



# Nubian Message

October 26, 2004 • Volume 12 • Issue 7

## Students question Appropriations at Sit-In

**DARRYL (D.J.) HARDY**  
Staff Writer

Wednesday, October 20, 2004 will go down in history at North Carolina State University. On this day, over 200 strong-minded African-American students joined forces to participate in a sit-in, protesting the recent decisions of the student senate's appropriations committee.

Late Tuesday night, the decisions of the appropriations committee were unveiled. African-American organizations on NC State's campus were outraged to discover that of the \$40,000 granted to student organizations, African American organizations received a mere \$755 dollars. Soon, this news reached Portia Overton, president of the Society of African-American Culture (SAAC). Overton was outraged to find that SAAC received no money of the \$4,000 requested to bring a Pan-African speaker to NC State's campus.

"I was appalled to find out where the values of our Student Government lied, who claims to advocate student interest and enrichment. It was shocking to see that their value lied in sports, rather than academic programs which would have greater long-term benefits to the students on our campus," said Overton.

After realizing that a number of organizations housed under the African American Student Advisory Council (AASAC) received little to no funding from appropriations, Overton contacted Faith P. Leach, chair



Students participate in Student Senate sit-in.  
Taylor Templeton

of AASAC.

"The lack of funding African American Student organizations received was unreasonable, in comparison to the amount of student fees they pay to student government. After calculating that student organizations represented by AASAC received \$755, not including groups such as Commercial Break and Impact, I was disheartened. Being a member of the university fee review committee, I understand the importance of student fees and responsibilities that the units who

are paid student fees have to their student constituents," said Leach, a senior in Communication.

Some of the African American organizations which received no funding include; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Association for the Concerns of African American Graduate Students, Dance Visions, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Society of African-American Culture.

While discussing their plan of action, a tenacious Overton decided to compile a group of SAAC member to attend and speak at the Student Senate meeting. Leach, in return, felt that the plan of action should involve more than just members of SAAC, since the issue affected so many organizations represented by AASAC.

"Because the decision affected so many African

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## TRIBUTE TO DR. DORIS LARYEA

**MARTIA SHARPE**  
News Editor

Dr. Doris Laryea was first diagnosed with cancer in 2001. Still, she continued to serve in many capacities before she died on Oct. 3, 2004. The home going service for Dr. Laryea was held at Riley Hill Baptist Church in Wendell, NC at 2 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 8. Reverend Alphonza W. Fullwood preached the funeral service and spoke about the parable of the eagle who still opened his wings and flew after coming from among the chickens. Fullwood compared Laryea to this parable, for she was a woman who did not keep her eyes cast down like the chickens, but realized her ability to succeed at her dreams and she remembered to apply James Aggrey's words from the parable:

**"O eagle, thou art an eagle. Thou dost belong to the sky. Stretch forth thy wings and fly."**

Dr. Doris Laryea, a devoted Christian, was truly a woman of love and great encouragement to others. She was known to have a good sense of humor and always wore a warm smile upon her face. An extremely loving and outgoing woman, Dr. Laryea had a humble personality and served others in whatever

capacity necessary.

Dr. Laryea was the wife of Robert Kpani Laryea, a Ghana native, and the mother of Robert Obuamah. She was the sister of: Geraldine L. Collier and Patricia Johnson and brothers: Lynwood R. Lucas Sr., William S. Lucas Sr. and Harvey, Sr. She was born on May 18, 1937 in Wendell, NC and has always been viewed as a leader in the family, community affairs, church relations and more. A woman of many accomplishments, Laryea was the first Director of the Board of Christian Education, leader in the Wake Baptist Training Union Association, organizer of the Senior Citizens Ministry, teacher of The Adult Women's Sunday School Class, Assistant Professor of English at various universities including NCSU. She was the first African American female with a PhD to become employed here at NCSU. Furthermore, she has elected to participate in NBC television station commercials.

Patricia Johnson, office assistant in the Facilities Operations Office at NCSU, described her relationship with her sister as being really close. While they were both employed at NCSU, they kept in contact almost every day and conversed about everything. A true sister to Johnson, Laryea was a good listener as well as one who gave great advice. When describing her relationship with her sister, Johnson said:

"I know that she always had my interests at heart. She was very honest and opinionated. Like my best

friend, she was always there."

Johnson also described Laryea as never being the boastful or prideful type. Instead, if you did not know who Laryea was, no one would know that she was a professor who had accomplished so much. She carried herself in such a humble manner. Johnson says that she has witnessed that her sister changed several young people's lives causing them to get on the right paths. Some have gone back to school because of Laryea's dedicated, motivating and caring character.

Laryea was a reasonable person and was always there for the students supporting them.

"She believed in treating everyone fair and always tried to find the positive in anyone," said Johnson.

Mr. Jim Clark, NCSU English professor has been teaching for 40 years and has known Laryea for about 25 years. When Laryea became really sick this spring, he covered two of her classes in her stead.

Clark describes Laryea as a "longtime colleague and friend."

He knew Laryea to be an excellent professor who always incorporated reading, writing and speaking skills into her classroom. Laryea believed that education was more than giving attention to the intellectual side, but about reaching out to the whole person. She reached out to everyone in her classroom.

Because of the strong relationship she developed

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## Congress to Ease Student Loans

**ELIZABETH CHERNOW**  
U-WIRE (DC BUREAU)

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON -- Congress is looking to ease student loans and encourage and reward new teachers.

A bill passed in the Senate and the House two weeks ago, without opposition, ends the federal guarantee of a 9.5 percent rate of return to student loan lenders. Officials estimate \$285 million in savings, which would provide forgiveness for student loans for math, science and special education teachers in underprivileged schools.

Congress passed the original legislation allowing the 9.5 percent return rate about 20 years ago to subsidize lenders when interest rates were higher, said Jim Manley, press secretary for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.). Today, most students pay interest rates of about 3.5 percent on their loans.

In 1993, legislation passed to try to phase out the government subsidy to lenders, but some lenders found loopholes in the legislation to continue to receive federal funds, officials said.

Robert Shireman, director of the Institute for College and Academic Success, said lenders may no longer use "cloning," or giving loans tax exempt status just long enough to qualify for the subsidy.

"Rather than being squandered, these funds will now provide an important

recruiting tool for districts in need of more teachers, reward teachers who commit to underserved populations and better prepare students in those classrooms for success in college or other pursuits," said Sen. Judd Gregg (R-NH), chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, in a press release.

However, Democrats and student loan advocates said they do not think the new legislation is sufficient. Shireman said the bill still allows "recycling" loans to

extend their lives.

"It's absolutely ridiculous," he said. "There's no way Congress intended for this in the 1993 law."

Manley said that Kennedy would like to permanently end the loophole, which allows lenders when the legislation expires next year.

"Some lenders are exploiting a loophole in the law that is providing them hundreds of millions of dollars that could help students reduce student loans," Manley said.

Shireman said he estimates a more permanent and complete solution would save taxpayers \$2 to 3 billion. With the new legislation, taxpayers are paying \$240 million per quarter.

He added that he believes the legislation is not more complete because some not-for-profit organizations benefit from the subsidy, but a bill could have been tailored specifically for those groups.

"I think on the issue of it being permanent, they can come back to it and take credit again for it next year," Shireman said.

Despite the opposition, officials said many Republicans are pleased with the bill in its current state.

"President Bush was one of the first to propose ending the subsidies as part of his FY 2005 budget proposal," said Stephanie Babyak, a spokesperson for Secretary of Education Rod Paige, in an e-mail.

In a press release, Paige said the legislation "was the right-and only-way to go to immediately address the problem."

"The legislation not only closes the loophole but also wisely directs the savings to the nation's classrooms to help ensure that every child in America is taught by a highly qualified teacher, because we know teachers are the key to increased student achievement," he said. "I stand ready to have the U.S. Department of Education implement this legislative

## STUDENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

American organizations, I felt that it would be more effective if we [African American students] utilize our collective power and protest the decision of the appropriations committee by conducting a sit-in during the student senate meeting," stated Leach.

Between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m., African American students joined forces and began a mass email and instant messaging campaign, informing African-American students of the appropriations decision and of the sit-in to be held. The next day, news quickly spread around campus, as African American students were informing their peers of the news, and urged them to participate in the sit-in.

By 7 p.m. on Wednesday, over 200 emotional African American students, dressed in all black, showed up at the Student Senate chambers, accompanied by the NC State drum line.

Gabrielle Jenkins, a junior in biochemistry and biological sciences stated, "I could hear the drum sounding into my room and at moment I realized the black community's had come together. As I approached cultural center and saw us dressed in all black, it was confirmed that our voices would be heard. It was so powerful, so uplifting, and I knew that I was a part of something extraordinary."

During the meeting, senators heard from Shana Kelly, a senior in textiles engineering, and ASAAC chair Faith P. Leach.

Leach stole the show and captivated the audience during her passionate speech. During her presentation, Leach stressed in the importance of African-American student organizations in achieving diversity on NC State's campus. Likewise, she stressed the limited impact of organizations such as the rowing team, who received \$3,600; almost 10% of the total amount of money given. She informed the senate that African-American students would no longer be complacent; nor will we sit and be blatantly discriminated against!

"African American students want to know where exactly our estimated \$22,150 is going, because obviously it is not filtered back into our organizations," Leach added.

Following presentations from African American student leaders, student body president, Tony Caravano, student senate president, Will Quick and other Student Government senators, the senate voted to take appropriations back to committee. Our voices were heard!

North Carolina State University will never be the same. On this day, African-Americans rose to the challenge, came together and achieved victory. Regardless of the outcome of the appropriations committee, they proved that African-American students are not all about "talk"; but are about action!

## EVENTS

### DELTA SIGMA THETA- DELTA WEEK WILL CONTINUE THIS WEEK EVENTS ARE:

-Tuesday, October 26:

Cosponsorship w/ Young Black Entrepreneurs (YBE)

\*\*Get Your \$\$ Right: Invest Now, Spend Later"

w/ Steve Gaito of Blue Ridge Wealth Management

-Wednesday, October 27:

\*\*\*The Real Deal on Attaining Your Degree"

Come get a different perspective and learn what your advisors may not tell you!

-Thursday, October 28:

\*\*Cosponsorship w/ Society of African American Culture (SAAC) & African Students Union (ASU)

"The Middle Passage: Bridging the Gap"

\*\*Party w/ da Reds!!! @ the Warehouse

10-2pm; Ladies \$3, Gentlemen \$5 BEFORE 11pm; Greek Discount all night!

- Friday, October 29:

\*\*MO will be out on the brickyard reminding people to fulfill their duties as citizens by voting the following Tuesday! VOTE!!

\*\*Iced OWT: Join us for Ice Skating at the IcePlex

7:30-10pm; located at the corner of Brentwood Rd. & Raleigh Blvd

<http://www.iceplex.com>

\*\*All week, we will be collecting toys for our Toy Drive. Remember the \$10 maximum

for information visit: <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~jdhunter/deltaflyerfront.jpg> and <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~jdhunter/deltaflyerback.jpg>

-Jesus Week will continue this week until Saturday, Oct. 30- For a list of programs visit :

<http://www.ncsu.edu/msa/listservs/weeklyevents.php?loc=AASA&arch=yes&cid=6#71>

-Black Students Board and Society of African-American Culture will be having "Poetic Minds: A Rhythmic Night of Poetry and Spoken Word" Featuring a special guest from DEF POETRY

JAM!!-On Friday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m. in TalleyStudent Center Ballroom

If you would like your events announced in the Nubian Message contact the Editor-In-Chief at [EVENTS@NUBIAN.SMA.NCSU.EDU](mailto:EVENTS@NUBIAN.SMA.NCSU.EDU) or Call 515-1468.

## TRIBUTE

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with her students, many of them called her "Ma Laryea."

English department head, Mary Helen Thuente knew Laryea as a woman who would just "light up the place." Knowing Laryea for a little over three years, Thuente remembers Laryea as being really committed to service, active in Eastern Star, involved in professional women organizations and many others. Laryea was also active in the NCSU's African American journal, Obsidian. Dr. Doris Laryea served her community well and remained an exemplary woman of love and joy even in her time of sickness. May she rest in heavenly peace forever.



## THE GUY'S RULES

### *Funny, Shocking and True*

**KEITRIS WEATHERSBE**

Opinions Editor

When was the last time you read a piece of literature, flyer, or email, and your first reaction to it was anger? Yet, later after reading the piece again you got a laugh. As weird as it seems, I have experienced this when I received an email from my mother. The title, "The Guys' Rules" was at the top in bold, and I first thought, "what type of email has my mom sent me this time?" The email might offend some females, but I saw most of its content as the truth. Not to mention that it was quite funny.

The author, who is not mentioned in the email unfortunately, lists a set of rules from the males' perspective in regards to their relationships with females. He begins with the comment that all points present are to be numbered "1". Here are just a few of his rules:

"The Guys' Rules"

1. A headache that lasts for 17 months is a problem, see a doctor.

2. Yes and no are perfectly acceptable answers to almost every question.

3. When we have to go somewhere, absolutely anything you wear is fine...really.

4. Ask for what you want. Let us be clear on this one: subtle hints do not work! Strong hints do not work! Obvious hints do not work! Just say it.

5. Anything we said six months ago is inadmissible

in an argument. In fact, all comments become null and void after seven days.

Oops! Now can you understand where I am coming from when I say that this list is true yet funny? This list, I believe, was meant for the female to comprehend and understand what males sometimes have to put up with from us. If you read the list in its entirety, you can understand why some females, or even males, might be offended by it. I just see it as a fun way to view the issues we often face in male/female relationships. There are plenty of things that females fail to realize about males and vice versa. This list of rules has brought to light the significant thoughts that guys may have. It has also brought to light that many females, including me, may fail to realize that everything that we think is right, may not always be so. It all stems from communication. If these rules were communicated and put into practice, then maybe the author wouldn't have seen a need to compose this email.

I truly do not think the composer of this email intended to humiliate anyone. However, I do think it was composed for the purpose to educate. If you would like to view "the Guys' Rule" email in its entirety, feel free to contact the Nubian Message.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

-Ervin Johnson, Political Affairs Chair of SAAC  
Vote Early the Last Week of October!

Early voting at the Board of Elections: Thursday October 14 through Saturday October 30. Weekdays 8:30 to 5:30. Three weekend days October 23, 24, and 30 from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Vote any day at any Wake location: Saturday October 23 through Saturday October 30.

Early Voting Locations: Any voter registered in Wake County can vote at any Wake County location.

Board of Election Times: Saturdays and Sunday: 11 to 4, Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5

All Other Location Times: Saturdays and Sunday: 11 to 4, Monday through Friday: 11 to 7

Apex Community Center, 53 Hunter Street

Cary: Herbert C. Young Community Center, 101 Wilkinson Ave.

Garner Town Hall Complex, Building B, 900 Seventh Ave.

Knightdale Town Hall, 950 Steeple Square Court

Raleigh:

Mary E. Phillips High School, 1923 Milburn Road

Millbrook Exchange Park, 1905 Spring Forest Road

Northwest Services & Police Substation, 8016 Glenwood Ave.

Pullen Arts Center, 105 Pullen Road

Wake County Board of Elections, 337 S. Salisbury Street

Wake County Library Administration Building, 4020 Cary Drive

Wake Technical Community College, Student Services Building, 9101 Fayetteville Road

Wake Forest Town Hall, 401 Elm Ave.

Wendell Community Center, 601 W. Third Street

General Election: Tuesday, November 2nd at your usual voting place.

How Can You Help?

Make sure your voter registration is current. Check

[www.wakegov.com/elections](http://www.wakegov.com/elections) or call 856-6240.

Plan now to vote early. Pick a date, time, and place and put it

on your calendar today.

Don't risk missing a chance to vote. Vote Early!

## IS IT ALL IN VAIN?

**JOY JOHNSON**

Columnist

That is the burning question of the year which no one seems to have a real answer for. The events following

Sept. 11 have caused quite a bit of skepticism and rhetorical questioning from the American people such as "why" and "for what purpose" is this war against terrorism consuming and threatening their livelihoods.

The allegations against our own vice president's conflicts of interest with Iraqi involvement and his former

affiliations with energy services giant Halliburton, have caused me to raise an eyebrow at our executive

branch as it has for many Americans. From unconstitutional "duck-hunting" trips between Cheney and

Supreme Court Justice Scalia, to the thousands of soldiers who have lost their lives after the war was

declared over, to the notion that women may become legally required to enter the draft and even after our

president's nonchalance at not even knowing what the Dred Scott decision was at the last presidential debate;

I have finally come full circle on the issues.

I have come to the critical conclusion that it is not all in vain, it is most likely that due to purely illegitimate and unconstitutional reasons we have become an involuntary participatory in the war on Iraq, and lived through the most horrific violations of national security in our nation's history. As for me, I feel that the present dilemma will in the end purge America of much of the naïveté that its citizens possess on the issues of voting, political activism, and ownership of their true democratic and civil rights.

Modern America has never seen such a wave of 18 to 21 year olds concerned in voting and politics, and there has never been more attention paid to political debates on both the national and local levels. Even as seen at the sit-in on our campus against the

Appropriations Bill, I am pretty sure it has been a long time since NC State has seen such interest by its minority students to stand up in the name of equality and justice. This current presidency, to many has been not only a curse, but in my eyes it has also been a blessing; it has been an extremely long time since there have been this many black, Hispanic and Native Americans participating in positive political activism and social consciousness.

I have become much more conscious politically, culturally and socially for the simple fact that I realize that Osama and Saddam are not the only threats to our national security, but who we vote for on Nov. 2 is also a matter of national, state and local security. I am to some degree grateful that the current presidency turned out this way, because of the fact that America now realizes how much impact the leader of the free world has!

The question is, what are we willing to do now that the current president has tripled the national debt, left millions of minority school children behind with his "No Child Left Behind" policy, broken ties with the majority of our substantial European allies and erupted wars and created enemies in countries that are now in turn killing our brothers and sisters as you are reading this article...

Must I go on? You have the power to ensure that this presidency was not in vain and you have no power if you don't vote. In a democracy, only the people who vote or own land can speak and be heard. It's your decision, your voice, your vote!

## 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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"except for God"  
A symbol of the supremacy of God. This unique and beautiful symbol is ubiquitous in Ghana. It is by far the most popular for use in decoration, a reflection on the deeply religious character of the Ghanaian people



## THE REAL BEGINNING OF OUR ROOTS

**MIKIA HORSEY**  
Culture Writer

They say history repeats itself, and the saying could not be truer. Time and time again this cliché has proven itself in the sense of wars, politics, and even fashion. From bell-bottoms to flip and afro hairstyles, our parents' age has come back with a vengeance.

The rage in the new millennium seems to be the "natural" look. Especially in African Americans, the tightly curled, kinky, frizzy, wavy look dominates the females on campus. Also, the tight spiraling tresses known as dreadlocks are commonly seen. Where did this style come from?

The spiraling motion of the hair is widespread, as the word spiral has power and history in itself. Almost all necessary and great things in the universe have the signature spin. The essence of who you are, DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid), even has a double helix spiral formation. The Supreme Power spins throughout the universe, plants spiral up from the soil... your blood even spirals from your veins! Every type of hair spirals from your head; even those with naturally straight hair have a whorl on the crest of their head from which their hair spirals. Those with curlier or kinkier hair have a more noticeable spiral, from the whorl at the crest and the individual strands that coil from the roots.

Taking it back to Biblical times, Jesus may have had dreadlocks. As a Nazirite, a vow is taken to

never cut their hair but to let the "locks of hair on his head grow" (Numbers 6: 2, Leviticus 19:27, 21:5). Jesus was a Nazirite, and his hair was even described as "hair like the pure wool" (Daniel 7:9). Woolly hair, if never combed or brushed and simply washed and dried will naturally interlink into locks. Samson, whose strength was in his hair, had seven dreadlocks (Judges 13:5, 16:17, 19).

The infamous Bob Marley, a renowned Rastafarian, wore his dreadlocks with pride. In the Rastafarian religion, it is outlawed to cut or comb the hair. Following Leviticus 21:5, which says "they shall not make baldness upon their heads, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make cuttings in their flesh", Rastafarians allowed their hair to mat and entwine into long dreadlocks. They have even evolved the word "dread" into a noun of praise!

Stars such as Whoopi Goldberg, Malcolm Jamal Warner, and the undisputed heavyweight champion of 1999, Lennox Lewis sport the style with pride. Kelli McDowell, a junior in Biological Sciences here



Menes Kedar(right) battles at KWU freestyle battle in 2002. File Photo

at NC State, also wears dreadlocks. "After wearing micro braids for such a long time, I did not have too many options. I did not want to get a perm, that's too much maintenance," said McDowell. She has been growing her

dreadlocks since October 21, 2003.

Dreadlocks are not only an expression of self and religion, but are easy to take care of. Rastafarians also believe that dreadlocks are a quality of Black people. They are "high-tension wires" that transmit divine energy and inspiration from Jah (God), the creator, to Rasta, the mirror", as quoted by Nicholas Sparrow in his manuscript entitled *Rastafari: A Way of Life*. He says that as "Blacks awaken to the true self-knowledge and self-acceptance this brings, the negative racist conditioning with respect to their natural spiraling, nappy hair as 'bad' and straighter hair as 'good' will cease."

## GROUPS DISCUSS CRISIS IN THE SUDAN

**SHAMEICA L. GARDNER**  
Mind, Body & Soul Editor

On Oct. 19, The Student Peace Action Network, in conjunction with the Middle East and North African Student Association, hosted a program titled, "Crisis in Sudan," which highlighted the political struggles and mass murders in Sudan, especially in the city of Darfur. Presidential hopeful, John Parker of the Workers World Party, an independent party, was the featured speaker of the program.

Sudan has a very diverse ethnic population with over 200 spoken languages in the country. The country of Sudan had been divided into the north, which is predominantly Arabic, and the south, which is mostly African. The Muslim population has also been divided into southerners and northerners.

Sudan, especially Darfur, is an area rich in oil, gold, silver, copper, magnesium and other valuable minerals and metals. "Darfur is like a land floating on oil. So anyone who controls it has those enormous resources," said Hassam, one of the programs three panelists, and a member of MENASA. Hassam, who opened the meeting with a list of facts about the country of Sudan and its resources, provided background facts on the country of Sudan and the war that has been raging over the past

21 years.

Sudan, which is the largest country in Africa, has a population of 39 million people, with an unemployment rate of 18.7 percent. Sudan, which has an average per capita income of \$300.00, is very poor in comparison to other nations.

The civil war, which began in 1983, has resulted in at least 2 million deaths. As of September 2004, the World Health Organization estimated 50,000 deaths in Darfur, and by October the toll will have risen to 70,000, mainly due to starvation and disease, according to Hassam.

Parker, who spoke out against capitalism and imperialism, felt that many of the powerful nations of the world have encouraged continued fighting. Parkers states that they are just now getting involved because they view this as an opportunity to capitalize on the oil reserves in Sudan. "The U.S now wants peace, because the U.S. now wants oil," Parker stated.

Parker provided a short history on the colonial occupation of African countries, which he feels has partly led to the destruction of the country.

Past U.S. president, Bill Clinton, was criticized by Parker because of his involvement in bombing of a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan, back in 1998. Parker stated that Clinton accused the Sudanese of manu-

facturing nuclear weapons at the company, and had it bombed, only to discover that there was never any manufacturing of weapons.

The bombing, according to Parker, wiped out 50 percent of the countries medical supplies, and 90 percent of its malaria medication. Parker further stated that Clinton's attempt to link the country of Sudan to the bombing of the Kenyan embassy were, "totally false."

Parker thinks that recently, strides have been made to alleviate some of the devastation in the area. The United Nations has gotten involved and provided aid to the country, and is now asking the U.S. to donate \$150 million, which will reduce many of the deaths, caused my starvation and disease, according to Parker.

When asked about the program, many of the audience members enjoyed it, and found its information helpful. "I thought it was very informative. I really didn't know anything about the whole situation, and it taught me a lot," said Emily Rhya, a student at Raleigh Turner High.



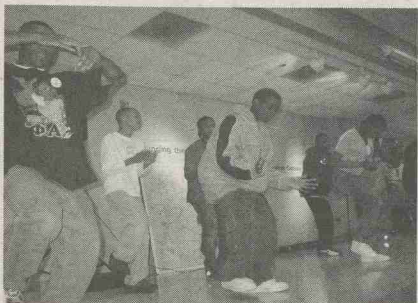
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Nubian?**

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

[eic@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu](mailto:eic@nubian.sma.ncsu.edu)



## A LOOK BACK AT HERITAGE DAY 2004



Alpha Phi Alpha performs with youth.  
Courtesy of African American Cultural Center.

### AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER Press Release

Sounds of music, joy and laughter filled the Multipurpose Room of the African American Cultural Center at the Center's annual Heritage Day on Saturday, October 23. The theme this year Changing the Landscape of Society: African American Creative Genius was celebrated through workshops, activities and performances. The day included a gallery tour, storytelling, stamp making, jewelry making as well as workshops in African Dance (DanceVisions), Hip-Hop Dance (Commercial Break), Gospel Choir (New Horizons), Modeling (Black Finesse), History of Step (Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated) and Step Team (Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.)

More than two hundred youth, NC State students and parents attended this annual celebration and recognition of African American Heritage. Participant groups included local Girl Scout troops, the Saturday Program for Academic and Cultural Education (SPACE), Brownie troops, Pleasant Union United Church of Christ youth, and a host of other community youth. Upon completion of the workshops, student participants, along with the NC State student organizations, presented a 'showcase' of their talent and their workshop knowledge acquisition.

The Association for the Concerns of African American Graduate Students (ACAAGS) provided catering for an excellent lunch that included hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, chips, dessert and beverage.

"This Heritage Day is possible because of outstanding student support. We have volunteers from several students groups and some individuals as well who have been working with the Center for the past month to organize and facilitate this program," said Toni Thorpe, Program Coordinator for the African American Cultural Center.



ACAAGS serves food to Heritage day participants.  
Courtesy of the African American Cultural Center.

Angela McNeill, a nationally board certified high school mathematics instructor in Scotland County and a SPACE math teacher, shared these remarks, "As a past president of the NC State African American Cultural Center Heritage Society, I am honored to attend and see such an outpouring of love and support for African American culture and heritage. For students to get up early on a Saturday morning and be excited about learning was great to watch. Evidently, this event was well promoted because the attendance is exceptional. To observe students working together as they teach and learn is heart-warming. I wish that the entire campus could have attended and participated."

Andala Harris, an eleven-year old Millbrook Elementary student said, "The most fun was learning about stepping and the African boot dance. I also really liked the storytelling. I had fun at Heritage Day

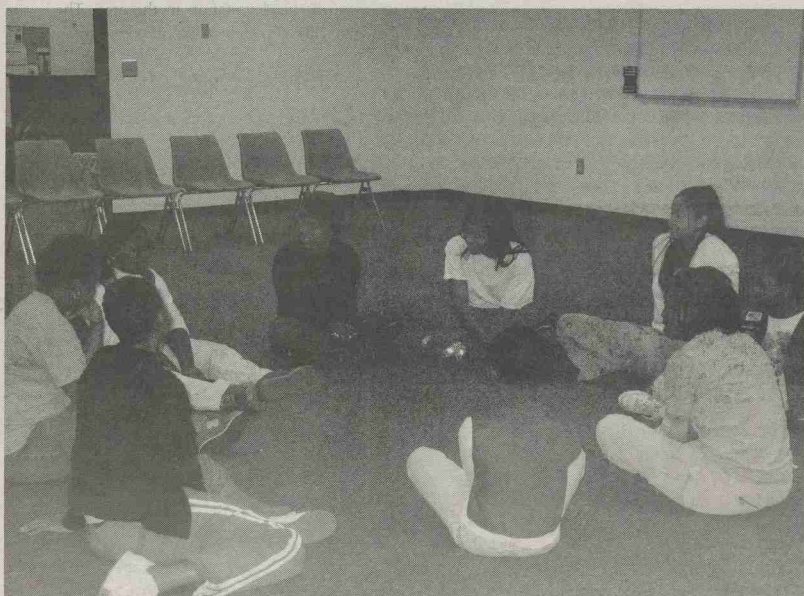
last year and I want to come back next year."

When asked what he enjoyed about Heritage Day, Tyrone Davis of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated stated, "The unity found among everyone working together was great. It was a joy to watch the kids have so much fun learning about their history."

Other volunteer organizations for Heritage Day included: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Nubian Message, ACAAGS, SAA-PAMS, Peer Mentor Program, Black Students' Board, CHASS-MAS, NSBE, SAAC, YBE, SAY, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, KWU and African Student Organization.



Dance Visions performs with children (top).  
Dance Visions teaches youth new dance routines (bottom).  
Courtesy of the African American Cultural Center



Delta Sigma Theta teaches youth about the basics of "steppin"  
Courtesy of the African American Cultural Center.

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## In War on Polio, mission still not yet accomplished

MAITHILI CHITNAVIS

Cavalier Daily (U. Virginia)

(U-WIRE) CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. -- The ancient Roman emperor Claudius was affected by it. Franklin Delano Roosevelt campaigned for awareness of it. In 1952, Jonas Salk discovered a vaccine for it. And by 1994, the Americas were declared to be free of it. So, surely the polio virus is not a concern anymore -- or is it?

In 1988, the World Health Assembly launched a worldwide goal to conquer the problem, and thus the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was born.

According to the Sept. 23 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine, the global effort has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of new cases of polio per day: from 1000 in 1988 to 3 in 2003. But the battle is still not over.

Six countries remain regions where the polio virus is endemic: Nigeria, India, Pakistan, Niger, Afghanistan and Egypt. Niger and Nigeria are countries which account for a large percentage of polio cases. But an even greater concern according to the NEJM is that, in the past 12 months, one of the three types of the virus -- wild poliovirus -- has spread to 12 African nations that were previously declared polio-free. This virus has been genetically traced to viruses in Nigeria, which accounts for 80% of the world's cases. Clearly, the polio virus is still a problem abroad, and the US will have to face this problem somewhere down the road if the virus is not eradicated soon.

Biology Prof. Elizabeth Machunis-Masuoka expressed her views on the global initiative.

Although the number of cases of paralytic polio may be relatively low compared to the number of benign cases, Machunis-Masuoka said, they are still significant and could be fatal. Without international efforts to eradicate the disease, she stated, polio could "very easily migrate back into the population."

While children in the United States are vaccinated against the polio virus as standard procedure, people who have been vaccinated may still be carriers for the disease. Moreover, most people with polio do not know that they are infected in the first place, which makes the problem an even greater concern.

The reasons for eradicating polio are obvious. As of Oct. 5, the World Health Organization reports that there have been 786 global case counts of the polio virus this year. The disease, also known as poliomyelitis, is highly infectious and usually affects children under the age of three. The virus infects people by entering through the mouth and replicating in the intestines. Paralysis, the most recognizable sign of the disease, is the greatest concern resulting from infection.

Although paralytic polio accounts for one in 200 cases of the polio disease, the numbers alone are enough to cause concern. Once the virus multiplies in the intestines, it can enter the blood and attack nerve cells, damaging muscle function and resulting in paralysis. An extremely dangerous form of polio known as bulbar polio can attack the nerve cells of the brain, causing difficulty in breathing and swallowing; this acute form of polio can be fatal without respiratory intervention. Even though we don't live in the 1920s-1930s and see the devastating effects of the polio virus here in the

United States, there is no reason to believe that the problem does not exist. Indeed, it is still a major problem, and vaccination efforts are the first step in eradication of polio.

Of the two types of polio vaccinations, the inactivated polio vaccine confers less immunity to the person than the oral polio vaccine does. While the OPV protects against all three types of polio virus, the IPV does not protect against wild polio virus. And unlike the OPV, the IPV is given by injection and does not protect the intestinal tract as well.

Now, 23 African countries are taking action against polio. With continued cooperation from these central and western African countries, along with \$200 million dollars in funding, the global campaign for the eradication of polio can regain its momentum. Starting this month and November of this year, these countries will hold national immunization days which will continue into 2005.

If you are picturing African children lining up in rural areas to receive polio vaccinations with village elders looking on thankfully, think again. Support from African governments is only part of the story. According to an article that appeared in The Economist this June, religious leaders in some regions of the continent have persuaded state governments to suspend the distribution of polio vaccines. The areas where vaccinations were suspended showed a resurgence in the number of cases of polio. Here, particularly in the northern Muslim region of Nigeria, clerics preached that vaccinating Africa for polio was a western effort to depopulate the continent by sterilizing girls and spreading AIDS. The WHO, one of the leading organizations in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, has refuted these claims. Under pressure from clerics, the state government of Kano in northern Nigeria suspended polio vaccination for a few months; the United Nations Foundation reported that vaccinations efforts were resumed by the end of July.

The state's Islamic governor, Ibrahim Shekarau, who was hesitant to reinstate vaccination at first, indicated that a "safe" batch of polio vaccines was to be imported from Indonesia. Although these regions have finally decided to cooperate with the global efforts by importing vaccinations from a fellow Islamic nation, the damage has already been done. The road to eradication of polio is certainly a bumpy one. Global health officials have met with many unexpected difficulties in the past few months, even though the possibility to eradicate polio has existed for years.

"You've seen the export of the disease [to other countries] again...one country's decision not to vaccinate the population does affect us," Dr. Machunis-Masuoka said. She added that awareness and consideration among all nations were two important factors in battling the disease.

Along with the WHO, three other international organizations have initiated and guided the vaccination efforts thus far: Rotary International, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative Strategic Plan 2004-2008 outlines the international measures to be

taken. By the end of 2005, WHO aims for a complete cessation of the spread of polio, followed by achievement of certification of global eradication. As part of the plan from

2006-2008, these organizations would discontinue use of the OPV, which results in paralysis for one in 2.5 million people who receive vaccination.

The effort weakens, however, with every rumor about the vaccine. In Somalia,

a country suffering from political instability, the same rumors about the polio vaccine circulated. The WHO, which attempted to discourage people from believing the rumors about the polio vaccine causing AIDS and being 'un-Islamic', realized the impact such rumors would have on its global efforts. Once the WHO recruited locals to put a stop to these rumors by word of mouth, the grassroots efforts paid off. In some instances, the locals shouted from the backs of vehicles to get the point across that polio vaccination would help, not hurt, their country -- a perfect example of how seemingly insignificant local efforts contribute to global well-being. Now Somalia, as well as Congo, is a polio-free nation.

On Oct. 8, 25 African countries launched the largest immunization campaign ever. The one million vaccinators in Africa, part of the polio immunization campaign, are helping the international health organizations move toward their goal.

Machunis-Masuoka praised the efforts, warning against international complacency.

"If you don't do something about it," she said, "all you will see is another outbreak."

*"You've seen the export of the disease [to other countries] again...one country's decision not to vaccinate the population does affect us,"*

*Elizabeth Machunis-Masuoka,  
Biology professor*

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## Study: excessive coffee intake bad for heart

**KANDIS WENK**

University Daily (Texas Tech U.)

(U-WIRE) LUBBOCK, Texas -- Texas Tech University students who consume moderate to high amounts of coffee could be advancing their risk for heart disease, according to a group of Greek researchers from the University of Athens and Harokopia University.

The researches found drinking more than one cup of coffee per day can intensify low-level inflammation, which is thought to be a primary factor in the development of heart disease, reports Reuters.

The results from the study, which appears in the "American Journal of Clinical Nutrition," are based on a study of about 3,000 subjects who have no history of cardiovascular disease, according to Reuters.

The study was done by conducting a food-frequency survey to evaluate coffee consumption, and then blood samples were tested for levels of a variety of compounds which are known to encourage inflammation, according to Reuters.

After factoring in age, gender, smoking, body weight, physical activity and other potential confounders, the results still held true, researches said.

Those who consumed more than one cup of coffee per day had significantly higher levels of all the inflammatory markers tested compared to those who

did not drink coffee, Dr. Demosthenes B.

Panagiotakos from Harokopia University said.

The findings provide a mechanism by which coffee intake could promote heart disease, but more studies are needed to confirm present findings and an association between coffee and heart disease.

Dr. Tom Tenner, in the Department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and former president of the Texas Heart Association, said he believes the study is valid.

"It's a great study, and it looks good," he said. "The 'American Journal of Clinical Nutrition' is a reputable publication, but overall the study looks good."

Tenner said he believes the study is thorough in both the study and results.

"Just doing a (quick) read through it, it shows they used plenty of subjects, used statistical analysis and looked at the inflammation markers associated with cardiovascular disease," he said. "It touched on several parts, and I think the weakest part is the food frequency survey because it doesn't include physical activity and amounts of food intake and is done from memory, so it can't be used as an absolute measurement."

Further study with the subjects to see the progressive long-term results would be interesting, Tenner said.

"Taking a look at the subjects further down the road to see if anyone

develops the disease," he said. "I think it's also interesting to note that they found the association between coffee and inflammation."

Tenner said the controversy over coffee and its effects on the body have been ongoing.

"The study is controversial because for every study that says coffee is harmful, there is another study that says it isn't," he said. "When you do a study, you have to go on a preponderance of evidence, in other words the totality of studies done on a topic, rather than one specific case."

Although he has no specific reasons for the association of coffee and heart disease, Tenner said he has a few ideas.

"It appears that the researches were trying to target caffeine, and that maybe because caffeine stimulates the heart and dilates blood vessels," he said. "It seemed they were more concerned with caffeine intake than coffee exactly, but I don't know about how coffee directly results with the inflammation."

Although the study produces some interesting results, Tenner said students do not need to stop drinking coffee altogether and offers some advice.

"I would say, for Tech students, I would feel a lot better with students going to a coffee house than a bar and get second-hand smoke."

## African American Cultural Center

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## WolfPack loses to Hurricanes

**MARCUS GIBBS**  
Sports Writer

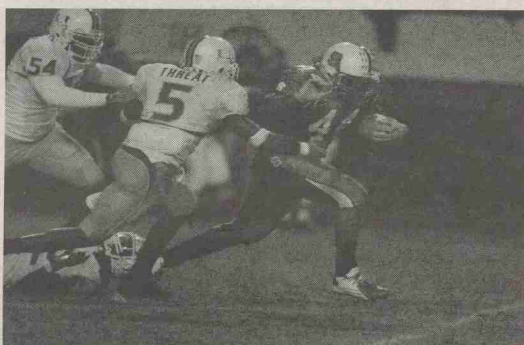
On a day of simultaneous happenings, the North Carolina State Fair and Red and White basketball game, the Miami Hurricanes played the N.C. State Wolfpack on Saturday. With the ESPN Game day crew in Carter-Finley Stadium, wolfpack fans and the team were ready for the challenge of one of the biggest games of the year and prove they could be considered one of the nations elite. With the night starting with two of the nations top defensive teams facing each other, the game was anything but defensive. One thing was for sure on Saturday night, the only fireworks displayed would not be at the state fair.

Miami faced N.C. State for the first time as a member of the ACC. The Hurricanes, the number three team in the nation, visited a raucous Carter-Finley Stadium and wasted no time on getting on the score board. The opening kick-off by N.C. State resulted in a 100 yard return by Miami's sophomore wide receiver Devin Hester. The crowd was immediately hushed. In answering to the long kick off return, the Wolfpack scored a touchdown to even the score. Everything was displayed during this game, speed on the defensive and offensive sides of the ball and trick plays. After scoring its first touchdown, N.C. State recovered an onsides kick to get the ball back on the following possession. After a Miami turnover, N.C. State returned the ball to the Hurricanes with a fumble by T.A. McClendon.

It was a game of turnovers and penalties between these two teams with the Wolfpack committing four turnovers for the game including one on a possible touchdown drive in the red zone and at the end of the half. The turnovers and 19 penalties between the two teams, slowed down the pace of the game a making it extending the length of the game. Looking on the good side of things, McClendon played brilliantly once again. The junior wolfpack running back had 95 yards rushing in the first quarter of the game, averaging 8.4 yards a carry. McClendon finished the first half with 124 yards rushing on 15 carries. This makes the team record of N.C. State with McClendon having 100 yard games 8-2 with losses to UNC and now Miami. The score at the half was 28-17 with both teams combining for over four-hundred total yards combined.

At the beginning of the second half the Hurricanes scored another touchdown, making the score 31-17 as the running game seemed to wear down the Wolfpack defense. In scoring 17 straight points Hurricane's quarterback Brock Berlin tied a school record with five touchdown passes in scoring help scoring 45 points against the Wolfpack's top ranked defense. N.C. State did not give up, it showed how much of a competitor it was in coming back towards the end of the game and came up short losing to the Hurricanes 45 to 31. Both teams ended up with over 400 total yards each by the end of the game.

The Wolfpack falls to 4-3 overall and 3-2 in the conference with Clemson in South Carolina, Georgia Tech and Florida State in Raleigh coming up next. The schedule doesn't get any easier for the Wolfpack.



T.A. McClendon breaks tackle.  
Ray Black III

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