March 4, 2003

Vol. 10, Edition 13

TODAY

Opinion

Najja Baptist wants you to study war no more.

Entertainment

Express yourself! BSB hosts a free expression event.

Culture&Arts

This year marks the rebirth of KWU. Carmen Lilly explains the mission of Knowledge, Wisdom, and Understanding.

WGO

What's Goin' On?

Red Carpet

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. will be having a program for women tonight in Talley room 3118 from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Speak Out Conference

Speak out on racism tonight at 7 p.m. in Witherspoon Cinema.

Freestyle Fanatics

The last free Hip-Hop and R&B Freestyle fanatics will be held Thursday, March 5 in Harris Field at 5 p.m.

Sistuh 2 Sistuh

Sistuh 2 Sistuh will host a roundtable discussion on dating and relationships March 5 at 6 p.m. in North Hall's Merry Monk.

For more information check the African-American listserv: www.ncsu.edu/msa/aasa/weeklyevents.php

SAAC holds preliminary nominations for executive board

Robert White managing editor

On Thursday, Feb. 27, The Society of Afrikan American Culture decided to do preliminary nominations for the 2003-2004 Executive Board instead of elections. SAAC had originally scheduled their elections for that night, but due to the small rurnout in active SAAC general body members, elections were postponed. Under the organization's constitution there needs to be a quorum, or one-third of the general body, present in order to hold elections. The organization rescheduled executive board elections for March 27.

Listed below are some of the available positions on the executive board and brief description of duties:

The president serves as the official spokesperson for the society and presides over all general body and executive board meetings. The SAAC president also sits in on the Chancellor's Liaison meetings and the Student Body President's roundtable meetings.

The vice president serves as a confidant to the president and monitors all committees.

The secretary keeps the minutes at the general body and executive board meetings and maintains proper documentation in the SAAC office. The treasurer keeps records of business transactions and chairs a finance committee.

The political affairs chair stays abreast of all campus affairs and events that have political implications and does programs to increase political awareness of the general body.

The public relations chair informs members of all meeting dates and publicizes SAAC's events.

The cultural affairs chair stays abreast of all campus affairs and events that have cultural implications and does events to increase cultural awareness.

Other positions available are parliamentarian, historian and community service chair.

During the nominations, advisor Dr. Tracey Ray noted the lack of African American males participating in the organization and the running for the groups elections. There are currently two African American men running for positions in SAAC.

If anyone is interested in being involved in the 2003-2004 SAAC executive board come to the elections on March 27.

The Society of Afrikan American Culture, formed in 1968, is the oldest African-American organization on campus. The organization serves as the political voice on



Shonda Tabb-SAAC President staff photo

campus for all students of African descent. In the past, the the organization has brought lecturers Tim Wise, Sistah Souljah and Chuck D to N.C. State. SAAC also does lectures, panels and events to heighten the African-American identity. The organization has also collaborated with the African-American Student Advisory Council on doing endorsements for student government elections.

Africana Studies presents annual Africana Diaspora Film Festival

Nkechinyelum Chioneso

Women's classification (worldwide) as "the silent majority" is interconnected and reinforced by our limited media portrayals. At every level of society, women's images and accomplishments are usually relegated to peripheral, supportive and background positions. This is especially evident as it pertains to black women. Therefore, in an attempt to provide rectifying foreground to black women's experiences, the 2nd Annual African Diaspora Film Festival's theme is African Women & Film. The film festival will occur on Mondays and Tuesdays, March 17 through April 15 at 7 p.m. (except April 14, when the film will begin at 6 p.m.) in Witherspoon Cinema, N.C. State University.

Without a doubt, a single or homogenous definition of what it is to be an black woman is non-existent, and rightfully so. Western media tends to characterize black



Ms. Euzhan Palcy, the first woman of African descent to direct a Hollywood Studio movie, will be the guest speaker of the first film.

courtesy / Africana Studies

women as one or a combination of particular images (who sometimes receive makeovers): poor/ghetto-fabulous women (e.g., Sheneneh, "Martin"), nurturing mammies (e.g., Aunt Jemima, pancake mix), sex lionesses (e.g., Tina Turner), and kick-ass characters (e.g., Pamela Grier, "Foxy Brown"). Seemingly diverse media portrayals are actually shrouded in homogeneity; that is, black women are essentially represented as ornamental objects that lack depth and complexity.

One could argue that limited notions of black women primarily exist "outside" of black communities. Whereas "within" black communities, African women are hailed and respected as strong independent survivors (is this why "I Will Survive," Gloria Gaynor, 1979, and "Survivor," Destiny's Child, 2001, remain musical favorites?). Images of strong black women are often

Film Festival

continued on page 4

2 Culture & Arts

March 4, 2003 - Nubian Message

Duke's Entrepreneurship Conference to make history

Amir Reavis-Bey

Every February, Americans celebrate Black History Month by acknowledging the achievements and contributions made by African-Americans to the world. Although, this commemorative time comes around only once a year, African-Americans should observe Black History Month every month. It is true that history is a reflection of the past, but people must realize that the accomplishments of today make the history of tomorrow. In the great words of the Pharcyde, "Life is just a moment in time. We go round and round," meaning that life doesn't last forever, yet it is a continuous cycle. One should make the best of his or her time in this life and set his/her mark in the world.

Planning ahead to build the history of the future, Duke University's Black History Month Committee (BHMC) composed of six dynamic African-American female students at Duke University, hosted Duke University's first annual African-American panel discussion on the topic of Entrepreneurship. The discussion, known as L.E.A.P. (Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Achievement & Prosperity) was held on Saturday, March 1 in Duke's Bryan Center.

Following the opening words, the panel discussion began with a highly inspirational success story of P&J Sweet Treats owned by the Calvo Children. Ranging from ages 8 to 12, the Calvo Children, four siblings, own a three-year-old baking company with a gross annual profit of over \$50,000. Producing over 360 cookies per day out of their own home, the

Calvo Children still maintain well-balanced lives between their business, school, social activities and church and stay fully abreast on the everchanging state of the economic market. "U Magazine," "Kidpreneurs" and local newspapers, as well as the "Tavis Smiley Show" have recognized the Calvo Children nationwide.

Midway through the discussion, there was a business idea competition amongst the members of the audience. Ranging from business ideas of barbershops, house cleaning services, etc. the victors were N.C. State University's own Amir Reavis-Bey, Kev'jorik Jones, Lamont "Smooth Brotha" Bowens and Davin Vaneyken with a grand plan for a bookstore/lounge which gives back to the community.

During the final segment of the discussion the panelist consisted of nine accomplished African-American entrepreneurs who gave much insight to people (especially African-Americans) aspiring to get their own business up and running successfully. The panelist discussed powerful issues ranging from the advantages of the mentor-to-mentee relationship, qualities of a successful entrepreneur, keeping [your] eyes on the prize, dealing with successes and failures, and business strategies.

In closing there was an extensive question and answer session followed by a one-on-one networking opportunity between the successful entrepreneur panelists and the aspiring entrepreneurs in the audience. The panelists were very sincere in their efforts to help aspiring minority business owners and gave valuable insight on how to build a successful and stable business.

AACC sponsors Battle of Adwa celebration

Robert White

managing editor

The African American Culture Center sponsored the celebration of the 107th anniversary of the "Battle of Adwa" with the Ethiopian Students Association and Ethiopian Orthodox Church N.C. The two-day event featured food, dance and lectures centered on the historic event.

On Saturday at 5:30 p.m. participants began with remarks from the coordinators and MC Kongite Wosene and Dr. Wondwossen Gebreyes, advisor for the Ethiopian Student Association. Next, Dr. Haile Larebo, a professor of history at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga. introduced the event with a presentation titled "Ethiopia and its Uncharted History." After dinner and a presentation participants enjoyed the work of singer/artist Teshome Asseged.

Sunday participants saw the children's presentation and heard a lecture on "Adwa and its International Dimension" by Dr. Larebo. After the lecture the "Battle of Adwa" film by Haile Gerima was scheduled, but due to problems with the film, a question and answer period with Dr. Larebo took its place.

During the question and answer period participants asked

questions about the political and historical implications of the Battle of Adwa. According to coordinators for the event, 145 people participated in the celebration. Wosene noted that the event was very productive. "We fulfilled our objective," said

The Battle of Adwa was a historic event in Ethiopian history. During the early 1884-85 conference of Berlin when Europe divided the remaining the remaining portions of Africa, Italy was supposed to get Ethiopia. In 1896, Ethiopia under the rule of Emperor Menelik, II defeated the Italian colonial forces. The victory humiliated Italy. Europe was forced to recognize Ethiopia as a sovereign nation. Black people across the diaspora celebrated the Ethiopian's victory as a victory for all black people.

The event was a part of the African American Culture Center's mission to educate students about different cultures. The event also served as a fundraiser and fellowship event for the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

Wanna write for the Nubian? nubianeditor_managing@yahoo.com

Rebirth of Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding



Members of 1999 KWU organization.

staff photo

Carmen Lilly

staff writer

The acronym K-W-U, pronounced "Kay-Woo," means Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding. Nine individuals founded KWU in fall 1997 on the campus of N.C. State with a vision to promote unity and awareness among the African American community on N.C. State's campus.

Knowledge is information, Wisdom is how you choose to use that information, and Understanding is that which you hope to gain through the application of knowledge and wisdom, making them all a collaborative unit.

Dedicated to facilitating the development of young leaders by promoting self-awareness, political consciousness, and community involvement, KWU's purpose is to make students see the significance of involvement and encourage them to become dedicated to promoting the success of themselves and others.

Originally this non-profit organization had business aspirations that turned into a commitment to improve campus life for all students by planning, organizing, and executing events that can be both educational and relaxing.

Some of the events previously sponsored by KWU included Nappy Luv, an expression of hiphop culture through various mediums, and Way Back Home cooking day with the main purpose to represent traditional African cuisine reminding African-Americans of their rich heritage.

The original goals of KWU are still in existence but have not been a sprevalent on campus due to the graduating of many of the original members. In order to continue KWU's rich tradition, new leaders have stepped up to rejuvenate the organization. This is a new generation of KWU with the same promising vision as the original founders with hopes to build a stronger foundation for generations to come.

The next KWU meeting will be held March 19 at 7 p.m. in the African American Cultural Center Library.

APPLY TO BE EDITOR IN CHIEF!

The deadline for position papers has been extended.

Position papers are due March 18th by 12 noon. Interviews will be conducted on March 24th in the Student Senate room at 7:30 p.m. Applications can be dropped off at the Student Media Association office.

For more information contact Keon Pettiway at Nubian_EIC@yahoo.com

Study war no more: the Nubian sacrfice

Najja Baptist

guest writer

As we enter another barbaric war and spread the tainted, unjustified and savage views of the United States the question that must be posed to people of color, but especially those of African-American descent: Why are we fighting for this country again? Haven't we sacrificed enough of our people for this uncivil, barbaric, vile and vicious country?

The first person to die in a major American war was Christopher Annex, a mulatto; he was the first killed during the rebellious Boston Tea Party. What do we owe this country? It is better stated that they owe us, for the very heart of this society's illustrious agricultural, industrial, and technological triumphs. The wretched and manipulative forefathers label America "the land of the free and home of the brave," but be so kind to reminisce on a time past, to a land of infinite freedom, a plethora of glorious opportunities, where it all began, the cradle of civilization, AFRICA. The culture, the experience, the knowledge, the philosophy; life as we know it, all part of the ill-gotten gains and plunder by the inhumane European savages. Justified through their quasireligious crusades on a quest to "civilize" an already civil society. Just because they did not understand us, didn't mean we were not satisfied with our own way of life.

With the implementation of the misconstrued concept of Adam Smith's Free Market capitalism, which lead to the unjustified annihilation of Africans and the Real Americans. This exploitation continues today through the racial tyranny of the United States throughout the world and especially upon people of color. From the accumulation of wealth through the institutionalized system of slavery, physically and mentally America has left the remnants of the "Strange Fruit," which now hangs from the cracks of the liberty bell. We have been waiting for freedom to ring, but it has not yet rung, and will never ring until we fix the crack. We are attacking the so-called "terrorists," of the people of Iraq; but we have failed to recognize the horrendous works of the home grown terrorist, born and raised right here on the soil of the United States, Timothy McVeigh and his connection to anti-American white supremacy group, the Aryan nation.

Must we forget about the many previous wars and warriors we have sacrificed for this country: Buffalo soldiers, Tuskegee Airmen, 51st infantry, and many more. Just a quick refresher, when we fought with America against the Germans, the African-American troops biggest fear was not the Nazis but rather the White American troops. Well, they may have confused the African-Americans for Nazi, maybe because they wore a different uniform. Not of America, or Germany, but of France because of restraints of the vile and vicious practice of segregation. But to add to the disgrace, when African-Americans warriors returned to this country, highly decorated by the French, but changing back into their uniforms of America to hide the oppression, they were hanged in their uniform with highly decorated disgrace by the Pro-

Americans. Or must we be reminded of the most recent war of 1991, where our sisters and brothers were pawns, used as guinea pigs for the gulf war syndrome.

So as we enter this unjustified usurp of the UN authority, by King George Bush II we must do as the great intellectual W.E.B DuBois stated "Let us close our ranks." We will realize this not to fight for this country but against the many injustices that now and will forever plague us. "There will never be justice on stolen land" for us and all other people in the world. While we add to the vile and vicious war of the anti-American people, we must understand what this will mean for us. As many Korean soldiers would echo the sentiments of "Go home black man, this is not your war," we must understand, the Iraqi people must see us as some strange liberators, as stated by Dr. King in his patriotic speak against the Korean War. How could we sit and watch; or better yet participate in the political prostitution and rape of other people of color? Must we be the ones wearing the masked hoods this time, coming at night to destroy the order and safety of those who have done no harm to us, which was warranted by American governmental actions. Can't we hear the souls of our people crying out for reparation, don't allow the minstrel show of Colin Powell be the only voice of our community, "Let freedom ring."

"James Baldwin said 'people who don't invent themselves, who are so bitter, so blinded, who cease to question, have made peace with defeat." -Dael Orlandersmith

It's a woman's world

Crystall Stallings

Seeing that it is Women's History Month, here's my salute to all the women in our lives who have pushed us forward and influenced our lives towards making our dreams happen. To the strong women who have contributed once again to the continuation of our race's survival and imposing a strong measure of love, faith, and hope, I say thank you. On the flip side, to the all the women who have borned us to become whatever we could be despite their own struggles internally and externally, I say thank you as well.

Women being the givers of life, the strong emotional beings where we draw our strength and sense of self, and the female beauty and counterpart of man and God have been through the best and worst no matter what historical time period or racial background. They have been the ones that started the revolution when no one else wanted to start it. They have been the ones who have been the most active in the movement when they have felt the strongest sting from the obvious pressure of it. Raped and eliciting strength and hope they have kept their children and raised them in love and acceptance when they could not receive the same. Kept hidden and unappreciated they have shown the world the power of the mind and the concept of invention and perseverance. Women who have been matriarchs before they could be children continue to lead generations on their stories of humiliation to their stories of survival.

There is something to be said for the woman who is treated as less of a human being just because society puts her at the bottom of the ladder, especially black women. Struggling to sustain

her self, she alone will bear the brunt of life on her shoulders for the sake of responsibility even when she has no clue about how to do it. Women captivated the attention of the world by speaking forth what they had gone through to achieve success in a man's world are now leading others. There is something to be said for the woman who considers becoming a prostitute more than once because she wants what's best for her child. Circumstances bring out choices no self-respecting woman would consider, but for the sake of life and hope she will. How little the man beholds the woman and gains self-gratification when she chooses her family over her respect. Women all have secrets because of the choices they made because some man had not taken care to uphold her needs.

Oh, I thank God for the women who encourage us to be our best and to strive forward when the men in our lives have disheartened our spirits and made us smaller than insects emotionally and mentally. To thine own self be true, she said. Respect comes from within but the personal satisfaction that you earned it despite being a woman is more priceless. The women who raised us out of single parent homes and fed us before themselves, thank you. The women, who have taught us to manage a home because they became experts in the manner, thank you for making my house a home. The women who always made a way out of no way, thank you for not giving up. Those who always said you looked good when you were small or big, thank you for not damaging my self-esteem. To the women who equate the key of life as living with your heart and not money, thank you for always giving back to others as if they were your own. To my own mother who leads her life unselfishly and walks with God, thank you.

The 2nd Annual African Diaspora Film Festival: African Women and Film

Ruby Bridges - Monday, 'March 17, 2003 @ 7:00 p.m in the Witherspoon Student Cinema

The true story of Ruby Bridges, an African-American girl, who at age 6, helped to intergrage the all-white school of New Orleans. Guest speaker will be Ms. Euzhan Palcy, who is described as the worlds most influential filmmakers. Palcy is the first woman of Afican descent to direct Hollywood Studio move.

The film festival will start on Monday, March 17, 2003 and will conclude on Tuesday, April 15, 2003. For more information, go to www.ncsu.

BSB hosts Expressions

staff write

On Thursday, Feb. 20, the Black Students Board presented the 2nd Annual Expressions to the N.C. State population. Expressions is a program that allows students and other members of the community to express themselves through poetry, dance or music. "Expressions was the N.C. State equivalent of Def Poetry Jam," said Carnell Smith. Many people expressed themselves through this program, including Andrea Cherry, Officer Parmely, Conen Morgan, Rhonda Tabb and the Christed-Out Family. Courtney Duncan also provided the audience with a captivating interpretative dance that added to the culture of the evening. Sam Edwards read an excerpt from a Malcolm X speech during the event. The first intermission was filled by a tribute to black inventors presented by the BSB executive board. This provided an informational and inspiring addition to the evening, as people had a chance to learn about the contributions made to western society by African-

When asked to comment, Andrea Cherry said, "Well, I

share thoughts, feelings, opinions, or views about anything...basically stating your mind." Andrea performed this poem, which she sang

EXISTENCE

I dream about you...I dream about you...and I'm hoping my dream comes true...cause reality...can't provide for me...what my heart yearns...what I believe I've earned...and in my fantasies...only revealed to me...is YOU

I think about you...I think about you...and I'm hoping my thoughts come to...cause my mind plays on...logical things I've known...of your existence...and how you listen...to every one of my cries...your love I can't deny...YOU

I finally have you...I finally have you...now I know my dream came true...cause the thoughts I had...planted in my mind...became reality...became my true divine...and I've realized...that every second, of every minute, of every hour, of all the time...I love YOU

The evening was filled with the deep thought and creativity that flowed through the room. Adrienne Driver said, "For already possess the nature to express myself in numerous ways. those who missed it, they missed a good one!"

Film Festival

romanticized both within and outside of black communities. Author bell hooks succinctly speaks to this point in "Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism." "Usually, when people talk about the "strength" of black women they are referring to the way in which they perceive women coping with oppression. They ignore the reality that to be strong in the face of oppression is not the same as overcoming oppression, that endurance is not to be confused with transformation," hooks said. Critical observations of strong black womanhood are not a denunciation of black women's ability to be "strong" (however defined); on the contrary, this brief critique and the upcoming film festival are part of a transformative process that emphasizes African women's ability in becoming resilient.

This year's film festival consists of nine films. Black women are the protagonist characters, directors, and/or writers. Each film will be accompanied by a discussion led by N.C. State faculty and students, as well as by Triangle community members. Ms. Euzhan Palcy and Dr. Vânia Penha-Lopes will provide two special guest presentations, co-sponsored by Women's & Gender Studies and N.C. State University Women's Center

On March 17, the film festival will open with Ms. Euzhan Palcy, the director of "Ruby Bridges" (1998). Her wellknown films (e.g., "Sugar Cane Alley," 1983) tend to focus on social change and cultural issues. Ms. Palcy is described as one of the world's most influential filmmakers because of her ability to balance moving storylines with brilliant performances. She is also the first African woman to direct a Hollywood Studio movie. MGM's "A Dry White Season" (1989). "Ruby Bridges" is one of Ms. Palcy's most recent films. It is the true story of Ruby Bridges, an African-American girl who helped to integrate the all-white schools of New Orleans.

On Tuesday, April 15, the film festi-

continued from page 1 val closes with Dr. Vânia Penha-Lopes and the film "Nasci Mulher Negra/I Was Born A Black Woman" (1999). Dr. Penha-Lopes is an assistant professor of sociology at Bloomfield College in New Jersey. Her research and teaching interests focus on the sociology of the family, comparative race relations, sociology of masculinities, and social stratification. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Dr. Penha-Lopes will present on "Nasci Mulher Negra," the documented victories of Benedita da Silva, the first African Brazilian woman to be elected to Brazil's senate.

The festival's seven other films include "Beloved" (USA, 1998), which is based on Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about "ghosts" of the past. "Chercher La Vie/Looking For Life" (Haiti, 1999), a Human Rights Week (March 24-28) film, identifies Haitian women's significant roles in an economy that has been bled dry. "Eve's Bayou" (USA, 1997) captures the turmoil of a Creole family on the Louisiana Bayou. "Faat Kine" (Senegal, 2000) questions the applicability of traditional roles. "Flame" (Zimbabwe, 1996) is the story of friends whose involvement in the Zimbabwean liberation struggle lead to very different outcomes. "Karmen Gei" (Senegal, 2001) and her prison inmates use dance and music as weapons of resistance. Finally, "Taafe Fanga/Skirt Power" (Mali, 1997) challenges male supremacy by reversing gender roles.

Society's pervasive sexism, racism, and other oppressive "isms" dictate that history's foci are the experiences and tales of selected "great men," and are largely void of (her)stories that outline black women's past, present, and future endeavors However, a primary objective of all pro women advocates must entail the promo tion of black women's voices, experiences, depths, and complexities; simply put, our humanity. Please join Africana Studies & The Africa Project in this transformative

Let the truth be told

If the truth is told/The youth can

grow/They learn to survive/Until they

gain control./Nobody says you

have/To be gangstas hoes/Read more

- NAS

learn more/ Change the globe."

Faith Pearl Leach

The formation of the genre of music known to us today as hip-hop developed as a vehicle opposing oppression. During the reign of this revolutionary form of hip-hop, a solution to the

problems of oppression, degrada tion and blatant racism was issued and, education in the form of black history emerged as one of the leading factors fostering black pride. Black pride in turn counteracted racism and perpetuated success in the lives of African-Americans everywhere

Nowadays hip-hop has seemingly lost its revolutionary flare. Instead of

African-Americans consciously as well as unconsciously bred by mainstream America. Images of wannabe gangstas, aka "wankstas," dominate BET and MTV, and poison the minds

Lately, it seems as if everyone wants to rap about the Gucci interior, Fendi steering wheels and Armani dashboards present

emits that sense of urgency for the black situation in America that it once did. Instead hip-hop defers attention away from the situation and onto the ice on their black wrists.

Nas is one artist refusing to sell out to the hypocrisy of hip-

hop. Sensing the need to counteract the latest the hip-hop generation, he, continues to spit the truth to the youth. In his single "I Can," Nas vocalizes the need for education. With a chorus of children echoing his, "I know I can be what

encourages all that choose to actively listen. Rhyming about the greatness of Africa, Nas attempts to alert listeners to the truth.

Before you get that latest album, think about the lyrical content, not just the words laced over a tight beat. Support those who support you. Lets find our way to the days of hip-hop that made you want to yell, "I'm Black and I'm Proud!"

Apply to work for the Nubian Message

Positions: section editors (news, culture & arts, sports & entertainment, opinions, health & beauty), copyeditor, business manager, collections manager, circulation manager, managing editor, webmaster, office master, production manager, graphics editor, layout assistant, staff writers, public relations executive, and account execu-

- Attend the general interest meeting.
 Complete the interview process.
 Positions will be announced March 26
 Transitioning will begin April 1.

Nubian Message office: 515-1468