

Nubian Message

November 2, 2004 • Volume 12 • Issue 8

Sunday school initiated in the classroom

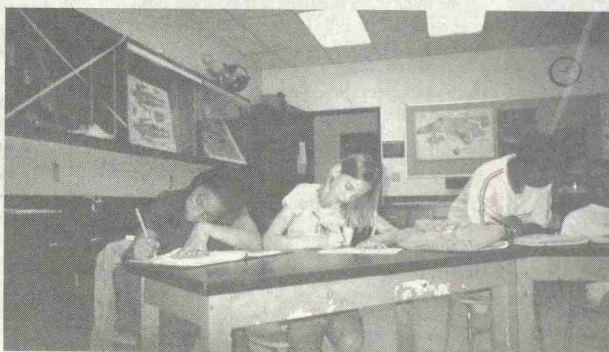
N.C. State professor creates an outreach project to promote mathematics and science achievement

KEON PETTIWAY
Staff Writer

RALEIGH -- Is Sunday school a primary complimentary answer for academic success for the youth? Not quite, but for North Carolina State University psychology professor and director of the Schools and Faith Communities Project (SFCP), Dr. Pamela Martin believes that bridging community and faith-based institutions in efforts to promote education outcomes among African American students can improve science and mathematics achievement among elementary students.

Research at the Program for Research on Black Americans at the University of Michigan found that in the African American community, 84% define themselves as being very or fairly religious and 77% believe that church is important. The importance of church remains evident and permeates the educational facet of the community. Many churches conduct non-religious educational programs in the community to promote academic achievement for the youth and adults.

The 2001 North Carolina Minority Achievement Report found that minority children start school with



Children in the School and Faith Communities Project work on homework.

an academic preparation that lags white children. Even more specific, North Carolina Black and Latino students in the fourth grade score notably lower in reading than White students. The tender ages of African American and Latino students represent one of the major variables that the Schools and Faith Communities Project is targeting.

As a pilot intervention, SFCP's goal is to develop and evaluate a theoretically-based after school outreach project targeting African American and Latino students

between the ages of 5-10 residing in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. Martin is creating a collaborative effort among two local churches in Southeastern Raleigh, North Carolina State University, Wake County Public Schools and several community-based organizations, including Strengthening the Black Family to partner with this project.

Through the after-school intervention, young students will be exposed to science, mathematics and computer technology, participate in applied activities through an experiential-based model. Keon Pettiway and undergraduates will be trained through service learning under the supervision of certified teachers to provide advocacy, mentoring and tutoring. As a necessary component of increased academic ability among the African American and Latino elementary students, the 5 thru 10-year-olds will be introduced and engaged in cultural activities emphasizing the accomplishments of people of color in

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Absentee voting frustrates students

JENNY BONILLA
The Chronicle (Duke U.)

(U-WIRE) DURHAM, N.C. -- Keith Greenberg was rejected. The freshman's first voting experience, in Florida's August primaries, was disenfranchisement, and he's one of the few who actually know why.

Greenberg is just one of many students who have faced challenges in the election process. Some students, especially those from swing states like Ohio and Florida, have opted to take advantage of absentee ballots in hopes that their votes will have a stronger impact in their home states than in North Carolina. But many are still wary that their votes might not be counted accurately.

In the wake of the 2000 presidential election, the CalTech/MIT Voting

Technology Project found that between 4 and 6 million votes were lost due to a variety of problems including voter registration mix-ups, faulty voting equipment, confusing ballots and polling place problems. Several students have reported that, in their experience, these problems seem far from cured.

Greenberg's absentee ballot for the Aug. 31 primary was thrown out because he did not include a photocopy of proper identification with his vote. Not only did he fail to receive notification until late September, but the

state also did not include any instructions directing first-time absentee voters to include a copy of proper identification. The law requiring that "you must make a copy" of such information just went into effect this past January.

As frustrated as Greenberg was to discover his first vote did not count, he is glad it happened early. "If I hadn't voted in the municipal primary

in August, I would not have known about the law and I would have been disenfranchised for the crucial presidential election," he wrote to the Florida Secretary of State following the incident.

"My peers in high school registered with me, and I am afraid that, if they vote, their votes will be invalid, too."

In the past week, Broward County, Fla., which includes Greenberg's hometown of Coral Springs, has validated his concerns. Election officials in Broward just re-sent more than half of the requested absentee ballots to the 76,000 voters who, as of last week, had not received their initial requests. The original ballots have apparently vanished without any evidence of criminal intent, according to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's investigation.

The only two counties in Florida that have re-sent additional absentee ballots are Broward and Palm Beach

counties, according to the Florida state department's election division. Since both political parties encouraged absentee voting this year, however, there was an unprecedented surge in absentee requests, and any problems similar to Broward's could be compounded.

"I believe it will be even more emotional and divisive [than the 2000 election] because there are already reports of fraud and unethical electoral practices," said John Transue, assistant professor of political

science and an expert on public opinion and polling, adding that Florida and Ohio would likely determine the outcome of the presidential election. Sophomore Susanna Temkin, a Miami Shores, Fla., resident, did not receive election materials until Thursday, when she got two ballots in the mail. Freshman Katie Hutcheson, a Carroll, Ohio, native, originally planned to vote with an absentee ballot, but she changed her mind while visiting home over fall break. When she went to the poll to vote early an election official told Hutcheson all she had to do was write 'void' on her absentee ballot and mail it back, but "it never came, and my mom told me that the Board of Elections called her and said it had been [voided and] returned," Hutcheson said.

Broward native junior Carla Hermida still had not

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Candidates split over higher education proposals

FAROUK SAMAD
Daily Pennsylvanian (U. Pennsylvania)

(U-WIRE) PHILADELPHIA -- No president is likely to have the ability to decrease the cost of post-secondary education. The winner of Tuesday's election, however, can strongly influence the financial resources available to students.

President George W. Bush emphasizes the importance of community colleges, while Sen. John Kerry prefers the traditional four-year route. Bush focuses on training and retraining individuals to acquire new job skills, while Kerry focuses on accessibility to higher education for young people.

During the campaign, the candidates have laid out plans that they say would facilitate access to colleges and universities for low and middle-income students and make higher education more universal.

Bush's No Child Left Behind Act -- aimed at reforming the country's public school system -- has been his principle educational initiative. With higher education, he is taking what some refer to as a non-traditional path, focusing on community colleges to which he has promised a \$125 million grant if re-elected.

He also proposes programs to aid working adults seeking better job qualifications.

"The president is facing the economic realities of a global economy. He realizes there's going to be a need for lifelong learning," Bush spokesman

John Bailey said. The administration aims to "put in place short-term job training programs to help workers get the jobs they need."

Kerry, in contrast, has said he will pursue a more standard route based on four-year institutions.

"I think Kerry is much more inclined to favor more traditional higher education," said Marybeth Gasman, a professor of higher education at University of Pennsylvania. "Kerry might see community colleges as another option. ... Having options gives you a choice of where you want to go."

The central element of Kerry's higher education plan is a \$4,000 tax credit over four years for families with a child in college. Gasman said that

the scheme was feasible if Kerry rolled back Bush's tax cuts, while Bailey questioned its viability and usefulness.

However, the candidates do have some similar

policies. Both say they plan to facilitate access to higher education with expansion of Pell Grants, which are the key method for low-income students to better afford college tuition.

But though the grants have become more widely available under Bush, their value has significantly decreased.

"One thing that's troubling is that, under Bush, more students got Pell Grants, but the amount of that grant is low," Gasman said. "They used to cover 84 percent [of costs]. They now cover 40 percent."

Both candidates also promise to raise the maximum award of the grants to match pace with inflation, a direct cause of the decade-long rise in the cost of higher education. Rising technological expenses are also responsible for tuition increases, particularly at public institutions.

"Over a period of years, a lower proportion of state budgets are being devoted to higher education," said Michael Baer, senior vice president of the American Council on Education. "Higher education is being pushed out of the way."

To that end, Kerry has proposed \$10 million for state governments solely for funding colleges. Likewise, Bush says he will employ federal financing to match escalating tuition costs.

Kerry's tax break proposal has been an issue of contention.

"Kerry is proposing a tax credit primarily benefiting middle-class and upper-middle-class students," Bailey said. "It doesn't actually increase student enrollment. Students that typically apply for credit are typically enrolled in higher education."

Both Democrats and Republicans agree, though, that the financial aid application is overly complex. They say it leads to confusion among students as to whether they have the resources to go to college.

"The first thing you'd do is streamline the financial aid process so that people can figure out their eligibility and figure out what sort of aid they can expect earlier in the process, so they can figure out what kind of school they want to go to," Kerry spokesman Mark Nevins said. "The student application form [should be] no bigger than the size of a postcard."

SUNDAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

science and mathematics related fields.

The after-school intervention will be evaluated by Dr. Martin and the SFCP research team to test the feasibility of the program targeting elementary students. As an integral part of a students' educational framework of achievement, parents will be evaluated to test their academic self esteem, school expectations, and teacher expectations.

"We believe there needs to be a holistic approach to closing the gaps. The corporate community, ministers, local educational agencies and parents all need to be engaged in closing the gaps that disproportionately affect the minority community," says Dr. Beverly Jones, Principal Investigator of Closing the Gaps/Community Engagement, which is an initiative of North Carolina Central University that supports similar community programs as SFCP.

The Schools and Communities Faith Project is an extension of the African American Faith and Communities Project, headed by Dr. Martin, which also implements the Religious Socialization Project and Psychometric Project.

As the importance of education continues to remain an integral part of the African American community, programs such as the School and Communities Faith Project are not only extending the community outreach arm, but is also providing research and evaluation of the role and importance of church in the African American community.

Dr. Pamela Martin is a researcher and N.C. State psychology professor. She is a graduate of North Carolina Central University and Michigan State University and is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

For more information about the School and Communities Faith Project and the African American Faith Communities Project or to get involved, contact Dr. Pamela Martin at pamela_martin@ncsu.edu or 919.513.7392

ABSENTEE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

received her ballot as of Friday, leaving her worried that it would never arrive at Duke, or that if it does, that she would not be able to get it back to Florida on time to be counted. Hermida's ballot was sent to her home in Ft. Lauderdale, and her mother mailed it to her more than two weeks ago, yet it still has not arrived. Both Temkin and Hermida expressed concern that Duke's postal operations may be partially to blame for such inefficiencies.

"I understand why so few college students vote -- the process is really a pain," freshman Kathryn Minshew said. "I'm planning on doing it anyway because I feel it's so important, but there's got to be a better way for the government to handle this."

EVENTS

AFRICA STUDY ABROAD- IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE AFRICAN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM THERE WILL BE AN INTEREST MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4 FROM 6:30 PM- 7:30 PM IN WITHERSPOON 356.

NAPPY LUV 5- KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING (KWU) WILL BE HAVING NAPPYLUV 5 ON FRIDAY, NOV.12 IN WITHERSPOON 125. DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 P.M. SHOW STARTS AT 7:30P.M. TICKETS ARE \$2 IN ADVANCE AND \$5 AT THE DOOR.

TO GET YOUR EVENTS ANNOUNCED CONTACT THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT EIC@NUBIAN.SMA.NCSU.EDU OR CALL 515-1468

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(919) 515-1397

Room 218 Witherspoon Student Center

9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday

NEW BOOKS IN THE AACC LIBRARY

FICTION

_ FULL MATILDA BY DAVID HAYNES
_ MY FINE LADY BY YOLANDA JOE
_ SHIFTING THROUGH NEUTRAL BY BRIDGETT DAVIS
_ TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING BY KIMERLA ROBY

NONFICTION

_ ALL DELIBERATE SPEED BY CHARLES OGLETREE
_ FACING RACISM IN EDUCATION BY SONYA ANDERSON
_ FAILURES OF INTEGRATION BY SHERYLL CASHIN
_ MARION JONES: LIFE IN THE FAST LANE BY MARION JONES

Opinion

The Nubian Message • November 2, 2004 • PAGE 3

NOTE: THE OPINIONS OF WRITERS IN THIS SECTION DO NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE NUBIAN MESSAGE.

Is NC State Preparing Us for Life After Graduation?

TONY MOSES
Columnist

With academic programs ranging from Agricultural and Life Sciences to Education, NC State offers a plethora of courses to satisfy almost any one's desire. However, with all the courses available here at NC State, are we being prepared for life after graduation?

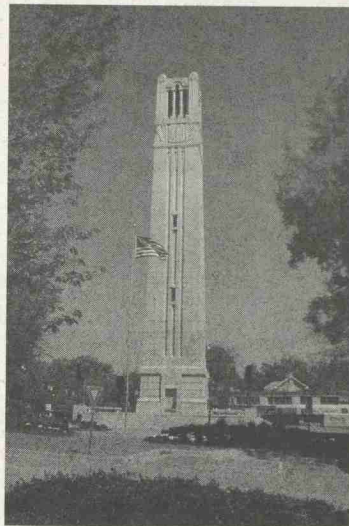
The question above can be answered in many ways. As far as academics and getting a job after graduation, I believe NC State does a pretty decent job. With countless career fairs, such as the Minority Career Fair held in early October, I believe NC State allows for outside companies to come to campus to view the best of the best. The fact that we are located in the capital city of a somewhat economically stable state allows for the best quality of education to be present here at NC State. The clubs and organizations here at NC State allow for those who decide to join them aspects of time value and dedication, as well as responsibility and professionalism, if the club calls for that sense of professionalism.

As far as diversity goes, which is a very important aspect of the real world, I do not feel NC State does a good job. I feel that, although there are many cultures represented here at NC State, there is still a high degree of segregation between the cultures and those in power.

With the events that occurred in the African American community in early October, it shows that this campus is still segregated. In my opinion, the diversity of the real world is not well represented here.

Other aspects of the real world, such as budgeting and personal endeavors, reflect the maturity level of the person who is being spoken of more so than the actual university. People choose their own futures and how you behave in college determines, for the most part, how you will behave in the real world. A person who takes advantage of all the resources available on a college campus, such as tutorial centers, will be one who is well prepared for life after college. However, another person who slacks off and parties without first doing their homework is one who will not be prepared for life post-graduation.

The answer to this question is two-fold. There are some characteristics of the real world that NC State does prepare you for and there are some that they do not prepare you for. However, for the majority, you make your own future. The resources are all here and available at a moment's notice. The actions you take now are reflective of your future a few years down the road.



NCSU BELLTOWER
file photo

A Spiritual Reflection

FRED HATCHETT
Columnist

Coming between the abominable BGLA week and Satan's Day, or Halloween and in the midst of Delta Week, Jesus Week was several breaths of fresh air. The first annual Jesus Week, envisioned and summarily carried out by Johnathan Brunson was a success.

Each succeeding day went higher in Jesus. It started off with individual talents and fellowship. The seriousness of the week started with the sex and dating forum. The foundational message that came from it was no sex before marriage. An interesting twist came when the question was asked, "What do you do when you Pastor has a mistress?" If proven, he must be loved, but be judged biblically and punished biblically according to church laws.

If not, what are we saying to the members and the gainsayers?" We are telling the members it's okay and giving the gainsaying hypocrites more ammunition to bash the church. The accusers have to face the accused. For those who missed it, there will be a DVD shown at a later date.

A significant statement made about dating is that Christians must not allow the secular standards of dating to determine the Christian standard. It should be the exact opposite. We should not feel compelled to follow the sexual free-for-all movement we see today. It is nothing more than a repeat of the Aquarian (free love, free sex) movement of the 1970s that ushered in murder by abortion and STD's by the handfuls.

History is sorely repeating itself in a bad way. Personal and group responsibility and accountability

needs to be an integral part of the Christian community. The idea of churches passing out condoms is repulsive. Regardless of all those wayward churches, we as individual Christians must be the standard bearers of abstinence, abhorring all sexual immorality by following the absolute dictates in the Word of God.

Prayer, praise and worship were the foundation of the most pinnacle part of Jesus Week. This set up the atmosphere for the play, "In and Out of Christ in the College Life, A Play Based on the Struggles of an Everyday College Student," by Wilkins Joseph.

This play was the heat. It dealt with hypocrisy, the churches' and college ministries' failure to disciple new converts, struggles of the new Christian, steadfastness of the true Christian, rape, being the outcast in the family, drugs, unexpected and sudden deaths of the sinner and the Christian, personal accountability for the soul and the awesome truth that a gay person can change to a normal life of heterosexuality.

The awesome message the play sends is that of soul winning. This is first and most important responsibility of every Christian. The play had scenes of life on the brickyard, parties, bible study, church and choir practice.

Jesus Week was truly all about Jesus as it is always should be anyway. For those who did not attend, I would need three times the space to do justice to this week. So I am asking as a 16 year alumni to make Jesus Week a bi-annual event.

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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Introducing Dr. Levi Watkins

MIKIA HORSEY
Staff Writer

As African Americans, we have encountered a series of pioneers. Marian Anderson was the first black singer to sing with the Metropolitan Opera. Shirley Chisholm was not only the first African American to be considered a presidential candidate, but she was also the first woman to be considered. In 1770, Crispus Attucks, a Black man, was the first to die in the American Revolution during the Boston Massacre. On November 9, 2004, at N.C. State's African-American Culture Center, we will have the distinct pleasure of hosting another first, a pioneer for African Americans.

Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. lived his entire life paving the way for African Americans. He was the first African-American to attend and graduate from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, as well as successfully performing the world's first human implantation of the automatic implantable defibrillator. During his undergraduate years at Tennessee State University, he majored in biology and was also the president of the student body. He became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, Alpha Kappa Mu honor society, and Beta Kappa Chi honor society. He graduated with the highest honors, and continued his education in 1966 as the first African American to ever attend Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Not only was he the first to attend, he was also the first to graduate. After graduating Dr. Watkins was chosen to become a member of Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, the elite of the university. In 1998 he was further honored by receiving the Vanderbilt Medal

of Honor for outstanding alumni, and was recognized again in 2002 when his work for diversity in medical education resulted in the Professorship and Associate Deanship of Vanderbilt was established in his name.

Dr. Watkins was a focused man, determined to be the best and keeping his eye on his goals. After becoming a surgical intern at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1970, only eight years later he was named the first Black Chief Resident in cardiac surgery of the hospital. In the midst of those eight years, he researched at the Harvard Medical School Department of Physiology and managed to define the role of the rennin-angiotensin system during congestive heart failure. His research, among others, aided in angiotensin blockers are used today in the treatment of congestive heart failure.

However, integrating a university and breaking records in world renowned hospitals was not enough for Dr. Watkins. He successfully performed the world's first human implantation of the automatic implantable defibrillator in 1980, and since then developed numer-



Dr. Levi Watkins
Courtesy Photo

ous tactics for implanting this mechanism. In addition to the defibrillator, he also helped advance the cardiac arrhythmia service in which open-heart procedures are performed.

Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. has a series of accomplishments, including being named to the National Board of the Robert Wood Johnson Minority Faculty Development program in 1983. He initiated the annual Martin Luther King commemoration at Johns Hopkins University, and has the apparent satisfaction of introducing greats such as Martin Luther King III, Coretta Scott King, Winnie Mandela, and Maya Angelou to the program. He has been recognized by Charles H Epps, Jr. and Claude H. Organ, Jr., both who have written books featuring his life, PBS' News Explorers, Maryland Public TV and even the previous mayor of Baltimore, Maryland, William Donald Schaffer. Let us recognize him on November 9, 2004 in our own African American Culture Center.

Cultural Center Introduces Book Club

SHAMEICA L. GARDNER
Mind, Body & Soul Editor

On Thursday, the African American Book Club met in Witherspoon for its first meeting of the semester, where the members discussed Pearl Cleage's "Some Things I Never Thought I'd Do." The book club will meet again on Dec. 1, at noon. "Their Eyes Were Watching God," by Zora Neale Hurston will be the topic of discussion.

The idea for an African American book club had been discussed for a while, and through the hard work and dedication of Toni Thorpe and Janet Howard, plans finally came together this semester. "I really wanted a book club that celebrated African American writers, and I'm glad that we finally have one on campus," said Rhonda Gordon, a senior majoring in English.

Sandra Dunn, who's worked toward promoting Witherspoon's library for nine years, said she chose this book while watching a "good morning, wake up show."

Pearl Cleage was born Dec. 7, 1948, in Springfield Mass. She began her collegiate career at Howard University, and finished at Spelman College. Cleage worked as a press secretary for the late Atlanta mayor, Maynard Jackson, before she really began profiting from her writing in the late 1980's.

Donna Grundy, an auditor in Holladay Hall, was asked to lead the discussion of the novel, because of her prior experience in community book clubs.



African American Cultural Center Library
Robert White

Grundy, who is also a member of Reading Rhapsody, a separate book club, began the discussion by asking the group their overall opinion of the novel.

"When I first began to read the book, and I saw that she was leaving a crack house, I thought to myself, not another one of those books. However, as I read further, I fell in love with the characters and I related

to them, because I understood their struggles in trying to find where they belonged," said Toni Thorpe, a program coordinator at the African American Culture Center.

The book club discussed such issues as character structure, personal connections, and the idea of the villain. Grundy said she appreciated the novel because, "It had so many themes that anyone could relate to. Issues of relationships, suicide, closure, and options or rather lack of options."

"I liked the idea of the black paradise where they lived in Atlanta. I can appreciate the feeling of having a safe haven where men look out for the women, and their little oasis of freedom," said Dunn. Others, such as Dr. Tracey Ray, liked the novel because, "It takes you to a place you know. As I was reading I was like I know the place she's talking about. I've been there."

Overall, everyone thought the book club was a success, although there were no men in attendance. "I think it's a shame, but I was half expecting it. Not enough black men read for pleasure, so if we want to increase their attendance, you have to find something that grabs their interest," said Gordon.

Anyone interested in joining the book club can contact either Toni Thorpe or Janet Howard at toni_thorpe@ncsu.edu, or janet@gw.fis.edu both have offices in Witherspoon.

Bush better for Blacks

IDAHOSEA OSARETIN

The Lantern (Ohio State U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio -- After many months of campaigning the presidential elections will be held Tuesday. The Bush and Kerry campaigns have totally emptied their arsenal on the voting public. Both campaigns have used all the tricks in the bag. Both parties have used scare tactics-- the terror threats from Bush and the economic-disaster threats from Kerry. This has left the race to the White House seemingly closer than it has ever been. At this point every single vote counts.

Certain issues that should be taken into consideration before voting for either candidate. The No. 1 issue is you and what benefits you. Over the years, African-Americans have been doctored to vote for the Democratic Party. In fact most African-Americans are voting for John Kerry simply because he represents the Democratic Party. I do believe those same people will vote for George Bush if he were a Democrat. I call that ignorance, but that's beside the point.

Sheer ignorance will lead many to vote for the wrong candidate tomorrow. It seems to me that many African-Americans have failed to realize the power of their vote or the bargaining power that lies within it. The Democratic Party has gotten that vote for free, like it's a birth right. Besides putting Al Sharpton on national television ever so often, virtually nothing has been gained by the African-American community after

several decades of supporting the Democratic Party.

Some might argue that the Democratic Party has supported the African-American community when the Republican Party seemed to turn its back on it. Yes, that might be true, but is that comparable to the fact that John Kerry is still in this race based on Florida's African-American vote or other minority voters across the country? The Democratic Party gains more from the African-American community than African-Americans do from the Democratic Party.

At some point African-Americans should realize that receiving the crumbs the Democrats allow to fall off the table is just not good enough just because it seems like there's nothing else out there. At some point a change has to be made.

Everyone is voting for something. Some for tax relief, others for stem cell research, national security or even a change of face at the White House. African-Americans have to vote for themselves and their future.

African-Americans should vote for more relevance in the future, and there is just one way to make that happen - vote Republican. Imagine what happens when John Kerry loses a supposedly close election because of protesting black votes? What kind of statement will that give to both parties? I definitely know that those crumbs will actually turn out to be a bigger piece of the cake. African-Americans can only gain more benefits

when Republicans and Democrats compete for their votes. And just for the records, John Kerry has not

made any promises to the African-American

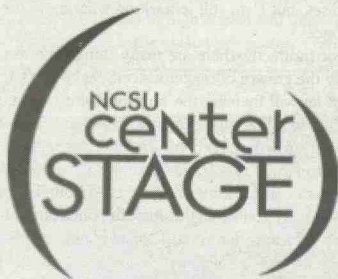
community. Any African-American voting for Kerry must be looking at the small picture and deceiving themselves.

George Bush believes in the abilities of African-Americans as shown by his political appointments. Bush has even reached out to African-Americans during the course of his administration and on the campaign trail. Al Sharpton and his peers have refused such advances, more out of personal reasons than anything else. Of course they don't want to lose their benefits from the Democratic Party. If Mr. Sharpton ever had

African-Americans at heart, his loyalty should be to them and not to his political party.

A vote for George Bush will not cost anything more than a loss to those who just want another face in the White House. Economic analysts have concluded that Kerry's economic plans are no different from those of Bush and will bring similar results. Bush has a better understanding of national security and the war on terror.

Every American should consider their choices closely before voting. Vote for better national security, vote for a better economy, vote for a better future for you and your unborn children. Vote with your heart, but make sure your head gives your heart a functionality pass.



Lizz Wright

Friday, November 5
8pm | Stewart Theatre

With her rich, soulful alto voice and gospel-infused style, Georgia native Lizz Wright is a young jazz singer creating a very big buzz. Her 2003 Verve debut *Salt* was named one of the year's best. In June 2003, Lizz was the opening act for what would be one of Ray Charles' last performances. As noted in a review of that concert, she "has quickly become the next big thing for good reason."

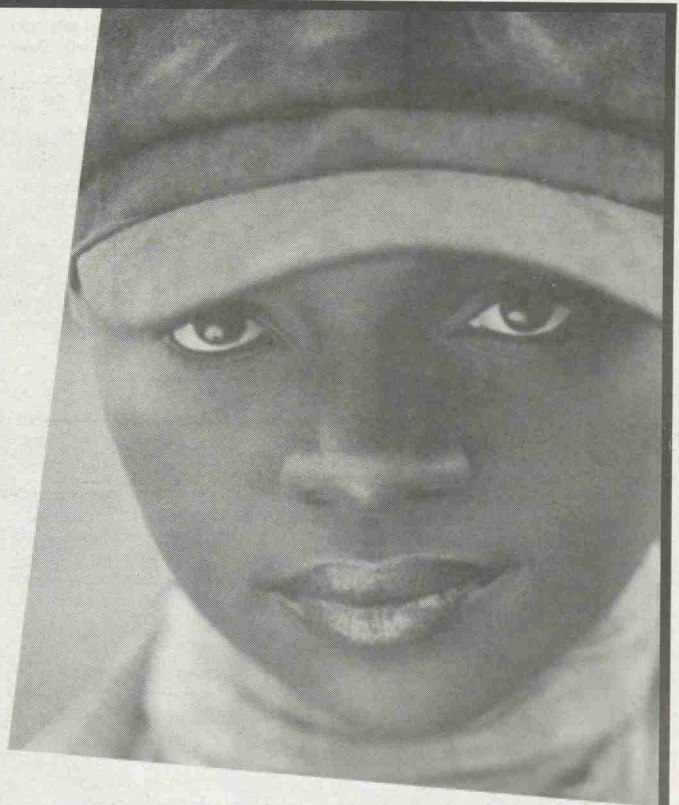
Pre-show discussion with Dr. Al Sturgis
6:45pm | Room 110 | Price Music Center

NC STATE \$8 students, \$17.50-\$21.50 faculty/staff
PUBLIC \$22-\$27, \$13 students

TICKET CENTRAL 515-1100

Ticket Central is located on the 2nd floor, Talley Student Center.
VISA / MC / AmEx / All Campus Card. Current campus ID required for discounts.

NCSU Center Stage receives support from the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency funded by the State of North Carolina and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



www.lizzwright.net
www.ncsu.edu/arts

Horoscopes

What your sign says about You

SHAMEICA L. GARDNER

Mind, Body & Soul Editor

Scorpio - October 24 - November 22

Friends don't let friends wear bad fashion. If lately you've noticed that your friends are only willing to meet you in dark alleys, different cities or wearing disguises, it's not them, it's you. Lime green, magenta, tangerine and baby blue is just not a good look for you. What Not to Wear will be knocking at your door if you don't change.

Sagittarius - November 23 - December 22

The planets are aligned, and they're telling you it's time to do something with your life. College students cannot live on class alone. Join an organization, or take up a sport, anything to get you off the futon. By the way, walking to and from class is not considered an extracurricular activity.

Capricorn - December 23 - January 20

Procrastination seems to be your first, middle and last name. There's a difference between writer's block and brain paralysis, which seems to have taken a hold of you. Make it your mission to complete something on time, even if it's getting home to take your daily nap.

Aquarius - January 21 - February 19

When the wise ones said pain was pleasure, they didn't mean your wardrobe. It doesn't matter where Jupiter's moons are aligned, it's not going to change the fact that you wear a 10, so don't buy a 7 1/2.

Pisces - February 20 - March 20

Graduate. People of this sign, love stick around long after the party's ended. Contrary to what you believe, college is not a career, it's a stepping stone to a real job. If other students are asking when you're up for tenure, you may have been here too long.

Aries - March 21 - April 20

Your financial situation will improve... after it gets worse. You didn't take your parents seriously when they told you they weren't an ATM machine, and now you have not only been cut off financially, but they have taken you out of the will. Show you can be responsible, and they may send you a gift certificate to Wal-Mart.

Taurus - April 21 - May 21

You have been feeling very bored lately and this will soon end. Some friendly tinkering on instant messenger has gotten you into some trouble. A word of advice: look before you link, or you may get more than just an irate significant other and a message with a question mark.

Gemini - May 22 - June 21

The gods are smiling on you... actually their laughing because you still seem to be unemployed. Just because you pick up an application, doesn't mean you're trying to find a job. You must complete the form and turn it in to the actual establishment where you're seeking employment.

Cancer - June 22 - July 22

You have been down lately, but don't be discouraged, "trouble don't last always." Hardly anyone remembers that incident where you spilled your drink on yourself after tripping and falling headfirst into the shrubs near Talley... on the other hand, maybe you should lay low for another week or three.

Leo - July 23 - August 21

If love were water, your well has run dry. It seems you're on a little dry spell as far as a mate goes, but cheer up, love is on the horizon. However, it has a flat tire, so you cannot wait for love to come to you, you must seek it, or you will be destined for a life of spinsterhood.

Virgo - August 22 - September 23

You will have life, and have it more abundantly if you do not lay off the goodies that this season has to offer. Moderation should become your mantra less you find yourself in a compromising position the next time you attempt to put on your favorite jeans.

Libra - September 24 - October 23

Benjamin Franklin was right, a penny saved is a penny earned. However this does not give you license to take your piggy bank to the club in an attempt to pay the cover charge. Find a Coinstar machine, or take it to the bank.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

ASHLEY TAYLOR

Staff Writer



Courtesy of NAPS

Every 12 minutes, a woman in America dies of breast cancer. American women must not only face, but fight this devastating statistic. During the month of October, many people and organizations, including the students and faculty of NC State, were heavily involved in bringing awareness about this disease to campus.

This month, due to family members affected by this disease, many felt an obligation to those who have been affected. Not only does the person affected with breast cancer feel the effects, but their family and loved ones also feel the pain. "Breast cancer doesn't just affect the person that has it, it affects the entire family. This is a time when the family has got to come together and be as one," says Ashlee Canty, a sophomore here at NC State.

Canty went on to say, "The process of trying to fight cancer is long and grueling, draining one emotionally, as well as physically. My two grandmothers, aunt and a family friend have been treated for breast cancer, so I know what some people go through. It is tough, but we all have to hang in there to the end."

Breast cancer is the effect of uncontrolled cell growth in one's body. No one, in this present day, is able to stop the spread of cancer or who is affected by it. Many students on NC State's campus sometimes feel helpless when it comes to the thought of cancer.

"Though I don't know anyone directly affected with this disease, I can tell it is a big problem. But what can I do? Sometimes, when I hear of another person's story I become so overwhelmed! I try to do as much as I can such as support breast cancer causes, but I am still left asking what more can I do?" said junior, Patrick Koonce.

Rather it is directly or indirectly, there are many things one can do to help fight cancer. To avoid the growth of cancerous cells, eat a low fat, nutritious diet. Foods, high in fat will increase the hormone of estrogen, which fuels tumor growth. Try to avoid drinking, for the more someone drinks, the higher the risk of cancer growth. Oral contraceptives may also be a risk factor in the growth of cancer cells. If a female is under the age of 35, and has been on this type of birth control for more than 10 years, this could be linked to breast cancer. Also, try to exercise at least four hours a week, for the woman who does that, increases her immune system and cuts the estrogen level.

Lastly, to help fight breast cancer or any for that matter, donate some time and/or money to charities that work directly with cancer patients. Several sites on the internet, such as The National Breast Cancer Association, take donations at anytime, from form of payment. For more information on this subject go to the national website, http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/reading_list/index.html.

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New Dance Troupe Forms on State's Campus

DAISY BUITRAGO
Staff Writer

La Raza del Mil Colores, loosely translated as "The Race of a Thousand Colors," is an underground dance group that performs various dances with Latin roots, such as salsa and merengue. Other dances that people may be less familiar with include bachata, a slow dance favored especially by Dominicans, and reggaeton, similar to dances seen in music videos such as Sean Paul. La Raza had its debut last year at the Somos cultural show where the members performed a few dance pieces in the Talley Student Center for an audience, interested in seeing what the group had to offer. This year, La Raza is trying to become an official independent dance group but for now they are a sub group sponsored by Mi Familia. The paperwork to become an official and separate organization is now in the process of becoming finalized. David Garcia, a senior in mechanical engi-

neering, is helping out with the group this year serving as a stand by "audio technician," and dancing as well.

Comparing the group to last year's group he says, "The group has grown tremendously, members wise, and we have a lot more performances scheduled this year as well. The next performance will most likely be held during Parent's Weekend Nov. 5, here at N.C. State."

Many had heard rumors saying the group was to perform at the Ms. Black and Gold pageant, but due to miscommunications that could not be made possible. However, for those that are anxious to see La Raza, the Nov. 5, date is the next opportunity to catch them weaving their dancing spells.

This year, Lydenise Berdecia and Jocelyn Lopez are steering the group as president and vice president, respectively. Practicing twice a week for approximately two hours at a time, the group is working hard to claim fame and get their dance moves perfect. Gladis Valenzuela, a veteran dancer, explains that,

"We are currently incorporating new dances from all group members since we have open choreography."

Open choreography, is choreography in which all group members help make up the dance pieces by giving suggestions or teaching dances from their native countries.

Salsa, Venezuela style, is one of the newest ventures that La Raza is putting together. There are plans for the future to perform at other colleges as well as international festivals, but these are all tentative activities that will require support from other students, so show your support and be on the look out for La Raza del Mil Colores.

NUBIAN MESSAGE

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NOV. 9, 16, 23**

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NEW LOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

forward/center has been rated by many analysts as the top prospect in the state of North Carolina. Simmons averaged 17 points, 11.5 rebounds and 6.8 blocks as a senior at West Brunswick high school.

Andrew Brackman, 6'10 forward, averaged a little over 20 points a game and 88 percent free-throw shooting as a senior in high school and that will prove to be important as the season progresses. Gavin Grant

adds height to the already towering Wolfpack team. The 6'7 forward/guard has a 7-foot, 4-inch wing span that will cause problems for whomever he defends.

The first Wolfpack game of the season will be on Nov. 17 against New Orleans at 7 p.m. in the Black Coaches Association Invitational men's college basketball tournament (BCA).

African American Cultural Center

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

7 PM - 8:30 PM Multipurpose Room

Reception will follow program

Co-sponsored by the College of Math and Social Sciences



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If you are a person with a disability and require any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations, please contact Toni Thorpe at least 3 days prior to the event at (919) 515-1451 during the normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or via email at toni_thorpe@ncsu.edu to discuss accommodations.

www.ncsu.edu/aacc

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

African American Cultural Center



Arts & Entertainment

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New Look, Same Pack Preseason Analysis of Wolf Pack Basketball

MARCUS GIBBS
Staff Writer

The Wolfpack basketball team ended last year's season ranked number 20 in the Top 20 Poll. Last year's team was outstanding at the free-throw line from a team standpoint shooting close to 80 percent and took care of the ball well with very little turnovers, only committing close to thirteen turnovers per game.

The system of ball playing utilized by the Wolfpack in recent years has minimized turnovers and points per game for its opponents, while increasing its 3-point and free-throw percentage. The system used by NC State thrives on good ball handlers in all five positions on the court, making it hard for the opposing teams to key in on one player and pressure them into causing a turnover.

This year's NC State men's basketball team seems to be as talented, if not more talented than last year's squad. After finishing second in the ACC last season, and participating in its third consecutive NCAA tournament, the Wolfpack team seems to not have lost a step.

The number 19 ranked team in this year's pre-season coach's poll has lost the likes of Scooter Sherill and Marcus Melvin, but has gained more talent. There is the return of Wolfpack senior shooting guard Julius Hodge, which is giving Wolfpack fans an optimistic outlook of

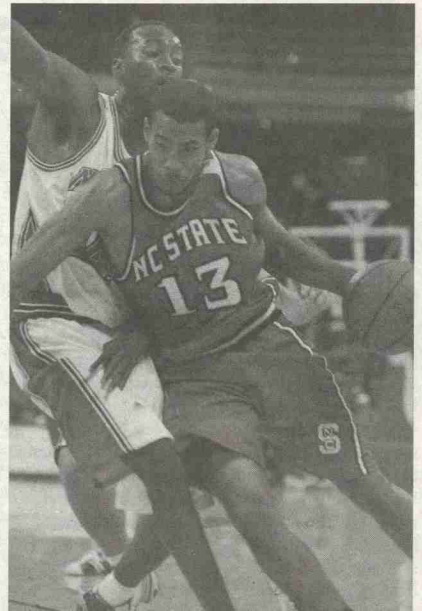
the upcoming season. Last year's ACC player of the year is one of the fifty players named to the John R. Wooden Award list for college basketball's best player of the season. Hodge's presence as a leader on the court will be vital throughout the whole season.

The other returning players will be important to the team's success, especially in the early going, as the freshmen core learns the system in game time situations. Ilian Evtimov, Levi Watkins, Engin Atsur, Cameron Bannerman and Jordan Collins will be key points in the offense as returning players.

Tony Bethel, the junior point guard transfer from Georgetown University, will fit into this team easily. Being the primary ball handler for the Hoyas, he will have to share the ball, here at NC State, with the rest of his team mates which equals the pressure between all the players to make plays and not just the point guard. "It's highly unlikely any one player will dominate the ball handling duties," said Bethel. Bethel averaged 10.5 points and 3 assists per game in his two years as a Hoya.

With those statistics Tony Bethel has proven to be a descent scorer and showed he could distribute the ball well. Everyone on the Wolfpack squad was not a stranger to Bethel when he first joined the team. He was a prep teammate with Levi Watkins.

The core of freshman players are no doubt talented, but may need to put a few games under their belt to play to their potential. Cedric Simmons, the 6'9



Cameron Bannerman drives on Julius Hodge at Red and White Exhibition Game.

Ray Black, III

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Contains Adult Language
and Situations



August Wilson's **Ma Rainey's Black Bottom**

Legendary blues singer returns to NC State University to record hit song!

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