

The Nubian Message

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

February 14 - 21, 2002

Issue 17 Volume 9

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2002



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ASSATA SHAKUR

IN MAY, 1978, BLACK PANTHER ACTIVIST ASSATA SHAKUR WAS PULLED OVER BY THE NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY PATROL, SHOT TWICE AND THEN CHARGED WITH MURDER OF A POLICE OFFICER. ASSATA SPENT SIX AND A HALF YEARS IN PRISON UNDER BRUTAL CIRCUMSTANCES BEFORE ESCAPING AND MOVING TO CUBA.

ASSATA PUBLISHED HER MEMOIRS IN 1987 "ASSATA"

ASSATA SHAKUR WAS CONVICTED IN 1977, AFTER ALREADY SERVED FOUR YEARS IN PRISON. BEFORE ESCAPING FROM PRISON IN 1979, SHAKUR SERVED A TOTAL OF SIX YEARS BEHIND BARS WHERE SHE GAVE BIRTH TO HER DAUGHTER KAKUYA

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EACH WEEK A DIFFERENT COMMEMORATIVE COVER

US News Brief

Robert White

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Community tries to save Woodson's home

A campaign is underway to restore Carter G. Woodson's home within three years. The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life And History (ASALH) wants to raise \$5 million to save the national landmark from the National Historic Trust Preservation's Most Endangered Sites List.

Woodson's home, which was built in the 1880s, is currently in ruins. Water damage has destroyed the roof and rotted the walls. Half of the doors lean against walls, and the house is littered with garbage from past tenants. An ASALH treasurer describes the scene as "heart rendering."

Carter G. Woodson purchased the townhouse in 1922. In this house, he started the ASALH, his book publishing company and Negro History Week, which later became Black History Month. After his death in 1950, the ASALH occupied the building until the early 1980s, after which the building was rented out and later abandoned in the 1990s.

The ASALH will start the campaigning with a diamond jubilee celebration

of Black History Month. Members of the association are asking Black churches to donate to the restoration effort. Tavis Smiley of "The Tavis Smiley Show" on National Public Radio will also help with the fundraising effort.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Sharpton expands organization for Presidential campaign

Reverend Al Sharpton has been expanding chapters of his National Action Network for this possible run for the U.S. presidency. The once New York-based organization now has 21 chapters in at least 17 states. The states include the eastern seaboard from Mass. to Fl. There are also chapters in Mich., La., and Calif. Sharpton is also looking into putting chapters in N.H. and Iowa; both states are key in the campaign process.

Political analysts believe Sharpton will use a strategy similar to Jesse Jackson in his 1984 and 1988 campaigns for the Democratic nomination. Jackson also expanded his organization, the Rainbow Coalition, prior to those campaigns. Critics say Sharpton does not have the political base and close ties with black clergy that Jackson had.

National Action Network expansion will help Sharpton in applying for fed-

active members.

"SAAC is a good place for students to learn how the university works and what they can do as students to make a positive influence on the community. We have roughly, about 25 active members, but we always need more. To join simply fill out a registration form or contact the SAAC secretary at

rimcmill@unity.ncsu.edu or me at klmcnair@unity.ncsu.edu. We are looking for individuals who are interested in our Cultural Affairs and Political Affairs committees especially," McNair said.

The organization has put on a variety of programs during the last two semesters, most notably the town hall meeting discussing AASAC's report card, and the presentation by rapper and speaker Chuck D. Next week, February 21, at the Clark Lecture, SAAC will bring historian and author Manning Marable.

Soon, the organization will hold elections to fill positions of officers who are either stepping down or graduating.

"It is important that if people want to get more involved next year, they start attending our events and meetings before elections," McNair, who is graduating, said. The next two SAAC meetings are Feb. 14 and 28.

Ben Chavis Muhammad



"Racial Climate on College Campuses"

February 26, 2002

The program will be held at Stewart Theatre on the North Carolina State University campus, Tuesday, February 26th, beginning at 7:30pm. Tickets are free for N.C. State students with a valid university ID and must be picked up in advance at the Ticket Central Box Office in the Talley Student Center.

sponsored North Carolina State University and the University Activities Board Issues and Ideas Committee

Gossip, Gossip and more Gossip

R. Kelly

R. Kelly has been charged with having sex with an underage girl, meanwhile the R&B singer is proclaiming his innocence.

The allegations are based on a videotape, anonymously mailed to the Chicago Sun-Times, that allegedly shows nearly 27 minutes of Kelly having sex with a teenage girl.

Kelly must appear in court on February 21 in Chicago to face charges that he had sex with a separate underage girl, Tracy Sampson,

who filed a \$50,000 civil suit in August.

3LW Disses Lil' Bow Wow, Leave Club With A Taller Baller

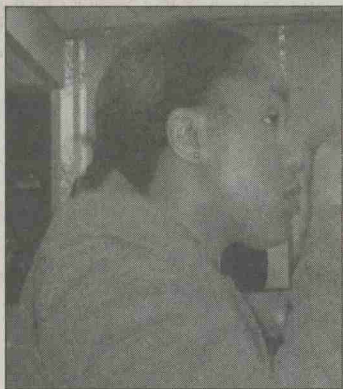
"I hang with big dogs/ So what's a Lil' Bow Wow?" is a lyric off of their new album in response to rumors linking her and 14-year-old rapper, Lil' Bow Wow. "He was trying to play us out twice on national television. I had to come with something. I don't wanna leave with you because you're like 3 feet tall," the leader of the group, Kiely, said.

A Girl Can Mack is expected to drop this spring.

SAAC seeking new members, leadership

Adedayo A. Banwo
Editor

The Society of Afrikan American Culture (SAAC) is the oldest African American student organization on the campus of N.C. State University.



SAAC President Kim McNair

SAAC was established in the fall of 1968 to enhance academic growth, cultural and political awareness of black students as well as give birth to the concept of black identity.

Today, SAAC serves as an umbrella organization for all black students on campus. However, although SAAC by its charter includes all black students, President Kimberly McNair says the group only has around 25

Black History Month Events This Week

February 18

"Black Feminism"
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. &
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
7 p.m. Witherspoon



February 19

Clark Lecture

7 p.m. Witherspoon, Multi-purpose Room

February 21

Clark Lecture: Dr. Manning Marable, Columbia University

7 p.m. Witherspoon, Multi-purpose Room

News

"Celebrating Black History Month 2002"

SAAPAMS Hosts Quiz Bowl

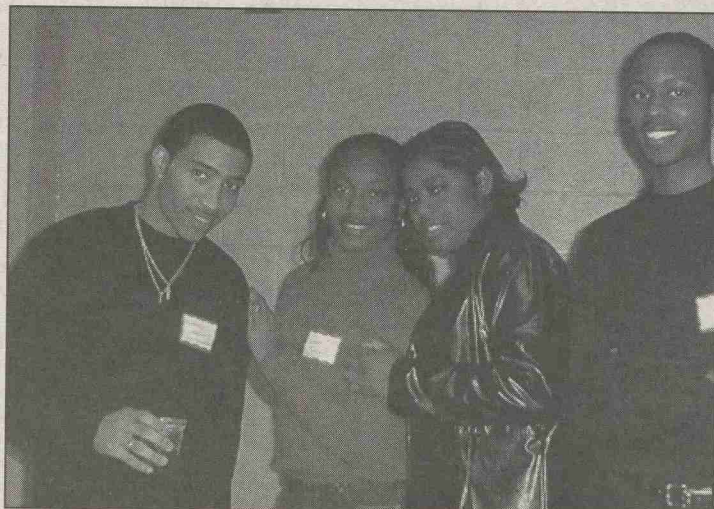
New Horizons Choir Infiltrates the Quiz Bowl With Knowledge
Keon Pettitway
Culture & Arts Editor

Choir displayed their vast amount of knowledge in African American history and surpassed Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. by 85 points. The first round ended with the elimination of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the advancement of New Horizons Choir to the second round.

history regardless of age by competing against collegiate members of the National Society of Black Engineers. The IMHOTEP youth members fell short of the victory by five points. The National Society of Black Engineers struggled in the beginning, but they battled the quiz bowl questions to eliminate IMHOTEP.

Student Mentor Association dominated the board against the National Society of Black Engineers in the second round to advance to the final round. The New Horizons Choir and Student Mentor Association met in the final round of the quiz bowl. The final round determined who would be the crowning champions of the next African American Quiz Bowl. The two teams constantly kept the audience wondering what was going to arise from the next question. Student Mentor Association proved that they were worthy opponents throughout the competition, but New Horizons Choir proved they were the next team to claim victory in this annual Quiz Bowl.

New Horizons choir demolished Student Mentor Association and won the final round by 120 points. Student Mentor Association persistently battled the boards, but it was not enough to eliminate New Horizons Choir in the final round. Overall, the African American Quiz Bowl was a total success. Questions ranged from the Civil Rights era to N.C. State African American facts. The African American Quiz Bowl was organized by Kristen Ricks, secretary of the African American Student Advisory Council and member of the SAAPAMS.



The winning team, New Horizons Choir

SAAPAMS hosted the annual African American Quiz Bowl on Sunday, February 10, 2002, in the African American Cultural Center. Among the participating teams were the Society of African American Culture, New Horizons Choir, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Student Mentor Association, IMHOTEP, and the National Society of Black Engineers.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and New Horizons Choir entered the first round of the African American Quiz Bowl. Both teams were equipped with buzzers and a group of notable African American students. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. started the competition with the Civil Rights category, in which they excelled. New Horizons

Reigning champions, the Society of African American Culture, faced the Student Mentor Association in the first round following Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and New Horizons Choir. The crowd expected this round to be a challenge for Student Mentor Association due to the expectations of their competition. Nevertheless, Student Mentor Association competed exceptionally well and eliminated the Society of African American Culture. However, the last minutes of the round became intense as the Society of African American Culture bounced back from a 30-point deficit to increase their score to 60.

The presence of the youth from IMHOTEP emphasized the importance of the knowledge of African American

Africa News Brief

Folasade Omosaiye

AFRICA: Life expectancy plummeting
The life expectancy of Africans has dropped by 15 years within the past two decades because of the spread of AIDS, together with the effect of continuing wars and poverty.

A conference on African population has been told that by 2005, a majority of Africans can expect to die before they reach the age of 48. Infant mortality is also a serious problem. In poorer countries such as Mali, more than 10 percent of babies die before they reach their first birthday.

According to UN AIDs, life expectancy in Sub-Saharan African countries like Botswana, life expectancy is less than that of Europeans. It was reported that women and children are the most vulnerable groups. Some reasons behind this plunge are AIDS, tuberculosis, and related infectious diseases, which have become major threats to development.

The UN estimates about \$5 billion is needed annually to help fight the spread of AIDS in Africa and has called for more money from the international community.

LIBERIA

According to the Reuters news agency, police in Liberia have detained scores of street children. Police in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, have been rounding up people suspected of working as agents for advancing rebel forces, a report said.

Amnesty International, a rights group, has accused President Charles Taylor's forces of using the present state of emergency as a cover for rights violations, including forcible recruitment. An eyewitness told Reuters he had seen more than 100 boys rounded up by police late Sunday.

The government has called on the British and American governments to use their influence in the region to end the conflict, which is also creating an escalating refugee crisis.

According to reports, 10,000 refugees have already fled to Monrovia and surrounding areas.

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Culture & Arts

"Celebrating Black History Month 2002"

Carter G. Woodson:

Father of Negro History



Keon Pettitway

"Truth must be dug up from the past and presented to the circle of scholastics in scientific form and then through stories and dramatizations that will permeate out educational system." These are the words of distinguished historian, educator, and "The Father of Negro History." Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson recognized the neglect of the celebration and acknowl-

edgement of Negro history. Woodson sought to make a landmark in Black history and created Negro History Week on February 19, 1926, which later expanded in the Black History Month. Black History Month was observed as a nationally during the 1960's.

Carter G. Woodson was born to former slaves, James Henry Woodson and Eliza Riddle Woodson, on December 19, 1875 in Buckingham County, Virginia. Limited educational resources fueled Woodson's eagerness to educate himself. Woodson rarely attended school due to his inevitable engagement to work on a farm. Woodson was deeply fascinated with self-education, and continued to enhance his intellect during the period he was unfortunate to attend school.

Regardless of the stumbling blocks Woodson approached he persistently strived for higher education. He worked as coal miner during his late teenager years to support his financial obligations. In 1895, Woodson enrolled in Douglas High School at the age of 19 and graduated in less than two years. Woodson was dean of the College of Liberal Arts and head of the graduate faculty at Howard University, Washington, D.C. in 1919 and dean at West Virginia State College Va. in 1920. Woodson was the second African American to obtain a Harvard doctorate along with he first recipient of a Harvard doctorate, W.E.B. Dubois.

Landmarks of Black History during the week of February 14

1760 Richard Allen, who will become the first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, is born a slave in Philadelphia.

1817 Frederick Douglass chooses this day and this year as his birthday. Birth dates of slaves are not recorded, but Douglass recalls his mother calling him "my valentine."

1880 Aida Overton Walker is born in New York. She will become the leading Cakewalk dancer of the turn of the century, and the choreographer of Williams and Walker's revolutionary series of ragtime musicals on Broadway.

1893 Songwriter Perry Bradford is born in Montgomery, Ala. He will write "Crazy Blues" and arrange for Mamie Smith's recording date on this day in 1920.

1912 Ollie Harrington is born in Valhalla, N.Y. He will become a leading African American cartoonist.

1920 Mamie Smith makes the first record by a black blues singer, "Crazy Blues," on the Okeh label. It is an immediate hit with sales of one million records, mostly in black communities.

1943 Pearl Primus choreographs "African Ceremonial" at New York's 92nd Street Y.

1946 Tap dancer Gregory Hines is born in New York.

1951 Already a veteran welterweight champion, Sugar Ray Robinson wins his first middleweight boxing championship, beating Jake LaMotta in a bout sportswriters dubbed, "The St. Valentine's Day Massacre."

1957 Martin Luther King, Jr. organizes the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at the New Zion Baptist Church in New Orleans.

1967 Frederick Douglass is honored on a U.S. postage stamp.

1974 The first double dutch jump rope tournament is held in New York.

What's On Your Mind?

What Does Pan-Afrikan Mean?

What is the true meaning of Pan-Afrikan? Numerous individuals believe it encompasses everything of the African American culture. Many other individuals view Pan-Afrikan as a melting pot of all cultures of the African Diaspora. As members of the African Diaspora, we represent the African American community, and it is important for us to know the true meaning of Pan-Afrikan, right? What is your definition of Pan-Afrikan?



"Pan-Afrikan is the political and/or cultural movement that called for the unification of continental and African Diaspora." -T. Jerrod Sharpe



"The Pan-Afrikan festivities to me represent the Black homecoming of North Carolina State University." -Tiffany Byrd



"The celebration of African American culture." -Portia Overton

AFROCENTRICITY: DO YOU HAVE IT?

Sharonda Addison

The term "Afrocentricity" was popularized by Molefi Kete Asante, professor and chairman of the department



A child in African garb

of African-American studies at Temple University. Some scholars, notably Dr. Yosef ben-Jochannan, a leading Black historian, prefer the term "Africentricity," which they believe better emphasizes the importance of Africa as the center of Black awareness. What does Afrocentricity mean to you? In the essence of Black

history month it is vital that we have a mutual understanding on the basis of Afrocentricity. There are many myths about this. Professor Asante states, "Afrocentricity is the one true religion of Africans worldwide, and Nija, The Way, is its sacred text." Some people may view Afrocentricity as a way of life, a culture, or even the relationship and communication amongst the black community. It's having knowledge about your history and taking pride in your race today. It's not only being successful but helping your fellow brothers and sisters as you go. In fact, it could be something so simple as acknowledging your brothers and sisters by speaking to them around N.C. State's campus. Afrocentricity is based around all these things and more. Many whites strongly attack Afrocentric thinking. They see it as undermining Western values and destroying the curricula of Western schools. Many have gone so far as to label such thinking as "barbaric" or "primitive." Since N.C. State is such a diverse institution, and Blacks are considered a minority on this campus, it is up to us to demand African-centered multicultural curricula. In contrast, whites will be demanding a European-centered multicultural curricula. It is then up to the individual to decide if there is room to compromise. Those of you who have decided to free your mind and be open-minded have to remember not to be biased only to Afrocentric thought. It is one thing to welcome the education given about other cultures, yet it is another to conform to it.

African Proverbs

"A home without a woman is like a barn without cattle." -Ethiopian Proverb
"If a blind man says let's throw stones, be assured that he has stepped on one." -Hausa, Nigeria

Nubian Poetry

Submit Poetry to nubianinbox@hotmail.com
All Day and Every Day

Black Culture Lost Travis L. Williams

Today's black race has the misplaced rage of slaves,
Missions to get paid, want prosperity but live in caves,
People gripe about life but strive on stereotypes,
Call for unity in the community then curse others w/ better lives,
If on welfare, you fell out, go to college, a sellout,
Niggas take the jail route, then plead for the bail out,
It seems no one dreams, schemes for easy cream,
Spend to gleam, but debt melts ice to steam,
We've been abused, used, and now confused,
Every lil' boy wants to be a thug,
Formula: be black, curse, look mean, sell drugs,
But then cry racist when cauc label folk,
Getting stamped b/c images sent are the envelopes,
Black "leaders" still in the 60's, guess watches kinda slow,
Crafted by Gepetto w/ longer noses than Pinocchio,
Sister's image is nowhere near a "Phenomenal Woman",
Booty shakin', baby makin', money takin', but no plans,
No ambition, but want to live off someone's pension,
Can't see long term, many are nearsighted,
Taboo to be bright even when enlightened,
It's sickening, within the culture so much bickering,
One race, one face, one dimension,
Lighter pigment higher position,
Darker melanin equals suspected felon,
It's pathetic; folk rather duck their heads in sand than soar,
Kings and queens in this game stand still, get knocked on the floor,
Checkmate, it seems we're in digression,
Feeling branded b/c of our impression,
We need a New Jack, new black leader in position,
Prophetical, call him TV when he tell a vision,
Until then I pray for my culture,
Almost flat line surrounded by hovering vultures.

Action, cont. from page 8

So while opponents of affirmative action often claim that they can't be held responsible for the mistakes of their forefathers, I'd ask...why not? People of color have had to bear the burden of the mistakes of their forefathers for decades. The residual effects of these mistakes continue to be felt and something must be done to address them.

You need only to review the report from the African American Student Advisory Council (AASAC) to see that the residual effects of slavery and Jim Crow are being felt by African American students on our campus. Jim Crow begat a system of inequity, and despite our most "valiant" attempts (as Provost Stuart Cooper pointed out), we are inherently inefficient.

In his weekly column in the

Technician, resident conservative columnist Darren O'Connor suggested that low black graduation rates were the result of admitting under-qualified students. Quite the contrary, though, the biggest obstacle between students, particularly those of color, and education is the cost, not the ambition.

While administrators like Provost Cooper boast our low tuition rates, the administration is diluted in their perception that that's all we pay. Housing, books, transportation, fees, and meal plans force the cost of an education at N.C. State to well over \$11,000. Instead of focusing on their education, people of color are more likely to have to take jobs and carry burdensome loans in order to attend the university. Students of color don't lack ambition, they simply lack the ammunition.

And whether or not people care to believe it, that started centuries ago.

Love, cont. from page 8

I sometimes find old liquor bottles and trash in my yard when I'm home. I am afraid for my sister to go outside because I know if something happens no one will come to her aid. Young men often fight and kill each other over warped forms of respect. Young women often become mothers too soon. The sad thing is this type of exhaustion of the community is a recurring theme in many places across the country. In these communities, the youth and the elders have strained relationships.

I think Black Love Day would definitely help in bringing the community together. In the aftermath of the truce between the notorious Bloods and Crips of Los Angeles in 1992, one of the first things the community did was to reestablish family ties. Cousins from

rival gangs could finally get to know each other. People who were once prohibited from going to certain streets could go anywhere without fear of being assaulted. Today some of these same gangs have established their own football clubs. A Black Love Day could have the same effect in many neighborhoods. The holiday encourages outings with children, family meetings and reconciliation among rivals. Cooperative economics is encouraged through supporting local businesses. Black Love Day also forces individuals to look at themselves in relation to the five tenets of the day.

I don't think that a Black Love Day can solve all the problems of the black community. There is no one idea, event or holiday that can. I do think that a Black Love Day is a step in the right direction to resurrecting a sense of community.

Red & White Charity Ball

FEBRUARY 16TH, 2002
9:30PM - 2AM

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Nubian Events

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Society of Afrikan American Culture General Body Meeting | February 14, 2002
6:00 p.m. | African American Cultural Center, Room 375 | Expressions
February 22, 2002
7:30 p.m. |
| Clark Lecture
February 19, 2002
7:00 p.m. | African American Cultural Center, Multipurpose Room | Sponsored by: AACC | Special Reading:
Bombingham
February 28, 2002
7:30 p.m. |
| Clark Lecture: Manning Marable of Columbia University
February 20, 2002
7:00 p.m. | African American Cultural Center, Multipurpose Room | Sponsored by: AACC | African American Cultural Center, Multipurpose Room
FREE TO PUBLIC
Sponsored by: AACC, Friends of the Library of N.C. State and Quail Ridge Books |
| Breaking Ground: Building a New Land
John Biggers Art Gallery
3:00 p.m. | February 24, 2002
African American Cultural Center | Sponsored by: AACC | Krimson and Kreme Week
February 10, 2002-February 16, 2002
Sponsored by: Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. |
| | | | For information on upcoming events:
http://www.ncsu.edu/for_students/aasac/ |

Sports & Entertainment

"Celebrating Black History Month 2002"

Hip-Hop Lounge

Bootleg CDs...what's da deal?

It seems as if everyone is trying to get paid these days. If you go up to New York you can find someone on nearly every corner selling something. Most of the street vendors are selling bootleg things.

Bootleg, let me clear that up. Bootleg is slang word for unauthentic, not real, fake, imitation, etc. These practices have moved down here. If you go to a flea market or even some places downtown you can see bootleg vendors selling everything from clothes to CDs.

Let me clear something up, there is nothing wrong with buying bootleg items. Here at the Hip-Hop Lounge, I wanted to give y'all out there the dos and don'ts of buying bootleg CDs.

DOs

- DO make sure the salespeople are easily accessible. (Meaning you can get in contact with them if you need to.)

- DO check the artwork on the CD cover. (Color artwork is a big plus.)

- DO check for known names of artists and song titles.

- DO look at the price. (Too cheap may mean poor quality.)

- DO look at the money invested. (The more money that seems to be invested in the CD, the better chance of buying a good CD.)

DON'Ts

- DON'T buy CDs without the case or list of songs.

- DON'T buy from someone who is trying too hard to get rid of them.

Basic words of advice: know the people you are buying from. Fellow students won't hustle you because they go to the same school as you and can't hide anywhere. Be more careful of people you don't know or people you have never seen around before.

Here are some of the newest mix-tapes out:

DJ Clue - Grand Theft Audio

Funkmaster Flex- Best of 2001 Freestyles

DJ Envy - All-Star Weekend 2K2Cutmaster C - 2K2 Pt. 2 Cut's Birthday

Hot 97 - vol. 23

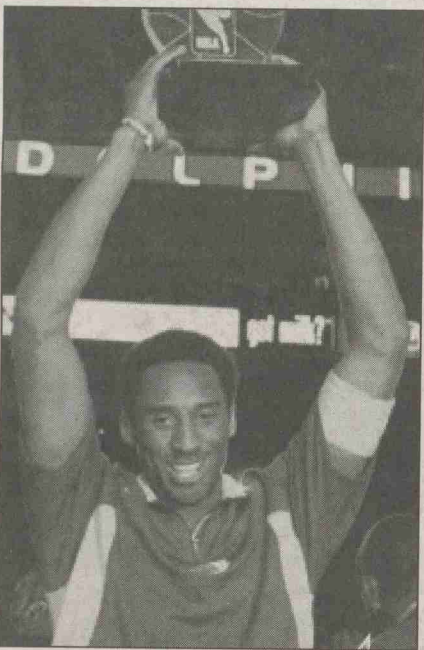
For quality mix CDs for low prices holla:

atreni_records@hotmail.com

NBA All-Star Game Review

Keymia Sharpe

The NBA All-Star game was nothing less than a memorable



Boooo! Boooo!

Courtesy NBA, Getty Images

event this weekend. McGrady with the ultimate dunk, Jordan with the...well, enough about that. Also memorable were the crowd's reaction to Bryant's 31 points to lead the West to a 135-120 victory over the East and receiving the MVP trophy in Philadelphia.

Bryant outshined Iverson on his own turf saying, "This is where it all began for me. This is where I come from. I love it here."

Iverson had a hard time topping last year, when he led the East to an exciting fourth-quarter comeback victory and was

named MVP. Although Bryant had a phenomenal performance, he was booed by the crowd. He went from hometown Philadelphia to the LA Lakers, the 76ers' dreaded opponent, and crushed their hopes of going back to the east coast with the title.

Jordan disappointed us all, ending up with only eight points with a four out of 13 shooting percentage. He also disappointed us with the dunk he missed in the dunk contest.

"The contest altogether was sad," commented Charlene Miles. "They had people imi-

tating each other's dunks, and there was way too much commentary. The announcers were talking before and after the dunks which made it really annoying."

Other upsets in this year's game were the Mailman's failure to deliver due to a family emergency, and the fact that Shaquille O'Neal and Vince Carter were no-shows due to injuries. Although these players didn't arrive for the All-Star game, they were replaced by talents such as Chris Webber and Jason Kidd.

The schedule included a three-point shootout contest, a slam dunk contest, and a four-on-four Hoop-It-Up tournament which

Red, White and Black?

Marsheda Barnett

How many times have you been to an N.C. State basketball game? How many times have you watched a tel-



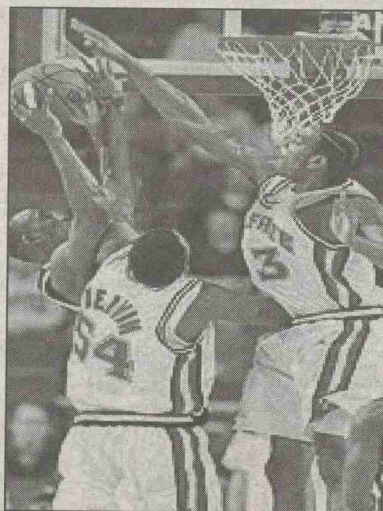
vised N.C. State basketball game?

As you scan the crowd of fans who support our athletes, you don't notice many people of color in the stands. Whether you look in the student section, the general public seats, or the alumni/season ticket holders' seats, the minority population is poorly represented.

The fact is that it is sad to see the lack of fan support from African Americans at our men's and women's games when there is such a strong representation of our people on the court. There are several reasons that this problem, and yes, this should be a problem to us, exists. The most common response of minority students when asked why they do not attend the games is, "Why should I show school spirit when I don't even feel comfortable in this type of environment?" It is blatantly obvious that there are problems with minority students fitting into the "college life" that N.C. State has provided. But why is it that when ath-

leticism should be an outlet from the tensions of maturing into an adult, do you find

With the events of September 11, people of Middle Eastern descent are



Do you attend Wolfpack sporting events

minorities shying away from supporting our athletes?

As you know, the men play basketball at the Entertainment and Sports Arena. Professional hockey is also played there. Obviously, employees of the Arena do not see too many minority patrons, especially African Americans, because of the lack of interest in that sport. Does this mean that minorities are not welcomed? No, it doesn't. But does this mean that minorities are treated the same as the majority when visiting the Arena? No, also. In fact, some patrons to the Arena have noticed that African Americans are searched more at the entrances and watched more by security while simply trying to seek entertainment.

constantly being watched because of the fear of them terrorizing Raleigh. This situation is normal, however outdated, in America and it is saddening to know that any minority has to be singled out in a public place in 2002.

The reason that you, personally, do not attend the ball-games might not be stated here. However, we must realize that we as a minority should support our athletes of color because there is nothing like the feeling of having a familiar face in the crowd, cheering you on, while you are on the court. Another thing that should be understood is that we have already paid for the tickets; we just have to stop being so lazy as to not want to stand in line outside of Reynolds in the cold.



**THE 2002 ENGINEERING
CAREERFAIR**

FEBRUARY 19th

9:30am - 4:30pm

at the Mc Kimmon Center

www.engr.ncsu.edu/careerfair

Opinions

"Celebrating Black History Month 2002"

What is Fair?

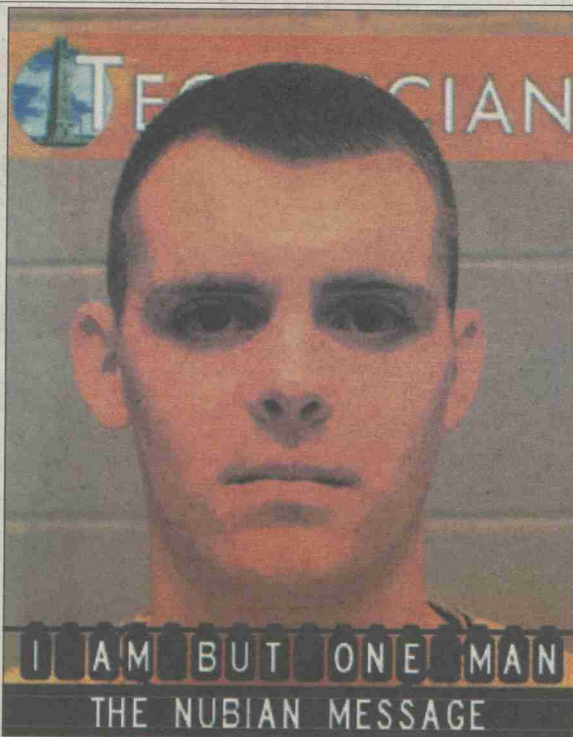
The Nubian Message Weekly
Editorial
TJ Eatmon

In response to the recent Opinion columns printed in the Technician, the staff of The Nubian Message would like to comment on the matter of Affirmative Action.

How often as an African American student on campus have you surveyed your classroom only to find a handful of faces, if any, that looked like your own? How many study groups have you attended where no one understood where you were coming from?

This is everyday life for a lot of us but we make it through because as minorities we have always competed with a handicap. From the beginning of American history to the present, African Americans have been at a disadvantage. When people speak of how unfair Affirmative Action programs they ignore many problems in American society.

If fairness is the topic of discussion, let's discuss the number of African American men in jail for nonviolent crimes that should be in universities. Let's discuss the inadequate funding across the country that places many African Americans in low-income communities at an educational disadvantage. Let's discuss the old



The infamous Darren O'Connor

money in the South that has circulated through generations of which our great grandparents broke their backs to earn. Many students are being educated with that money while the rightful benefactors are stuck with student loans.

There are many people out there that must rely on numbers and statistics to decide whether to even cross the street. Open your eyes and look around. You can throw out SAT scores and GPAs, one could even say a black male under certain circumstances has a 99 percent chance of being accepted at this university over other equally qualified students. However, that same black male has a 99 percent chance of never becoming the President of the United States. On average, that same black male will not have the choices and opportunities available to others of equal qualification throughout his life because of the color of his skin. Is that fair?

If this country is ever to advance as a diverse society of equal men and women, it must be able to compensate for the inequities within its system. Even with Affirmative Action programs minorities are shortchanged in this country everyday. We have made it this far and will continue to keep on, with or without Affirmative Action.

Please send your thoughts to
nubianinbox@hotmail.com

What is a Nubian?

Delvis Ingram

Throughout the years, I have always heard of the term Nubian. I used to call my best lady friend my Nubian princess. She also called me her Nubian prince, but we didn't know the meaning. Who and what exactly is a Nubian? It sounds African but where exactly is the geographical Nubian country located? Where does the word Nubian in The Nubian Message come from? Is this a made-up mythical term?

Before this Black History Month, I asked myself these questions and recently I have been quenching my thirst for knowledge. I found out that the term Nubian is very real. There is a very rich and ancient history of the Nubian that is still being revealed today.

I will not reveal all of my discoveries of this unique Nubian culture but I will share some. The most interesting information that I have come across was that the Nubians are believed to be the first human race on earth, and the ancient Egyptians adopted most of their customs and traditions. The Nubian civilization greatly influenced the Egyptian culture, so it is the foundation of the remarkable and powerful Egyptian era.

Why do I talk this "Nubian" talk? I believe it is important to know the roots of our identity. A wise individual told me that it is not good to represent an idea if you do not know its meaning and purpose. After I researched the ancient Nubian civilization, my understanding of the term's use became clear. To be Nubian is to be a strong foundation. To be Nubian is to be of royalty. To be Nubian is to be the first.

I am proud to be a part of The Nubian Message. I am proud to be called a Nubian prince. I am proud for my character to be classified as Nubian.

Affirmative Action

Natalie Duggins, Guest Columnist

It's amazing to think about how two little words can strike such a cord with so many people. But you mention it, people get up in arms. Forget the fact that affirmative action was first established to provide "handouts" for farmers who lost their crops to adverse weather conditions.

Native Americans used to own this country, now they're resigned to small reservations (that is, if they're lucky enough to get recognized by the federal government). African-Americans were subjected to inhumane oppression under slavery and Jim Crow. African-Americans lacked access to education, property and general opportunities to advance the race.

While folks are quick to dissociate themselves from the tainted past of this country, you can't deny that colonization, slavery and Jim Crow, have had a lasting impact on people of color. What if the government had provided a fair payment to Native Americans for the use of their land? What if African Americans were allowed to own property, rather than being property? What if "separate but equal" had been more than an overused political cliché? Where would people of color be now? I can't imagine that we'd be in the same place.

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Why We Need a Black Love Day

Robert White

A few weeks ago I found out about a holiday called Black Love Day. Handy-Kendi, commonly known as Mama Ayo, created Black Love Day in 1993 as a way to combat violence

when she was growing up. Everyone knew each other by name and looked after each other's children. Community businesses thrived due to constant patronage. Cookouts and barbecues were regular events and the Church was the backbone of the community. I know everything was not perfect during that time period, but it seems that



Deltas and Kappas at "Black Love: The Art of Romance" Wednesday night in the Cultural Center.

and heal the wounds of racism. The holiday is celebrated every February 13 through five specific acts of love toward the Creator, the self, the family, the community and the race. I think with all of the events taking place in the world today, a Black Love Day is the best holiday I have heard of.

My mother often tells me about what our neighborhood looked like

Black Love Day was every day then.

Today that same community is only a ghost of its former self. Crime, drugs, apathy and time have depleted the sense of community, and the love that residence once shared. Rarely do I see a sign of friendliness in the neighborhood.

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