



# Nubian Message

November 9, 2004 • Volume 12 • Issue 9

## Budget cuts affecting entire campus

(Pt.1 Budget cuts and dispersing of tuition)

**MARTIA SHARPE**  
News Editor

Organizations, departments and students are all being greatly affected by budget cuts and tuition increases, and people on campus are just not knowledgeable enough about the finances of the university.

"I don't know enough about the budget cuts," said Amanda Ford, a senior and double major in Political Science and Multidisciplinary Studies.

Appropriations from the state come from the taxes of its citizens. Academic sects are funded a portion of this money and a lot of it is directly related to student enrollment. Still, for this 2003-2004 year, the N.C. State Legislature requested a permanent budget reduction of 1.140% for the purpose of covering the statewide budget shortfall. The 1.140% is deducted from the sum of each department's public funding for various things such as salaries and operations. During this school-year, the university took cuts of approximately 3% out of every organization's department budget. Permanent and one-time reductions are in place.

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences had reductions totaling about \$1 million. Currently, the cut is at approximately \$1.5 million. In the last three years, its budget has been minimized by 9.75 percent. For example, the CHASS department has had to "restructure the delivery and administration of academic programs housed in the Division of Multi-disciplinary Studies." Faculty is to be relocated to other department heads.

Budget cuts were made at the beginning of the 2003-

2004 school-year.

Many students as well as faculty have questions and concerns. How is extra funding being dispersed? How are cuts affecting organizations? How are the cuts affecting student's class availability? Class sections are even being closed. How are student's increased tuition helping with budget cuts? Will things get better?

Tuition continues to rise, but is money being used appropriately, to the upmost benefit of the students? Is tuition assisting with the budget cut situation?

"I really do not know how money is dispersed, but it seems to me that the university considers the students last when they are allocating our tuition money. This university only cares about getting its checks from students at the beginning of the semester. They do not care if we graduate or progress successfully into the workforce. Graduation rates among Black students indicate a serious problem. That needs to be addressed," said Ford.

"I do not feel like my money is being dispersed the way I want it to or the way other students want the money to be dispersed. Some of the projects done by the school using student's money are things I have never heard of and I also do not find all of them necessary. Many students express their opinions by taking questionnaires and doing other things but they are not always heard. I think that NCSU uses the money to do what they want first, and the students have to follow it," said Katrina Moore, junior in psychology.

Stay tuned to next week's issue to find out how the money was specifically appropriated to the African

American Cultural Center and what Dr. Picart had to say. The next issue of the Nubian will have answers



Afro-American Culture Center lobby  
File photo

to some of the money issues on campus. Ms. Howard, Dr. Picart, Chancellor Oblinger and others will give comments. Also, the next issue will include a focus on how budget cuts are affecting the African-American Community on campus. For instance: the African American Cultural Center's budget is appropriated from the Provost Office via the Office for Diversity and African American Affairs that supervises the Center. The African American Cultural Center's programming budget was reduced by \$8926.

## A Look Back at Election 2004

**ROBERT WHITE**  
Editor-In-Chief

Reelection was in the air last Tuesday as many candidates from the presidency to the North Carolina State government were reelected for a second term.

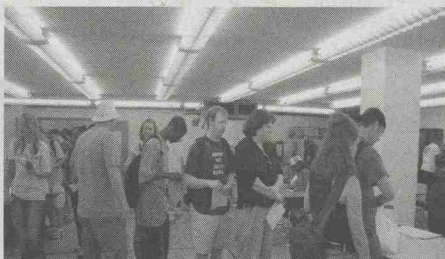
President George W. Bush won reelection on Wednesday when Senator John Kerry conceded the election to President Bush. Bush finished with 286 electoral votes and close to 60 million popular votes. Kerry finished with 252 electoral votes and nearly 56 million popular votes. Tuesday evening, Kerry faced the task of a likely close battle with Bush over provisional ballots in Ohio.

"A lot of people did not like Bush but were not quite sold on Kerry" said Dr. Andrew Taylor, a political science professor at N.C. State. Taylor said that many moral issues such as same-sex marriages influenced voters to choose Bush for re-election.

Bush says he will "broaden" his agenda for his second term. In the second term will approach more domestic issues as well as current foreign issues such as the war in Iraq. Bush wants to unify the country in his second term. President Bush also wants to simplify the tax code and reform social Security. Bush would like to make the tax cuts permanent fixture. He also hopes to have peaceful elections for Iraq in January.

"I think most of his [Bush's programs] will advantage middle and upper middle class whites," said Dr. Michael Cobb, a political science professor at N.C. State when asked how the outcome of the presidential elections will affect African Americans.

In the Congressional races, Republicans gained one seat in the House of Representatives and four seats in the U.S. Senate. In North Carolina, Republican candidate Richard Burr defeated Democratic candidate Erskine Bowles to win former Senator John Edwards' seat. Burr won 52 percent or 1,742,182 over Bowles who won 47 percent or 1,586,968 votes. Tom Bailey of the Libertarian party won 46,906 or 1% of the



students get in line to vote at the Pullen Arts Center  
Mellih onivurl

vote. Burr's victory over Bowles gives North Carolina two Republican senators. Senator Elizabeth Dole, wife of former senator Bob Dole, won a senate seat in 2000.

In the House of Representative all seats were up for reelection all thirteen districts within North Carolina. Incumbents reclaimed most of them. Republican candidate Patrick McHenry won District 10 with 64 percent of his precinct. Republican candidate Virginia Foxx won 59 percent of votes in district 5. Walter

Jones, David Price, Mike McIntyre, Mel Watt, Bob Etheridge, G.K. Butterfield and Brad Miller were the Democrats who won reelection to the U.S. House as part of the N.C. Delegation. Howard Coble, Robin Hayes and Sue Myrick were Republicans who won reelection to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Governor Mike Easley will have a second term as North Carolina's governor with 1,871,856 or 55 percent of the vote. Patrick Ballantine the Republican candidate for governor gained only 1,462,353 votes which was 43 percent of the vote. Libertarian party candidate Barbara Hume won 50,858 or only 2 percent of the vote. Lieutenant Governor Beverly Eaves Purdue won reelection with 1,801,143 votes. Roy Cooper won reelection as Attorney General. Jim Long won reelection as a commissioner of insurance. Elaine F. Marshall won reelection as Secretary of State. Leslie Merritt won as state auditor. Richard H. Moore won as state treasurer.

"I was disappointed. I felt that a lot of youth really did get out and vote this time. Some of my friends say their voice was not heard and they may not vote in the next election [2008]," said Krystal Smith, a sophomore in psychology.

"I guess you can say it was surprising, but I am disappointed," said Justin Thompson, a junior in biological sciences when asked about the election results. Thompson a first-time voter said he would definitely vote in the next election.



## Survey reveals tuition increases nationwide

ALEX MULLER

Daily Collegian (Pennsylvania State U.)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. -- According to the most recent College Board Annual Survey of Colleges, the average tuition for a four-year public school has risen 10 percent since last year.

The survey, given every year by the College Board, also found that tuition at two-year public colleges rose 9 percent and the price of going to a four-year private school increased 6 percent.

Sandy Baum, a College Board senior policy analyst, said the survey is representative of 2,800 schools across the country.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, in-state tuition at University Park increased by 12 percent, from \$9,706 in the 2003-04 school year to \$10,856 in the 2004-05 school year.

Jennifer Topiel, College Board associate director of public affairs, said the largest increase in four-year public schools' tuition, after being adjusted for inflation, was 11 percent. She added that the increase this year is affected by a variety of things.

"It has to do with how the economy is doing, or the amount of money the school receives from the state, new school projects or even new healthcare benefit costs for staff," she said.

Penn State spokesman Bill Mahon said its budget comes from both tuition and state appropriations.

"State appropriations have been cut five times in the last four years and we had to ask students and parents to pay more of the bill," Mahon said.

The Chronicle of Higher Education listed the cost of tuition for out-of-state students to attend University Park for the 2004-05 school year as \$20,784 per year.

"The state gives us an appropriation that we apply to in-state students and not out-of-state because those people don't have tax dollars that are paying for our university," Mahon said.

According to the University Budget Office Web site, [www.budget.psu.edu](http://www.budget.psu.edu), the largest part of the budget is spent on instruction and research at \$466,484,000, an increase of \$13,309,000 since last year.

The budget appropriated to the Physical Plant Operations, which is the department responsible for construction projects around campus, increased last year's \$110,795,000 to \$122,067,000 this year.

Student aid appropriations increased by \$4,030,000 and total \$34,483,000 this year.

Mahon said construction expenditures, such as the creation of new buildings, are not "tied heavily in with tuition."

"Buildings are funded differently," Mahon said.

"For example, the new residence hall [Eastview Terrace] that was just built, people who live there will pay for that [with higher room and board rates] -- not every student that goes to the school," Mahon added.

Some students said they are not happy about the tuition increase.

"I think we could be doing better compared to other Big Ten schools," Justin Schultz (junior-architectural engineering) said. "I think Pennsylvania could be doing more to increase state appropriations."

Eric White (sophomore-agricultural and biological engineering) is an in-state student who said he feels that in-state tuition costs are worth Penn State's education.

"It's a shame it's going up, but it still has a long way to go before it reaches the price of an out-of-state student," White said. "We're paying for a great education and that's not something you can get anywhere."

## HERITAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

due to the student movements. Many of the workshops allowed the students to fully appreciate NC State's Culture Center, and how many establishments have built centers using the design of our center.

"The new ABCC accreditation process for cultural centers interested me," stated Ms Janet Howard, interim director of the NC State African American Cultural Center. "This national standard is a bold, yet much needed, move for culture centers. Designing the standardization procedures so that they address the needs of African American, Asian, Latino, Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender, Native American, etc., centers is progressive, inclusive, and inventive," she added.

Our experience continued with an excellent Saturday evening extravaganza of African American talent from the Indiana University African American Arts Institute. Their large auditorium was practically sold out as the students performed rhythm and blues and soul hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s. The gospel choir, along with two smaller ensembles, rendered high-spirited spirituals and contemporary gospel. Finally the African American dance troupe performed African dance.

"We are delighted that these Heritage Society students had an opportunity to network with students from across the nation, to increase their knowledge of cultural centers and to hone their leadership skills," stated Ms Toni Thorpe, Heritage Society adviser. "I hope that next year when the conference convenes in Kentucky more students can attend and participate as workshop presenters," she added.

## RESPONSIBILITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

point of calling our God a lie. And what do we do? Grin, smile and even agree with what is said to keep "the" peace at the expense of "our" peace.

Jesus did not live as an example for us to be wimps. Jesus even had confrontations after His resurrection with His own disciples and will have future confrontations at His Second Coming. But what do we have now? Generations of wimpy Christians, who will not confront the lies taught in their classrooms where they teach evolution, promote homosexuality, teach that Islam is a peaceful religion, placing it equal to Christianity. The solution is in the Word of God.

Winning souls is the greatest single piece in the beginning of the whole puzzle. For only they that endure to the end shall be saved. We should be setting the standards on campus in every facet of our lives. Our diet, finances, standing on moral absolutes, intolerance of evil and uncompromising faith should not make us feel left out. Why should we sacrifice our beliefs and children on the unholy altars of Halloween just because everyone else is doing it? Are we so weak now to allow our children to determine our spiritual choices? If we do not get this compromise out of our system now, you are preparing the future generation to do the same.

Jesus never spared His tongue when it came to confronting the Jewish Hierarchy. He never compromised His stand on righteous living. Jesus already said that we would be hated by the world, because He was hated first. So let's be hated for being like Him, not like them.

The truth of this whole matter is that until the physical manifestations of God start occurring, the Christian community will be too concerned about its own reputation to the point of compromising their own beliefs. All responses to this article can be sent to: [HYPERLINKmailto:glos-havebeenexposed@yahoo.com](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:glos-havebeenexposed@yahoo.com)


### EVENTS

**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 7:30PM. TICKETS ARE \$2 IN ADVANCE AND \$5 AT THE DOOR.

**DIVERSITY WEBSITE-** THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR DIVERSITY AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS WILL LAUNCH A NEW WEBSITE TITLED "THE DIVERSITY AT N.C. STATE" ON NOVEMBER 17, 2004. THIS WEBSITE WILL SERVE AS A PORTAL FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY TO ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATE OF DIVERSITY AND THE VARIETY OF DIVERSITY PROGRAMS AT NC STATE.

**AACC LIBRARY BOOK CLUB-**THE AACC NEXT BOOK CLUB SELECTION WILL BE **THERE EYES WERE WATCHING GOD BY ZORA NEALE HURSTON**. THE NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING WILL BE ON DEC. 1, 2004 FROM 12:00PM-1:30 PM IN ROOM 375 WITHERSPOON. DRINK AND DESSERT PROVIDED. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 919-515-1397

TO GET YOUR EVENTS ANNOUNCED CONTACT THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT [EIC@NUBIAN.SMA.NCSU.EDU](mailto:EIC@NUBIAN.SMA.NCSU.EDU) OR CALL 515-1468



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Nubian?

Send your comment to  
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THE OPINIONS IN THIS SECTION DO NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE NUBIAN MESSAGE

## “ Have Things Truly Changed “

**NIALAH MATHIAS**  
Mystery Columnist

I attended the Town Hall meeting held by ASAC in September, and one of the things that were addressed was the Minority Report Card for the university. It came up that the number of African-Americans coming to North Carolina State University as well as the number of students returning was decreasing. One would think that surely there has to be a reason. After dwelling on it for about two or three months, I have come to the conclusion that there are two main reasons. One is the cost of attending the university, and two is the fact that diversity is such a huge issue.

For many middle class college students college is becoming more and more expensive each year. With a decrease in the amount of money being given out to students in Pell Grants and an increase in the number of Pell Grants being given out students are being forced to take out more loans. For many African-American students this becomes an issue because of the fact that it hinders the ability for them to make future purchases, therefore many of them make the discussion to go to more affordable schools in an effort to decrease the amount of loan payments that they will have to face after they have earned their degree.

In the case of diversity, the majority of people who attend diversity programs are not the ones who need to be diversified. Truly it is the many thousands of individuals who claim that they are diverse, because

they have a friend who is out of their race or the support homosexuals, who need to be attending more these programs. It is apparent that diversity is an issue on campus. This can be shown through comments made on a website named “Wolf Web”. It was brought to my attention that there were some comments aimed towards African Americans on this site in regards to the sit-in. After reading through the three pages of post, it became clear to me that African Americans are not respected on this campus by many of our peers. This is visible in comments such as...

“African-Americans that act like this is the reason why people are racist.....

If you cant realize this you are the people who are holding back equality.”

“I see what you mean. It seems like it takes away from situations where they are really being unfairly treated because they're black. Kinda like how women who aren't really sexually harassed that sue make it seem that all suits are frivolous.”

“Uninformed ignorant posts are soooo cool. this is why I love the wolfweb. you can be as racist and derogatory as you want and the anonymity of your screen name keeps you safe. “ “Yawn. Darkies stirring stuff up.

That's history in a nutshell. Not like my white brethren blah blah blah blah.”

It is also apparent that African-Americans are not respected in the classroom setting, when African-Americans are confronted in group settings by their Caucasian peers who verbally note that they do not want to work with them because they are African-American. For many of you I am sure this is not a shock, and for those of you who it is this is the reality of the matter.

African-Americans have no reason to want to come to North Carolina State University. They have no reason to want to put themselves through the stress and ignorance of their comrades each day, especially when they can attend any of the many other universities throughout North Carolina as well as the nation. But the reality of the matter is many of us came to this university in an effort to better ourselves. To make things better for ourselves after we have graduated, and with that we should not let other people control our destiny. So where do we go from here? Since it is apparent that they will not come to our programs I believe that we should go to their programs. In an effort to produce diversity I believe that African Americans should take a step out and attend one or two activities besides those sponsored by African American organizations. In an effort to diversify other organizations throughout the university attend an event, and write about your experience in the Nubian Message. What is the worst that could happen...you could find out that they really are not diverse nor are they ready for diversity.

## The Responsibility of Christians on a College Campus

**FRED HATCHETT**  
Columnist

When I was challenged, not asked to apprise the Christian community of its responsibility to the NCSU community, I said I would do it. The person who asked me had some very poignant observations that I will address in this article. This message is to the whole of Christians, but I will be addressing the African American community specifically at times.

As you read in my previous article, the “leaders” of the African American community at NC State have not stood up to the task of leading in the academic, spiritual or moral realms. So now, it is time to address the Christian leaders and individuals of their roles on campus.

You are to be excellent academically, as well as an excellent role model. We should be able to inform our peers of easily of two degrees or majors, good teachers and what professors' classes to attend. Most people already think we are not really that smart. Let's prove them wrong.

However, it is the spiritual and moral areas that are in dire need of discussion. These will also impact our academic lives as well as others. So I will break the Christians' spiritual responsibilities down into four categories: 1.) Evangelism 2.) Teaching 3.) Praying that the manifestation (miracles, signs and wonders) of God be present and 4.) Confronting Evil. Evangelism is simply winning souls to Jesus Christ, who is the only way to God. Church and ministry leaders must teach holy living, how to live healthy, how to live financially responsible, and most of all, defending the faith. Praying for miracles, signs and wonders to follow each and every believer is

important.

The power of God should especially be manifested after the preaching of God's Word. People are sick and want to be healed, bound and long to be free and desire to see what the believer believes. The final and chief thing I want to deal with is confronting evil.

We are repeating the exact failures of our past. When Christians sat on their hands in 1954, we now have no Christianity, Bible or Jesus in our schools. Instead we have Eastern Mysticism, New Age, and Wicca. In 1973, the church disappeared and the government gave permission to murder babies. In 2001, we allowed this foolishness of not confronting each other with this “judge not” slogan.

We are now in 2004, ordaining homosexuals, marrying them, passing out condoms in the church and worst of all permitting pastors, other church leaders and church members to fornicate and commit adultery with no accountability. Worse, there are fools in church leadership who do not have the courage to lay down the hammer on these Christians' refusal to obey God and repent. Where are the Christian ministries that are willing to expose the very same adversaries on the very same campus of which they co-exist? Where is the agreement of every Christ-loving ministry to confront and expose the evils of the BGLA, NARAL, Greek-Letter Organizations, Halloween, Kwanzaa, KWU, Kemet, Easter egg hunts, even The Chaplain's Cooperative Ministry, etc.? What are the leaders teaching the sheep? We are teaching them to sit down, shut up and co-exist. Our tolerance of the people we call our friends who use our ears as garbage cans as they spew out their profanity, sexual encounters, to the

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## Nubian Message

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## Heritage Society Members Attend ABCC Conference

### AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Press Release

Members of the Heritage Society attended the 14<sup>th</sup> annual national conference of the Association for Black Culture Centers (ABCC) at the University of Indiana at Bloomington from Nov. 4-7. This year's conference theme was "Black Culture Centers and the Politics of Identity in the New Millennium." Shanda Whitaker, a senior political science major, recounted the opening speaker's remarks about the importance of documenting the programming initiated by African American students, staff and faculty.

Dr. Delores Aldridge, Grace Towns Hamilton Distinguished Professor of Sociology and African American Studies, Emory University, reminded us that, "As programs and events change their titles and mission from African-American to Diversity, students must advocate having these events documented on programs, in archives, in official files that they were started by African American students." She added that, "Diversity without equity misses the mark for access and achievement." Dr. Aldridge, a Phi Beta Kappa trained sociologist and clinical social worker, is the first African American female faculty at Emory University.

Dr. Charlie Nelms, vice president for Institutional Development and Student Affairs, delivered the next keynote speech. Faith Leach, a senior Communications major, highlighted Nelms' stated responsibilities of a Cultural Center: 1) promote and support students' academic excellence; 2) promote understanding of cultural and historical Africa; 3) ensure students' civic engagement; 4) integrate African Americans into larger campus and integrate others into the African American experience; and 5) promote student leadership development.

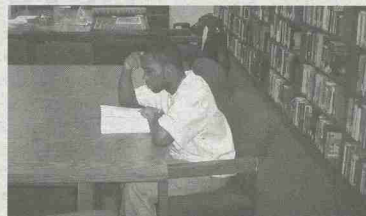
Curtis Hill, a senior Political Science major, enjoyed the gala speaker, Dr. Molefi Kete Asante, a professor in the department of African American Studies at Temple University. Dr. Asante presented his classification of African American identities as a) Pan Africanist, b) nationalist, and c) humanist. Professor Asante described his 2002 participation, along with five hundred other scholars from the Diaspora, in the development of the African Union, an organization dedicated to the economic, political, social and humanitarian development of all African peoples throughout the Diaspora.

The students had an opportunity to attend various workshops ranging from Pan African Community Building, Afro-Latino Identity, to Graduate School and You. The workshop speakers presented information on how various culture centers have progressed over time

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## Reading in Black Culture *Where Does it Stand?*

XAVIER R. KING  
Culture Editor



David Cox reads a book in the AACC Library.  
Johnathan Brunson

Reading has been called an essential tool in obtaining knowledge, a tool which is not available through television and/or word of mouth. Although it is clear that people in the black community read, readership is up among black women but not that of black males. But the question then is why do men not like to read or do not choose to read?

One would say that somewhere between the struggles to learn how to read, and now, it has become too "un-popular" or "un-cool" to have a book under one's arm and read while waiting on something or someone.

Reading is a tool that not only empowers but it also stimulates the mind. It has come to a point where writers have begun to stop writing for predominately male audiences because their sale figures were not comparable to that of books that authors would write for predominately female audiences.

Has it become an issue to think that reading novels and such are for females and it is something that females do, and males do not want to be stigmatized with those notions? "Males should know that females want an educated brother, someone who can hold a conversation which is of some merit. Talking about everyday situations can only take both you and the relationship but so far," as explained by Shonda Tabb. Maybe this is so and maybe this is what males fail to realize that picking up a book is not looked at in a negative perspective. Many females actually like the idea of a man picking up a book rather than picking up other things that could put them in places where they do not

want to be, i.e. prisons.

The black community must remember that there was a point in time when African Americans were not allowed to read and the entire race was forced to be illiterate. Therefore, why not take the opportunity that black people, as a culture and race now have to indulge in both leisure and academic reading. The African American Cultural Center (AACC) is currently holding a book club that spotlights many African American novels that should be of interest to the black community, especially in a college setting.

So take advantage of this opportunity that African Americans have here and begin to read as a culture, especially the males. Therefore, the next time that one walks past a bookstore or a bookshelf stop and entertain your mind with a little symtactical knowledge from novels.

## Don't Believe the Hype *What Happened to the Black Vote?*

MIKIA HORSEY  
Culture Writer

There comes a time when one has to accept the blame for one's on actions, accept responsibility for their misgivings and their failures. Sometimes, one doesn't have simply because one didn't try. Sometimes, one don't know simply because one didn't want to learn. Granted, there are situations that one goes through as an African American, there are problems that one has to deal with, issues that members of other races could not begin to believe. Still there are so many things African Americans could do to lessen these trials, so many ways they can break "the curse" on the black race and be better than what is expected. For instance, being knowledgeable about the world around them, and how their country is run is one of them.

How many people know who the secretary of state or defense is? How many can explain the system of checks and balances, can say who the first Democratic presidential candidate was? First Republican presidential candidate? Can anyone tell exactly what the job of the Electoral College is? On a local level, can anyone give any information on the state of North Carolina? Who is the governor? Senator?

The amount of students who cannot answer these questions are surprising. They are supposed to be intellectual college students, right? Knowledge of the government or basic politics should be prevalent. After all, politics and government affect society and day-to-day routines. The amount of money disbursed for grants and loans depend on the government, which is run by politicians. Tuition is raised or lowered depending on the government and politicians. If no one knows who

to go to, or the proper chain of command, how can anything get done? If something needs to be done in a timely manner, how is that possible if people are fumbling around office after office, trying to find the right representative?

Some people feel that African Americans are not especially learned in the art of politics. Many thought this was shown in an issue of the Technician. The issue asked students questions about the debates, and an African American responded with questions and statements such as, "what presidential debate?" and "who is running again?" and "I don't even know what either of them stand for."

Who is the blame for this lack of awareness? Should the teachers in high school be blamed for being boring when teaching Civics and United States History? Are people going to blame the professors at NC State for not being "entertaining" when teaching the Political Science classes? No. Each uninformed person should blame him or herself. People are not taught differently! People receive things differently... many times by not receiving it at all. People think the class is too boring, or people think they don't need to know it, or it will never matter either way. Don't believe the hype NC State, it matters. There is a vast difference in knowing something and rejecting it, and just rejecting it because one doesn't know it.

Rejecting something because a person doesn't recognize it is called ignorance. All in all, as an individual, it is better know why one doesn't agree with something, instead of believing what one is told and basing an opinion or a belief on that. There is no need to repeat ignorance. As Alice Walker said, "Don't repeat everything you hear, you might be called on to lead."



## INTERVIEW WITH LIZZ WRIGHT

**KEON PETTIWAY**  
Staff Writer

What do legendary jazz artist Herbie Hancock, double Grammy award winner, Dee Dee Bridgewater, and Aaron Neville have in common? They are all on the same music label as Lizz Wright, a young 24 year-old jazz artist who is taking the nation by storm with rich, soulful renditions and original music with a touch of jazz.

On Friday, November 5, Lizz Wright and her entourage illuminated Stewart Theatre with a riveting performance. The Nubian Message had the opportunity to interview Wright after her performance.

**Keon:** It seems like your religious experience is a large part of your music, because I can see it when you are on stage. I notice your mannerisms, and I can see that you feel the music. What does the religious experience add to your music.

**Lizz:** Well, singing in church taught me how to be transparent and how to go inside the music myself. I'll be there performing, but actually, I go find something, you know, even for myself. So every night, just like every day in church, I'm looking for something to grab onto, just like the people in the audience. I'm looking for something to heal me too. So, if you see (my) funny gestures it's because I'm searching, you know.

**Keon:** How does the experience of the band add to your music?

**Lizz:** They are all people that I see as a part of myself, and they bring out part of me. Having them play behind me is like having my voice played really big. Yeah, they express my love for the music so it's really amazing to play with them. I love them as individuals as well.

**Keon:** Definitely. So what are you looking to get out

of your career right now?

**Lizz:** Really, I always just want to grow. I always want to grow. I always want to push the limit. I want to be a better musician, and I want to play in my own band one day. But I'm not going to be like, you know, just be playing and my band is like "Oh God, we gotta endure her, because she's paying us."

**Keon:** Exactly.

**Lizz:** Yeah, I'm working on it.

**Keon:** Oh, you're working on it? I know that you said you played the guitar.

**Lizz:** Yeah, your heard my first three chords tonight.

**Keon:** It's that the only instrument that you play?

**Lizz:** No, I played the piano for a while. I played that for years.

**Keon:** Oh okay. Well I know you have to go, so I'm going to ask a series of non-music related questions. Some personal questions.

**Lizz:** (Laughing) Not too personal, because I really don't answer personal questions.

**Keon:** Oh no, no it's like, what is your favorite color.

**Lizz:** Oh okay.

**Keon:** So they are not too personal.

**Lizz:** Oh okay. Turquoise.

**Keon:** Bread or crackers?

**Lizz:** Crackers.

**Keon:** Cycling or walking?

**Lizz:** Walking.

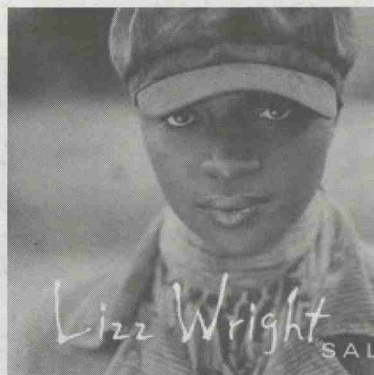


Photo of Lizz Wright album cover, Keon Pettway

**Keon:** James Brown or Stevie Wonder?

**Lizz:** Anybody else.

**Keon:** Anybody else?

**Lizz:** I saw a recent interview of his and it was crazy!

**Keon:** It wasn't bad was it?

**Lizz:** It was nuts! Dude, he was out to lunch, and yeah...some other stuff.

**Keon:** Okay, well how about Stevie Wonder or Rick James.

**Lizz:** Stevie Wonder.

**Keon:** Of course. Well, thank you for your time. It was a pleasure.

**Lizz:** Thank you.

For more information about Lizz Wright, log onto [www.lizzwright.com](http://www.lizzwright.com) or [www.vervemusicgroup.com](http://www.vervemusicgroup.com). Contact NCSU Center Stage at 919.513.3030 or log onto [www.ncsu.edu/centerstage](http://www.ncsu.edu/centerstage) for more information about upcoming performances.

## The New Danger meets The Beautiful Struggle Reviews of Mos Def and Talib Kweli's latest albums

**DAISY BUITRAGO**  
Staff Writer

Is Black Star battling it out to see who the best solo artist is? No, on the contrary, Talib Kweli and Mos Def are simply showcasing their skills while spreading their thoughtful messages. Mos Def's album, "The New Danger," was released October 12, a few weeks after Kweli's album, "The Beautiful Struggle," and it definitely displays the artistic differences between the two. Both lyricists put down beautifully honest tracks that are meant to get people's minds turning on important issues, yet they exhibited their own styles and means of approaching the same point.

One thing to realize about Mos Def is that he is a lover of the arts, period. He has been in Broadway musicals, he has been in Hollywood movies, hosting Def Poetry Jam, and he has his own rock group, Black Jack Johnson, to add to the picture as well. His album conveys this love of the arts with all its different influences. Several tracks showcase rock music overlaid with bass, while there are many other unique beats such as the track "Ghetto Rock" which features an oriental twang in the background.

One of the most controversial songs on his CD is the remake of Jay-Z's "The Take Over," which Mos Def entitles "The Rape Over." In this track, Mos Def

explores the facts of who really owns and controls rap. He names several owners saying, "AOL/ Time Warner/ They running this rap sh\*t/ Cocaine is running this rap sh\*t." Even though this song has sparked much controversy, it does so in a positive way because it only brings the truth up close to the listener's eyes and ears.

Exhibiting his raw yet pure singing voice, he belts out his love for a woman on "The Beggar," screaming out at one point to convey the heartfelt emotion he shares for the woman. With only 3 guest appearances on his album from the likes of Shuggie Otis, Paul Oscher and Minnesota, Mos Def is able to hold down his own easily, pushing 95,000 copies its first week and debuting number five on the Billboard Charts without yet releasing a single or a video!

Struggling to grab a copy of "The Beautiful Struggle" should be a priority on every true hip hop fan's agenda because this album is packed with knowledge. Many have been heard to say that this album does not top Talib's previous album, "Quality," however, even if it doesn't, this album still has many quality tracks. USA Today gave the album 4 out of 4 stars and People Magazine is quoted as stating, "Struggle is no-contest the rap album of the year." With the likes of Mary J. Blige, Faith Evans, Jean Grae, RES and productions by Kanye West, Kweli's album is a little more star studded than Mos Def's without detracting too much attention from Kweli's message. Debating at number 14 on the

Billboard Charts, Talib has a video for his first single "I Try" featuring Mary J. Blige, which has reached Buzzworthy status on MTV. For the most part, Talib appeals to a broader audience because he does not experiment much with different sounds. This does not make his music boring; his lyrics could stand alone and be just as impacting.

Starting off with young girls talking in the background to a dramatic bass drop, "Black Girl Pain," expresses Talib's love for the black woman and the trials she goes through, stating, "This is for Kadijah/ Scared to look up in the mirror." One can see the respect and love Talib Kweli has for women through this song and the track "We Know," is a record about his sweetheart. He keeps it hood yet intelligent with his track, "Back Up Offa Me," calling out all emcees that tear fellow emcees down to make their money. "We Got the Beat" is one of those tracks that you would most likely Mos Def collaborating on because of the rock influence and 80's sampling involved. One of the most touching tracks is "Around My Way," because it realistically depicts the struggles of blacks worldwide while accompanied with a sobering and dramatic melody.

These high quality albums by Black Star are definitely worth checking out, but for all the hip hop heads looking for descriptions of "bling bling" or "gangsta activity," they are better off picking up the next 50 Cent album.



# Mind, Body & Soul

The Nubian Message • November 9, 2004 • PAGE 6

## Horoscopes

*What your Sign says about You*

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

### Scorpio October 24- November 22

This month is your month. Use your time wisely. Time management is not managing to waste your time. Stay away from the Atrium, social gatherings and video games of all types.

### Sagittarius November 23- December 22

Getting involved is great, but you sometimes overdue it. You cannot be all things to all people. Your Webmail inbox is over quota due to mass mailings of meetings, conference, volunteer work and programs. Learn to say no, or you will be one of the people you try to help.

### Capricorn December 23- January 20

There are only so many majors one person can have. All students are taught to make yourself marketable, but if you don't drop some of your majors, you won't have a reason to be marketable... you will never graduate. Excel in one or two areas and you'll be fine. I suggest visiting one of the five colleges you enrolled in and giving them drop forms.

### Aquarius January 21- February 19

Clocks and watches provide a very valuable service. You were late for your birth and will probably be late to your funeral. If a class starts at 12:25, it would probably be a good idea to leave your room before 12:30.

### Pisces February 20- March 20

Preparedness is a trait of the successful. Going to class without paper and pencil will get you scowls from your professors and snarls from your classmates. The person that sits behind you is tired of being your personal NCSU Bookstore. Buy a binder and get crackin'.

### Aries March 21- April 20

Class is not your personal napping haven. The walls are to hold up the building, not your head. Turn off the television and the cell phone and get 8-10 hours of rest, because you now have a permanent water stain on your desk from drooling.

### Taurus April 21- May 21

Carpe dentem. Isn't it about time to check in with your local dentist? I'm not sure whether you have a health plan, but seeing as how your diet consists of skittles and starbursts, they'll probably make an exception for you.

### Gemini May 22- June 21

Although you're born under the sign of the twin, it doesn't mean you always have options. Your work schedule isn't debatable. The professor's deadlines aren't negotiable. Just because you like to have options, doesn't mean that they're always available.

### Cancer June 22- July 22

Take it from me, there's a reason TRACS doesn't let you sign up for that many hours. No one wants to be a lifelong student, but you are supposed to graduate in four years, not four semesters. Learn to pace yourself.

### Leo July 23- August 21

Learn to loosen up. Let the lion inside roar. Life is not all about bow ties and dress shoes. Unbutton a little and let your hair down. Your much too young and life is an adventure waiting to happen.

### Virgo August 22-September 23

Learn to say no. Your birth certificate does not say Let me Borrow or Give me Smith. If they are your friends, they will understand. Right now you are exhibiting signs of a chronic pushover.

### Libra September 24-October 23

You are not the crocodile hunter. We all love nature, and most of us would like to see the wildlife preserved, but not in your room. Your roommate's bed has been taken over by a Brazilian fungus that's endangered, and you have fish floating in your sink. Join a non-profit organization and get on with your life.

## STUDY SHOWS LINK BETWEEN STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH, RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY

**SUNDEEP MALLADI**  
Badger Herald (U. Wisconsin)

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. -- College students of high religious activity and commitment are in better emotional and mental health than those who have no involvement, according to a University of California-Los Angeles study.

The study consisted of 3,680 third-year college students at 46 diverse colleges and universities.

UCLA researchers found there may be a correlation between religious activity and physical and mental health. The study found students who participate frequently in religious services are less likely to feel overwhelmed during college, while students who do not attend religious services are more than twice as likely to report feeling depressed. The study also found non-religious students experience a drop in physical health, increase in alcohol consumption and an overall drop in a sense of psychological well being.

Some University of Wisconsin students are skeptical of the study. Sophomore Katie Rowley, who grew up a Universalist-Unitarian and now identifies as an atheist, said she thought the study was overly general. "I'm not as spiritually involved as I was when I was younger, but I still find my mental health is good," she said. "I find myself stronger now mentally and emotionally than I ever have been."

Others believe the study is valid. Sophomore Ben Stark, a non-practicing Christian, said religion provides something for many students to "fall on" in times of crisis. He added, however, that it could be difficult to measure students' spirituality.

"People express their spirituality in so many different ways that there's no way to gauge it across the board," he said. "You can get a general idea maybe, but I don't think you can measure it."

Stark added that spirituality might drop among college students who abandon the faith they feel their parents imposed on them.

Sophomore Anthony Koffman, a practicing Christian, seconded Stark's thoughts on the study.

"Spiritual people have something to fall back upon," he said.

"Non-spiritual might just give up. Being religious is just another card in the deck to fall back upon."

Koffman, however, also said religion is not necessarily relevant to mental health.

Other students view religion's impact on mental health differently. Sophomore Arun Gopalratnam, a Hindu, said Hindus practice religion more in the home than as a religious community. By contrast, he said Christianity focuses on community-based initiatives.

"If you're religious, you have a clearer idea of what you want to do," he said, referring to the guidelines many religions provide. "If you feel like you know what you're doing, you're [going to] be saner."

The UCLA study also found strongly religious students hold more politically conservative views of sex, abortion, gay rights and drugs, while they lean in a liberal direction on issues such as gun control and the death penalty.

Koffman said this might be true, especially with Christians, because while many Christians turn to the Bible for political solutions, the Bible does not address subjects such as gun control.

Rowley said making generalizations about political tendencies is unwise, adding that a religious Universalist-Unitarian is probably left-leaning as opposed to socially conservative.

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# Omar Tyree Visits Campus

**SHAMEICA GARDNER**

Mind, Body and Soul, Editor

On Wednesday, Omar Tyree, a highly acclaimed African-American writer, visited N.C. State's campus to promote his new book, "Coldblooded" on his tour, "Fetish, Why Good Girls Crave Bad Boys." The program, whose audience total about 300 people, was not an ordinary panel discussion in which the author talked about their books, but rather a sort of seminar that interwove ways to be successful, and how to avoid things that would interrupt that success.

The program began with Monique White, a senior majoring in Psychology, facilitating the event. White first introduced Arthur Wylie II, entrepreneur and Tyree's business partner.

Wylie asked the audience, "Who can tell me how to be successful?" Jennifer Bowden, a junior responded by saying, "You must be prepared, think of a plan, and see it through. You must also be organized." Wylie then handed her a crisp 20 dollar bill for answering the question, much to the surprise of the audience.

A millionaire by the time he was 26, Wylie, a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, gave the audience his tips on how to be successful. Currently, Wylie's assets total more than \$40 million.

Wylie has dubbed his success campaign, "The Art of Business: Turning Pennies into Millions," "In order to become success financially, you must have a vision, a plan and you must learn to execute it," said Wylie. He then ended his portion of the program with a proposition that got the audience talking. "Whoever comes up with the best business plan, and presents it to me, I will

Jan. 1, 2005.

Tyree then took the stage to begin the discussion portion of the program. Tyree, who gained a degree in print journalism, has written 13 books in the past 12 years. He then offered his take on what it took to be successful in the world print and entertainment.

"I worked for 10 magazines, but I knew that I wanted more. Perseverance and stamina are the key elements in getting what you want. People can't see your vision, until they your plan," said Tyree. This then led into how his new book, "Coldblooded" became the first novel to ever have its own soundtrack.

"She wanted his danger," a line from the first chapter of the book, delves into the phenomenon of women who like "thugs" and "bad boys." The main character, a college student named Janeya, gets involved with Molasses, an assassin.

The panel consisted of Tyree and four NC State students; David Cox, Shonda Tabb, McKinlay Jeannis (Mac) and Birnettiah Killans. The discussion quickly became centered on the way men view women and vice versa.

**"Real women do not do things like that. When women see men with girlfriends, we often learn to view them in a different light. Like hey, he can commit, .....**

Birnettiah Killans Senior in Psychology and Africana studies

"Why is it that a man can only get a woman after he gets a girlfriend?" asked Mac. One female audience member in particular drew criticism from the vast majority of the audience when she responded by saying, "Most of the time black women, and women and general view getting a man as a competition. They see a man with a woman and they see that as their mission, to take him from her."

Panelist Killans quickly responded by saying, "Real women do not do things like that. When women see men with girlfriends, we often learn to view them in a different light. 'Like hey, he can commit, and maybe he

does have a sensitive side,' but a real woman does not go after a man just because he has a girlfriend."

English then made a comment which did not sit well with female members of the audience. "See the problem with women is that they are too confrontational and they love to argue." Tyree then responded to this by saying, "Men have egos and so do women. While men admit to that, women think that they are being logical, but it's really their ego coming out. That's why they seem argumentative a lot of the times."



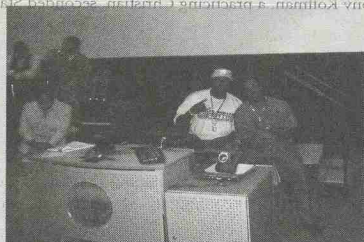
Students stand in line as Omar signs books  
Robert White

The panelists went on to discuss a variety of issues including; defining a relationship, expectations, domestic violence, single parent homes, the appeal of danger, the intellectual versus the macho man and most of all, why do good girls get themselves into relationships with bad men.

When asked what he thought the most important aspects of a relationship were, Brian Hammonds, a student majoring in Business Management said, "Trust and honesty." He then said, "I liked the program. Some of the comments people made were irrelevant, but a lot of people made some good points."

Catrice McCray, a senior in Business and Marketing Education, said, "I enjoyed the dialogue between the men and the women. A lot of times women just discuss relationships amongst themselves, and it's good to see how men view relationships."

After taking three questions and comments from the audience, Tyree then concluded the program by autographing copies of his novels.



McKinlay (Mac) Jeannis (left) and David Cox (right) at the program.  
Johnathan Brunson

give them \$10,000." The deadline for the competition is

## 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

The AACC presents Dr. Levi Watkins Jr., Associate Dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and full Professor of Cardiac Surgery. He was the first person to perform a human implantation of the automatic defibrillator. In 1966 Dr. Watkins integrated the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, becoming the first black ever admitted and the first black to graduate from that institution.

*African American Creative Artists  
Changing the Landscape of Society*

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](mailto:toni_thorpe@ncsu.edu) to discuss accommodations.

[www.ncsu.edu/aacc](http://www.ncsu.edu/aacc)

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

African American Cultural Center



## New Books In the AACC Library

### Fiction

Mother of Pearl by Melinda Haynes  
Now is the Time to Open Your Heart by Alice Walker  
The Team by Dawson Perkins  
Through Ebony Eyes by Gail Thompson

### Nonfiction

Why a Daughter Needs a Dad by Gregory Lane  
Why a Daughter Needs a Mother by Gregory Lane  
Why a Son Needs a Dad by Gregory Lane  
Why a Son Needs a Mother by Gregory Lane



## NC STATE TALENT SPOTLIGHT: SOULFIRE

**JACQUELINE INDULA**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

NAME: Kofi Owusu-Ofori  
AGE: 19  
CLASSIFICATION: Junior  
MAJOR: Electrical Engineering  
HOMETOWN: Greensboro, NC  
TITLE: CO-FOUNDER

NAME: Mack Hedrick  
AGE: 19  
CLASSIFICATION: Junior  
MAJOR: Industrial Engineering  
HOMETOWN: Greensboro, NC  
TITLE: CO-FOUNDER

MEMBERS:  
Michael Hoyes-Vocalist  
Dejuan Gales-Lead Guitarist  
Serena Hendrix-Drummer  
Sean Lewis: Bass Guitarist  
Tenea Miller: Manager  
James Whitaker: Lead Guitarist

The stereotype that engineering students do not have social lives shall be proved artificial. As proved by these two young creative geniuses sometimes a better social life can be created. Surprisingly, Owusu-Ofori and Hedrick lived five minutes away from each other in their hometown of Greensboro but were strangers until meeting at the engineering department's Summer Transition Program. Little did they know co-founding a business would be in their future. With the addition of eight members, all being engineering majors, Soulfire Productions has come to new Heights.

Most artists devote their amateur career looking for

a record label to be signed on, but after one performance together, Hedrick and Owusu-Ofori decided to start their own Business/Band. These two young artists felt it would be better for them since they were both students. One year and two months later, Soulfire Productions manages to produce, arrange, compose, and perform their own, original music, while still attending to their student life on campus.

Owusu-Ofori says, "It's a challenge...I expect to stay up late every night; being an engineering Student doesn't make it any easier, but time management is the key."

Since their beginning on September 2003, Soulfire has performed at 18 events including as an opening act for Ludacris at N.C. State's Homecoming Concert. They perform at banquets, socials, parties, concerts, talent shows etc. They are also looking forward to hosting their very own event in the beginning of next semester. Despite these accomplishments Hedrick's is looking for more: "I wouldn't say I'm satisfied. If your working towards your goal you don't want to be satisfied till you reach your full potential...I'm looking forward to the future and getting bigger and better." Hedrick also stated he was enthusiastic about growing and incorporating a full band; whereas before it was solely Owusu-Ofori and himself.

The full band is taking Soulfire Productions to new extremes. They normally practice twice a week for a period of two hours or so. The different members have



Soulfire Productions (left to right) Mack Hedrick, Michael Hoyes, Kofi Owusu-Ofori

Robert White

different personalities and reasons why they were interested in the business, but they all have a common goal. Michael Hoyes states, "Listening to Kofi's tracks, I felt like I wanted to harmonize, and I like seeing positive brothers doing positive things. I wanted to eliminate the stigma of engineering students not having social lives or being well-rounded individuals!" Interested people will be handled by an audition basis only.

As far as the future, Hedrick and Owusu-Ofori hope to develop a record label and have some off campus performances. Fans should look forward to hearing them on November 12th at Nappy Luv and November 20th at the ETKAA Cultural Show. If anyone is interested in contacting the band, they can be found at soulfire\_productions@yahoo.com. If interested in booking the band, costs (if any) will be based on the location, time, etc. and are negotiable.

THE NUBIAN MESSAGE WISHES YOU GOOD LUCK.

## MAKING OURSELVES KNOWN

**MARCUS GIBBS**  
Sports Writer

I'm going to take a step back from the usual angle I take on most articles. We are not going to look specifically at college football; we are going to look at all levels of football. I'm a stickler for the saying "If it ain't broke, don't try to fix it," but this is one exception. Let's step back a little from the ranks of college football and talk about the quarterback position and the changes as of late.

Remember the days of Dan Marino, John Elway, Bart Starr and Johnny Unitas? There is a long and successful list when naming the quarterbacks of the past, however, the greatest recognized quarterbacks of all time were of one race. Many wonder why whites were mostly considered to be quarterbacks rather than blacks in both the olden days and the present.

In the past, whites dominated the position of quarterback and were always the players to be considered the starter of that position. There is no clear reason on why one race dominated that one position, but there are some popular beliefs. Black players in football were known to be the athletic, quick, and agile players while whites were viewed as the decision makers and the so-called "brains of the outfit."

If one knows nothing about football, one can still recognize the position of quarterback as being possessed by white athletes, but never thought much of it and that is a problem. Sports and entertainment is an industry that needs diversity. If one sticks to the conventional ways of doing things, everyone else will not have the privilege of discovering something great

and different.

Take the NFL's Washington Redskins for example. In 1986, the Redskins acquired a black quarterback from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers by the name of Doug Williams. Williams was the back-up quarterback to a very good player by the name of Jay Schrader. Schrader was sidelined with an injury that took him out of action for the rest of the season. Put in unfamiliar territory as a starting quarterback, Williams led his team to a regular season record that was good enough to land them into the playoffs. There in the playoffs, the new Redskins starting quarterback led his team to the Super Bowl. In the Super Bowl, Williams had an unheard of performance throwing touchdowns of 80 and 50 yards while leading Washington to a lopsided 42-10 victory over a very good Denver Broncos team that was lead by John Elway. This performance, on one of the biggest stages in all of sports, opened the eyes of the whole football community of fans, and gave many future black athletes ambitions of being a quarterback just like Williams.

For the first time, a black quarterback was seen as a great decision maker in a pressure situation at a national level for all to see. Having that opportunity to show himself as a player smart enough and durable enough to play starting quarterback, Williams opened the door for many black quarterbacks. Randall Cunningham, Warren Moon, Kordell Stewart, Steve McNair and all these athletes were black starting quarterbacks in one time of their life and brought excitement to the game.

Now, there is no longer two or three starting black quarterbacks in the NFL and college football, there are numerous black quarterbacks in all leagues

playing in the same season. People like ACC's own Reggie Ball have something to look forward to at the next level, knowing that in being a black quarterback he could have as good of a chance as the next guy to get a starting position in the NFL.

Now in the NFL, there are a number of black quarterbacks. What stands out is that, they are not just black quarterbacks; they are successful at doing their jobs. To the skeptics of black quarterbacks being in football, they have no reason to say that these young athletes are being given the position due to color.

Quarterbacks like Michael Vick, Donovan McNabb, Dante Culpepper, Byron Leftwich are all starters in the NFL and are leading their teams to successful records thus far. Culpepper is at a pace to break the single season record of most touchdown passes in a season. McNabb led his team to an undefeated record going midway through the season, Leftwich is leading a surprise Jacksonville Jaguars teams to a top position in their division. Vick is hands down the most exciting quarterback in the league with his running ability and strong arm and quick wits. He is also leading his team to the top position within their division.

When these athletes came into the league, they were labeled as the "mobile quarterback," and the "black quarterback." I'm sure these professional athletes and the African American community would appreciate it if they were referred to strictly as the word "quarterback." These athletes have earned the right to be labeled starting quarterbacks and hopefully will inspire many more black athletes to not shy away from that position and go out to pursue it.