



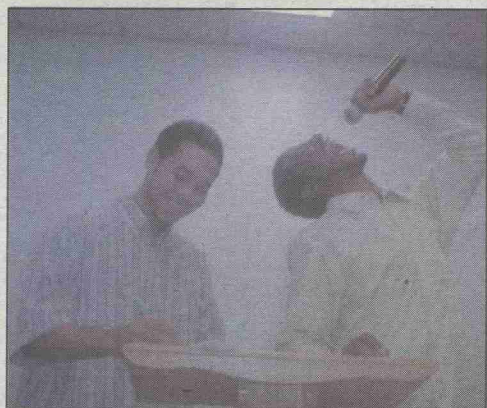
The Nubian Message

Serving North Carolina State University's Afrikan-American students since 1992

September 20th-September 27th, 2001

volume 10

Faith on Campus



Picture courtesy of Sydney Williams

Adedayo A. Banwo
Editor

To a student overwhelmed by the hustle and bustle of college life, faith can be a very powerful and stabilizing force say many who are involved in on campus ministries and religious groups. United Student Fellowship, The Impact Movement, and New Horizons Choir are three organizations that minister and provide students with fellowship opportunities within the black campus community. Many students find joining a faith-centered organization a daunting and intimidating task. However, these three organizations offer many opportunities for that student looking for a place to worship and fellowship.



Staff Photo by Caprice Johnson

Tiffany Cogdell plays the keyboard

The Nubian Message Africa News Brief

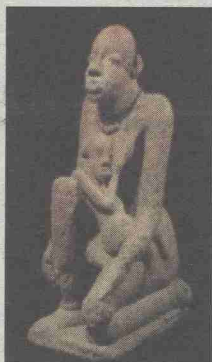
Nigeria

Ethnic and religious conflicts in central Nigeria have claimed at least 160 lives and injured over 900. Most of the violence has taken place in the city of Jos and begun as a dispute between Muslims and Christians.

There has been widespread tension in central Nigeria between the two groups for years. The latest eruption began after a Muslim was appointed to lead the area's anti-poverty effort.

Congo

The Congo government arrested over 3,000 Hutu fighters who had fled Rwanda after the 1994 genocide to fight in the Congolese civil war. Rwanda had sent thousands of troops into the Congo to remove late President Laurent Kabila. Rwanda had refused to remove their troops from the Congo unless the Congolese government sent the Hutu fighters back to Rwanda to face charges. The Congolese government says it now expects Rwanda to remove troops from the



Picture courtesy of
<http://fineart.elf.com/fineart.php?African/Miscellaneous>

Congo.

Uganda

An Arlington, Va. Company has negotiated a \$500 million deal with the government of Uganda to build a large dam near Bujagali Falls on the Nile river. To the Basoga and Baganda people who live on the river, the Nile is a holy site where many of their ancestors are buried.

The corporation is attempting to develop a deal where the holy sites and graves will be relocated. The project would increase the power capacity for Uganda dramatically. The World Bank is providing money for much of the project.

United Student Fellowship

If you haven't been to a United Student fellowship service in the last two years, you will notice a big difference in the way the organization is run, says President Lorenzo Watson.

In their 21st year on the campus of N.C. State, USF has made big

plans for their ministry. For one, USF is now completely student-run and organized and the Sunday morning services, long popular for on and off campus students, have been moved to Sunday nights at 7pm in Witherspoon 356.

"We now call it Sunday Night Live," says Watson. "It gives us a lot more flexibility."

If the Sunday morning services were popular then Sunday Night Live promises to be even more popular. The service, Watson

says, features singing, fellowship, testimonies, skits and most importantly, praising God.

USF is an on campus ministry that holds bible studies, worship services and various other recreational and spiritual events for N.C. State students. Although the organization is not limited to black students, it is a resident of the African American Cultural Center and features programming that attracts many black students. "We have students from every walk of life," says Watson.

See Faith, page 4

AASAC Holds Retreat

Folasade Omosaiye

It has been a concern in everyone's mind, the fate of the African American Cultural Center. Some have a passion to see it grow and some are indifferent to its future. However, there have been some passionate people who have come together to make sure that the Cultural Center not only stay alive and running, but also operate on a bigger and better foundation. The African American student leaders on this campus got together to discuss this issue and come up with ways the Cultural Center can be "saved."

Last weekend there was a meeting of minds at the Cary Community Center in Cary, N.C. The leaders and representatives of different African American organizations came together in a brainstorm as to what each and everyone's view present at the meeting was for the Cultural Center. Dr. Iyailu Moses, the Director of the African American Cultural Center was present at this meeting. She gave a brief history of the African American Cultural

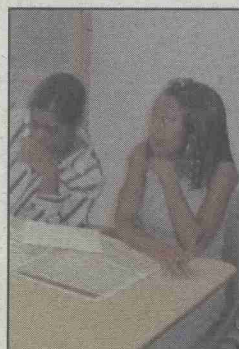


Photo Courtesy of Sydney Williams

Center (AACC) to date.

Listening to her, the frustration was evident. At the birth of the AACC, Dr. Moses was the sole operator of the center. The center has grown but it is one of a stunted growth. There have been obstacles and bumps on the way but Dr. Moses stayed strong. Now the issues of relocation and enhancement have risen. Dr. Moses informed those in attendance of the minute budget that the AACC was operating on, saying that the budget is not enough to fully run the AACC how much more reformation. At the

meeting, the leaders came up with brilliant ideas for what the AACC should look like.

There were ideas of improving the decor, an increased budget, improved hospitality, and a possible mural signifying the AACC. Also there was the matter of the student organizations' utilization of their offices on the 3rd floor of the AACC. It was suggested that the various student organizations utilize their offices more so as not to be evicted due to lack of usage. There was also the suggestion of an independent sign for the AACC. It was expressed that the current sign for the AACC is overlooked because of its position as a subordinate sign where it is located.

The meeting came to a close with some leaders encouraging the increased involvement in the AACC. The leaders were also discouraged to think about the AACC as a place meant only for programs and nothing more. They were encouraged to exploit it to its maximum, from the multipurpose room on the ground floor, through the library and gallery on the second floor, all the way up to the student offices on the third floor. A change is needed and it begins with the students themselves.

Want to write for the Nubian?

Contact Adedayo Banwo at aaabanwo@unity.ncsu.edu or
Contact Demarcus Williams at adwilli3@unity.ncsu.edu

Minority Career Fair next Tuesday.

Adedayo A. Banwo

There will be a minority career fair next Tuesday, October 25 in Reynolds Coliseum. The fair is organized every year to give students a head start on job searching and has representatives looking for students from every discipline

from Communications to Design.

"If you aren't looking for a job, now is the time for you to begin looking," says Felicia Alexander, the 2001 Career Fair coordinator.

Even for those students who are not looking for a job, the fair still holds many benefits, says Alexander.

"No matter if you're looking for a job or not, students should come out because it gives you so many opportunities," Alexander says. "It gives you the

opportunity to mingle, gives you an idea of what to expect, what your resume to look like, how to dress," Alexander says.

Every year, the event is packed with eager job seekers and this year promises to be no different. The coordinating committee has invited numerous company representatives to review resumes and give job applicants advice.

"I encourage everyone to come out and participate," Alexander said.

Dear Nubian Message,

My letter had 2 adinkra symbols at the beginning but the caption gave the impression they both (or maybe combined) had the same meaning when in fact they have very different meanings. I would appreciate it if you could offer a correction in a future issue that states that provides the meanings as follows:

#1: Ese na tekreme - "We improve and advance"

#2: Bi-nnka-bi - "Bite not one another"

peace

kwesi

nubianmessage.com

coming soon!!!

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

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



Dr. Yosef ben-Yochannan, Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Dr.

Leonard Jefferies, Malcom X, Geronimo Pratt, Tony Williamson, Dr. Lawrence Clark, Dr. Augustus McIver Witherspoon, Dr. Wandra P. Hill, Mr. Kyran Anderson, Dr. M. Iyailu Moses and all those who walk by our side as we continue to make our journey to true consciousness.

Read More

2001-2002 Black Repertory Theatre

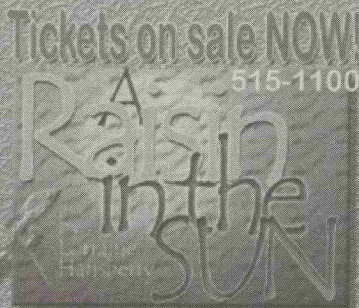
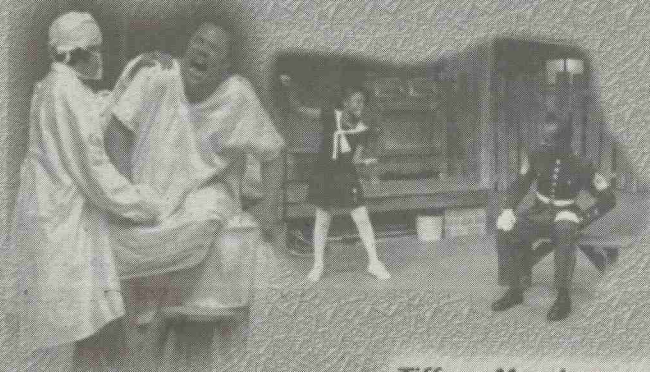
Producing theatre for, by, and about the African-American experience!

Encouraging the production of Black plays

Providing a forum for discussion of the Black experience in the theatre and of the contributions of Blacks in the theatre

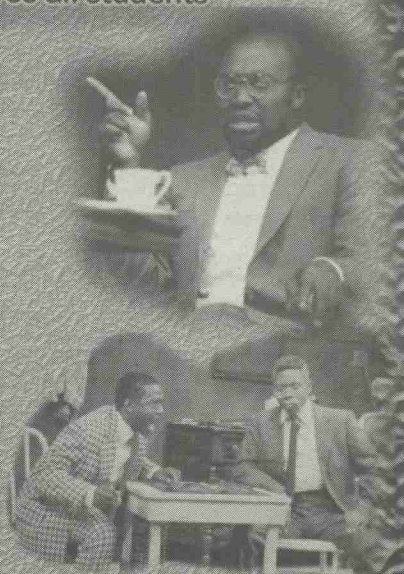
Strengthening and influencing the field of theatre through interaction & exchange with University Players & other theatre organizations...

Providing theatre about the Black experience that involves all students



Thompson Theatre
Nov. 1-4, 7-11

Tiffany Moody, president
Joy Eason, vice president
Daketra Thorne, secretary
Lottie Lawson, treasurer



Upcoming events:

"APOLLO NIGHT"
October 23rd

"GENTLEMEN'S REVIEW"
November 29th



www.ncsu.edu/brt

Meetings held every other Tuesday in Thompson Theatre.

Faith, cont. from page 1

"That's the unique thing about USF, we have Methodists, Baptists, Holiness, Pentecostal, you name it, they worship here with us," Watson added.

USF has over 40 committed members but its services can be much larger.

"I love the people, I love the way we worship. It helps you build up your faith and stay strong," says Tiffany Cogdell, a USF member who plays keyboard during Sunday Night Live.

Cogdell says faith and fellowship should be an important part of any student's college life and that being in a spiritual organization can be very fulfilling.

"We do fun stuff. We go bowling. We go to sporting events. We want people to know that being saved is fun," Cogdell says.

USF has a talent show in the works for October and is looking to plan events with other groups on campus. They hold weekly bible studies on Fridays at 8 p.m. in 356 Witherspoon.

Christian ministry for African Americans," Melvin said. What does that mean? Well the answer lies in Impact's programming and events.

desires to experience the light of Christ up close and personal then Impact is a place where you can freely turn," says Wells. Impact will be holding its next

wonderful contemporary and traditional gospel with the attendees.

The choir is composed of over 30 students who sing at

Angelica Hicks.

To become a part of New Horizons, you have to sign up for a class through the music department and then attend an audition.

"The audition is designed to see where we can use you, rather than if we can use you," says Hicks.

However, even if you aren't technically a part of the choir, simply attending one of their performances feels like you are right up there with them, says Hicks. The choir designs their concerts and performances around crowd interaction.

"We are definitely very interactive," says Hicks. "We invite step teams and poets to come and perform and we always have a praise and worship portion of our concerts where everyone can participate," Hicks added.

Although the organization is performance-oriented, Hicks says what keeps many members grounded and excited is their belief in God.

"Belief in God is a highlight of the choir, remember, we are singing gospel music," Hicks says.

New Horizons has several upcoming on campus performances. On September 26, they will perform at Reynolds Coliseum for Employees Appreciation day from 11:30 a.m. - 12 noon and on October 20, they will perform at University Open House between 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Talley Student Center.

On Sunday, September 22, the choir will hold two off-campus performances at Tupper Memorial Church and at Meredith College. All New Horizons Choir performances are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend, says Hicks.



Impact members at a convention in Daytona Beach last summer.

The Impact Movement

To have an impact on anything, you must be a presence, and that is exactly what The Impact Movement, or Impact as it is commonly called on campus, is working to establish, says member Adam Melvin.

Impact has over 17 leaders who cast the vision or seek to find what God is doing on campus. The core leaders essentially attempt to cast the vision of Impact, says member Ester Wells.

"We just provide a welcoming and causal environment for people who may know or not know Christ. It is literally a non-threatening environment," says Wells.

Impact is affiliated with Campus Crusade for Christ, an on-campus ministry that provides staff support, resources, and an organizational framework for Impact.

"Impact is a contextualized

For instance, on October 1, Impact is holding an "Aaliyah Tribute" in the Witherspoon cinema and every week in the North Hall Merry Monk room they hold meetings. At the meetings, there are a lot of interactive activities and games where people can get to know each other interpersonally. Basically, "the programs and meetings are trying to build a community of people that reaches out to the surrounding black community," Melvin says.

If you are a student who wants to get involved in The Impact Movement then there are many upcoming activities and events, most notably, the Aaliyah tribute, October 1 from 8-10 p.m. Also, the group is planning a fall retreat for current and new members October 5 - 7 in Winston-Salem. They are also planning weekly male and female bible studies and workshops on how to manage finances and study the bible.

"If you are a student who

meeting at 7:30 p.m. in North.

New Horizons Choir

Many black students on campus could not imagine what life at N.C. State would be like without the New Horizons Choir. Whenever there is a major conference, festival or event, New Horizons is often present sharing

events all around campus. New Horizons is affiliated with the NCSU Music Department and performs at many of the department's functions as well. The group also steps out of their robes from time to time to perform community service.

"We are singing about God to God and trying to get the people listening to realize God's grace," says female prayer Chaplain



New Horizons Choir

Individuality and Purpose

Identity. After you establish who you are and you're safe with that, then you have to ask, "What can I do with what I am?" And you have to be honest with yourself. You have to find what your purpose is. Once you find it, purpose and identity will give you direction. Whatever you do and in whichever direction you go, try to do well, and go well.

Because when you go out in this cold, merciless world I'm telling you about today, and you find your friends saying, "Yo man, got that crack, man," or when your rivals say, "You know, you're really not that good at this job. I don't even know why you're trying to do it," I want you to be able to laugh and say,

"No thank you on that crack, no thank you, man," and be comfortable saying it because you know who you are. Or to those rivals, I want you to be able to say, "Well, it's nice to know you have an opinion, opinions are good to have, everybody's got one, like something else. But I can roll. I know it." That will make people sit up straight and realize they have to deal with you, and can't just run some conversation on you and have your character, your identity be so weak you buy into it. "Oh, I guess I'm not very good, just like you say." I learned better within a two-mile radius of right here.

I want all you young people to know that you are descended from a great people. I look around here right now, why, it's like being in the Nile River Valley. I see the faces of

Sheba, and Tutankhamen, and Nefertiti. I see faces before them that me no name to call.

Brian. Being Black is a gift from God. It may handicap others, your Blackness. It may handicap their ability to perceive you correctly or their ability to treat to you fairly. But it is that very Blackness, that Nile River Valley, that very identity, which allows you to stride right through it. It means nothing, this racism. If racists want to call out the Old Clockmaker, and very often they do, well, they will have to account for that someday. But no, Brian, no amount of racism can stop you because talent...will...out.

-Ralph Wiley, What Black People Should Do Now

Hip Hop Lounge The Nycest source of Hip Hop reviews, news, culture, and whatever else I feel like...

Remembering 2Pac, 5 years after his death

Pac was born Tupac Amaru Shakur on June 16, 1971 in New York City. From his birth, Pac dealt with many hardships, like other unfortunate black families living in New York at the time. His mother was a member of the Black Panthers, who tried to teach him the importance of education. When Tupac engaged himself in mischievous acts, his mother punished him by making him entire "New York Times."

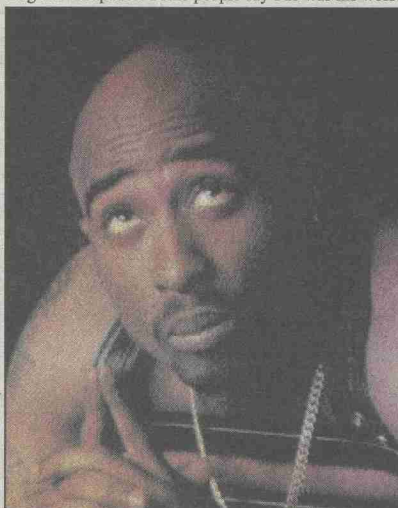
Pac continuously moved from NYC to Baltimore to Oakland. His early childhood dream was acting. In New York and Baltimore he was enrolled in performing arts schools. It was in Baltimore that Pac learned about his talent to rhyme. He was known as "MC New York," to boast his New York upbringing. During Pac's childhood he said that he often felt out of place. Since Tupac moved around so much he didn't establish a consistent group of childhood friends. He said that he often felt like an outsider, keeping these feelings with him all the way until his death.

Pac started his music career with the group "Digital Underground." He was featured on three of their LP's, but in 1992 he branched off onto his own. That year Pac released his first solo album entitled "2Pacalypse Now" and also starred along side Omar Epps in "Juice," which was his first of six movies. Pac had many hit singles, such as "Brenda's Got a Baby." "Juice" also exemplified Pac as a good actor and not just a rapper trying to act. It was said that Pac saw himself as an actor first and an emcee second.

In 1993, Pac's career jump-started and never slowed down. That year he was in "Poetic Justice" along side Janet Jackson and released his second solo LP entitled "Strictly 4 my N.I.G.G.A.Z." Pac often used the word "nigga" with giving it self-justifiable cause. He claimed that he defines what that word meant to him: "Not Ignorant Getting Goals Accomplished." He also had a meaning for the words "Thug Life." Pac said that "Thug Life" meant "The Hate U Give Little Infants F*&% Everyone."

Some people say that Pac had two personalities, and others say he was just plain crazy. Pac had his moments when he would speak on the serious upliftment of black people that he expressed through songs. An example is his 1993 hit "Keep Your Head Up." People often comment on Tupac's notorious reputation for "getting caught up with the law."

Until his untimely death, Pac struggled to stay a positive leader for his people and resist getting caught up in his thug life escapades. Some people say Pac was his worst



Picture courtesy of www.lyons.com

enemy, because his actions always caused him more harm than help. Pac knew this, but he felt trapped within his own self-created prison. His prison was encumbered with his "crazy" life on the brink of death.

Pac's life, thoughts, and lyrics are too deep to discuss in one article. His timeline continued with a major turning point in his life. On November 29, 1994, Tupac was shot five times and robbed of \$40,000 worth of jewelry. About two months later, Pac was sentenced to serve 5 years for a guilt verdict in a rape case. This was one of Pac's lowest points in his life. While in prison, Pac

accused The Notorious B.I.G. of setting up the robbery, sparking what the media labeled an east coast/west coast war.

Soon after Pac was released from prison he signed to "Death Row Records" under Marion "Suge" Knight. Pac's first release, "All Eyez on Me", sold over 5 million records within a few months and 9 million overall. Death Row released several more albums after his death, including his latest "Until the End of Time" and "Makaveli The Don Killuminati: The 7 day theory."

Pac may not have had the best flow of all time, but he definitely had the most influential. Pac's rap style was unique in presentation and cannot be duplicated. Pac was a genius, who is still severely missed because of his leadership skills. He inspires his listeners to learn more from Hip Hop, learn from his mistakes and improve your life overall. Viewing Hip Hop solely as party music is a misconception, because it is also about expression of the thoughts and experiences of young African Americans and other people who can relate to the lyrics.

Nyce lyrical line of the week:

2Pac- "This Ain't Livin" on "Until the End of Time" disc2

"I do shows, make a lot of dough, murda my foes but I'll give it all up, if it would help you grow, this ain't livin"

FREESTYLE FANATIC Part1- Preview

Tournament style rap contest with winner receiving cash pot, good way to showcase your lyrical skillz.

Where: Owen Underground Lounge

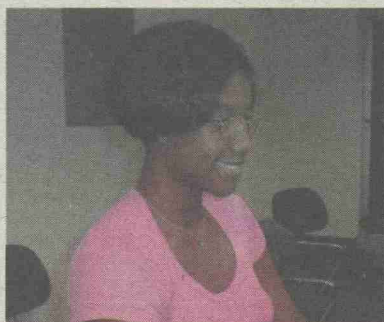
When: Thursday 9/20 at 8pm

\$3 to rap/ FREE to watch

Coming Next week: Pictures, Winners, Quotes from actual Emcee battles, Emcee ratings, Overview, plus much much more...

T-Nyce...Holla Back

Student-Spotlight



Natasha Royale Peck

**Sophomore
Agricultural Education
Concentration in
Animal Science**

Activities:

**Freshman Year
NCSU Student Senate
Secretary, Academic Committee
IMPACT**

**Sophomore Year
Dance Visions
Lab Assistant
Peer Mentor**

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

Did Eli Whitney originate the cotton gin?

Eli Whitney is historically cited as the inventor of the cotton gin. Although Eli Whitney obtained a patent for the first cotton gin, he was not the pilot of the origination of the cotton gin. Eli Whitney was a native from New England who traveled to the south to further his education in law and to be a facilitator on a cotton plantation.

Whitney journeyed to Georgia, and scouted a "comb-like instrument that loosened seeds from cotton." A slave who went by the name of Sam was using the device. Sam learned how to build the device from his father. Eli Whitney revamped the invention and became the inventor of the cotton gin. Did a slave or a so-called New England mastermind invent the cotton gin?

FYI: In 1885, former attorney general, Jeremiah S. Black, ruled that a slave could not make a patent contract with the government since a slave was identified as a non-citizen.

Ghetto youth unite! - Anonymous

Ghetto youth unite! Ghetto youth unite!

Africa stands as a beacon,
where your throne awaits

Evil ways have been cast into
your life

Struggles have become your
daily routine

Ghetto youth unite! Live up right
and clean!

Black woman you are an awe-

some, powerful being of hope
Do not allow these careless
boys steal your source of life
Black man, your abilities are limitless

Do not allow these careless girls
stray you from the path.

The poverty that lies at your feet
does not define who you are
You are the cleanest most
upright of them all.

Ghetto youth unite! Ghetto youth
unite! Live upright and clean!

Tom, My Uncle.

I have an uncle, Tom is his
name

Since he went to that big school,
he ain't nev'r the same.

He used to come home, play
and buy toys for us in dozens

Now he lives in the big city
No time for me and all my
cousins

If my language offends you, I
sho' is sorry

I can't spell or write too well, I
ain't nev'r been to no college
But my uncle, he has

I sho' could use some teaching
from Tom

But he's too busy working that
fancy high paying job

You know when Tom was at
school

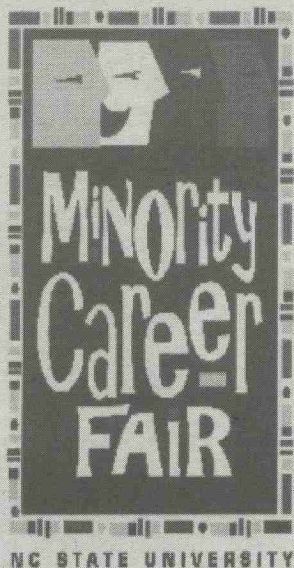
He didn't stop coming till they
gave him awards

All we see of him now are the
things he left

Fancy tassels and cords

Me and my cousins, we still wait
on Tom

Hoping and praying that one
day, he would come home.



20TH ANNUAL MINORITY CAREER FAIR

SEPTEMBER 25, 2001

9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
REYNOLDS COLISEUM

Over **1,000** Students!

Over **130** Companies!

Only **1** Career Fair!

ALL MAJORS AND ALL STUDENTS ARE
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!!!

COME NETWORK!!

TALK WITH COMPANY REPS!!

FOR YOUR NEXT POSSIBLE JOB, CHECK OUT:

uab.ncsu.edu/careerfair

Count Your Blessings

Njeri Frazier Moss
Columnist

There is an old phrase I heard growing up, "If we ever needed the Lord, we sure do need him now." Now, before those of you who are agnostic or atheist cry out that this column is not for you well...just keep reading. September 11, 2001 is a day that will live long after I am gone. You will remember where you were, what you were doing and ultimately, thank GOD that you are alive to remember. But while this national tragedy ostensibly is not a holy war for Americans it is for many others.

In many countries abroad, young children are taught to hate the United States and all Americans. We are viewed as the rich evil country. While there are many here that are quite wealthy ask any poor person and they will tell you quick, "that does not apply to me!" But the fact still remains, we are Americans. I was never a very patriotic person,

a sentiment shared by many African Americans. The duality of being Black in America is often a bitter pill to swallow.

It is hard to imagine that during the Korean War and both World Wars African Americans were second-class citizens at home. The soldiers could defend the freedom of the foreigners but could not vote or even get a cool drink. Contrary to current opinion, the United States is familiar with terrorism. Countless African Americans were lynched, murdered and violated on American soil. Racial profiling,

blatant and institutional racism were long the terror of African Americans. Yes, being Black in America was and is no picnic. BUT the attacks on September 11 were not only against white Americans. They were not relegated to the wealthy. All Americans were victims of a horrible tragedy.

Now, each of us has a duty to understand our world and how politics affects our lives. I'm not saying that everyone will understand foreign policy or the stock exchange, but we should read and know our history. Many are

surprised to hear that Osama Bin Laden was once "friendly" with the United States. Unfortunately, that should not be a shock. The United States has long been involved in internal strife abroad. We have funded wars, backed rebels and subsequently "pulled out" when it no longer fits into our political strategy. Look at Nicaragua, Russia and Iran. We aided Afghanistan when the threat of Communism loomed during the Cold War. Don't take my word for it, look it up.

African Americans and conspiracy theories often go hand in

hand. I have heard some good ones in the last week. But before you out and spout rhetoric you heard in the nail shop or barber's chair read for yourself.

My grandmother used to say that the "days are getting shorter." I understand what she meant. War or just the threat of war is no joke. Young men should be ready. I say that because women don't get drafted. America should be ready. Things changed after September 11. Even if you don't know anyone who was killed those of us with strong ties in government and New York City waited along with the rest of the world to see if our loved ones made it out. My sister has friends from home in New York who have lost parents. As we grieve for them we secretly count our blessings. You may think that life is forever but there are more than 5,000 who would beg to differ if they were still alive.

Peace and tell someone that you love them.

Njeri's Two Cents



"Alarm Clock"

Delvis Ingram
Columnist

Since Tuesday September 11, 2001, the United States has been engaged in a major crisis. It is the biggest event since the bombing of Pearl Harbor. News is developing bit-by-bit everyday on the terrorist issue as we continue to grieve and mourn over the lives of heroes and innocent people.

We are witnessing a great unity move across the nation. This move ranges from various educa-

tional institutions to religious associations. It seems that everyone is pulling together to fulfill the needs of others in every way possible.

At the memorial gathering on September 12 in Reynolds Coliseum, Student Body President Daryl Willie eloquently stated, "This is our wake up call." I most definitely agree with this statement. However it bothers me that we as humans tend to forget the smaller instances that urge us to "wake up." This year alone has been a constant alarm clock for all people. We should have woken up when the famous race-car driver, Dale Earnhart was

killed in car crash on February 18. We should have woken up when the talented, beautiful Aaliyah was killed in a plane crash on August 25.

What are we waking up for? To do what? First of all, we must realize that life is short, but precious. Life is like a wave; it forms, shows all of its wondrous glory, crashes, and then disappears, never to be seen again. Secondly, we must realize that all humans are different, yet the same. The background of the individual contributes to the diversity, but all humans have the ability to feel happy, cry, bleed, hurt and heal. Thirdly, we must

realize that death does not have friends. Many people were in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and on the crashed airplanes. Death took many of them away, disregarding the background differences of each individual. We all need to be aware of these things. The simplest things that we take for granted are the most important things that life can offer.

It bothers me that something of great tragedy has to happen in order for humans to come together and agree on issues. Why can't we agree when everything is at peace, when there is no national turmoil? The value of harmony

has been preached and exemplified throughout humanity. It has been shown through the leadership of Moses to the teachings and deeds of Jesus Christ. We hear and see the message but never take heed of its rich value.

We all must realize that this thing is not about black and white, Republican and Democrat, rich and poor. This thing is spiritual. It is about God's divine will and the realization of humanity. Humans have been in a coma filled with dreams and fantasies of harmony since the days of Noah. Hey, the alarm has sounded again. It is time to wake up.

Where Do We Stand?

The Nubian Message
Weekly Editorial

The events of the last week have touched Americans all over the country. Everywhere people are discussing their views of what happened and what should be done. News media reports show that large portions of Americans are ready to go to war, using words like "revenge" and "retaliation" in many television broadcasts. But how does the African American community feel about the last week's events and the turmoil that could follow?

Around the NCSU campus

and Raleigh community, many discussions of this topic are more open and less one-sided as the news media may have us believe. Many African-Americans, instead of seeking immediate revenge, are asking who could have done such a thing and what sorts of things America has done to provoke such a horrendous crime. These feelings come from a people who have been the witnesses and victims of hundreds of years of the U.S. government's role in the enslavement of millions of blacks and the oppression of their descendants.

A recent NAACP poll

shows that 50.9 percent of those asked agreed with immediate military actions while the other 49.1 percent felt negotiations and judicial procedure would be better avenues. Many African Americans feel that the U.S. government should prosecute the criminal instead of proclaiming war to settle old scores with the Middle East. Others feel that America should resist racial and religious profiling and "recognize the pain the U.S. has wrought on Islamic countries."

These feelings also follow the U.S.' recent walkout from the United Nations World Conference Against

Racism in Durban, South Africa. While the U.S. stated disapproval with regards to the treatment of the Palestinians in Israel, many African American leaders believe that the U.S. tried to steer clear of the domestic issue of reparations being discussed with an international audience, and that this was also the reason for not sending Secretary of State Colin Powell to the conference. As an enormous world power and leader, many African Americans feel that the U.S. should have set an example by opposing racism.

In no way have we as

African Americans taken away from the magnitude of this terrible incident. But as we grieve for the loss of life in New York City and Washington, D.C., we grieve not for what America is, but for what America could and should 'be. Our nations flag stands for all of the things that for years we were denied: equality, freedom, and liberty. Now we all must unite against these terrible attacks and make the American dream a reality for all of her people.