



the

Nubian Message

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

September 28, 2000

Volume 8 Issue 4

Authors on campus to promote book

Michelle Reed Culture

This past Tuesday, authors Virginia DeBerry and Donna Grant visited the Catalyst Bookshop inside the NCSU Bookstore. They discussed their book, "Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made," and the latest novel they released, "Far From the Tree."

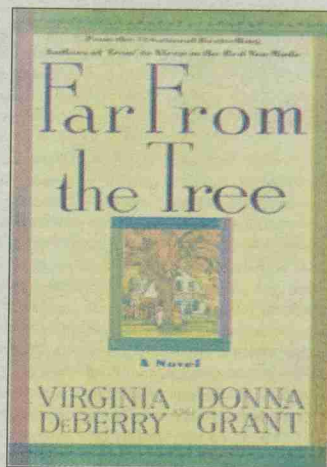
DeBerry and Grant have shared 20 years of friendship. They met as models while auditioning for the same position. Instead of competition, the two women joined forces and became friends. After their modeling careers were over, they worked together on a fashion newsletter called "Great

Dimensions." This led to the opportunity to start "Maxima," which was a magazine geared towards plus-size women. DeBerry was editor-in-chief and Grant was the managing editor. Unfortunately after a year of hard work, investors pulled out, and the publication of "Maxim" came to an end. They didn't let this dampen their spirits and decided to write a book together. This produced the book, "Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made."

"Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made" was published in 1997. In this book, readers fall into the world that is viewed through the eyes of main characters, Patricia and Gayle. Despite different personality traits, such as "the sun representing day, and the moon rep-

resenting night," Patricia and Gayle develop a close friendship bond as youths. Both characters are orphaned as young girls, but because of Patricia's lack of stability at home, Gayle's adoptive family welcomes Patricia into their home. As the girls get older, Patricia's intellect earning her a scholarship to a prep school, and Gayle caught up in her world of beauty and boys, they develop different interest and begin to lose touch with one another. Patricia focuses her life towards her career in advertising, which will eventually lead her to substantial financial losses.

see Authors, page 5



Follow up on pale campus series

Kim Terry

Students are encouraged to become involved on campus in order to meet people and make a smooth transition from high school to college. There

are presently, a number of minority student organizations registered at NCSU. When talking to African-American students on campus about how they are adjusting to campus, generally the response is that they

find it easy to make friends here.

Glory Udofia, a sophomore in first year college says, "It's easy to make friends but I'm drawn to African-Americans." Another student agreed with her on that statement. She says, "people are open, but sometimes I feel isolated in my classes."

There is a class on campus designed to give minority freshmen-students guidance in the areas of study skills, time management, and cultural issues. That class is MDS 101D.

Scheherazade Pittman is a graduate student in the CALS department and teaches an MDS 101D class this

semester. Pittman believes there is not really a feeling of isolation among her students. Most of them are in their major, and they are pretty well directed. She does talk to them about how to deal with issues that may occur on campus for minority students. For the most part Pittman says she makes sure she gives her students "ideas on how to succeed."

Dr. Gail Hankins, who is the African-American coordinator in the college of Business and Management, also teaches an MDS 101D class.

She says that, "this is many stu-

dents first time away from home so isolation might be mistaken for loneliness."

The students in Hankins' class are also adjusting fairly well to N.C. State life. She believes that the students feeling isolated are the ones not taking the MDS classes. Her advice for students who may be feeling isolated is to get connected by staying on campus during the weekends and building a network of friends. Another way for students to get connected is to also be involved. There are a number of organizations on campus to join. The easiest way to find out more about them is to

Concerns to be voiced at town hall meeting

Avren Jackson

SAAC Town Hall meeting

The lowered levels of student involvement on campus, the minimal amount of student to faculty interaction, or the effectiveness of student leader participation. These are some of the concerns that the African-American community at N.C. State is faced with. Through involvement, interaction, and participation, is the African-American community doing its part to uplift the University or, is there more that could be done? The Society of African-American Culture (SAAC) has organized a program in which all of these and any other con-

cerns will be able to be brought forth and discussed. The goal is to give all students, faculty, and staff a voice.

SAAC will be holding a Town Hall meeting Friday at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the multipurpose room of the Afrikan-American Cultural Center. Anyone interested in voicing their concerns on issues facing the African-American community here at N.C. State is welcome to attend the meeting. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to attend the Town Hall meeting.

"This is a time where we can come together and discuss the problems and give solutions," says Kim Mcnair, president of SAAC.

According to members of

SAAC, the utilization, operation, and promotion of the Afrikan-American Cultural Center will be one of the many focuses of the meeting.

"The AAC is in a state of emergency, and we need as much support from students, faculty, and staff to bring the center to the level it should be at," says Mcnair.

Other focuses will be on group and individual participation within the Center and on campus, the African-American student organization interaction, and the intercommunication between students and faculty.

"With this kind of forum, the audience is the true facilitator because their comments and ideas turn into

effective dialogue," says Diamond Lesane, political action chair of SAAC. "This form of interaction is needed between ourselves as well as between us and the faculty and staff."

Many who participated in the Town Hall meetings of the past agreed that afterwards they felt encouraged and motivated. They felt the need to know more and do more. The Town Hall meeting will prove to provide the opportunity for current concerns to be publicized to the rest of the campus and possibly through this communication, bring about change.

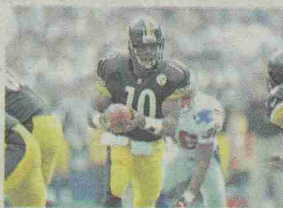
"Through the lack of participation in AASAC, many of us [black student leaders] have been in the dark

about many of the things happening on campus," says Lesane. "If we as leaders were unaware, imagine then how the rest of the African-American community must feel."

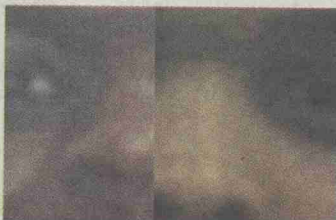
SAAC stresses that this Town Hall meeting is open to everyone. The meeting will also include invited alumni who will assist and participate in the forum. Participants are encouraged to come out and be prepared to make a difference in their community.

"We want students, faculty, and staff to know that they really do count," said Mcnair. "You can make the difference."

This week in the Nubian



the black qb returns



**BANWO VS. WINSTON
RAP MUSIC OR BAD MUSIC ?**



**SPEAKING OF BAD MUSIC
BOYZ II MEN RETURNS**

Hayes a wonderful addition to State

Kelise Taylor

Introducing Dr. Floyd W. Hayes
N.C. State's New MDS Professor

Dr. Floyd W. Hayes is the newly arrived associate professor in the division of Multidisciplinary Studies and also associate professor in the department of political science and public administration. Hayes comes to N.C. State with the purpose of shedding light on to what he calls the glaring evasion of blacks in America. He also wants to show students the accomplishments and achievements of African-Americans. This long-time teaching veteran brings with him an impressive background including professorships at prestigious institutions such as Cornell University, San Diego State, and Princeton University.

Hayes, a Gary, Indiana native has conducted a wide array of seminars on the African-American experience, written the forewords to a number of books, and published articles in "The Black

Scholar" and "Urban Education." Hayes is described as a visionary whose primary goal and focus is to help not only the African-American students, but all persons, to become more aware of life's inevitable challenges. In so doing, he hopes that the students will have the knowledge needed to face the obstacles of the world.

Hayes believes that in order to begin tackling life's challenges, we need to "engage in the destruction and dismantlement of racism and other forms of cultural domination." Hayes expounds on this powerful statement by saying that "the issue is not whether one is racist but whether one is actively anti-racist." Hayes continues by remarking on how important it is that students become "passionately involved in the fight against racism, sexism and other forms of cultural impurities, as opposed to being passionate about and supportive of cultural dismantlement."

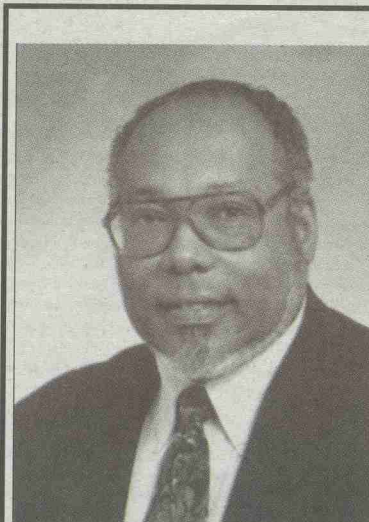
While the primary focus of Hayes' curriculum is on the African-American experience, he is interested in teaching his students how to think for themselves

and how not to be afraid of presenting an argument despite the likelihood of their being criticized by others in the class. Hayes mentions that he tries to create an environment that is conducive to the free expression of a person's viewpoint.

"Students need to learn how to be bold and assertive in any and all situations because they will need this quality to be successful in life," asserts Hayes. "But most importantly," he continues, "I want my students to learn how to be respectful of other's ideas."

Hayes' overwhelming love for N.C. State students was unmistakable as he repeatedly described their intellectual skills and never-ending pride in the institution.

"Students should not only meet the highest standard but rather hold that standard as a model of excellence," says the Hayes. And what better way for students to truly exemplify and embody the idea of excellence than by ridding themselves of condescending beliefs about others? Imagine how much more wonderful the world would be.



Hayes has taught at Cornell, San Diego State and Princeton, he was born in Indiana

Student Mentor Association holds successfull cookout

Bobby Guthrie, II

Food, Fellowship and Fulfillment

Close-knit bonds were formed last Thursday over a hot, sizzling grill. Newly arrived freshmen had a chance to introduce themselves to their mentors and create what could later become strong support resources. N.C. State's Student Mentor Association (SMA) held its annual Mentor-Mentee Cookout at the African-American Cultural Center. Despite the forecasted rain, the SMA lucked out and was spared the precipitation. The festivities officially started at 5 p.m., but the gathering of mentees and mentors started earlier.

The mentees gathered together in front of the AACC's main entrance to find someone that they could go to for assistance when problems of college life arise. These new students were eager to learn the ropes of university life.

The mentors also collaborated at Witherspoon to find people that could serve as positive role models for, not only in college, but for life in general. These experienced

N.C. State students were eager to extend a helping hand to those just arriving in this "different world." Besides having all the hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips that one could eat, there was also a talented deejay present. This "master of music" provided the attendees with inspirational music. He played different types of songs that fit different tastes while at the same time keeping the atmosphere on an enlightened note. The turnout was lower than expected, but the event was still a success. Tracey Ray, Student Development Coordinator of African-American Student Affairs, had anticipated 200 students. However, those who came out formed partnerships not with just their mentors, but with other students who are also new to N.C. State.

"It was a good turnout," said Chavonda Pighet, vice president of the Student Mentor Association. "There were about 45 people." Pighet was pleased at how well the mentors and the mentees formed alliances with each other. The purpose of the cook out was not only to eat, but

for mentors and mentees to get to know each other.

"Everybody mixed and mingled. It was a good experience," said a female student. The hope of the SMA is to assign a mentor to each minority freshmen student.

The cookout was designed as a meeting place for those couples that haven't already interacted at the start of the school year. Some students may feel shy about meeting someone older in college and forming a relationship with them, but this event was created as a way to tear down that fear and establish a link that is genuine.

This is a time where all freshmen can come together across [the] college," says Ray on the primary focus of Thursday's activities. Pighet did mention that the SMA is looking for more upperclassmen to become mentors. She noted that it isn't too difficult to become a mentor.

"All they need to have is at least a 2.5 GPA," says Pighet.

Pighet suggested that those interested in becoming a mentor or mentee should contact the Student Mentor Association.

Editorial continued from page 8

Now is the time to ask yourself, student leaders, does my noise make sense? Does it carry a message? The knowledge possessed by those such as Dr. Iyailu Moses, director of the African-American Cultural Center is useless if students do not retain and act on it. Be proactive, talk to facul-

ty, staff, fellow students. Find out what the problems are now, before you are faced with ridiculous solutions posed by those who do not look like you later.

This type of action or inaction is the true test of who is a coward and who is not.

Read the Nubian Message

trust us, it is good for you

Read the Nubian Message

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The Rise of the Black Quarterback

Chris Sanders
Staff Writer

Over the last two decades there has been a lot of change in professional sports with African-Americans taking most of the headlines. From Tiger Woods to the Williams sisters, finally we are erasing stereotypes that have excluded or discouraged our participation in certain sports. There is no question that we can play football since most of the players in the NFL are black, but there has been a question as to whether we can play the quarterback position.

Ten years ago, there were only 2 black quarterbacks in the NFL, Randall Cunningham and Warren Moon. Although they were both good athletes, they had totally different playing styles. Moon was a typical pocket passer like most of the

white quarterbacks in the league. Cunningham however, used his athleticism and instincts to run out of the pocket and make plays. Cunningham led the Philadelphia Eagles in rushing when they did not have running backs that could make plays. In doing so, Cunningham had teams looking for a new breed of quarterback, one that could make things happen with his legs as well as his arm. Even after Cunningham, there were many skeptics saying that black quarterbacks were not smart enough, that they could not read defenses, and that they would not stay in the pocket. This illogic stuck even though Warren Moon, who almost never ran, was one of the leading passers in the league, and Cunningham led his team to the playoffs all but 2 years as the starter.

Both of these quarterbacks

bounced around a little bit with Moon going from Houston, to Minnesota, to Seattle, and finally to Kansas City, and Cunningham playing for Philadelphia, Minnesota, and now Dallas. Incidentally, Cunningham has led them to their only win this year. Age, not ability, has been the reason for their constant shuffling throughout the league. Notice that both of them have played for Minnesota and that is not such a coincidence seeing that they have one of the few black head coaches in the league, Dennis Green.

Ten years later, there are still questions about the black quarterback, widely ranging from intelligence to ability. We all know these are not fair questions seeing that most of the black quarterbacks who get an opportunity are successful. When the NFL season started, there

were 8 starting quarterbacks who were black and many other key back-ups including Kordell Stewart and Cunningham. The starters included, Jeff Blake, Akili Smith, Daunte Culpepper, Donovan McNabb, Shaun King, Charlie Batch, Tony Banks, and Steve McNair.

This new wave of talent is silencing many of the critics, who not too long ago believed that a black quarterback could not be successful. Half of them were drafted last year and are starters already, when in fact, the average quarterback takes at least three years to start. Even though they are all good athletes each have different talents. For instance, King and Batch do not run as much as their counterparts but are known for their decision making and leadership. On the other hand,

McNair and Culpepper are both built like linebackers and could run over most defensive backs. The rest have their own distinct talents, but all of them are good athletes who could probably play another position if asked.

Do not be surprised if Kordell Stewart finds a starting job with another team even if it is at another position. Most importantly, other than Smith and Blake, they all play for good teams. This could also be the first year that both superbowl teams have a black quarterback, seeing that Tampa Bay and Tennessee are both heavy favorites to reach the big game. With a lot of good black quarterbacks in college, the number of starters could go from 8 to 15 in the next five years. And this will keep increasing because the black quarterback is a defense's worst

African-Americans going for gold at Sydney Olympics

Alex Thompson
staff writer

The Olympics is an event that many people look forward to every four years whether they are athletes or spectators. The games are not only games. To some athletes, the Olympics are a chance to take something back to their country. It is a chance to get their country's name recorded as having received a medal in these prestigious competitions. It is a chance for athletes like Marion Jones and Maurice Green to prove that they are in fact the fastest woman and man in the world. And yet to others, it is a chance to prove to themselves that they can go even when they are near their breaking point. A chance to satisfy themselves with knowing that if they wanted to do it, they could, and they are one of the best if not the best at what they are doing.

The Olympic flag is one of the symbols of the Olympics that do not cross people's minds often. Not only is it a symbol of the games, but

the United States.

The Olympic Flame is also a famous symbol. The flame came from the ancient Olympics where a flame burned through the whole competition at the altar of Zeus. In the games today, the torch is lit by women who are dressed in robes to look like the women in the ancient times. The women then pass the torch on to the first relay runner. The flame is lit by natural sun rays that are reflected off of a curved mirror.

"Citius, altius, fortius" is Latin for "swifter, higher, stronger". This is the Olympic motto. The Olympians are also expected to live up to the oath and creed.

The oath states, "In the name of all competitors, I promise that we shall take part in these Olympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules that govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honour of our teams." And the creed is as follows: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to

take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered, but to have fought."

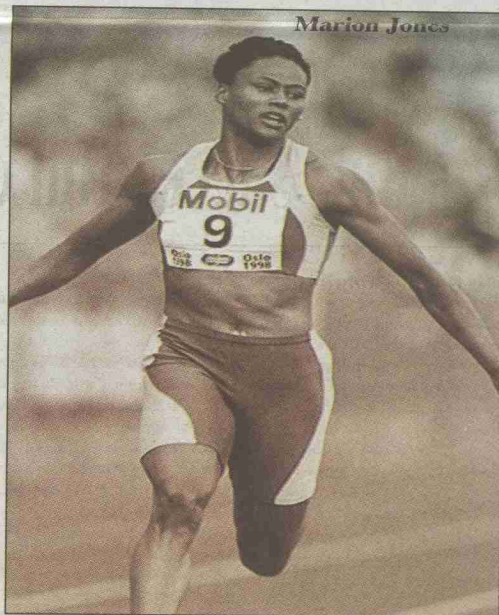
Beach Volleyball: White and black tandem of Dain Blanton and Eric Fonoimoana won a gold medal after barely qualifying for the American team. They defeated Brazil, the No. 2 in the world, to add another gold medal for the medal race for leader United States of America.

Tennis: Venus Williams who has won 31 straight matches and is taking her winning streak to the Olympics. She qualified for the gold medal match and will face Elena Dementieva of Russia. She has joined forces with her sister Serena and has qualified for the Semifinals. 31 wins and counting ...

Swimming: When most people think of the swimming event, African-Americans are the last to come to mind, but the swimming of African Eric Moussambani has become one of the biggest stories of the Olympics. In his heat of the 100-meter swim, the other two qualifiers false started and were kicked out of the race. The race restarted, and he jumped into the water just like any other Olympic swimmer. Eric had come to Sydney for the Olympic experience. Going into the race he was focused on "doing something" for himself and his coun-

try. He was one of four Sydney Olympians from Equatorial Guinea. One unique thing happened during

to win two consecutive gold medals in the 400-meter dash. World Champion Maurice Green won his



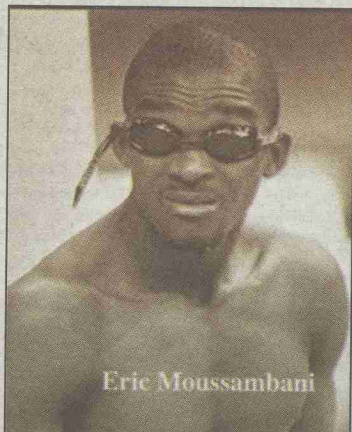
Marion Jones

his race on that day. The crowd noticed he was swimming very hard but very slow. Eric had never raced in a pool of that size before. He practiced in the ocean with sharks and empty hotel pools. He swam his heart out to show pride for his country. He struggled on the second 50 meters and had a sore shoulder. The crowd in Sydney appreciated his hard work and cheered for him as if he were about to break a world record. He finished the race with a final time of 1:52.72. No one will remember his final time as much as they will remember the size of Eric's heart.

Track & Field: Michael Johnson became the first American

first gold medal by winning the 100-meter dash. Marion Jones won her first of hopefully 5 gold medals when she dominated the field in the 100-meter dash. She has to now put this one behind her and focus on the rest.

Boxing: The Olympic fight with the most hype was no match at all. Cuban Felix Savon, the two-time Cuban gold medalist, easily outclassed (world champion) American Michael Bennett in the 201-pound quarterfinals. The fight was stopped in the third round on the 15-point rule, 23-8.



Eric Moussambani

Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and well."

Reintroducing...



Latoya Geathers
staff writer

It has been three long years since they have produced an album together, but the quartet group of Shawn, Nathan, Micheal, and Wanya is back on the music scene in the year 2000 with their latest album, *Nathan Micheal Shawn Wanya*. In the 90s, Boyz II Men wooed hearts with songs such as "On Bended Knee," "I'll Make Love to You," and "End of the Road." Individuals in the group produced solo albums while the group was separated, but now they are back together bringing something new to the stage.

The new CD has definitely soared up the charts rating 4.8 out of five stars, according to yahoo.com. This album has something for everyone. The CD starts with a Spanish beat followed by a mid-tempo rhythm. There is even techno on this CD! The album begins to slow to a sexy Latino flow and smoothly transitions into a slow love groove. Whether you want dance music or get-it-on music, Nathan, Michael, Shawn, and Wanya have it!

Each of the individuals that form the group, contribute unique styles to the group. When you separate their names, it is just Michael, Shawn, Nathan, and Wanya. But when you put the names together, you have Boyz II Men. Let's take a peak into the lives of the group that has captured the hearts of many.

Michael Sean McCary (many know him as the smooth, deep-bass voice of the group) was born on December 16, 1971. Coming from a huge family that consists of 15 brothers and sisters, Michael did not find it easy growing up in a neighborhood riddled with crime. Economic difficulties also troubled him because his mother was a single parent. At a transitional high school, Michael was in the honor society, debate team, as well as on the basketball team before injuring his knee. He loved to sing in high school, but would often

get called names because of this passion and for his involvement in academic activities. The cane that Michael always poses with in the group is not just only for fashion or cool points. The cane was actually used for stability in walking due to his clumsiness and bad knees.

Shawn Stockman, also known as Slim, was born on September 26, 1972.

Nathan Morris, the elder brother of Wanya, was born on June 18, 1971. Wanya was born on July 29, 1973. Raised mainly by their mother on the South Side of Philadelphia after their parents divorced and their father left, Nate, Wanya, and their two younger sisters had to struggle. Despite the economic problems faced by the family, going to church helped them to get by during the hard times. Nate sang in the church choir, a feat he believes made him work harder towards his goals.

At the age of 15, Wanya joined Boyz II Men, which was then called Unique Attraction. High school for Wanya was not easy. Because he wanted to have fun, he neglected his grades by not doing his homework or schoolwork. He was expelled from the High School for Creative and Performing Arts, and because of

expulsion, he switched schools a lot.

He eventually graduated from Willingboro High School. Wanya loved drawing, but not only did he realize that singing was his calling, so did his family. He designed some clothing for the group, but he loves singing better than drawing.

Like his brother, Nate also found the transition to the High School for Creative and Performing Arts difficult because of the new atmosphere. He wasn't used to being in a small school because at his previous school there were about a thousand students. To keep himself busy, he formed the group Unique Attraction, in 1985. Because the group experienced much success, Nate's plan to go to college took a backburner to music.

When Unique Attraction first started, there were five members. The fifth member was Marc Nelson. New group members would join the group, then drop out. For a while, this was a continued cycle. But it was Mike, Shawn, Wanya, and Nathan that stayed together. It was in 1989 when a local Philly radio station, Power 99FM, held an annual concert that was hosted by Bell Biv Divo, former members of the group New Edition. Using one backstage pass, the four determined, future-bound stars snuck backstage. Convincing Michael Bivins to let the group sing their favorite song for him, Unique Attraction sang a rendition of New

Edition's song, "Can You Stand the Rain." Bivins gave them a card, but it took nearly a year for the group to get signed to Bivins' label, Biv Entertainment. Bivins suggested that they change their name, Unique Attraction, to Boyz II Men, which came from the title of a New Edition song off the Heartbreak album. Bivins got the group a contract with Motown Records, and the group soared from there.

The group has won various awards since their debut. Released in 1991, their first album, *Cooleyhighharmony*, which featured songs such as "Motownphilly" and "It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday", sold over 12 million copies, received two Grammy Awards, two Soul Train Awards, an NAACP Image Award, two MTV Awards, three American Music Awards and one World Music Award.

In 1992, off the movie soundtrack, "Boomerang", appeared their song, "End of the Road". Becoming one of the most popular R&B songs, the song broke Elvis Presley's record for the longest amount of time at the number one spot on music charts. In 1993, the group released a Christmas album. Followed in 1994 was their album, *Boyz II Men II*, which sold 16 million copies. In 1997, the group released the album, *Evolution*, which featured the song "A Song For Mama," that was also on the "Soul Food" soundtrack.

From "Motownphilly," to "End of the Road," to "On Bended Knee," and now to their latest song, "Pass You By," Boyz II Men is back to show listeners why they have won so many awards. They are back to show that they are a strong force not to be reckoned with in R&B. They let you know why they are back in their newest CD, *Nathan Micheal Shawn Wanya*.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

PUT IT IN AN AD!!

contact CJ at 515-1468 or csjohnso@unity.ncsu.edu

September 28, 2000

The Nubian Message
presents

FACES IN THE CROWD

featuring: **Sheldon Lanier**

Shilena Crudup
staff reporter

This week's student interview focuses on Sheldon Lanier from Newbern, North Carolina. Sheldon is a senior majoring in middle school mathematics in the College of Education and Psychology.

Because of his active lifestyle, he does not have much leisure time. With big career goals and plans for the future, this young man is definitely one of our positive black males on the N.C. State campus. We had a chance to catch up with Sheldon despite his busy schedule.

NM: What are some of the activities that you are involved with on campus?

Sheldon L: I am apart of the Teaching Fellows, as well as the choreographer of the Black Finesse Modeling Troupe, a student ambassador, and I am also involved with the Association of African-American Students of Education and Psychology.

NM: Do you have any leading roles in any other activities?

Sheldon L: Yes. Aside from being a student ambassador, I am also involved with the Big Brother, Big Sister Program

NM: What made you come to North Carolina State University?

Sheldon L: At first I planned on going to North Carolina A&T, but I decided to come here because I knew that some of my black friends were coming to State. Another reason why I came to State was because I felt that God wanted me to be here. God put me here.

NB: How do you feel about being at a school that is predominately white?

Sheldon L: I feel the need to overachieve, to make sure I'm always on top.

NM: How important do you think it is for the black students to network on campus?

Sheldon L: Very important because we are like, "A flea in a bowl of milk." It is extra important that the African-American students connect with the African-American staff and authority on campus. For example Wandra Hill.

NM: Do you think racism is prevalent on this campus, and how should we deal with it when faced?

Sheldon L: Yes, racism is very present. I think we should just turn the other cheek and strive to be the best person we can be and make sure we graduate.

NM: What do you feel is the best thing about North Carolina State?

Sheldon L: The best thing at State is a woman named Anona Smith. She is an assistant dean in the College of Education and

Psychology. She is someone who will always be there for me. She is like a second mom to me who has been there since day one. I love her dearly.

NM: What has been the most positive thing to happen to you while at school?

Sheldon L: Without negative there wouldn't be any positive. But God has always been a positive presence in my life, and just becoming a senior is a positive thing for me. Also, the fact that I have seen and know the people that came into State with me and have come up with me.

NM: Have you ever had a bad experience here at State?

Sheldon L: No, that is because I keep mostly to myself and I always keep myself busy.

NM: What do you do on your leisure time?

Sheldon L: I only have enough time to work and sleep. I work at the Banana Republic.

NM: Are you a religious or spiritual person?

Sheldon L: Yes, very much so. I was always taught to keep God in my life. I'm a part of the United Student Fellowship. I just know who my leader is, and He is involved in every thing that I do in life. I always acknowledge God.

NM: Do you apply your beliefs in your every day living?

Sheldon L: Yes, but I bear in mind that everybody is not perfect. I try, but we all fall short at times. Every body should realize where their blessings follow, and should just strive to be the best we can be.

NM: What is your favorite book?

Sheldon L: The "Bibl" is my favorite book, I have read it over and over.

NM: Who has a positive influence on your life?

Sheldon L: My mom and dad have a very positive influence on my life.

NM: What are your short-term goals while in school?

Sheldon L: My short-term goal is to graduate, and graduate on top with honors.

NB: What are your long-term goals?

Sheldon L: I want to become a dean of historically black college or university. I want to give back to my people in that light. If not becoming a dean, I want to go to graduate school to get some kind of degree dealing with the fashion industry. I also want to become something like an executive with the Ken Cole Companies. Overall, my

main goals are to become a dean or become involved in the fashion industry.

NB: What do you do to help your community? How and what can you do personally to help your society?

Sheldon L: I feel that through all the work I do with children's fellowship, I always try to help our black children. Through teaching the children, I try to give them a positive black male role model.

NB: Are there any issues going on in the world that stands out to you the most?

Sheldon L: The elections stand out the most to me right now. That's because we need a democratic president. Besides that, cancer research. I lost my paternal grandparents to cancer. It's a slow and sickening disease. I want them to find a cure. By losing my grandparents, I have had a void in my life. I think it is the plague that the "Bible" speaks about.

NB: Where do you see yourself in five years?

Sheldon L: Married to a beautiful woman who looks like Janet Jackson, living comfortably with an Acura 3.2 TL, and a four runner LTD.

We thank Sheldon, and wish him the best of luck with all of his endeavors!

Authors, continued from page 1

Both characters are presented with the problem of finding love. However, Patricia begins to find love in Gayle's man, Marcus. Of course, drama ensues.

Readers will find their own way to view Marcus, Patricia, and Gayle. Issues such as honesty, faith, success, pain, passion, and love are addressed in this novel. This book has received many different accolades and awards. The book won the Merit Award for Fiction from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the New Author of the Year Award from the Go On Girl Book Club, and the Book of the Year Award from

Blackboard Bestseller List.

Their latest book, "Far From the Tree," focuses on two sisters, Celeste and Ronnie. These sisters are similar in that they both possess fear. Despite being married to a doctor, and living a "perfect" and high-class life, Celeste's marriage is falling apart. She does not want people to see how vulnerable she is because she wants to appear strong. Her sister Ronnie is an actress who lives in New York. However, she is also presenting a facade of her life. She wants everyone to believe that her life is full of glamour and rising fame, but she really has no money and no home. Celeste and Ronnie

inherit a house in Prosper, North Carolina when their father passes away. Della, their mother, does not want her daughters going there for fear of bring up the past. She has secrets she has kept for many years that she would rather not see surface. On their journey to the house, they will discover many things about self-discovery, love and the future.

DeBerry attended Fisk University and is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo. Prior to her entrance to the world of writing books, she was a high school English teacher for 10 years. She currently resides in New Jersey.

Grant is from Brooklyn, New York. She graduated from New York University. She spent a decade in the plus-size modeling industry before stepping into the literary world. Grant resides in Brooklyn with her husband.

"Tryin' to Sleep in the Bed You Made" blew up the scene when it was first released and is still a favorite among many readers. Can "Far From the Tree" be any hotter? If you wait long enough, you may be able to hear about the book from friends or other sources. But why wait? Find out for yourself firsthand about DeBerry and Grant's latest book. So hurry and get a copy of

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR THE NUBIAN'S UPCOMING ISSUES

October 5, 2000

October 26, 2000

November 2, 2000

November 9, 2000

November 16, 2000

December 7, 2000

Contact

csjohnso@unity.ncsu.edu

For Advertising Information

GET PAID TO PARTICIPATE IN A PSYCHOLOGY STUDY

As students, each of you may know that each fall and spring semester, researchers in the psychology department conduct a number of experiments on various topics. I invite you to participate in a paid experiment on problem solving styles. It is a simple 2 part experiment. Part 1 takes 30-45 minutes. Part 2 takes 45 minutes-1 hour. Part 2 will take place sometime during the 2 weeks following fall break. The entire 2 part experiment will not take more than an hour and a half of your time and will make a significant contribution to the field of psychology. Part 1 of the experiment serves as an information session and will be held on the

following dates and times in room 604 of Poe Hall:

**Wednesday, September 27, 2000 at
2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, and 7pm.**

**Thursday, September 28, 2000 at
11am, 12 noon, 1pm and 2pm**

**Thursday, September 5, 2000 at
10am, 11am, 3pm and 4pm.**

Location: Room 604 Poe Hall

You must arrive on time in order to participate in the experiment.
Again, the total amount of time is 1 1/2 hours and
you will be compensated \$10 for your participation in the 2 part experiment.

Questions can be directed to psyresearch@hotmail.com or 832-9580.
As a graduate student, the N.C. State Department of Psychology greatly appreciates your assistance and
participation in its psychological research.



North Carolina State University
Cooperative Education Program

CHECK OUT CO-OP:

IT'S THE EXPERIENCE YOU NEED FOR THE JOB YOU WANT!

Attend One of the Following Orientation Sessions:

Wednesday, September 27	5:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 5	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 11	5:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 19	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 25	5:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 2	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 8	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 15	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 29	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 6	5:00 p.m.

All information sessions held in Tucker Hall Classroom Ground Floor.

http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/co-op_ed

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

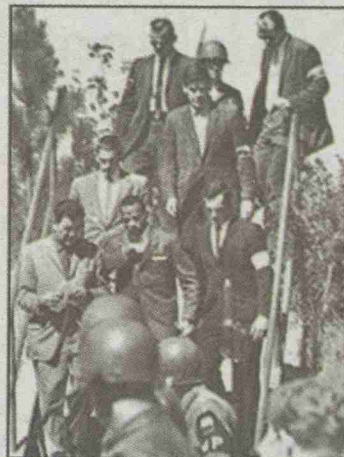
On Campus Interview Schedule

Open To NC State Co-op Applicants

COMPANY	MAJORS	GPA/CL ASS	DATE/INFO
Adtran Inc. Huntsville, AL	EE, CPE	3.0/SO+	9-26-00/Open sign up
Deere & Co. Moline IL & Various locations	BUS(Operations Mgmt), IE	3.0/SO+	9-28-00/Prescreen Info session 9/27/00 6:00pm Talley Cinema Room
Corning Cable (Siecor) Hickory, NC	CSC, IE, ME, EE, CHE	2.8/SO+	10-2-00/Pre-screen
Willamette Industries Bennettsville, SC	EE, ME, CHE, PPT	2.5/SO+	10-3-00/Open sign up
Fuji Film Greenwood, SC	EE, IE	2.5/SO+	10-3-00/Pre-screen
Eastman Chemical Kingsport, TN	CHE	3.0/SO+	10-4-00/Pre-screen
Bowater Catawba, SC	CHE, ME	2.8/SO+	10-9-00/ Pre-screen
Phillip Morris Richmond, VA	CE, CHE, EE, IE, ME	2.8/SO+	10-10-00/Pre-screen Info session on 10/04/00 6:00pm Winston 110
Consolidated Diesel Whitakers, NC	ME	2.7/SO+	10-10-00/Open sign up Info session on 10-4-00 6:00pm Winston 110
Wavetek Wandel Golterman RTP, NC	CSC, CPE, ETC, LWE	3.0/SO+	Info session on 10/11/00 6:00pm Tompkins 123
DuPont Wilmington, DE	CHE, EE, ME	3.0/SO+	10-11&12-00/Pre-screen for various locations
National Starch & Chemical Salisbury, NC	CHE	3.0/SO+	10-12-00/Pre-screen
IBM Worldwide locations	ACC,CHE,CPE,CSC, EE, ME	3.0/SO+	10-13-00/Pre-screen
Michelin Tire/Research Greenville, SC	CHE,CSC,EE,IE,ME	3.0/SO+	10-19-00/Open sign up
National Instruments Austin, TX	CNE,CPE,CSC,EE	3.0/JR+	10-19-00/Pre-screen
Alcatel Raleigh, NC	CSC, CPE, EE, IE, ME	2.8/SO+	10-20-00 Info Session on 10/19/00 6:30pm Mann 212

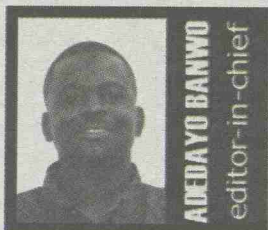
This WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

- September 25 Secretary of Navy authorizes enlistment of slaves as Union sailors, 1861
Peter "The Black Prince" Jackson wins the Australian heavyweight title, becoming the first Black man to win a national boxing crown, 1886
Barbara W Hancock becomes first Black woman named a White House fellow, 1974
- September 26 Maggie L Walker, business and civic leader, born, 1867
Bessie Smith, blues singer, dies, 1937
- September 27 WC Handy publishes Memphis Blues, the first blues song, 1912
Xavier University, first (and, to date, only) Black Catholic College in US, opens in New Orleans LA, 1915
- September 28 David Walker, abolitionist and writer of "Appeal", born, 1785
- September 29 Hugh Mulzac, first Black captain of a US merchant ship, launches with the Booker T Washington, 1942
President John F. Kennedy authorizes use of federal troops in integration of the University of Mississippi, 1962
WGPR-TV Detroit, first Black-owned station in US, begins broadcasting, 1975
- September 30 Republic of Botswana Independence Day
Johnny Mathis, singer, born, 1935



© The Associated Press

James Meredith is escorted to his college classes this week in 1962

ADEYAYO BANWO
editor-in-chief

Is Rap Music... Bad Music?

POINT

When I was in high school, I often scoffed at my older relatives's critiques of my music.

"It's stupid," they would often say.

"It lacks substance," was one common complaint.

In my mind, these old people just could not understand the value of Notorious B.I.G.'s "Ready to Die," or Tupac's "Me against the World." However, nowadays I am beginning to sound an awful lot like my mama.

Overall, the rap today sucks. Lately, I'm getting tired of rotating the same two Mos Def and Common compact discs in my stereo. I am even afraid of turning on the radio, unsure of what junk I will be confronted with.

Ya'll it is beginning to scare me. I found myself the other day driving down Dan Allen bumping uncle Luke. Vandross that is, not Campbell.

Why isn't there a message in much of today's rap music? Everything is all about ice or booty, and frankly, I am starting to get sick and tired of it. This summer, I worked in a program designed for low income high school students. These teens are poor, yet they

spend the little money they do have on fake diamond jewelry and expensive clothes. Should we blame it on the music? Yes. What is most important in life is not material wealth or the "bling bling," but yet this is all these stupid rappers want to rap about. Why do all these young men and women walk around on this college campus with big ice chains and ten cent brains?

I have been taught in church that youth is vanity. Maybe I am getting older and just cannot relate to the younger generation. Maybe I am becoming like my father. Not! I love hip-hop and I can't wait to go pick up "Reflection Eternal" on Tuesday. As a listener of hip-hop, I will not sit around while our culture drowns in materialism and sex. It is time to turn this junk off and use your cash money on music that has substance, something that is going to cultivate our minds, not our egos. Believe it or not, what you listen to will affect the way you think, dress and speak. And as my uncle Luke would say, "a house is not a home" unless we are united and focused, leaving that mess where it belongs. On the shelf.

"Cash, Money, Hos" isn't necessarily a bad thing!

Ain't nothing wrong with a little booty and green. Is booty and cash really bad? Sex is one of life's most natural and beautiful processes, and cash is a necessity in life. Also, rap can and does cultivate high skill development. It reinforces the lyrical skills taught in classical literature.

"Rap is bad. All they talk about is booty and money and we need to stop listening to it. What we need to do is starting buying things that cultivate our minds."

These were the words spoken by Tipper Gore ten years ago at Congressional Hearing investigating rap and other musical genres that concerned parents were lamenting about.

While this occurred nearly a decade ago, these laments continued to exist. Just the other day, a friend of mine was telling me how rap and hip-hop is all about booty and money, and we needed to stop listening to it. He said we needed to pur-

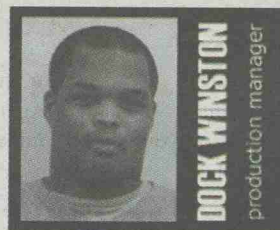
chase music that was going to cultivate our minds, not pollute them. At first, I agreed with his observation. On second thought, however, I realized that although there is a lot of this in rap music, this is not solely what it is about. Rap's detractors are quick to bring up is the numerous references to sex and money. First of all, most of these people act like they are the only ones who realize that.

"I can't believe Mystical told those girls to shake their like, stuff!"

Yeah, that's the entire point of the song. Is it necessarily a bad thing to talk about booty and money? Both are essential for existence. Without either, you wouldn't be reading this now.

If your parents had not loved (or really liked) each other so much, you would be nothing more than a memory. Face it, sex and cash are commodities in this country. Its just the way it is. Booty and cash are relevant realities.

Another harping point for critics

DOCK WINSTON
production manager

counterpoint

is that rap music negatively influences its listeners, tempting them to behave deviantly. Come on people, this kind of behavior has been going on since the dawn of time. To blame all this action on the music is pretty weak.

Finally, rap does cultivate the mind. Rap within itself is a difficult skill to developed. There is metaphor, symbolism, and other literary components woven in its fabrics. Exploitation of the black artists should be a more pressing concern. Many are quick to say that the record companies are exploiting our artists and our music. This is true. Each day, we hear about a black artist commenting about the music business and how they are not free to express themselves. The music industry is just that, an industry. Artists have to make what sells, and right now, itsbooty shaking and bling bling, deal with it.

TO WRITE FOR THE NUBIAN MESSAGE, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING EDITORS

NEWS - Shawn Barnes, shawn_barnes@hotmail.com SPORTS- N Keesha Dover, trois@hotmail.com

CULTURE-Michelle Reed, michellychell@hotmail.com OPINIONS-Teresa Moody, tjmoody@unity.ncsu.edu

Not Nearly Enough

Darkchild

Mysterious Messenger of Truth

This week, I'm going to break away from my usual monologue, abandon my militant rant, and temporarily step down off my soap box. No, see, this past weekend, something amazing happened, something that has the potential to significantly alter the climate of N.C. State's African-American community. Excuse me if I get a little deep; there are some things that need to be said. All sentimentality aside, this semester's Afrikan-American Student Advisory Council (AASAC) retreat marked a turning point in the notoriously apathetic atmosphere of our community. It was more than a well-manufactured ploy to force unity among the ranks of the black campus leaders. It was definitely more than an excuse to seek refuge in the endless woods of Dr. Lawrence Clark's massive estate, on the which sits Beacon Ridge Retreat Center. No... it was much more than that.

How symbolic it must have been for those of us who found time to reflect on the enormity of our places there. The land once home to both the enslaved and the finally freed descendants of a man now held in great regard among the national African-American community now housed us, the troubled and chosen representatives of the black student organizations. The anticipation was anti-climatic at best because we all went expecting another fruitless effort at reconciliation across organizational lines.

Another year, another retreat; another disappointment, another defeat. But as soon as we stepped between those lovingly constructed walls, the air all around us changed.

As we sat down to discuss all of the business at hand, the things that affect us daily as well as those that will have long-term effects, we broke more than bread. The unspoken boundaries, held in place by time and tradition, slowly crumbled as we learned about the true state of our cultural center. If you, my brothers and sisters, knew the blatant disregard with which the Afrikan-American Cultural Center (AACC) is treated with by our campus administrators, I assure you that you'd all be angrier than a rapper at the "Source" Awards. Or what about this year's control of the minority career fair (as well as the profits from it) by Union Activities Board rather than Black Students Board? As we sat there, enraged and passionate, our monologues turned to dialogues. This time, a first in my previous three years at N.C. State, everyone was stripped of their respective leadership titles and affiliations. We were brothers and sisters, struggling to save what was ours.

And yes, there were times when our enthusiasm threatened to overwhelm us. We were so determined not to fail this time that some of us left the "polite" out of the politics. Please everyone, understand that all of these problems we're facing are bigger than any one individual.

Maybe you're wondering if it's really all this serious. It wasn't the first retreat, and GOD-willing, it won't be the last. I don't know; perhaps you had to have been there. To me, it seemed as if everyone in attendance was alive and not just awake. There were people there who spoke at great length about their faith, about us as a family, about "fighting the good fight." As many of you may know, people speak very

conveniently about GOD when He suits their purposes. I suppose that it's hard to discern the legit from the dim-wits, but when a brother's voice starts to shake as he begins to speak of his faith... as he stands in a room full of virtual strangers, it takes a stronger heart than mine to not be moved.

So now, from all of this conversation and debate, developed fellowship and faith. These, I think, were the two key ingredients absent from previous attempts at unity. Yet, what would be the case on Monday, after we'd all returned to campus, to our lives? Would it end as most other attempts had... tragically devoid of any real progress or relationships existing beyond that of co-sponsorship? Would all this newfound enthusiasm be lost in the two-hour trip back home?

Well, it has only been a few days so it's still too early to know for sure. This is the defining week, a time unlike anything I have ever witnessed here at N.C. State. I wonder if this is what they felt back in 1992 when the AACC first opened. Not since last year's amazing student government victories have I felt so overwhelmed by how far we've come and how far we're going to go.

That mythological "there" that we as African-Americans have been trying to reach for centuries is looming in the distance. This is not the time to wax sentimental on the profundity of our current situation. Eloquent speeches are fine, in their proper place, but what we need is the actions to back up those words. You are either for us or against us because we don't have time to wait for all of you who hesitate. One sister at the retreat verbalized what all of us were feeling. "Don't talk about it; be about it." As always,

Brandi's Two Cents



by Brandi Livingston

Yes, schools are teaching inequality. I base this on the fact that starting in middle school the first reference about African-American people is slavery. They don't teach about the kings and queens we once were in Africa; they just begin the learning process by starting black people's history with slavery. True, slavery was the biggest struggle for African-American's in the new world, but starting the education process by teaching about Black people at their lowest low teaches inequality.

Inequality is also taught in institutions of higher learning. Why is it that black literature and black history do not count for history or literature credit but elective credit in most curriculums if not all at NC State? It seems that the contributions of African-Americans in literature and history are still not being recognized as being as worthy as those made by whites in American history.

Schools are not teaching inequality outright. We have to give them the benefit of the doubt. Instead of being proactive and changing the ridiculous standards of education regarding minority studies, high schools and universities just choose to keep things the way they've always been. However, like anything else, times must and always will change. We have to remember that it is our history and the study of our culture that is being ignored. Shouldn't we be the ones doing something about it?

Cowards in our midst

Editorial Or simply scared?

Those who will not stand up for their fellow black brothers and sisters on campus, those who fear being labeled as too black or too militant are in the opinion of this paper, cowards.

Those who are willing to step up and voice their opinions, unfraid of the consequences that may arise are probably not cowards. Nevertheless, if you are one of those who pride yourself on your un-cowardly nature, you may be contributing just as much if not more to the problems of minorities on campus as those very cowards in our midst and those

who choose to remain silent.

Noise is just noise unless it sends a 'message' that can be deciphered and understood by those who are listening. To be willing to speak is not enough; one has to bring the ammunition of fact and the lucidity of logic in order to be taken seriously. Too many times our student leaders have no other solution but to restate the problem. Then it becomes too late because others will find a solution for us. As is usually the case, our community is placed in the position of reaction and protest, railing against the problems in which we ourselves not only do not have the answers for but did not even bother to initially confront.

See Editorial, pg 2

It sometimes take more than four

Larry Houpe Staff Columnist

After high school, many starry eyed freshmen enter four year universities. Going to college is supposed to be the first step one takes as they enter into their chosen career path. Unfortunately for some of us, obtaining that bachelors, masters, or P.H.D. becomes the career for a number of unforeseen obstacles. Just the fact that we are in school says a lot about us as a people. We are taking advantage of an opportunity that wasn't granted to our ancestors and older family members. Although we are being accepted in greater numbers, we are graduating in smaller numbers. I'm a senior this year and I can name about ten people whom I met at African-American Symposium my freshman year that have left N.C. State for a number of

different reasons. Major universities are accepting more and more minority students each year, but don't seem to mind that they aren't graduating with the same success. However, all the blame can't be placed on the university system. We are responsible for some of the graduation shortcomings. Due to some extenuating circumstances, our college matriculation has slowed to a crawl.

The university could help by reinstating our African-American advisors. They were really helpful when I was a freshman. Although I didn't use my advisor as much as I probably should have, I knew she was there if I needed something, and I want to give Dr. Leach her props for the help she did give me.

Another way that the university could help ensure a successful graduation rate of its minorities would be

a boost in the financial aid department. There are so many brothers and sisters out there with outstanding talents and gifts that should be in school but aren't because they don't have and don't qualify for the available financial aid.

Adjusting to a predominantly white school also causes some of us to have trouble in school. The only advice I can offer is to get in touch with some of the black faculty who can give you some positive advice. Also be active in African-American clubs and events with other students that have learned to deal with it and have still been successful. Little does he know, Ricky Livingston is one of the first brothers that helped me out in this fashion. These are sources that are very beneficial and many times go untapped, so take advantage.

One of the most popular reasons for not graduating on time is the infamous change of majors. This is one of those things that can't be helped because you really don't know what a career will be like until you start taking classes in that field. Maybe we should have counselors in high school to help us choose our career path and help us research the path before we take it. I think that an African-American guidance counselor for this specific purpose would be most useful in helping our young people choose the school and major that is right for them.

Credit card debt is another reason that some of us fall behind. These pieces of plastic can be very deceiving. A few of my friends have been forced to leave school because of bills. A word of advice: if you can't pay your credit card bills without

having to interrupt your school schedule, then don't get them. Just stay out of the mall. It's a shame that people have to put school on hold to pay off credit cards that brought clothes that sit in piles in the closet.

Pregnancy is another big reason for slower graduation. Some families are very supportive and will help take care of the baby so their students can stay in school, but some families aren't as fortunate and can't afford to raise another child. Which ever category you fall into, just be careful.

Just like the saying goes "everybody is different," and I guess graduation is not unlike any other situation that distinguishes us from one another. Besides, it really doesn't matter as long as you stay in the fight and get your paper.