



the Nubian Message

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

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SAAC promotes cultural heritage with SAAC Week

Shavonne Hendricks
Staff writer

As African-Americans, we have an obligation to both ourselves, and our ancestors, to research and celebrate our heritage and culture. This proves to be a difficult task since much of it was stripped from us decades ago through the enslavement, devaluation assimilation of our people.

In an effort to regain what was once stolen from African-Americans, many organizations have been established here at N.C. State. Many of these group work to escalate African-American success here on cam-

pus, as well as the outside community. One of the most well-known of these group is the Society of Afrikan-American Culture (SAAC). SAAC is the oldest student-run African-American organization on campus.

SAAC was founded in 1968 to enhance academic growth. It even promoted cultural and political awareness of African-Americans attending NCSU and surrounding areas. In addition, the founders sought to establish an African-American identity on campus. These objectives remain constant still today.

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School leaders work to promote diversity

Ayren Jackson
Staff writer

Many colleges and universities share a common belief, born from experience, that diversity in their student bodies, faculties and staff is important. The reason is to fulfill their primary mission of providing a quality education. N.C. State is a university with that belief. Through its dedicated community, diversity commitment is ever present here on campus.

Kermit Hall, former NCSU Provost, proved this devotion to be true. The hiring of Rupert Nacoste, Vice Provost of Diversity and African-American Affairs, and Eureka Daye, Coordinator of Diversity Programs, strengthens this devotion. The development of a com-

prehensive diversity plan has ensured NCSU that the momentum to carry the university forward is present.

"Hall was enthusiastic about implementing initiatives to enhance diversity at N.C. State," said Marye Anne Fox, NCSU Chancellor.

Hall, the new president of Utah State Univ., and his ideas hope to be not forgotten but fostered. He was N.C. Provost for 16 months.

"Hall set up a new structure by which to handle the issue of diversity, a structure that is going to expand and grow," said Nacoste, who proclaimed himself an activist for diversity.

see Diversity, page 2

Maya Angelou to speak at Role Model Leaders Forum

Keon Pettitway
Staff writer

On Feb. 1, the UAB's Issues and Ideas Committee will introduce Maya Angelou as the guest speaker for the Role Model Leaders' Forum. Angelou will deliver a speech on diversity concepts that will emphasize the significance of religious, ethnic and economic diversity in today's society.

"The conception of organizing the Maya Angelou event has been determined for at least half a year, and we have been planning ever since the summer. This has been a fairly long goal for the Issues and Ideas Committee," says Brandon Buskey, chairman of the UAB Issues and Ideas Committee. "The reason why we chose Maya Angelou is because she is well known, and she has a message that everyone can identify with."

Angelou was born on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Mo. Although she is known as Maya Angelou, her birth name is Marguerite Johnson. She acquired her current alias after her debut as a dancer at the Purple Onion cabaret.

Angelou's first and most famous published literary work is "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." The famed writing was an account of Angelou's disruptive childhood. It contains a recollection of memoirs detailing her hardship of being a rape victim at the age of 8.

Many people recognize Angelou because of her poetry and published books. But Angelou is also a historian, conductor, actress, singer, song-

writer, playwright and film director. She is also a civil rights activist.

message, because she has accomplished so much," says Buskey.



Famed Poet, Writer Maya Angelou will speak at NCSU next week

Angelou was the first black female conductor in San Francisco. She was the first black female to have an original screenplay produced in 1971. Among other accomplishments, she is fluent in French, Spanish, Italian and West African Fanti. Angelou even spoke at the presidential inauguration of former president Bill Clinton in 1992.

Angelou's lecture hopes to impose an everlasting affect on the N.C. State community. Her views on diversity will challenge people to think deeply about economic, religious and ethnic diversity in today's society.

"I think the people will be moved just by her presence and

Economics, religion and ethnic diversity have become key political components. N.C. State handles diversity issues in the form of workshops and programs. Diversity issues are rarely discussed personally between people here on campus. This is a result of the pressure of initiating conversations about these types of issues.

Hopefully, Angelou's speech will open up the doors for people to discuss race and culture. It may lead to people feeling more comfortable talking about diversity on a daily basis. The forum is intended to be a learning experience for all.

For tickets and more informa-

NCSU Celebrates MLK's Dream

Kelise Taylor
Staff Writer

Cloudy skies and cold rains didn't dampen Saturday's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Festival. Hundreds of people turned out to participate in the 16th annual celebration.

The event was sponsored by the NCSU African-American Cultural Center, Shaw University and St. Augustine's College. It was held at the McKimmon Center where swarms of people, ranging from toddlers to elders, attended to reflect on King's legacy.

"I'm here because it's the least I can do to show my respect to Dr. King," stated Amanda Barrios,

16.

"If it had not been for Dr. King, we wouldn't have all these opportunities," said Ebony Moring, a Forest-Rolesville school student. "That's why I feel it's important to come."

The theme of the event was "Justice=Love and Respect for All." And judging from the positive responses of the youth, that theme was a perfect fit for the 2001 festival.

The ceremonies began with a soul-stirring rendition of the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." It was followed by welcomes from Dr. M. Iyailu Moses, director of the NCSU African-American Cultural Center, and Dr. Rupert Nacoste,

NCSU Vice Provost for African-American Affairs. Dr. Quincy Scott of Shaw University, also brought greetings.

The highlight of the opening session came when guest speaker, Alex Jerome Smalls, gave his tribute to King. Smalls, a Delaware judge since 1991, centered his speech on the young people. He told them to "become more active and involved" in order to bridge "the racial divide." Smalls concluded his impassioned remarks by stating that the young people can make it if they never despair and if they "believe that (they) can achieve."

Adedayo Banwo, an NCSU student and "Nubian Message" editor-in-chief, participated in the

collegiate oratorical contest. Banwo responded to the crowd with a message that focused on three points. First, he talked about loving our children and responsibility in the black community. Next, Banwo stressed the importance of respecting our elders. Finally, he commented on justice in the new millennium.

"It's important that we first love ourselves and our community if we are to make a difference in our community," asserted Banwo. He continued by stating that it's important that black people remember the benefits that "we are reaping from our ancestors and that we should never 'turn our backs on them.'"

Banwo concluded by saying

that festival attendees should take something back from the event to use in their daily lives. "...because if you don't," Banwo said, "you have learned nothing."

The MLK festival was a result of hard work from its planning committee. Many people in attendance headed to the Stewart Theater after the celebration at McKimmon. At Stewart, a gospel concert served as one of the post-festive activities.

The 2001 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Festival served as a clear remembrance as King's work on earth. The event symbolized motivation to keep his dream alive.

Powell's son to head FCC

Bobby Guthrie, II
News editor

Michael Powell has been chosen by President Bush to head the Federal Communications Commission. Powell is the son of Colin Powell, who will also be a new addition to the Bush cabinet. Colin Powell is the new Secretary of State.

The FCC is the agency that oversees communication services like the telephone companies. It is largely responsible for implementing rules to deregulate and promote competition of these services. Broadcast and cable services are also under the FCC.

Powell, 37, is currently on the FCC five-member panel. He first became a panel member in 1997, filling a Republican slot. His term expires in June 2002. Lawmakers and industry lobbyists feel good on the choice of Powell, and many people view him as a fair policy-maker. They

hope that Powell will be stern at deregulating competitive communications markets.

"Michael is going to define his role and his vision, and I have great faith in the way he will manage the FCC," said Billy Tauzin (R-La.), House Commerce Committee Chairman. Tauzin is a hard critic of the Democratically-led agency.

Powell has taken limited approaches at imposing company requirements. His Democratic counterparts are skeptical about some of his decisions. Fears are also arising from public interest groups. They believe that Powell will shy away from addressing critical new questions during the context of merger reviews.

"For 70 years, the FCC has regarded mergers as an appropriate forum for considering new regulatory issues," said Andrew Jay Schwartzman, Media Access Project.

The Media Access Project also is concerned that Powell won't push for greater requirements on broadcasters in exchange for their free use of the nation's airwaves.

"(Powell) seems uncomfortable exercising the commission's power to require broadcasters to carry programming that meets the needs of the public," said Schwartzman.

Still, many people have faith in Powell's overall leadership.

"What people like about Michael Powell is that, agree or disagree, his positions are well thought out," said Scott Cleland, analyst with Washington, D.C.'s The Precursor Group. "What you see, is what you get."

Powell will become FCC chairman five years after the passage of a landmark law. This law allows cable and phone services to compete.

Killer of civil rights leader dead

Bobby Guthrie, II
News editor

The killer of civil rights leader Medger Evers, died this week. Byron De La Beckwith, VI, 80, died Sunday at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. He fatally shot Evers in the back outside Evers' home in 1963. Beckwith managed to escape from prosecution for 31 years before being convicted in 1994.

Beckwith was pronounced dead in Miss. on Sunday at 10:12 p.m., according to Hinds County (Miss.) Coroner, Sharon Grisham-Stewart. The cause of death was unknown when Beckwith died. This led to an autopsy of his body. But Grisham-Stewart did report Beckwith complained of chest pains.

"He was under 24-hour observation," said Grisham-Stewart. "He had a history of heart disease."

After his conviction on Feb. 5, 1994, Beckwith spent his time as a prisoner. He was sentenced to life at the Central Miss. Correctional Facility in Rankin County.

Beckwith was previously tried twice before his life sentence. The retired fertilizer salesman had two court proceedings in the 1960s. The courts found him not guilty both times for the death of NAACP field secretary Medger Evers on June 12, 1963. After those two trials, Beckwith went back home to Greenwood, Miss.

If it not for Evers' death, some could say Beckwith was heroic.

He won a Purple Heart for his bravery in World War II. Several dozens pellets remained in Beckwith's left thigh from an attack at the Battle of Tarawa. But because of Evers' killing, Beckwith will be unable to be buried in the Arlington National Cemetery in Va. Evers' body is at rest in Arlington, but Beckwith will be put to rest in Miss.

Evers' death became one of the factors leading to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. During this time, the nation was in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement. Mississippi was a state deeply-rooted in segregation and discrimination at this period.

One historian stated that Beckwith didn't want to change his views along with the rest of the nation.

"(Beckwith's) a tragic figure," said Neil McMillen, professor of history at the University of Southern Miss., referring to Beckwith's racial views and opinions. "He was someone stuck in time."

Beckwith grew up in the church. He was a part of the Episcopal church. His racial views caused him to stray from the church. However, Beckwith later became an ordained minister. He joined the Christian Identity Movement, a white supremacist group.

Beckwith denied to killing Evers in 1990. He even went on to say, "I didn't kill him, but he's sure dead."

"He ain't coming back."

Confederate flag remains a S.C. controversy

Chinwe Ekwuribe
Staff writer

On July 1, 2000, after 38 years, South Carolina removed the Confederate flag from atop its Capitol dome. The flag didn't go far. It was moved to a Confederate soldiers museum on the Statehouse grounds. The flag's removal came after months of protests and boycotts for flags opponents and supporters.

In April of that same year, the

S.C. Senate passed a compromise to move the flag. The move was to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and to also enact an official Confederate Memorial Day. But to the NAACP, the compromise wasn't good enough. They have promised to continue their boycott of S.C. The organization feels the flag should be encased and put into a museum. The NAACP disagrees with the flag's visibility.

To flag opponents, the flag is an ugly reminder of the region's racist history. They believe it shouldn't be public, let alone on governmental ground. Ronald Walter, government and politics professor, Univ. of Maryland, commented on the flag on an interview with Online Newshour.

"Well, I think the flag is a symbol of the most terroristic and oppressive period in the history of black people in America," said

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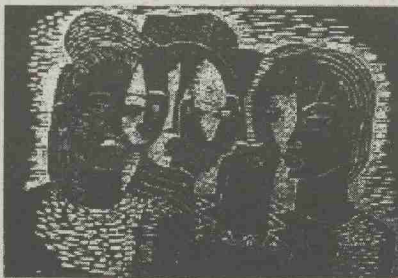
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Metamorphosis

sports and entertainment 3

Black athletes have some responsibility for their image

Keesha Dover
Sports Editor

As the media has succeeded in making our African-American athletes look worse than they sometimes are, we are still seeming to give them more and more to nag about. Rod Strickland, a guard for the NBA's Washington Wizards was charged with a DUI recently. This is not the first of Strickland's run-ins with the law.

After he was pulled over, Strickland refused to take a breathalyzer test. He was charged with driving under the influence and failing to stay in his lane. In 1998, Strickland was convicted of DUI and completed 1 year of probation and 30 hours of community service. In 1999, he was acquitted of the same charge. Drinking isn't the only problem Strickland has. In November, he was charged with refusing to leave a nightclub after it had been closed by fire marshals. Those charges were dropped.

Strickland, who is not a happy worker lately, hasn't played in

over two weeks partly because of a shoulder injury, but also because of complaints coming from higher authorities about his work habits. The Wizards have the second worst team in the NBA and he wants to be traded badly.

Also in the media spotlight is Anthony Mason, a player for the Miami heat. Mason was relieved last week when riot charges were dropped against him. Mason was arrested for fighting over a woman. When the police tried to break up the men, Mason allegedly hit the officer and then encouraged the crowd to act violently also. He then fled.

In a calm effort to encourage professional athletes to become role models to the children in front of the TV, they seem to be getting worse every day. It's starting to become a problem for the players, their teammates, and their teams as a whole. What they don't realize is that not only are they giving themselves a bad reputation, but they are spreading it on to athletes all over because they look like them.

I'm sure quality players like Grant Hill and Charlie Ward don't

appreciate the fact that they have a strong resemblance to these guys who want to go out and drive under the influence, fight, continuously create illegitimate children, and God-forbid kill people. It is absolutely ridiculous what money seems to be doing to our athletes. If you have been following the Rae Curruth case, it was all about money. The triggerman keeps saying that if he didn't do it, he wouldn't get the money he needed for drugs. Well if Rae Curruth didn't have the money to buy drugs then he wouldn't have been able to hire someone to kill his girlfriend that easily.

The number of crimes by top sports figures needs to decrease by the handful. More and more, young athletes are going to turn on the TV and see an idolized figure in handcuffs or sitting beside their lawyer in the courtroom. They will think it is ok to commit crimes when you make millions of dollars. If this doesn't change, we will start to see a nasty trend in our rising athletes. The bottom line is that our athletes need to do their job, which is to entertain sports fans not entertain juries.

The Ghetto Fabulous Corner

By Ghetto F. Jones

What's up world? I'm back to give you the low down on the down low on what's been going on in the entertainment biz. I want to first begin by alerting everyone to the fact that Toni Braxton has

ever learn how to keep his hands to himself??? Speaking of drama it has been rumored that Rene Elizondo (Janet Jackson's ex) is suing her for \$10 million bucks. He claims that she agreed to divide property before they got married in 1991 and broke her

is that what I think it is?

implants. WHO KNEW!! Obviously nobody until them babies started leaking. Word on the streets says that Toni & t tingling in her arm and her eyes turned red. Needless to say she had to do reconstructive surgery and (brace yourselves fellas) went from a D cup to a C.

In other entertainment news it appears that all of our speculations about Gwinwine and Miss Sile was true. Apparently the two have been together for a little over a year and are expecting a baby in a couple of months. They got engaged in August and plan to get married after both of their next albums drop.

While we are on the topic of celebrity couples it has been rumored that Mr. Ruff

promise. Sources are also saying that Rene is threatening to come out with some home video footage of Janet doing some pretty kinky things with some other female celebrity. I guess more money does mean more problems.

On another note Miss Single, Sexy, and Free Mya had a little accident recently. It happened when she attempted to do a backflip and landed on her face busting her nose. She had to get six stitches. In the same breath Kelly Rowland from the "supergirlgroup" Destiny's Child sh broke two toes while performing. She must have been trying to do the Cha Cha slide. Conveniently Beyonce's little sister Solange was there to take her spot while she sang from a chair.

Puffy and J-Lo: In love and in trouble!!



Baddy and Ms. Jennifer (my butt is soo big I have to wear underwear in every video) Lopez have broken up. How many times have we heard this story being told? But the rumor has it that Puffy marched up into the million family march with his baby-mama Kim Porter. And then prior to that got into a fight with Kim's boyfriend at that particular time. Will Puffy

These people give new meaning to the phrase "keep it in the family."

Well folks, that is about it for this week but I want to end it this week with a question: Doesn't all the drama happening with the Reverend (if I can still call him that) Jesse Jackson and his wife give a new meaning to that Outkast song Ms. Jackson?

Sendek faces criticism

Jennifer Bringle
Staff Writer

They gave Mike O'Cain seven years. He gave them four overall winning seasons, two ACC winning seasons, and three bowl appearances. But, when push came to shove, that just wasn't good enough.

Now the fate of yet another NC State coach is in question. In recent weeks, speculation has begun circulating about the job status of Men's Basketball Head Coach, Herb Sendek. After starting 0-3 in ACC play, and only improving to 1-4, Wolfpack fans have started suggesting that perhaps it is time for a change.

Sendek, who is in his fifth year as the coach of the Wolfpack, has posted a 73-58 overall record and a pitiful 21-43 record against ACC opponents in his first four years. Combine that less than impressive record with the fact that during his tenure, Sendek has yet to lead his team to the NCAA tournament and it is obvious why the Pack faithful are talking termination.

In college athletics today, when the fans and alumni are not happy, that spells trouble for the school's athletic program. In the past few decades, college athlet-

ics have become a big business in America. When teams win, schools make money and when teams do not win, the school loses.

A substantial amount of profit is brought into major colleges from ticket sales and advertising associated with "revenue" sports. These "revenue" sports, which are most often football and men's basketball, are such an important means of money making for a school that if a team consistently loses, you can bet there is likely to be a change in command.

Aside from records and dollars, there are other reasons that maybe it is time for Sendek to move on.

In the past four years, five Wolfpack players have transferred to other schools. Some of these players, such as Adam Harrington, who was an ACC rookie of the week and leading scorer several times during the 1998-99 season, were talented contributors to the team.

And, while Sendek has recently been applauded for bringing in some of the best recruiting classes in the ACC, the rash of transfers leads us to wonder how many of these blue-chip players will actually stay.

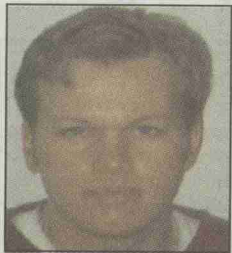
Some may argue that these transfers had nothing to do with Sendek, which may be true. But, if you think back to what happened to former Wolfpack forward Tim Wells during his final season last year, then you can see why a player might want to leave.

After recovering from injury early in the season, Wells, a former starter, saw very limited playing time. This is not uncommon, however, what happened to him at the final home game of the season should be.

The final home game of the season, which is senior day, is when the seniors are recognized and honored. It is customary at most schools, including rivals Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill, for the seniors to start on this day. With only two seniors on the squad, it should have been a given that Wells would start. But he didn't.

This total lack of respect for Wells as a player and as a person came with no explanation to the public from Sendek. This type of behavior, along with the less than mediocre performance from his teams is precisely why NC State needs to start looking for a better man for the job.

Like Father, Like Son



Michael Harrell
Staff Writer

The year 1988 was a very influential for US Presidential Politics. The time had arrived to finally "just say no" to Ronald and Nancy. America was to select a new leader of the free world. The choice would serve to shape the final decade of the millennium.

Republicans selected the Vice President of the Reagan era, George Hubert Walker Bush. Bush secured the nomination almost effortlessly. He was the former head of the CIA and viewed as a WWII hero. He chose Senator Quayle of Indiana for his running mate. Ironically, the World War II aviator's selection had used his family's influ-

ence and wealth to avoid Vietnam. The usage of influence and wealth is a reoccurring practice among this group.

The Democratic nomination involved a bit more of a struggle. Initially, there were several democrats bidding for the oval office. The contest ended in a struggle between civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts. Although Jackson's odds seemed promising with a victory in the Michigan primary during March, he was soon overtaken by the well-financed Dukakis.

The campaign to follow was nasty. Dukakis conducted a non-charismatic campaign and chose not to promote the traditional social programs of previous democratic presidential candidates that began with FDR. Bush used attack ads and scare tactics to wage his political war against Dukakis. The most disturbing ad displayed a mug shot of Willie Horton. Mr. Horton was a black prisoner convicted of rape while on weekend furlough from a Massachusetts state prison. Bush blatantly appealed to racial prejudices with this ad. It

proved very effective for him. He won the election. Bush secured 426 of 538 electoral votes.

Many black leaders and democrats alike were outraged by the bigotry of Bush. In 1991 he nominated Clarence Thomas as a Supreme Court Justice. Many felt that Bush was participating in tokenism. Justice Thomas was the only Justice that failed to participate in oral arguments concerning the vote count in Florida during the 2000 election. This earned him the nickname "Uncle Thomas" by some of his critics.

We are all too familiar with the circumstances surrounding the 2000 election. Recently, we witnessed a protest organized by the Congressional Black Caucus during the joint session of Congress that officially certified George W. Bush the winner of the 2000 election. The Representatives rose to their feet one by one. The protesters were silenced by Gore and subjected to mumbling by Republicans.

George W. Bush has followed in the footsteps of his father by nominating the racially biased Senator John Ashcroft of Missouri for Attorney General. It

is the duty of the Attorney General to enforce civil rights laws. Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware says that Ashcroft has fought against civil rights for the past 20 years. Biden said that he may oppose the nomination of Ashcroft.

Ashcroft possesses an anti-black record. He has voted against hate crime legislation. The Senator has criticized desegregation lawsuits in Missouri. The Rev. Jesse Jackson is organizing opposition against Ashcroft. Jackson cites the instrumental role of Ashcroft in blocking the appointment of Missouri Supreme Court judge Ronnie White to the Federal Bench as a primary objective of the opposition. White, and many others, is convinced that Ashcroft could not see past the issue of ethnicity to allow equal opportunity. Ashcroft also opposes affirmative action.

George W. Bush chose to announce the potential members of his cabinet in a very strategic fashion. He attempted to pad the shock of the Ashcroft nomination by initially announcing minority members of his cabinet. Bush also opposes affirmative action.

Bush claims he favors "affirmative access."

Since George W. Bush has been the governor of Texas 135 people have been executed. Disgracefully, 130 of these have been minorities. He allowed the first execution of a woman in the state since the 1860s. After receiving a call from religious leader Pat Robertson asking the execution of this woman be postponed George W. Bush ordered the act to be carried out without hesitation. A short time after the execution Bush mocked the condemned woman's plea for life in an interview with Talk Magazine.

It is certain that both Bush Jr. and Bush Sr. have made huge mistakes. George W. Bush is now allowed to capitalize on the success of his father. If the 1988 election had favored Dukakis do you think George W. Bush would be moving to Washington D.C.? Once again a member of this group is capitalizing on influence and wealth.

George W. Bush has already seen the demise of a multi million-dollar oil business purchased by his father. We must give him credit with his success as an owner of the Texas Rangers. He

Remembering Gwendolyn

Michelle Reed
Staff Writer

An entire month and twenty-two days have gone by since famed writer Gwendolyn Brooks died of cancer in her Chicago home. An entire month and twenty-two whole days. The reason emphasis is being put on the time span of her death is because I recently learned that not too many have heard of her passing. When trying to communicate to a friend about the death of Brooks, my friend showed no, no. What word am I looking for? Emotion. Yes, emotion. No, I did not know Mrs. Brooks personally, but when learning of her death via the Internet (because the news channels I watched didn't mention her death the way they blasted the deaths of Tupac or Biggie), my heart did skip a beat. My jaw did drop. Something in me stirred. But not an ounce of emotion in my friend.

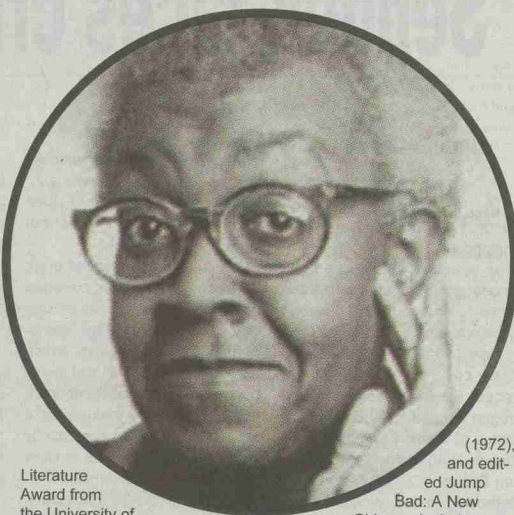
Did many people have a reaction when hearing of her death? Is it that some people don't know who Gwendolyn Brooks is? Or it may be that they don't understand the importance Brooks is to African-American literature because it wasn't taught or stressed in their schools. But how can being the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize not be important? How can

pride not be taken in this achievement, especially winning the award in an era that was filled with undisguised racism? How can the death of such a remarkable writer be so silent?

Gwendolyn Elizabeth Brooks was born in Topeka, Kan., on June 7, 1917 to Keziah Corine Wims and David Anderson Brooks. However, it was on the South Side of Chicago where she grew up. Before she was a teenager, she began writing poetry, and when she was 13 she had her first poem published, "Eventide," in American Childhood. Brooks' mother, being one of her huge supporters, encouraged her daughter to send her poems to Langston Hughes and James Weldon Johnson. Both men responded with encouragement, and Hughes became her friend and a longtime supporter. By the age of 16, she became a weekly contributor to the Chicago Defender, an African-American newspaper, where she published more than seventy-five poems. In 1936 she graduated from Wilson Junior College in Chicago, and at the age of 20 in 1937, two anthologies featured her work. On September 17, 1939, she married Henry Blakely and the couple had two children, Henry, born in 1940, and Nora, born in 1951. Brooks is often praised for her

ability to combine the African-American experience into ballads, sonnets, and other forms that are traditionally European. She won numerous awards for her ability to capture the African-American experiences, every day life and social concerns of the African-American experience. Brooks began receiving recognition in 1943, winning an award at the Midwestern Writers' Conference.

During the next two years, she receives three more awards from the same organization. The year her first book appeared in 1945, she is selected my Mademoiselle as one of its Ten Young Women of the Year. She is awarded a \$1000 award from the American Academy of Arts, as well as a Guggenheim fellowship, which is also given the following year. In 1968 she is named Poet Laureate for the state of Illinois. She becomes the first black woman to be elected to the 250-member National Institute of Arts and Letters in 1976. From 1985-86 she is Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress. In 1988 she is inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. In 1989 she receives a lifetime achievement award from the National Endowment for the Arts and another from the National Book Foundation in 1994. She receives the Society for



Literature Award from the University of Thessaloniki, Athens, Greece in 1990, being

(1972), and edited Jump Bad: A New Chicago Anthology (1971).

the first American to receive this award. She is the recipient of more than 50 honorary degrees.

Some of her books include Children Coming Home (The David Co., 1991); Blacks (1987); To Disembark (1981); The Near Johannesburg Boy and Other Poems (1986); Riot (1969); In the Mecca (1968); The Bean Eaters (1960); Annie Allen (1949), for which she received the Pulitzer Prize; and A Street in Bronzeville (1945). She also wrote numerous other books including a novel, Maud Martha (1953), and Report from Part One: An Autobiography

An entire analysis of the works of Gwendolyn Brooks cannot be included in this article. To fully understand the messages of Brooks and the legacy she left behind, one would have to read the works of Brooks for themselves. The fire and energy has to be within the individual to want to understand the messages, because it is obvious many schools lack the fire to teach students about such outstanding writers such as Brooks. We can't let that fire die. One month and twenty-two days is far too long for a great writer not to be celebrated.

Philly heads making it Hottttt!

Michelle Reed
Culture Editor

Following along the same path of success with fellow Philadelphians such as The Roots, Beanie Siegel, Eve, and Jill Scott, Taalib Johnson, better known as Musiq Soulchild is blowing up the scene with his debut album *Aljusunawaseing* (I Just Want To Sing). His first single, "Just Friends," which was first seen on the multi-platinum soundtrack, "Nutty Professor II: The Klumps," rocketed the 23 year-old Soulchild up the

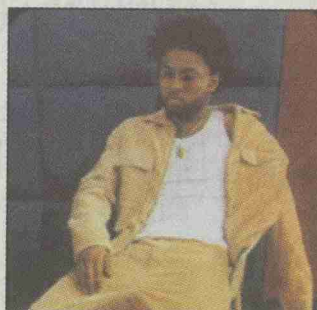
music charts.

Released in November, the album has received great reviews. The single, *Just Friends*, is blasting the airwaves, and recently the second single from the album, "Love," is making its way through the airwaves seeking even more success.

In a BET interview, Musiq reveals that his name is derived from the terms "muse" and I.Q. Such influences on the young artist include Donnie Hathaway, Stevie Wonder, D'Angelo, and Erykah Badu. Musiq's laid back style is honest, sweet, energetic, and full of

passion, and this is definitely seen in track titled, "Love."

For all you romantics, Musiq's CD communicates the issues of relationships and love. He expresses the joys and pains of love. In the song "143" he develops a code for telling someone "I love you." The song "Seventeen" talks being deceived by a young woman who lies about being older than she really is, and ending the relationship before it goes any further. Such tracks as "You and Me," "My Girl," "L is Gone," and "You Be Alright" are sure to be enjoyed by listeners.



Musiq shown chilling on his album cover

singing the catchy chorus (I'm not trying to pressure you/Just can't stop thinking about you/You don't even have to be my girlfriend) from the song "Just Friends," go out and buy Musiq's CD. Bop to the jazzy and funky beats heard in the CD. Be on the lookout for much

If you have found yourself more from the Soulchild!

Black Mothers, the other side of the story An Opinonated Manifesto by the "DarkChild"

DarkChild
Mystery Columnist

The psychological and emotional ramifications of the "broken" African-American family have been well documented in terms of the absence of the black father, but what about the failures of some black women? Before, you vote to kick me out of the club, let me explain. I fully understand and agree that the lack of substantial leadership and responsibility on the parts of many brothers has often placed us sisters in the role of both mother and father. It is often a difficult and uneasy balance though many accept these additional duties with a level of grace and determination that I can only aspire to attain. In addition, without the integral role of black grandmothers, I shudder to think what the black family would have become. However, my daddy, although lacking in certain social graces, is my dearest friend. He's my sharpest critic other than myself, and yet he's also my hero. Not that our relationship could ever be defined as perfect, but still there is an ease that fills me just knowing that I'm in his prayers. We often argue but seldom fight. When we do, it's often about misunderstandings or about the way I continue to try and please my mother, an insurmountable feat for me and a lesson that I should have learned long ago. Which leads me back to my earlier question: what about the failures of some black

women as mothers?

I was about fourteen when my mother stopped loving me. Even as I remembered having watched the same tragic metamorphosis befall my sister some nine or so years before me, it still caught me like a stone right between the eyes. I had always been a sensitive child, and affection-starved no less, but I had also been relatively good-hearted. Now in my early twenties, my age of reason having long since passed me by, I often now ask myself the kinds of questions that only people at the end of their lives ask as old age wraps its arms around their lingering bodies. Why doesn't my mother love me anymore? I mean, I'm almost positive that she did once; love is one of a mother's many lots in life. But why then, did she suddenly stop?

Thank GOD, I'm basically well adjusted enough to grieve the loss privately because if nothing else, I've learned that the world rarely cares about your problems. Still, there is a certain sadness, or perhaps it's melancholy, that resides near your heart when you've resigned yourself to never knowing the warmth of your mother's love again. For me at least, my view of the world is no longer of the rose-colored variety. Youthful innocence is wasted on me, and I recognize neither the carefree black girl of my former days nor the hardened black girl of my present ones. I often teeter-totter along that fence, trying

to incorporate some measure of significance into the shadow that is now my life. Don't misunderstand; I'm generally happy, I think. I have every reason to be anyway. GOD is my best friend and my favorite companion. I have my health and strength, a very minimally diminished mental capacity, and a niece and nephew who love me with all the ferocity born of broken hearts. In me, I suspect, they have found a kindred spirit.

I'm not one to hold grudges because life is either too short or entirely too long. There's no therapist with a dwindling clientele or a recently graduated psychologist that has force-fed me an army of excuses on why my mother is to blame for any unhappiness in my life. Still, after another failed attempt at love with the wrong guy at the right moment, I'm left wondering if I would have preferred the lash of her belt rather than the sting of her tongue. At least the pain of the leather eventually fades. Meanwhile, I'm still carrying the scars of one too many "not-good-enoughs" and disinterested stares. Maybe these scars are less visible than others, like the constant reminder of a foot race gone bad that is the permanent gash on my left knee. But I can feel them beneath my clothes as I climb these Raleigh hills everyday on my way to classes. I catch myself, head bent and bowed, self-conscious, my eyes blank. Even now, when I suspect I should be

closer to tears or feeling some level of emotional turmoil, what I feel most is the familiarity of my numbness. Sometimes though, I admit I make my feeble attempts at identifying the exact moment that 'it' happened... you know, this change in her. Was it something I said, something I did? But I can think of no evil strong enough to constitute such a dramatic removal of affection. Perhaps I was too much of a burden or disappointment, but she had graciously waited until age would soften the blow. After all, we were very poor then. I used to think that if I hadn't eaten as much or grown as fast, then the financial burden wouldn't have been as difficult for her. However, thoughts like those don't bring much peace. Anyway, if time travel were a reality, I would go back and tell her to wait a few more years before she delivered the lethal blow. I wasn't as strong as she apparently thought. Because the other reality, that my mother recognized my weakness and chose to withdraw from me anyway, is a truth that I still cannot bear, even at twenty-one.

I can continue to speculate, but knowing my family history and how madness and us women are often peculiar allies, I prefer not to dwell on these things any longer. I mean, I'm graduating soon, and I've been thinking lately of how wonderful it would be to have a family of my own one day. I have always been a little afraid of having daughters

because maybe my mother's lack of concern for me is contagious. However, the love of my beloved nieces and nephews, as well as the love of God that passes all knowledge, has proven to me that love is therapeutic. Certainly, writing this has helped. My daddy too. For every product of a "normal" home environment, there has to be at least two of us that have had to become mythological phoenixes, rising from the ashes of our unfulfilled dreams. It may sound strange, but I'm actually thankful for what has transpired between my mother and me. She has inadvertently given me the best years of my life so far. I know my daddy now in a way that I probably wouldn't have had she continued to be a mother to me. I began attending church regularly, and in the process, found God there. Every girl needs a mother, and over the past seven years or so, I've found many willing to adopt me. Floating in and out of my life like the seasons, coworkers, teachers, and the parents of my friends have all decided to have mercy on me.

Do I miss my mother? Sure, and we talk sporadically, occasionally. I think she feels dutiful towards me. Most days, she has meaningful intentions, but I think that I mystify her because I am not like her. I know that she is atypical of the present-day image of black mothers, but my dad has redefined the role of the 21st century black father.

Join the Nubian Staff!!



Our apologies to the Many staff members not shown in this picture.

We still love you even if no one else knows it!!!

Just Kidding

Contact Adedayo A. Banwo at aabanwo@unity.ncsu.edu for MORE INFORMATION

Happy Birthday

Q-MEW



From **Diamond** and the **CREW.**

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY QUIZ BOWL

WHEN: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2001

WHERE: DR AUGUSTUS WITHERSPOON STUDENT CENTER

TIME: 4:00PM

*COME TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

CONTACT KRISTEN RICKS AT 512-9075 OR VIA EMAIL, KRICKS@UNITY.NCSU.EDU

The Friends of the Library of
North Carolina State University

Presents

University Authors Days

January 30 & 31, 2001

D. H. Hill Library
Assembly Room
Second Floor, East Wing

BOOK SALES WILL BE HANDLED BY THE
CATALYST BOOKSHOP,
NCSU BOOKSTORES

Join us during two days of readings and lectures as the Friends of the Library celebrates our university's talented authors. After each program, there will be an opportunity to speak with the author, purchase books, and have them autographed. Each day will conclude with a reception for all authors and all members of the NC State community at 8:00 P.M.



Tuesday, January 30

2:00 P.M. ~ Robert M. Entman

Entman, head of the Department of Communication, will present "Media and Race in America," based on his book *The Black Image in the White Mind*.

3:00 P.M. ~ Linda McMurry

History professor McMurry will discuss *To Keep the Waters Troubled: The Life of Ida B. Wells*. Wells was a black activist during Reconstruction.

4:00 P.M. ~ John Salaban

Professor of English and NC State Poet-in-Residence Salaban will read from his books *Locusts at the Edge of Summer* and *Spring Essence: Poetry of Ho Xuan Huong*.

5:00 P.M. ~ Gail O'Brien

O'Brien, associate dean and professor of history, will present "The Color of Law: A Retrospective." O'Brien is the author of *The Color of Law: Race, Violence, and Justice in the Post-World War II South*.

6:00 P.M. ~ Raymond L. Murray

Murray, professor emeritus of nuclear engineering, will present a lecture taken from his book *Nuclear Energy: An Introduction to the Concepts, Systems, and Applications of Nuclear Processes*.

7:00 P.M. ~ Kaye Gibbons, Friends of the Library
Author-in-Residence

Wednesday, January 31

2:00 P.M. ~ William E. Dunstan

Dunstan, visiting assistant professor of history, will discuss "The Ancient World," as covered in his books *The Ancient Near East* and *Ancient Greece*.

3:00 P.M. ~ William C. Harris

History professor Harris, author of *With Charity for All: Lincoln and the Restoration of the Union*, will lecture on "After the Emancipation Proclamation: Lincoln's Role in the Ending of Slavery."

4:00 P.M. ~ James R. Troyer

Professor emeritus of botany Troyer will present "Who Was B. W. Wells?" The talk is taken from his book *Nature's Champion: B. W. Wells, Tar Heel Ecologist*.

5:00 P.M. ~ Marvin Seroos

Seroos, professor of political science and public administration, will consider "The International Politics: Global Climate Change," relating to his book *The Endangered Atmosphere: Preserving a Global Commons*.

6:00 P.M. ~ Robert Metzger

Metzger, professor emeritus of philosophy, will read from his novel *A Master of the Century Past*.

7:00 P.M. ~ C. Franklin Goldsmith

C. Franklin Goldsmith, an NC State senior in mechanical engineering, will discuss his book *The Best Hikes of Pisgah National Forest*.

No Mics Cont. from page 8

degrades our Black queens, because some lyrics are very provocative.

So many people are striving for unification of the Black community, but there work is in vain when they throw their hands up to music that contradicts there ideas. If artist replaced lyrics with a more positive message and with the same beats, African Americans would like the song just as much as with the negative lyrics. I use to listen to music that insisted the only way to survive is to pull the trigger, and get your hustle on, but in today's society these actions will only lead you into two places; in jail or six feet deep.

I am only a freshmen, but I have matured to understand that life is not about

flashing jewelry, testing my game on the females, and trying to be better than the next Black man. I never realized how important Black unification is until I recognized that African Americans have low group esteem. Instead

of relying on one another and assisting one another, we allow our brain to be invaded by some rap artist that have the type attitude whereas you get yours and I'm gonna get mine.

I'd rather listen to rap music that uplifts the positive image of African

American females and males. There are some rap artists that create positive lyrics about African Americans and our heritage, such as Common and Talib Kweli. I suggest listening to more of the music that uplift our people instead of degrading our people.

African American females deserve to be treated with the utmost respect and African American males should provide a positive image for the upbringing of the next generation. Listen closely to lyrics that some of the rap artist are singing, and if you are buying the music that degrade African Americans then you need to think twice about the next album you buy.

Wanna Buy an AD?????

CONTACT: Capers Johnson
Business Manager at csjohnso@unity
For More Information

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT NUBY'S WORLD ONLINE AT WWW.NUBIANMESSAGE.COM

New Books in the African-American Cultural Center Library

Fiction

All of me: a voluptuous tale.

Venise Berry.

Far from the tree.

Virgina DeBerry.

Please, please, please.

Renee Swindle.

Something extra.

Patty Rice.

This just in: a novel.

Yolanda Joe.

Nonfiction

Black image in the white mind.

Heart health for black women.

I may not get there with you.

To keep the waters troubled:

the life of Ida B. Wells.

Without sanctuary:

lynching photography in America.

Robert Entman.

Beverly Yates.

Michael Dyson.

Linda McMurtry.

James Allen.



advertisement

Diversity continued from page 1

"The creation of a mix of ideas through diversity can form interest and learning on a college campus.

Nacoste, a psychology professor, has plans for diversity-centered programs, education and dialogue that are extensive and powerful even in their suggestion. He has plans that are already becoming reality.

Nacoste created a program in which the different colleges on campus are given the opportunity to compete for rewarded money based on their own diversity proposals. This encourages the colleges to implement the use of diversity.

Nacoste has also piloted a study in which the departments

can include diversity into their curriculums. The psychology department, along with the mechanical and chemical engineering departments, are currently participating in this study.

"Diversity is about the intellectual climate and integrity of a university," said Nacoste.

Student engagement in diversity issues is also of importance for the university. Besides training students to participate in diversity forums, Nacoste has suggested a program. The program, Wolfpack Lair of Diversity, allows students from different organizations to discuss cultural issues. Student groups like AASAC, Asian Students Association, Black Students Board, College Democrats/Republicans and others can converse openly with Nacoste and each other.

"Discussion is essential when it comes to diversity relationships," said Nacoste.

Many experts agree that accomplishing diversity at colleges, doesn't require quotas. Nor does diversity warrant admission of unqualified applicants.

"The University is committed to advancing diversity on our campus and our initiatives require the attention and support of every member of our community," said Chancellor Fox.

The diversity that N.C. State seeks to gain requires the university to reach out and make a conscious effort to build a healthy and diverse learning environment appropriate for the university's stated missions.

SAAC continued

from page 1

According to Kim McNair, SAAC president, "the overall goal of SAAC is to serve as an umbrella organization for all students, aiding the community and as the student political voice in regards to African-American issues."

McNair has been a member of SAAC since her freshman year and feels that her participation is a great way to both serve the community and influence decisions made by the university regarding African-American students.

Diamond Lesane, SAAC executive board member and Political Action chair, joined SAAC a year ago. She wanted to get more involved in campus politics and the NCSU community.

"I've gained much more than I've given or would ever have thought possible," said Lesane. "Beyond experience in working with a diverse group of people towards the common goal of justice and unity (however political that sounds)," said Lesane, "the best part of SAAC is the relationships."

"Friendship or strictly academic, being involved has given me an opportunity to know many

great people. I think that the affiliation alone has opened the door to many opportunities, such as being a Symposium Counselor for 2000."

In the ongoing tradition of increasing cultural awareness, the annual SAAC week will be held Jan. 29-Feb. 2. One of the events highlighting the five-day affair will be the 10th annual celebration of the African-American Cultural Center. SAAC will be co-hosting this event, along with the AACC, on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at 4:30 pm. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Margaret Burrows, an international known poet and artist.

In addition, Dr. M. Iyailu Moses, AACC director, will help commemorate the anniversary by presenting the history of the AACC. Several performers will be featured, as well as guided tours and refreshments.

SAAC will also host the Ebony Harlem Awards on April 16. It will also sponsor programs addressing topics of interest to the African-American student here at NCSU. Topics addressed will be "Ethnicity and Cultural Identity", "How the Media Affects Culture", "Racial Programs" and "Racism on Campus."

Every African-American at NCSU is automatically a SAAC

member. To become an active member, and a part of the political voice on campus, attend the general body meetings. The meetings are held every other Thursday at 7:30 pm in room 375 of the AACC.

"The key is to become an active member," said Lesane. "Stop complaining about the problems or talking about the problems. Let's be about handling our business."

2001

Pan-Afrikan

T-Shirt

DESIGN CONTEST

*All entries are due on **February 15th** by **5 pm**
in room 1200 of Talley Student Center.

*any **Questions** Contact Kim Harrill @ 515.5918
or kim_harrill@ncsu.edu

*Absolutely **NO** late entries will be accepted.

*The winner will receive a pair of tickets to
All Pan-Afrikan events held on campus.

I'm sorry Ms. Jackson!

Keon Pettway

Staff Writer

Last Thursday the Rev. Jessie Jackson made an announcement that stunned many of us who support his efforts in helping the black community and the United States. Jackson admitted that he had been involved in an extramarital affair that had taken place approximately two years ago and a child had been born as a result of the affair. Rev. Jackson committed this adulterous act with Karin Stanford, an employee of the Rainbow-Push Coalition. This announcement came as no surprise to his family whom he informed of the affair before the child was born.

Although Jackson is a religious figure and was the spiritual adviser to the Clintons after President Clinton had relations with Monica Lewinski, he is still human. Many times religious officials are expected to maintain superhuman strength and be able to escape the same temptations that the rest of us sub come to daily. According to my Bible, Jesus was the only man to live on this earth without sin. Ifm not condoning Rev. Jackson's behavior, but he is a man. It's like Chris Rock once said, ia man is only as faithful as his options. Let's face it; a man with Jessie Jackson's power, money, and influence has many options. Aside from natural good looks and money, power is probably the next most attractive attribute of any individual. Men and women can deny it, but the fact of the matter is public figures are often attractive to others because of their status. For instance, many of the men and women in People's 50 Most Beautiful issues would not be there if they were just an average person on the street. They would probably be in the clubs or bars searching for someone just like we



"I Am Fo' Real!!"

do.

I think that we should continue to support Jessie and his organizations, because of the past contributions that he has made to the black community. At least he was man enough to admit his wrongdoing and apologize. Jessie was probably going to be exposed by the National Enquirer this week, but he could've denied the allegations. Jessie said, iThis is no time for evasions, denials, or alibis. He also said, champions have to learn to play with pain- to handle their contrition with both dignity and courage. These statements are proof that Jessie is willing to accept the consequences of his actions and continue moving on.

We don't have many African-American figures with Jessie Jackson's influence and I think it would be a tragedy to lose such an ambitious and successful leader. I also think that the media needs to quit hyping everything up. Even after Bill Clinton's affair and lie were exposed he still had a 65% approval rating. The media is trying to take one of our strong black leaders, and since assassinations are no longer in style, killing their character seems to be the in thing now. They almost succeeded when Jessie decided to retire, but thankfully he reconsidered and is back on the job. The best thing for us as African-Americans is to just let it ride and continue supporting Jessie.

Give Bush a chance

Adedayo A. Banwo

Editor

The inauguration is over and many blacks have, as in the words of Dick Gregory, vowed to "pray for the white house but ... not pray for the president."

Despite huge voter turnouts

against him and despite large anti-Bush protests last week, the



Bush at a MLK Celebration last week in Texas

new president has attempted to bridge the highly polarized electorate in recent days. This is because, of course, that polarization falls largely along racial lines. Should blacks give Bush a chance? Bush will never see eye to eye with many prominent black leaders and lobbyists but can there be some progress made?

I believe progress can be made, specifically on the issues of racial profiling and education reform.

On education reform, this week Bush showed ability to compromise by coming down on his hard stance for school vouchers. By giving school districts the choice in regards to private school vouchers, the president reached out to the liberal base that includes many black grass roots organizations and lobbyists. In addition, the plan calls for increased federal funding for public education.

Bush also made a very powerful selection for Education Secretary which Rod Paige, former superintendent of schools in Houston, Texas. Paige had the support of Representative and Congressional Black Caucus member Sheila Jackson-Lee D-TX, a strong proponent of many issues concerning the black community. Paige has raised the bar in Houston public schools the right way, by working with parents and families and simply asking more of the students. At a Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremony last week, Paige spoke about the day that he learned Dr. King was assassinated. Paige showed great poise and a great concern for issues concerning the black community.

The Paige pick and the back down from his tough stance on school vouchers are a good thing. However, the education plan is still flawed by its lack of focus on America's poorest school districts. Most of the funding will go to poor schools, however, there has to be a deeper solution than simply throwing money at the problem. Perhaps, Bush could learn from his Education Secretary and develop more innovative ways to specifically target minority students in an effort to increase college acceptance and graduation rates. Testing is not the answer but perhaps scholarships are. Simply put, why doesn't the new administration take a page from the old one and just create new scholarships for minority and poor students?

Nevertheless, the flaws of his plan cannot overshadow Bush's outreach.

On racial profiling, an Ashcroft Justice department would "vigorously" pursue methods to end the practice. The strong stance on racial profiling cannot be overshadowed by the pick of Ashcroft as attorney general. Ashcroft, like many of his republican (and democratic) colleagues often time do, used a black face and image (Judge Ronnie White) as a scapegoat to prove his merits to white voters. It was a cowardly act and no matter what position he takes on racial profiling, nothing will outweigh that. However, the stance is a good one and it shows a willingness of the Bush administration to build "one nation."

Black leaders and lobbyists may never fully support Bush. However, it is time to end the partisan rancor and attempt to co-exist politically on a civil level for the next four years. The poverty that exists in many rural areas and inner cities will not cease because of insults and accusations.



Rod Paige at his confirmation hearing last week.

Give Bush a chance, at least until 2004.

Roc La Familia Gets 0 Mics

Keon Pettway

Staff Writer

Why is it that African Americans listen to the rap music that degrades our Black queens, creates a negative attitude toward our brothers, and promotes the killing of our sisters and brothers. Most of the rap music

that we listen is negative, but we are reluctant to disregard this type of music.

Instead of inhibiting unification of the Black community into their music, some rap artist justify that unification of all African Americans is a concept of the past, and the way to make it to the top is to get all you

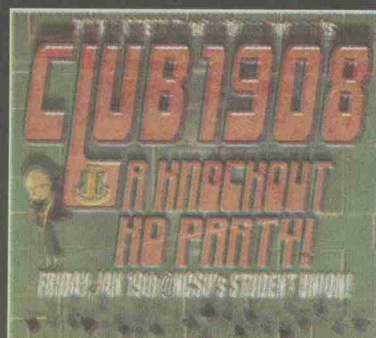
can get for yourself.

I'm not knocking Sean Carter and his-Dynasty or DMX and the Ruff Ryders, because they do have the illest vocals and the most hypnotizing beats. What I am opposing are the lyrics that the artists produce. I refuse to listen to music that

See No Mics on Page 6

Top Ten Seen and Heard at Club 1908

By: Miss Everything



10. Didn't Club 1908 feel more like Club Hades?
9. Wasn't it funny how the price went from \$1 before 10:30 to \$7 an hour later?
8. Didn't the no in and out policy make us feel kinda...oh, I don't know...TRAPPED!
7. Weren't there enough Alphas there to form a Gold Mine?
6. On that same note weren't there enough AKA's there to form an Ivy League?
5. Don't NCCU peeps try to rule our parties with their "Eagle Pride" chants?
4. After the party didn't Public Safety get kinda pushy? (I guess they finally felt like they had a job to do.)
3. Wasn't the "Cha Cha Slide" segment of the party off da hook?
2. Speaking of the "Cha Cha Slide," can anybody tell me what he means when he says "reverse, reverse"? Cause everybody seemed to be confused.

1. Wasn't waiting to the end of the party to fight very courteous?