

# the Nubian Message

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

October 9, 2003 2

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Vol. X Edition 4

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War, Iraq. Been there, done that.

### Entertainment

No one should be surprised that Black Finesse is strutting its stuff, but what stuff are they strutting?

### Culture&Arts

Dr. Clark waxed philosophique about Ethiopia the other night. You missed it, so find out what he had to say.

## WGO

### What's Goin' On?

#### Kappa Business

Kappa Alpha Psi's annual Kappa Business Week runs from Oct. 5-11. Keep you mind on your money.

#### Dollars in Check

The Society of African-American Corporate Leaders will have a Banking Panel Oct. 8 at 4 p.m. in room 2406 Nelson. All students are welcome.

#### What it Takes at State

CHASS-MAS is hosting its hot topics forum "What it takes to be successful at State: Tips for the class of 2006" Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. in the Caldwell Lounge. The forum is designed for CHASS Freshmen, but everyone is welcome

#### I walk, therefore I am?

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is sponsoring a career fair open to all students interested in agriculture and life sciences-related careers on Oct. 30

#### Fall Break

Enjoy your break from the rigors of the academic world Oct. 14-Oct. 15 ... as if you needed a reminder.

## Grambling University — Louisiana HBCU — Retains Accreditation; Students Will Not Lose Financial Aid

Rhonda Bridges  
Jennifer Chamberlain

staff writers

Grambling University, a historically black university (HBCU) in Louisiana, recently passed an audit that allowed the institution to retain its accreditation.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools placed the school on probation for failure to "provide financial statements," dating back to 1997. If the school was unable to get its financial matters in order by Sept. 25, they would have lost their accreditation. Had the school had lost its accreditation, 85 percent of its students would have

lost their financial aid. Federal financial assistance requires a school to be accredited. Although an official decision won't be reached until December, university officials are now confident they will be able to maintain accreditation. Morris Brown University is now facing similar financial problems.

#### History of Grambling

In 1896, an organization of 1500 black farmers formed the North Louisiana Colored Agricultural Relief Association. With the future of their children in mind, the association purchased 23 acres of land from John Monk to establish the beginning of the Colored Industrial and Agricultural School, now known as Grambling State University. In 1901, under the leadership of

the university's first president, Charles P. Adams, GSU was known as the Colored Industrial and Agricultural School. However, in 1905, due to inability of the association and Adams to work together with regard to the purpose and funding of the university, Adams changed the college's location and name. The school thereby became North Louisiana and Agricultural and Industrial School. In 1918 another change occurred, and Lincoln Parish Training School became the school's identity until the school board decided it could no longer provide funding. Its name then became the Louisiana Negro Normal and Industrial Institute. Finally, in 1974, Grambling State University emerged as it exists today.

## Society of African American Culture

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Turqueya Williams  
staff writer

There are many organizations for African Americans on campus, but only one has the distinction of being the first. SAAC is the oldest African American organization at NC State. It was established in fall of 1968 to cultivate growth and heighten African American identity through cultural and political teachings.

"SAAC has programs in light of panels, lectures, town hall meetings, cultural events and a plethora of others in order to recognize and publicize current events in the African American community to NC State and the general public," said Shonda Tabb, president of SAAC. "Our purpose as an organization is to uplift African American pride through awareness of our past and present history."

SAAC shares its responsibility for African American concerns with the Office of Diversity and African American Student Affairs. They previously worked very closely with Dr. Robert Nacoste, former Vice Provost of Diversity and African American Affairs.

"Dr. Nacoste created dialogue between students, faculty and staff about the various issues facing the African American community," stated Tabb. "[SAAC] served as a student voice, advocating the concerns of the students to Dr. Nacoste's office. He in return communicated with

SAAC as well, sharing comments and ideas for African American improvement when possible."

The Vice Provost position has not yet been filled, but SAAC is still holding steadfast to its beliefs and goals of being the African American voice especially since it has been here longer



Pres. Shonda Tabb  
staff photo

than even the Office of Diversity and African American Affairs.

"My role as president is to see the mission of SAAC implemented," stated Tabb. "It is not one of dictatorship, but shared responsibility. The SAAC executive board, along with myself realize the importance of working together, and this is what we strive to do daily in our community."

All African American students as NC State are automatically represent-

SAAC

## Students Shack-up For Peace On Brickyard

Najja Baptist  
staff writer

Students from various campus organizations participated in NC State's annual Shack-A-Thon from Sept. 29 to Oct. 4. The event is sponsored by NC State's Habitat for Humanity chapter, which collects donations to help disadvantaged families construct adequate housing.

Participating students fasted and lived in self-built shacks for a week, outside of

D.H. Hill Library. Students endured the grueling weather conditions in actual shacks made from whatever materials they could find. However, each shack had a signature style to represent the group who built it. The students equipped themselves with only the bare essentials to aid them in the weeklong odyssey. Shackers entertained themselves in very modest ways, using radios, cards, or just about anything that could help them to pass the time.

Adding to the Shack-A-Thon's longstanding purpose of collecting donations and bringing awareness to Habitat for Humanity's mission, this year there was another important issue on the shackers' minds - the war on Iraq. Throughout the week, students protested the proposed war, as well as recent cuts to social programs and services in the United States.

Students from Amnesty International, Campus Greens, Student Peace Action Network, and other student organizations agreed on the severity of an invasion on Iraq. They strongly oppose the Bush administration's push for the use of military force in Iraq. Fasting students distributed "Pledge of Resistance"

The only way there will be positive change is when people come together and make a stand.

Aaron Jacobson, Amnesty International

forms, promising to participate in acts of nonviolent civil disobedience if the U.S. invades Iraq.

"The only way there will be positive change is when people come together and make a stand," said Aaron Jacobson, a representative for Amnesty International. Future plans to continue to put pressure on government officials are yet to come. The next focus will be to lobby senators and representatives to vote no to the resolution the Bush administration presented to congress last week. As a long-term goal, the groups plan to develop a grass root movement.

The Shack-A-Thon came together to support one cause and ended up joining people for a variety of issues in the world. As music played throughout the brickyard, one phrase lingered in everyone's spirits: Marvin Gaye's, "War is not the answer ... what's going on?"



## Two Drown In Alleged Sorority Ritual

Kia Lockman  
staff writer

Los Angeles, Ca. — Two Cal State students recently drowned after an alleged Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority trust ritual. A wrongful death lawsuit filed by relatives of one of the victim's families states that the girls were tied up while wearing sweatpants and a blindfold, taken to Dockweiler State Beach and led into the water. Some say the act is supposed to be a ritual among the black fraternities and sororities on the west coast, to build trust between old members and new pledges. The Los Angeles police stated that at the time of death, waves along the shore were cresting at about 10 feet. When the water pulled the two victims down, the rest of the group on the beach tried in vain to rescue them and alerted authorities.

The Los Angeles police say the drowning of the two girls was an

accident. However, hazing has not been ruled out. There was no evidence of blindfolds or rope as the lawsuit says, but police have acknowledged that some sorority-related activity was going on. They also say the drownings occurred after pledging rituals were over.

Lawyers for the families of the two girls strongly disagree with police and are accusing the sorority of enforcing a 'code of silence.' The Cal State University chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha is an unofficial and is not recognized by the sorority's national headquarters. National headquarters have not made statements about the deaths of the two girls but they have agreed to cooperate with authorities in Los Angeles to resolve the case as quickly as possible.

The families of the two victims are planning on establishing an anti-hazing organization in remembrance of their loved ones.

## Africa News Briefs

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE CONTINENT

### • War Looms in Ivory Coast

West African mediators are facing diplomatic restraint, after failing to get the Ivory Coast government to sign a cease-fire. The mediators planned for the treaty to be signed on Oct. 4 after securing an agreement which would satisfy needs on both sides. Reports said the team was planning to meet Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo later on in terms of how to proceed.

The goal of the West African mediation delegation is to find a solution that will stop the peace efforts from unraveling in the Ivory Coast, and at the same time aid the crisis along the border of Ghana. So it is now up to the Ivorian government to decide whether or not it is prepared to enforce a cease-fire. Gbagbo's administration has been suggesting an all-out war against the dissident troops. The West African mediators are pushing for further peace efforts and await final decisions.

### • Rwanda to Indict France

The Rwandan government is planning to indict French military officials for their alleged involvement in a 1994 genocide that claimed the lives of 800,000 people. A source in the Rwandan government said the indictments would be issued "very soon." Rwanda alleges that France shielded and provided an escape route for genocide perpetrators through Operation Turquoise.

Another source indicated that Rwanda plans to hold a public debate titled 'France in the 1994 Genocide' on national television. However, somehow efforts to establish the date of the program failed.

When contacted, Rwanda's Prosecutor-General Gerald Gahima declined to give any details, but did not deny that his office is conducting investigations.

### • 1.1 Million Orphaned Kenyan Children Infected with AIDS/HIV

Kenya now has the third highest population of people with the HIV virus and full-blown AIDS with 1.1 million orphan children affected. Sam Onger, Public Health Minister said the number could triple if preventive measures aren't taken.

"This could easily wipe out our population. Given a five-year period, the death rate will be horrendous. It is definitely not good news because trends indicate that the

infection rate is not about to subside," Onger warned.

The Nairobi Government, in conjunction with the Kenya Medical Research Institute, is in the process of identifying food supplements to be used in the nutritional fight against the disease. They will also be setting up 256 Voluntary Counseling Centers country-wide to enable Kenyans to undergo voluntary counseling and testing. The project is being funded by the World Bank.

### SAAC

from page 1

ed by SAAC, and thus should get involved. SAAC meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the African American Cultural Center. The organization's calendar is made during their meetings. SAAC is holding a program on International Warfare this Thursday, Oct. 10. For more information, contact President Shonda Tabb, at f8thnhim@hotmail.com.



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## the Nubian Message

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

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## U.S. News Briefs

ITEMS THAT MIGHT NOT MAKE THE LOCAL NEWS

### • Rapper Snoop Dogg Cut by Muppets

The Jim Henson Company confirmed this week that Snoop Dogg, rapper, has been cut from the upcoming film, "A Very Merry Muppet Christmas Movie." Snoop was set to have a scene with Kermit the Frog in the movie. Although producers won't admit they cut Snoop's part because of controversy and threats to ban the movie, insiders say it could have something to do with his upcoming adult film, also due this fall. He is set to star in "Diary of a Pimp," in which he plays the pimp of several prostitutes.

### • Man Arrested for Fashion Faux Pas

A 20-year-old man wearing a blue shirt and blue pants with an orange stripe down the middle was arrested in Michigan, when officials thought he looked like a prison escapee. Officers stopped him, tied his hands with duct-tape and searched him for weapons. When they discovered he wasn't a convict, they released him. Prosecutors are looking to see if the man's rights were violated.

### • Spike Lee Weighs in on Sharpton/Jackson Barbershop Hoopla

Director Spike Lee says the ability to "dominate, shape and twist the way people think through culture" is the true source of America's power. He believes that with this power comes much responsibility, yet disagrees with the boycott on "Barbershop" which was started by Rev. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton. However, he definitely doesn't agree with the jokes and said he wouldn't have used them in his movies because "It demonstrates a lack of vision, respect and history — and it's not funny."



## Food For the Soul

Crystal Stallings  
opinion editor

How easy it is to get swept into the daily renewals of gossip, duties, and obligations. But at the end of the day, after giving yourself to everyone else and taking in what everyone wants to give up to you, what do you give unto yourself? We meander through days of working all kinds of hours, studying, partying, and socializing. We know the right people, the right words to say at appropriate times, and the most happening spots. What happens when the lights go out and you are left alone? What's the sustenance of your own spirit?

Fakers and takers constantly take up the personal time and space that was given to each of us as a gift. In the end, we are only known to ourselves. Our reflection is more than what we let others see. Whether intentional or not we all wear masks for specific people. More importantly, we continue the charade to our own souls. The beckoning voice from within is calling for nourish-

ment. Do you live only for others, to do what they impose on you body and thoughts as well as spirit?

By doing this you deny yourself of every reality you will know. Your spirit is malnourished because you choose to feed the perceptions of the masses. Your spirit is so worn and fragile that you've surrounded it in a glass house with no mirrors and then put up a steel cage to 'protect' other people from seeing the real you. Some would wonder is it denial of your own identity, or are you hoping someone will finally crack the triple code of your protective cage?

Try talking to yourself for a change. I know that it is strange. But we're talking about taking your soul from the glass and reintroducing yourself to the person you see least often. Write a letter to yourself just to tell yourself that you love you. That you love who you are and who you will become. That you finally accept your past as being an essential preparation of your future. Tomorrow is a brand new day; how about beginning it with appreciating life and what you can begin with yourself.

## On the Warpath

Jerry Blackmon  
miscreant

We speak as if war is inevitable. We discuss the possibility of yet another conflict with Iraq as if it is the task of the populous — not just that of the United States, but the world at large which would ultimately and perhaps inevitably be drawn into any resulting conflict — to convince the Bush administration that war with Iraq is not necessary.

It's chic to say that this country is a different place post September 11. The United States has endured a year-long crucible, and we are changed as a result. We're now amiable to the idea of our rights being curtailed or restricted in the name of the War on Terror (or is that Terra, given how Mr. Bush pronounces it). We're fine with the fact that the executive branch of the American government now has the unchecked power to imprison people who are perceived to be a threat to "national security." We concede the president power to conduct trials the results of which are neither made public nor subject to no appellate review

and offer defendants no opportunity for counsel. And now we're fine with granting one person — that bears emphasis: ONE person — the power to declare war on a sovereign nation.

Without regard for the fact that Saddam Hussein is every bit the repressive, maniacal dictator the press makes him out to be, war with Iraq is not something that we should allow the administration to personalize. This is not a "sit, would you care to step outside" street fight between Bush and Hussein; this is the United States of America saying to the world that if our president disagrees with the way your country is run, we have the right to invade and make changes to your political system.

"Weapons of mass destruction" is a euphemism. It's a metaphor that very cleverly plays on the destruction of September 11 to scare the world into believing those who possess such items are a danger to world peace. But think about that for a second. If the mere possession or attempted development of such weapons can be the sole justification for the president

## Interracial Dating Myths

Portia Overton  
staff writer

The other day, as I was seated in a restaurant with my family, a white woman and black man stepped in. The woman and I briefly made eye contact. I smiled, and then I met his eyes. They were filled with resentment and anger, almost accusatory in nature. Needless to say, I was somewhat stunned. You see, I am enlightened enough to realize that ours, is an evolving world. Races have been mixing for x amount of years, and hardly any of us are "pure." But, there are others that would happily disagree with my views, white and black; male and female. And that's fine, but this is about my views, so feel free to disagree.

**Myth1:**

A select number of people believe that by dating one of another race means they will be more sexually pleased. Thus creating the "hot Latino lover," and "hung black stud" stereotypes. I have been in interracial relationships before with Hispanic, white, and mixed men. From my experienced perspective, there were no noticeable differences. Meaning that most men were well endowed, and all pleased me sexually, emotionally, and otherwise. Although some relationships were not that pleasant, I realized it wasn't because of their race/ethnicity, but rather a clashing of personalities. So why do so many assume that the "grass is greener on the other side?" It is because, they are ignorant. They don't realize that no one group of people can fit into one exact category. If some of these close-minded people actually stepped into the real world, they would realize there is a multitude of personalities, morals, values, ethics, etc, in every race.

**Myth2:**

I have been told by many of my black male friends reasons why they exclude black women as their partners. Some believe black women have "attitude", and are too out-spoken. Being a black woman, and being raised by one I can say, "not true!" Black women are strong. For years we have had to raise children on our own (not always our choice), becoming our families main source of income. We have also had to deal with absentee/dead beat fathers (our own as well as our children's). Of course based on the above reasons as well as plenty of others, we find it hard to become the "submissive" female. That in no way means, that with a little time, and trust we can't fulfill that more gentle, and less abrasive role. Most black women yearn to be just that, a mother, and a wife, but it is the lack of support from our community and male counterparts that keep us hostile. And black men, going through their own life difficulties, it seems, will never understand this about their mothers, and sisters, and daughters. This is

such a problem, that now black women are increasingly dating interracially. Not because they have a preference for white men, but because they are so disenfranchised with black men that they choose to look elsewhere.

**Myth3:**

Black men on white women: They are more subservient. One of the biggest myths is that white women are these subservient sluts, who will give any man money. The first time I heard that one, I thought it was hilarious, but upon my observations of assorted relationships, I realize that this is true, to an extent. Although not all white women are sluts, they can be slightly (hardly significant) more sexual than black women. Why? I believe that unlike black women, most white women do not have the economic, financial, and parental constraints that black women do. So, they are less inhibited when it comes to sexual intimacy, and relationships, and they rarely have an attitude for the same reasons. This doesn't make them a more ideal mate than black women, but some men may think so, because they have a need to revel in their manhood. Either way, I would not be impressed with a man who believed such broad generalizations.

**Myth4:**

White men and women are "freaky": Black women are starting to look outside of the black community for mates. These women have become fed up with black men and the black community in general. They feel that they are constantly overlooked by loud and proud "O.J's". Some also believe that a white man will do what a black man won't do. Mainly oral sex. Black men also believe the same about black women. It confuses me how misguided the black community is about it's own members. Perhaps communication really is the key. Again, the above are excuses made by members of the black community as to why we choose to date outside our race.

My question is: why is an explanation necessary? We live in a Democratic and somewhat liberal society where race has been an issue for hundreds of years. Isn't it time, that as a global community we address these racial myths and issues rather than sweeping them in the corner to inevitably be addressed by a future generation? That scene in the restaurant with that black brother stunned me at first, and then it lead to deeper thought, as to why we are in this present situation of un-acceptance and ignorance. Why do black men and women harbor such ill thoughts towards one another? Are we even more brainwashed with European standards, and media propaganda, that we now equate black with inferior or inadequate? If this is the case, then these issues must be addressed, because in order for us to be united and strong, so does it's so-called multicultural communities.

of the United States to authorize "regime change" in a country, then wouldn't it follow that the United States should declare war on itself? We were the first to develop the nuclear bomb, and we have refined that technology to extremes capable of destroying the entire planet. India has the bomb. Pakistan has the bomb. Israel has the bomb. England has the bomb. France has the bomb. Russia has the bomb. China has the bomb.

By Bush's simplistic rationale, the world should have wiped all these countries off the map years ago.

What makes Iraq any different? What's the difference between Hussein developing nuclear weaponry on his own and simply buying one of the hundreds of "unaccounted for" Russian bombs off the black market? Iraq is supposed to be one of three nations in Bush's "axis of evil" — why are we not threatening war with the other two: Iran and North Korea? We already know North Korea has the bomb and the means to deliver it, yet it seems as if they are exempt from this doctrine of pre-emptive action. What's the difference between North Korea and Iraq?

I think it's a vendetta. But the reasoning behind Bush's machinations



# Is The Dream Enough? Choice, Control

## Dark Child

mystery columnist

It's been over 27 years since Dr. King stood in front of our parents and grandparents, recounting a dream that he had. Many of us can recite lines from that speech verbatim, yet, numerous articles and media bites from respected African-American leaders constantly ponder whether Generation-neXt is doing its part to keep that dream alive. I have to wonder if Black people even dream anymore. Not about the house(s) you're going to own or the fancy car you'll someday drive, and not about that degree you're praying for or that special someone you're hoping will be your husband or wife. Where are our dreamers like Martin and Malcolm, like Na'im Akbar and Adam Clayton Powell, like Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Rosa Parks?

Many of the brothers and sisters that I have talked to in recent weeks told me that they don't have time to dream. One sister patiently explained the reality of financial, academic, and personal pressures that left her with little time to dream. Now we all know about frequenting the financial aid office, about teaching assistants that teach worse than the professor, and about how that guy/girl will work your nerves. (And the church said "Amen.") But how do you think it looks to the administration when a brother or sister, claiming to be a representative of the African-American community, schedules a meeting with the chancellor to discuss diversity issues? A student with a 1.9 GPA? Now I'm not saying that we should mandate GPA requirements for student representatives. I understand that we all have unforeseen circumstances that leave us shaken and irrevocably changed. Personally, I have often immersed myself in political and cultural issues on campus for my own interests as well as to feel as if I'm apart of something of greater significance than myself. To all of you with G.P.A's under 2.0, I am definitely not knocking you; Jesse Jackson's grades at A & T were not overwhelmingly impressive, yet he remains an eloquent speaker. However, many people measure intelligence strictly on statistics. Whether or not those marks accurately reflect an individual's academic gifts will be debated long after I've left N.C. State. The fact is that an administrator that sees 1.9 beside your name may not recognize you as a legitimate intellectual, able to seriously converse about deep issues. Think about it.

Not that we, as students don't have the right to meet with high-ranking school administrators; just last week all of us received an invitation from Chancellor Fox to voice our concerns about every aspect of university life. All I'm saying is that, in case you're not aware, we as African-American students are judged (yes, judged) by a different standard than others. Whether we like it or not, the reality of our present

situation is that many do not respect our right to walk this campus as students rather than janitors and cooks. Whether we like it or not, we are often judged as a group that shares not only a heritage and a culture, but a brain and a single identity as well.

For those of you that do still dream, perhaps you dreamed that the America that Dr. King lived and died for had passed away with him. Though opportunities are in place that have enabled us to make great strides as a people, we still have to run our leg of the race. At its foundation and among its highest leaders, America and N.C. State both struggle to manage the uneasy equilibrium between the races. In other words, all men very well may be created equal, but they sure are not treated equally. Let me break it down for you.

If North Carolina has a black population of approximately 22 percent, all paying taxes to fund this state and government-funded institution, why is the black population of N.C. State University only about ten percent? Of that ten percent, which is roughly 2700 students, why are the same five to ten percent of them the only active ones on this campus? Remember when Harold Pettigrew wrote that article stating that if participation did not increase within African-American organizations, their funding would be eliminated? Although this article was meant to incite activity among us, brothers and sisters, it served an even greater purpose because we turned the glaring spotlight on ourselves. Of course, the anger and momentum from that incident died down in a matter of weeks, much like most of the pertinent issues to N.C. State's black community. For instance, we're almost one month into the fall semester... where is the NAACP? Inquiring minds (and certain members of its executive board) would like to know.

I know that it sounds like I'm preaching, and that's because I am, basically. Want to know what I dream about? Of life and love, sure. But I also dream of a united African-American community at N.C. State, where organization meetings are filled to capacity and overflowing, where Ms. Ray and her office has more peer mentors than mentees, and where the majority of us show up at Witherspoon Student Center to hear a dynamic speaker and not just to attend a party. Maybe this is too much to ask; after all, I am graduating in May so that doesn't leave us much time. Maybe this can't be done at N.C. State. Maybe I should just wake up. Well, I did, but I just keep hoping that someone will stand up and admit that they too dream. And after you admit it, show us what you're willing to do to make this a reality. The bad thing about dreaming is that it happens while we're sleeping or in semi-sleep. It is time to wake up now. I'm awake... are you?

## Miscrant

from page 3

are irrelevant to this discussion. What is in play here is the question of whether any president—not specifically Bush (whose legitimacy is questionable at least, though we shant tread there)—should have the power to order the Armed Forces of the United States to engage in offensive actions against another country. In the days preceding the "public debate" concerning whether the U.S. should go to war with Iraq, I heard very disturbing comments from members of the administration and the U.S. Congress itself questioning whether a president necessarily had to seek congressional approval before engaging in military action. They spoke as if Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution does not clearly read:

"The Congress shall have power to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water." Certainly I can't be considered a Constitutional scholar, but my more limited powers of deductive reasoning don't lead me to believe that there is any room in that statement for the president to assume similar authority.

If one man has the power to order 250 million people into a state of war, and that country's military obeys without question, what then is the difference between Bush and his administration and Saddam Hussein's Iraqi regime?

The U.S. Constitution very clearly says that only Congress has the power to commit the country to war. The Congress is composed of individuals who represent and are directly respon-

sible to the people of the United States, so the will of the Congress in some sense does reflect the will of the people who elected it. The people of this country should have the first and last word about when this country goes to war and when that war is over. We've already partially abdicated our Fourth Amendment rights by authorizing law enforcement officials to access our communications without a search warrant. We've given up our Fifth Amendment right to be tried by a jury of our peers by acceding the notion that people (some dear citizens of this country) can be detained without due process. And now we stand ready to grant George W. Bush the presumably unchecked authority to invade Iraq and remove Saddam Hussein from power.

Yes indeed we are living in a differ-

## Lakesha Parker special to Nubian

Everything that we do in life boils down to one or two things: choice and control. As humans, we naturally seek to control everything we possibly can. It's an in born instinct we often fail to even think about, but we do it automatically without even questioning why we do it.

We send our children to school so they can learn more education, and hopefully so our children will learn how to control their behavior. We raise our children so they can be responsible for their actions, and so we can control and manipulate their behavior.

We are taught that we should control our behavior if we want to stay in the good graces of society and the law.

We are taught that we should remain in control of ourselves. Also, we seek to control one another and manipulate things or others so we can satisfy our thirst for control.

It's all a matter of control, really. How much control do you think that you have? Are you able to control yourself, and respect others? Or do you find yourself being subject to uncontrollable outbursts of embarrassing behavior that you wish to change?

I was reading something the other day, which started me to thinking. Yeah, started me, because I don't like people to know that I think sometimes. Somehow, if I do, then people will try to play me with more responsibilities, which I have probably at some point tried to avoid. Just kidding.

Anyway, back to the control thing. We as humans allow other people to control our feelings, emotions, and behaviors. We alone can choose how we react to what other people have done.

One way to break out of the cycle of letting people control your actions, behaviors and feelings is just to unconditionally love people. It's really not that hard to do, despite how rare it is to hear this subject. But, think about it. By choosing to love people regardless, you have learned to control yourself. That is, you have broken the cycle of letting others choose your reaction, and determine how you are going to react. You have saved yourself a lot of trouble. People who choose to unconditionally love have realized the importance of self-control. They have realized that, while they do have emotions, the most important part of those emotions is properly handling them.

Controlling yourself is hard

work, no doubt, but loving is easy. Think about it. Hate requires so much energy. First of all, you have to have a reason for hating somebody. Then, you have to remember that you have someone that loves you.

Loving people is really simple. All you have to do is love in spite of.

It's that simple. And you know what? It's easy too. It's as simple as making a choice and saying, "You know what? This is my life. I choose to love people just because."

Doing so will allow you to be respectful of others' feelings. Sometimes we don't know what a person has been through that day. They may need to vent, while they do not need to be venting at you. When the person has calmed down, you can approach them and tell them that you did not appreciate what they did. Screaming matches and cursing is not necessary. Nine times out of ten people will realize that they have been such an ass and they will come back and apologize anyway. Unless of course, they have no conscience.

The next time you feel like lashing back at someone, bite your tongue. Just keep your tongue from flapping. It really makes the other person look dumb if they are upset at you. Remember, it takes two people to hold an argument. You can save your hearing if you just walk away.

I know that nothing pisses me off more than people who sit there and just argue with you without allowing you a chance to say anything. They just cut you off before you say anything. When this happens to me, I just allow this person to rattle on because obviously they love to hear him or herself talk. So let them.

I know I have pretty much been steaming a couple of times, but I sometimes marvel at my self-control. I have just stared at people sometimes when I knew they were clearly in the wrong because I knew that if I said anything I would fly completely off the handle.

However, there are other ways to let out my anger.

As we all go home this semester, I hope that we can take this to heart. The best gift that you can give your loved ones for the holiday season is unconditional love. Just walk into wherever you are going to be for the holidays, and tell the person that you love them just because.

We often wait until it is too late to tell people that we love them. Don't allow yourself to wait until it's too late.

**Reruns. Perfect for those  
needless 38 hour days.**



# Clark Speaks of Ethiopian Culture

LaToya Eaves

staff writer

Imagine a place where the most extreme land elevations, from lowest point to highest peak, range in climate from tropical weather found at the equator to arctic weather at the North Pole. Imagine 800 species of birds, some of them the most rare in the world, flying overhead. Imagine being in a country where 70, even 80, languages are spoken by its people. This great country actually does exist.

Monday, Oct. 1, the African American Heritage Society along with the NAACP sponsored a lecture on Ethiopia. Dr. Lawrence M. Clark was the guest lecturer for the Heritage Society's Lecture Series. Dr. Clark began by giving an overview of the different countries he has had the opportunity to travel to, such as Ghana.

He revealed that he had a certain motivation to visit the great continent of Africa. He had a desire to learn of his identity. In 1988, he traveled to Ghana for six months. A few years later, he had the opportunity to take a group of 50 - 22 of which were students - to Ghana for a 10-week stint. The students saw Africans running things around the country, and he said it changed these students' perspectives.

Ethiopia is about twice the size of Texas. It used to be a much larger area however. There are about 800 species of birds within this one country. Also, one of the main agricultural products in Ethiopia is coffee.

The country itself used to be owned by the church. The priests were the most important people in the land. Jews used to also inhabit the land. This could explain the 33 references in the Bible to Ethiopia.

It also gives somewhat of a historical basis for the story in the Bible of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, who had a son together. The church has lost some of its power in Ethiopia as the government changes over and prime ministers move in. However, the country is still very religious. Forty percent of Ethiopians are Christian. Between 30 and 40 percent follow the Muslim faith.

One of the most phenomenal things Dr. Clark spoke of was the fact that the people in Ethiopia have a certain calmness. There is poverty in the country, but there is no despair. Another impressive aspect of the country's people is that education is highly valued. There is a tremendous interest in learning all over the country. Students put their professors up on pedestals. The respect them greatly and are exceptionally

studious. People in Ethiopia stand in line just to get a seat inside of the library. Many people also use street lamps to read after the sun has gone down because they do not have lights at home. In classes, the students write detailed notes of their lectures because books are so rare and barely exist. Some schools are even located underneath trees because there are no buildings.

Dr. Clark's lecture gave the students in attendance something to reflect upon. He taught us to value our educational system because we are fortunate to have the classroom buildings, books, and electricity that allow us to complete our work and basically have it "easy." Remember this the next time you want to skip class or when you complain about simple things. It is certain that there are a lot of people who would love to be in your place.

## Expressions

### Midnight Musings...

subjecting this anticipation  
to my liberation that's in the limitation  
of my hesitation  
but to whether I will seek to find comfort  
in the midst of his oasis of knowledge  
or in the length of his love  
from within the inner destinies of universes  
intertwined in the mind  
undefined in the present  
always definite if it happen to last  
because we both want it to stay strong  
and make the throng of this generation hope for true love  
but why can I the only one captivated this vision  
that sends only the sincere on this mission  
hoping that it's not to be aborted  
but only to be supported  
why must the feeling of heartache and heartbreak  
constantly ride the backs of me through generations I will not yet  
pay tribute to fully because yanno what do the young know about love  
why can't the old appreciate the new fountain  
not only in vitality but in sincerity  
never known a love like this so strong  
to whom does it really belong  
can u honestly say that's where u belong  
in the great beyond where love conquers all  
or do you live in the smallest micros of free space  
where everything and anything goes but you are still in this unhappy state  
but only in this love can you not shake  
for in due time your desire will it create

- Crystall Stallings

## AACC Library Book Previews

LaToya Eaves

c&e editor

There are five new additions to the African American Cultural Center Library, two of which are fiction and the other three are nonfiction.

The first fiction book is entitled *Reinventing the Woman* by Patty Rice. This book follows the life of main character Camille Foster. Camille has never understood love in general and doesn't have any idea how it should feel.

Two main factors contribute to her confusion. First, as a child, Camille was not accepted and was put down by her parents. The other factor is the abuse she suffered at the hands of her partner for seven years. When she decides to leave him, she must run to the family that never accepted her.

As part of her healing process, Camille joins a local women's group that becomes her salvation. With the help of the group's leader, Camille realizes what she is and where she has come from.

The second book, entitled *Baggage Check*, is by Curtis Bunn. This book follows three best friends, Julian Morgan, Greg Gibson, and Larry Thompson. When they interact with each other, they show honesty, trust, and unconditional loyalty. However, when it comes to interaction with members of the opposite sex, they are completely different. Julian is the type of man that wants a relationship that is handy. Greg puts business and money at the top of his list of priority. Any relationship he has is put last. Larry is the worst of them all. His mode of operation is the hit-and-run. Once he gets what he wants, it is time to move on to the next. Because of their undesirable dating habits, they go through cycles of bad experiences. This causes them to evaluate themselves, or to perform a "baggage check." Afterwards, the new and improved trio set out to find their own Ms. Right.

The first nonfiction book is entitled *Dying in the City of the Blues: Sickle Cell Anemia & the Politics of*

Race and Health by Keith Wailoo. This book concentrates on sickle-cell anemia and its affects on Memphis and the African-American community. Started by a 1934 report that stated that Memphis led the country by 11 percent in infant mortality rate, the books centers on the change of industry from cotton to medicine in Memphis. Wailoo, a professor of history and social medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill, examines the increase in medical services for African-Americans and the 1972 Sickle Cell Control Act.

The second new nonfiction addition to the African-American Cultural Center Library is a book called *The Skin I'm In: Racism, Sports, and Education* written by Christopher Spence. Spence, a former professional athlete, investigates the role that sports participation plays in the lives of African-American males in high school. He goes on to examine the racism experienced by those athletes.

The last nonfiction book is entitled *At The Hands of Persons Unknown: The Lynching of Black America* by Philip Dray. Many historians depict lynching, the methodical punishment enacted by mobs and/or vigilantes, as sporadic and unusual. However, Dray maintains otherwise. He reports that, according to records held by the Tuskegee Institute, between 1882 and 1952 there was not one year when a lynching was not reported in the United States. Most lynchings were reported in the Mississippi Delta and Deep South regions. This so-called justice held the African-American community in fear for much of the 19th and 20th centuries due to the fact that the perpetrators were unidentifiable and, therefore, could strike again. Dray explains that over time lynching diminished due to numerous factors, as Dray states, "The pattern of crime diminished gradually for various reasons, not least of them the work of reformers and ordinary citizens who knew we were too good to be a nation of lynchers."

These new books touch on different subjects, which means there is something for everyone.



## Neo-Soul Hits Airwaves

Ivory Harris

staff writer

Neo-Soul is the new wave of music that has recently been getting high recognition. However, despite what critics think, Neo-Soul has been around for years. Neo-Soul is defined as a mix of original soul music and hip-hop culture. People who are considered Neo-Soul artists are: Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Mos Def, Maxwell, Common, D'Angelo, Bilal, India.Arie, Lauryn Hill and a new group called Floetic, just to name a few.

One of the characteristics of Neo-Soul is that it deals with social and emotional reality. Many people throw Neo-Soul artist in the same pool as R&B and Hip-Hop. Upon listening to music by Neo-Soul artists, you can tell right away the difference between them and R&B artists. For instance, most Neo-Soul artists use real instruments to produce their songs and not instruments produced electronically. They take sounds from the '60s and '70s, gospel, funk, jazz and mix them to form a distinct sound that once heard puts you in a personal trance. The upbeat Neo-Soul songs make you turn up your nose, and bob your head with its funky sounds. The Roots would be a perfect example of this.

Even the dress and persona of Neo-Soul artists are different. Many artists are very afrocentric. Their clothing defines their music with headwraps, natural hair, vintage clothing, unique jewelry, and always having a humble appreciation of their ancestors.

Many Neo-Soul artists write their own music, most are about individualism, personal freedom, and appreciation of appearance. For example, India.Arie's hit single, Video, encourages women to appreciate themselves for who they are, and not some female on TV. Mos Def's Umi celebrates personal freedom by telling people to shine the light within.

Over the past year many of these artists have been recognized for their outstanding talents. India.Arie was nominated for eight Grammy Awards, while Lauryn Hill and The Roots had outstanding performances on MTV's Unplugged, Mos Def graced the big screen, Musiq is winning women's hearts with his new album and hit Don't Change and the new duo Floetic is tearing up the charts with their hit Floetic.

Neo-Soul has yet to be recognized as a musical category. To some people it's just a different form of R&B, but with so much talent in the Neo-Soul pool, it will soon have its own shelf at a music store near you.

## Freestyle Fanatics Kick Off New Year

Nikki Hall

staff writer

Nine o'clock rolled around and the seats in Turlington Hall's basement filled up. People unable to find seats lined the walls in layers to witness another battle. This was no fistfight, but a freestyle contest were the dopest emcees ripped the mic and the lamest rhymer sat down. The contest sign-up sheet rotated the room and the bravest added their names to the list. There was to be only one winner to leave with the cash prize of \$50. Three rounds of elimination, including eight contestants, determined who would come out on top.

To kick it off, Geronimo and Terrence stepped up for the first fight. Geronimo made Terrence perform the first nose-dive right off the charts. Geronimo chiefed his way into the next round by stomping past his first contestant, but he was later stopped by the token white boy himself, M.A.R.K. (better known as the acronym states, Mark). Mark used the Crab Theory to destroy his opponent and moved on to the next round. After stunning the Indian Chief, Geronimo, Mark cleared the top half of the bracket and prepared for the finals.



We were there.

staff photo

At the bottom of the bracket, but far from the bottom in relation to ability, Kedar (known as Mrk\_82.com) was collecting casualties. Mr. J. literally died on the mic when Mrk\_82.com charged with premeditated murder. And oh boy, it was all over from there. Even I, Yo Baby Sista repin' The Zoo aka TRE 4, stepped to the mic after pushing aside a loser emcee. But I too fell victim to the treacherous rhymes flowed by Mrk\_82.com.

The crowd was wondering if anyone had the skill to take down Mrk\_82.com and then came the great white hope, M.A.R.K. It was Mrk\_82.com-on-M.A.R.K. crime in the basement. Lyrics were flying everywhere but



Hi, my name is?

staff photo

when the smoke cleared Mrk\_82.com was the only one left standing (even the DJ died). M.A.R.K., a white guy by day but rapper by night, was killed in a brutal slaying allowing Mrk\_82.com to claim victory and take home the \$50 cash prize. It was all in fun and the true winners were the Freestyle Fanatics for kicking off another hot joint on campus. Great job guys, keep it knockin'. And continue to check out the entertainment section of your Nubie to see what upcoming events will pop off on and off campus.

## Finesse Struts Stuff

Keymia Sharpe

entertainment editor

If you step into the Atrium, you sometimes encounter a fashion show. People wearing their best clothing, almost as if they are ready to work the runway. However, there are a few that stand out from everyone else. Their walk, their attitude, their confidence, all of this makes them stand out from others. These are the people of the Black Finesse Modeling Troupe, the best of the best. No other name fits them more perfectly either. According to Webster's dictionary, finesse is "refinement or delicacy of workmanship, structure, or texture; adroit maneuvering." If you have ever been to a show, you would know that they

do just that. Each step is taken with poise, elegance, and, of course, finesse.

On Oct. 4, 2002, the troupe had their first performance of the year at Shaw University. The routine consisted of 13 people who each bring their own style and creativity to the overall company. Fancy turns, smooth footwork, and precision made the performance a success.

The troupe's next performance will take place at Fayetteville State University where they will compete against other troupes from other college campuses. This show will take place on Oct. 19. The show that the troupe has devoted most of their time to, the annual show here at NC State, will take place on Dec. 3, 2002.

Know what this is? A black box. And if you're reading this, you've got good eyes.

## FIBA World Championships

Kwadwo Owusu-Ofori

staff writer

The finals of the 14th International Basketball Federation (FIBA) World Championships was played in Nanjing, China on Wednesday, Sept. 25. The U.S. Women's Basketball Team brought home the Gold Medal defending their championship with a spectacular 79-74 win over Russia. The U.S. team has not lost a game since 1994 with 19 straight wins under their belt that also holds seven gold medals in this event!

Lisa Leslie was named the Most Valuable Player in the tournament averaging 17.2 points and 8.1 rebounds per game despite being benched in the third quarter for picking up her third personal foul. The U.S. took home the first gold medal of the tournament that was played in September of 1953. Swoopes and Leslie struggled throughout the game combining for an embarrassing 12 out of 37 shots final performance.

"We had everything that you could humanly have to happen to get us beat tonight. We got Lisa (Leslie) in foul trouble. Lisa and Sheryl (Swoopes) shot 12 out of 37. We can't get anything to go, but we did find a way to win and that makes us a special team," said USA and Houston Comets head coach Van Chancellor. "I

thought the difference in the game tonight was when we absolutely had to, we found a way to defend them and keep them from scoring for the last minute and a half. This team is as special a basketball team defensively that I've ever been around. I think this is the best defensive team that the USA could ever have."

The US took a commanding 48-35 lead at the end of the first half with Tamika Catchings keeping the team alive scoring 14 points and going 3 out of 4 from behind the arch while Leslie was benched. Russia gave the ladies a scare as they rallied behind their top scorer Ilona Korstine, who scored 9 straight points in the last 10 minutes of the fourth quarter to close a 10 point (65-55) lead and bring them within one (71-70). Shannon Johnson made a crucial steal for the U.S. with two minutes left in the game and Leslie secured the win with 2 crucial free throws and a key jumper at the end of the game. Korstine finished the game with 27 points and was the top scorer, but the loss left Russia with a 7-2 record in the World Championship Tournament.

Despite her poor performance, Swoopes lead the US team in scoring with 18 points. This exciting win gives the United States women's basketball team an 80-20 overall record in the FIBA tournament.



# 7 Health & Beauty

## Birth Control Sans Pills

Chika Nwanko

staff writer

Approved just this fall by the Food and Drug Administration, the new birth-control patch, Ortho Evra, is cited to be the newest and easiest way to protect against unwanted pregnancies. The pill, which is taken every day, is 99.9 percent effective if taken properly, but the mistakes most women make include missing pills and starting the next pack too late. Well Ortho Evra is a thin, smooth, beige patch that you wear for seven days before replacing it with a new one, giving you the convenience of not having to remember to take a pill each day.

Ortho Evra uses clinically proven patch technology, which has a layer containing both the medication and an adhesive that keeps the patch on the skin for that entire week. That patch adheres well to the skin, allowing you to perform your daily activities such as bathing, showering, swimming and exercising without interruption. Much like the familiar pill, the patch is also 99 percent

effective when used correctly. The patch is to be worn on the lower abdomen, buttocks, upper outer arm or upper torso (not on the breast) and is designed to be worn for three successive weeks. It is then removed during your menstrual period.

Doctors say the patch, like the pill, prevents ovulation by releasing through the skin and directly into the bloodstream, approximately the same dose of estrogen and progestin as a low-dose combination birth-control pill. To ensure the effectiveness of Ortho Evra, you should not place the birth control patch on areas of the skin where make-up, lotions, creams, powders or other products are or will be applied, since this may cause the patch to become loose.

The price of Ortho Evra is comparable to today's leading birth control pills and other colors, including a clear patch, are being evaluated for future development. Medical officials say the patch represents the 15th major birth-control option available in the United States.

## MigraSpray Your Headaches Away

A. Michelle McLean

staff writer

Tired of headaches that won't quit? Can't seem to find relief from those pesky migraines? Well, for all of you migraine sufferers out there, help has arrived. Now, MigraSpray, an over-the-counter drug intended to provide fast relief from the pain and symptoms of migraine headaches, has been patented and approved for retail sales. MigraSpray, proven by research, is a highly effective drug that is sure to ease migraine headaches in an average of less than seven minutes.

MigraSpray is used by simply spraying the product under the tongue. This method is for the purpose of rapid metabolism, which is the direct absorption into the bloodstream through membranes beneath the tongue. In addition, by orally consuming MigraSpray, degradation from exposure to the gastrointestinal tract and liver is avoided. The usual dosage is 10 sprays under the tongue to be held for 30 seconds prior to swallowing.

Feverfew, MigraSpray's main ingredient, has been used for centuries for the treatment of a variety of illnesses including rheumatic aches, headaches and abdominal pain. Specifically, parthenolide and active components in feverfew, act as a natural anti-inflammatory that controls

inflammation and causes dilation in blood vessels in the brain.

It is inflammation of cerebral blood vessels, however, that is believed to be the cause of migraine headaches and its potential symptoms. When a migraine occurs, it not only results from inflammation of the cerebral blood vessels, but also the contraction of those vessels. The inflammation of the tissue surrounding the brain, moreover, worsens the pain. Migraines, unlike most other types of headaches, have specific symptoms. During or following the onset of a migraine, one may experience throbbing, nausea, sensitivity to light and/or sound, numbness, difficulty in speech and other activities, and pain in particular locations of the head.

An estimated 32 million Americans suffer from migraine headaches. Women migraine sufferers outnumber men three to one. When they occur, migraines can last for hours, even days. You should consult a physician if you are not sure or suspect that you are experiencing migraines. If diagnosed a migraine sufferer, request to be prescribed MigraSpray. It provides fast-acting and lasting relief and causes little to no side effects. Fortunately, it is reported that MigraSpray is available coast to coast in over 14,000 locations.

## Flu Season Is Fast Approaching

Afton Dixon

staff writer

It's fall and one of the main concerns about fall is the beginning of flu season. Dr. Bengston of the NC State Student Health Center talked with me and told me that at NC State it doesn't start until November. However, it's something to be thinking about now so that when it starts you can be prepared. Some ways to prevent catching the flu is washing hands frequently, paying attention to basic health, getting plenty of sleep, exercising and receiving the flu vaccine. A good time to receive the flu shot is around late October or November or at least two weeks before flu season starts.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website, the flu is caused by the influenza virus and is very contagious. A person can transmit the flu one day before they even feel sick. Once a person gets the flu it resides in the respiratory area, the nose, throat, and lungs of the body. Flu-like symptoms can include fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches. Some of these symptoms are similar to those of a cold, but if you get a cold it doesn't necessarily mean you have the flu. Along with a cough, the only other cold symptom is a stuffy nose, which you don't get if you have the flu.

If you are unsure whether or not you have the flu, the Health Center has a test that will give you results within minutes. If you catch the flu, within 48 hours you should see a healthcare provider, whether it be at the Student Health Center or somewhere else in the area. The main prescription drugs for treatment of the flu are Amantadine, and Tamiflu. Over-the-counter medications can be taken for fever, body aches and cough, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen. The Health Center also stocks these and the prescription treatments for the flu.

Increased rest and fluids will also aid in getting rid of the flu. Once the fever goes down and the body aches stop, a cough may still persist. If you continue to have the flu long after the expected time, you should see your healthcare provider or NC State Health Services for further assistance. VACCESHealth will be offering a flu shot (\$20) and various other vaccinations on October 31, 2002 at the Talley Student Center Ballroom from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., without appointment.

## A Girl And Her Accessories

Chika Nwanko

staff writer

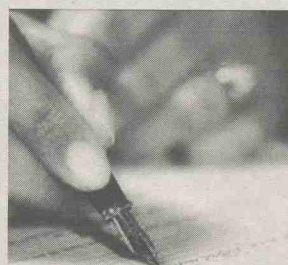
Fall is just around the corner, and many of us ladies are wondering what to do to spice up those cloudy and windy days. This fall it's going to be all about your accessories, and how they can add that extra lift to your everyday outfit. Accessories are always fun and they allow for you to be individual and very creative with your image.

Get creative with belts, hats, scarves and jewelry. Cover up the fact that you just woke up five

minutes ago, and didn't have time to get your hair just right, with a stylish hat made of fur, leather, knit or with a sexy scarf crowning your dome. All the little stores have them now, so it shouldn't be hard to find one to fit your individual style.

Get jewelry that complements and brings out the many bold colors in your outfit. Big, shapely earrings and necklaces with huge gems just scream style. Wrap your waist in one of the many hip-pleasing belts. These belts now come in all kinds of textures, from leather to lace, and many colors to help accentuate or make any outfit.

Pick out a handbag that can carry your stuff plus make you look like the sophisticated lady that you are. Get "boot-licious" this fall with boots of all heights and lengths, from flats to stilettos, and from ankle to thigh-highs. But be careful when walking around campus here, because these bricks can sometimes be very unfriendly. Try it all out, and just see if your feel sexier when you head out for the day.



Have Something to Say About the Nubian?

Send your comment to the Editor-in-Chief at:

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*Life is like a (box of chocolate) shadow and mist — it passes quickly by and is no more • African Proverb*





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