



# the Nubian Message

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

February 22-March 1, 2001

"Celebrating Black History Every Month of the Year"

Volume 8 Issue 23



## **SHEQUETA L. SMITH**

guest reporter

I bet after hearing "Just Friends (Sunny)" this past summer you probably thought that this new kid on the block Musiq

would be a one hit wonder. Well, if you were having these kinds of thoughts, then I just know you will probably be getting a nasty taste in your mouth from the crowd you are about to eat because one hit equals each and every

## Philadelphia's Musiq comes to Raleigh

track from his debut album Aijuswanaseing. The first song released, "Just Friends," was still banging up the charts when Def Jam decided to release an even more successful song entitled "Love."

These two songs are only the tip of the iceberg of what is soon to become one of the best debut albums to ever be released. Although some of the songs may seem callow, they provide us with the breath of fresh air that is so desperately needed in the crude world of music these days. This album brings back the simplicity that most R&B artists neglect. Instead of featuring a rapper on every track, it features a very talented vocalist named Musiq.

After listening to his album I instantly became a fan, and when Def Jam made me aware that he was coming to "Raleighwood," I became excited. When I discovered that he would be accompanied by a live band, I became even more excited because everybody knows that when you bring a live band, that usually means you have "real talent" unlike the Brittanys and the J-Lo's that sing over a deejay.

So on Friday, February 16, two days after Valentine's Day, I witnessed talent at its best, but this talent was named Musiq Soulchild. I first witnessed this talent at sound check, which some deem to be the most boring part of a show. It was here that I basically had my own per-

sonal concert and discovered that this brother can really sang. So later on that night when the actual concert took place, it was not a surprise to me when everyone went wild when he got on stage and started singing the tracks from his album.

Somewhere in between the Musiq Luncheon, the radio station, the sound check and the concert, I managed to get this informative interview with Musiq Soulchild. I hope you all enjoy this interview and find the time to go and check out this dude's CD because it is off the hook. And for all the folks that weren't able to make it to the show this time, he will be back on March 24th in Greensboro performing with Erykah Badu. Can you imagine?

## More minority faces needed on the Judicial Board

### **CHINWE EKWURIBE**

Staff writer

One of the many organizations that are looking for more minority faces is the Judicial Board. Student government is comprised of three branches, the Judicial, the Executive, and the Senate. The Judicial Board is part of the student government's judicial branch.

The Judicial Board is comprised of N.C. State students who serve on judicial hearings of students who have violated our Student Code of Conduct. They decide if the accused student is found guilty or innocent of a crime or other situation. The board members also "deliver appropriate sanctions to students found guilty of violating the Code of Conduct." They also speak at functions where they "present information on N.C. State University's judicial system. The Judicial Board is a very influential organization here on campus.

The Judicial Board has tried to increase the number of not only African-Americans faces on the board, but all minorities. Paul Cousins, the director of the Office of Student Affairs said that "only in the 'last couple of years we [the Judicial Board] have struggled for African-American student representation on the Board. Prior to that time, we had generated lots of interest in the Black student community." Hence, the board took a more aggressive role in pursuing the minority faces.

"This year we were certain to send someone from this office to meetings of AASAC and other primarily African-American student organizations to announce the opportunity and advertise the process and deadlines," said Cousins on his new plans of Judicial Board recruitment. This approach had some effect on the number of minority applicants. (Unfortunately, the deadline for this coming year passed on February 9th).

"Of the 29 applicants, 11 listed themselves as African-American, one self identified as Asian, one applicant did not indicate an ethnicity, and the remainder were self identified as white," said Cousins.

Cousins said if they don't have enough qualified students from this recruitment session, they will have another recruitment in the fall. To be qualified in order to be a part of the judicial board in the future, a student should have an overall GPA of at least 2.5, be a full time student and fill out the application. The application is comprised of short answer questions and analysis type questions. They the Judicial Board directors will evaluate the quality of those applications and invite the best candidates to a selection process."

The process usually takes half a day, and then the applicants are reviewed. For more information about the Judicial Board or the Student Government, visit its website at:

<http://students.ncsu.edu/>

## CIAA Tournament: more than just the hoops!

### **SHAVONNE HENDRICKS**

Staff writer

For the second consecutive year, Raleigh will be honored as the host-city for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) annual basketball tournament. The six-day Men and Woman basketball competition will be held February 26th through March 3rd at the Raleigh Entertainment and Sports Arena.

In addition to the energizing basketball games, the competition will also feature several cultural and social events. Over the past 56 years, these events have helped to make the festivity become known as the "premiere African-American social event on the East Coast," attracting national media coverage and celebrities from professional athletics, music, film and television industries.

Last year, the tournament contributed \$8.3 million to the Raleigh economy through the athletic tournament and various social and cultural activities. This year, the tournament will feature a fashion show, sponsored by ZADs, Incorporated (Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.). It will

be held on March 2nd at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. Fashion show tickets are \$35 each and reserved seating is available.

The CIAA stepshow will be take place at the McLendon-McDougal Sports Arena on the campus of N.C. Central University. Doors will open on March 2nd at 8 p.m. with the show starting at 9 p.m. The event will be hosted by Comedian DS and feature nine sororities and fraternities from seven different HBCUs. Tickets are available for purchase at Willie's Records, Mr. Freeze's Records, as well as any CIAA stepshow ticket outlet located at the CIAA universities.

The official CIAA Stepshow Afterparty will begin at Midnight at the NCCU LT Walker Complex. A discount will be given with a ticket stub from the stepshow. To be admitted, you must bring either your student ID or Greek Membership Card.

The Tom Joyner Morning Show will begin at 6 a.m. at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium on March 2nd. The Career Exposition will be held on February 28th starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Raleigh Convention Center.

On Saturday, the event will conclude with Super Sunday, a family-oriented event free to the public. The affair includes a cheerleading exhibition, Battle of

the Bands, the Mennen-Speedstick Ultimate Slam Dunk contest, the Irish Spring 3-Point contest and the 1-800-CALL-ATT 3-on-3 competition.

In response to the overwhelming demand for tournament tickets, the CIAA board of directors has opened the upper level of the ESA, providing tickets for those who have not already made their purchase.

"The important thing for CIAA fans to realize is that the atmosphere at the CIAA is such that all fans, regardless of seat location, can mingle throughout the Entertainment and Sports Arena. Movement from one level to the other is 'free-flowing,'" said CIAA Commissioner Leon Kerry. "That is, once you have a ticket, you can move about freely in the arena, whether it be upper level, lower level or club level. The party atmosphere is everywhere and no one is excluded."

A book of adult tickets for the entire week is \$95. Student tickets for the entire week are \$37.50. Single tickets are available for games held Monday through Thursday for both students and adults. There are, however, no adult single tickets for the semifinals or championship games. CIAA and local area students can purchase single tickets for the entire week with valid student ID.

## Recycle your Nubian



## Clinton Comes to Harlem

**Keon Pettitway**  
Staff writer

Former President Bill Clinton is known for his involvement in the Black community. Recently, the Clinton administration created a federal empowerment zone that expedited new commercial interests in Harlem. As a result, the ex-White House occupant has moved his office to the New York City neighborhood.

"The move is an acknowledgment of his close relationship with the Black community, his refuge whenever he got into trouble," says BET.com columnist, Julianne Malveaux.

Clinton says that moving his office to Harlem is parallel with some of his "post presidential goals" to bring economic improvement to particular areas and create better relations between races. The former president will be moving in a \$2,000,000 office space on 125th Street.

The question raised by most Harlemites is whether the presence of Clinton will be detrimental or beneficial to Harlem's community. While some fear the Clinton's move will create more "gentrification," others believe Clinton's move will boost the economic status in Harlem.

"Everyone is excited about having a celebrity but no one is thinking about the consequence," says Dedrick Muhammad, a field director who works and lives in Harlem.

The initial economic boom might cause poor residents to be evacuated and cause a profit decrease in small local businesses.

Clinton's presence will attract new businesses, and as a result, poor residents will have to be pushed out of their neighborhood in order to create space and certain surroundings for new businesses, and small local businesses will be in constant competition.

Although some people think Clinton's move will produce havoc on the poor residents, others think his move to Harlem will be strictly positive. Harlem is known for Black music, arts and literature, energy, and culture. For the past two decades, Harlem has experienced community decline. Abandoned lots, boarded-up buildings, and crack houses are symbols of Harlem's renaissance decline. Clinton's move might boost Harlem's economy and restore Harlem as a "legendary Mecca."

"I love it. Being in marketing, I've learned that excitement sells. What 125th Street needs is to be sold to the world. Over the years it has lost its luster," says Stone Johnson, a 40-year-old owner of Harlem's The Beauty Machine.

Clinton's move is not the only sign of improvement in Harlem. There are other new additions to the area that have made it an attraction to the residents of New York, as well as the world. The Apollo Theater has been backed by a partnership with AOL Time Warner. Magic Johnson established a theater complex and a Starbucks Coffee in Harlem. There is even Harlem USA, the new \$65 million mall. Harlem's resurgence as a cultural icon is quickly gaining momentum.

## Diversity Committees Making A Difference On Campus

**Keon Pettitway**  
Staff writer

Diversity is an essential and important issue at N.C. State. Enrolled students and faculty come from various backgrounds, have different lifestyles, are from different cultures, and have different ideas. Sometimes it can be

difficult making a transition to a large university that consumes so many different models of individuals, and students need assistance understanding the importance of diversity. The Diversity Committee at N.C. State is progressing toward promoting diversity and unity on campus and exposing students to cultures and ideas.

"Having committees dealing specifically with diversity shows that diversity issues are important to the success of students present on campus. They also provide an avenue to address issues, such as racism and prejudice, through working with the administration," says Jessie Etling, chairman of Student Senate and UAB diversity committees.

Etling explains that there are two diversity committees on campus. One is the Student Senate diversity committee and the other is the UAB diversity committee. The Student Senate diversity committee is made up of student senators, and UAB diversity committee

is open to all students. The purpose of the Student

Senate diversity committee is to listen to students about diversity issues and respond to the issues on a policy basis. The UAB diversity committee creates programs that educate and expose students to the importance of diversity.

Some students have major concerns about diversity, but they do not know how to enact their ideas. Both diversity committees listen to student's ideas, comments and concerns, and find ways to voice the students' opinions to a higher authority.

"We give the students a voice to the administration and to the community and we take the concerns of others and take them to the administration," says Etling.

The UAB promotes programs that focus on African-Americans, as well as the entire student body. The UAB has a Black Students Board (BSB) subcommittee that is geared toward the Black community. An upcoming event pertaining to

African-Americans is Pan-Afrikan week, March 31-April 7.

Although the UAB have programs that focus on African-Americans, the major audience is the entire population at this university. Other programs sponsored by the diversity committee are forums on racial politics, a

diversity workshop for faculty and students, a unity rally, a banquet and the annual international festival on March 24. The International Dance Party, another upcoming event sponsored by the diversity committee, is a campus-wide social event that includes club-style music from different cultures.

It is evident that diversity is an important issue at N.C. State, but there is room for improvement. The main theme is for students to know their own cultures, while at the same time, experiencing the culture of others to see how various individuals relate. Hopefully, this will cause students to accept and appreciate the differences of other cultures.

"I think students need to be educated through exposure to different people to understand that we are very similar and have the same goals, though we may look different or have different backgrounds. I think many people fear of things they have never been exposed to," says Etling.

The Senate and UAB diversity committees are working hard at promoting various programs and establishing new ideas to improve diversity on campus. Eventually, all students will become aware of how essential diversity is at N.C. State and life in general.

## NUBIAN message

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

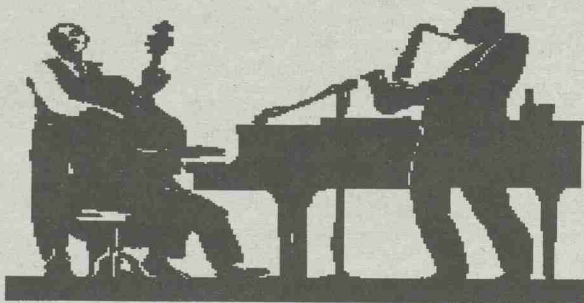
## Jazz Nite fundraiser and silent auction

**\$7** general admission

**\$3** students with ID

**Friday, February 23, 2001  
7 p.m.**

**K. Dunham Multipurpose Room  
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<http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/provost/aacc/>

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## YA HEARD?

SHEQUETA I. SMITH  
Entertainment Reporter

What's up everybody?? I'm coming back at 'cha this week like bell-bottoms, with what's been going on in the entertainment biz. First on the agenda without a doubt is Mr. Sean "Puffy" Combs. Combs recently filed a lawsuit for \$325,000 against Mikal Gilmore. I guess he needs more money to pay Johnny Cochran. But it appears that Combs is accusing Gilmore of backing out of co-authoring Puffys' autobiography. Now tell me, who needs an autobiography about Puffy when his life is like an open book.

While we are still talking about public enemy #1 it appears that the animal rights organization PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) recently showed up at the Supreme Court during his trial. No Puffy didn't kill any animals (or at least I don't think so), but they were there to protest Puffy's use of fur in his most recent Sean John runway show. Word has it that PETA had originally planned on throwing tomatoes at the fashion show but changed their minds when Puffy decided not to use the fur. After they found out that Puffy later changed his mind at the last minute to use the fur they decided to make an appearance at his gun possession trial to protest.

Another occurrence that I'm sure yall have been hearing about, are the bombs over Baghdad that have been going down in Iraq. And I'm not talking about Outkast either. It seems that President George Bush Jr. couldn't get in office quick enough to immediately start blowing stuff up. The Pentagon said that U.S. and British planes targeted Iraqi air defense targets and was meant to destroy radar systems that had been threatening American and British aircraft. I think, it was just a little too peaceful around here and Mr. Bush decided he wanted to play around with Mr. Saddam Hussein.

In other news it has been rumored that our favorite "T.V Mom," Phylicia Rashad, and her famous husband sportscaster and former wide receiver Ahmad Rashad have split. Word has it that Phylicia filed for a divorce on the grounds of "abandonment" (whatever that means). They have apparently been living separated lives for some time now and only waited to divorce for the sake of their daughter Phylea who is now 14. I'm telling you every week it's somebody different in divorce court. Does "til death do us part" mean anything these days?

On another note the King of Pop, Michel Jackson, has recently been heard saying that he wants a lady in his life. Sources say that on Valentines Day Mike delivered a speech at Carnegie Hall at his Heal the Kids event speaking about love and careers. He was quoted saying that he has not "given up on love." I know a couple of folks that would be willing to give you a chance Mike.

Well folks last of all but certainly not the least, it appears that Destiny's Child, oops I mean Beyonce, just recently signed an exclusive contract with L'Oreal to endorse their hair products. As if the hair she wears is really hers. And speaking of fake hair, Erykah Badu, has been catching a lot of flack lately about her new revelation about her fake dreds. She sure did have everybody fooled. I wonder what made her come out. That new baldhead she has sure makes her look funny looking. But let me stop hating. That's all for this week folks but be sure to check me out next week with more drama, drama, drama.

Interesting Entertainment Fact of the Week:

Did you know that actress LisaRaye and rap artist Da Brat are sisters?

## MUSIQ & A

**This is a dumb question because everybody should know but where are you from?**

There is no such thing as a dumb question. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Do you still live there?**

Yes.

**What is your real name?**

Taalib Johnson.

**How old are you?**

23.

**When is your birthday?**

September 16.

**Did you go to college anywhere?**

I went to Community College.

**So how did you get discovered by good ole' Def Jam?**

One of my managers started working for Def Jam, and she shopped me a deal.

**What were you doing before you got signed...besides walking down the street beat-boxing?**

I was pretty much doing the same thing, but I wasn't profes-

sional with it. I was as professional as I could be with it without being in the business.

**Do you have a girlfriend?**

No.

**What do you look for in a female?**

For her to just be herself and let me decide whether or not I want to be with her.

**What is the next song that is going to be released from the album? I personally feel that it should be "L' Is Gone."**

Thank you. I don't know yet.

**Since I brought up "L' is Gone," can you please break this song down for me and tell me what in the hell it means? I mean are you talking about the 'chica' or the 'yae yo'?**

Pretty much I am talking about what will happen when the things we base our relationship off of diminish. Like a lot of people base their relationships off of sex and what happens when that's not enough?

**What is your favorite thing to do when life isn't crazy?**

Watch movies.

**A lot of folks are comparing you to D'Angelo, and I personally feel like you sound very similar to Donny Hathaway, but what is it about you that sets you apart from all the rest?**

I don't know. I just do what I do...if I sound like D'Angelo or if I sound like Donny Hathaway, they are my influences so it's going to show. I don't know. I just try to do what I do and let people take it however they want to take it.

**Who is your favorite musical artist?**

I have more than one...if I had to pick one it would be a tie between Donny Hathaway and Stevie Wonder.

**This is the last question. I just finished reading an interview you had in "Sister to Sister," and you were quoted as saying, "sex isn't every-**

# READ READ READ READ READ more NUBIAN

## BATTLE OF DA MICS!!!



ARE YOU A FEARLESS MC? DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE SKILLZ? COME & BATTLE TO WIN CASH PRIZES!!!

WHEN: SAT, FEB. 24, 7-9pm BEFORE THE ΔΣΘ PARTY.

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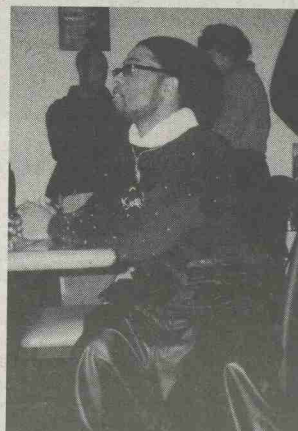
thing." I'm in college now, and around the same age as you

beg to differ. Could you elaborate a little more on this statement?

What I meant by that was that even though sex is a very important and personal and deep and intense thing, it isn't the only important thing on this planet. There are so many more important things in life to get into when meeting somebody than just sex. It just frustrated me that every girl that I've met always thought that every guy out there is out for the sex. Sex is really good; I'm not saying that

it's not, but it just isn't everything.

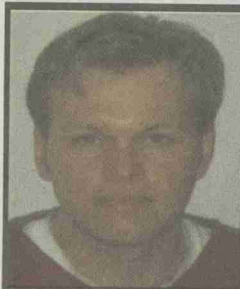
I'm sure a lot of guys here



Musiq chills after his show backstage.



## The Secularization of the Black Church



**Michael Harrell**  
Culture Columnist

This week we proceed with Part III of our IV part celebration of the Black Church in America to honor Black History Month. In Parts I and II we explored the restrictions and denial of religious freedom among the slaves that resulted in worshipping in secrecy. This practice of conciliatory worship would be later known as the "invisible institu-

tion." After Emancipation, the "invisible institution" fused with the organized churches of blacks that were free prior to emancipation. We also explored the role of the black church in the lives of its members and internal conflicts among congregations.

As the 19th century came to a close, 90% of blacks in America lived in the south. Approximately 80% of these black southerners resided in rural areas. During the first two decades of the 20th century an exodus among southern blacks occurred. They moved to northern urban areas.

This migration was prompted by several events. Justifiably, many southern blacks had reached a flashpoint from the years of oppression and deprivation of opportunity in the south. A majority of black southerners of the period were forced to eek out a living in the field. Southern agricultural markets left many

jobless as the boll weevil wreaked havoc on cash crops. World War I created a new opportunity through northern industry for black southerners. Although working conditions of the factory lines and mills were often deplorable at best, this was an opportunity of upward mobility for many southern blacks.

Many black migrants were demoralized with the experience of city life. A countless number of the men cultured by the black church to become responsible fathers and moral leaders of the community fell victim to vices in the city. Among the working class, gambling and alcoholism were rampant. As a result, many black men of the south, along with their white working class counterparts, were led down a path of despair.

Northern black churches began to secularize during this period. The churches focused more on the current conditions of

blacks and less on the preparation of individuals for religious stewardship as commanded by their King James Version of the Bible.

In contrast to the south, most black mothers entered the work force full-time. Secularized northern churches did not discourage this. Consequently, juvenile delinquency abounded among many undisciplined black youngsters. Unfortunately, the church failed to play a substantial role to compensate for the lack of structure in young, black lives.

A large number of black migrants felt ostracized in large and predominantly literate churches of the north. A feeling of displacement led to the founding of many small "storefront" churches. As may be deciphered from the name, many of these churches conducted their services in burrowed buildings and abandoned storefronts. Uneducated or semi-literate pas-

tors established these churches. These services tended to attract lower class blacks and conform to the high-spirited form of worship found among southern churches in rural areas.

An important benefit forged from secularism of the black church was civil rights organizations such as the NAACP. Once again black church focused on the current conditions of their people. They chose to be proactive. The church afforded blacks one of the few and definitely the oldest social organization of the African-American experience. It is only fitting that the church would give rise to civil rights reform through religious leaders such the reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In Part IV we will examine the triumphs and tragedies of the black church during and after the civil rights movement of the 20th century.

## Weekly Book Review

this week: *All of Me* By Venise Berry

**Michelle REED**



Meet Serpentine Williamson, a single, African-American who is going through a mid-life crisis. Thinking she could try to solve her problems by getting rid of them totally, Serpentine attempts suicide. (Are you thinking the same thing I was thinking when I read the book? Black people attempting suicide?) No, but seriously, Serpentine is faced with the problem of being an African-American woman plagued with the issue of trying to fit into society's standards for women, especially for African-American women. She isn't a thin, white woman, but a "sistah" who is rather on the thick side. The word that fits Serpentine is "voluptuous." In the past, Serpentine has been strong for everyone else, but she now needs someone to be strong for her at this very trying time in her life.

The career she works so very hard at is now being put to the

test. She is a Chicago television reporter, working on a goal to become one of the station's top anchors. But there is one thing that is holding her back: her image. Because she isn't skinny and doesn't fit the "Barbie" profile, she is being rejected by some of her viewers, but worst of all, some of her bosses at the job. She is always complemented on her attractiveness, but degraded by some in both white and black America because of her weight. The struggle within her to remain strong is becoming harder and harder.

There is never a moment when Serpentine is not conscious of her weight. The search for true love and romance is another battle that Serpentine must confront. She is reluctant to trust anyone, until she meets Carlin, an old love from the past. Just as Serpentine is settling in with Carlin and the flame between them seems like it can never be

extinguished, an old love in Carlin's life reappears. Distrusting Carlin because of the love he still has for this woman, and because of the love this woman has for Carlin, Serpentine does not want to be caught up in this love triangle, and she leaves Carlin.

On the family frontier, Serpentine is presented with a mother-daughter conflict. Nolita, Serpentine's mother, is a very demanding and pushy lady. For the majority of Serpentine's life, Nolita has always reflected on Serpentine's weight, whether it be blatant criticism, or just being over-concerned. LaJune, Serpentine's younger sister, and her cousin, Tevan, provide comfort, stability, reassurance, and love for Serpentine at all times. Another supporting relative in Serpentine's life is her Aunt Regina, who she loves just as much or maybe even more than her mother.

Attending weekly counseling sessions with her psychiatrist, Dr. Greely, Serpentine must confront all the problems and roadblocks in her life. She must learn how to not drown herself in sorrow or self-pity, cry when she is happy or sad, keep the faith, say to hell with what others think of her, but most of all, Serpentine must learn to love herself. The question is will she every truly love herself entirely?

Venise Berry's novel, "All of Me," brings forth a very strong topic that many may be reluctant to talk about, which is self-love. Because many people walk around "happy go lucky" and not wanting to reveal true emotions on their sleeves, the battle that is going on in some to love themselves goes unnoticed. Serpentine must struggle for who and what she is, which happens to be a beautiful, goal oriented African-American woman that is not a size four, not a size 10, not

a size 14, nor a size 16. She is somewhere between a size 20-24, but what does that matter? She is an African-American woman that has been successful in her career, thus so far, but because she is being defined by society's standards for beauty, she is being presented with many obstacles. Unfair? Of course.

We may know a Serpentine in our very own lives. We may look in the mirror and see Serpentine's reflection. It doesn't necessarily have to be Serpentine's exact issue, but another issue in our lives that cause us to go to the edge, or maybe even over the edge. Berry's novel is one of humor, joy, sadness, determination, empowerment, and hope. It is a journey in search of respect, strength, faith, and love. Her novel vibrates a strong message which says, "Love all of me, and if you can't do that, don't love me at all." Well said.

## Nigerian conference to fight present-day "slavery"

**Shavonne Hendricks**  
Staff writer

According to the President's Interagency Council on Women, human trafficking is the "recruitment, transport, harboring, transfer, sale or receipt of persons through coercion, force, fraud, or deception in order to get people in situations. The circumstances range from forced prostitution, domestic servitude, sweatshop labor or other kinds of work to pay off debts....It differs from smuggling of persons in that trafficking moves people for the pur-

pose of placing them in modern-day slavery or servitude."

Human trafficking, although it has not received an abundance of media attention, is an urgent issue that needs to be addressed nationwide. Nigerian president, Olusegun Obasanjo, opened the first Pan-African Conference Monday addressing human trafficking, referring to it as "a new slave trade."

Representatives from more than two-dozen African nations were in attendance at the five-day conference. Also present were non-governmental organi-

zations, representatives of United Nations agencies, the Organization of African Unity, United Nations Children's Fund, and Western diplomats.

"This is an unwholesome trade ... an evil business that is threatening ... our women and children," the president said. "The problem, the scourge is ... akin to slave trade of the 18th and 19th centuries. The fight against it will take the same form of doggedness as the fight against the slave trade."

Obasanjo added that Africans represent most of the

victims being sold in his country, and therefore need to take the initiative to eliminate this crime against nature.

Most of the human trafficking occurs in Nigeria, Africa's most heavily populated country. According to the Nigerian officials, mostly women and children are sold every year, mainly into prostitution. This form of trafficking is ranked as the third largest source of profit for organized crime, coming in behind drugs and guns.

Trafficking victims are forced to bear cruel acts such as rape,

torture, starvation, and physical brutality. Some are exposed to AIDS and HIV while others are literally worked to death.

Titi Abubakar, wife of Vice President Atiku Abubakar, hopes that the conference will sensitize the world and "evolve an African initiative against trafficking in persons, especially women and children." Abaakar adds African women and children have been turned into "mere commodities, ordinary cattle, to be priced and sold in open market in the streets of other countries.



February 28, 2001

8:00 PM

Reynolds Coliseum

WOLFPACK

VS.

Tarheels



Prizes: Two Midway Airline Tickets, \$100 Gift Certificate to Cary Towne Center, \$50 Gift certificate to Target, NC State autographed basketballs and football, Torry Holt autographed football, AND MANY, MANY MORE PRIZES

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# The Nubian Message



Courtesy of Soundprint Inc.

## Black History Month

Feature Article of the week

By : Michelle Reed

### Black History Focus Figure- Emmett Till

The year is 2001. Imagine being a 14-year old boy, dared by friends to say an innocent, flirtatious line to a female. Now imagine the year is 1955, the month is August, the location is Money, Mississippi, and you are a 14-year old boy that is dared by your friends to flirt innocently with a woman. Wait a minute! Forgot to mention that she is a white woman. Both situations seem harmless, but one of the situations did produce harm and brought the life of a 14-year old boy to a tragic end.

Emmett Louis Till was born and raised in Chicago. The environment that he had been accustomed to in the North was totally different from the environment of the South. Living in a predominantly black middle-class neighborhood and attending a predominantly black school in Chicago with few white classmates, friends, and teachers, Emmett was used to an environment where the race relations between blacks and whites was more relaxed. Whereas in Chicago where there de facto (by practice) segregation, Mississippi practiced de jure (by law) segregation.

On Wednesday August 24, 1955, a few days after he arrived in Money, Mississippi, Emmett and his cousin, Curtis Jones, drove their grandfather's, Moses Wright, car to a country store. They met up with some more other black kids outside of the store, and that's when Emmett began showing off a picture of a white girl claiming to be "his girl." One of the boys mentioned that there was a white woman in the store and bet Emmett that he would not talk to her. Emmett went into the store to purchase candy, and when he left the store he said "bye baby" to the white woman.

As three days passed, Emmett and Curtis forgot all about the event that happened at the store. On Sunday August 28, 1955 at 2:30am, twenty-four-year-old, Roy Bryant and his thirty-six-year-old stepbrother, J. W. Milam, came to the house of Moses Wright, searching for 14-year old Emmett. Despite desperate pleas and explanations from his grandfather saying that Emmett was from the North, the two men abducted Emmett, while threatening the Wright family with a flashlight and gun. Emmett showed no fear when the men told him to get dressed and come with them. This enraged them. Nor did Emmett address them by saying "Yes Sir" or "No Sir." This too, enraged them for they were used to blacks buckling at their commands. They drove Emmett to the Tallahatchie River, and made him carry a 75-pound cotton gin fan from the back of the truck to the riverbank, then ordered him to strip. He was then shot in the head by Milam.

On Wednesday, August 31, 1955, Emmett's nude body was found. Barbed wire had been wrapped around Emmett's neck and tied to the cotton gin fan, which had become caught on a tangled river root. One bullet was lodged in his skull, one eye was gouged out, and his forehead was crushed in on one side. Before the mutilated corpse had been found, both Milam and Bryant had been charged with kidnapping. Now with a dead body, the charge was now murder.

Emmett's body was so badly mutilated, his grandfather could only identify him by a ring on his finger. The sheriff wanted the body to be buried quickly, but Emmett's mother, Mammie Bradley, demanded the body be sent back to Chicago. She wanted an open casket funeral to let the world know what happened to her son. The picture of the mutilated body was published in "Jet" magazine, and blacks everywhere saw the picture.

The trial for Milam and Bryant took place in Sumner, Mississippi two weeks later Emmett's burial. Across the country, everyone was focused in on the case. There was a lack of witnesses for the case. For fear of being physically harmed, Till's cousin, Curtis, wasn't allowed to testify. However, Moses Wright did testify, and identified Milam and Bryant as the two men that kidnapped Emmett.

Only deliberating a little over an hour, the jurors found the two men "not guilty" of murder. Nor were the two men indicted on charges of kidnapping. The verdict was definitely a disappointment, and many people condemned Mississippi. However, blacks testifying against whites in court had historic significance. The murder of Emmett Till had a strong impact on the generation of adolescent blacks in the 1950s, which in turn became the backbone and strength of the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

every month is  
**Remember**  
**Black History Month**



## To check or not to check...that is the question

**Janna Allen**  
Opinion Columnist

It all started with a simple, harmless conversation; I was talking to a couple of my girls about relationships. The subject made a turn from talking about what we each did on Valentine's Day to checking up on boys. I was surprised to find out that one of my friends, who has been with her boyfriend for 7 years (and counting) regularly checks his email and voice mail. My other friend that was participating in the conversation also said that she checked her boyfriend's cell phone and beeper for numbers that she may not know. She has only been with him a couple of months. I, on the other hand, have been with the same guy for almost two years and it had never crossed my mind to check up on him. I started thinking about what my friends said about how guys (and girls) can be dogs. But I knew that my man wasn't a dog, and never will

be. So I came up with this great idea that I would check his email, just to prove to myself that I could trust him and at the same time show off to my friends that I am dating a "true gem."

I felt very guilty and sneaky as I entered his password, but I soon got over that feeling when I saw what was in his email account. I don't want to go into too much detail, but he had an email from a coworker. She has had her eye on him ever since he started his job and he knows that I don't trust her. In her email, she said a few things that I didn't care for. Needless to say, I was ready to tear her hair out by the time I finished reading her message. But what was I supposed to do? I didn't want to talk to my boyfriend about it, because then he would know that I had been snooping through his stuff. I definitely couldn't just drop the situation because I was so pissed off. It bothered me so much that I ended up talking to him

about it, and we got everything straightened out, proving to myself that, once again, I had jumped to conclusions.

I learned a great lesson from this experience and now I am passing my knowledge on to you. First, if you feel that you can't trust your significant other and that you need to check up on him or her, maybe you need to check your relationship. If you can't trust each other, then your relationship is basically garbage. Second, if you don't really have a reason to check up on your mate, don't do it. You may find out more than you bargained for. Finally, if you find out something about your mate, give them the benefit of the doubt. Talk to him or her rationally and get things straightened out before they turn ugly. I hope that you take what I have said into account and we have all learned something today. And baby, I will say it again, I am sorry that I checked your email.

It's never too late to get involved.

## WORK FOR THE NUBIAN!!

Several positions are open. Contact Adedayo Banwo, Editor in Chief, @ 512-9799.

## DARKCHILD'S MANIFESTO

All of these men, though successful in various capacities, are nonetheless capitalizing on the vulnerability of a people desperate for heroes. Whether either will ever admit it, their subsequent disregard for the livelihoods of their people would be laughable if this were a time to laugh. Here at N.C. State, we have professors such as Dr. Floyd Hayes, III, who has literally run himself ragged as students constantly bombard him with requests to lecture on various topics. Now, this speaks volumes for his capabilities as an enigmatic lecturer and scholar; however, I believe that this phenomenon is indicative of a need that none of the administrators, faculty or staff had previously believed existed among the black student body here at N.C. State. In one statement, it all can be summed up: We need you. Not simply in the concrete confines of the university teaching facilities, but on a larger scale, within the scope of life itself. We are too young to be weary, but we are too naïve to be leaders without having first been led. Lead us. Me, we.

We must not wait. The kingdom is at hand, and the violent take it by force. Please don't misunderstand; I am not inciting a physical riot nor issuing a challenge. This is not a call to arms because those kamikaze missions almost always fail. I too am guilty as charged for not living the life that I preach in many regards, but recognition of the necessity for improvement is the first step towards the greater goal of actualization. The saying used to read that "we cannot wait." However, I beg to differ. Black folks have been proving for years that we can, and will do anything that we so choose. Everyday that we, as black students at a predominantly white institution, get up and go to that class, turn in those assignments, and make the dean's list, we excel. We defy centuries of racist doctrine that proclaimed to America's huddled masses that we not only do not belong here, but that we cannot make it here. It, you see, is not a question of ability. If I go, it will not be quietly. With eyes blazing and nostrils flared, I brandish my pen as if it were a sword, and as it bleeds across each page with the blood of my people, the tears inevitably come. Unfortunately, this is not the time to cry either. Whatever is to become of us, we must decide it for ourselves. We must mount up on eagle's wings and fly forward at dizzying heights and with breakneck speed. We must not wait.

## The Crowning Event Of Black History Month

# Saviour's Day 2001

Sunday February 25, 2001

Keynote Address:

The Honorable

Minister Louis Farrakhan

VIA SATELLITE

VIA SATELLITE



2 P.M. (Doors open at 1 P.M.)

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## Recognizing Different Cultures in the Classroom

**Larry Houpe**  
Opinion Columnist

In Tuesday's "Technician," there was an article explaining the new curriculum that is supposed to "improve diversity in the campus curriculum." Dr. Rupert Nacoste, Vice Provost for Diversity and African-American Affairs was quoted as saying this diversity program is a "bold movement at N.C. State".

The Psychology department and the department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering are the first two departments implementing the program. The next step of the program is to include the involvement of the colleges. The program will seek to incorporate information and other facets of minorities' contributions to that particular field into the lectures and lessons.

I think this program is long over-

due at N.C. State. Students have been the chief source of diversity education on campus for far too long. The faculty and administration need to be more involved in the diversity efforts, and that is this programs strongest point. It makes faculty and administration more accountable and aware of the needs of the many different ethnic groups at N.C. State.

Diversity is an issue that is not

addressed as often as it should, on many campuses across the nation, not just N.C. State. Maybe other schools will follow State's lead and find better ways to accommodate the needs of the different students. As I mentioned, this is a great program and I am happy to see that N.C. State is moving forward in their mission to educate the people of this university.

Voice Your Opinion at  
nubianinbox@hotmail.com  
Title subjects of all emails  
"Letter to the Editor."



## Why We Must Not Wait

**Darkchild**

Opinion Columnist

I am not a revolutionary, but I would like to be one. We, as American citizens, and particularly as African-Americans, have reached a crossroads in our history. With the current state of our union, now more than ever is the time for us to mobilize across socioeconomic, religious, and geographical barriers, long used by the oppressors as a way to divide and massacre us. Never have black people been plagued by such a blatant disregard for the preservation of the very essence that defines and distinguishes us from the other mortals. Instead, we have cast aside our faith and adopted the capitalistic nature of self, indicative of the hooded ones in which we have previously struggled to escape.

Martin, Malcolm, and Medgar are gone. Mrs. Parks is now confined to a wheelchair, and still even she, in the beauty of maturity that only aged women wear well, encompasses everything that we, in our misguided

attempts at conciliation and gain, have abandoned. Apparently, we have confused peace with acquiescence. And so we stand, our toes straddling the line of an already weary century, the proverbial scratch in the long jump competition because we are too busy recounting our steps rather than concentrating on the plunge we should be taking. With Jesse currently engaged in a battle to preserve his integrity and reestablish his credibility, who will emerge as our next champion?

Sadly, the dominant culture has been extremely successful in the systematic destruction of our hope. Whether it is an assassin's bullet or the inhumane confines of our prison system in which men and women live and die like beasts, death's sting is lethal nevertheless. From Stokely to Louiama, these injustices are representative of the daily deaths we, as blacks, die. And so, as Al Sharpton makes his rounds on the media circus, I mean circuit, we wait. With sto-

icism born of nonchalance rather than courage, we have become afraid in an era in which fear is unconstitutional and ungodly. There is no time to wax poetic about the nation's current administration because there is a greater need for an internal investigation within the black community. Where are the fervor and the passion of my mother's childhood and my daddy's youth? Our martyrs number in the millions, but with them dead, who will now fight for us? If liberty is my self-evident, unalienable right, shouldn't I be fighting for its preservation? Is it a cause worthy of death?

At this present time, we are more concerned with how Tiger Woods is identifying himself this week, whether Sean "Puffy" Combs is going to prison, the latest antics of O.J., or being the first to own the latest edition of Air Jordans.

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## Njeri's Two Cents



By now former president William Jefferson Clinton has signed the lease and is moving to Harlem, USA. Well, not to live but to work. While some herald this move as proof of his love of all things African American it is crucial to note that Harlem was not his first choice. Now before you accuse me of Clinton-hating allow to be go on. I love Bill. I campaigned for him in 1992 and 1996. I even went to a White House Christmas reception and took pictures with him and Hillary. The highlight of my trip to the Democratic Convention this past summer was that I stayed in the same hotel as the Clintons as part of the New York delegation. Believe me, I am not anti-Clinton. Now back to his move to Harlem.

Like most former presidents Bill Clinton will now make real money. There is the customary book deal, the speeches and other business ventures that will make his presidential salary pale in comparison. And while his first choice for office space was in a swank building far removed from uptown, his questionable pardon of fugitive financier Marc Rich placed him, once again, as persona non grata. So like the prodigal son he came home, well almost home. It is amazing how

we as African Americans will embrace those that others shun. Perhaps President Clinton's legacy could have been his race initiative. His series of town hall meetings and commitment to bridging racial gaps was derailed by the Monica Lewinsky scandal. But then, as now, the African American community embraced him as a fallen son. We gave Jesse heck for his scandal but we herald Bill Clinton as "The first Black President". Go figure.

Admittedly, Bill Clinton has embraced some aspects of our culture. There is more to being black than a love of Motown and southern cuisine. That's another column! It is a fair assumption to say that the White House saw more African Americans in the past eight years than ever (not counting those who have done domestic work). But now that his presidency is over let's see what happens. His relocation to the Harlemlis Economic Empowerment Zone should do great things for the community. But if it does nothing we should note that too. For as liberal as Clinton seems to us, his Democratic Leadership Council is not the liberal faction of the Democratic Party. Let's just wait and see how this thing plays out.

**Larry  
HOUE**



## Confusion Between Black History Month and Black Reparations

After reading the article entitled "Black History is shameless propaganda," I was infuriated that someone would slam something as vital as Black History Month. I'd like to start off by saying that "black" is not something that we as African-Americans label ourselves. Black is what we are. However, black is not our ethnicity; we are African-American and we established that fact some time ago. What bothers me most is that someone who has never taken a step in my shoes will try to speak out as if they were speaking in the stead of other African-Americans. I'm not a fortune 500 CEO and I don't claim to know how they should run their business.

I think the issue here is that the article is missing the point of Black History Month altogether. First of all, this month isn't based on the assumption that all African-Americans share the same history. Black History Month was founded to make people aware of the many contri-

butions that African-Americans made to the development of this country and the sufferings that our people went through, since our history books neglect to inform us of these accomplishments and tribulations. This month is not only for the benefit of African-Americans, but also for anyone who considers themselves to be American.

Secondly I would like to say that the piece assumes that every African-American who doesn't fully understand or agree with the celebration is being tortured by it. I haven't always celebrated during this month, but I thought it was a good idea to inform people of our history. I would like to know if the author has the same sympathy and compassion for me for having to sit through all of those years of history classes and not once having a full discussion about slaves and not having my ancestors trials and tribulations mentioned. Do you feel me? As for the term sellout, a sellout is a person who denies his or her history and heritage, not someone who doesn't celebrate Black History Month.

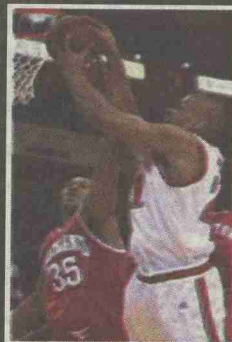
I am also tired of hearing

"there is no white history month." If you were even remotely alert during secondary school, you would know that we had white history nine months out of the year not just one. So I can see why you wouldn't want to settle for one month.

Finally, I think the article confuses the celebration of Black History Month with reparations for the past ill treatment of African-Americans. This month of celebration isn't focused on pushing anyone anywhere. Affirmative Action and other reparations were invoked just as that, pay back. If your beef is with reparations, then that is a whole other subject in which the author should do some research and then voice their opinion.

My brothers and sisters, we shouldn't let this piece of garbage offend us or get us down. I wouldn't have addressed such ignorance except for the fact that these misconceptions needed to be addressed. If you've only learned one thing during your past Black History Month celebrations, it should be "let no man steal your joy." Our ancestors didn't.

## Top 10 Seen and Heard Following Tuesday's Crushing Loss Against Maryland by the NCSU Men's Basketball Team



10... We lost again?

9... By how much did we lose by?

8... Oh well, when do the girls play next?

7... March madness, NIT... it's all the same, right?

6... Speaking of the NIT, does anybody know of any good hotels in New York?

5... If we got points for defense, wouldn't we be undefeated?

4... Are we allowed to recruit during the NIT?

3... Intramurals or the men's basketball game? (Hmmm...)

2... Did you hear that Sean "Puffy" Combs delivered the halftime motivational speech to the team? (Word has it that it was entitled: "We won't stop. 'Cause we can't stop... losing!!")

1... Why didn't Gerald or Dominique Wilkins contact the "Nubian Message" with their controversial comments?

## Nooby's word of the week:

"[Insert name here]anddemsaid"

For example:

"Kimanddemsaid the party is Friday"