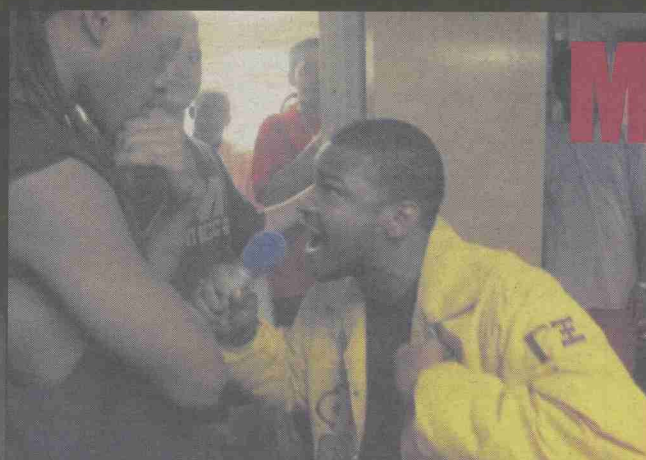
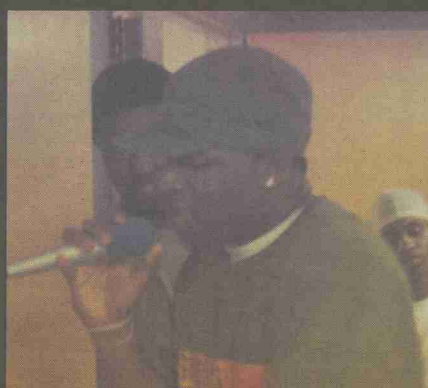


THE NUBIAN

MESSAGE



Hip Hop battles
begin in Campus
Basement



Culture and Arts, page 4
Hip-Hop Corner, page 5
Dr. Nacoste, page 7

[September 27 - October 4, 2001]



Sharonda L. Addison
Staff Writer

Sharonda L. Addison

Black Students Board is Live and In Effect

Thursday, September 20, 2001, the Black Students Board (BSB) conducted their first meeting of the year. You will be delighted to know that the Brown Room (located on the fourth floor in Talley Student Center) was full of young, intelligent African Americans eager to see what this year's Black Students Board has to offer. BSB is actually a sub-organization of the Union Activities Board (UAB). The purpose of BSB is to serve the African American community by sponsoring programs that promote campus involvement and generates academic success. BSB also promotes programs between various minorities. This year the board elected all new executive members. There were about 30 total. The first meeting was conducted by Tim Teel who serves as President, and Shonda Tabb who serves as Vice President to name a few.

In a recent interview with Ms. Tabb, I was intrigued to know that any African American enrolled in NC State is automatically a part of BSB. Therefore, BSB is the largest black student organization on campus, and also the most vocal. Shonda quotes, "We are the voice for the African Americans." The Black Students Board is the equivalent

to what other schools may call the Black Student Union. However, the expectations of the general body are still the same: to be actively involved and supportive of all meetings and programs sponsored by the organization. If students don't suggest their input at meetings, the executive board makes up the programs and events, and students have no choice but to agree with what was set forth. Also, it is mandatory that students attend, or at least show interest in programs and events that BSB has, out of respect if nothing else. These programs are held strictly for the benefit and enjoyment of students. If you don't show ample support, there is a possibility that these programs will be limited in the future. Shonda said, "feel that BSB should not be known as just an organization on campus that just has parties. It has many, many positive aspects, programming ideas, and events." On that note, some new ideas presented in the meeting were to have a student-faculty panel where students can ask a panel of faculty members questions they have about various things on campus, new movies, preferably ones with an educational message for students to view, and a Homecoming Tailgate sponsored by the Alumni who allowed other African American organizations, including BSB, to co-sponsor.

Other upcoming events to look for in BSB are a Cabaret on Nov. 9, and a Fall Finals Jam/Concert at the end of the year to release stress before finals. More information on this event will be posted later along with the upcoming Pan-African Festival, which is a week-long celebration of events that educate on the African Diaspora and include things from lectures about cultural awareness to step shows. The next BSB meeting will be held on October 4. Be sure to check your listserv for more details on location. Freshmen I encourage you to attend BSB meetings, it is a real exciting club, and besides we are not in high school any more so Beta Club and FBPA don't count on your future resumes.



Adedayo A. Banwo
Editor

"Wolfpack Lair of Diversity"

Dr. Rupert Nacoste, Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs has initiated "A Call to the Lair." The "Wolf Lair of Diversity" will be made up of students across ideological affiliations across the campus, including representatives from the African American Student Advisory Council, the Muslim Student

Association, and the Union Activities Board. The Lair will have its first meeting Thursday, September 27.

One of the reasons the program, which has been in the works for months, is meeting this week is to address issues of diversity and cultural awareness that have risen since the attacks in New York and Washington D.C.

Nacoste, a member of the Martin Luther King Resource Center, said that after attending center's town hall meeting on Race and Race Relations, he became interested in the question of, "Aside from general classroom education, what kinds of things can and should a university like NCSU do to encourage understanding between groups and culture?"

"I have asked the Student Diversity Facilitators to be my eyes and ears on the campus and to suggest to me things we might do in the immediate future to help our campus deal with all the feelings that are present among stu-

dents, staff and faculty," Nacoste said of his immediate reaction to the cultural issues that have arisen as a result of the attacks.

The Lair program, much like much of the programming in the office of Diversity and African American Affairs, is a result of discussion and planning and not a result of direct reaction, says Nacoste.

"Since the attacks, there have been some issues on campus but those go directly to either the Office of Equal Opportunity and Equity or Student Affairs, through public safety and I am in direct contact with both of those offices on a daily basis," Nacoste said. From that contact, Nacoste is charged with trying to get beneath the complaints and issues and develop strategies to effectively solve them.

"Basically we are in a wait and see mode. We want to get a full sense of what's out there, and one of the first steps is the 'Lair of Diversity' program, this group will

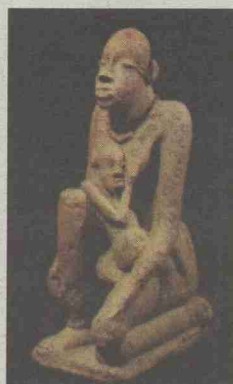
Nubian Message Africa News Brief

Congo

Peace in central Africa took an important step this week when the president of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, met with Adolphe Onusumba, leader of the Congolese Rally for Democracy, a rebel group based in eastern Congo. Zimbabwe has been a staunch supporter of the Congolese government, along with Angola and Namibia, against a rebellion led by Onusumba started in 1998 to oust then Congolese president Laurent Kabila. Onusumba's group is backed by both Rwanda and Uganda. Most of the talks dealt with an upcoming conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in which both sides of the Congo civil-war will meet and discuss how to integrate the rebel forces into the government and how to best stage democratic elections.

Somalia

Thousands of protestors marched in Somalia carried posters hailing Osama Bin Laden and others



picture courtesy of <http://fineart.elib.com/fineart.php?Africa/Miscellaneous>

with anti-American themes. President Abdiquasim Salad Hassan has been accused of receiving money from Bin Laden by opponents within Somalia but has denied the charge. Bin Laden's image is posted prominently throughout the nation including on public transportation vans. Osman Jama Ali Kaluun, Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia, recently stated that Somalia is willing to cooperate with the U.S. in fighting terrorism and that Bin Laden "will never be allowed to come to Somalia."

Kenya

On a light hearted note, President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya who must step down at the end of next year stated that all gray-haired leaders should step aside and allow the younger, black-haired generation to assume the reins of government. Seventy percent of Kenya's citizens are under the age of 30 but age and gray hair traditionally represent wisdom and strength in Africa. Many journalists and political analysts have suggested that Moi has been asserting his gray haired theme as of late in order to keep experienced rivals from assuming the presidency thus allowing for a younger, and more inexperienced, person whom he could easily influence to fill the office. It is unlikely the theme will carry much weight in the upcoming elections, particularly in Kenya whose people have a high reverence for their elders. Recently, a 93-year-old woman was jailed for four days after a dispute with a relative. The woman was only released after news of her arrest prompted a national outcry and a donor paid her bail.

nubianmessage.com

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Sports/Entertainment

Hip Hop Lounge

The Nycest source of hip hop reviews, news, culture, and whatever else I feel like...

FREESTYLE Fanatic Part1 Review

"Off the hook," Part 1 of FREESTYLE Fanatics was just that. With about 200 total spectators and 13 emcees, the "Big O"(Owen) was just not big enough to hold the rap battle. Part 1 is the first of monthly freestyle competitions held at various points all over campus. This battle was set off by T-Nyce(the one and only) and Quik Draw productions with collaborations from other central campus RAs. The DJ of the event was "Digital J" a.k.a. Jordan of Bowen hall.

The event started a little late due to a few difficulties in getting all the emcees signed up. The crowd was very anxious to start plus to add to the fact that it was HOT in the Owen lounge. Each emcee signed up the battle sheet after paying their \$3 entry fee, and were randomly put into brackets for competition.

In each battle there were two rounds. Each emcee spit freestyle to the same beat for 60 seconds and then to another beat for 60 seconds. That way each emcee had the same beats and the same amount of time to spit. The audience final reaction would choose which emcee continues.

One interesting moments is when Milk Eazy stepped in or "tagged teamed" into the battle between MIS-One and Kedar. Milk Eazy battled the last round for MIS-One against Kedar. Milk Eazy came with some comedic bars in order to hype up the crowd. Kedar hit back hard with "Milk Eazy, you look more like Silk Sleazy."

There were many close battles including one between Rashaad and P-Low. P-Low and his boys were claiming victory before the match even started but didn't end up with the win. Arkitek hailing from the Queen City, represented well and made it past his first opponent to meet Kedar. Other notables include Twan who came in half way through the competition, with no warm up.

Keon did his thang on the mic. Actin shy to rap at first but when the beat dropped spit some fierce venom with attitude to match. Jay 1 seemed to spit even better as the competition got going. Jay 1 slipped into the final against Kedar, on the low. He was winning his rounds and by the time you knew it he was in the finals.

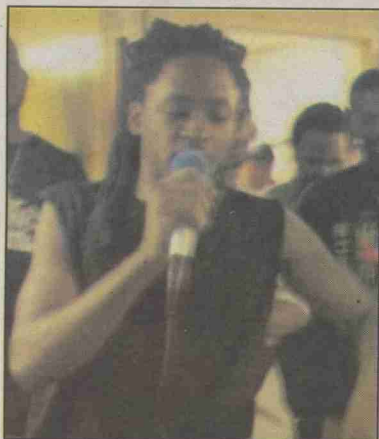
The overall and well deserving winner was Menes Kedar. He left the competition with \$40, a \$37 profit. To win the competition it took overall skill and stamina. After the battle some of the emcees along with those who didn't compete spit some more in a cypher. Much luv was shown by all emcees, a sign of respect from the hip hop culture. Hip Hop 4ever...One Luv

FREESTYLE FANATICS Part 2

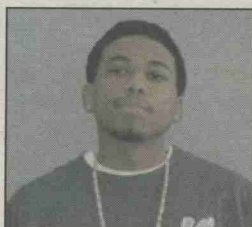
Where: Quad

-Info coming soon...

T-Nyce...the one and only

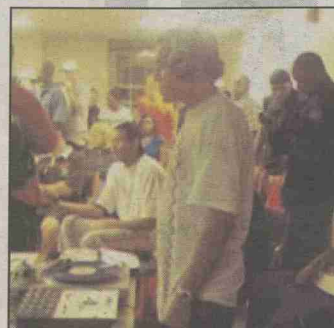


staff photo by Demarcus Williams



Troy Neal

Nubian Staff writer

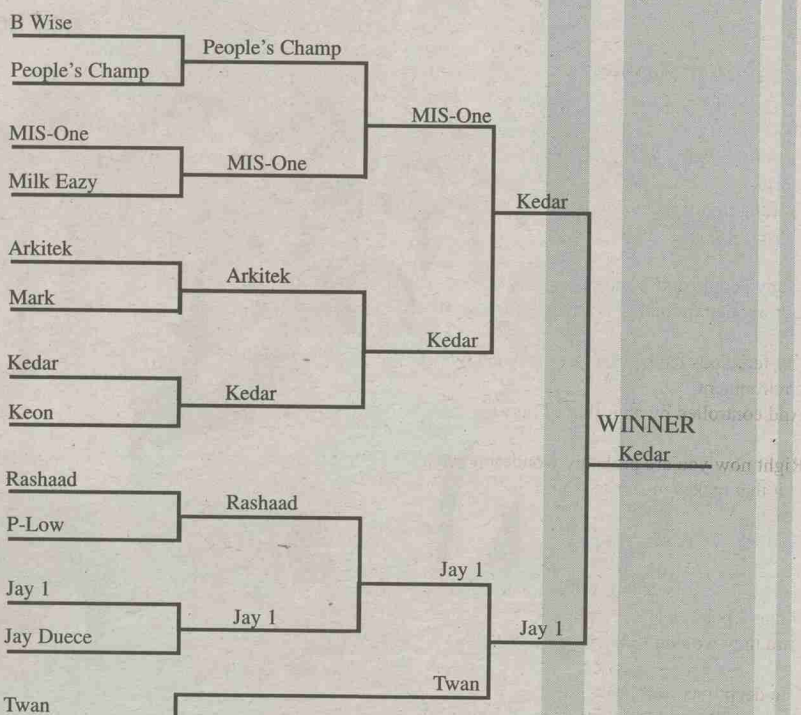


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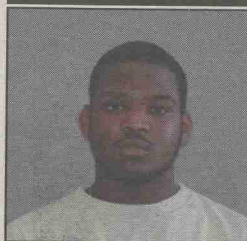


staff photo by Demarcus Williams

The Bracket



Culture and Arts



Keon Pettaway
Culture & Arts Editor

Free Expression

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.

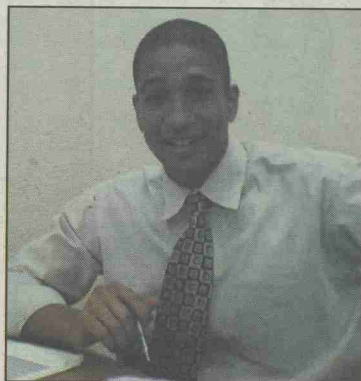
Brian. Being Black is a gift from God. It may handicap others, your Blackness. It may handicap their ability to perceive you correctly or their ability to treat to you fairly. But it is that very Blackness, that Nile River Valley, that very identity, which allows you to stride right through it. It means 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 win out.

Student Spotlight

Jolon Cerrone Shields

student of the week



Major: Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics

Activities: Keeper of Records, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

Junior Year:
BRT President
Telecommunications Chair, NSBE
START Mentor
Peer Mentor

Senior Year: Guide Right Mentor

Awards:
Ebony Harlem Award for Drama(junior year)

Extra Info:
Resident Advisor for 2 1/2 years
Graduating in May 2002

Untitled Poem

by Keon Pettaway

No sleep, no rest just passing time in a dark world,
Waiting until I meet my destiny beyond the heavenly skies.

Many people don't think I will make it,
But my determination is strong so still I rise.

My ferocious temper has been molded by my environment,
And controlled by an influx of rage.

Right now you are probably wondering what is it that makes me write what I write,
And why I say what I say.

But some people minds are one track and things I possess are complicated,
And they wouldn't understand anyway.

Dig deep into your heart,
And you'll find something that fills you with fire.

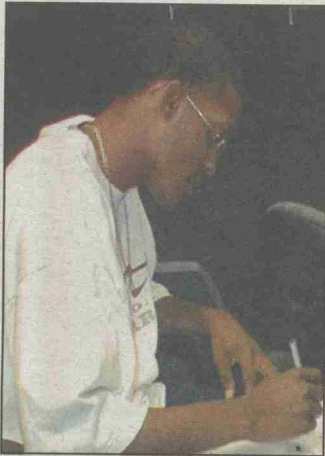
My bad and good days are blessed days everyday,
Because I cherish every moment of life by the second, minute, and hour.

I have learned how to love others, myself and even my enemies,
Because I know I cannot stay the same forever.

Poetry is my outlet to educating people and educating myself,
I realize that helping others does not necessarily need much wealth,
All you need is a little creativeness and enthusiasm to begin your quest.

LOVE YOURSELF

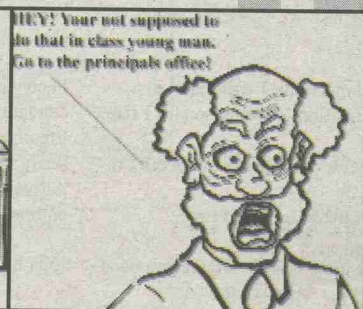
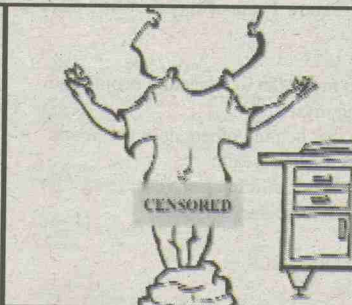
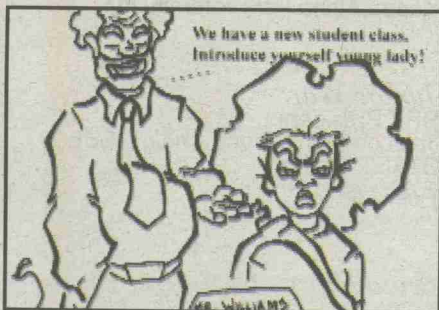
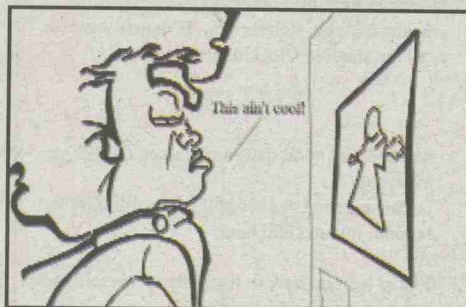
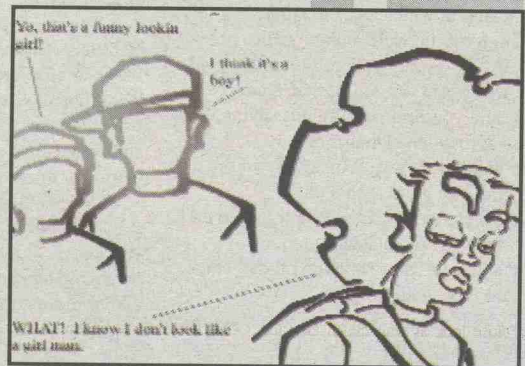
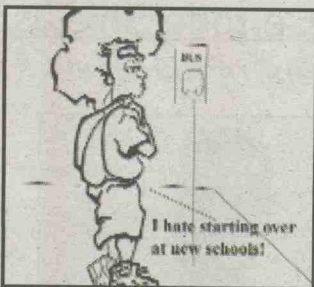
Keon Pettaway



Nubian Comic Jamaal Wesley
Junior, Art and Design

Puffs

by Wesley



Like what you see?

For feedback, contact Wesley at jlwesley@unity.ncsu.edu

Nacoste cont. from Page 8

And I come from a family where doing your job is considered a sacred obligation. So over the last year, I have set about "causing change," for the good of the university and its constituencies.

And the changes I have been working on touch the whole university. Through my office we have begun to reshape what colleges do to recruit, retain and graduate African American students and students from other underrepresented groups. We have begun the work to change the way departments teach; helping departments learn how to manage diversity in the curriculum. And we have worked with students, training them to become diversity facilitators so that they can work with other students to improve the diversity climate.

Although all that sounds positive, and will have positive influence on all our students, have no doubt that there has been resistance to all of these new activities. Why? Because these innovations require change.

So you should understand that means that many people lash out against the work I do without really understanding why they are doing so. That is especially disappointing at a university, when it comes from students. If nothing else, at a university, students should learn to evaluate ideas on the merits of the ideas.

Blind resistance though is also what happened when it came to affirmative action. The idea was not evaluated as an idea. The idea of affirmative action was reacted to because it meant change and because that change meant people had to take a close look at who they were, and how they lived.

That is why many blindly attacked affirmative action without understanding what they were attacking.

20 years ago, affirmative action came to

this campus in the form of a minority career fair.

I was not here 20 years ago, having only been a faculty member here for 14 years. Still, I am sure that the minority career fair was controversial in its beginnings. And I am sure that it would have received even more resistance if some had understood that the career fair was and is a form of affirmative action. Indeed, it is not just a form of affirmative action, it is the most basic form of affirmative action.

The point of affirmative action is to find ways to eliminate the influence of discrimination against groups so that the pool of qualified applicants for jobs is diverse by gender, ethnicity and race. If a company has discriminated against a group, it should come as no surprise that individuals from that group are unlikely to apply for jobs with that company. Or what if a company has merely avoided recruiting members of certain groups in the past? In each case, the company might need to take some extra, affirmative, steps to make sure a variety of people are aware of opportunities with that company.

And now today the world has changed and many organizations recognize the market value of a diverse workforce. Those companies are smart enough to realize that they also need to take extra, affirmative, steps to diversify their applicant pool and staff personnel.

So you see the minority career fair is a form of affirmative action; outreach to overcome the legacy of discrimination.

I commend the organizations and companies who are participating in this form of affirmative action. And I commend the students who are participating in the career fair.

Change does come, but people do not always participate even in positive change.

"I don't need that," they say. What they are really saying is that they are not yet ready to take a close look at themselves, so they lash out and say that the minority career fair "ain't about nothing anyway." But when change comes, somebody has a responsibility, a duty to participate.

We all realize that because of the events at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, our world has changed. Let us never forget what has happened.

As survivors of that 911 call, we have a responsibility and a duty to learn to live and thrive in the changed world that is now ours. In the same way, African American and other minority students have a responsibility and a duty to learn to live in the changed world we live in today. You see, somebody fought for the desegregation of this university. Somebody fought the fight that led to the first minority career fair. That is why I say that you who are here now have a duty and responsibility to learn to live and thrive in this changed world.

That is why I commend your participation in this minority career fair. I congratulate you on living up to your end of the bargain. What you are doing that is so important is developing what sociologists call "weak ties." We all have strong ties; those are our connections to family and close friends. Strong ties are important to our mental health and welfare.

But weak ties play an important role in our lives too. Weak ties are the connections we make in college with people, groups and organizations. Weak ties are the people who will call on the phone to say that they heard about a job that might fit you. Weak ties are the connections you make with an organization through a co-op or internship. It is those ties that connect you to important networks in the working world.

No matter whether your goal is to work in an organization, be the CEO of a major organization, or own a small business, the weak ties you are making through the career fair will be a major influence on the information you get that will help you reach that goal.

There is also a hidden lesson here. Just by the fact that this is the 20th Minority Career Fair at this university, we know that things have changed in our society and at this university. The hidden lesson is that you should not try to live on this campus like nothing has changed in 20 years.

First off, if that were true, you wouldn't know any way; all you would know is what somebody tells you.

Second, and this is the real lesson, your job is to live and thrive on this campus in the changed state that is the reality of the campus today. NCSU isn't what it used to be when it comes to race, gender or ethnicity. As I have told new students at orientation, when you come to this campus you're not in NC anymore. We are not a state college, or a national university. We are local and global. We are what used to be called the "University of the future."

And students have a duty and responsibility to live and thrive on the campus that is before you, not the one that is in someone else's mind. America is not the racially divided country it used to be; and you have a duty and responsibility to look at the world with realistic eyes and live and thrive in the real world.

NCSU's Minority Career Fair is an important event; an event that came about because of change. On the last night of his life, Martin Luther King Jr. said, "we've got some difficult days ahead." He said that because change is difficult.

But never forget... the ability to change is the evidence that something is alive. What does not change is already dead. Change is the evidence of life.

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

The African American Voice of North Carolina State University

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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:

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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.



Is This Black America's Fight?

By Delvis Ingram

Is this Black America's fight? A discussion aired last Wednesday, September 19, on BET Tonight. Referring to the terrorist attack, this question was examined from both sides of the matter. The odds were two against one that it is not Black America's fight.

It was stated on that night, however, that "This is not Black America's fight, it is America's fight." I am behind this statement 100%. The terrorist attack on September 11 was an attack on America as a whole. They attacked our democracy, our economy, our families, our humanity, and our daily way of living. They attacked America through the security of innocent people. The victims included

different ethnic groups of which did not exclude the black race. It has always been known that blacks tend to relate racism to every aspect and problem that we face in this country. Now many blacks have found a way to relate the national terrorist tragedy by protesting to not fight along with every other American in the military and in our daily lives. They argue that in the past wars, blacks fought and received little respect from their own American colleagues. This is absolutely true. But we cannot forget that we, Black America, are not the only ethnic group in this country that has been treaded on. Many other ethnic groups, who claim America as their home, have also been oppressed. Of course, the degree of oppression varies greatly, but nevertheless, mistreatment has been dealt. This is evident through immigration, housing, schooling, job

positioning and many other situations and circumstances.

An individual can probably describe the feeling they had when they first heard of the attack. Now imagine that if you, as a black American, had a loved one as a victim in either one of the terrorist tragedies. After this incident, could you imagine saying that this is not Black America's fight? Could you imagine saying that after all the oppression black Americans faced in this country from their fellow American citizen, we will let them fight the war? Could you also imagine saying that America does not deserve our help because we were and still are being treated like dirt?

Let us look at this scenario from a very true and honest fact. Neither of the guests on BET Tonight that were defending the view that this is not Black America's fight, did not have a loved one

or any one of acquaintance that perished in the attack. It is very easy to observe an experience, judge the experience, and never be familiar with the first hand effect of the experience. However, when an individual is faced with perilous times, as their loved ones partake as victims of the horrible tragedy, he or she would have a different aspect on the whole matter. That individual will not think of racial matters. That individual will not even think of past racial misconception. For the most part, the concern would be all about grasping the conception of the state of their loved one, the mastermind behind this terrorist attack, and for many, vengeance.

We must be very careful to what is being said and done in this time of trouble and indictment. We, as Americans, must continue to unify. Division is the root of confusion and defeat. Let us, Black



T J Eatmon
Opinions Editor

The Importance of Sharing Information The Nubian Message Weekly Editorial

As this will be the last Editorial until our return from fall break, The Nubian Message would like to discuss the importance of opinions and the sharing of infor-

mation. This is an issue that many of us are aware of, our Constitutional first amendment rights, and that we act on in our own ways. But are we using this privilege to its' maximum potential?

The freedom to express our ideas, whether they be individual or group oriented, is a very important freedom Americans have that some around the world do not. Because we have the right

to communicate freely with one another, we have the ability to empower ourselves with information. This information may help us to do many things, but most importantly, information fights the abuse of power.

Power is the ability to exercise control. Power may come in the shape of language, religion, government, currency, and many other forms as well. The maintenance of power is not difficult, at the root, it only involves the deprivation of information

from those under control. For example, what if five years ago you knew the importance of investing money. You might not have spent your entire summer savings on an attempt to be the best dressed at your high school. Or you might not have gone into debt to get that nice new car to impress the ladies. You probably wouldn't be broke right now. You would probably own something. You would probably have some power!

So now you may ask why you didn't know. It is because no one told you. No one passed the information in order for you to benefit from it. Whether this absence of information was deliberate is not important for the purposes of this column, but the fact remains that there is a gap between those who know and those who do not know. For a people who want so badly to be free, it is very important for us to bridge this gap between those who know, and those who don't know.

But how do we bridge this gap? There is

no one solution, but you are reading a damn good one now. The Nubian Message dedicates a whole page, and more if necessary, to students and faculty who want to express their opinions. Whether you agree with these opinions or not, hopefully after reading them, you will gain an aspect on an issue that you didn't previously hold. With all of the talented African American minds walking this campus, The Nubian Message should never have to ask for writers. There should be a flood of papers from people who want to bridge the gap and share the things that they know with those who don't know. As a people, we are only as strong as our weakest links, and how will we strengthen those links without passing the information to those who are still not free or under control in one form or another.

Take this fall break to think about information you have that others can benefit from. Email opinions to TJ Eatmon at teatmon@unity.ncsu.edu.

Keynote Address Minority Career Fair September 24, 2001

Rupert W. Nacoste, Ph.D.,
Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs,
Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor of Psychology

"We've got some difficult days ahead..." that's what he said.

On that fateful night, when it seemed he knew he would be dead the next day, the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said,

"We've got some difficult days ahead."

I believe that Dr. King said what he said because he knew that change is difficult. And he knew that what makes change difficult is that change always raises questions of identity. Change causes us to ask the questions, "who am I?" and "who are we?"

The problem is that these are the kinds of questions that psychologists have discovered that human beings, generally speaking, try to avoid. We run from the question of identity because questions of identity raise the possibility that we don't know the answer or we won't like the answer.

But even so, it is the question of identity that must be answered if we are to ever grow and mature as individuals. And it is the question of identity that must be answered if we are to have and work in an organization that will ever grow and mature. Change is difficult because if we are honest, change makes us take a close look at ourselves.

Imagine, then, the time of the most intense civil rights struggle in this nation. Everything that had been accepted as normal was no longer normal. It was no longer normal for blacks to have to go to the back of the bus. It was no longer normal for whites to automatically get the best jobs.

So blacks and whites had to check their assumptions about how the world worked. Change had come. So blacks and whites had to take a look at how they fit into the world as members of a group.

And then, in the midst of all that social change and self-evaluation, we threw in one more factor; affirmative action.

Affirmative action was such a simple idea. Admitting that African Americans were the subject of harsh and systematic discrimination in our nation, John F. Kennedy came to the conclusion that the federal government must not be a participant in that discrimination. Furthermore, he said, the federal government must take positive, affirmative, steps to neutralize the influence of that discrimination on the opportunities available to blacks (and then later to any discriminated against group).

Now, as we all know, that simple idea became the "devil in disguise," "evil incarnate," the hot button of our society. How did we get to that point?

We got there because affirmative action

was a vehicle for change. Change, as we know, causes us to look closely at who we are. But we don't want to look too closely at who we are, so instead we lash out at something else. In the case of affirmative action we lashed out at the idea of affirmative action. Oh no, we said, this is un-American.

But how can it be un-American to neutralize discrimination. If neutralizing discrimination were un-American, that would mean that the absence of equal opportunity is the American way. That is the kind of point a person misses by simply reacting to the idea of change without carefully evaluating the merits of the actual proposal for change.

As NCSU's Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs I live in the storm of people's resistance to change. The reason for that is that the best way to summarize my job is to use the phrase "cause change."

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