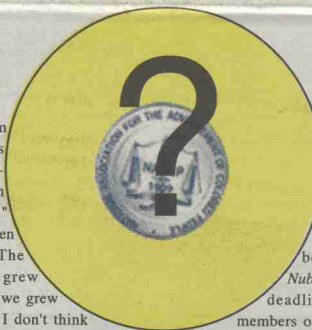
It was last year when initial efforts to revive the NAACP here were finally successful. An executive board was appointed, and a general body was soon formed. However, almost immediately, the organization was beset by a number of problems. With offices and meet-

ing locations firmly intact for the 1999-00 school year, N.C. State chapter struggled to find both its physical and political role on campus.

One executive board member from last year, who asked not to be identified, commented that, "Last year was definitely a learning experience, particularly during the fall semester. I think that the entire executive board viewed the spring semester as an opportunity to increase our (NAACP's) visibility and restore our credibility. But we could never seem to come together as a group. Execs either quit or were

excused from their positions because of failure to perform their duties." She paused, then continued, "The general body grew impatient, and we grew disappointed. I don't think that the blame rested on any one individual's shoulders. We and the general body were all responsible for both the failures and successes of last year. And yes," she added, "there were successes."

Although current interim presi-



dent, Lee Burgess-Ford, could not be reached for comment before the Nubian Message deadline, other members of the executive board have expressed concern about the future direction of the organization.

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CIAA brings hype to NCSU

Bobby Guthrie, II

Staff Reporter

North Carolina State University is preparing to welcome the CIAA Tournament to Raleigh. The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association is bringing the CIAA Hip-Hop Hoops Tour to the home of the Wolfpack in order to prepare students ready for the 2001 games.

On Friday, September 29, at 3 to 6 p.m. students can participate to win various prizes including tickets to all the 2001 CIAA games. There will also be a basketball game between NCSU students and the staff of K97.5 FM, one of the event

sponsors. The game will be held in the Carmichael Gymnasium.

Tracey Ray coordinator of African-American Student Affairs is

helping

to host the tour. Ray says there will be pep bands and cheer leading performances from students of area CIAA schools. There will also be giveaways, the main prize is a book of tickets for admission to all of the CIAA games.

The games will be held at the Raleigh Entertainment and Sports Arena from February 26 until March 3, 2001. Organizational sponsors of the Hip-Hop Tour at NCSU include the Student Mentor Association and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. The fraternity will provide players for the basketball game against K97.5 FM.

Previously held in cities such as Richmond, Va., and Winston-Salem, N.C., the CIAA is bringing action back to Raleigh for a second year. According to Ray, State was chosen as a CIAA location partly because we are an area school."

Raleigh is a prime location due to its new arena, massive media coverage, and the large amount of hotel space. Winston-Salem did not have a sufficient amount of hotel rooms needed for this popular conference, especially since each team has its own hotel.

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Conference

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Anita Borg is the founder of the Institute for Women and Technology (IWT). Borg is also the creator of the listserv Systers. The Systers webpage <<http://www.systers.org>> reads, "We are an informal organization for technical women in computing that began in 1987 as a small mailing list for women in systems, thus the name Systers. There are now over 2500 sisters in 38 countries. If you are a woman in the technical end of computing, you are welcome to join." Joining the listserv allows women to stay in touch

with phenomenal women such as Taylor, Talton-Henton, Borg and many other women that have succeeded in the challenging fields of computers and science.

The people and issues discussed at this year's conference will remain in the minds of the hundreds of women that attended for numerous years to come. The next Grace Hopper conference will be held in 2002 in Vancouver, Canada.

CIAA

This tournament sells out every year, says Cicely Anderson, coordinator of the Raleigh tour. The CIAA brought in more than \$8 million at its 2000 games earlier this year. The conference may generate even more money next year.

Ray wants students to know that the CIAA does more than just play basketball and host tours. The conference also helps its students secure their futures. Ray suggested that at previous job fairs more than 200 employers were present. These employers accept resumes from students which may lead to employment after graduation.

NAACP

continued from page 1

Jillian Martin, Press and Publicity Chair for last year's NAACP, stated that there was "so much confusion surrounding this year's leadership that even the returning executives did not understand exactly what was going on. Our faculty advisor is no longer with the university, and more executives have vacated their positions for various reasons. Basically, we are actively soliciting both leaders and members. Active members," she stressed. "Inaction was one of our major problems last year. A handful of people can't do all the work."

tion. Area job fair locations for the 2001 games will be announced at a later date.

For more CIAA conference information, visit its website at <<http://www.theciaa.com>>. As for the Hip-Hop Tour, Ray says volunteers will be needed. The basketball game is still in need of referees and players. Other people are needed to help host the tour.

The main need of the CIAA/NCSSU tour is student support. If anyone is interested in volunteering, contact Ray at 515-9243, or stop by her office at 2010 Harris Hall. Ray encourages all students to come out and help make this event a success.

Obviously, there are members of the African-American community at N.C. State willing to put forth the effort to make the NAACP a successful organization. All executives interviewed have expressed regret over its current state of disarray, but all stress the necessity of strong leadership and membership. Any students interested in serving on the executive board should watch the African-American listserv and check for flyers concerning the upcoming interest meeting. Many positions for the 2000-01 school year are available.

No Funds, No Fundamentals

Bobby Guthrie, II

Staff Reporter

The library at the African-American Cultural Center (AACC) has the tools to inform; unfortunately, it does not have the money to expand. The library has never possessed the funding needed to make it totally available to students. With only one part-time librarian, the AACC library is struggling to provide students with a haven where knowledge and heritage intervene.

Sandra Dunn serves as the part-time librarian. She is on loan from the University's D.H. Hill Library. Presently, two students assist her, but without proper funding, the facility is unable to hire someone for full-time operation.

The library did not operate during summer school sessions because of the lack of staffing. Currently, limited staffing leads to the library's irregular operating schedule.

Dr. M. Iyailu Moses, director of the African-American Cultural Center, outlines several obstacles keeping the library from reaching its operating goal. Without proper funds, the library is not granted permanent personnel. The library has close to 3,600 books and more than 100 videocassette titles; the facility needs workers who can make these materials more widely accessible to NCSSU students.

The lack of funding prohibits the library from full development.

Without money, the library is not able to host programs and learning seminars that would benefit the public. Moses would like to see a variety of people come to the AACC library to hold lectures and meetings that would help educate N.C. State students. She mentioned that although people have made inquiries to her about use of the library, these individuals have been turned away due to lack of staff and funding.

Moses explained that the lack of funding is a result of the university not allocating a proper amount of money to the AACC library. However, Moses did acknowledge new administration taking over the financial matters of the library. This new administration is now in the process of granting funds to hire two people to assist in running the library on a full-time basis.

Rupert Nacoste, the newly-appointed vice-provost for Diversity & African-American Affairs, is assisting Moses in taking the AACC library to new levels. Nacoste says that during the summer, a lot of things were going on in terms of assigning money to organizations. The issue of AACC library funding was just recently given to his department to handle.

Nacoste could not make any financial decisions until he officially became vice-provost at the beginning of the month. Now that Nacoste is in place, the library can

finally be studied in terms of necessary funding. Nacoste mentioned that the library getting the right amount of funding is going to take time because his department needs to make sure that the most important things get money first. He and Moses recently received a grant that will provide capital to hire library workers; however, more money is still needed to make the facility more "visible" to students.

Dr. Moses would welcome people to the library to volunteer but there are currently no training resources. Moses says that fundraising also needs resources. She did mention that students could do their own fundraising for the library, but she stressed that a lot of money would need to be raised to help pay for employee salaries and other materials. Students can make contributions, but they would have to specify whether their contribution is for the AACC library or the AACC itself.

"It all comes down to money. Every year the library has had to request for funds. That shouldn't have to happen," replied Nacoste.

Will the library close? No, but Moses says the library is closed in an effective way due to the shortage of money. She and Nacoste did state that when the library is in full operation, it will serve its purpose as a learning resource to minority students.

Who deserves your vote?

Know Your Presidential Candidates

Brandon Buskey

Political critics have asserted for quite some time that this year's presidential election between George W. Bush and Al Gore will offer the public nothing more than two candidates who can only be distinguished by party affiliation. Despite this criticism, there are several ideological differences between Bush's and Gore's stances on the economy, education, and abortion that deserve serious attention from anyone planning to cast a ballot in November.

One of the most controversial differences between the two candidates rests on their proposed economic spending plans. Al Gore, in his titanic 191 page budget plan, would spend \$500 billion dollars over ten years. He has placed a premium on addressing social issues important to him while still maintaining a measure of fiscal caution. Some of the major goals of Gore's budget plan are to increase home ownership to 70 percent, increase family incomes by 33 percent, cut the wage gap between men and women workers by 50 percent, create 10 million high tech jobs, create the lowest tax burden in 50 years for families, and reduce the poverty rate to 1 out of every 10 people. Gore also favors reducing the national debt in order to salvage Social

Security. Despite these aggressive goals, Gore still plans to leave almost \$300 billion of the federal surplus unspent as a buffer against unforeseen economic disasters.

George W. Bush's budget plan projects \$1.3 trillion in governmental spending over the next 10 years, with a much heavier emphasis on tax cuts than his Democratic counterpart. One of Bush's major aims would be to gradually cut income taxes by the year 2006 with the middle class receiving the greatest cuts in terms of percentages. Proposals also included in Bush's plan are to gradually repeal the estate tax over eight years and double the \$500 per child tax credit to \$1000. Perhaps Bush's most controversial plan involves what many term the "privatization" of Social Security, where individuals could voluntarily set aside a portion of their payroll tax to invest in a personal savings account that they would have sole control over.

On the issue of education, Al Gore has promised to make the improvement of our country's schools the top national priority, according to his official platform release. Gore's educational plan would focus on five general areas: raising standards and improving the basics in our schools; modernizing our schools to create truly 21st Century classrooms; expanding access to higher education; making schools safe and drug-free; and

working toward the day when every American will have the chance to keep learning for a lifetime, to get the skills they need to succeed. Specific plans Gore has proposed to achieve these ends are to expand after-school care for children with working parents, wire all the nation's schools to the Internet, make the first two years of college virtually free for all students, and place more drug counselors and violence prevention coordinators in public schools. Gore has argued consistently against school vouchers for private education, stating that "they drain our public schools of funding for children who need it the most—those who can not afford to go to a private school" during an online town hall meeting hosted on his campaign homepage. Instead of offering parents the chance to send their students to a private school via a voucher, Gore wishes to focus on improving public school education.

George W. Bush's educational plan is markedly different than Gore's approach. In order to establish school accountability to parents, Bush would have states publish annual test scores school by school in a report card, of sorts. Additionally, Bush would use federal funds to finance public and private school choice programs that would give parents more power over selecting the school their children will attend

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Indiana hires African American to replace Bob Knight

Staff Reporter

Mike Davis has been named Indiana University's interim head basketball coach. Although Davis has a lot of basketball experience, this is his first head-coaching job. Mike Davis has spent the last three seasons as an assistant coach at Indiana after two years at the University of Alabama, his alma mater. Davis is Indiana's first African American head basketball coach in a position that has been held by Bob Knight for over 29 years. Davis will be under serious pressure and must produce to have that interim title removed and become Indiana's permanent basketball coach. In his three seasons as an IU assistant, the Hoosiers have compiled a 63-32 overall record. Davis is responsible for putting together the pieces after the firing of

coach Knight and this was the main reason he got the job. The returning players were also involved in Davis' hiring, as he was Bob Knight's top assistant.

"There was no way I could turn this job down, because of the players," said Davis. "The way they came out for me really touched me. I'm extremely happy for this opportunity, but I'm sad because of the way it happened. I envisioned being a head coach, but under different circumstances . . . everyone knows Coach Knight is the reason I'm here and why the players are here."

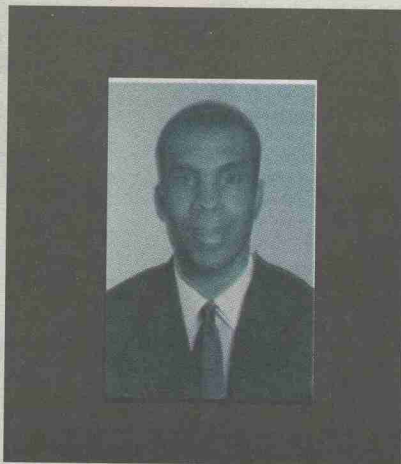
From 1991-95, Davis was an assistant with the Continental Basketball Association's Wichita Falls Texans under current Indiana assistant coach John Treloar. While in Chicago in 1995, Davis served as a player-coach under Treloar. Despite not having played for five years, the then 35-year-old Davis

averaged 8.3 points, 3.3 rebounds, and 2.6 assists per contest for the

Rockers. Davis shot 80 percent from the free throw line and finished fourth in the league's Defensive Player-of-the-Year voting. His coaching began at Miles College in Birmingham, Ala., from 1989-90. He has also spent two summers coaching the Venezuela National

Team as well as professional teams in that country. In his college career at the University of Alabama, Davis lettered four times and finished his career in the Top 25 on the Crimson Tide's all-time scoring list with 1,211 points. He won Alabama's Hustle Award all four of his seasons and was named to the Southeastern Conference's All-Defensive team. Following his playing career at Alabama, Davis was a second-round selection of the Milwaukee Bucks in the 1983 NBA Draft. He then played two years in Switzerland, where he was named to the league's all-star team, and in Italy. He then played with the Topeka Sizzlers of the CBA from 1988-89.

Davis has a history of success wherever he goes, so he should be in a position where he can flourish. Indiana also has one of the best recruiting classes in the country and this should also be credited to Davis, as he is a great recruiter. Even with all of these credentials, he will be coaching this season knowing that other candidates will be looked at for the permanent job when the season is over.



Should athletes be judged by their actions on or off the field?

N'Keesha Dover

Editor

New York Yankee, Darryl Strawberry strikes out again as he is arrested for driving under the influence of medication and fleeing the scene of an accident last week in Tampa, Florida. Strawberry was suspended a year from baseball back in February for testing positive to cocaine. Strawberry was driving in Florida one morning last week after taking the medicine that he knew would severely effect his diving capabilities. His car hit a street sign and ran into another vehicle that was stopped at a traffic light. After hitting the vehicle, he proceeded to leave the scene. Strawberry was sentenced to 2 years house arrest, which will only allow him to leave the house when he has doctor's appointments and if he has to go to work. It was stated on Fox News that he even had to get permission from the court to play on a major league baseball team. Strawberry may be eligible to return to his regular drug offender probation if he completes the first year of house arrest successfully. He was also advised to follow the doctor's orders when he took prescription medication. He has been taking medication

since being diagnosed for colon cancer in 1998.

Why does Strawberry continue to battle with the same addiction after so many have tried to help him? That's a question that many people ask, but it continues to go unanswered. During his many battles with his cocaine addiction and

focus all of its attention on exposing faults such as those of Darryl Strawberry? In thinking about that question, could it also be that things aren't as bad as they are portrayed to be? Could it be that the media is in fact, leaving out all of the good things that we do as black athletes in order to make room for what will

he started all 82. Not many people know that he is ranked 12th in the NBA in free throw percentage or that he ranks 4th in minutes played in the entire NBA. And I'll bet that almost nobody knows that just this summer he donated \$100,000 to Madison Square Garden's,

Sprewell is the largest donation given by one person in the history of the foundation. But nobody knows that. Nobody is interested in knowing that the coach-choker has made numerous positive contributions to society. On the other hand, I bet most people remember when



Sprewell is not as bad as you may think



Strawberry is often the poster boy of what is wrong with sports

authorities, Strawberry been in the spotlight as much as any athlete or notable personality that actually did something positive to deserve the attention. So why does the media

catch the eyes of readers?

Think about how much you hear about Latrell Sprewell. Not many people know that out of 82 games played with the Knicks last year that

"Cheering for Children Foundation. Remarkably, this donation from Sprewell was a front page story for chocking his former basketball

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"In the Company of My Sisters" is good company

Michelle Reed
Staff Writer

In the Company of My Sisters: Black Women and Self-Esteem Sistahs, has someone ever tried to deflate your self-esteem? Is your self-esteem level low, and are you in need of a boost or a few words of wisdom to get you past whatever you are going through? Do you need to sit back and do a little re-evaluating of the self? Are you in a relationship that is headed nowhere fast? Is family of importance to you? Are you on the brink of having a new attitude and are seeing life through clearer lenses?

If you have answered 'yes' to any of the above questions, or even if you have answered 'no' to these questions, I suggest that you read Julia A. Boyd's book, In the Company of My Sisters: Black Women and Self-Esteem. While going through my book collection some odd weeks ago, I wandered across this book. Before entering my freshman year in college, a good friend of mine gave the book to me as a gift. But for some reason unknown, this book just collected dust for two years, and it was basi-

cally of unimportance to me, until recently. Maybe it was because of frustration, irrational thinking, and the need for some kind of happiness in my life that tempted me to pick up the book. It wasn't until I finished reading that I realized had I read the book when I got it, there may have been a chance I would have approached certain situations present in my life a little differently. But the things we can't change, and what the hands of time erase, we have to get over. You can't change what happened 2pm yesterday, but no matter what, 2pm is always going to roll around. Forget what happened 2pm yesterday, and think about what you can do to make sure 2pm tomorrow goes how you want it to go. That's one of the messages I got out of the book.

In the different chapters, Boyd introduces us to the different stories of a group of Black women that she meets with monthly to discuss their personal lives. As the chapters go by, the reader sees that this circle of Black women is more than just a discussion group. We hear Angie's

pain. We can relate to Flo. We see Janet walking out of our own door everyday. They are a family. They

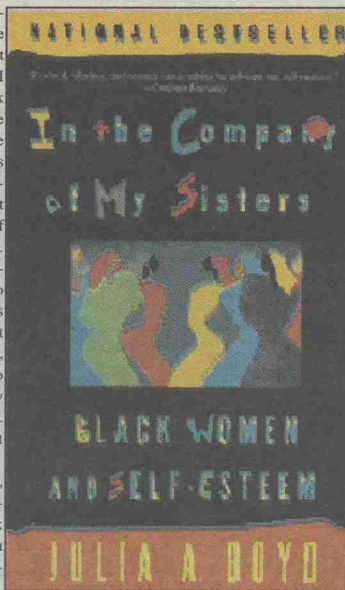
Part I of the book is devised of three sub-chapters titled, "What is self-esteem?" "Something's Got a Hold of Me" and "What Makes Self-Esteem Different for Us?"

According to Boyd, "Self-esteem is a core of personal beliefs that we (black women) develop about ourselves over the years." This includes the negative and positive messages we hear from others. She also defines self-esteem as a "universal concept." In this definition, Boyd is saying that as babies, we come into this world with a blank slate of esteem that is

untainted, but rather healthy. But because babies aren't treated equally, the way we experience self-esteem is universally different. In order to have healthy self-esteem, the two messages Boyd says are needed include "I am lovable" and "I am worthwhile." Other issues addressed in Part I include the meaning of black women based on experiences in the career field, what we hear on the radio, and the images we hear that define beauty.

The book is composed of five sections, with different sub-chapters. The chapters talk about an array of topics that are present in the lives of black women and give methods and advice on dealing with the different topics. Such topics include relationships (i.e. family members, significant others, etc.), spirituality, education, etc.

In this book, Julia Boyd writes with humor, understanding, passion, and honesty. She is the first black psychotherapist to write a book that focuses on self-esteem in black women's lives. This is not Boyd's only piece of literature. Actually, this book was published in 1997. She has published poetry and short fiction in *Essence Magazine* as well as several small anthologies. Some of her other works include "Can I Get A Witness?: Black Women and Depression," "Girlfriend to Girlfriend: Everyday Wisdom and Affirmations from the Sister Circle," and "Can I Get A Witness?: For Sisters, When the Blues is More Than a Song." She received her undergraduate degree from Antioch University, and her graduate degree in education from Pacific Lutheran University. She lives and works in Seattle, Washington.



Dr. Clark Presents, "Genealogy: A Search for the Past to Define Your Future"

Michelle Reed
Staff Writer

It wasn't until the age of eight or nine that it became aware to me that I did not know my entire family. When my friends from my hometown would leave for the summer and head down south or would leave for various other places besides our hometown, I could only wait until they returned to hear stories about how "Cousin X" was crazy, or how "Grandma Sue" could throw down on soul food, or how "mammoth" the water bugs were. My stories, on the other hand, consisted of "going to a summer camp from 8am until 4pm," or "spending two dreadful weeks at an overnight Girls' Scout camp" (with one of those weeks in the infirmary), or "staying the night at my cousin Tiffany's house who lived two blocks away." She may have lived closer than that.

Or maybe I realized that I did not know my "entire" family while in elementary school when my teacher asked us to draw family trees for homework. So I went home, drew my tree, and came back to school full of pride, ready to show my work. However, my pride suddenly vanished when I saw the glorious oak trees and redwoods some of the other students drew depicting their family members. Compared to the other students, my tree was just a mere twig. My tree (pardon me, my twig) just branched out to my maternal grandmother, my mother, my father, my brother, and myself. Where was the rest of my family? I knew my cousins who lived a couple

of blocks away, I knew my mother's brothers and sisters, but there was something still missing. Who was my grandmother's mother? Where was my grandfather from? Who were my father's father and grandfather? I've tried to learn more about my background; however, all these questions still go unanswered to this day. I am 20 years old and have yet to have a family reunion. That was my story of how the search for my past has yet to begin, but Dr. Lawrence M. Clark has a different story.

As part of the Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. "Founder's Week 2000" and in co-sponsorship with the African-American Heritage Society, the Heritage Lecture series took place this past Monday in the multipurpose room of the Witherspoon Building. Hosting the event was Ms. Kamila Wright, president of the African-American Heritage Society. The speaker for the evening was Dr. Lawrence M. Clark presenting "Genealogy: A Search for the Past to Define Your Future."

Dr. Clark presented the audience of about 30 with personal information about his background and how his past history became his present history. Originating from Danville, Virginia, Dr. Clark was able to trace his family history from back in the days of slavery. Not uncommon in the days of slavery, the beginning of the history of Dr. Clark began with a slave woman and her master. From this relationship came three biracial children, one child which would

become Dr. Clark's great, great, grandmother. The plantation houses that symbolize importance in Dr. Clark's origin include "Little Cherrystone," which is located two miles east of Chatham on Route 703, and "Pine Crest Farm," also located in Virginia.

Using visual aids, Dr. Clark presented a home video that showed many of his family members, ranging from the elderly to his grandchildren, visiting both "Little Cherrystone" and "Pine Crest." At "Pine Crest", family members got a chance to enter the home and get a view of what it looked like inside. Although the building had been modernized, much of the original infrastructure still exists. Outside of the home, there was a family cemetery that the relatives had a chance to visit, cementing the realities of their origins.

On the bus that the family members rode on throughout the tape, Dr. Clark presented the family history to his relatives. Arriving at "Little Cherrystone", the family saw that only half of the building remained standing. The other half of the building had collapsed due to age and decay. There at "Little Cherrystone", Dr. Clark's relatives were able to part with pieces of the collapsed building, such as rusty nails, bricks, and other materials that made up the building.

They were able to collect concrete material of their past.

By going to cemeteries, discovering wills, and using Census data, it took Dr. Clark approximately two

years to trace his family history. But Dr. Clark urged the audience to sit down to talk and listen to elder family members about family history. It is through living family members and oral history that we discover where we come from.

When hard work and dedication is put into a project, and when successful at the project, many feelings and emotions stir.

Learning about where he came from and being able to go back to the plantations that his ancestors originated from, as Dr. Clark stated "gives him inspiration for his ancestors who didn't see freedom."

Being able to go back to a plantation that held your ancestors as slaves, and walking away as a free black with rights that your ancestors did not possess, certainly must have instilled the Clark family with a sense of purpose and accomplishment. Dr. Clark's voice echoed

with emotions he could not define nor illustrate through his slides.

"Let's bury 'I can't,' he said. 'It's a shame, in this day and age, to say 'I can't.'"

Our past history is very important; however, some people don't see

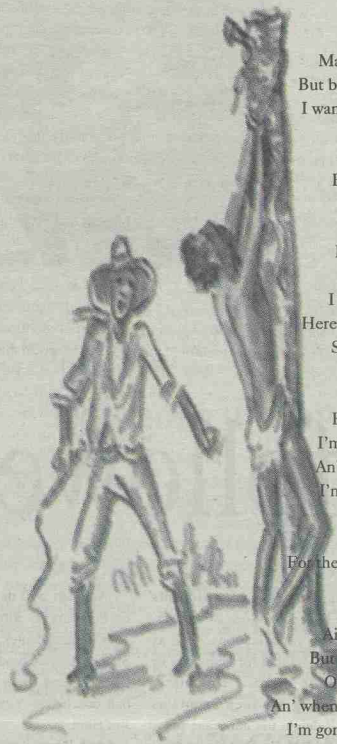


importance in past history. Maybe some would see their past history as one important if they knew where their last name

originated from, or the plantations their ancestors were enslaved upon. As an African-American, you may know the hardships of slavery, but putting a name to a face that has the same last name as yours, your genetic makeup, may cause you to re-evaluate the things you do in your life. It may cause you to earn harder grades, or have more sense of pride. Maybe one day, we all may know where our roots are grounded. We have to just listen to those who have seen more than us. The elders.

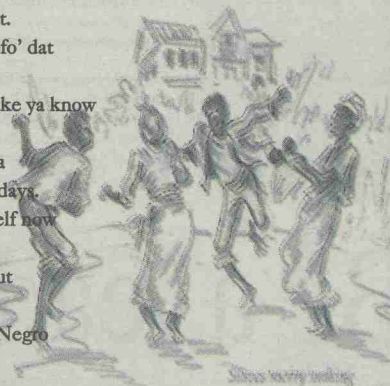
A Negro's Cry

words by Wilson White



Mastuh, I know ya sleepin'
But befo' anutter moon go by,
I wancha ta lay dere an' listen
Ta a Negro's cry.
Dis may sound harsh
But frankly it's mah plea.
I'm tired, I'm weak,
Are ya listenin' ta me?
I'm sittin' here cryin' an'
Even dyin' ta be free.
I didn't ask ta come ta dis
Here land of so called liberty.
See you brought me here
All locked up in chains.
Yo' law say ya own me,
But da sad truth remains.
I'm still here used, abused,
An' aint' got nuttin' ta sho'.
I'm tired of wonderin' why
Ya won't let me go.
Mah dreaded past,
For then, oh mastuh, dis Negro
Will be free at last.
I know ya sleepin' an'
Aint' tryin' ta listen ta me,
But I'm tryin' ta warn ya dat
One day I'm gona be free.
An' when dat day comes, mastuh,
I'm gone look at ya an' say bye,
Cause ya shouldn't a been sleepin'

Yo' Constitution say dat
Equal is all men,
An' despite yo' bigotry,
I'm destined to win.
People like Dr. King will come
An' finally speak out.
Langston Hughes will soon tell
Ya what racism is all about.
Ooh an' let me tell dat befo' dat
Freedom bell rings,
Maya Angelou is gona make ya know
Why da caged bird sings.
I may as well confess ta ya
Dat I'm only countin' da days.
Da only way ta save yo' self how
Is ta change yo' ways.
Soon I'm gona forget about
Mah dreaded past,
For then, oh mastuh, dis Negro
Will be free at last.
I know ya sleepin' an'
Aint' tryin' ta listen ta me,
But I'm tryin' ta warn ya dat
One day I'm gona be free.
An' when dat day comes, mastuh,
I'm gone look at ya an' say bye,
Cause ya shouldn't a been sleepin'
Ya shoulda listen ta dis Negro's cry.



pictures courtesy ooof www.opus.co/maxifill

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Juniors Jennifer Barrett, LaKesha Pegues, and Rashida Hodge enjoying the moment

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THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

John Coltrane, born in this week in the South

September	18	Congress passes Fugitive Slave Law as part of the Compromise of 1850, 1850
September	19	St. Kitts Independence Day Atlanta University founded, 1865
September	20	First Negro Convention of Free Men agree to boycott slave-produced goods, 1830
September	21	Belize Independence Day FW Leslie, inventor, patents the envelope seal, 1891 Atlanta Life Insurance Company founded, 1905
September	22	Republic of Mali Independence Day Mary Church Terrell, first Black person to serve on the DC board of education, born, 1863
September	23	John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, born, 1926
September	24	Joe Louis, World Heavyweight Champion, becomes the first Black boxer to draw a million dollar gate, 1935 Nine Black students integrate Little Rock high school, 1957



Be a leader, not a follower

Kelise Taylor

Join N.C. State's Leadership Organization

In order to have a more fulfilling and successful climb on the ladder of success, an impressive grade point average is good to have. Aside from grades, leadership skills are in high demand in the real world. While there are those who naturally possess these characteristics and attributes, there are some who need a little help in accomplishing this feat. For those who need a little assistance, let N.C. State help you in reaching this goal by taking part in its Center for Student Leadership, Ethics, and Public Service organization.

The Center for Student Leadership, Ethics, and Public Service is a great

place for students to challenge themselves to grow as responsible citizens, leaders, and volunteers," remarks the program's director, Janey Musgrave.

The Leadership Development Series offers students free, informative workshops that are designed to teach students how to become better risk takers, role models, example-setters, and more community-oriented individuals. Because of the various workshops offered, students may not know which workshops to focus on; therefore, the center offers a self-assessment workshop.

This workshop," states Dana Hughes, a member and consultant of this organization, "really helps students in realizing where their strong and weak areas are, as far as their leadership abilities are concerned."

After learning which leadership skills need improvement, the students know which workshops to

devote most of their attention towards. All workshops are held from 6:30-9:30 in the Talley Student Center on designated days. To find the specific dates of these workshops and other pertinent information, visit the SLEPS website at www.fis.ncsu.edu/slc/. After attending a certain number of workshops students receive a leadership certificate and leadership transcript, two items that clearly impress employers.

Laura Black, owner of The Little Gym in Cary N.C. says, "The leadership transcript shows that the student has a commitment and desire to grow as a person, which, in turn, gives them the edge. Employers look for applicants who already have an understanding of their leadership style."

Attending interesting and informative seminars is not the only step that students can take in their leader-

ship-improvement task. Students can also be a part of one of the center's service organizations, such as N.C. State's Habitat for Humanity or Hope for the Homeless. Volunteering for such events as Service Raleigh, the hurricane relief effort, and N.C. State's annual Spring Break relief trip to Honduras, the Dominican Republic and other locations are other projects that students can take a part in. This rewarding trip helps students see that they are valuable citizens that can make a difference in the world.

Another of the center's highlights is its annual Role Model Leader's forum.

At these forums, students hear lectures from a role model leader who speaks on what it takes to better prepare for the ethical challenges of the future. This year's featured speaker is the renowned author and poet, Maya Angelou.

Angelou will deliver her speech on February 1, 2001 at 7:00 in the McKimmon center. Some of N.C. State's past role model speakers have been General Hugh Shelton, basketball coach Kay Yow, and Governor Jim Hunt.

Leigh Barnes, one of the organization's active student participants says, "I love the LDS program. It instills leadership skills in all of us while allowing us to realize our own potential."

The chance to become an even better individual is right before your eyes, it comes in the form of ten simple words-the Center for Student Leadership,

Ethics, and Public Service organization.

who gets your vote, cont..

continued from page 2

A proponent of charter schools, Bush is planning to establish a Charter School Homestead Fund that will provide \$3 billion in loan guarantees to help establish or improve 2,000 charter schools nationwide in two years. Bush would also move the Head Start Program under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education to emphasize his desire to provide children with quality instruction early in their academic careers. Unlike Gore, Bush supports a school voucher program that would expand the Educational Savings Account and allow parents to increase their annual contributions from \$500 to \$5,000 per student. The voucher proposal would also let parents withdraw tax-free funds to pay for educational expenses

throughout their child's educational career, including college.

Perhaps one of the largest divides between Bush and Gore can be found in their stances on abortion. According to Gore's platform, the Vice President is committed to making abortion "safe, legal, and rare". A strong pro-choice advocate, Gore is seen as a supporter of Roe v. Wade and is currently pushing to provide \$4.5 million in increased security for clinics deemed high risk for violent attacks.

Gore wishes to expand family planning programs by increasing funding \$25 million in what would be the largest increase in 15 years. These programs would ensure comprehensive reproductive health services as well as an improvement in the accessibility of contraceptive counseling and services, an approach

Gore claims would prevent over 1 million unintended pregnancies each year.

With the exception of rape, incest, and when the life of the mother is in jeopardy, George W. Bush is a staunch pro-life advocate. Bush believes that all children should be allowed to enter the world and be protected by the law and would therefore support restrictions such as parental notification for abortions. Bush is also strongly against the use of taxpayer funds for abortions and would support a ban on partial birth abortions. To counteract the number of children born to mother who would have otherwise had an abortion, Bush supports an increase in adoption programs across the nation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

**K
i
a
r
a**



congratulations on your 4th birthday

love -Shawn

BLACK MEN & white women

Is it love or something else?

Larry Houpe
guest columnist

Since the gradual decay of the segregation barriers, interracial dating and marriages have been steadily increasing. Our society here in the U.S. seems to be accepting these relationships with open arms, but is that really the case? For African Americans, it is possibly the motives that our brothers give for dating out of their race that upsets some of us.

So, why do brothers date white women? First let me say that there are excuses for dating someone of another race and there are reasons for dating people of other races. One excuse that I've heard from brothers

for dating white women is that, you can do anything you want to do and she won't argue or show any disapproval for your behavior. You see these couples on talk shows all the time. This isn't an example of what dating a white woman is like, it is what dating a weak or insecure woman would be like. Another excuse for dating white women is that they are freaks when it comes to sex, willing to do or try anything. We have spent many decades trying to overcome certain negative stereotypes that we know aren't true of all brothers. Therefore, why enter a relationship based on a preconceived notion that a white woman is going to behave more like a slut than a respectable female? One of the

biggest excuses given for dating white women is that they give their men money or buy them lots of lavish gifts. These stereotypes may be true of some white women, but they could also be true of some black women and women of other races.

None of the aforementioned are reasons to date outside of your race or within it. Entering into a relationship with a woman based on the myth of some fairy tale treatment is, dare I say it, trifling. That is the proverbial easy way out for brothers who are too weak to support strong black women. The only reasons you should seek a relationship from any one of any race is if you see a potential friendship or perhaps romantic companionship possibilities. If you

are in it for material gain or servitude, get a job or get a maid. Don't waste that person's time or ruin someone else's chance of forming a positive relationship.

Having said that, I do believe that there is a legitimate reason that some brothers date white women. It has nothing to do with money or services provided, but simply love. Yes, believe it or not some brothers do love the white women they are with. We shouldn't knock any relationship formed on this principle, because true love is hard to find. And if a brother finds it, even if it is out of his race support him, because he is still your brother. And he still goes through the same struggles that any other brother goes through.

To whom it may concern...

Montica Talmadge
staff columnist

What is the big deal with an older woman dating a younger man? Why does everyone have such a problem with it? Why is it alright for a 21-year-old man to be with a 19-year-old woman, but it is reprehensible if it is other way around? It has been called "Stella-itis" and "robbing the cradle". However, what I want to know is why is there such a double standard? I am involved in a relationship with a man who is a year and a half younger than me. I love and respect him as the adult that he is, and I would not have it any other way. I am not writing this as a vindictive response to those who would question my relationship, but rather as a wake-up call to those people who seem to have a problem seeing myself, my boyfriend and those like us as happy.

We are not a sub-culture. We are simply people involved with individ-

uals we love, respect, and have found a connection with. Take Terry McMillian for example. She had been through the gamut of dating and failed relationships. Exhausted, she retreated to Jamaica and found someone who made her heart leap and her head spin. He was cultured and intelligent. He was also Jamaican and handsome. Everyone was pleased with her choice in this brotha until they found out that he was almost twenty years her JUNIOR! Oh, then folks were fuming! How could she stoop so low? What was wrong with her; couldn't she find a man her own age? No one took the time to see that this man made her happy. No one took the time to acknowledge that this was the man she wanted in her life to complete her own image of herself. Terry, fortunately, did not care. She married Jonathan Plummer almost 4 years ago, and today, they and her son are a happy family. So why should anyone begrudge them their

unalienable rights to pursue their happiness?

What I can't seem to come to terms with is why people equate age with security. Just because a man is older doesn't mean he knows how to treat a woman. I have dated guys who were older than myself and believe me, they were *not* for me! They were rude and self-absorbed, and I was not into that. At the same time, I dated a guy in high school who was younger than me and he was a spoiled brat. It depends on the person.

I think there is a lot to be said to and about the families and friends who seem to have a hard time dealing with older-woman/younger-man relationships. I wish there was a way to write this so everyone could hear my tone of voice. I wish this article could find its way to all those that deserve to read this, particularly in my own life. There is much to be said and I have the outlet and the opportunity to say it so listen up!

TO: The families and friends of those in an older-woman/younger-man relationship

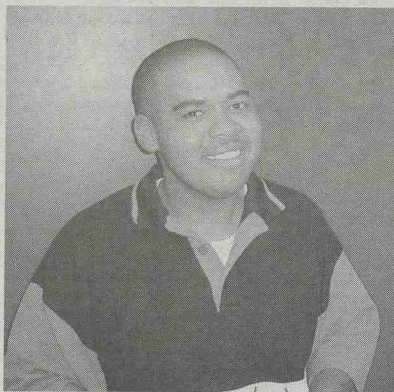
FROM: Us in the relationship

RE: Your opinion and behaviors

Please understand that we love you and always will. Also understand that your opinions of us mean a great deal, but your recent behavior and unwarranted comments have become troubling to not only us but to the people we are involved with as well. This relationship is our choice and we understand all the ramifications to such a socially dis-regarded situation. Please know that it is far from a last resort. We are happy and content. This man/woman respects, cherishes, and most of all loves us, and we do the same for them. We need your support, not your criticism; your love, not your abuse; your comforting words, not your sharp tongue. This is frightening for us all, and if we can't trust our families what do we have? You don't have to like the situation, but you do have to accept it for what it is and nothing else. If you take the time to get to know the true situation then you can be better informed as to why we made the choices we made. Thanks for listening this once. Please direct any questions/ concerns to us in a respectful manner. We love you.

*Sincerely,
Your loved ones*

NUBIAN MESSAGE student spotlight



Michael Anthony
Student Body Treasurer

Alpha Phi Alpha

treasurer

NPHC
Palamentarian

major:

Business Management

Livingston Cont.

Television isn't the only thing we've let slide by. Aren't you tired of the fact that everybody in America knows that Black women are usually full in the hips and backside and yet they still mass produce square cut jeans that don't flatter the black

woman's curved body type? It is time that we voice our opinion and do what we can to make ourselves heard. Black television is a great place to start because with positive images of black people on television we can slowly change the stereotypes that have been placed on us for many years.

Read More
Nubian
Trust Us
It is good
for you

Just a Technicality?

Darkchild
mystery columnist

I'm not a Greek, but even I did a triple take following last Tuesday's Technician article about sorority and fraternity GPA's at N.C. State. Perhaps it is because I have a predisposition to read between even the invisible lines, having already spent three years at N.C. State; but as I read, I couldn't help but notice the extremely one-sided slant from which the article was written.

Take for instance, the fact that no representatives from African-American Greek-letter organizations are mentioned anywhere in the article. Surely, a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) could have adequately and

intelligently represented the Council as legitimate students with active interests in academic and service excellence. Also mentioned in the article is the new policy implemented under the Inter-Fraternity Council, a policy requiring freshmen rush hopefuls to meet an Academic Index requirement of at least 2.5. This is described as an attempt to prevent freshmen who run the risk of performing at low academic standards from participation in rush until satisfactory academic progress is displayed. Noticeably absent from this article however, is the NPHC guideline that prohibits freshmen students from pledging a Greek organization until matriculation to a sophomore standing as well as a minimum GPA requirement. I don't

know; maybe there is a perfectly legitimate explanation for why these facts are mysteriously omitted from the Technician article. It is possible that EVERY single member of NPHC or the traditionally black, Greek-letter organizations decided to go home right before the Technician story deadline. Or perhaps the article's writer, Ms. Millen, has a violent allergic reaction to the perfume worn by the Coordinator of African American Student Affairs, who incidentally, is also the faculty advisor for NPHC. Hey, I'm trying to give the writer the benefit of the doubt because after the next paragraph or two, she's going to need it.

Having said all of the above, which is of course, the expressed and written opinion of me, the

Darkchild, I have a serious bone to break, or I mean, pick with Ms. Millen (and if it sounds as if I'm questioning her effort to write a balanced and unbiased "news" article, then I'm glad to see that you're paying attention). The traditional black, Greek-letter organizations do not rank high enough in importance to garner either a quote or an interview, but their GPAs are worthy of publishing? I wonder if Ms. Millen took the time to research the ratio of members in the African-American fraternities and sororities as compared to those of the others listed in the article. Even I, who once thought that AKA only meant "also known as" and Delta was the airline that my brother worked for, can see where comparing the GPAs of two

or three members of an organization to a student group that is easily 200 strong is problematic. That is similar to comparing the GPAs of two roommates to those of their entire dorm.

Obviously the dorm, or in this case organizations with higher membership, will more than likely have higher averages. They have a wider margin for error, correct? Are any of these factors listed beside an asterisk at the bottom of the table that lists these GPAs? No. And is anyone else bothered by the fact that Omega Psi Phi's GPA is listed although they are officially off of the N.C. State yard? Hmmm.

See, these are the kinds of things that, seemingly trivial at first, cause this comatose state of inaction in

Brandi's Two Cents



by Brandi Livingston

...On Racism

Many people will deny that racism still exists today. However, racism is still a presence in today's society; it has simply taken on a new face. During the civil rights era, it was expressed more openly. Whether it was someone of another race calling you a nigger or someone burning a cross in your yard, expressions of hatred in the past were clearer to the eye. This is not to say that hate crimes do not exist today's society. We have seen headlines of church burnings, black men being dragged to death and even police beatings. However, all things considered, these open hate crimes occur much less and are less accepted today than they were forty years ago.

Today racism has taken on a more subtle form. Instead of openly expressing hatred, people try to hide their real feelings, by playing the "politically correct" card and engaging in their ignorant beliefs in their homes and jobs. It would be rare to hear normal Joe at work call you the "nigger" to your face; however, you may be overlooked for a promotion or a raise because of race. It is this type of institutionalized discrimination that is commonly practiced today.

It is each individual person's decision to decide which era of racism is worse. Would you rather have racial slurs, and stereotypes thrown in your face on a regular basis or would you rather not know? From a personal standpoint, I would rather not know. If people hate me because of my race, which is something I have no control over, I would rather not be aware of their ignorance. Someone's negative opinion and beliefs causes hostility among people. This tension between people causes anger and animosity. In

...On Black T.V Shows?

Lets see here, we have Moesha, The Parkers, The Hughleys, Girlfriends, The Jamie Foxx Show and The Steve Harvey Show. What's wrong with this picture people? Only six major black shows contained on only two networks, the WB and UPN. Why is it that black television shows have yet to find a permanent home on the major networks such as ABC, CBS and NBC?

I feel it's all about the BLACK DOLLAR. Black consumers have been overlooked and under-appreciated for their contribution to the economy for years. Yet instead of standing up for ourselves and demanding attention, we have let things slide by. Haven't you ever heard on the radio that yet another black television show was going to be cancelled and then they gave out an address for people to write letters of complaint? How many times have you written to support a black television show that's about to be cancelled? I'm not pointing the finger. I'm guilty too. However, it is time that all of us "help" society realize the importance of the black consumer. If black people were not tuning in to those major networks they would definitely see a drop in ratings and thus learn the importance of the black community and their viewership.

ON BLACK TV SHOWS CONT. PG. 7

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!!!

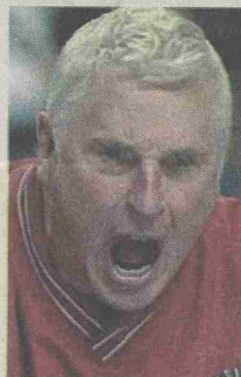
Adedayo Banwo
Editor

Bob Knight has a problem with putting his hands on people. His temper is infamous and so are his sideline tirades. Why did he stay around so long? The answer is simple; we all know that we measure those in athletics to another standard. Mr. Knight's temper would have gotten him fired twenty years ago if he was simply a professor or even a dean.

Despite what we know about the double standard held for those in big time athletics, there seems to be another one working here. As a college basketball fan, I have watched Knight over the years storm down the sidelines, curse out reporters, and even physically abuse his players. The media took these incidents and drew a picture of Knight as a coach whose on and off the court antics could be excused because he is a successful coach, a "great teacher," as I heard one reporter describe it.

When LaTrell Sprewell put his hands on another person, he was immediately crucified by the white media as some sort of animal. "Sports Illustrated" ran an article that went way beyond the actual event which got Sprewell in trouble. This article discussed prior events such as Sprewell's reaction to an accident involving his daughter, his demeanor and his attitude. Wake up and smell the hypocrisy. Both of these individuals have had terrible things alleged against them, yet America's reaction to each couldn't have been more different.

America views professional black athletes with contempt (with the exception of Michael Jordan and I



guess Tiger Woods.) The average fan thinks professional athletes are overpaid and under-worked, and if not for the heroic white coach (or quarterback), they would not know what to do with themselves.

Not convinced yet? Lets look at two violent sex offenders: Marv Albert and Mike Tyson. The first reaction is, "how in the world can you compare Mike Tyson to Marv Albert?" Lets think about it, both of them were accused of sexually offenses against women they knew. Tyson pleaded "Not Guilty" and Albert "No Contest." If you would approach someone who did not know who either individual was, took away how the media slanted both incidents and gave them all the facts, which person would they say deserves their job back? Which sex offender would they deem to be the most appropriate?

Well, we all know how America feels. Albert gets back his NBC job, and the women's groups are silent. Tyson has protestors outside every

fight; he is the arch enemy of the women's rights groups. Yet these same groups see nothing wrong with a person who was faced with a very similar charge holding a big time job on a National Broadcast network (the same one he was removed from after the story involving the charges broke.)

Of course they don't. Tyson has a different standard held against him. He does not have what Albert has. He lacks the education, the communication skills, but most importantly, he lacks the white skin.

Still not convinced? Kevin Greene (a white football player) did exactly what LaTrell Sprewell did. He put his hands around one of his coach's neck and squeezed. Except Greene did his dirty work on national television for millions to see. The clip, played over and over again on television, did nothing to elicit a reaction from the viewing audience. Greene does not carry nearly the stigma that Sprewell does. In fact, most people do not even know Greene attacked his coach despite the fact it was caught on tape.

The reason for the different reactions is that Greene is white and so was the coach. What fun is it when it's a white man attacking another white man.

America needs to wake up. Bob Knight is no better than Sprewell or any other violent person. He has a problem, and he does not deserve the accolades that were bestowed upon him in the last couple of weeks. He should have been fired the first time he put his hands on another person. That goes for him and any other individual, white or black. Its time we all realized that.

need more opinions?

GO TO PAGE 7!!