

# NUBIAN MESSAGE

Sentinel of the African-American Community

September 15, 2003

Vol. 11 | Edition 2

## “Little Rock Nine,” Brown Stories Regale H.S. Students

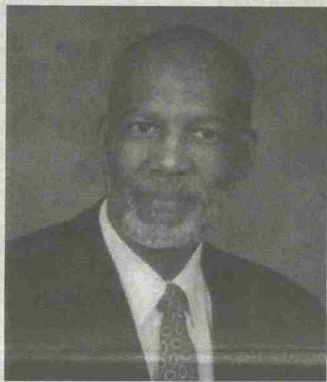
**Jerry L. Blackmon II**  
STAFF WRITER

Two civil rights pioneers who fired the opening salvos in the civil rights movement recounted their experiences to a group of local high school scholars in the Cultural Center on Friday.

**C**heryl Henderson-Brown's father Oliver Brown was named plaintiff on the Brown v. Board of Education case whose ruling rendered segregation in public schools illegal, the first shot. The Brown

case emboldened other challenges to segregation — civil and judicial — elsewhere in the country, and particularly in the South.

Ironically, though the desegregation case was filed against the Topeka, Kan. School board, Ms. Brown said Topeka had little difficulty desegregating. “After Brown, school just



African-American Cultural Center • courtesy Dr. Terrence Roberts of “Little Rock Nine.”

in the deep South where Dr. Terrence Roberts, a member of the “Little Rock Nine,” participated in the attempt to desegregate Central High School in Little Rock, Ark.

The speakers presented a video produced by the Brown Foundation that condensed the case and its aftermath into short sound bytes for the students. The video said the Little Rock Nine's presence at Central High was considered a “declaration of war” by the community.

Dr. Roberts said the Little Rock school board put a plan to desegregate together on its own. “On their own accord, they decided to obey the law,” he said.

School boards in Kansas had chosen to integrate by starting with elementary grades, Ms. Brown said. There, the

## AASAC Endorsements

The African-American Student Advisory Council has endorsed the following candidates for Student Body elections taking place today and tomorrow.

Leader of the Pack

**Jon N. Rolle**

Student Media Authority (SMA) Board

**Birnettiah Killens**

**Faith Pearl Leach**

**Lock Whiteside III**

Vote September 15 and 16 (that's today and tomorrow) at:  
<http://vote.ncsu.edu/>

process was simple because all grades after elementary school were already integrated. Little Rock, as with other boards in the South, chose to integrate grades 10, 11 and 12 first; a decision that offered “maximum opportunity for chaos,” Dr. Roberts said. The decision lead to a situation that was pure hell

for the nine pioneers. “We don't cry,” one of the nine on the tape said in an interview. “We must face what we have to face and do what we have to do.”

Dr. Roberts vividly described sessions of torment inflicted upon him by

**NINE** see page 2

## Federal Pell Grants to Decrease

### WHAT'S GOIN' N?

**Jennifer Wells**  
DAILY KENT STATE (KENT STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) KENT, Ohio — More than 80,000 students could lose significant portions of their financial aid next year.

Budget officials at the Department of Education estimate that 84,000 students nationwide could lose their Federal Pell Grant eligibility for the 2004-2005 award year.

Additionally, the department estimates the maximum Pell Grant amount will be \$270 million less than previous years. About 100,000 students will receive less money next year.

Pell Grants are federal grants for college that students do not have to pay back.

The Department of Education adjusted the formula that determines a family's expected contribution to college expenses last May. This formula decides how much

financial aid a student will receive and how much a family will contribute to college costs.

The incomes, the allowances and the assets of both parents and the student determine expected family contribution. The formula deducts state and local taxes — deductions vary from state to state.

Families will be expected to contribute more to college expenses because the change in the formula reduced the percentage of deductions in most states. New tax tables will make a family's income appear higher than it is. Previously the tax table had not been changed since the 1994-1995 award year.

Pell Grants are awarded based on need, and with the change, some students may now be ineligible to receive them.

Mark Evans, director of student financial aid, said it is too early to speculate how this new change will directly impact Kent State students, but in the past a large number of

students have relied on Pell Grants.

Evans said approximately 10,224 students at all eight Kent State campuses received Pell Grants in the 2002-2003 award year. Kent State students received a total of \$23.5 million in Pell Grants last year.

In most instances Pell Grants are available to undergraduate students who are determined financially eligible by a standard formula.

By request of Democratic lawmakers, the Congressional Research Service recently released a memorandum describing the possible impact students will notice because of the formula's change.

According to the memo, the percentage of taxes that can be deducted was unchanged in 13 states. Percentages rose in states like Connecticut, Nevada and New Jersey, giving them more financial aid. But in states like Ohio it decreased, giving students less aid.

**AID** see page 2

### ELECTIONS

There's a special election today to select a Leader of the Pack, several senators, and students to fill the remaining seats on the Student Media Authority board. SMA is the campus department which controls the student media. Vote AASAC.

### GET YOUR EVENT HERE

There's no charge to run a notification about your event in the What's Goin' On calendar. All you have to do is e-mail us. Limit submissions to 25 words or less, please.

send to: [wgo@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu](mailto:wgo@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu)

**NINE** from page 1

white students. Each of the nine was assigned a personal bully, he said, whose sole job was to make life at Central High hell for them. The white students, he said, "had a focused, planned way of getting the students out of school."

"People were treating people in a way they should not have been," Robin Woods, a white alumna of Central High said in the video. Claiming sympathy for the nine, Ms. Woods said, "I knew I'd be taking a chance by helping the black students," she said.

"Any white kid who offered any sort of support would be beaten up," Ms. Woods said.

Dr. Roberts told the students he participated because "I had determined within myself that if ever I had an opportunity to change the system, I was going to do it."

The nine students were not allowed to fight back against their white tormentors because they had signed a pledge of non-violence before they were selected to be the first black students to enroll at Central High School. Dr. Roberts said they all stuck by that pledge, rejecting offers from friends who had not signed the pledge to seek revenge on their behalf.

"I have no animosity toward anyone," he said. "Whites are not evil, they're just operating on a thought system that is flawed."

Not even the faculty were supportive of the Nine, Dr. Roberts said.

"In Little Rock, the teachers were not happy to see us," he said. They believed "segregation was not just legal, it was god ordained. How do you talk to someone who has a mindset like that?"

Dr. Roberts saw positive steps toward reconciliation in today's attitude toward racism.

"People are starting to socialize and not use skin color as a first determiner of relationship," Dr. Roberts said.

After the brief remarks following the video, the high school students were moved to different parts of the Cultural Center for workshops.

**MSA** from page 4

The dissolution of Student Development resulted in the separation of services originally controlled by one entity, and as a result more money was spread throughout the smaller constituent services left behind. These smaller factions started to gain a level of autonomy due to the increase in funding.

In addition to its academic efforts, MSA also advises several student-oriented organizations including the African-American Student Advisory Council (AASAC) which was created by uni-

versity administration in the mid '80s to quell discontent amongst African-American students. MSA advises: MiFamilia, a Hispanic organization; the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) an umbrella organization composed of representatives from black Greek organizations on campus; the Native American Student Association (NASA); and the Student Mentor Association. MSA's comprehensive approach gives underrepresented students at NCSU resources and opportunities to improve the quality of their college careers.

**AID** from page 1

This is because Ohio's tax deductions have been reduced by 3 percent for dependent students and by 1 percent for independent students.

But this 3 percent is not up to date, Evans said. He said the new tax tables are three years old and do not take into account today's economy. Evans said this makes incomes look higher and is not an ideal situation.

Recently, Ohio increased its sales tax; however, the new tax tables do not reflect the increase in Ohio taxes. Ohio citizens pay more taxes today than a year ago, but with the change students will deduct a smaller percentage of

taxes when they fill out their application for financial aid.

According to Evans, not only will Pell Grants be impacted but other financial aid as well. He said even a slightly higher family income shows lower need base and this could affect how much financial aid a student could receive overall.

"Students at low income levels will face minimal impact," Evans said. "Those at the higher levels will be affected the most."

Students who currently have Pell Grants may now face having to take out more students loans.

"The Pell Grant is the only grant I have," said Kristina Milat, junior nursing major. "The rest of my

financial aid is all loans that I will have to pay back."

Without her Pell Grants, Milat would be forced to increase her loans and eventually will have to pay back all the money she borrows now.

"I'm pushing working four days a week now with my nursing classes," Milat said. "If I worked more I would have no time to study and my grades will suffer."

Evans said there is still financial aid available for students this year.

A portion of the eight percent tuition increase created additional scholarships for those who need more assistance paying their tuition, he said.

**SPLASH** from page 4

oped the black entrepreneurial group. Neal and Jones are both seniors. Neal, in Business Administration, and Jones, in Computer Science, sought to create an organization that would cater to the needs of African-American students on campus.

Every year YBE starts from scratch by electing new members to the executive board and conducting membership drives.

Jordan Wallace, a freshman from Tampa in the First Year College, says that she plans to

become an active member of YBE after attending the "Splash Off."

"You have a support system, I'm thinking of becoming a lawyer and just to know that I will have help along the way from a peer group is comforting," she said.

"YBE has a family-like atmosphere," Solomon said. He said his goals are to keep YBE's name strong and continually driving towards success.

The organization holds its meetings every other Tuesday in Witherspoon Student Cinema at 7:30 p.m.

**NUBIAN MESSAGE**

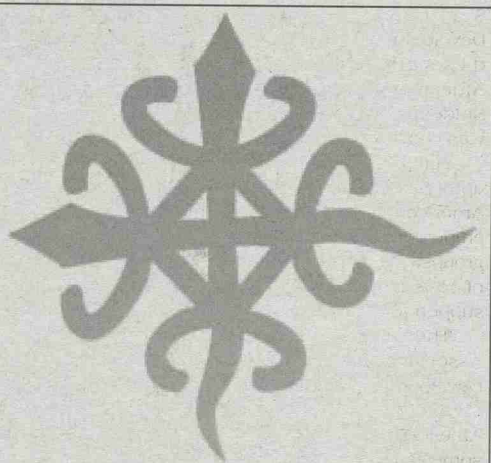
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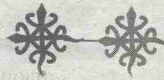
Only with the permission of our elders do we proudly produce each edition of the Nubian Message.  
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**FUNTUNFUNEFU-DENKYEMFUNEFU**

Also known as the siamese crocodiles, this Adinkra symbol depicts a two-headed crocodile sharing a common stomach — a symbol of unity in diversity. It serves as a warning that infighting and tribalism are harmful to all who engage in it.

A symbol of unity in diversity, democracy, and the oneness of the human family, the symbol represents a desire for oneness despite cultural differences.



## Multicultural Student Affairs Dept. Signals NCSU's Commitment to Minority Students' Success

**Davin Van Eyken**  
CULTURE EDITOR

"This campus for over a hundred years was a white male campus. In the '70s, African-Americans started to come in and each year more people of color started to enroll," Dr. Tom Stafford, vice chancellor of student affairs said. "These groups are still a minority; the primary goal is to make sure their needs are met."

The Department of Multicultural Student Affairs was established in July of 2001 to provide an environment where minority students could feel comfortable and welcomed. MSA evolved from the old department of African-American Student Affairs which was left orphaned, along with Greek Life, Student Conduct and others when their parent division Student Development was dissolved. African-American Student Affairs was created in 1984.

Stafford said that following the breakup of Student Development, "the African-American Student Association was empowered to do some things for other groups." He says that an important part of MSA is to provide opportunities and support for students of color.

The African-American Students Association was a part of Student Development.

According to Stafford, when Native American students started to demand some form of representation in the university, N.C. State responded by expanding programs it already offered African-Americans to meet the needs of Native Americans.

MSA's intent is to help the entire scholastic community, Stafford said. Students are given opportunities to actively participate in the programming alongside administrators by serving as peer mentors and office assistants.

MSA's administrators were recruited to spread the scope of the programming. The department has begun to reach out to Native American and Hispanic stu-

dents; both communities are suffering from chronically low retention rates.

According to MSA statistics, retention rate amongst Hispanic students was 62.8 percent, while both Native Americans and African-Americans mustered only 49 percent.

"One of my concerns is (to see) that (those) students (who) I know, graduate," Dr. Tracey Ray, director of MSA said. "The students that I don't know might need to get in contact with me."

Ray, an alumna, sends out an email the first week of class to minority freshmen with information about subscribing to MSA's mailing lists. In it, she also describes other resources offered by MSA.

MSA has developed several mailing lists that disseminate information about programs, student organizations, and lectures that might be of interest to students of color. MSA is now also responsible for the MDS classes most African-American students take during their freshman year. MDS programs were

designed to be a retention program in addition to classes that enhance African-American students' cultural awareness.

"As long as students know Tracey Ray is somebody they can go to for help, I'm okay," Ray said. "Our visibility has increased over the years - (we've moved) from the back of Harris to the front of the facilities."

MSA promotes cultural awareness and academic enhancement. Annually, it hosts multi-cultural summer symposiums to serve the African-American, Native American and Hispanic populations with an addition to the standard orientation spiel that caters to each group individually.

MSA incorporates the Peer Mentor Program wherein students are paired with an upperclass mentor during their first year so as to provide a positive role model to indoctrinate them into the productive lifestyle of a college student.

Many of MSA's programs are inherited components of African-American Student Affairs.

MSA see page 2

## Young Black Entrepreneurs Splash into New Year at Pullen Pool

**Davin Van Eyken**  
CULTURE EDITOR

Pullen Aquatic Center was the site of the "Splash Off" for Young Black Entrepreneurs looking to wet their feet in the world of business.

"We teach people about financing and marketing and we also encourage entrepreneurship," Keyviorik Jones, former president and founder of the organization said. Jones said that YBE focuses on African-Americans, but it welcome people from all cultures to participate in the organization.

YBE is reaching out to all students who want to learn about running their own business.

"We are doing a lot of workshops and bringing in one speaker a month," President Jay Solomon, a senior in technology education said.

YBE holds workshops for students and professionals; the groups make presentations on comprehensive business topics. YBE wants its members to learn about how to run their own businesses, so it provides students with basic training and education about proprietorship.

and business upkeep.

Solomon said there are many students who heard about YBE last year and want to know more about it.

The Aquatic Center was sparsely occupied during the event, consisting mainly of incoming freshmen and YBE staff. DeeJay Lil' D provided the sounds as people enjoyed the relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Students played games in the Center's pool.

Solomon said YBE is planning to continue conducting workshops with black entrepreneurs from the Triangle area.

In the past YBE has brought in entrepreneurs like Edward and Geneva Fulbright of Fulbright and Fulbright who are financial advisors and certified public accountants. Jones says that the lectures and workshops "provide guidance and connect students to the outside business world."

YBE has access to a network of professionals who can work directly with students. Now an adviser, it was Jones and co-president Troy Neal who conceptualized and devel-

SPLASH see page 2



Dr. Tracey Ray, director of MSA. Multicultural Student Affairs - courtesy

### New Student Orientation Recruiting Students for 2004 Orientation Counselors

Interested students must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and should plan to attend an informational session.

**Thursday, September 18th** 2:30-3:00 p.m.  
529 Poe Hall

**Wednesday, September 24th** 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
12 Winston Hall

**Thursday, October 2nd** 3:30-4:00 p.m.  
724 Poe Hall

**Tuesday, October 7th** 10:30-11:00 a.m.  
172 Harrelson Hall

**Wednesday, October 15th** 10:00-10:30 a.m.  
12 Winston Hall

Apply Online:  
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# Perceived segregation off base

• Disgruntled "masses" should take a page from history.

Perception does not constitute reality.

Technician wrote in an editorial last Sept. 4 that "the perception of most students on campus is that the AACC is strictly for African-American students only."

Is it the job of the four people who run the Cultural Center to reach out and change the perceptions of the 25,000+ people on this campus, or should it be the task of the student or the faculty researcher — who by definition should be intrepid souls thirsting for knowledge — to come and find out why the Cultural

Center is "strictly for African-American students only"?

We black people have had doors slammed in our faces for years. There was a time when we had to enter public buildings through the back door and were forbidden by law from "mix[ing] and mingl[ing] with those of different backgrounds."

Yet here we are. And why are we here? Because when someone tried to slam a door in our face, we stuck our foot in it so it couldn't shut. When the law said we had to come in through the back door, we got a group together and barged in through the front door. When the cops came to

enforce the law, we held out our hands and took one for the team because we had a point to make.

Eventually, there were very few doors we couldn't enter.

Perhaps if those students who feel the Cultural Center is off limits to them were to employ similar tactics, they'd discover that this small portion of the Witherspoon Student Center isn't so closed to them after all.

No one has to stick their foot in the Cultural Center's door to keep it from slamming shut: the AACC's door is always open.

To everyone.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion and responsibility of Nubian's editorial board. response@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu

# Brown v. Board 50 years hence



Shanita Graves  
OPINION EDITOR

Views expressed in personal columns are the writers' own, and do not necessarily represent the position of the Nubian Message editorial board.

As we commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision, this young sister was urged to deep thought. This case led to the end of segregation in public schools in 1954, putting an end to the falsehood of "separate but equal."

While I am thankful for the changes brought about by the Brown decision, I cannot help but wonder if we got more than we bargained for.

Although the children of the black community were given more opportunities to network and prove their equality of talent(s) to their white counterparts, in many situations the facilities of majority white schools were still better maintained than those of majority black institutions. The mere introduction of a few students of varying races into schools that were predominantly one race did not make them equal. It made them pawns of pacifism in a political game that is not necessarily governed in a manner to ensure the success of all students within the system.

Before segregation, our black schools were run more like a family's household than an institution in most cases. The principal knew the students individually and sought to resolve their problems in a manner that taught the students a lesson without endangering their education or hampering their desire to learn. Teachers were real teachers in those days. We as a people were forced to meet a certain level of excellence because if we did not, we knew that not only would

we fail, but there would be an accompanying one-on-one PTA meeting. This nonsense of passing students simply because they are physically talented athletes, or too much of a headache to continue to deal with was not an issue. That same sense of family and support has long since been driven from the hallowed halls of most public schools, and many attribute the shift to the onset of integration.

The youths of today are suffering from yet another mistake of the past - not integration, but a lack of proper planning. According to www.nationalcenter.org/brown "the history of the Fourteenth Amendment is inconclusive as to its intended effect on public education." If the purpose of public education is to provide a certain standard of education to the youths of America, then it would stand to reason that all laws pertaining to education would be written with the specific purpose of furthering the benefits of education.

In theory, this is the goal of the fourteenth amendment, however in actuality that is faced on a daily basis only furthers the presence of such racism. For the most part, teachers are no longer motivated by racial pride, or compelled to bring out the excellence in their children. Many teachers in current times are more concerned with the number of zeroes in their paycheck than with teaching their students how to read, or write a paper, or balance a checkbook.

So what can be done? Many of us constantly sit on the seat of do nothing with the mindset that one person cannot change anything, but this is not true. It only took one

BROWN see page 2



From whence we came: the ancestors keep watch over the AACC's lobby.

Adam Altman - staff

# Socialized supremacy makes AACC necessary



Dark Child  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Views expressed in personal columns are the writers' own, and do not necessarily represent the position of the Nubian Message editorial board.

Socialized learning takes place in an environment whether that environment is conducive to productive living and learning or not.

The socialized learning environment at N.C. State has often been referred to as hostile and defiled by misogynistic supremacists whose idealism of their own elitism is heightened and proven through their everyday interactions with the general student population.

These ingrained feelings are characteristic of the leaders of the majority community, and they unconsciously develop from a lifetime of privilege. So why, you may ask, do these individuals find it hard to accept their privilege as privilege? Why is it these people see the benefits of the struggle of other oppressed "minority"

groups as unnecessary?

Relating this topic to the turmoil and dissension here at NCSU, the topic of discussion centers on many things, but I am going to respond to the debate about the use of the African-American Cultural Center and its role as a student resource.

The mission of the AACC is to "Promote awareness and appreciation of the African American experience through activities and events that enhance academic excellence and strengthen cultural competence for the campus and surrounding communities." The AACC serves as a resource for all students, not just those of African ancestry.

In a hostile social learning environment, places such as the AACC are a necessary impetus for the intellectual growth of positive and successful students, specifically African-Americans in this case.

"Why can't we have a white American

SUPREMACY see page 5

# Day of mourning has become political tool



**Benjamin Kabarak**  
SWARTHMORE PHOENIX  
(SWARTHMORE COLLEGE)

*Views expressed in personal columns are the writer's own, and do not necessarily represent the position of the Nubian Message editorial board.*

(U-WIRE) Where do we go from here?

That, I think, is the question on everyone's mind as the United States limps past the second anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. Some people might argue that the United States has a clear direction now, 730 days after the attacks. Aren't we busy pursuing the War on Terror, trying to make the world a safer place while promoting the spread of democracy?

I don't think so. In fact, the United States is on shakier ground now than it has been in the last 30 years. Not since the Vietnam War have Americans been so torn apart by political conflict and global affairs. While some people say Americans have become a different people since Sept. 11, 2001, that we've changed for the better, we're worse off now than ever before. The one issue symbolic of all of our problems can found right at ground zero this year. The World Trade Towers, which once represented the strength of the American economy and the triumph of democracy, now represent the worst aspects of American politics and are symbolic of the problems that could — some might say are — jeopardizing the United States' position in global affairs.

No one knows what to do with Sept. 11 or the land at ground zero. The fight over memorial space and new office space in Lower Manhattan has become indicative of this nation's larger political struggles. First, the design committees acted on their own with little feedback from New Yorkers as to what should be rebuilt over ground zero. Then, different private and city groups with claims to the end engaged in the battle

over memorial space and available office space. Only recently have the various sides been able to reach some sort of agreement on the land use for ground zero.

As with almost everything in America these days, the fight over ground zero turned into a political battle. Competing groups were at each other's throats for control over the land. Instead of realizing the symbolism inherent in the 16 acres of land and the sanctity that millions of New Yorkers and Americans hold in this site, the different people and organizations saw ways to advance themselves politically through their wrangling over the site.

In some ways this isn't that much different than the larger scheme of American politics. President George W. Bush neglected to visit New York today because his advisers thought it would not be politically beneficial for his reelection chances. Since Bush and his staff have so thoroughly embroiled themselves in a very murky not-quagmire situation in Iraq over the issue of terrorism, the president's political advisers think that Americans would associate Bush's visiting New York on the anniversary of 9/11 with the recent failures of a quick solution to rebuilding Iraq. I personally don't care if Bush doesn't visit New York. In fact, I would rather not have this president come anywhere near my hometown, but Bush should not stay away because it's politically beneficial for him to hide under the sheets in the Lincoln Bedroom.

Bush also picked the start of this week as a good time to request billions of dollars that America does not have in order to sustain the military presence in Iraq. Maybe Congress will be feeling generous this week, what with the symbolic nature of Sept. 11. Maybe they'll just approve a ridiculous budget instead of questioning the location of the

weapons of mass destruction in Iraq or the freedom that Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden are still enjoying because, hey, it's Sept. 11. Bush has taken the image of Sept. 11 and is using it to overplay his political advantage.

What then should we do with Sept. 11? As long as Bush is the president, Sept. 11 and the United States' military advancements of the past two years will be associated with each other. Our president has taken a day that should be a day of memorial and has turned it into a cheap political advantage.

I think the easiest solution is to take politics away from Sept. 11. Our government should turn Sept. 11 into a national holiday. To most people alive today, Sept. 11 would have more symbolism and meaning in our lives than Labor Day ever has. Ground zero, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania crash site should all feature permanent memorials to those who lost their lives, and the president could visit any of them for whatever

## SUPREMACY from page 4

or Eurocentric Cultural Center," many have asked. In response to that question, it is my firm opinion that the university itself is a Eurocentric cultural center.

NCSU's curriculum is presented from a European perspective that negates the accomplishment of other cultures while uplifting Europeanism. The Trail of Tears, Japanese Internment camps, slavery, and parts of Mexico coincidentally becoming Texas, are mentioned in history textbooks, but never from a factual historical perspective. While the Renaissance era and Columbus' "discovery" of a well populated land are topics that dominate classroom lectures, even they are presented from a biased perspective. This consequently enables European Americans to

espouse an ideology of superiority. When everything written about your forefathers is positive, and things written by the ancestors of all other racial groups are negative, development of a superiority complex seems a natural consequence.

With all that said, it is my firm belief that in order to produce a university conducive to the productivity of groups of both sexes, various racial, ethnic, and sexual origination backgrounds, we must first learn about one another, and that is one of the sole reasons for the existence of the AACC - to educate. Our teachers must be required to undergo diversity training that will imbue them with the skills to handle situations requiring a diverse perspective. We must all be willing to work and learn.

## Write for opinion?

[op-ed@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu](mailto:op-ed@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu)

memorial services were planned for that year. While it is also vital to move beyond tragedies, As Americans stumble through world politics, there is an appropriate time and place for political maneuvers. The time surrounding Sept. 11 is not important to memorialize and never will be that those who lost their lives, appropriate time.

# Stay In Touch

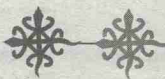
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# 6

# HEALTH & BEAUTY

## Seasonale Promises to End Periods, Pregnancies

**A. Michelle McLean**  
H&B EDITOR

Seasonale, a new contraceptive which promises to end monthly periods, may soon be widely available to all women by prescription.

Currently under review by the FDA, this new type of birth control pill will reduce the number of periods from 13 per year to four; roughly once per season. Seasonale, manufactured by Barr Laboratories in Pamona, N.Y., is expected to be available as early as fall of this year.

Seasonale, like other oral contraceptives, consists of a combination of estrogen and progestin, the two hormones most commonly used in birth control pills. According to Dr. Freedolph Anderson, the lead researcher at Eastern Virginia Medical School, where the clinical trials for Seasonale are being conducted, the difference between Seasonale and other oral contraceptives is the significantly lower doses of those two hormones.

Overall, the total amount of hormones in Seasonale is lower than its counterparts. "But every time you go low dose, it is important to be vigilant in taking it," said Marianne Turnbull, Coordinator of Health Promotions at NCSU's Student Health Center said. "If you mess up the body's hormone level, the pill will either be ineffective, or it just won't work."

Similar to the standard birth control pill, Seasonale is designed to prevent ovulation. The hormone cocktail in most birth control pills cause the mucus membranes which line the cervix to thicken and become impenetrable

to sperm. Seasonale differs slightly in that it fully suppresses endometrial growth, which prevents a fertilized egg from embedding itself in the lining of the uterus. This reduces the possibility of pregnancy and results in lighter periods.

For many years, women have relied on daily birth control pills to get the same effect as Seasonale. Clinical trials indicated that during the testing phase many women, by not taking the placebo pills at the end of the Seasonale pack, reported not having a period for several years.

The low hormonal dosage in Seasonale would more than likely cause fewer side effects. Some doctors, however, believe that having a period is a natural necessity to a woman's hormonal cycle and should not, therefore, be reduced.

Turnbull said the value in Seasonale for some women may be an end to painful periods and the other symptoms that go along with it such as heavy bleeding and severe cramping. "[Each] person is different."

Decreasing the number of periods has several benefits besides convenience. Fewer periods can aid in preventing anemia and endometriosis. Clinical trials suggested that Seasonale may also lower the risks of cervical and ovarian cancer by up to 80 percent if taken over several years.

While altering the frequency of one's period through the use of birth control pills, there are disadvantages in taking any type of oral contraceptive. The hormones used in birth control pills may heighten the risk of blood clots and strokes. Women

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## Strut dem Jeans with Style

**A. Michelle McLean**  
H&B EDITOR

When it comes to fashion, there is nothing more refreshing or universal than a pair of jeans. Whether it's sneakers and tee shirt or a lace blouse with stilettos, there's hardly anything that won't go with jeans.

Made in a variety of cuts, styles, and sizes, any and everyone can own a pair of jeans that caters to her body type as well as her personality and lifestyle. Owning several pairs is a must because you can never have too many - especially when they are a great fit. After all, it's the good fit and look that produces perfect wear and longevity.

To ensure that perfect fit, it is extremely important that you know what kind of jeans fits and accentuates your particular body type and shape. You may want to camouflage some areas and play up others. Because there are so many styles to choose from however, there should not be a problem with looking your absolute best.

Those of you who are vertically challenged should, for instance, avoid wearing cropped styles that cut off your body's silhouette. Instead, opt for long, heel-grazing jeans that elongates the leg. Also, try straight-leg jeans that feature a vertical seam in the front or a pinstriped trouser style that instantly adds inches to the legs. On the other hand, for those of you who wish you were a little shorter or are proud of your height, but want to show it off better, go for straight boot cut styles to polish off a slim, sleek physique. Steer away from buying jeans that cut off at the knee or shin.

When it comes to ladies with boyish figures, the remedy is to create curves where perhaps there are none. The way to resolve this problem is to buy cargo type jeans with pockets located on the hips, rear, and legs. Stay away from

slim fitting styles that further accentuate a straight figure.

If you happen to be short-waisted, low rise jeans are for you because it helps your body seem balanced and well proportioned. High-waisted jeans, moreover, are a definite no no because it makes a short torso look even shorter. When you sport a pear shape, jeans in dark denim that have large back pockets are the best choice.

Now, for the curvier, fuller-figured females, there are several jean styles that both hug the curves yet conceal other areas. One thing you should avoid, though, are jeans with tapered legs. That's because they make your waist, hips, and bottom look thicker and your legs look small. Boot cut jeans in dark denim helps to balance your shape.

For ladies who carry a lot of junk in their trunk, pass up the high-waisted styles that have no back pockets. They make the bottom look even larger. If minimizing is what you want to achieve, try wearing low-rise boot-leg jeans in dark denim to balance the curves while still complementing the rear. If you lack in this area, you should wear jeans that have pockets located just on the rear to add and create a rounder curvier shape.

Some additional tips you should consider when shopping for the perfect pair of jeans include taking along with you the shoes you plan to wear. Besides, the look depends on what shoe you decide to wear. Another suggestion would be to not allow the trends to choose your jeans for you. The jeans in style at the moment may not be the right type for your body. So stick to the styles that make you look fabulous.

And finally, ask for help. That is what those sales clerks are for. After all, it could be a matter of becoming a fashion do or don't. So go ahead and get that perfect pair of jeans and strut your stuff. You deserve it.

# "Hedley" Show Cast A Black Shakespeare?

**LaToya Eaves**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

Was Jitney really all that?  
If the cast of King Hedley II is any indication, it must have been.

Dr. Patricia Caple, associate professor in communication and award-winning director of all of August Wilson's other plays, conducted auditions Sept. 9 and 10. She was looking for six characters: four males and two females. With the exception of "Doub" and "Philmore" from last year's show, the entire Jitney cast returned and auditioned for parts in Hedley.

Caple warned this year's cast that they would "have to work extremely hard before you can ever hope to surpass Jitney."

To find out whether this year's cast rises to Caple's challenge, Nubian will be following Hedley with regular reports from pre-production through strike.



**Damion Sledge, 26**

KING HEDLEY II

COM, Mass Communications

"I'm interested in the black struggle on stage, but I really do it because of the director. She has prepared me for so many things; working with her has prepared me for other ventures and other venues in life."



**Anthony Hardison, 22**

MISTER

After-school site director

"Life is a stage, and I like to act up."



**Raymond Cox, 24**

STOOL PIGEON

Professional Legal Assistant

"Theatre exposes you to culture — more specifically, black culture — that you might not otherwise experience if you weren't black."

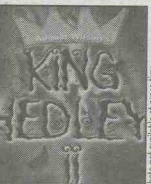


**Ron Foreman, elder**

ELMORE

Director, New Horizons Choir

"Make it work."



**Allena Pierce, 22**

RUBY

COM, Business and Marketing Education

"I love the theatre, both watching and performing."



**Andrea Cherry, 20**

TONYA

COM, Arts Application in Theatre

"I love acting and I have enjoyed my past experiences with theatre."

**LaToya Eaves**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

Famed Broadway actor Brian Stokes Mitchell called him "Our Shakespeare."

Broadway director Marion McClinton said he "is always constantly in pursuit of the truth. He writes about the truth of a people, the truth of a decade, with great poetry."

Who is this I am speaking of? The one and only August Wilson. With his first most recent work being featured by University Theatre this November, it seemed only fitting to look a little closer at the man behind the script.

Wilson has touched lives across all culture barriers with his uncanny ability to compose "great poetry" in the form of drama that everyone can enjoy and relate to. He has won scores of awards, from Tonys and New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards to Pulitzer Prizes.

Wilson was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1945 as Frederick August Kittle. Later in life, he took on the last name Wilson because it was his mother's maiden name. He dropped out of the 9th grade at age 15. He later completed his education through the use of public libraries at age 16; he said this is where his real education began. Wilson had been disgusted by the racial inequities of public education. During this time, he worked menial jobs and submitted his poetry for black publications at the University of Pittsburgh. He also wrote dramatic skits for the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul.

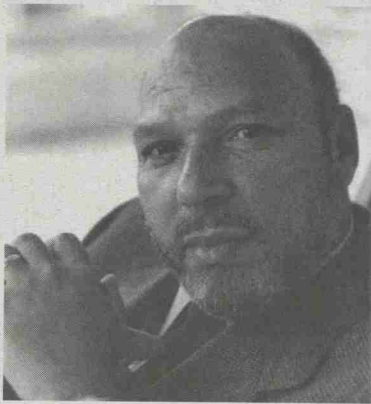
In 1968, Wilson co-founded and directed Black Horizons on the Hill. Black Horizons was a theater company he placed in Pittsburgh's Hill District. Starting the company was a bit of a risk because Wilson had minimal theatrical experience. He went on to write "Jitney," a play that is set in the Hill District of Pittsburgh in 1977.

"Jitney" sparked Wilson's career as a playwright. Since that time, Wilson has

set out to write one play for each decade of the 20th century.

He has completed nine works for the ten decades.

Wilson began the century with "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," a story set in 1911, that tells the tale of Herald Loomis and his daughter in search of wife and mother Martha.



Acclaimed playwright August Wilson

He follows Turner with "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," set in a Chicago recording studio in 1927.

"Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" was Wilson's first commercial success, enjoying 275 performances on Broadway. His latest Broadway appearance was the play "King Hedley II" featuring an ex-con who steals refrigerators to make ends meet as its title character. As with most of Wilson's plays, Hedley is set in Pittsburgh's poverty-stricken Hill District; he play takes place in 1985.

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

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