

# the Nubian Message

Sentinel of NC State's African American Community Since 1992.

September 26, 2002

www.nubianmessage.com

Vol. X Edition 2

## inside

### Opinion

Women. Find out all about girls coming of age.

### Entertainment

P. Diddy wants to create another N'Sync, and Juvenile completes his name.

### Culture&Arts

DanceVisions Xplodes into its 25th year; BRT celebrates Black Shakespeare.

## WGO

### What's Goin' On?

#### Ethiopia

Dr. Lawrence M. Clark's Heritage Lecture will take a look at the history and culture of Ethiopia Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. in the AACC.

#### "New Ho" Concert

The New Horizons Choir will perform Sept. 29 at Tupper Memorial Baptist Church.

#### Pimpology

The North Hall Residence Council will show "The Mack" Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. in North's Merrymonk Lounge. Learn the art of the game.

#### Bench Blast

Omega Psi Phi is sponsoring a weightlifting showdown Sept. 27 in the Free Expression tunnel. Trophies will be given to the strongest man, strongest woman, and the man or woman who lifts the most weight.

#### Parents Weekend

Run. Hide. Parents will be invited to campus Sept. 27-29. Clean your room.

## History of New Building

The Saga of the Witherspoon Student Center (Annex)

Jerry Blackmon

staff writer

There are a number of very old buildings on this campus one would almost expect to have intriguing histories, but occasionally you'll find a newer one with tales attached to its construction that rival, if not match, anything the older buildings could muster.

The Witherspoon Student Center is one of those.

It all started out simply enough. Back in 1987, the University Student Center - today's Talley building - was running out of space and falling apart. Campus planners concluded that the cost of a complete renovation would be prohibitive contrasted to that of building an entirely new facility, and decided to allocate funds for a new building instead. The Student Center Annex was born. Let the games begin.

"Everything was done in conjunction with student groups," building superintendent Larry Campbell told a group of visiting administrators from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in a meeting with representatives from the African American Cultural Center. The group of administrators are traveling to cultural centers around the country soliciting "do's and don'ts" for the construction of their own free-standing center. "We came up with plans and presented them to the students."

There were three large student groups interested in having space in the new building - Student Government, the Student Media, and N.C. State's African-American student population.

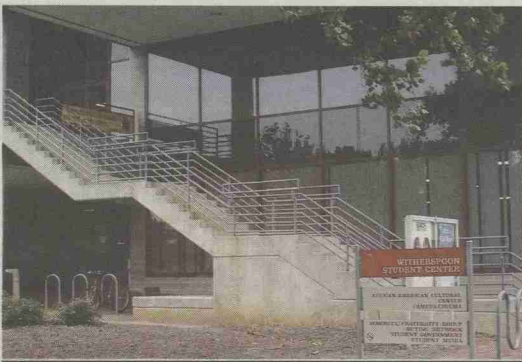
In the early eighties there were very few African-American students on campus. "Somewhere between 250 and 300," Campbell estimated. Because the overall population was so sparse, they were looking for a place to call their own which would allow them to come together to socialize and network. The Society for African-American Culture (SAAC), NCSU's oldest African-American student organization, took the students' concerns to the administration, and the students were granted space in "the old King building," which consisted of nothing more than a few rooms for meetings and offices in the basement of an abandoned YMCA, Campbell said.

The campus was expanding rapidly at that time, and university planners decided the land the old King YMCA building was sitting on was much more valuable than the building itself, Campbell said, so they subsequently tore the building down.

"We were displaced," Campbell said. "And the students weren't happy."

Witherspoon

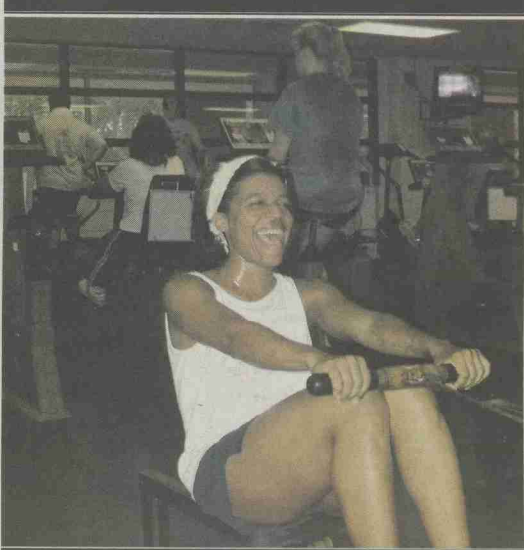
page 2



Witherspoon Student Center, outside AACC gallery.

Jerry L. Blackmon II • staff

## It's true: exercise can be fun.



Students work out in Carmichael Gym's exercise rooms after a long day.

Keon Pettaway • staff

## Africa News Briefs

### • Rwandan Withdrawal

#### Rwandan Troops Out of Congo

The first of an estimated 1,600 soldiers were due to fly from Kindu to the Rwandan capital, Kigali. Kindu has been the base for the Rwandan army and its allies the Congolese Rally for Democracy rebels during the civil war. Under the agreement to end one of the world's bloodiest wars.

The Ugandan, Namibian and Zimbabwean armies are all beginning to leave the war, which began in August 1998 as a rebellion against President Joseph Kabila's late father, Laurent Kabila, and drew in six foreign countries on one side or the other. More than a million people are thought to have died.

In the July 30 agreement mediated by South Africa, Congo undertook to locate, disarm and repatriate the Rwandan Hutu soldiers and interahamwe fighters who fled there after taking part in the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

Rwanda, which entered Congo in pursuit of the Hutus, says it intends to withdraw all its troops from eastern Congo by the end of October to meet the Pretoria agree-

ment.

Uganda has already withdrawn at least 2,000 soldiers.

Rwandan officers say privately that Congo is not keeping to its side of the agreement and predict that the Hutus, many now incorporated into the Congolese army, will continue to threaten Rwandan security.

### • Nigerian Controversy

#### Nigeria Faces Controversy with Miss World

Wellington - New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark said on Monday that she thought a 17-year-old New Zealand schoolgirl should not compete in the upcoming Miss World contest in Nigeria.

"It does seem a little odd to have a participant in a Miss World competition in Nigeria when in the north of that country a young woman faces a death penalty by stoning because she had a baby out of wedlock," she told a news conference.

While she said the government would not stop Rachel Huijich, who was crowned Miss World New Zealand last week, from going to Nigeria, Clark said, "My own gut feeling would be that it isn't a good look."

Let him speak who has seen with his eyes. • African Proverb



## Witherspoon

from page 1

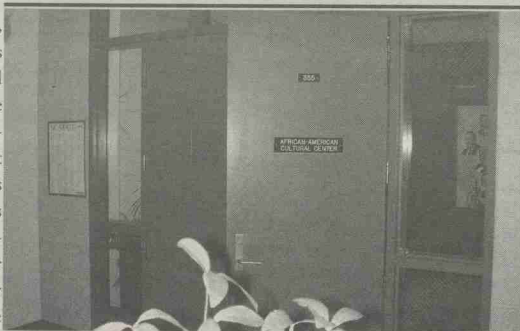
Another large university department had recently abandoned its office space in favor of newer facilities elsewhere on campus, and the students immediately set their sights on the vacant building.

"The Print Shop's building was being vacated because they were moving into new facilities on central campus, and that left us with several options." The West Dunn building was empty, but so was "Harris Cafeteria" - Harris Hall, a much larger facility just over fifty feet away from where Witherspoon

have 39,000 square feet of space and three floors which allowed its designers a great deal of leverage with the placement of groups. The three student groups jockeying for space in the building named representatives who had seats on the planning committee with the power to determine who would be in which rooms of the

## African American Cultural Center offices.

Jerry L. Blackmon II • staff



stands today which now houses Financial Aid, the Cashier's Office and University Housing, among other tenants. SAAC organized the students, the students listed their demands, and they took over a Board of Trustees meeting to be sure their demands were heard, Campbell said. "They told the board they wanted Harris Cafeteria, and the board said 'no way'." But they did grant the students space in the building Print Shop vacated to start a new cultural center.

Very few African-American students attended NCSU in the early days of the Cultural Center, but at the time there were already seven or eight black-student organizations and African-American fraternities and sororities getting started, Campbell said. This demand very quickly overwhelmed the relatively close quarters of the West Dunn building, and the new Cultural Center began looking to expand again.

The Student Center Annex would

building, what the rooms would be used for and where in the building individual groups would be based. Campbell and other University staffers on the committee decided space would most equitably be divided between the groups if "everyone had roughly 13,000 square feet of space in the building," which allowed all three groups to have a say in what the final floor plan would look like.

The committee developed a preliminary design that put the African-American Cultural Center's art gallery and library on the first floor, with office space for the AACC's administrative offices on the second. Student Media was to be granted space on the second floor as well. They originally put the AACC's "Multipurpose Room" - an auditorium with a small stage that plays host to most of the AACC's major activities - on the third floor along with Student Government's senate chambers because of Witherspoon's Cinema.

"We had to make sure the Cinema,

Multipurpose Room, and Student Media's radio station could survive in the same building without killing each other," Campbell said.

They brought the plan to the students and it was immediately rejected. "One student looked at what we had and didn't like the layout. 'Student Government's on the third floor,'" Campbell quoted. "They're higher than us."

"I had a solution for that," he boasted. "I moved all the office space to the third floor, the gallery and library to the second and the Multipurpose Room to the first," which ultimately required the committee to call in an acoustic engineer.

Student groups hold parties in the Multipurpose Room at roughly the same time he had decided the cinema would be in use, so they had to make sure no stray sound would leak from one room into the other.

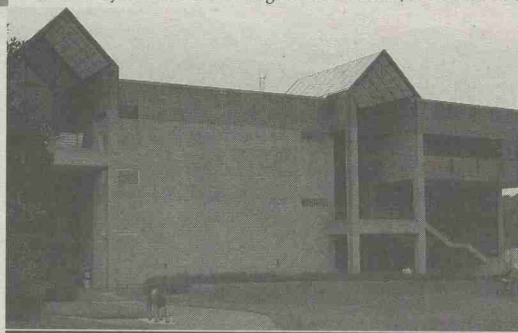
"What everyone thinks is a stage in the

"Next time you get any say [in the design, the building is] already 99 percent complete," Campbell said. "You get the plans back and see all the changes and you say: who decided to do this?"

One of the biggest changes Dr. M. Iyailu Moses said she would have made to the building would be to get rid of the windows in the art gallery on the second floor. Moses was brought on as director of the AACC after the Center had been in the completed Witherspoon Building for several years.

Those windows are there, Campbell explained, "to aesthetically balance the building." Despite the strenuous objections of the committee, university planners put a row of windows across an entire side of the building on the second floor because they wanted to "balance" the design - windows which would open onto a room that holds art which would, as a result, be bathed in sunlight from sunrise to sunset year round.

After numerous internal redesigns however, all parties seem comfortable with the building. The AACC has renovated the second floor, adding security measures to protect both valuable art in the gallery and the center's library collection, and they blocked



Witherspoon building.

Jerry L. Blackmon II • staff

Multipurpose Room is really an earthen dam," Campbell said. "We dropped the Cinema three and a half feet into the ground and used dirt to create a sound-and shock-absorbing [barrier] between the Multipurpose Room and the Cinema."

Problems solved, you'd think, but then the final "preliminary" plans went to the university.

off most of the window wall, "but there is still room for improvement," Moses told the Tennessee administrators.

Alluding to Witherspoon's ongoing storage and expansion space shortages, Campbell joked "a good rule of thumb: 25 percent of your building needs to be storage space."

## Yahoo Sued By Web Surfers; Accused of Selling Personal Info

NEWS STAFF REPORT

## digitalbeat

NEWS STAFF REPORT

A suit filed against Yahoo in Los Angeles by a user of the their popular financial message boards challenges the company's practice of disclosing a user's personal information to third parties without prior notice to the user.

The suit accuses the online portal of violating the "constitutional and contractual rights to privacy" of the user, known as "Aquacool,2000," who lost his job after posting remarks about his employer, AnswerThink Consulting Group, Inc., on a Yahoo message board. The remarks were posted anonymously, but Yahoo provided identification after a request from

AnswerThink Consulting. The case could establish important protections for Internet privacy and free expression.

Yahoo has been inundated with subpoenas issued by companies seeking the identities of Yahoo users who have been critical of them. Unlike other online companies, Yahoo gives information such as the user's name, e-mail address and IP address without first notifying the user and allowing them to challenge the information requests.

Privacy and free speech advocates say that Internet users have a right to communicate anonymously and usually do so for valid reasons.

"The right to anonymous speech should not be breached so easily," says Chris Hansen, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Hansen favors two legal protections for Internet users who wish to remain anonymous. "Any complaint filed in court against an unknown Internet defendant should include specifics of the allegedly objectionable postings," he said.

David Sobel, General Counsel for the Electronic Privacy Information Center, says, "online anonymity plays a critical role in fostering free expression on the Internet, and has clearly contributed to the popularity of the medium." "The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that anonymity is a constitutional right, but practices such as those of Yahoo may make that right illusory online," he added.

**N·U·B·I·A·N**  
Read, Recycle, Repeat.

## Africa News Briefs

### • Nigerians Stoned

LAGOS, Nigeria — An Islamic court has sentenced a couple to death by stoning for having an affair.

The sentence came a week after an Islamic court rejected single mother Amina Lawal's appeal of a stoning sentence for having sex outside of marriage.

Lawal's case provoked an international outcry, with governments and human rights groups around the world urging President Olusegun Obasanjo's administration to intercede on her behalf.

The couple, Ahmadu Ibrahim and Fatima Usman, both 30, Usman had become pregnant with Ibrahim's child while she was married to another man.

Ibrahim and Usman had originally been sentenced to five years in prison in May after plead-

ing guilty to adultery but protested to a higher court that the sentence was too harsh.

Their appeal backfired Monday when the court ruled instead that their sentence was too lenient, the reports said. The state's Shariah laws prescribe death as punishment for adultery.

Ibrahim is the first man to be sentenced to death for adultery in Nigeria. Previously only women were prosecuted and their children used as evidence while men got off because of a lack of proof.

"In Shariah law we do not waste time," government spokesman Usman Zakari Dutse said. "That is the best way to get justice."

Nigeria is deeply divided about the application of Islamic law, or Shariah, which calls for cutting off a hand to punish theft and death for adultery.



## Ira Aldridge

HISTORY OF BLACK THEATRE

### Marsheda Barnette staff writer

When you think of African American actors who paved the way for black entertainers today, you generally think of people like Dorothy Dandridge, Paul Robeson, and Lena Horne. While they are early actors, indeed, they didn't begin the trend. On October 10, 1825, a man by the name of Ira Aldridge debuted at London's Royal Coburg Theatre.

This did not come easily, though. Born a free man in America, he left home to work on a ship. When the ship docked in North Carolina, his freedom was threatened when a slave owner offered the captain of the ship five hundred dollars for him. When the ship's captain

refused, Aldridge returned to his birthplace, New York City, and began gaining experience with the African Theatre group.

Because he was African American, Aldridge was unable to obtain important roles in America. Therefore, in 1824, he left for England in search to pursue his dreams. In the weeks following his debut in "The Revolt of Surinam, or A Slave's Revenge," he played leading roles in plays such as "The Ethiopian, or the Quadroon of the Mango Grove," "The Libertine Defeated of African Ingratitude," "The Negro's Curse, or the Foulah Son," and "The Death of Christophe, King of Hayti." However, even with his good performances, he still didn't receive the respect that he wanted from the critics. Aldridge then began to tour the provinces, including Liverpool, to enhance his acting abilities. During

this time, he started in plays such as "Oroonoko," "The Slave," "Othello," "The Revenge," and "The Padlock." These appearances caused great controversy at the time because of the fact that "Oroonoko," "The Revenge," and "The Padlock" were anti-slavery plays during a pro-slavery era and in "Othello," were he was the leading actor, his leading lady was a white woman.

Aldridge was an outstanding

actor and accomplished a great deal in his time. He overcame color barriers by playing non-black and even white European roles. He was the first American actor to perform in Croatia and Serbia. His other honors include

membership in the Prussian Academy of Arts and Sciences; receipt of the Prussian Gold Medal of the First Class for the Academy; Switzerland's White Cross knighthood in the Royal Saxon Ernestinischen House Order (the first actor to be knighted); receipt of the Berdient Medal of the Order in Gold; and membership in the National Dramatic Conservatoire of Hungary.

Aldridge clearly created a path for aspiring African American actors to pursue dreams and accomplish goals. He realized what he had to do in order to achieve his goals. This isn't saying that one has to leave the country in order to make things happen in life. One should use the resources available and learn to create more valuable resources so that others may succeed in their footsteps.

Confucius say: know your history.  
nubianeditor\_ca@yahoo.com



Ira Aldridge

Henry Perronet Briggs

## DanceVisions Xplodes Into 25th

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### staffreport

NEWS STAFF REPORT

On September 21 and 22, DanceVisions celebrated the 25th anniversary of its birth here at NC State. The milestone was marked with a two-day celebration of dance, aptly entitled DanceXplosion. The schedule of events for DanceXplosion included a two-day series of workshops covering various types of dance, from ballet to jazz to yoga. Several master instructors in the company of Deollo Johnson, Beth Wright and Clay Taliaferro conducted the workshops. The first day's festivities were concluded by an informal concert on Friday night with guest performances by the NC

State Dance Company, the NC State Ballroom Dance Club, and the Peace College Dance Company. Saturday evening's event was drawn to a close with the North Carolina's African American Dance Ensemble instructing a master class in African dance.

DanceVisions originated in 1977 after some concerns arose on campus. Three African American female students came to NC State in hopes of continuing their dance practice and performance after their respective high school careers. After pursuing the appropriate resources, they had developed a support network and began the company known as DanceVisions. The first DanceVisions concert was performed in the spring of 1978, and it was sponsored by the Black Student

Board. DanceVisions' mission was to "provide NC State students with the opportunity to express themselves creatively through dance." This mission has held itself true throughout DanceVisions' 25 years here at NC State.

DanceXplosion was the first event in the 25 years of DanceVisions to celebrate its accomplishments and success. Monique Newton, the company's artistic director, headed the dance celebration. DanceXplosion was a great achievement and was immensely enjoyed by all participants—students and instructors alike. Expect more from DanceVisions throughout the remainder of the semester. The DanceVisions Student Concert will be held in November.

## A Black Shakespeare?

### LaToya Eaves

culture&arts editor

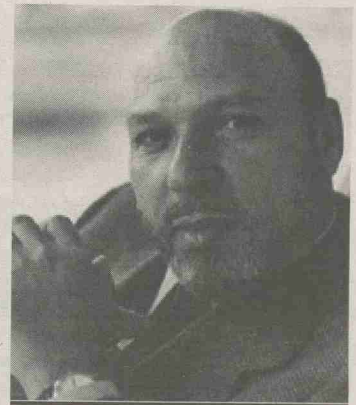
Famed Broadway actor Brian Stokes Mitchell called him "Our Shakespeare." Broadway director Marion McCClinton said he "is always constantly in pursuit of the truth. He writes about the truth of a people, the truth of a decade, with great poetry." Who is this I am speaking of? The one and only August Wilson. With his first important work being featured by University Theatre this November, it seemed only fit to look a little closer at the man behind the script.

Wilson has touched lives across all culture barriers with his uncanny ability to compose "great poetry" in the form of drama that everyone can enjoy and even relate to. He has won a variation of awards, from Tony Awards to New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards to Pulitzer Prizes. But he was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1945 as Frederick August Kittle. Later in life, he took on the last name of Wilson because it was his mother's maiden name. He dropped out of the 9th grade at age 15. He later completed his education through the use of public libraries at age 16; he said this is where his real education began. Wilson had been disgusted by the racial inequities of public education. During this time, he worked menial jobs and submitted his poetry for Black publications at the University of Pittsburgh. He also wrote dramatic skits for the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul.

In 1968, Wilson co-founded and directed Black Horizons on the Hill. Black Horizons was a theater company he placed in Pittsburgh's Hill District. Starting the company was a bit of a risk because Wilson had minimal theatrical experience. He went on to write "Jitney," a play that is set in the Hill District of Pittsburgh in 1977. "Jitney" really sparked his career as a playwright. Since that time, Wilson has set out to write one play for each decade of the 20th century. He has completed nine works for the ten decades. He began the century with the story, set in 1911, of Herald Loomis and his daughter in

search of wife and mother Martha. The play was appropriately called "Joe Turner's Come and Gone." He went on with "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," set in a Chicago recording studio in 1927. "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" was Wilson's first commercial success, enjoying 275 performances on Broadway. His latest Broadway appearance was with the play "King Hedley II." It has an ex-con who steals refrigerators to make ends meet as its title character and is set in poor Pittsburgh neighborhood in 1985.

Wilson's art comes not only in his ability to write



Acclaimed Playwright August Wilson  
courtesy • Seattle Post-Intelligencer

plays, but his ability to write about Black people. In an April 6, 2001 interview with Online Newshour he said, "I make my art out of Black American culture, all cut out of the same cloth...I write about the black experience of men, or I write about black folks. That's who I am. I couldn't do anything else. I wouldn't do anything else." On behalf of fans everywhere, thank you August Wilson.

LaToya loves the theater. Or is that theatre?

nubianeditor\_ca@yahoo.com

"We Are More Than Magnificent, We are..."

(919) 250-9110  
Fax: 250-9093



2011 Poole Rd  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
www.blacknificent.com

KAMAU KAMBON, Ed.D.  
MAWIYAH KAMBON, Ph.D.  
Managing Directors

*The truth is like gold — keep it locked up, and you will find it exactly as you first put it away. • African Proverb*



## Hollywood to Fight MP3 Trading by Hacking

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### digitalbeat

NEWS STAFF REPORT

California Congressman Howard Berman recently introduced his "Peer-to-Peer Piracy Prevention" Act in the House of Representatives. If the bill passes, copyright owners could employ a variety of technological tools to prevent the illegal distribution of their copyrighted works over a P2P network.

Security experts said the bill's wording is too vague and wonder exactly what sort of "technological tools" will be permitted. They also fear that approval of the bill could result in a multitude of clumsy and ill-conceived hack attacks that could have wide-spread, system-damaging effects on both file traders and those who have never downloaded a single song from a file-trading server.

"Basically, Berman is going to legalize all of the antisocial Internet activities that we have been trying to stamp out for the last decade," said Paul McNabb, chief technical officer of security firm Argus Systems Group.

While not specifically prohibited in the bill, Berman insists that media companies will not be allowed to unleash viruses or other malicious code or destroy personal, non-pirated files.

"Contrary to widespread, if uninformed speculation, our legislation is narrowly crafted, with strict bounds on acceptable behavior by the copyright owner," Berman said. "It gives copyright creators a very limited safe harbor from liability when they use technological tools for the narrow purpose of thwarting P2P piracy. It does not allow copyright owners to send viruses through P2P networks, destroy files, hack into the personal files of P2P users, or indiscriminately block lawful file-trading."

The tools Berman specifically suggested that companies might use include "interdiction" - flooding a P2P file server with fake requests in order to slow or stop the system; "spoofing" - providing slews of corrupt, damaged or incomplete files to P2P servers; and "redirection" - faking the location of files to force traders to perform many futile system-resource-wasting searches.

Denial-of-service attacks, flooding servers with many requests for nonexistent files in order to crash or

dramatically slow network performance, is specifically permitted under the bill. But P2P networks are created on the fly from whatever computers are logged on at any given time, so experts fear that innocent bystanders could also be smacked in a service attack.

"Berman is opening the door to massive denial-of-service attacks against perceived pirates, without the attacker having to get prior authorization to launch the attack," McNabb said. "This could have devastating effects on computers on the same network or in the line of fire. For instance, if everyone on your block has a cable modem, and someone is thought to be a pirate, a denial-of-service attack against that perceived pirate could take the entire neighborhood cable network down."

hood cable network down."

"There is no set definition of a 'virus' in the Internet mind, so it is easy to

imagine a corporate programmer convincing his bosses and the legal department that his copy protection scheme is not a virus, only to find that when it gets into distribution and is taken apart by someone in the industry the first time it swats an innocent, it is labeled as something very bad," said George Smith of virus information site Vmyths.

Security experts also agreed that the Berman bill could serve as encouragement to a whole new class of criminals. Under what security consultant and author Richard Forno calls the "Hollywood Hacking law," computer criminals could probably make the case that any malicious programs they wrote and released were actually intended to scour the Net to enforce copyrights. "What a wonderful cover-your-ares [sic] law this will be for script kiddies and other cyber-criminals," Forno said.

Forno also wondered whether network administrators and computer owners would eventually be penalized for running secure systems. "Will having a firewall, or implementing strong system security practices or being a good system administrator, become illegal and prosecuted as circumventing copyright controls under the existing Digital Millennium Copyright Act? If Hollywood can't easily inspect your system in their quest for copyright enforcement and world control, are you now a criminal suspect?"

## Meteors Rain Again

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### scinews

NEWS STAFF REPORT

Fresh from the exhilarating experience of the Perseid Meteor shower in August, we can now look forward to another celestial light show in November. Few showers will ever match the breathtaking display of 2001 but experts predict that this year's Leonids will come close.

Expected to peak around Nov. 19, astronomers say that this year's shower could generate more than 40 shooting stars every minute. Europe will get the best display but North America will definitely not be left out, even with the dimming effect of the full moon on fainter streaks.

While the Perseid shower is a result of the Earth passing through the debris left by comet, Swift-Tuttle, the Leonids arise from Earth passing through the matter left by comet, Tempel-Tuttle. This comet orbits the sun every 33.2 years and leaves behind a new trail of debris with each pass. The shooting stars are caused by the tiny bits of material, no bigger than a grain of sand, vaporizing as they enter the Earth's atmosphere. The trick to predicting the showers involves calculating which streams of

material the Earth will pass through and how dense these fields are. They do tend to spread out over decades and centuries as they float through space.

This year's prediction involves the Earth passing through two major debris streams. The first could generate more than 3000 shooting stars per hour, just before dawn, over Europe and Africa on Tuesday, Nov. 19. The second, also near dawn, is expected to produce around 2600 meteorites per hour, over eastern North America. In the West the peak will occur shortly after midnight and in the Midwest, around 2-3 a.m.

For serious meteorite watching, it's best to start two or three days before peak in order to practice one's spotting skills. This year will be even more of a challenge as the moon will be just approaching its full phase, setting in the West, right before sunrise, just when peak activity is expected over North America. For those in humid climes, things will be even trickier as the moist air will scatter the light of the moon even more. This can be alleviated slightly by using a tree or the side of a house to block the moonlight.

The most avid of meteorite watchers may even decide to venture

into the mountains, which provide not only elevation to escape humid conditions and common light pollution but, if the moon becomes a problem, there is also deep canyon shadows that would provide excellent viewing. There are even organized expeditions for the most serious of meteorite gazers.

One such expedition, part of Eclipse Edge Expeditions, is heading into the mountains of North Carolina, where they plan to use the peaks to block scattered moonlight. One of the leaders of the expedition, Tom Van Flandern, a meteor forecaster, explained that their chosen viewing site in the Appalachians has been shown to be twice as productive for sightings during a full moon when compared to other sites. Amateurs are invited to join the journey.

For anyone even mildly interested in Astronomy and/or meteorite showers, this year's display is a must as the Leonids are coming to the end of a cycle which began in 1999 and won't return until 2033.

Watch out for falling rocks.

nubianinbox@hotmail.com

**Movin' On Up.**  
**Deluxe Apartment. Sky.**

## Government Seeks Civilian Snitches

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### digitalbeat

NEWS STAFF REPORT

#### Monitoring your rights online.

The Bush Administration, through the Department of Justice, aims to recruit millions of United States citizens as domestic informants in a program which is alarming civil liberties groups.

As with the earlier Patriot Act, the Terrorism Information and Prevention System is being pursued as part of the so-called war against terrorism. Highlighting the scope of the surveillance network, TIPS volunteers are being recruited primarily from among those whose work provides access to homes, businesses or transport systems. Letter carriers, utility employees, truck drivers and train conductors are among those named as targeted recruits.

TIPS means the U.S. will have a higher percentage of citizen informants than the former East Germany through the infamous Stasi secret police. The program would use a minimum of 4 per cent of Americans to report "suspicious activity".

Civil liberties groups have already warned that, along with the passage earlier this year of the Patriot Act, there is potential for abusive,

large-scale investigations of U.S. citizens. The Administration says the U.S. is at war, and therefore must sacrifice some rights. But, it has been pointed out, the U.S. is not actually at war. There has been no declaration of war from Congress.

There is no obvious means to stop someone from sending along unreliable or false information in order to get someone in trouble. Because the program is not bound by the Freedom of Information Act, the person being reported has no way of knowing what's in his or her file or that there even is a file.

A pilot program, described on the government Web site <<http://www.citizenecorps.gov>>, is scheduled to start in August in 10 cities, with 1 million informants participating in the first stage.

Historically, informant systems have been the tools of non-democratic states. According to a 1992 report by Harvard University's Project on Justice, the accuracy of informant reports is problematic, with some informants having embellished the truth, and others suspected of having fabricated their reports.

Present Justice Department procedures mean that informant reports will enter databases for future reference and/or action. The information

will then be broadly available within the department, related agencies and local police forces. The targeted individual will remain unaware of the existence of the report and of its contents.

The Patriot Act already provides for a person's home to be searched without that person being informed that a search was ever performed, or of any surveillance devices that were implanted.

At state and local levels the TIPS program will be coordinated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which was given sweeping new powers, including internment, as part of the Reagan Administration's national security initiatives. Many key figures of the Reagan era are part of the Bush Administration.

Another set of new powers could be given to the military. Homeland Security head Tom Ridge suggested that it would be useful to use the military, to add to the resources he can access in the FBI and other law enforcement agencies. President Bush has also requested a review of the Posse Comitatus rule, which forbids use of military forces for civilian arrests. Though Ridge says that these forces "might not be used," it'd be a good idea to have that power if needed.



## P. Diddy Making The Band

Ivory Harris

staff writer

I thought I told you that he won't stop! P. Diddy is on the move again. This time he will be working with MTV for the second season of the reality series "Making the Band II," which went into production in July. "Making the Band" gives viewers a glimpse of the lives of eight people who have the dream of making it as an artist in the music industry. Last season it brought together five guys to form the platinum-selling group O-Town. Instead of the boy-band/pop approach taken the first time around,



Puffy's gonna be N'Sync?  
courtesy • hiponline.com

"Making the Band II" will chronicle the career of a hip-hop/R&B group, offering viewers a behind-the-scenes glimpse as the group goes from auditions to being a bona fide band.

When asked the details of this season, P. Diddy responded in a written statement, "This show will be a wild ride. No tricks or gimmicks, just P. Diddy reality. I have been creating

stars since I was 19, and this show will give insight into what it takes to be at the top. I'm excited to be working with MTV and doing what I love to do, create and nurture new talent."

The quest for Diddy's new talent began on July 22 in Detroit, Mich. Auditions were held in eight

different cities. The auditions will determine the 20 people who'll travel to N.Y. to be evaluated by P. Diddy on the merits of their songwriting, dancing and performance skills. Applicants must be at least 18 years old.

The selected 20 will be trimmed to eight finalists, who'll live together in a house while their lives will be filmed throughout the

entire ordeal. Diddy and select members of his Bad Boy Entertainment crew will then take the winners under their wing and provide assistance and advice on writing and recording an album, selecting a single, shooting a video and performing live. Be on the lookout for "Making the Band II," which will premiere on October 12, 2002.

## Montgomery Establishes New 100-Meter World Record

Kwagro Ofori

staff writer

It was a windy afternoon on September 14, and almost too windy. The wind was blowing a strong 2 m/s in the face of USA sprinter Tim Montgomery as he set his feet on the IAAF Grand Prix Track in Paris, France. As Montgomery placed his feet on the blocks, he knew it was going to be a special day. His shoes were tied tight, he was feeling loose, and he was in the fifth lane of the track where his good friend Marion Jones had just finished winning her 16th straight victory in the 100-meter dash. The gun went off and the racers started to run for their place in history. Tim Montgomery ran his hardest and it paid off, for off in the stands Maurice Greene watched in astonishment as his 9.79 second 100-meter world record was broken! Montgomery has now become the fastest human being on earth running 100 meters in 9.78 seconds! This surprised everybody in the arena, including Montgomery, because his average for the year was 9.91 seconds and his previous best was 9.84 seconds. Montgomery stated, "At 30 meters, I felt like no one was beside me, so I said, 'I'm going to dig in a bit harder.' And

I just dug down, and kept running, and kept running, and kept running, to put as much distance on Dwain Chambers as possible. And the world record came."

Tim Montgomery has many accolades under his belt, and is no stranger to the spotlight. He won the bronze medal in the 100-meter dash in the World Championships of 1997, and gold medals in the 400-meter relays in both Edmonton and Sydney. What is most interesting about Montgomery is that he only chose track as a sport because his football dreams were ended with a broken arm.

Though Montgomery holds the world record, Maurice Greene is determined to get his title back. "I know I can run faster," Greene said. "It's going to be a lot of fun next year." Could this be the beginning of a rivalry? We will have to see in their next match-up in the World Cup held in Madrid, Spain. "World records were made to be broken," Montgomery said. "I'm sure they'll be broken over and over and over again, except 19.32," he said, referring to Michael Johnson's 200-meter world record set at Atlanta in 1996.

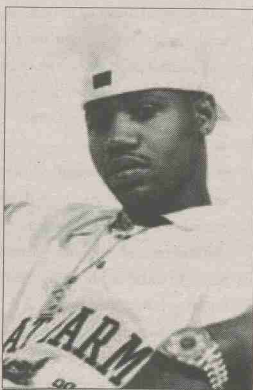
## Juvenile Jailed

Ivory Harris

staff writer

Juvenile turned himself in to New Orleans authorities on Tuesday for charges of assaulting and robbing a barber. Juvenile, whose real name is Terius Gray, was booked on simple battery and simple robbery charges and was released on bond. New Orleans police believe Gray got into an altercation with barber Bert Williams in May after accusing Williams of making and selling a bootleg recording of his music. Gray allegedly punched Williams and knocked him to the ground while he and two other associates, robbed him of \$200. No court date has been set.

Juvenile is known for making club hits like "Back That Thang Up"



Delinquent  
courtesy • hiponline.com

and "Project Chick" and is a former member of the Cash Money Millionaires.

## Special Collectibles

"Great Gifts and Collectibles"



905 West Main St.  
Durham NC 27710  
919.956.5219

www.specialcollections.com

Plus Many Collectibles For Sororities



## FBI Gets a Copy of Your eMail

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### digitalbeat

NEWS STAFF REPORT

The FBI has revealed an Internet wiretapping system called Carnivore which can scan millions of e-mails per second. The Bureau says it has been using the device since early last year. The system is essentially a PC with special software that gets its name from its ability to quickly get to the "meat" of enormous quantities of data. The system has only been used in about 100 cases since its inception the FBI says.

Privacy advocates, ISPs and Congressmen have expressed concern at the system which needs to be plugged directly into an ISP's network. This would give the FBI the ability to examine all traffic on the network, not just traffic relating to their target suspect.

This has got the ISPs worried. The system is often installed inside a locked cage on the ISP's premises and they can't monitor what is happening. Access is only allowed to FBI agents who periodically come to examine what information the system has gathered. Some ISPs have challenged the installation of the system in court only to lose the case and have the judges' rulings remain sealed because of the secretive nature of the investigations.

Mark Rasch, a former federal computer crimes prosecutor, said the nature of the surveillance by Carnivore raises important privacy questions, since it analyzes part of every snippet of data traffic that flows

past. "It's the electronic equivalent of listening to everybody's phone calls to see if it's the phone call you should be monitoring," he said. "You develop a tremendous amount of information."

Congressman Bob Barr, who sits on a House judiciary subcommittee for constitutional affairs, said, "once the software is applied to the ISP, there's no check on the system. If there's one word I would use to describe this, it would be 'frightening.'"

Barry Steinhardt, associate director for the ACLU, said "The FBI takes the position of, 'Trust us, we're the government. Open your entire network to us'. There's no way for an ISP to know what they're doing."

Marcus Thomas, chief of the FBI's Cyber Technology Section said Carnivore is the FBI's attempt to keep in line with technology and Internet communications and they only use it when they have a valid court order. He said it would be unconstitutional for them to gather information about anyone other than a person they have a warrant for. But critics claim that because the system monitors everyone's traffic, it is still open to abuse and the FBI has not always been fully trustworthy in the past.

The Attorney General has also launched a review into Carnivore. "I'm taking a look at it now to make sure that we balance the rights of all Americans with the technology of today," she said. "If additional regulations are needed, we will pursue those."

## the Nubian Message

Sentinel of NC State's African American Community Since 1992.

Keon Pettitway  
Robert White

Editor in Chief  
Managing Editor

Telvis Lewis  
Chasda D. Clendinen  
Tiffany Wilder  
Latoya Eaves  
Kaymia Sharpe  
Angelena Thomas  
Jennifer Chamberlain  
Cassandra Battle  
Crystal Stallings  
Jerry L. Blackmon II  
Menes Kedar

Business Manager  
Chief Photographer  
Copydesk Chief  
Culture and Arts Editor  
Entertainment Editor  
Health and Beauty Editor  
News Editor  
Office Manager  
Opinion Editor  
Production Manager  
Webmaster

372 Witherspoon Student Ctr. • Box 7138 • NCSU • Raleigh, NC 27695-3718

Editorial • Advertising  
919.515.1468

Website  
www.nubianmessage.com

Inquiries: nubianinbox@hotmail.com

Feedback: nubianinbox@hotmail.com

Only with the permission of our elders do we proudly produce each edition of The Nubian Message.

Dr. Yosef ben-Yochanan • Dr. John Henrik Clark • Dr. Leonard Jeffries • The Black Panther Party • Mumia A. Jamal • Geronimo Pratt • Tony Williamson • Dr. Lawrence Clark • Dr. Augustus Melver Witherspoon • Dr. Wandura P. Hill • Mr. Kyran Anderson • Dr. Lathan Turner • Dr. M. Iyailo Moses • Dokta Toni Thorpe and all those who walk by our side as we continue to make our journey to true consciousness.

## Expressions

*I've been shed*

*I've been shed*

*That uncomfortable skin*

*You itch*

*And scratch*

*And ache to lose*

*I am still on you in places*

*The ones you don't know I touched*

*But she will take care of that*

*And I am made stronger*

*I become whole in your loss*

*And you*

*You itch*

*You scratch*

*You ache*

*And I am unconcerned.*

Jennifer Strayhorn

*Do you Suppose*

*Do you suppose that for a moment*

*I could wander in your mind?*

*Do you object for all the things*

*You think that maybe I might find?*

*Or maybe you should take the time*

*To let you wander into mine*

*Do you suppose that for a moment*

*I could venture in your heart?*

*Do you reject for all the feeling*

*You think that maybe I might start?*

*Or maybe I should take the time*

*To let you venture into mine.*

Jennifer Strayhorn

### Young and Black

from page 8

self to the world could become a barrier to success. This seems to be a common experience amongst black males, and I attribute it only to apathy, where most people don't take the time to try to understand or share each other's culture.

Though discrimination is not as blatant as it was 40 to 50 years ago, is has merely transformed into a subtler, yet equally effective, form and is now deeply embedded in the context of hiring and jobs. There, it serves to frustrate minority youth that aspire to more than a minimum wage job at McDonald's, and turn to what they think is an easier route; risky and life-threatening endeavors. Some people suggest that wearing a shirt and tie can give you a real head start

in life. But into what mold of existence are we trying to embellish? Why can we not, as African-Americans, dress according to our own uniqueness, throughout everyday life, without having to worry about preconceived notions being slashed upon us before a word is spoken?

For black females, the prevalence of teen pregnancies in our community versus the white community strikes a peculiar note. The lack of preventative measures, lower incomes, and the significantly fewer number of clinics throughout our neighborhoods are to blame. Also, if your parents happened to be a case of teen pregnancy, this factor automatically places you in the at-risk category, and the vicious cycle remains imbedded amongst our people.

A lack of positive black role models, a lack of the emphasis on self-love, self-knowledge, self-awareness and spiritual development, places several African-American youth into the category of underprivileged minorities. Why must we adapt to the majority's way of life before they even attempt to inquire about ours? When will we be able to hold a conversation with a person that is of European descent and not have to wonder, "What did they mean by that?" As these, and several other questions go unanswered our youth are working twice as hard to remain afloat, and become self-educated, self-prosperous, young proprietors in a society not exactly designed with our best interests in mind.

### What's That?

from page 8

accommodation but without assimilation.

So why must we constantly hear others inside and outside of our race suddenly declare what's being or acting black? If acting black is being proud in my right to receive a higher education and to become more than the expectations already set for me before I was conceived, then so be it. We all know the statistics, but what are you doing to prove them wrong? Do we constantly take advantage of every opportunity even when it scares

us to take the next step? A whole world benefits from what I shall become. If being black is being part of a diverse and culturally grounded heritage, so be it. If acting black is knowing how to be bi-cultural, so be it. I can camouflage my way through more situations and environments than any natural animal. If being black is having an internal rhythm so consistent and resonant that I can find harmony with nature and find rhythm in the flow of the wind, so be it.

Lastly if being black means that I put the needs of my brothers and

sisters before I think of saving the whole world and nation, so be it. We are now accustomed to the good old symposium adage, "Because we are, I am, and because I am, we are." We must be able and held responsible to the actions of each other instead of living selfishly for our own gains. Continue to lift as you climb and reach back to give advice and wisdom. Yes children, we have been blessed more than we have been cursed. But I didn't choose to be black, being black chose me. So be it...



# 7 Health & Beauty

## What Dreams Portend

Melodee Wallace  
staff writer

We all dream; whether we remember our dreams or not is a different matter. We sleep approximately one-third of our lives and spend 15 to 25 percent of that time dreaming. Dreaming can occur at any stage of sleep, but the most expressive and vivid dreams occur during REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, also known as Stage-four sleep. Over time, it has come to our recognition that dreaming is a necessity for healthy psychological functioning. When we do not dream, we become anxious, irritable and have difficulty concentrating. If we do not dream or experience REM sleep for an extended amount of time, we can have symptoms such as intense hunger, feelings of emptiness, depression, and even hallucinate.

Two major philosophers discuss dreaming: Carl Jung and Sigmund Freud. Freud believes that dreams represent suppressed impulses and desires most commonly known as "wish fulfillment." Jung believes that dreams compensate for our limited

views of our egos when we are awake. Dreams are our own personal creation and should not be feared, but carefully explored. Dreams are primarily a function of our right side of the brain and allow for us to get in touch with our creative and emotional side that is often neglected in society.

By paying more attention to our dreams and examining them, we can obtain clues about ourselves and, at times, even discover solutions to our problems. However, it is better to interpret a series of dreams instead of just one, or focus on a recurring theme in order to get the proper meaning. Various people dream differently. Some dream in color and others only in black and white. Still others can only perceive certain colors. People who are blind do not dream with visual images, but most often focus on sounds, scents, and sensations. When interpreting dreams, it is important to remember that no dream is ever fully understood. Since we all dream in a variety of ways, interpretation can be difficult at times.

If you are having problems

remembering your dreams there are several things you can do. Before you go to sleep, you can consciously think about what you would like to dream about. One thing that helps as well, is to let your dreams run to completion. Do not allow yourself to wake up and follow through on your actions even if it is killing someone or doing something bad. Another option is to keep a dream journal. When keeping a journal, it is important to write down your dreams within 10 minutes of waking, since most dreams are forgotten at this point. Also, in your journal pay close attention to feelings, colors, the setting, similarities to real life experiences and/or other dreams, symbols and key phrases. The easiest way to remember your dream is simply by telling someone.

Your dreams say a lot about you, but what are they saying? The following is a short list of common symbols in dreams. These definitions do not necessarily apply to you, but can be helpful in allowing you to find your own meaning of your dreams.



**SHADOWS:** a sense of negativity; signs of immaturity



**ALCOHOL and DRUGS:** a need to quit a habit; signs of addiction to an object



**BLACK:** the unknown; abandonment



**RINGS:** friendship, marriage



**SNAKES:** sexuality; instinctual energy



**RED:** danger; no; something important



**EXCESSIVE MOURNING:** clinging to something that is unrealistic



**WEATHER:** what you are going through in life



**SCREAMS:** death; pain



**TRANSPORTATION:** self esteem; the way you go through life



**WATER:** emotions, sexuality



**FLYING:** approaches to success



**HOUSE:** yourself; unknown rooms - hidden or unexplored areas in your life; the kitchen - transformation of character; bathroom - elimination or difficulty in letting go



**TIME of DAY:** time of one's life or one's state of being; dusk - withdrawal or retiring; dawn - youth, awakening, optimism



**RACE(ethnicity):** feelings of alienation

## Eyedrops May Prevent Glaucoma

NEWS STAFF REPORT

### staffreport

NEWS STAFF REPORT

A new study from the National Eye Institute (NEI) shows for the first time that the same prescription eye drops now used to treat glaucoma can help delay the onset or possibly prevent glaucoma in people diagnosed with elevated eye pressure. Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in the U.S., with a high incidence among African Americans.

The five-year study divided 1,636 people with elevated eye pressure into two groups: half who received glaucoma medication and half who did not. Researchers found that the development of open-angle glaucoma was reduced by more than 50 percent in patients treated with pressure-lowering medication compared to those not treated. The study also found that those in the treated group had their eye pressure reduced by about 20 percent.

It is estimated that between three and six million people in the U.S. have elevated eye pressure and are at increased risk for developing primary open-angle glaucoma — the most common form of disease.

Elevated eye pressure occurs when fluid in the eye does not drain properly. The resulting elevated pressure can damage the optic nerve and prompt a diagnosis of glaucoma. Over time this damage can result in a loss of peripheral vision. Vision loss caused by glaucoma cannot be regained. If left untreated, blindness can result. Eye doctors seek to identify patients with elevated pressure early to determine whether the treatment with glaucoma medication is appropriate.

Glaucoma generally has no symptoms, but early detection can usually control the disease and prevent serious vision loss.

According to the Glaucoma Research Foundation, Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness among African Americans. The NEI recommends that people over the age of 60 and African Americans over the age of 40 get comprehensive eye exams. For more information about the NEI study, visit: [nei.nih.gov/glaucomayedrops](http://nei.nih.gov/glaucomayedrops). Information about other eye diseases can be found at [www.myhealtheyes.com](http://www.myhealtheyes.com).

Keon Pettway contributed to this report.  
[nubianinabox@hotmail.com](mailto:nubianinabox@hotmail.com)

## Midnight Snacking Could Be Warning Sign

Melodee Wallace  
staff writer

Within the last few years, smoking and its effects have gained national attention. The government has made several attempts to reduce tobacco advertisement and availability of tobacco products to minors. For some time, the tobacco industry targeted specific racial groups, in particular, African Americans. This is a crucial issue because African American suffer disproportionately from chronic and preventable disease compared to white Americans. Of the three leading causes of death in African Americans—heart disease, cancer, and stroke-smoking and other tobacco products are major contributors to these illnesses. Data collected by the Center for Disease further outline tobacco's dangers:

• In 1995, about 5.7 million African American adults smoked

cigarettes, accounting for approximately 12% of the 47 million adult smokers in the United States.

• Cigarette smoking is more common among African American males than white males. Although African American males smoke fewer cigarettes than their white counterparts, they smoke brands with higher nicotine and tar levels.

Many African Americans want to stop smoking, yet the percentage of those who attempt and fail is twice as high as their white counterparts.

Don't fall victim to tobacco and its life long effects on the body. If you have a problem with tobacco and want to stop, make a decision to "Kick It In The Butt." There is assistance afforded on campus. Contact Chris Austin with Health Promotions located at the Student Health Center for ideas on quitting, staying a non-smoker, or to receive counseling.



8

# Opinion

## Oh, To Be A Woman

Miranda Houston  
staff writer

According to tradition a girl reaches womanhood by a certain age. In today's society a girl is a woman by age 18. The age of womanhood has changed over the course of time. In times past, a young girl reached womanhood at the onset of her menstruation. Soon after, she married, had children and governed or managed a home of her own. Men look at a girl and say she is a woman by the development of her body. The transition from being a girl to a woman involves physical, mental, emotional and spiritual changes, and sometimes hardships.

The physical side deals with the hormonal and outward manifestations of changes in the body. These changes prepare the girl for the physical aspects of procreation and continuation of the human race. The mental side examines how a girl handles the changes within her body and the expectations of society caused by these changes. It also looks at her ability to learn and process information that will either help or hinder her in her development. The emotional side focuses on her feelings concerning self-image, self and societal expectations, and acceptance or denial of societal norms. The spiritual side delves into the development of her belief system and the search for God and herself and the defining of her goals and aspirations according

to her spiritual understanding.

Now that we have looked at the different aspects that define a woman, let us look at the two more important aspects of womanhood. The two main aspects of womanhood are the spiritual and mental. It is not that the others are unimportant, but that the spiritual can and does regulate the physical and emotional. The mental shapes how women carry themselves physically and handle stressful situations. Being a woman is more than big breasts and shapely hips but it is a state of mind. A woman is defined by her relationship with God and understanding of herself. She should be able to provide for herself financially, know who she is and be able to respect herself, taking care of her body that she may live a long and fruitful life. Having a positive self-image and loving what God made you to be whether or not it is acceptable to others, and having compassion for all people - especially those who don't believe as you do - is the foundation for a passionate and strong black woman.

So being a woman is more than societal expectations, bodily developments, and having the right fashion sense. It is having the knowledge of what makes a woman and using that knowledge to become a viable and reliable participant within society without being defined by society.

## Black? What's That?

Crystal Stallings  
opinion editor

To be black means simply a distinct culture, a people, a nation with a heritage so rich and ever changing, a proud legacy, and a place in the kingdom of life. Being black is to see through the eyes of a black person from our perspective. Our aura, our cadence, our souls, our flair for life, our sheer presence still mystifies this old, old world. Yes, that's who I am along with millions of other people. But that is only who I am second.

First of all, I am a member of the human race. I'm more than capable of possessing love and giving love, being creative, innovative, and determined to survive. My innate and inherent qualities and character-

istics are simply enhanced and finely tuned like a well-oiled machine by my race, my color, my identity, and my mindset. Perhaps you didn't know being black is a mindset. Being black is being comfortable in unusual situations. We all know the unique feeling of representing the entire race as being the only one of color in a class of the majority. Being black is securing a deep grasp of the past in order to dictate the present and future paths of another generation. Our history has always provided a message to supercede the mental behaviors that we were expected to do by either subjection or direction. Time and time again our examples and elders have drilled into our very spirits that our survival is based on

*What's That*

page 6



## Who You Callin' A Ho? Women and the Hip-Hop Industry 2

Keymia Sharpe  
entertainment editor

To continue on with last week's article, what type of image is the music industry portraying to our generations? In Sisqo's "Thong Song," which was a major hit in the summer of 2000, a large number of half-naked women are lined up on a beach. In Nelly's "Country Grammar," they are all positioned next to expensive cars as they jiggle and gyrate. If their hair isn't naturally straight, they wear a wig. Sometimes you can't even see their faces. As stated in last week's portion, few of them ever become famous and even fewer are recognized by name. And worst of all, they have no voice, unless you count the sexual messages they communicate with their bodies.

It's that woman's willingness to do these things in the first place that makes these types of videos possible. Ask yourself: why do they do it? Alan Halloway, a junior, states, "They're just trying to make money." But it can't possibly be for the money, because they're paid next to nothing. Maybe it gives some black women some sense of pride to accentuate their beauty (backsides) and enjoy

the response. Many of the music videos particularly enable negative images of black females. Why? Because hip hop isn't a "black thing" anymore. It's mainstream. All eyes and ears are on black culture. When you hear a car thumping loud rap music and look to see who it is, there is little surprise nowadays when it's an Abercrombie & Fitch-wearing white boy.

To sum it all up, the whole portrayal of women in the hip-hop industry shouldn't be because hip-hop isn't just a black thing anymore. It's mainstream, which means that all eyes are on the black culture. For example, walk down Hillsborough St. Half of the time if you hear a car thumping loud rap music, it's a Hollister or Abercrombie & Fitch-wearing white boy. So, speaking for all of us females out there that actually want to elevate the true beauty that we possess, please portray us in a more positive light! I would love to see videos where there is an equal representation of males and females. There's no balance in today's music videos. Whatever happened to falling in love? Why is it that nowadays, it's about how many ho's they have in different area codes and loving em and leaving em alone?

## Young and Black

Portia Overton  
staff writer

Every minute of the school day, an African American youth gives up on education. Every minute and a half a black baby is born into poverty. Every three minutes a black baby is born to a teen mother. Every 10 minutes a black child is arrested for a violent crime. Every four hours a black youth is murdered. And every 18 hours, a black youngster dies from AIDS (from "Necessity" Special Policy Issue 1994, Summer 1994, 2:1, and "The Time for Action is Now!" p. 4). A youthful community and a people that live amidst these

sorts of harsh realities tend to force us into a disposition intended for self-destruction.

The African American community, then, in spite of the recent progressions in society, sees itself as one of the most vulnerable groups in American society. Such environmental factors foster a new generation led to believe that they actually are vulnerable and act within the invisible constraints dictated by the previous one. This is why gangs, guns, drugs, unemployment, pregnancy, incarceration, and poor education are constantly weakening black youth.

Time and time again, inaccurate

images of the assumed violent, aggressive, and uneducated nature of black youth are perpetuated and sometimes ridiculed by the media leading both the white community as well as our own into believing that we should act a certain way. "I can personally see the difference in how people in department stores, for example, react to me-how they smile and look comfortable with me when I'm dressed like today," says senior Steven Johnson, "and how they try to avoid me when I'm in baggy jeans and a cap." How you present your-

*Young and Black*

page 6