The Nubian Message

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AASAC, SAAC hold elections

Introducing new AASAC Chair and SAAC President



AASAC Chair, Natalya Rice

Robert White News Editor

On Thursday, April 4, 2001 and Friday April 5, 2001, the students chose the new spokespersons for the African American student

body here at N.C. State through the AASAC and SAAC elections. In an open session of the African American Student Advisory Council, the organization chose Student Association of Black Social Workers representative



Natalya Rice as its 2002-2003 Chair. The Society of Afrikan American Culture's active general body chose current Cultural Affairs Chair and Black Students Board Vice President Shonda Tabb as its 2002-2003 President. The ladies. both of whom are very active leaders now, are honored to take these positions for next year.

Natalya Rice is currently a junior studying social work and political science.

Rice is originally from Milwaukee and attended

Temple University. She transferred to State to be closer to family members in N.C. She is very active in the Student Association of Black Social Workers, Student Society of Social Workers and Amnesty International. Rice, as

AASAC Chair, wants to bring many member organizations closer together in order to fully utilize the organization to its full potential

Natalya believes as a transfer student she can come into the position without bias and bring fresh ideas. "At Temple I was involved in older organizations that needed more of a voice on campus," she said. She has been involved in public speaking since seventh grade. "I have the ability to lead and listen," she said. When asked about AASAC involvement with the status of the African American Culture Center she said AASAC has to play a key role in the matter and also has to "reflect the interests of the students." As far as N.C. State's racial climate with the Najaa Baptist incident and the AASAC report card, she believes Brandon Buskey's racial climate survey was a "step in the right direction." "AASAC will play a role every step of the way," Rice said.

AASAC endorsements garner two victories



Bobby Guthrie, II Staff writer

N.C. State went to the polls in big numbers during this past election to select new leaders for the next school year. And despite a run-off, Michael Anthony is our new student body president. The recount results were announced Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m. by the election committee. A recount had to be done because neither thenstudent body president candidates Michael Anthony nor Larisa Yasinovskaya had pulled in 50% of total votes

during the first election. However, Anthony unofficially beat Yasinovskaya 47 percent to 33 percent. Anthony will replace Darryl Willie as student body president. year's elections

Josh Cox is N.C. State's newly

elected student senate president. Cox defeated Brad Dixon for the position. Cox gathered 59.9 percent of the vote while Dixon received 37.6 percent. The new student body treasurer is Daniel Gilligan. He defeated challenger Jabari Bell in a very closely contested election by eight percent of the total vote count. James Reed is the new student center president. He won this position over Sam Edwards. Reed captured 51 percent of the total vote, while his opponent Edwards held a close 48 percent

Brent Rowe is State's new student body chief justice. Rowe claimed victory over Wortham Boyle by garnering 69 percent of the total vote count. And Decker Ngongang is our new senior class president. He defeated Amy Rothberg 54 to 43 percent. Voter turnout nearly doubled compared to last

Anthony and Rowe were both endorsed by AASAC. The other two AASAC endorsed candidates Edwards and Bell both lost by less than 10 percent.

"I was very honored to receive the AASAC's endorsement. I know that their help was a vital part in this election. Many of the races were close and AASAC had a part in that," Anthony said

The AASAC endorses candidates running for student body-wide elections each year. After giving their endorsements, the AASAC actively campaigns on the candidate's behalf, passing out flyers and handbills.

Nubian sponsors Pan African Event

More Pan African Events to be held.

Bobby Guthrie, II Staff writer

The Nubian Message sponsored a student panel discussion entitled "N.C. State Diaspora" Wednesday, April 10 in the African American Cultural Center. None of the scheduled panelists attended the event, however, there were African and Black American students in the audience who engaged in a dialogue about issues that divide the two groups on campus.

"I came to this country to better identify with the African American experience," said Olusegun Olusesi, Junior Microbiology student from Nigeria. "The discussion raised a lot of issues I could identify with," Olusesi said.

The discussion was moderated by Dr. Floyd W. Hayes, professor in Political Science and Multi-Disciplinary Studies.

More Pan African Events to be held.

Have you missed the start of the Pan-Afrikan Festival here at N.C. State? Did you even know about it at all? No? Well, you are in luck because there are still many opportunities to participate in the fun. The festival started on Friday, April 5,

See Nubian Event on Page 3

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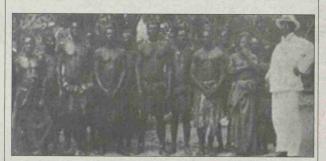
U.S. News Briefs Robert White

Explorer Acknowledged

2

New York: Black first Westerner to find the ancient Kuba City. He was also the first to master the language of the Kuba and the ary. Officials in the

Sheppard, who was born in Va. in 1865, faced many obstacles to become a mission-



Recently a woman wrote a book called "Black Livingstone: A True Tale in the Nineteenth Century Congo," about little known explorer and missionary, William Sheppard. Sheppard was a missionary in the Congo during the late 1800s. As a missionary he was the local language of the villagers with whom he worked.

Author Pagan Kennedy, a white woman, originally had reservations about doing the novel. At first, she felt she could tell the story. Nevertheless, after some time she was compelled to write the book

South Presbyterian Church initially told him to wait until "a white man could be found to lead the mission," when he asked them if he could do missionary work. He was also lauded as human rights hero detailing many of the atrocities of King Leopold's army in the Congo.

James Earl Ray, who died while in

prison for his role in the assassina-

The FBI in Fl. is thoroughly invest

tigating the matter. They say they

have not found any documents,

photos or other materials that can

identify Wilson as the gunman.

Henry Clay Wilson died in 1990.

tion in 1998, murdered Dr. King.

Jacksonville, Fl.: Man alleges his father killed Dr. King

Reverend Ronald Denton Wilson says his father, Henry Clay Wilson, killed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 4, 1968. Wilson's claim refutes the popular notion that

Correction



An incorrect photo of Rhonda Sutton was published in last week's paper. The photo was of Kisha Simmons. Rhonda Sutton is pictured left.

Rhonda Sutton



Bloomington, Ind.: Controversy over Indiana U mural

Indiana University at Bloomington says it will keep up a mural that is offensive to black students. The mural painted by Thomas Hart Benton in 1933 for the Chicago World Fair has images of Ku Klux Klan members burn-

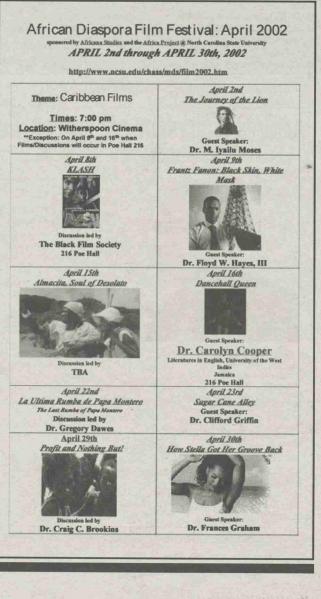


ing a cross. During the time period

Indiana was a center for Klan activ-

The university does have a plaque next to the mural and professors are required to show a video each

semester to explain the mural's imagery. Members of the Student Black Union contend that no one shows the video and the mural remains a distraction. Indiana University Chancellor Sharon Stephen Brohms contends that changing the mural would be hiding the state's past.



News

Nubian Events cont. from Page 1

Sunday, go to Harris Field for the Black Out, a



L-R, Dr. Floyd W. Hayes, Dr. Iyailu Moses, Director of the African American Cultural Center and student Curtis Hill pose for photo after the "N.C. State Diaspora" discussion.

with a Hip-Hop Fanatics show at Talley with an afterparty afterwards. A basketball tournament was held on Saturday at Carmichael Gym. There were other programs that followed on Sunday as well as every day after it.

As another successful Pan-Afrikan Festival comes to a close, it will go out with a bang. A step-show will be presented in Stewart Theater at 7 p.m. It will feature fraternaties and sororities asoociated with the National Pan-Hellenic Council. Get your groove on at the afterparty immediately after the step-show at 11 p.m. On cookout with Black flavor. At 7:30 p.m. return back to Stewart to hear the comedic stylings of Jay Lamont, Chocolate, B Phlat and B Cole during the Madd Laughs Comedy Zone. An afterparty will follow the show.

The last day of the festival will be this coming Sunday. The New Horizon Gospel Fest will end the week-long event on a high note. The concert will be held at Stewart Theater from 4 to 8 p.m. The 2002 Pan-Afrikan Festival is sponsored by the Black Students and University Activities boards.

SAAC, AASAC cont. from Page

said in reference to resolving issues brought to light in the report card. Rice believe the greatest challenge she will face next year will be to get African American organizations to be more active in AASAC. Rice believes' the N.C.State's AASAC is very unique in that it oversees all black organizations on campus and is managed by black students

Shonda Tabb is currently a junior studying history education and Africana Studies. The Virginia Beach has been heavily involved in the Society of Afrikan American Culture since her freshmen year. In the 2000-2001 school year she was very instrumental in bringing hip-hop activist Sister Souljah to speak during the 2000-2001 Pan Afrikan Festival. In 2001-2002 as SAAC Cultural Affairs Chair she helped bring Public Enemy front man Chuck D for Fall 2001 to address the student body. As President she want the society to continue to be a voice for African Americans on this campus. She wants the organization to build partnerships with Service Raleigh and from coalitions with SAAC equivalent organizations on other campuses. As President she also wants to increase active

membership in the organization.

As the oldest black organization SAAC plays a very instrumental in campus politics on behalf of African American students. When asked about the legacy SAAC holds Shonda had this to say" It means I'm the captain of an old ship and it's up to me and the exec (utive) board to keep it on it's course". As far as holding seats on the Chancellor's Liaison Committee and Student Body President's Roundtable as SAAC President she says she will be an active participant in each meeting. When asked about changes in the organization as far as the new community service chair position and the holding of both the parliamentarian and historian position for freshmen Shonda had this to say " The (community service chair) position was created because the society has an active voice on campus, but not a direct role in the community". In leaving the parliamentarian and historian positions open" We left those positions open for freshmen to have a voice in the society" "It will also give us new insight," Shonda added. Shonda sees her greatest challenge as following in the footsteps of leaders who set a strong precedent for the positions. "I am very grateful to have this position' "Watching Harold (Pettigrew), Kim (McNair) it's an honor" said the 2002-2003 President.

N.C. State joins fight for Moratoriums

Robert White

On Tuesday April 9, the NCSU Student Senate passed a resolution to calling on the Governor and the state legislature to halt executions to ensure procedures are administered fairly. The NC State Chapter of Amnesty International initiated the effort in the April 3 Senate Session. "This is not asking anyone to get rid of the death penalty," said Gary Ziegler a student senator who was one of the bill's sponsors. Amnesty International who are as an organization against the death penalty believe the moratorium is a first step to get leaders to think about the injustices with the judicial systerm.

The moratorium coincides with Amnesty 's National Student Week of Action. This year's target for the student week of action is the death penalty. This has student chapters on the high school and collegiate level all over the country also calling for a halt to executions through putting pressure on their state and ultimately the federal government. N.C. States' chapter joins many groups in the local area calling for the moratorium such as People for Faith against the Death Penalty, Wake County Coalition for a Moratorium now and other local student governments. Many of these groups will put pressure on the Raleigh City Council to adopt a similar resolution.

Amnesty International is a nonprofit, nonpartisan grassroots organization that works to end torture promote human rights and, free prisoners of conscience via letter writing campaign, legislation and nonviolent protest. For more info on the moratorium or Amnesty International you can contact the local Amnesty chapter through Aaron Jacobson , Andy Wingo or http://www.ncsu.edu/ stud orgs/amnesty/

Thanks to Everyone

Who attended the "N.C. State Diaspora" Wednesday afternoon in the African American Cultural Center.

Let us all work together to build a stronger more unified black community at N.C. State.

Thank You!

Read More Nubían Message

Culture & Arts

An Open Letter to the N.C. State Community

Stuart L. Cooper, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Thomas H. Stafford, Vice Chancellor for

Student Affairs

As a vibrant and intellectually rigorous academic community, N.C. State strongly values and encourages academic dis-course, free expression and debate as a means of seeking knowledge and understanding. We also are committed to the princples of civility, respect and tolerance that must guide or discussions and debates both in the classroom and in our larger community.

A discussion in a February political science class -- and subsequent interactions about the event -- have left some people concerned about the racial climate on campus and the University's commitment to diversity.

Our open letter to the N.C. State community is a renewal of our commitment to diversity in all its forms. N.C. State cannot achieve its goals to be a premier university without encouraging diverse perspectives, celebrating the diversity on our campus and working together to build a community that is inclusive and tolerant.

Following the discussion in the political science class, the University convened a series of meetings between students, faculty and staff to listen to the students and faculty and to understand the situation. Our study comtinues as we investigate all complaints according to the existing and appropriate procedures.

The events in the political science class have challenged us all. It has caused us -students, faculty and administrators -- to re-examine how we conduct debate. We are reminded that we must protect and encourage freedom of speech through civil discourse.

Therefore, we will conduct a racial climate survey for our campus in the fall that will guide us in implementing additional programs to ensure a diverse and inclusive community.

Also, the Office of the Provost will sponsor a symposium in the fall that will focus on racial dialogue. This symposium, con-ducted by experts in the field, will be open to faculty, staff and students.

We invite the N.C. State faculty to continue to work together to build an inclusive learning community characterized by respect and tolerance for all.



New Books in the African American Library

Oprah Winfrey has annnounced that she will reduce the frequency of books featured on her talk show. Winfrey commented tat "it has become harder to find books on a monthly basis that I feel absolutely compelled to share." Since the inception of Oprah's Book Club in 1996, Winfrey has chosen 46 featured books.

****Oprah's Lastest Book Choice**** Sula

Author: Toni Morrison

Where We Stand: Class Matters Author: Bell Hooks

If It Wasn't for the Women: Black Women's Experience and Womanist culture in church and community Author: Cheryl Gilkes

From Margin to Mainstream: The Soocial Progress of Black Americans Author: Sethard Fisher

Distinguished African Americans in Aviation and Space Science Author: Betty Gulbert

"Mama I Want To Sing"

A Black Repertory Theatre Production



Cast of "Mama I Want to Sing"

N.C. State students and members of the Black Repertory Theatre performed the world renowned play, "Mama I Want To Sing." The play was a part of the Pan Afrikan Festival sponsored by Black Students Board. The actors tamed the crowd with talented singers and comical inserts.

What's On Your Mind

African American stu- dents, faculty, and staff dents represent less than notice that there is a lack 10 percent of the student of population at N.C. State University. Naturally, of the African American the black members at any institution, organization, social group, etc. promotes a "close knit" relationship between members of that particular group. This myth has yet been introduced, interto manifested at N.C. State Unveristy. Many African American stu-

communcation between other members community at N.C. State University. How do you feel when African Americans are reluctant to acknowledge you regardless if you have acted, or simply glanced at each other?

When African Americans fail to acknowledge each other's presence it is really frustrating. With so few minorities on campus, we should each take time out to speak to one another. There are people I see every day on want to speak to you."

the way to class, and I say, "Hello, how are you doing?" Oftentimes I get funny looks, such as the "Do I know you?" facial expression, or the fake smile that secretly means, "I don't really



Ivory Harris

they

your

It makes me but don't want to acknowldedge presence. and



Antoine Clark

upset sometimes because you try to be nice make friends

Culture & Arts

5

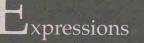


after this, the corporate ladder will be a piece of [cake].

In the course of facing challenges like this, you'll learn how to think on your feet. Stay cool under pressure. Take charge. Talk to an Army ROTC rep. You'll find there's nothing like a little climbing to help prepare you for getting to the top.



ARMY ROTC Unlike any other college course you can take.



Seasons By Delores J. Gregg-Thomas

Grass returns green Rainstorms and showers Predicts this season's flowers A season change...

Makes one wonder concerning their own extinction Shallow gray paints the sky Looking above a child asks why A season change...

Bone chillng cold Bone chillng cold A frosty wonderland to behold Chiming of a bell As loved ones say, "Farewell" Yet again, another season has changed.

DIDYOUKNOW? Shirley Chisolm was the first African American to run for presidency.



Opinions Editor Business Manager Staff Writer Layout Manager Photographer

Office Manager Sports & Entertainment Ad Representative Culture & Arts Editor

friday, april 5th

Hip-Hop Fanatics MC Battle & Hip-Hop Show TSC Ballroom 8pm - 10pm At Door: \$3

Afterparty Kick-off event party **TSC Ballroom** 10:30pm - 2am At Door: \$3 w/ tix stub, \$5 w/o (Ladies FREE B4 11:30pm)

Saturday, april 6th

B-Ball Classic 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament Carmichael Gym

Black Hole featuring DC's own Back Yard Band **TSC Ballroom** 10pm - 3am In Adv: \$7

Wednesday, april 10th

Pan-All Student panel of all Nations TSC Ballroom 4pm - 6pm

"Mama I Want to Sing" Popular musical of inspiring female singer 8pm - 10pm In Adv: \$2 w/ NCSU ID, \$3 w/non-NCSU ID, At Door: \$4

thursday, april lith

Running To, Running From, Running For... Cultural expression through dance Stewart Theater 8pm - 11pm At Door: \$3

Sunday, april 7th

Morning Glory Spiritual uplifting for everyone TSC Ballroom FREE

Soul Food Sunday Celebrate a true African tradition Witherspoon CC \$2 per plate

Ushairi TSC Ballroom In Adv: \$3, At Door: \$5

Step-Off '02 Step Show NPHC is stepping it up Stewart Theater In Adv: \$10 w/ NCSU ID, \$12 w/ college ID, At Door: \$15 At Door: \$5 w/ tix stub, \$7 w/ college ID, \$10 GP

friday, april 12th

Afterparty Continuing the celebration TSC Ballroom

Monday, april 8th

What is Pan-Afrikan? Panel and lecture with deep roots Witherspoon CC

tuesday, april 9th

"No More Drama" A fashion show with finesse Stewart Theater In Adv: \$5, At Door: \$7

Saturday, april 13th

Black Out Showcasing culture with food, folks & fun Harris Field 10am - 4pm

Madd Laughs Comedy Zone featuring Jay Lamont, Chocolate, B Phlat & B Cole Stewart Theater 7:30pm - 10pm In Adv: \$5, At Door: \$10

Afterparty Final party of the festival TSC Ballroom 10:30pm - 2am See website for prices

Sunday, april 14th

New Horizon Gospel Fest A musical celebration Stewart Theater 4pm - 8pm \$5 w/ NCSU student ID, \$9 w/ NCSU staff ID, \$10 GP

Most tickets are available through NCSU Ticket Central (919/515/1100) • More information is available online or by phone (919/515/5918)



Sports and Entertainment

FACE-OFF

Keymia Sharpe

The Hip-Hop Fanatics Freestyle contest kicked this year's Pan-Afrikan Festival, and it couldn't have been a better introduction. With 16 contestants full of talent and energy, the judges' decision on the best emcee was a tough one. Punch-lines, witty comebacks, and the crowd's response also made it challenging for them. However, a final decision was made and 15year old Rapheal Smith, aka Blaza, went home with the \$150 cash prize. He and his opponent, Splash, went head to head in an intense four rounds with and without music. There was also a DJ showcase. One particular DJ, DJ Merlin, had his own unique style. He mixed songs and used them to create new beats which hyped the crowd even more after round 3 of the freestyle contest. The event was a major success and the after-party was just as hype as the contest.

"[Freestyle Fanatics] was a success. There should have been an age limit on the contestants. There should have also been a restriction on the language, but that's college...keepin' it real," commented Stacey Jacobs, a freshman. "I think that Kevjorik and Troy did a good job. I enjoyed it and will attend another one."

MC's

Tab-One Travesty Mon-tez B-III SPLASH Cab Life Fifth Element Penny Payroll J-Black Mista I Ed Pitt Bags Blaza' (Blazer) **B-Wize** Tango Problems Milk Easy

Taylor Burgess Travis WIlliams Mon-tez Billyde Brown Corey Guion Baron Stephey Adrian Dobly Cameron Dobly James Fawole Jay Johnson **Jason** Pitt **Rapheal Smith** Brian Waggy Reese Rob Salim

No More Drama

Faith Pearl Leath

Flashing spotlights, colorful scenes, and Stewart Theatre packed with a crowd awaiting the beginning of "No More Drama." This was the scene Tuesday, April 9, 2002 at the annual Pan-Afrikan Black Finesse Modeling show, appropriately themed "No More Drama." Janeen Jackson, an attendee of the show, said, "[The show was] a beautiful display of fashion and dance that, in my opinion, is the culmination of Pan-Afrikan week thus far. "Months of hard work, long practices, and feelings of frustration as well as glee all led to the event that so many witnessed on Tuesday. The opening scene: Mary J. Blige's famed song entitled, "No More Drama" penetrates the room and captivates the ears of the listener's in the audience. Out come the models in their all-black attire, doing twists and turns in four-inch heels that most women can't even do in tennis shoes! Talent! Along came other scenes that were accompanied by choreography, music, and more talented, beautiful models. But, if you were at the show, the one scene that you won't soon forget is the "American People Scene." A small replica of the World Trade Center stood towards the center of the stage; erect, tall and holding two American flags. Missy Elliot's American People plays in the background and then, out come the models modeling -- what else -- flag gear. There were flag dresses, shorts, shirts, jeans, and swimwear all designed by Mosayk, a label founded in 1998. Another highlight of the evening was the main intermission where we were greeted by the lovely voice of Ms. Colandra McDowell accompanied by a rapping echo, two talented members of Dance Visions, and two background vocalists, both of Black Finesse. The fast, upbeat tune about living life accented the show's underlying theme of "No More Drama." All in all, the show was well put together. The time and patience and the overall talent that it took to put the show together was evident in the well choreographed dances, the colorful scenes and props that accompanied them, and the talent of the models that modeled their attire with poise and, oh yes, Finesse. So if you missed the show, then you missed a treat. Ask anyone in attendance at the show and they will tell you that 'No More Drama" was a fashion show with Finesse! Excellent show Black Finesse, we applaud you all!



Spring Fever from Page 8

chill out a little bit. Remember though, Spring Fever is standing right beside you, yearning to embrace you. Fight it! Run away from it! We still have a lot of work to do. But the good part is that at the end the Summer Bunnies will be waiting! In the meantime, go to class, study early for your exams and stay focused.

We should use the resources we have to educate ourselves about each other and expand our world views. It is not sufficient for us to walk around in dashikis and colorful head wraps without embracing our brothers and sisters to whom this culture belongs to as

Fall 2002 NCSU Africana Studies Curriculum Information

Course Number	Section	Title	Call Number	Day and Time
and a second second	MU	ILTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES		and the second
MDS 240	1	African Civilization	1.200	TH 8:05-9:20
MDS 240	2	African Civilization		TH9:50-11:05
MDS 240	3	African Civilization		M W F 8:05-8:55
MDS 241	1	Introduction to African American Studies II		MWF9:10-10:00
MDS 330	1	Black Popular Culture	1. S. C. S. C.	TH 9:50-11:05
MDS/AFS 344	1	Leadership in the African American Community		T H 9:50-11:05
MDS/PS 409	1	Black Political Participation in American		TH11:20-12:35
MDS 493B	1	Black Feminist Theory	2012-018	TH 4:05-5:20
MDS 497B	2	Religions of Africa		TH 2:35-3:50
		ENGLISH		
ENG 248	1	Survey of African-American Literature	19265243-19	MWF9:10-10:00
ENG 248	2	Survey of African-American Literature	1214.000	TH 11:20-12:35
ENG 248	3	Survey of African-American Literature		TH 2:35-3:50
ENG 448	1	African-American Literature		TH 2:35-3:50
<u>.</u>	S TY STAR	HISTORY	and the second	
HI 275	1	History of South and East Africa		MWF10:15-11:05
HI 276 -	1	History of West Africa		T H 8:05-9:20
HI 276	2	History of West Africa	Martin State	TH 9:50-11:05
HI 372	1	African American History to 1865		M W F 1:30-2:20
HI 373	1	African American History Since 1865		MWF10:15-11:05
HI 373	2	African American History Since 1865		MWF11:20-12:10
HI 373	3	African American History Since 1865		T 6:00-8:50
HI 373	4	African American History Since 1865		W 6:00-8:50
		MUSIC		
MUS 260	1	History of Jazz		MWF10:15-11:05
		SOCIOLOGY		
SOC 305	1	Racial and Ethnic Relations		MWF 10:15-11:05
SOC 305	2	Racial and Ethnic Relations	New Yorks	MWF1:30-2:20
SOC 305	3	Racial and Ethnic Relations	States and	TH 2:35-3:50

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Library/Gallery Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Weekends 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

African American Cultural Center

Time for Change, from Page

form international communities if we can't unite our own community? It's time for a change. As students, we have the power to begin this change on our own campus.

The Nubian Message Weekly Editorial It's Time for a Change

"Her hair is too nappy, she needs to get a perm." "Do you see those shoes he's got on, they were played out two years ago." "She thinks she's all that because she's light skinned."

These expressions are heard every day by black people across the country, especially our youth. Such statements seem so diminutive, yet they are so powerful. Many black people, from the time they are old enough to play the dozens, adopt this attitude. In part, it is this type of attitude that restrains our unity and brings about division amongst our people.

So it isn't very hard to understand why many Black Americans on campus

Misuse of the Word "Tribe"

TJ Eatmon

I agree with modern anthropologists and students who have come to the conclusion that the word "tribe" is an insufficient term to use in the description of African people. I strongly agree with this argument not because of the ignorance implied by the word "tribe" when used by media, scholars, and everyday people, but because of my own ignorance and the boundaries created in my own mind because of this type of reference to Africans.

As an American citizen who was raised in the United States, English was the primary language taught to me by my parents and teachers. When a person is taught and learns a language, especially and across the country have trouble forming relationships and connecting themselves to Africans. This was one of a few topics discussed at Wednesday's "N.C. State Diaspora" that was supposed to include a student panel featuring students from across the globe. Surprisingly, none of the invited panel members attended the event. Whether there were scheduling conflicts or miscommunication is unknown, but the absence of the panel members further emphasizes the disconnection between Black Americans and brothers and sisters overseas.

With so much disunity amongst the Black American community, how can we expect to unite with our international counterparts if we cannot unite ourselves? Much of the problem involves the miseducation of both Black Americans and Africans. Much of what we know and

his/her primary language, more than just vocabulary and comprehension is gained. Learning a language also means learning a whole way of thinking, a thought process. This process involves connecting and associating a whole range of ideas and assumptions with words when communicating with people. It is because of this that it is very important, especially when dealing with delicate issues such aspeople and there cultures, to describe them adequately. This is the same reason that Muslims around the world are taught to read the Quran in its' original language of Arabic, as not to misunderstand the true meaning of the message given to the prophet Muhammed.

This is also the reason that as a child and a teenager, I thought of African people as being a very primitive people,

Opinions

believe to be true is a product of television and news media. Many Black Americans hold "jungle and tribe" views of Africa while many Africans know Black Americans by what they hear on the radio and movies shown across the globe. Many of us do not take the time to educate ourselves and form our own opinions. This ignorance breads prejudice amongst a people who have been the victims of prejudice for years.

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As Black Americans, we are citizens of the most powerful country on the globe. We have a responsibility to use this power to help not only ourselves, but also black people around the world. How will we ever live up to this responsibility if we can't form international communities here in the United States? How will we ever

See Time for Change on Page 7

unable to live the same "civilized" life as the people in my own country. Because of the use of words like "tribe", I immediately conjured ideas and assumptions about a people that I had never visited nor interacted with on a large scale. These prejudices also hindered any interest in learning more about the people, as if it were a waste of time. This is a very dangerous way of thinking, especially on a world scale, and I imagine that I am definitely not the only English speaking person who was lured into this way of thinking. When people think like this, it causes them to see the problems and issues of Africans as being less important and not suitable for investigation. I did not even care to learn more about Africa, and may not care to the present day if it were not for an experience that changed my views.

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE The African American Voice of North Carolina State University

Editor-in-Chief......Keon Pettiway Editor Emeritus.....Adedayo A. Banwo Editorial......T.J. Eatmon Copyeditor.....Tiffany Wilder

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Staff

Spring Fever From the Male Perspective

Delvis Ingram

Hey, it feels real good outside. It is not too warm and it is definitely not too cold. Maybe I will take the day off from class. Today I just do not feel like doing anything. That paper can wait until the night before it is due, it can't be that hard. My gosh, look at what that girl is wearing over there. Is she trying to impress somebody? Wow, even the ugly girls are looking good! Why is my "chill out" time starting to expand? I cannot remember if I have a test tomorrow or not. Do I have an assignment due soon? It really does not matter to me now. I cannot wait for summer vacation. That is all I can think about.

Does all of this sound familiar? I am sure it does. All are symptoms of Spring Fever. Trust me, it is very contagious. All you have to do is think about it for just a little while. It is so easy to do nothing during this

time of year, especially for the male. The women, the "chill time", the different activities of distraction, it's all around us. Even the women seem to smile a lot more this time of year. Of course, Spring Fever affects the female but the male tends to wrestle with it a lot more. Spring Fever knocks on our door every morning, telling us to stay in bed. It even visits us during class time, whispering in our ear what we'd rather be doing. It tries to assist us in our homework, telling us that it does not matter what kind of effort we put into it.

We attend North Carolina State University. It is an institution of higher learning, an institution that selects different individuals to attend. We are students of this university and we have been selected. It is our responsibility to keep our priorities in line. Do not let Spring Fever scramble them up. Let us not forget, final exams are staring in our faces.

Hey, go to the party; enjoy the ladies, See Spring Fever on Page 7